

Freestanding Lace Leaves

These unique lace leaf designs stand on their own without a base layer of fabric. Simply embroider onto wash-away stabilizer, rinse, press, and then add to your desired projects. This stylish mix of leaves feature multiple color stops to lend versatility—create standout projects in traditional white or cream, or any color family. Digitized with attention to detail from start to finish, these sophisticated designs have awe-inspiring intricacy. Use to accent clothing, accessories, and home décor—the ideas are endless. Use the included optional hanging loops to hang leaves as ornaments.

Skill Level: Beginner

Required Software:

- Amazing Designs® Freestanding Lace Leaves embroidery designs (ADC-288)

Needed Supplies:

- Wash-away non-woven stabilizer
- Assortment of Madeira Rayon embroidery threads
- Bobbin(s) prewound with embroidery bobbinfil thread
- All-purpose sewing thread
- Clear or smoke monofilament thread
- Embroidery needles, size 75
- Metallic needles, size 80
- Hoop Grip Tape
- Cotton press cloth
- Translucent Foundation Paper
- Sewer's Fix It Tape
- Optional: Bobbin(s) wound with embroidery thread

Read all instructions before beginning.

Instructions:

Helpful Hints:

- Ensure that the layers of wash-away non-woven stabilizer are hooped securely in the hoop, but do not stretch the stabilizer. The stabilizer is thin, but made to support many stitches. However these exquisite lace embroidery designs contain hundreds of stitches which can pull the wash-away stabilizer very easily, distorting the registration as the embroidery progresses. Some hoops snug tighter than others. We suggest applying Hoop Grip Tape to the outer edge of the inner hoop, or using another method to add a gripping agent, to firmly hoop the stabilizer. Securely hooped stabilizer will prevent distortion and give you beautiful lace.
- Take time to check the balance of the bobbin and needle thread tensions. Incorrectly balanced tension can contribute to misalignment or undue pull in the stitching.
- Use templates to determine which lace leaf design(s) will best compliment and fit on your selected project.



- Use a hoop size that is just large enough for the embroidery design(s). This helps minimize shifting of stabilizer layers, as well as reduce waste of stabilizer.
- When removing and reloading the hoop during the embroidery process to replace the bobbin, be sure to support the hooped stabilizer, and lay it flat on the work surface to keep the stabilizer taut when not on the machine.
- Be sure to keep the non-woven wash-away stabilizer in an air-tight container or bag, as humidity in the air can compromise the strength of the stabilizer.
- The lace designs are digitized for a selection of thread colors. For a single color lace, simply embroider the color sequence in one thread color.
- Care instructions: If possible, turn project inside out when laundering. Machine wash gentle or hand wash. Hang or lay flat to dry.

Create Lace Leaves for Ornament and Appliqués

1. Follow the manufacturer's instructions for setting up your machine for computerized embroidery. Insert a new size 75 embroidery needle and thread with desired embroidery thread. Insert a bobbin, prewound with embroidery bobbinfil thread.
2. Hoop 2-3 layers of wash-away non-woven stabilizer.
3. Select and embroider desired lace design(s), following color sequence chart included with the designs, using the thread colors desired. If a hanging loop is not needed, simply skip the hanging loop in the stitching sequence.



4. Remove lace from hoop and trim away excess stabilizer.



5. Thoroughly soak and rinse the lace to remove as much of the stabilizer as desired. The more stabilizer that is removed the softer the lace will be.
6. Air dry the lace on a terry towel, gently smoothing the wet lace back into shape. If the lace is stiffer than desired after drying, simply re-soak and rinse the lace piece again. Lace leaves that have less stabilizer removed will be stiffer, making perfect ornaments.
7. To reshape after lace is dry, place lace bobbin side up on a soft pressing surface, and press using wool setting and light steam, covering lace with a cotton press cloth. Allow the lace to dry after steaming.

Hint: For reversible ornaments or appliqués, wind bobbins with matching embroidery thread.



Accenting with Freestanding Lace Leaves

Note: When zigzag stitching a single color leaf accent, use the same embroidery thread. When zigzag stitching a multi-color leaf, use clear or smoke monofilament thread. Monofilament thread is ideal if an outer edge and spine of lace leaf has different thread colors, you won't need to change thread colors. Clear works well for light, pastel and bright color lace and fabrics, while smoke is ideal for dark, jewel-tone lace and fabric. For best stitching results, use a size 80 metallic needle when stitching with monofilament thread.



Zigzag stitch the Finished Leaves

1. Complete lace leaves as instructed above.
2. Follow the manufacturer's instructions for setting up your machine for sewing. Insert a bobbin wound with all-purpose sewing thread. Thread needle with same embroidery thread or monofilament thread...see note above.
3. Position and pin or tape lace leaves in place with Sewer's Fix It Tape.

Hint: If needed, you can carefully trim stems to desired length to customize the fit of the lace to your project. Be certain to zigzag stitch the stem end securely using a sewing machine and matching embroidery thread.

4. Zigzag or satin stitch over the center stem/spine of the lace leaf. Then zigzag along the outer leaf edge.

Embroider Lace Leaves with Swirls Accents

Option 1:

1. Embroider leaves as described above.
2. Print a template of the desired swirl design(s) on Translucent Foundation Paper. Trim excess paper from around template.



3. Place the printed template(s) and lace leaves on the project, positioning the leaves. The translucent template is easier to align than a standard paper template. Tape the leaves and templates in place using Sewer's Fix It Tape.



4. Trim leaf stems if needed.
5. Stabilize/hoop project.
6. Stitch the swirl design, following the color sequence chart. Reduce the stitching speed until the leaf stem(s) are secured under the stitching swirl. Watch that the stems stay flat and do not cause a tangle during stitching.



7. Remove from hoop and trim away excess stabilizer.
8. Tack down the lace leaves along the central stem, using monofilament thread and a zigzag stitch.



Option 2:

1. Print a template of the desired swirl design(s) on Translucent Foundation Paper. Trim excess paper from around template. Set aside.



2. Embroider leaves as described above. Do not rinse away the stabilizer at this time, simply trim away excess stabilizer.



3. Position and secure template and leaf on project, then embroider, following details above.



4. Tack down the lace leaves along the central stem, using matching embroidery thread and a zigzag stitch.



View from the backside

5. Launder project to remove excess stabilizer

Option 3:

1. Embroider leaves as described on page 2.
2. Position swirl template(s) and embroider desired project.



3. Remove excess stabilizer.
4. Appliqué the finished lace leaves. Position and tape or pin lace leaves in place, over swirl ends.



5. Tack down the lace leaves along the central stem, using monofilament thread and a zigzag stitch.



View from the backside

Hint: If needed, you can carefully trim stems shorter further customize the fit of the leaf to your project. Be certain to zigzag stitch, then satin stitch the stem end securely.

Embellish fashion, accessories and home décor.



Hang as ornaments.

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