

Silk Flowered Fabric Postcards

I (was) volunteered to head the Spouse's Craft room at AAW (American Association of Woodturners) conference in Portland Oregon, June 2007. This was the first year for the formal Craft room and I decided we needed a project. I had always wanted to make fabric postcards so here was my incentive. We've had a great time..I will try to remember to post some pics. Here are my instructions for making these postcards. Marje Rhine

Materials & Supplies:

Cut:

- 1 piece Timtex or heavy weight interfacing 6½" x 4½"
- 2 pieces fusible interfacing 6¼" x 4¼"
- 1 piece muslin 6½" x 4½"
- 1 piece postcard background fabric 6½" x 4½"
- 1 piece wedding weight tulle 7½" x 5½" - I like black for dark postcards and gray for light to medium value postcards—white seems too white.

Supplies:

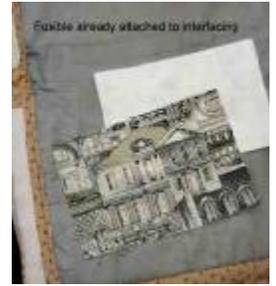
- Silk flowers and leaves—remove as much of the plastic from these as possible....you will want them to lay quite flat on your postcard
- Optional: small paper flowers available in scrapbooking area of craft store
- Optional: Decorative ribbon and threads
- Optional: Fabric motifs (like flowers and butterflies), paper motifs or stickers

Tools:

- Scissors—don't use your best fabric shears!
- Rotary cutter, ruler and mat (you could use scissors instead)
- Sturdy pins with ball heads
- Iron & ironing board or mat
- Pressing cloth or applique pressing sheet (I sometimes use baking parchment paper)
- Sewing machine with light color bobbin
- Threads—clear nylon or polyester thread and a colored thread (variegated is nice) for stitching around the outer edge of card

Instructions:

1. Fuse one piece of fusible web to Timtex or interfacing.
2. Cover with background fabric and fuse (this can be one or more pieces of fabric).
3. Arrange flowers, leaves, motifs, threads, and ?? on top of background fabric fused to interfacing. Remember these need to be as flat as possible. Some people had luck using glue to keep elements in place.



4. Cover flower arrangement with tulle.
5. Secure tulle and flower arrangement with pins. Tip! First secure by simply poking pins into interfacing at an angle almost parallel to face of the card. After enough pins have secured the elements, pick up the piece and push the points of the pins on the backside back into the interfacing.

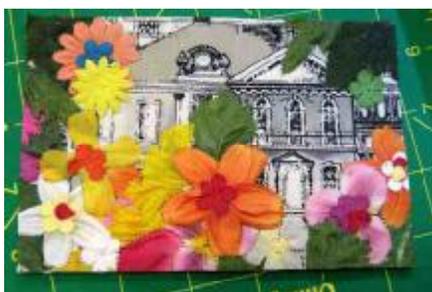


6. Thread the sewing machine with clear thread—loosen upper thread tension on sewing machine.

7. Straight stitch or free-motion stitch along edges or right next to elements so that they are secure and will not shift. Add additional stitching as desired.



8. Trim the card as desired. Standard postcard size is 4" x 6".



9. Apply last piece of fusible web to back of postcard. Fuse muslin to postcard back. Trim as necessary.
10. Thread sewing machine with colored thread and satin stitch (small zigzag) around edges of postcard.



11. If you plan to mail the card, use an existing postcard as an example of how to layout areas for addressing and message.

FINIS!

Here are a couple more examples of postcards.

