

Jenny: Hi, I'm Jenny from the Missouri Star Quilt Company. And I am here today with Jennifer from Craft Forest. And she has this awesome project for us. How are you Jennifer?

Jennifer: I'm doing great.

Jenny: Good!

Jennifer: Thanks for having me.

Jenny: Oh it's awesome. You know it's so fun when other people come up with stuff. And she's come up with a project using our Dresden tool, which is really cool for me. And look at this. It's these darling little fish. How cute is this? I know you don't know this, but my maiden name is Fish.

Jennifer: I did know that actually.

Jenny: So you did?

Jennifer: I did.

Jenny: Wow! So I'm like really, I really love these. And I have a million grandchildren and children. So this is really a cool project for them because it's one of these cool... look at that... fishing things. How awesome is that?

Jennifer: They are so much fun.

Jenny: They are so cute! So let's, show us how to do these. Show us what to do.

Jennifer: Yes, absolutely.

Jenny: I'm going to be your student today.

Jennifer: Perfect. So I am not a quilter. I'm a crafter. And I made the Dresden Pillow. And was looking at the shape and thought, "Okay, what can I make with this?" And I have young children at home and thought it would be really fun to make something to keep them busy.

Jenny: Yes,

Jennifer: So what I did was I used Layer Cakes and the Dresden Template. And I cut the body of the fish out of the Dresden Template.

Jenny: Okay.

Jennifer: And then I got a little creative with templates and used some tape to cut the shape of the head.

Jenny: Okay.

Jennifer: So what we'll do is take two of our matching layer cakes.

Jenny: Okay, and so that you, we want them to be different. Right?

Jennifer: Yes.

Jenny: And do I get to pick?

Jennifer: You get to pick.

Jenny: Alright, I'm going to do these two.

Jennifer: Cute, Cute. I love those colors together.

Jenny: There we go.

Jennifer: Okay, so which one do you want to be the body? And which one do you want to be the head?

Jenny: Oh, Oh.

Jennifer: Choices.

Jenny: Oh. How about this be the head?

Jennifer: That be the head? Okay. So let's cut the body first.

Jenny: Okay.

Jennifer: So we are going to cut two blades out of the body.

Jenny: Okay. So I can just fold my...

Jennifer: Yes, absolutely. Absolutely.

Jenny: layer cake in half like this.

Jennifer: Absolutely.

Jenny: If you will hand me, right behind you in that little cup is my rotary cutter.

Jennifer: Here you go.

Jenny: And I'm just going to go ahead and cut this. Like this.

Jennifer: Okay.

Jenny: And the, this is one of the cool things about this, this Dresden. Is that it is, it goes top to bottom on the layer cake.

Jennifer: Okay.

Jenny: So it's, it's very easy to... you know.

Jennifer: It's great to get to see you do it in person. So I can go home and do it the right way this time.

Jenny: Well, I love doing this kind of stuff, because I don't get to do it very often.

Jennifer: Mmmhhh.

Jenny: So this is really fun for me.

Jennifer: Good. Okay...

Jenny: Alright, so we have our two pieces.

Jennifer: We have our two pieces. And now let's go grab our orange polka dots.

Jenny: Okay.

Jennifer: And, so I used a kind of charm pack square style.

Jenny: Yes.

Jennifer: So I just needed some kind of smaller squares. You can really eyeball the head.

Jenny: Okay.

Jennifer: I wanted them kind of to be about a 5 inch square. And I used the tape I had...

Jenny: So a 5 inch square would be a quarter of these.

Jennifer: Mmmhhh.

Jenny: So I would actually get four...

Jennifer: You would get four.

Jenny: four heads. Or I could get a head and a, oh just one tail... yes, that wouldn't work.

Jennifer: Mmmhhh

Jenny: So heads. We'll go, let's stick with that.

Jennifer: So let's do heads.

Jenny: Alright. Fish Heads, Fish Heads...

Jennifer: Okay, so I used the tape. And I just kind of laid it as my outline. And kind of traced the top.

Jenny: You know what?

Jennifer: And used that. Do we have a fancy template?

Jenny: No, can I just tell you how much I love this. Because I'm, I'm one, I am this make due girl. So I'm finding a cup, I'm finding a plate...

