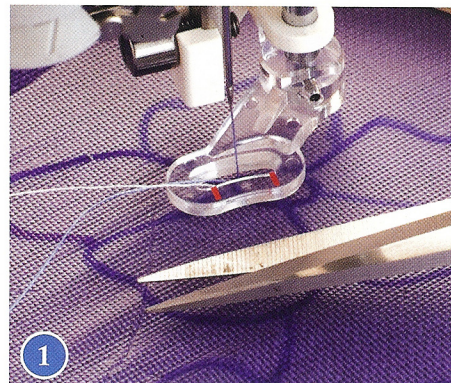


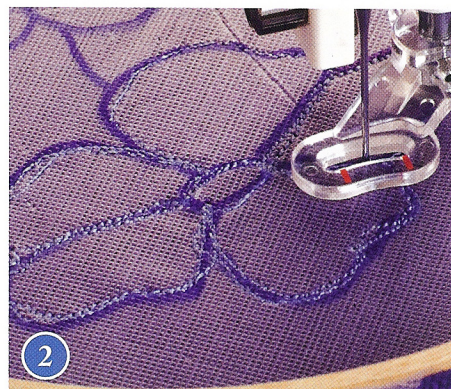
# cutwork

*A beautiful heirloom technique often sewn by hand containing open areas containing filler bars.*

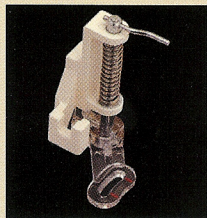
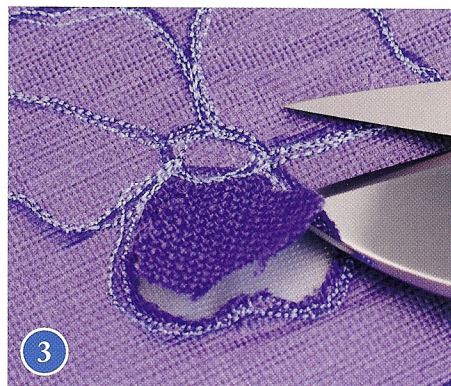
1. Trace your design directly on the fabric or on a piece of water-soluble stabilizer. Put a mark inside every section that will be cut away. Lightly spray the wrong side of the design with the temporary adhesive and layer over the right side of the fabric. Place another piece of water-soluble stabilizer underneath. Place all three layers in the embroidery hoop stretching the layers taut. Along one line of the design, pull up the bobbin thread and lockstitch to hold the threads. Trim the thread tails. (#1)



2. Select the straight stitch, center needle position, and outline stitch following all the design lines. Stitch around each section a second time. (#2)



3. Pull away the water-soluble stabilizer from the top. Using the appliqué or embroidery scissors, carefully trim away the areas marked on the design without cutting through the water-soluble stabilizer on the bottom. (#3)



**Free-motion  
Quilting Foot  
or  
no foot  
required**

**Stitch:** *Straight and Zigzag*

**Width:** *0, 2.0mm, and  
3.0 - 4.0mm*

**Length:** *0*

**Feed Dogs:** *Lowered*

**Tension:** *Pre-set*

**Fabric, needles, notions required:**

*Firm fabrics such as linen, cotton or heavier silk; universal needle, size 70/10 or 80/12; 40 wt. rayon or cotton embroidery thread for needle and bobbin; water-soluble stabilizer; temporary spray adhesive; embroidery hoop; water- or air-soluble marking pen; embroidery or appliqué scissors*

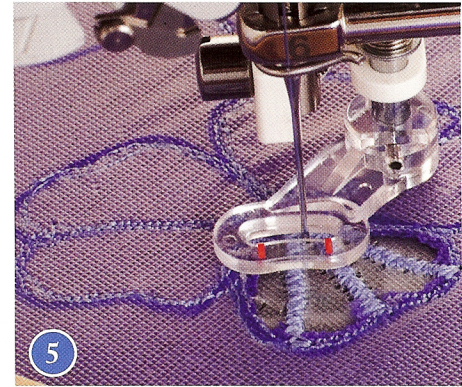
# cutwork — cont.



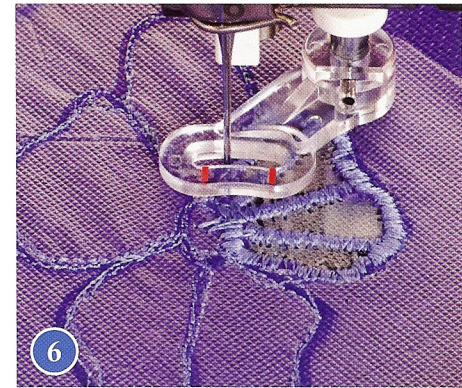
4. Make filler bars for the open area by stitching across the open spaces. Starting on one edge of a cut-away area, lock the stitches and with the presser foot raised pull the threads across the open area to the opposite side. Lockstitch the threads in place. Repeat this procedure two more times. (#4)



5. Adjust the stitch to a narrow zigzag stitch of approximately 2mm. Again starting along one edge, sew over the floating threads with the zigzag. Move the fabric under the foot with an even steady movement to keep the zigzag stitches close together. (#5)



6. Once all the filler bars are sewn, satin stitch around all the raw edges using a slightly wider stitch of 3.0 to 4.0mm. The satin stitching can be done using the free-motion quilting foot or the open toe foot with the feed dogs raised. (#6)



7. Remove the fabric and stabilizer from the hoop. Carefully pull away the water-soluble stabilizer from behind the cutwork. Use a damp cloth to remove any remaining pieces of stabilizer.

## FOOT FACTS

When using the free-motion quilting foot, let the marks on the front ring guide you when sewing. The maximum left/right needle swing is between the marks. Center the design lines between the marks keeping the design straight or parallel to the front of the machine.

## TIP

When free-motion sewing for most techniques, it is important to only move the hoop side-to-side or back-to-front. All the stitches will be formed in the same direction, look more even and the design will be filled in. Try to avoid rotating the hoop when stitching. The resulting stitches will look sloppy and overlap. If you want a directional or dimensional look to your free-motion design, rotate the hoop and fill in the area keeping the stitches all going in the same direction. Rotate the hoop back to the original position and continue stitching.