

Cherries Jubilee, 3 x 5 inches

Photos by Darra Williamson

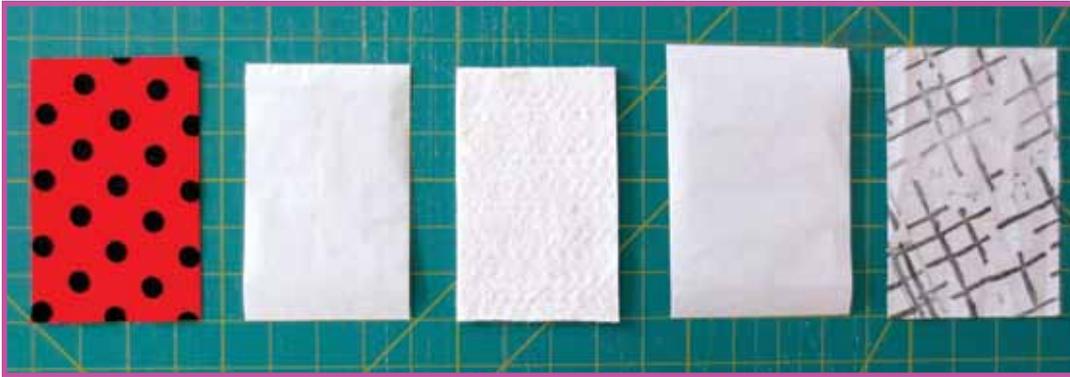


Fig. 1



Fig. 2

# Daily Dose of Fabric “Play”

## Creating a 3” x 5” Fabric Collage

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**1** Referring to Fig. 1, cut 1 piece each, 3½” x 5½”:

- Backing fabric
- Lightweight fusible web (I use Lite Steam-A-Seam2)
- Cotton batting

Cut 1 piece each, 4” x 6”:

- Lightweight fusible web
- Background fabric (will be the base for your design)

Sometimes I’ll use more than one fabric for the background, but I always start with the 4” x 6” piece, and then I’ll layer over any additional fabrics, wrapping them to the back as described in Step 3 below.

Be sure to read the manufacturer’s instructions for the fusible you’ve selected before beginning your collage.

Use the 3½” x 5½” piece of fusible to fuse batting to the wrong side of the backing fabric. Trim to 3” x 5”. Apply the 4” x 6” piece of fusible to the wrong side of the background fabric.

**2** Turn the prepared background fabric fusible-side up. Center the prepared batting/backing, batting-side down, over the background fabric (Fig. 2). You’ll have a ½” (approximate) overhang of background fabric on all sides.



Fig. 3



Fig. 4

**3** Turn the edges of the background fabric over the batting/backing and fuse (Fig. 3). I usually do the sides first, and then the top and bottom, neatly tucking the corners.

**4** Turn the fused sandwich over and create your masterpiece. Topstitch as close as possible to the outside edges all around the perimeter of the piece (Fig. 4).



Brandon Hill Gate, 3 x 5 inches

## Want a Faux Binding Instead?

If you'd like, you can finish the edges of your little collage with a narrow faux binding. Strip lengths are approximate; you can cut the strips a little longer and trim as needed. Or, you can substitute ribbon or flat trim for the fabric strips.

- Cut all elements (backing, batting, 2 pieces of fusible, and background fabric) 3½" x 5½".
- Fuse the layers and trim to 3" x 5". Create your collage.
- Prep the binding strips or trim with fusible. Cut 2 strips, ¾" x 5½" and 2 strips, ¾" x 3½".
- Fold one 5½" strip over each side edge; fuse and trim. Repeat, using 3½" strips for top and bottom edges, folding and tucking the corners.
- Topstitch ⅛" from the outside edges all around the perimeter of the piece. **TQL**