Jennifer: yes,

Jenny: I'm finding whatever works to make my shape around my house.

Jennifer: yes.

Jenny: I do it all the time. So, we are going to like stay here and then just turn around here?

Jennifer: You are just going turn around it. Mmmhhh.

Jenny: Okay. So let me see here. Now this is going to be a little tricky.

Jennifer: Yes. I drew mine.

Jenny: Oh, Do we have a pen? Do we have a pen?

Jennifer: I don't think we have a pen here.

Jenny: Oh, okay. Well let me just try this then. Because? Right here...

Jennifer: I like it. There we go, there we go.

Jenny: This is ingenuity in action, right here. So we are coming off... Let me just move it right here and make sure you guys can see this. So we are coming off this Dresden tool right here. And I'm just kind of aiming it and going around this tape. Now, if I were you, if I were going to do this, and I had a pen handy, I would use the pen. Especially since I have four layers here...

Jennifer: yes.

Jenny: and it's a little bit difficult to come through. So now I'm just going to round it up so that I don't look completely crazy. Like,

Jennifer: So what we kind of want is a rounded top with a rectangular bottom. So that it matches up with our other template.

Jenny: Alright.

Jennifer: Perfect. You've got some scissors if that helps cut through.

Jenny: You know what? Scissors might help me.

Jennifer: Pen, scissors... Sorry.

Jenny: Those are handy things to have.

Jennifer: Absolutely.

Jenny: Alright. So I'm going to do this. And then what I have, what I actually only need two of these. Right?

Jennifer: You only need two.

Jenny: Okay. But now I have one that's already done. Now because I'm just a tad bit OCD, I'm going to fold these together and just trim them so that they're equal.

Jennifer: Perfect.

Jenny: Just a tad bit OCD.

Jennifer: Just a, just a little.

Jenny: Just a little bit. Alright, there we go.

Jenny: Okay. So now we have this nice rounded edge.

Jennifer: Nice rounded edge. So now we're going to take one body...

Jenny: Okay.

Jennifer: And one head.

Jenny: Alright.

Jennifer: And we are going to attach those two together.

Jenny: Like this?

Jennifer: Like that.

Jenny: Okay. Let me go to the sewing machine and do that.

Jennifer: I'll wait here.

Jenny: Okay. You know it's so funny, when my children were little they would design their own games. And one of them would always design a fishing game. You know...

Jennifer: Mmmhhh.

Jenny: where they could lower their fish over the curtain. And...

Jennifer: Oh, that's fun.

Jenny: And get that. I'll let you iron that.

Jennifer: Okay. Perfect.

Jenny: You know, and they would have prizes. Like somebody would make a batch of cookies. And they'd put a cookie in a baggy. And that would be their prize. You know, and they'd be so excited that their fish caught something when they hung it over the edge.

Jennifer: These are really fun. My...

Jenny: Here's another.

Jennifer: my cat has discovered that she also really likes to fish with these. They make great cat toys too.

Jenny: Oh my. Yes, you probably put, like catnip...

Jennifer: Mmmhhh.

Jenny: or something in there too. Oh, all sorts of uses. Alright, so these actually look, kind of like giant ice cream cones

Jennifer: Mmmhhh.

Jenny: at the moment.

Jennifer: They do, they do.

Jenny: So what are we doing now?

Jennifer: So now, what I did was, what I did, if you want, I did some decorative stitches on each of them, just to kind of give some weight.

Jenny: Oh, oh, before you sewed them together.

Jennifer: Before I sewed them together.

Jenny: Oh, that's a really cool idea. So, I'm actually just going to show you these. So she's got the little waves across here. She's got a decorative stitch, right here, across this guy going. These are really cool ideas. Look at this one. She put some rickrack on here and these little wavy things across here. This would be a really fun time to use those stitches on your machine.

Jennifer: Mmmhhh.

Jenny: Because for quilting, we don't use those stitches. So.

Jennifer: Yes, it was just fun to experiment. And they kind of looked like scales. So I thought that was a really...

Jenny: That is a really cute idea.

Jennifer: Thanks.

