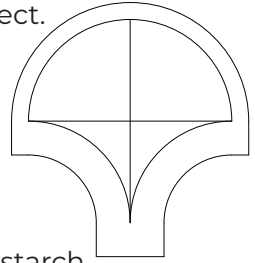




# How to use your CLAMSHELL GUIDE & STENCIL

For use  
with  
**EPPIFLEX**  
Clamshells

1. Using an Eppiflex acrylic cutting guide trace out all the clamshells you need for your project. Use a chalk pencil or similar marker to trace around the guide on the wrong side of fabric. The cutting guide will add the appropriate seam allowances needed.



2. Dampen the top curved edge of your fabric clamshell with some starch. This can be as easy as spraying the whole clamshell once with a spray starch, or applying it with a water brush or paintbrush.

Iron the top curved edge over the template using the mid to hot setting on your iron. Start on one edge and work your way over the top to the other side. Flip it over and press from the fabric side. ( Don't worry, the templates wont melt!)



*Want more instruction?*



watch the how to video [HERE](#)



3. Cut a "leader" strip the same size as your clamshell templates. A leader is a strip of fabric for the first row of clamshells to attach to. If you have 3 inch clamshells then your leader will be 3" wide x the length of your project.

eg If you are making a cushion which is 5 clamshells wide, you'll need at least 15" to accomodate the 5 x 3" clamshells and then another 1/4" to 1/2" each side for your joining seams.

So your leader would measure 3" x 15 1/2", depending on the seam allowances you want at the side edges.

4. Lay your leader strip right side up on a mat and place the Clamshell Guide on it, lining up the placement line with the top edge of your fabric



5. Using Roxanne's Glue dot glue close to the arches where you are going to glue your first clamshell.

Take one of the prepared clamshells with the template still in it and press down on to the glue dots.

Repeat this all the way along the first row. Give it a few minutes to dry, then flip it over and remove the templates.

The templates are ready to use again.



6. Applique the clamshells in place, either by machine or by hand.

7. Once your row of clamshells is sewn down you are ready to use the guide again for row 2. This time line up the sewn row of clamshells with the etched clamshells on the guide.



Note that your first and last clamshells in this and subsequent rows will overlap the edges, but half of them will be trimmed later to square up the piece

8. Once this row is glued in place, you can remove the templates and sew them as in step 5. Repeat this step until all of your rows are glued and sewn. Trim the sides and bottom edge to square up your piece.

If you wish to transfer the quilting stencil on to your clamshells use a water erasable pen or chalk pencil. Place the clamshell guide back on to your completed clamshells and trace the patterns centering the clamshell outline over your fabric as before.

*Want to make a clamshell applique?*



watch the how to video [HERE](#)

