

## “Reverse” Applique

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**“Reverse” Applique**, also known as Negative or Take-Away Applique, is a technique where two or more fabrics are layered and then, the top fabric (TOP) is cut, revealing the fabrics below. This gives a wonderful illusion of depth and can be used to create “stained glass” or “mosaic” effects. Used extensively in South American countries and known as MOLA. Although MOLA is done strictly by hand, Grace will introduce a newly developed process that is machine stitched and uses a fusing product that helps in the process and also eliminates any raw edge fraying.

The top (TOP) fabric should be a good quality fabric (batiks work best because they minimize the fraying that raw edge techniques are all so prone to). A dark TOP will give the final quilts a lot of depth (Hummingbird). A light TOP will allow the darker picture to stand out (Owl).



This “REVERSE APPLIQUE” process was developed by Grace, and it is extremely easy and foolproof. It lends itself to stained glass/mosaic textile effects and graphic type design interpreted in fabric. This is your opportunity to learn from the inventor, developer, and expert of the new “Reverse” Applique.

We will begin by taking a small, very simple and quick project from start to finish. Grace will provide all the fabrics. Through it you will learn the technique and be totally ready to immerse yourself in the more complex project.

For a 1-Day workshop, we will be working on either the Hummingbird or the Owl Quilts. See pictures above. We will learn the technique and complete one of these simple wall hanging. Grace will demo and discuss the possibilities of creating more complex designs using many fabrics so that you will be able to use this technique for beautiful works such as the ones below.



### **Supplies:**

**Grace will provide** (US \$30.00 US fee paid in class):

- One small pattern **and** all the fabrics to execute the technique from beginning to end.
- The Pattern, your choice of "Owl" or "Hummingbird"
- The fusing product used in this technique
- The 1" foam brush needed for application of the product

### **Students needs to bring:**

- Brush, ¼ inch soft painting brush
- Cup – small plastic cut with cover for diluting the product. Mouth should be large enough to accommodate a 2" brush
- Freezer paper
- Masking tape, 1/4" - 1/2" wide.

- Mat knife with a new, sharp blade and rotary cutting mat . Note: The mat knife is a key item! Grace will have some for sale.
- Pencil or ballpoint pen
- Pins - straight pins, preferably long ones
- Pressing Cloth – Teflon type for adhesive type applique, any size but the larger the better.
- Scissor, fabric and paper scissors, seam ripper. The fabric scissors should be offset type, very sharp, small, with a blunt (rounded) tip. Grace will have some for sale.
- Sewing machine and necessary supplies (bobbins, electrical cord, foot pedal).
- Sewing machine feet: Embroidery (open toe) foot and a free Motion foot.
- Sewing machine needles (70 or 80), preferably the Topstitch type. Bring a few.
- Thread for both top and bobbin. Cotton, 50 wt., black for the Hummingbird; or matching the TOP fabric in the Owl
  
- **Fabrics for either design:**
- 1 fat quarter (22" x 18") of Black unprinted fabric, No design on this fabric please. Best to have is batik or any tight weave fabric
- 1 fat quarter another fabric that will contrast well. Something lighter will work best. See the Hummingbird and Owl quilts for inspiration.
- Same size of light batting (warm and natural is best)
- Same size backing fabric