Jenny: So I think, you know for time,

Jennifer: Yes?

Jenny: I'll save that step

Jennifer: Absolutely. So I went ahead and just matched my two together.

Jenny: Okay.

Jennifer: And I was careful to, kind of get me center seam just to match up my neck pieces there.

Jenny: Okay, we call this nesting. So what we, you did this without know.

Jennifer: I did.

Jenny: Look how good you are.

Jennifer: I did.

Jenny: You ironed one seam this way and one seam this way. So the seams are opposite, so they nest...

Jennifer: I learned that from you actually.

Jenny: right together.

Jennifer: I saw it on a video.

Jenny: Oh, she watched a video.

Jennifer: I know. I did.

Jenny: That's awesome.

Jennifer: So what I did was, I left my tails open. So that I could flip.

Jenny: Okay.

Jennifer: then I could also attach the lace for my fin.

Jenny: Okay.

Jennifer: So I sewed up one side and around to here.

Jenny: Oh, okay.

Jennifer: And I was hoping you could show me how to properly sew the circle at the top.

Jenny: Oh, okay.

Jennifer: because I kind of made that up as I went along.

Jenny: The trick to the circle is that there's always this, like extra fabric.

Jennifer: Mmmhhh.

Jenny: So, did you pin yours or did you just go ahead and sew?

Jennifer: I did pin them in the center.

Jenny: Okay.

Jennifer: Just to make sure I had them lined up.

Jenny: That's probably a good idea. I'm not much of a pinner.

Jennifer: I'm a newer sewer... and so for me that was important.

Jenny: Absolutely. It is, it is important to do what works best for you. You want a nice smooth line. I watch where my, I pick a point on my foot. So that it will always stay in the same place as I'm sewing my seam.

Jennifer: Okay.

Jenny: And when I go around that circle I just make sure that it stays there.

Jennifer: Okay.

Jenny: The other thing is that when you turn it... Oh my gosh! This is a tiny opening at this tail.

Jennifer: It is. We can get it though. We can do it.

Jenny: You can?

Jennifer: I left a little space so I could flip it up. I didn't go all the way to the end on mine.

Jenny: Oh, okay. So, one of the things you can do on this edge, is you can clip this end like this.

Jennifer: Mmmhhh, okay.

Jenny: This will take some of the bulk out.

Jennifer: That way it will turn... Okay.

Jenny: And it will make a nicer edge for turning. And so we're just clipping. We're not clipping past our stitches. We're just clipping right to the edge of the stitches. And we'll just do that where the curve is.

Jennifer: Okay.

Jenny: Alright. So then, this is actually a faster way to turn. Is if you push that head in.

Jennifer: Okay.

Jenny: And then push it through the tail like this.

Jennifer: Perfect. Oh, great idea. So I left kind of a, I probably should have said, I left about an inch down at the bottom of mine open.

Jenny: Okay. Here's what I'm going to do. I'm going to pull this off. And I'm just going to cut this end a little bit.

Jennifer: Okay.

Jenny: So it's a little bit bigger.

Jennifer: Perfect.

Jenny: Then, that will come through easier. And then you can just slide this off and just pull this out.

Jennifer: Oh, great.

Jenny: So that's an easier way. I don't know if that's how you turned them. Was that how you turned them?

Jennifer: I used a chop stick. So...

Jenny: Oh, okay.

Jennifer: but it wasn't as quick as that.

Jenny: So, are we... do we iron this now?

Jennifer: I didn't, but we

Jenny: You didn't?

Jennifer: can. The stuffing kind of took care of all of that.

Jenny: Yes?

Jennifer: So once we filled it,

Jenny: Oh, okay.

Jennifer: but we certainly can iron it.

Jenny: Let's see. Make sure all of these are out. And so then we are, we've got to stuff him, right?

Jennifer: We've got to stuff him.

Jenny: Do you know, this is a great way to close it. Because you just, she's just got a piece of old lace here. Well, we'll get to that in a minute. We've got to stuff him, right?

Jennifer: So we've got some stuffing here. This is, should I say, is the tedious part.

Jenny: We, should I open this more?

Jennifer: Yes, maybe a little bit bigger.

