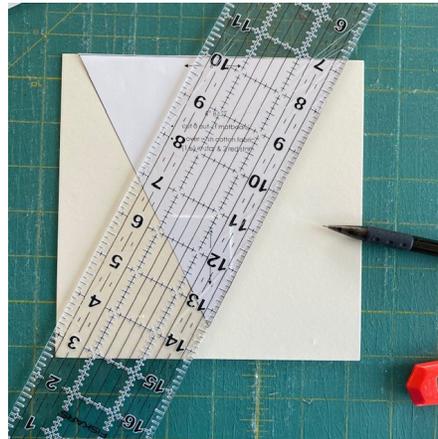
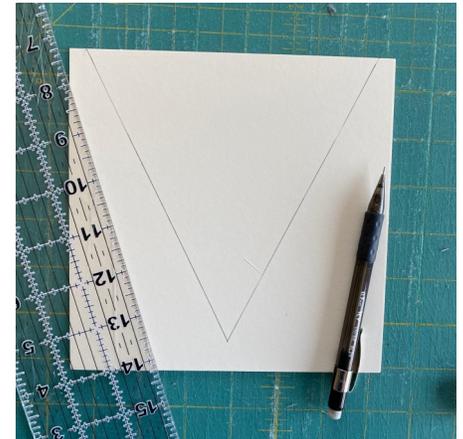




1. **Templates:** start by cutting all of the project templates. Gather the template pages, sheet of cardboard, matboards, paper scissors, ruler & exacto.



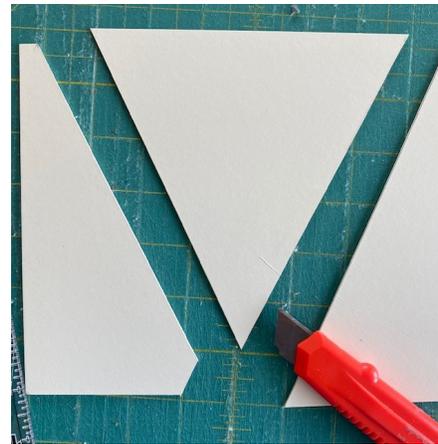
2. Cut out the paper template and place onto the matboard—it is OK to line up an edge of the pattern to the matboard edge. Place ruler on the edge of a template side.



3. Trace both sides onto the matboard. Double check to make sure that you can easily see your lines for cutting. (double check your measurements!)



4. Place the ruler on the cutting line. Hold the ruler in place with one hand and gently run the exacto blade along the edge of the ruler.



5. Score over the line several times to get the best cut. Do not try to cut through the matboard in one exacto sweep.

6. Cut three 6" BASE pieces out of matboard following previous steps.

- Repeat for the 5" BASE pieces out of matboard.
- Repeat for the 5 5/8" BASE pieces out of cardboard.
- **NOTE:** for cardboard template—trace all 3 templates onto the cardboard before cutting out. Refer to the Placement Guide on the Template pages to that they all fit onto the cardboard.



7. **Cover the banners:** grab coordinating quilting cotton, & batting as well as scissors, ruler, rotary cutter, cutting mat, Double Sided (DS) tape & usual stitching supplies.

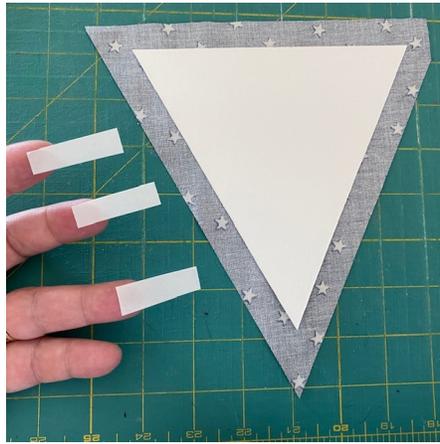
8. Start with the 6" BASE pieces. Place 6" BASE piece on the wrong side of cotton fabric.

- Using ruler & rotary cutter, trim fabric on all 3 sides to 5/8" away from matboard.





9. Do not trim the corners—the one corner in the photo appears trimmed, (I just got too close to the edge of the fabric - happens to everyone now & again!)



10. Cut 3 thin pieces of DS tape (1/4").

- The Stitchery Tape that I use is 1 1/2" wide, so I just cut the 1/4" across the width.



11. Place the DS tape into the corners.

- You don't want the DS tape hanging over the edge of the matboard. Get it as far into the corner as you can.



12. It's difficult to see the white tape on the white matboard—just make sure that the DS tape is secure. It makes it easier to peel the paper backing off.



