

Table Topper Directions

Start by selecting two pieces of fabric, one print and the other solid or tone on tone (almost solid). Lay the pattern piece down on the fabric and I draw around it with a fine permanent marker. Don't place the pieces to close together on the fabric that you will do your embroidery on. Draw 4 on the print fabric and 4 on the solid fabric. You can cut out the 4 pieces on the printed fabric and put aside. The pattern pieces that you are using for your embroidered pieces DO NOT cut out. After choosing the pattern that you want to embroider, hoop heavy tear away stabilizer with the plain fabric (I spray a touch of 505 on my stabilizer) together. If my embroidery design is real dense I slide another piece of light tear away under the hoop. Continue to do your embroidery design. Un-hoop, remove your stabilizer and cut out the pattern piece. I do this to try to prevent any stretching. When you have all 4 of your embroidery designs done press all pieces well.

Now you have 4 pieces that you have embroidered on and 4 printed fabric pieces. Lay the pieces out to form your circle. Take 1 embroidered piece and 1 printed fabric piece and sew it together using a $\frac{1}{4}$ inch seam. Continue to sew the rest of the pieces together in the same way. Now you should have 4 parts of the Dresden sewed together. Press all seams well. Sew 2 more pieces together to form one half of the Dresden and repeat with the other side. Press pieces well. Now you should have 2 halves of the circle and continue to sew these together. Lay the circle out on a flat surface. If the circle does not lay flat you might have to fudge a little by pressing it flat or sometimes a have to take a couple of the seams in a touch more. Top piece is now done.

Lay the top piece, right sides together; on a piece of the printed fabric (this will be the back). Now lay a piece of Warm & Natural or whatever thin batting that you have under both pieces. Pin down well and cut through all the layers. Sew $\frac{1}{4}$ inch away from the bottom edge of the Dresden. I make little cuts at the seam intersection and trim my seams close to my sewn line. Turn right side out and lay flat. Press well. Almost done!

To do your top stitching, use the decorative stitch of your choice. Start from the bottom edge and sew to the middle. I try to stitch right down the middle of each seam. Then I sew with a decorative stitch all around the bottom edge about $\frac{1}{2}$ inches in from the edge. Now lay the circle pattern piece directly over the center opening, center and pin in place. I use another decorative stitch to catch all the raw edges and sew the circle in place. Press well with

steam. All done! Put a vase of flowers or a centerpiece in the middle and walla.