Jenny: Alright, because this is, this looks very daunting to me.

Jennifer: So I left mine about an inch, maybe an inch and a half open at the bottom. I kind of had two flaps so I could slide my stuffing in.

Jenny: Oh, okay.

Jennifer: Then I eventually tucked them in to each other when I put my tail in. So we might have made this one kind of narrow at the back.

Jenny: Okay. I'm going to actually make him a little...

Jennifer: Okay.

Jenny: A little, a little more room. Because you told me I could do it and I believe I can. Now, do you do any of your embroidery, your mouth embroidery, or do we wait until after it's stuffed?

Jennifer: I didn't until after it was stuffed.

Jenny: Awesome!

Jennifer: So, I just did a little hand embroidery. And we'll show you how to poke the knot, poke it through like you would on a doll after it is already stuffed.

Jenny: Alright.

Jennifer: So we'll stuff that and get you some more here.

Jenny: So we are going to keep stuffing this and we'll meet you right back here. Okay, so I've almost got this last bit in. and we had to resort to using this stick, right here. Because my fingers were slipping off. So, now we have him.

Jennifer: Now we have him.

Jenny: He looks pretty good.

Jennifer: Yes, and you can just kind of mush him and kind of flatten him out there.

Jenny: And so then?

Jennifer: Get your grandkids to just sit on them.

Jenny: I know

Jennifer: That's what we did, we kind of banged him. We said no fish were harmed in the making of this fish.

Jenny: No fish were harmed in the making of this video.

Jennifer: Yes. Okay, so then I took a piece of scrap lace that I had. And...

Jenny: This is so cool.

Jennifer: and I...

Jenny: So this looks like a bottom of a sleeve or something.

Jennifer: It was the bottom of a dress.

Jenny: Oh, cool.

Jennifer: That I didn't care for the lace. And so I cut it off and thought that I would save it for a rainy day.

Jenny: I love that, I love that.

Jennifer: And it became this project.

Jenny: And really, it could be anything, even another little piece of fabric here, could be a little fin.

Jennifer: Oh, yes. I thought ribbon would be super cute.

Jenny: Ribbon would be really cute.

Jennifer: Or some minky fabric, so it's soft and tactile.

Jenny: Oh yes. Like a tag.

Jennifer: Mmmhhh.

Jenny: You could, they do those tag blankets where they have those little...

Jennifer: Yes.

Jenny: Slippery things that children love to touch.

Jennifer: You just want to make sure you don't make them too heavy. Because we are going to attach a washer. And we want to be able to pick it up. So we just can't make it too bulky.

Jenny: Okay.

Jennifer: So I'm going to cut, just a small little piece of this.

Jenny: Okay.

Jennifer: That we are going to use.

Jenny: And I'm folding down the end of this, right here.

Jennifer: Mmmhhh.

Jenny: I'm pushing it inside so that we can lay the lace in there. And then, I believe we are going to sew straight across the top.

Jennifer: Yes. So I kind of fanned mine out.

Jenny: Okay.

Jennifer: And just made a little spot to slide in.

Jenny: So here's, here so you can see a little closer. We've got this little piece of lace, about 4 inches. And we just kind of gather it up with our fingers and stick it in there.

Jennifer: Mmmhhh.

Jenny: It's so cute. And then we are just going to... Did you pin this?

Jennifer: I didn't

Jenny: Oh, okay. I was going to say I probably would pin this.

Jennifer: Okay

Jenny: But now I'm pinning one and you're not. So...

Jennifer: I just held it. I held it tight and...

Jenny: Okay

Jennifer: and just sewed across.

Jenny: I'm holding it tight and I'm going to the sewing machine.

Jennifer: I believe in you.

Jenny: I believe in you. That's awesome. I believe you can make a fish tail. Alright, here we go. And I am just going to stitch across. And then I am going to

Jennifer: Mmmhhh?

Jenny: back up and stitch right back over that same line.

Jennifer: Yes.

Jenny: There we go. And now, cut my threads. Look how cut that is.

Jennifer: We've got our fish body.

Jenny: That's so cute. Okay. So now we have to give him a little bit of personality.

Jennifer: Little personality.

