

Ruched Rose

Instructions provided by Bette Augustine

STITCHING TECHNIQUES

TO MAKE THE CIRCLE RUCHED/FOLDED ROSE IN LARGE & SMALL SIZE:

(See Diagram 1 for flower circle templates)

1. Using light cardboard for your template, trace and cut out circle template as shown in Diagram 1
 - a. 4” circle for large rose
 - b. 3” circle for small rose
2. Using a large pin or needle – crewel works best – punch a hole in each dot of the inner circle markings. (See Diagram 2A)
3. Lay circle on right side of fabric and lightly mark the outside notches with your favorite marking tool. This will be your fold line and the notch your stitch guide.
4. Without moving your template, put your marking tool (pencil or other marker) inside each punched out hole of the inner circle to mark the additional stitch guide.
5. Cut out the circle leaving a ¾” turn under edge around the outside of the circle.
6. Fold and press wrong sides together along the marked edge of the outer circle. (See Diagram 2B)
7. Thread needle with matching applique thread, approximately 15” long (50 weight or stronger), knotted. Come up at A and begin a small running stitch from this inner dot up to, but through, B. Carry your thread over B (the fold) and re-enter the fabric at C. Continue the gathering stitch steps approximately 4 or 5 times. Gently gather your thread to create petals and then continue until reaching your starting point A. You want to come up through A as your final stitch. Do not knot off at this point.
8. As you pull your thread to gather the edge into small petals, the gather can be as tight as you wish or loosely if you prefer a softer edge. If you have a particular size flower in mind, you should measure the diameter as you gather until you reach the size you desire (i.e. 2” across for large rose and 1.5” across for small rose). (See Diagram 2C & 2D)
9. This process will make your applique piece puff up in the middle with all the extra fabric. Once you like the size of your flower, knot thread off, but do not cut off. You will need the needle and thread to complete the flower.
10. Take the puff of fabric by the center top and gently twist the fabric clockwise (or counter-clockwise) until it flattens against the petals. This gives the fabric a twisted wrinkle effect. If you don’t like the way the wrinkles appear, simply untwist and try again. Bring the needle and thread up through these layers and stab stitch the wrinkles to keep them in place. (See Diagram 2E & 2F)
11. Stitch the flower down in place using a tack stitch or your favorite method.



Diagram 1

FLOWER CIRCLE TEMPLATES

Not to Size

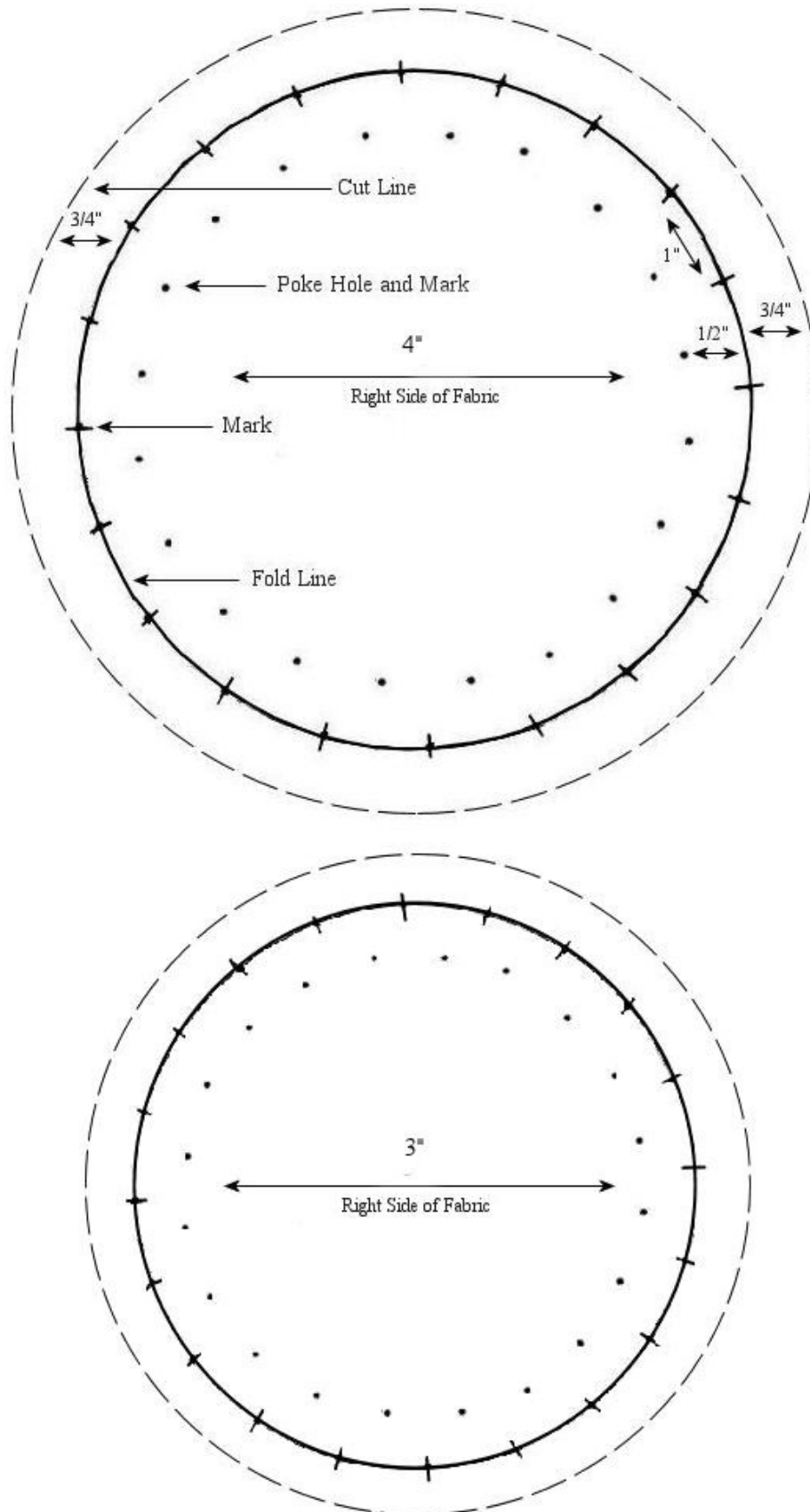


Diagram 2

FLOWER TECHNIQUES

