

Window Valance Project by Mary Jane Allen
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Supplies for one a 63" valance (fits a 56" window frame):

2 yards of fabric

tear-away stabilizer

assorted threads

Garden Favorites and Insects (and Bat) designs from Perfect Little Stitches

other flower designs from Pfaff Card #1

Finished valance will be 14" long and self-lined.

Trim selvedge from one edge of the fabric. Press a crease the entire length of the fabric, 18" from the trimmed edge. Use this crease as a guideline when hooping, aligning it with the marks on the inner hoop (120mm hoop). (If your hoop does

not have marks, use a permanent marker and a paper template to make your own.) Your first hooping should be on the far left of the finished valance. You want the crease to be above the embroidered flowers. (The excess fabric below the embroidery will become the valance lining.) Using the positioning feature on your Pfaff, move the design to the far right (away from the crease). When using flowers from the Pfaff card, select the 120 hoop size (you do this from the positioning menu), select the largest size available for that design, then move it to the far right in the hoop. Embroider the flower design. Without unhooping, select the grass strip design. Move the design to the far right. Embroider the strip of grass right over the flowers. Unhoop. Re-hoop, using the crease as a guide and allowing for some overlap with the grass. Continue embroidering various flowers, reversing the direction of the grass with every other hooping. You may also wish to mirror the flowers if you repeat a design.



Once you have embroidered 63" of continuous flowers and grass, you are ready to cut out the valance. Tear away excess stabilizer. Steam out the crease. Measure 29" from the trimmed edge below the flowers and cut along that line. Trim ends to within 1-1/2" of the embroidery (these are the sides of the valance).

Following the instructions that come with the Insect (and Bat) designs, create as many butterflies, dragonflies and lunamoths as you wish, using different colors of organza to coordinate with the flowers. Position each insect at an attractive angle above the flowers. The bottom of the rod pocket will be about 10" above the lower edge of the grass, so you will want to place the insects clear of the rod pocket seam. Follow the Insects (and Bat) instructions to embroider the bodies over the wings.

Sew together the two long edges, using a 1/2" seam allowance. Press seam open. Hem each end with a 3/4" hem. Press a crease 2-3/4" above the seam (this will be the top edge of the finished valance with the seam hidden in the rod pocket). Sew lengthwise 2" from the pressed edge to form the valance header. Sew 1-1/2" below that stitching to create a 1-1/2" rod pocket, hiding the seam inside. Press the lower edge of the valance.

The valance is only very lightly gathered so that the embroidery can be plainly seen.

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