13. Remove the paper backing from the bottom tip & fold the fabric up to adhere to the DS tape.



14. Repeat for the 2 remaining tips.

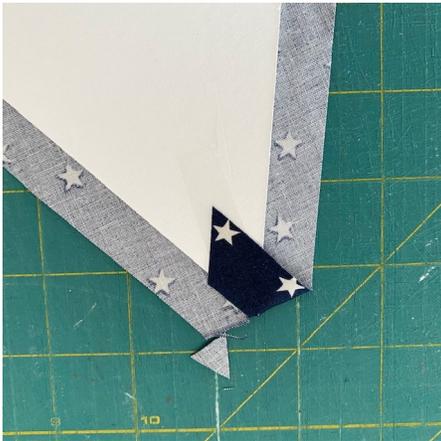
- Make sure the cotton fabric is pulled tight but not distorted. Smooth, no wrinkles is the goal.



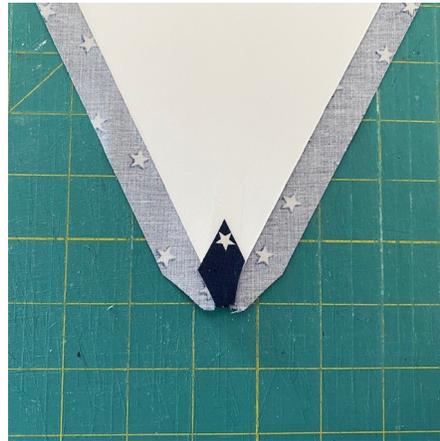
15. We want to remove a little extra fabric bulk at the tips. Trim into the fold towards the tip of the banner—but NOT all the way to the tip! You can always trim more off...not glue more back on!

16. Line your scissors up along the banner side & cut to remove that little triangle of fabric.

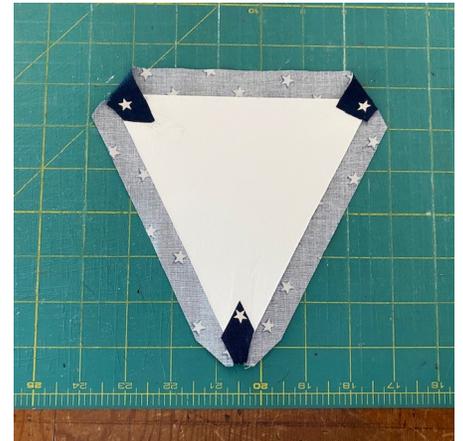




17. Picture shows what your project should look like once you trim the little triangle of fabric at the tip of the banner.



18. Repeat for the other side of the tip. You can see how I did not go all the way to the tip—we need the cotton fabric to hold in place on the DS tape.



19. **NOTE:** repeat the trimming of extra fabric at the top 2 tips **ONLY** on the long edge. Do not trim into the corner along the top/short edge.



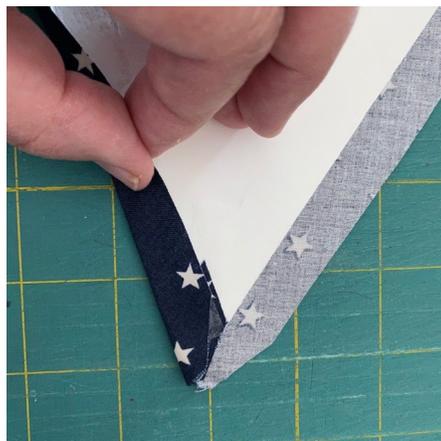
20. Cut a length of DS tape approximately the length of the long sides of the banner. (about 6 1/4")



21. Subcut the DS tape into 3 equal widths. (cut all 3 pieces—store the 2 not in use on something temporary)



22. Place the piece of DS tape along one of the long edges of the banner. Rub to adhere well.



23. Remove the paper backing from the DS tape. You might find using the tip of an exacto blade helpful to peel back a corner especially when it is adhered to fabric.

24. Lay the cotton fabric over into the exposed DS tape.





25. Repeat for opposite long side of banner. **NOTE:** make sure that excess DS tape is NOT sticking out from under the fabric.



26. Here is where you can gently trim a little excess cotton fabric if need be. Cotton fabric should not extend beyond the edge of the banner. Most of this will be covered up. A small dab of glue on top will secure the cut corner fabric.



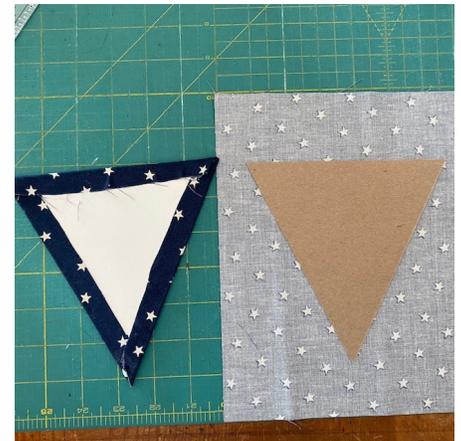
27. Here's an example of what the right side of your banner should look like.



