



Overnight Suitcase Gift Set

By Rebecca Lowder

Embroidery Products

Star Studded Applique Alphabet Set
by Planet Applique at www.planetapplique.com

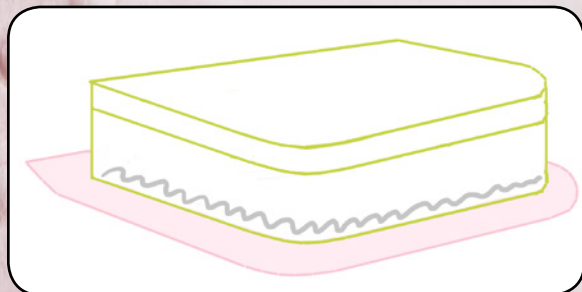
Materials

Papier-mâché suitcase or box
Onesie
Baby socks
½ yd. Vinyl fabric
Scrap sequin fabric for appliques
Non-woven fabric like Minkee
Quilt batting
Adhesive tear-away stabilizer
Spray adhesive
Glue gun
Embroidery floss
1 ⅓ yd. of ⅜" ribbon
12" heavy cording
Leather-like beading string
Large buttons
Leather needle
Grommet pliers and grommets ⅜" - ⅝"

Step 1. Cover the Suitcase

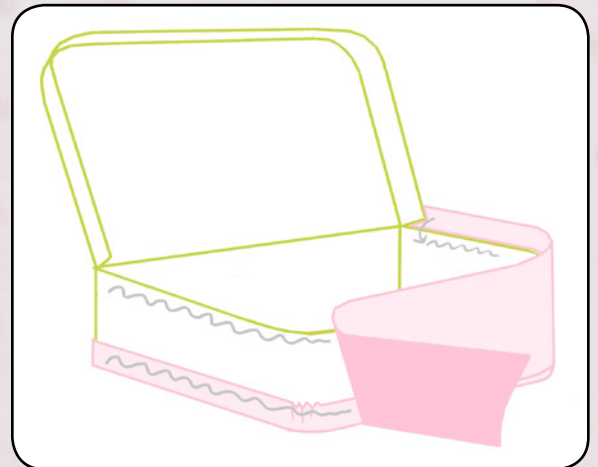
I purchased a plain Papier-mâché suitcase (11" x 9" x 4") from a local craft store and removed the existing hardware and handle. This made it easier to cover the suitcase with fabric.

Trace the bottom of the suitcase on the wrong side of vinyl fabric. Cut out the shape adding a ¼" allowance. Using a glue gun, secure the edge of the fabric to the sides of the box.

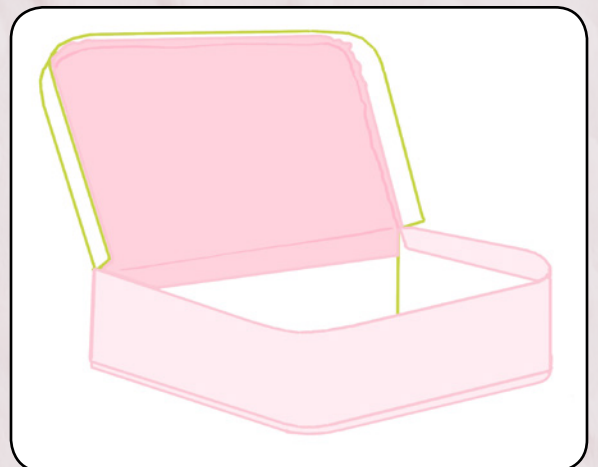


Use a grommet plier to locate the position for the holes. Punch holes in the suitcase for the grommets with a large screwdriver.

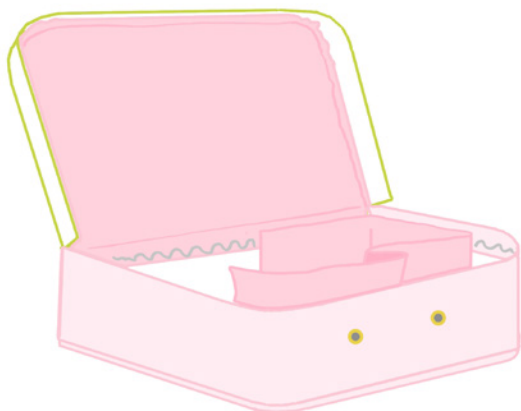
Measure the height of the box and cut a long piece of vinyl an inch taller than the box height for the side panel. As you glue, keep the fabric lower edge ¼" away from the box bottom edge. This area will be covered by a decorative ribbon. Trim corners, wrap and glue the other edge of the fabric to the inside of the box.



