

Blind Stitch

The applique or blind stitch is almost hidden, making it the perfect kind of stitch for applique. (I use silk thread and size 10 or 11 straw needles--Joy).

1. CUT A PIECE OF MATCHING THREAD ABOUT 18" LONG AND MAKE A KNOT

2. TO START THE BLIND STITCH, BRING THE NEEDLE UP FROM BEHIND YOUR APPLIQUE.



You want to just barely catch the edge of the applique.

4. COME DOWN INTO THE QUILT, DIRECTLY OPPOSITE THE SPOT WHERE YOU CAME UP



5. BRING THE NEEDLE BACK UP, JUST CATCHING THE EDGE OF THE APPLIQUE.



Come up about 1/8" to the left. Continue with the stitch until you've attached the applique.

From: <https://www.inquiringquilter.com/tutorialblog/2015/9/9/how-to-use-the-blind-applique-stitch>

Stems & Vines

There are many different options in preparing and sewing stems and vines, this is just one. To begin, a couple of very simple guidelines. For straight stems, cut your strips following the grainline. For curved stems and vines, make sure to always cut your strips on the bias.

1. The width of your strip will depend on the width of your finished stem or vine. Measure that width on the original pattern and multiply by 4. This is the width that you will want to use to cut your strips. (Most of mine I cut between $\frac{3}{4}$ to 1", but have been known to cut as small as $\frac{1}{2}$ " wide for very narrow vines.)
2. Once you have decided and cut your strips the desired width, fold in half wrong sides together and press.
3. Use the pattern as a guide to cut out the stems about $\frac{1}{2}$ " longer than their size on the pattern (This allows plenty of fabric to place the stem under whatever pieces will be on top). With a fabric pencil or marker, trace a line down the middle of the stem – actually, from the middle of the stem a hairline over and towards the raw edges.



4. On your background block and using the original design, trace a line down the middle of where the stem/vine should be placed.



5. Align the raw edges of the folded stem with the traced line on the background block (if necessary, pin in place). Sew along the traced line of the stem with a running stitch.



6. Fold the stem over and press. Applique the folded edge onto the background using an invisible stitch.
7. For curved stems follow the same process, following the curved line traced on the background. <http://ajpadilla.com/tutorials>