

Bitty Blooms Finishing Tutorial

By Brenda Hotinger, The Quilting Nook

This finishing tutorial is specific to the Bitty Blooms finish for the Happy Little Things BOM by Jacquelynne Steves, but the ideas could be used on any small embroidery finish.



I want to give full credit for the finish to [Vonna Pfiesser of The Twisted Stitcher](#). Her tutorials are for cross-stitch finishes, but I found they can also be used for embroidery finishes. I used aspects of her tutorials to finish the Bitty Blooms embroideries.

If you would like to finish an embroidery project similar to mine, I would suggest viewing the following tutorials first:

Written: [The Mounted Flat Ornament](#)

Video: [Mounted Flat Fold](#)

Fat Quarter Shop has also produced similar finishes using Sticky Board on their [Flosstube Channel](#).

Hint:

Before you start to finish a piece, decide how you want to finish it. Do you want to display it in a frame or finish it as a pillow? If you finish it as a flat mounted piece, how will you display it?

This will help determine the finished size of your embroidery and background pieces.

I finished the Bitty Bloom as a flat mounted piece using two background layers.



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Materials List:

- Finished embroidery piece
- Mat Board, you can purchase it at craft stores, either in large pieces or in a package.
- *Tacky Glue
- *Tacky Spray
- *E6000 Adhesive
- Two coordinating pieces of fabric, approximately 10" x 10"
- Ribbon or Rick Rack
- Batting 7" x 7"
- 3/4" Covered Button Kit



* Be sure to use all the glues and adhesives in a well-ventilated area.

I am using an old cutting mat to work on.

Step 1

Measure the width and length of the embroidery piece from the outside edges of the embroidery stitches, side to side and top to bottom. I like to leave about 1/4" – 3/8" of fabric between embroidery stitches and folded edge.

If the embroidery piece is not square, then determine the measurements you want the top piece to be.

For the Bitty Blooms, the embroidery measurement is 3 3/4" square. Cut 1 1/2" the outside edge on each side.



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Step 2

Cut the mat board 1/4" larger on each side of measured embroidery piece.

For the Bitty Blooms, cut the mat board 4 1/4" Square.



Step 3

Spray the mat board with Tacky Spray. Use could also use glue, but cover the surface of the mat board with the glue.

Place the batting on top of the tacky mat board and smooth and press to adhere.



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Step 4

Trim the batting around the mat board to be even with the mat board.



Step 5

Center the mat board over the embroidery piece, leaving approximately 1" from each outside edge.



Step 6

Fold over opposite edges and use tape to secure the edges while centering piece.

Turn to front and check if the piece is centered. Make adjustments as necessary. Secure placement with tape.

Working with one folded edge at a time, lift fabric and place a line of Tacky glue on the mat board. Press fabric in place without shifting piece. Repeat for the other side.



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Step 7

For the other two sides, slightly fold the corners to the inside at an angle. You can also trim excess fabric from the corners.

Glue down one side, then the opposite side.



Step 8

You now have your finished piece. You can mount this on other pieces of mat board, in a frame, on top of a box. The choices are endless. We will continue to mount the Bitty Bloom on two additional layers of mat board.

Note: I measured the length of the display stand to determine the size of the bottom layer. I wanted to leave room for added embellishments on the bottom and the clip on the top.

To finish as shown:

The Bitty Blooms measures 4 1/4" square. The embroidery piece is placed 1/4" from each edge of the middle layer. The middle layer is placed 1/2" from the sides, 5/8" from the top and 1 5/8" from the bottom.

- cut (1) 4 3/4" square mat board,
- cut (1) 5 3/4" x 7" mat board
- cut (1) 7" square fabric, middle layer
- cut (1) 8" x 9" rectangle fabric, bottom layer



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Step 9

Using the Tacky glue, attach the fabric to the mat board as shown in Step 6 and 7, without using batting.

Center the embroidery piece on top of the middle layer and mark corners lightly. You could also use a ruler to mark 1/4" from each edge. Make sure your mark is removeable or that the top will cover it.

Using Tacky glue, spread it over the mat board on the back of the embroidered piece, making sure to get glue near the edges and the corners.



Center the top onto the middle layer using the marks. Make sure of your placement, then press down in place. Place under heavy books until dry.

Take the layered unit and repeat for placement on the bottom layer. The middle layer measures 5/8" from top (to accommodate the clip), 1/2" on each side, and 1 5/8" from the bottom. Glue together and press with heavy books until dry.

Step 10

I left room on the bottom layer for a little embellishment.



For mine, I auditioned different ribbons and rick rack. If you like bows or flowers, those would be other great options to use.

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Step 11

I decided to go with the rick rack and added 3/4" covered buttons. You can find the covered button kit at craft stores. Follow the directions on the kit to cover the button.

These are shank style buttons. In order to attach them to the rick rack, take a pair of pliers and carefully bend the shank flush with the back. Don't pull or your button will come apart.

Place buttons evenly over the rick rack. I used E6000 adhesive to attach the buttons. Be sure to use in well ventilated area.



You now have a beautifully finished flat mounted embroidery piece to display!