## Love Sew's Top Ten Tips for perfect fusible appliqué\*

\*a popular quilting technique where fabric shapes are fused onto a background fabric using fusible webbing.

- Choose the right fusible webbing: There are different types of fusible webbing available, such as paper-backed or double-sided adhesive sheets. Select one that suits your project and fabric type.
- **2. Use high-quality fabrics:** Start with good-quality cotton fabrics for both the appliqué shapes and the background fabric. This ensures better opacity and adhesion.
- **3. Reverse your appliqué shapes:** When using fusible webbing, trace or print your appliqué shapes in reverse onto the reverse (paper side) of the fusible. This ensures that the correct side of the fabric faces up when fusing.
- **4. Test before fusing:** Before permanently fusing the shapes to your background fabric, do a test run on scrap fabric to check the adhesion and to practice your technique.
- 5. Protect your ironing surface: Place a <u>non-stick fusing mat</u> on your ironing board to prevent any fusible residue from transferring onto your iron or ironing board.
- 6. Press, don't iron: When fusing the appliqué shapes, use a pressing motion instead of sliding the iron. Hold the iron in place for a few seconds on each section to ensure a secure bond.
- 7. Layer from back to front: When creating a design with multiple appliqué shapes, start by fusing the shapes that will be at the back first. Gradually layer the shapes to build your design.
- 8. Trim carefully: After fusing the appliqué shapes, use sharp scissors to trim the excess fabric from the back of your work, reducing bulk. (optional)
- **9. Secure with stitching:** While fusible appliqué is an excellent method for adhesion, consider securing the edges of your shapes with machine or hand stitching. This adds durability and enhances the appearance of your project.
- **10. Clean your iron:** After fusing the appliqué, check your iron for any fusible residue. If necessary, clean iron after it cools.

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