

COMPLETING YOUR 'HOLEY' CARD

A. Choose a holey card: colour (white, ivory, light grey or bright colours) should complement your stitching but not overpower it. The 'aperture' (circle, oval or rectangle) should not 'squeeze' your work, but rather allow some space for it to 'breathe'.

N.B. Measure the top and bottom frame depths. The larger space should be placed at the bottom of the card for the best visual effect.

B. With the face of the card toward you, allow **R** flap to go behind the aperture / opening. Insert a sharp pencil through the hole and mark the aperture shape on the back flap. This ensures that you get the correct placement of your work before glue is applied, and the finished card will open on the appropriate side.

C. Turn the card over i.e. face down. Cut a piece of felt the size of the aperture, then trim about 1/8" off all around. This allows the work to be slightly lifted, and the card around it will lie flat. Apply glue to the shape you have marked with the pencil, and apply the trimmed felt pad.

D. Press your stitched piece face down on a soft pad. Open your card with the face to the front. Using your left hand, hold the embroidered fabric behind the aperture and centre it. With your right hand, close the right flap (with felt) behind the stitched fabric and lay the whole piece down on a flat surface.

E. Insert two fingers through the aperture to hold the fabric in place as you flip the other two sections to the right, out of the way, and leaving your stitched piece facing you. Using the one fold of the card and the three edges as guides, trim the excess fabric away leaving about 1/4" of card showing all around the fabric. Check and centre your work. More fabric can be trimmed, but make sure that you do not trim too far, especially on the sides.

When satisfied, mark where the fabric corners will finally sit on the back of the **R** flap. Lift the stitched fabric and apply glue to that whole card surface, but not over the felt pads. Carefully and quickly lay the stitched piece over the glued surface, using the corner pencil markers as guides. Check that your stitching is centred.

I also apply glue on the back side of the centre section (with aperture). Close up the two sections, and lay them flat with the untouched flap out to the side.

Weigh down the card with books or whatever, but take care not to flatten your embroidery.

For extra insurance, place a small piece of double-face tape at the upper and lower corners of the flap inside the finished card. This tape is available in the scrap-booking section of Dollar stores.

Once one or two cards have been completed, you will find the process to be intuitive!

Note: some glues (like standard white glue) tend to pucker the paper. I use a fresh glue stick, and add tiny bits of double-faced tape of the type used for scrap-booking.

NOTES