28. Place the final length of DS tape across the top of the banner (you may need to trim the DS tape a small amount).



29. Remove the DS tape paper backing & fold over the top edge of the cotton fabric. Repeat for the remaining 6" BASE banner pieces using the red cotton fabric.



30. Repeat these steps for the 5 5/8" BASE out of cardboard.



31. You have completed covering the fabric covered portion of your banners—let's put them together!

32. Cut a piece of cotton fabric 3 x 11" pieces and stitch with chery or fusible tape.





33. Fold the long edges in until they are 5" wide. Start by folding one side over.



34. Fold the opposite side over until the width is 5", press with iron.



35. Cut a 3" piece of the fusible tape from your kit.



36. Open the fold to place the fusible tape on the edge.



37. Fold the fabric back over. Move the fusible tape around until it does not peek out from the fabric. Press with iron to adhere.



38. Fold the fabric in half lengthwise and press again with your iron.



39. Cut a piece of DS tape and place on the back side of the covered mat board. **NOTE:** the tape should stop about 1/4" away from the edge of the long sides so it won't show in the final finish.

40. Remove paper backing on DS tape, center and place the folded fabric, fold on the outside edge, so that it sticks up evenly a 1/2" from the top edge of the matboard banner piece.





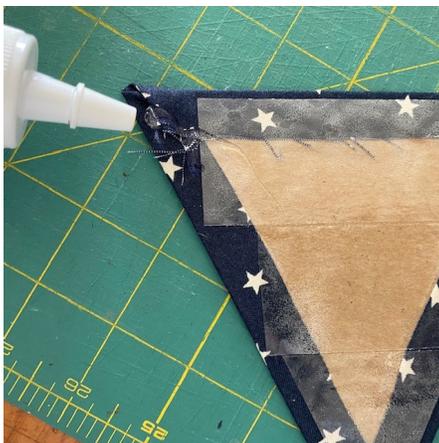
41. A closer look at how the folded fabric will look sticking 1/2" above the matboard banner base.



42. Trim the bottom folds away from the edge of the banner base—these would stick out from the cardboard BASE that we are attaching next.



43. Grab the covered cardboard. Cut DS tape to cover most of the backing as shown in the picture.



44. Peel the paper backing. Put a little dab of craft glue in the corners.



45. Lay the cardboard BASE on top of the matboard BASE, wrong sides together.

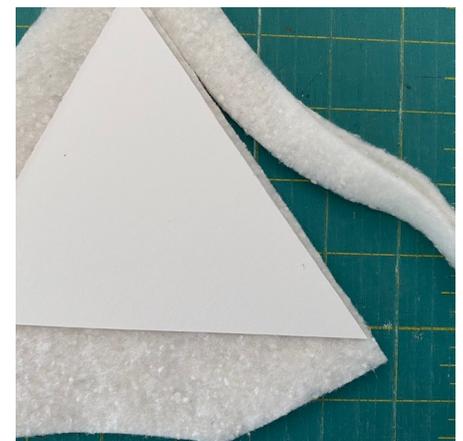
**NOTE:** top edge must be lined up. Cardboard base will be slightly smaller on the long sides.

46. Repeat for the remaining banners, then take a few moments for a break! You earned it!! You're doing great!



47. Time to start the final linen layer! You should have 3 matboard banner pieces left that measure 5 5/8". Attach a small piece of DS tape to the center of the matboard.

48. Peel the paper backing and place on 2 pieces of Warm & Natural cotton batting. There is no need to put DS tape between the layers of batting. Trim both layers of the batting to the edge of the banner. A VERY scant amount of the batting can be left (see photo) but is not necessary.





49. Take a moment to center the stitched design over the prepared matboard. It is intended that the design will be very close to the edge of the banner—maybe even go over the edge.



50. Once centered, carefully place the stitching side down & trim the linen 1" from the edge of the matboard using a rotary cutter & ruler.



51. Trim off the corner tip of linen as shown in the photo. Cut 3 small pieces of DS tape and place into the corners as we did in steps 10-12.



52. Peel the paper backing one corner at a time and fold linen over into the exposed DS tape. **NOTE:** check the front of your work often to make sure that it stays centered.



53. Trim the bulk out of the corners as we did in steps 15-19 **EXCEPT:**

- do **NOT** cut as far into the tips as you did for the cotton fabric
- trim the excess on both sides of all 3 tips



54. Close up of what a trimmed corner should look like!



55. We will start lacing at the bottom tip. Trim just a little more of the linen selvage so when you fold it over the tip, it doesn't bunch. Look at the slight difference between the picture in 54 & 55.

