

“Artist Postcards”



These are sure to appeal to artists that swap these small works of art with others since four can be easily made from one piece of felt, yet each postcard ends up with a unique look!

Created by: Margo Duke of Her Majesty Margo

Margo Duke of Her Majesty Margo has always had a penchant for working with color and fine materials of all kinds. The love of wool is also in her genes as her Mother's family originated in Stornaway, an island of the North coast of Scotland. Her family was very involved in all steps of creating Harris Tweed, from raising the sheep through the actual weaving. One of her cousins was instrumental in traveling to London and making the case for having the name "Harris Tweed" stamped on every yard, which is still done today.



It wasn't until Margo fell in love with the Baby Lock Embellisher that it all came together and she began insatiably experimenting with the things she loves most. The first moment she saw a demonstration at her local Baby Lock dealer, she understood the possibilities and could hardly wait until her machine arrived. It hasn't ceased to provide endless hours of pleasure in the years since.

Supplies:

Baby Lock Embellisher

One piece of felt 11 x 17

Variety of wool fiber in similar and coordinating color ways

Dyed silk rods

Art Yarns

Silk ribbon

Scraps of fabric – wool/silk

Fusible interfacing

Wonder Under

Optional postcard backs (designs available from thevintageworkshop.com)

Personal computer with printer

Fabric printer sheets

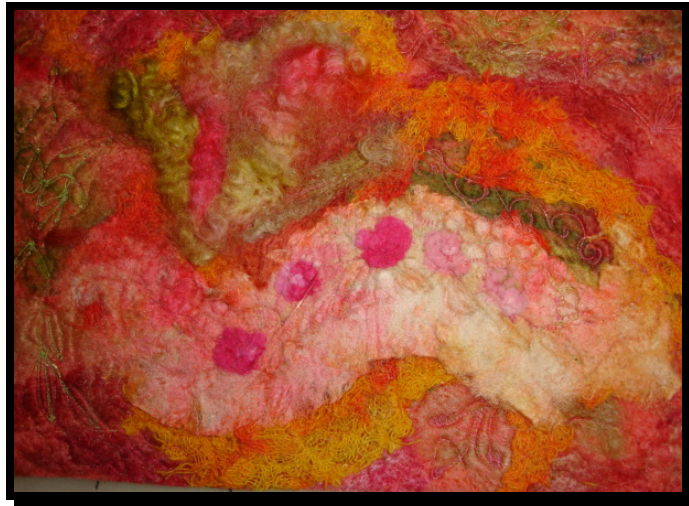
Clear polyester thread for all free motion stitching

Instructions:

Technique:

Needle felt the entire piece of felt with roving/fiber in a color similar to the felt.

Cut into 4 equal pieces (these will be cut down to size after embellishing and stitching)



Postcard 1:

Tease a silk rod along one side to soften and condition. Embellish it on to the card slightly off-center and in a curve.

Add yarn “blobs” along flat edge of silk rod.

Add curls, and any other interesting scraps.

Free motion stitch using clear polyester thread on the top and matching thread in the bobbin.

Hints:

*Use a variegated art yarn to assist you with your color combinations.

*If you are unsure about free motion stitching, just follow the lines of the silk rods, yarns, roving to create interesting curved lines – stitching adds so much to your fiber art work.



Postcard 2:

Always work from the background up.

Cottage – pink wool fabric; embellish and stitch “bricks”.

Roof – cut a piece of terra cotta wool fabric with a curve over where your doorway will be.

Outline the lower part of the roof with yarn or a twisted piece of roving.

Doors/shutters – cut blue wool or felt for your door(s) and shutters – embellish in place and stitch the detail.

Curtain – embellish a piece of lace at the top to tack down and stitch in place.

Trim – place ribbon or velvet scraps over doors and window to add a finishing touch.

Trees, bushes, flowers – using your imagination, add fiber trees, vines, and flowers.



Hints:

*Place nylon net over the small elements to hold them down while embellishing in place.



Postcard 3:

Tease several silk rods along one side and roll around a pencil to create a “rose”.
Cut these “roses” in slices about 1/4” thick and carefully embellish them place.



Embellish some silk fiber below the roses and add a touch of silk ribbon by embellishing along one edge and allowing the ribbon to ruche. Stitch in place.
Add some green fiber leaves surrounding the roses and free motion stitch.



Postcard 4:

Select a variegated Art Yarn and a mix of chiffon or organza scraps, fiber, yarns and curls

to match.
Embellish the fabric on to the background.
Begin by covering raw edges with the yarns.
Continue layering ribbon, yarns and fiber until you have created a pleasing effect.
Add a few pinwheels to attract the eye.
Free motion stitch in place.

Finishing:

Print out the postcard backs onto specially treated fabric sheets following directions and cut them out.



Cut your postcards to match the size of the backs.
Iron fusible medium weight stabilizer to the back.
Iron Wonder Under to the fusible stabilizer.
Tear off the paper and **using a press cloth**, press it on to your artist postcard.
The postcards will be finished around the edges using a zigzag and stitched face down.
Determine the color of thread you want to use to enhance each postcard for both front and back.

Hint:

- *Practice the zigzag on a spare piece of felt before you stitch your postcards to achieve the correct width and length.
- *When mailing, be sure to ask that your postcards be “hand cancelled”.

For other exciting projects like this one, visit our Web site at www.babylock.com