Jenny: And a way to catch a hook.

Jennifer: Yes, absolutely. So I used some buttons, I used some googly eyes that we had at home. You can embroider faces.

Jenny: So here is some googly eyes.

Jennifer: Mmmhhh. And attached to a button.

Jenny: Oh, glued on to a button. Very good idea. And then here's a button with a little jewel. So...

Jennifer: Here is a some really cute, googly eyes that had eyelashes.

Jenny: Ohhhhh. They have a lid. And a lid. And you just bought them like that?

Jennifer: Mmmhhh. I bought them like that.

Jenny: Oh, okay.

Jennifer: And I brought some today for us to use.

Jenny: Oh, awesome.

Jennifer: And you picked really well color wise. Because the green eyeshadow...

Jenny: The green eyeshadow.

Jennifer: goes well with our fish.

Jenny: Okay, so how do we?? Oh, you are gluing them.

Jennifer: So, I'm just going to glue them.

Jenny: I love this.

Jennifer: Yes.

Jenny: So we are gluing it.

Jennifer: We are just hot gluing them.

Jenny: Okay.

Jennifer: So this guy's ready. Do you want to? Here I'll give you a little bit of glue here. And then where do you want them?

Jenny: On his head. (Laughter)

Jennifer: On his head?

Jenny: Yes. (Laughter)

Jennifer: I can do that.

Jenny: Perfect.

Jennifer: So I looked at mine and just kind of figured out which side was the least wonky and kind of which side as the top and which was the bottom. And with these, kind of depending on where you place them, they can look happy or sad.

Jenny: Oh, okay.

Jennifer: Or kind of sleepy. So let's put this one on. Okay.

Jenny: That's awesome.

Jennifer: And just grabbed them and matched it up.

Jenny: Do you know? This is just really going to date me. But when I started using hot glue...

Jennifer: Mmmhhh.

Jenny: we had to melt it in a skillet. We bought, you would buy a little skillet that you would just melt your glue in.

Jennifer: Oh. Wow!

Jenny: And it came in little chips.

Jennifer: Huh!

Jenny: Yes, it was really interesting. And now we're so...

Jennifer: Now we are set.

Jenny: We are high-tech now.

Jennifer: We are. So then I just glued those on.

Jenny: These are so cute.

Jennifer: And I actually glued...

Jenny: I don't know if you can see these, but these are darling.

Jennifer: I love them. They make me laugh.

Jenny: Yes.

Jennifer: So then I used just a washer.

Jenny: Okay.

Jennifer: That you can get at the hardware store. These are like; I think 3 cents apiece. Or you can get them in a big container.

Jenny: Okay.

Jennifer: So I used that. And I put a little bit of hot glue on and attached it and then stitched over it. So it just looked a little finished. And then gave it a little bit of reinforcement.

Jenny: Okay. So really, you could use anything that was metal...

Jennifer: Mmmhhh.

Jenny: that would catch on a magnet.

Jennifer: Right.

Jenny: So how did you do this then?

Jennifer: I put a little glue...

Jenny: Did you put the washer on first?

Jennifer: I did the glue first and then stitched over it.

Jenny: Oh, okay.

Jennifer: But really, you can do this any way you want. The more you center it, the greater chance you have of it being easy to pick up. We used just a basic refrigerator magnet... with a little clip on it. But you can use, like Jenny said, anything you have there. So we'll put that on.

Jenny: And then, and then do you just, this is not like real thread?

Jennifer: This is embroidery thread.

Jenny: Okay. So you... with all of its strands?

Jennifer: All of its strands. 6 strands.

Jenny: And it's got a little knot.

Jennifer: It's got a little knot.

Jenny: So where?

Jennifer: And I just poked it under the washer

Jenny: Okay. So the knot would slide in?

Jennifer: The knot would slide in.

Jenny: Okay, so here is what I'm doing right here. I'm going in here and then I'm coming out right where the washer is. Is that right?

Jennifer: Yes.

Jenny: And I'm going to slide my thread. And I'm just going to try and get this knot to go through there. And with any luck...

Jennifer: I find if I put my hand kind of right in between the two and kind of pinch it, the knot won't come all the way through.