56. Thread up with a good length of lacing thread (at least 2 yards). Tie a knot & anchor it in the selvage of linen. Bring needle from back to front of the tip through the linen.

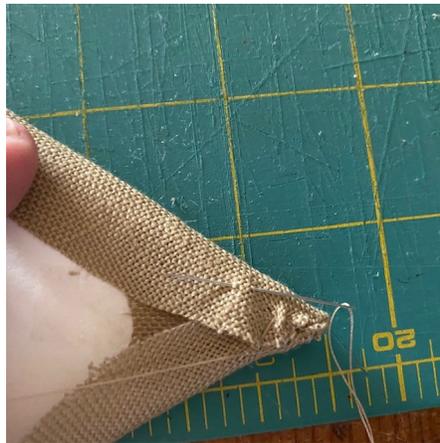
**NOTE:** it helps to practice folding the linen over to 'train' it to lay correctly.





57. Fold the opposite side of linen over and lace through the edge at the very tip with needle & lacing thread.

- I normally lace with a scooping stitch but here we will have to start with a stabbing type of stitch. Keep checking your front.



58. Your 1st few steps of lacing will draw the needle through each side of the fabric once—kind of like you are hooking the linen & pulling.

- Switch to a scooping motion once you get about 1/2" to 3/4" in.



59. You can see the scoop-stitch way to lace in this photo—the needle goes in & out of the linen, perpendicular to the edge on each side as you lace & pull the thread tight.



60. Lace approximately 3/4 of the way up (don't forget to check the placement of your stitching on the front). Without ending the lacing thread, pivot to one of the top tips. (NOTE: make a knot in the linen edge before going to the next tip to secure your lacing.)



61. Start at the very tip of the corner as we started in steps 56 & 57. Lace down to where you meet the previous lacing and pivot to the final tip.



62. Lace the final tip in the same way as the previous tips.

- once you meet up with the previous lacing, pivot to lace the top edge (check your stitching on the front!)



63. Scoop stitch across the top edge down through the side angle. Switch to the other side once you reach about halfway.

- Tie a good knot & trim thread!

64. Cut 2 pieces of hand-dyed rick rack. You can see that I cut them right in the middle of a downward angle. (it helps to press the rick rack)





65. Cut a piece of DS tape to fit the side angles. Cut it half lengthwise & put it very close to the edge of the banner piece.



66. Peel back the paper on the DS tape. I found it easiest to keep the rick rack on the table and gently press the banner onto the rick rack.



67. A look at the back of your banner to see how the rick rack is attached. Repeat for the opposite side...home stretch now!



68. Cover the back of the laced banner in DS tape.

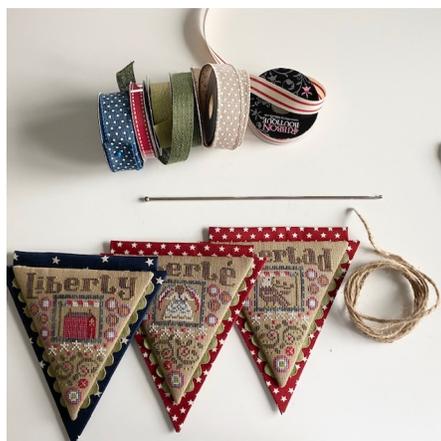


69. Peel the DS tape and place spots of craft glue in the corners as you did in step 44.



70. Place the linen banner onto the fabric covered banner (check to be sure the 6" BASE side is on top).

- **NOTE:** be sure to line up the top edge of the linen covered banner and the fabric covered banners.



71. The really fun part!! Grab some jute & ribbons! Got a long crochet hook? Perfect. A large eye craft needle is good or wrap tape around the twill to feed it through the channel.

72. Lay your pieces out in the order you would like. I started on the far right and fed the jute through the channel from right to left.





73. Pull the jute (about 36") through until you have about 10" left on the right side. Tie a knot in the jute on either side of the fabric channel.



74. Tie a 2nd knot before you feed the jute through the middle banner.



75. Continue with the knots & feeding jute through until you have all 3 banners completed.



76. Cut your ribbons into 6" pieces. Tie them on both sides of each banner for a little pop.



77. Fold the jute on either end and tie with an overhand knot, trim end as necessary.

ENJOY!

I've been so excited to bring you this series!

I know the finishing can be a little daunting, but what a fun display to have up all year long. Banners not in use will be so easy to store as well!!

I plan to be 'called by the muse' with this series. Sometime the new banner will be based in a holiday, maybe a season, maybe even one just for everyday!

Thank you for supporting me & my quirky little finishing ideas—you know I just look at everything & think 'how can I do that in cross stitch?!'

Be well as we embrace all that is going on around us.

Cathy, Hands On Design  
cathy@handsondesign.biz

