

Sheer Delight!

The Quilting Place Sheer Delight fabrics are very transparent making them ideal for shadow applique and other layering techniques. We've enjoyed making a few new pieces to show you just how they look.

The quick and easy bookmark you see here was made using a hand dyed cotton fabric to construct the basic bookmark shape. The cotton fabric was seamed and turned through a small gap left in the centre of the seam to hide the raw edges inside the bookmark. Simple square shapes were then cut from the sheer fabrics and placed to form a vertical column 'on point' down the centre of the bookmark. It was great fun to use several of the different colours from the pack and to discover how two transparent squares overlap to create a third colour. The sheer squares were sewn in place by machine and beads added to just one of the squares to create a focal point. The same little glass beads were also added to the edges of the bookmark by threading each one onto a blanket stitch using Laura's hand dyed cotton thread.

The sheer fabrics fray very readily - this can be exploited for decorative effect by adding beads to the cut edges. The soft fringe that results makes an attractive edge to the

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applique and is prevented from fraying any further by the line of machine stitching that secures each shape to the base fabric. A folded length of ribbon completes the project.

The Quilting Place Sheer Delight fabrics are perfect for all free applique techniques. Their delicate weight, gorgeous colours and extreme transparency makes them ideal for optical colour mixing. By layering different transparent colours and allowing some areas to remain visible whilst others are seen through a second or even third layer of colour, very painterly effects can be achieved.

The sheer fabrics can be used as a single transparent layer over an opaque base fabric, as two partially overlapping transparent layers, or in multiple layers. Shapes from a single colour layered over themselves will intensify and add depth to the colour. Different colours overlapped will mix in the same way that paint colours are mixed to make a completely new colour. There are two pieces of each of the four colours of sheer fabric in each pack but these can be used creatively to produce a much wider range of subtle values.

5g h Y ZUVfJWg UfY gc UbYZ Yj Yb a i h d Y layers are still a pleasure to stitch through, even by hand. Try emulating traditional Kantha type quilting by combining shapes cut from sheer fabrics in several layers before holding them all together with a simple running stitch.

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