Jenny: Oh, okay. Let me try it again.

Jennifer: And we can reattach that guy after you get your knot in.

Jenny: Oh my gosh! I'm flunking craft school.

Jennifer: You are doing great. I don't think I could make a quilt.

Jenny: Oh, there we go.

Jennifer: There we go. Perfect, perfect. Alright, so I'll put some more glue on this guy and we'll slide him right in.

Jenny: So can I just, can we put the it...

Jennifer: Yes.

Jenny: through the needle?

Jennifer: Yes, absolutely.

Jenny: There we go.

Jennifer: Let's not glue it together though.

Jenny: No, no glue.

Jennifer: Okay. We'll attach this guy right there. Okay.

Jenny: Awesome.

Jennifer: And then just come up from the back side.

Jenny: Over the...

Jennifer: And I just kind of went in and out a few times like you were going to attach like one side of button.

Jenny: Oh very cool. Okay.

Jennifer: And it just kind of gives it like, a finished look. It looks a little more decorative.

Jenny: This I can do. Oh yes, we can sew this.

Jennifer: There you go.

Jenny: Alright, so how, then what do we do with this thread? Do we knot it off? What do we do?

Jennifer: We knot it off. And you can do the same thing and actually just put, kind of make a stitch and put the knot back inside. Or you can just go directly under, because no one is going to see it.

Jenny: Now let me ask you...

Jennifer: Mmmhhh.

Jenny: Since we are doing a smile

Jennifer: Yes. You can leave it attached and just pop in through the bottom.

Jenny: Oh, okay or in, up here on the side of his mouth...

Jennifer: Yes, absolutely

Jenny: because, he is going to be a happy guy with a big smile.

Jennifer: Yes.

Jenny: Do you draw the smile on or do you?

Jennifer: I didn't.

Jenny: Okay.

Jennifer: I just free-handed, just to kind of have them look really fun.

Jenny: I think that is going to give the fish some personalities.

Jennifer: Yes.

Jenny: So, I'm just going to show you... I pushed this in and came out here. And I'm just going to go back and forth like this. Is that right?

Jennifer: Yes.

Jenny: This is really cute. Look how cute this is. And then we're going to go across here.

Jennifer: Yes. Oh, those are adorable. I love him.

Jenny: It's so fun.

Jennifer: Those are the best eyes.

Jenny: Oh my gosh.

Jennifer: So they are really simple to make. And they're just really fun. The kids could... it's a first, first sewing project for kids to do.

Jenny: Oh, that's a great idea.

Jennifer: Yes.

Jenny: Yes, I mean, I have grandchildren who would love to do this. Look at him.

Jennifer: I love it.

Jenny: He's so happy. Okay, so now do I just make like a little French knot?

Jennifer: Mmmhhh.

Jenny: And pull that through?

Jennifer: That's perfect.

Jenny: Okay, so a French knot is where you are going to wind around your thread a couple of times. And you are going to pull it straight down and just hold on to that and make a knot. And we are going to... whoops. I almost caught his eye. That could have been deadly. And I'm just going to pull this through to the top like this. And then slip that knot through the fabric hopefully. There it went.

Jennifer: There you go. And then just trim off the top.

Jenny: And just trim it off up here. And it will go back in. Huh!!!

Jennifer: So cute.

Jenny: We did it. Now let's see if we can catch it.

Jennifer: So, I took a stick and attached...

Jenny: Very cute.

Jennifer: a little bit of bakers twine. And again, a refrigerator magnet that has a little clip. I grabbed it right off the fridge and just attached it. I made a little pom-pom to make it look like it was a bobbin

Jenny: Cute.

Jennifer: bobber.

Jenny: So, any, really any kind of magnet...

Jennifer: Oh, yes.

Jenny: Magnet would work? So, here we go. This is the test. Ohhhhh, look at him. So how darling is this? This is so cute. We made it using 10 inch layer cake squares from **This & That by Benartex**. We also used the Dresden ruler. And if you like crafts like this, you should head over to Craft Forest. Because, Jennifer puts out a new video every single Friday. And they are fun things like this. So, we hope you enjoyed this tutorial from the Missouri Star Quilt Company.