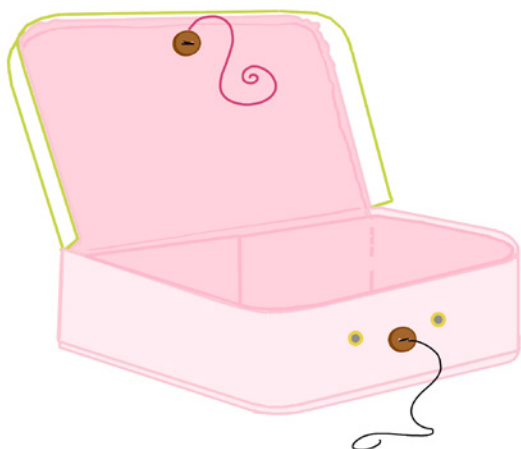
Trace the bottom of the box onto Minkee. Add ¼" allowance to all edges. Cut two. Glue one piece to the inside lid. Glue the other piece to the inside bottom.



Cut a long piece of Minkee fabric 2" taller than the height of the box. Using spray adhesive, glue the fabric onto itself with a 1" seam along the top and bottom. Next, use a glue gun to glue this long piece of fabric to the inside of the box. Use a sharp tool to cut the handle grommet holes through the fabric. Attach grommets.



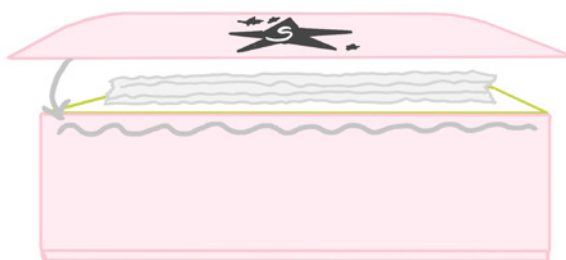
Use a leather needle and embroidery floss to sew a button to the inside lid of the box and to the front of the box. Tie an 8" leather-like beading cord around the button on the lid so the box can be secured closed.



Step 2. Embroidery

Load a letter design from the Star Studded Applique Alphabet and stitch onto a large piece of vinyl. Afterward, trace the bottom of the box on the wrong side of the fabric centering the design. Cut out the shape adding enough seam allowance to wrap the top of the box on all four sides.

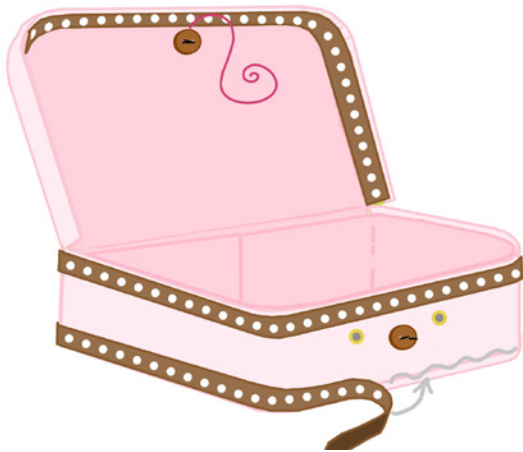
TIP: When appliqueing thin sequin fabric, affix the fabric first to sticky stabilizer, then continue to applique. This technique tames those flimsy fabrics.



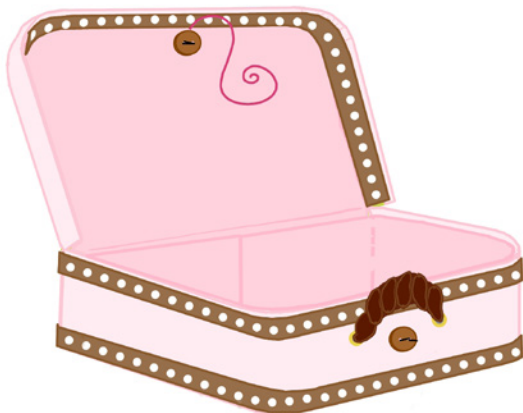
Glue the fabric to the lid, wrapping and gluing to the inside.



Glue 5/8" ribbon over the box bottom and top edges all the way around to cover fabric seams. Also glue ribbon around the inside of the lid.



Pull heavy cording through the grommet holes and knot on each end to create handle.



The Goodies Inside the Case

Step 1. Sock

To applique on to baby socks, hoop adhesive tear-away stabilizer. Unroll the cuff and stick the sock to the stabilizer. Pin the toes of the sock to the stabilizer. Open the cuff area of the sock and pin securely to the sticky stabilizer. Stitch a letter design from the Star Studded Applique Alphabet Set.



Step 2. Onesie

To reverse applique the onesie, we begin by hooping adhesive tear-away stabilizer. Place the hoop on the machine and stitch the first color, the placement guide.



Stick a scrap of sequin fabric on the hooped stabilizer. Position the onesie on top of the applique fabric and pin into place.

Note: Sandwich the sequin fabrics with a medium weight fabric to help create stability for washings. Stabilizer--Plain Fabric--Sequin--then onesie.



Stitch color two, tack down. Remove the hoop and trim INSIDE the stitching line cutting only the onesie fabric. The sequin (applique) fabric will peek through.



Reattach the hoop and finish the design.



Add your custom-made items to the newly made suitcase! Add a cute softie (the one shown comes free with the Star Studded Applique Alphabet Set) to keep the boogie man away while your baby is away from home visiting a loved one. A favorite blanket will top it all off. Your child will be so proud to have his or her very own custom-made suitcase!

