

## activa Art Square Instructions

activa 210 (lower right square in the brochure picture)

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### Supplies:

- 2 Linen or Linen/Rayon Blend Damask Table Napkins Approximately 9" Square Each
- 6 ½" Square Purple Silk Dupioni
- 7" Square Lightweight Wool Such as Flannel or Crepe
- Assorted Scraps of Sheer, Lightweight Polyester Such as Chiffon &/or Organza in Pinks, Reds & Purples
- Bits of Tissue Lame in Metallic Silver, Gold & Purple
- 7" Square Red Polyester Chiffon or Organza
- Three 2" Squares Purple Polyester Chiffon
- 9" Square of Purple Craft Felt
- 6 ½" Square Stitch & Tear Stabilizer
- Pink & Purple Pebeo Setacolor Transparent Fabric Paints
- Containers to Mix Paint
- Foam Paint Brushes
- Machine Embroidery Needle Size 90
- Open Toe Embroidery Foot #20
- Bulky Overlock Foot #12
- Madeira Brand, Red Rayon Embroidery Thread
- Purple Isacord Embroidery Thread
- Pink Isacord Embroidery Thread
- Metallic Gold Embroidery Thread
- 3 Buttons
- 2 Yards Purple Rat Tail Cord (also known as satin cord)
- Assorted Glass Beads in Pinks and Reds
- Three Pieces – 10" Long of 20 Gauge Brass Wire
- Needle Nose Pliers
- Wood Burning Tool
- Hand Sewing Needle
- Temporary Spray Adhesive Such as HR5

### Instructions:

#### Paint the Table Napkins:

1. Dilute paints in separate containers with approximately equal parts water.
2. Wet table napkins and squeeze out excess water. Lay flat on a protected surface.
3. Use the foam paint brushes to apply paint to the napkins, allowing the colors to remain separate in some areas and to flow into each other in other areas.
4. Leave napkins to dry and heat set paint according to product directions.

#### Create the Burned Red Accent Pieces:

1. Cut the assorted scraps of sheer, lightweight polyester fabrics and tissue lame into bits approximately ½" square, striving for random shapes and sizes.
2. Make a "fabric sandwich" by sprinkling the bits on top of the 7" wool layer. Cover the polyester bits on top of the wool with the 7" square of red chiffon/organza. Secure the fabrics with a few straight pins.
3. Thread the stitch-finger on the bobbin case to ensure that the bobbin thread will not show on the top of the art square. Keep stitch finger threaded throughout embellishment and construction.
4. Use the Madeira brand, red rayon embroidery thread, embroidery needle, foot #20 and straight stitch #1 on the machine to stitch a diagonal grid across the fabric sandwich. Use the edge of the presser foot to equally space the stitching lines.
5. Use the wood burning tool to lightly burn through the red chiffon/organza layer, exposing the bits of polyester fabrics and lames in the fabric sandwich. Choose random squares formed by the straight stitching for burning. The burning process should take place outdoors and the use of a mask or respirator is recommended.
6. Cut the burned fabric sandwich into the following size pieces:
  - 4 – ¾" wide by 6 ½" long strips
  - 1 – 3 ¼" square

#### Stitch the Burned Red Accent Pieces to the Purple Dupioni Square:

1. Use the temporary spray adhesive to attach the Stitch and Tear stabilizer to the back of the purple dupioni.
2. Use the temporary spray adhesive to layer 2 of the ¾" x 6 ½" strips of the burned fabric on top of the dupioni so that the long sides of the strips are parallel to and ½" inside the side edges of the dupioni. The short ends of the burned strips should be even with the top and bottom edges of the dupioni. (Refer to art square example for placement guidance.)
3. Use the gold metallic thread to zig-zag stitch along the 2 long edges of each strip.
4. Use the temporary spray adhesive to layer the remaining ¾" x 6 ½" strips of the burned fabric on top of the dupioni so that the long sides of the strips are parallel to and ½" inside the top and bottom edges of the dupioni. The short ends of the strips should be even with the side edges of the dupioni.
5. Again, use the gold metallic thread to zig-zag stitch along the 2 long edges of each strip.
6. Use the temporary spray adhesive to attach the 3 ¼" square of burned fabric in the center of the dupioni.
7. Zig-zag stitch with the gold thread around all 4 sides of the burned square, securing it to the dupioni.
8. Tear away the excess Stitch and Tear Stabilizer from the back of the dupioni.

Stitch the Purple Dupioni Square to the Painted Table Napkin Background:

1. Once the table napkins are dry, attach the 9" square of craft felt to the back side of one of the napkins with temporary spray adhesive.
2. Use temporary spray adhesive to attach the dupioni to the center of the napkin backed with felt.
3. Zig-zag stitch around all 4 sides of the dupioni with purple Isacord thread, securing it to the painted napkin background.
4. Trim both painted napkins to 8" square.

Embellish the Art Square:

1. Add seed stitches by machine to the painted napkin background in the following manner:
  - a. Thread machine with pink Isacord thread.
  - b. Adjust machine for a 5.5mm wide zig-zag stitch.
  - c. Lower the feed dogs.
  - d. Apply zig-zag stitches randomly to the painted napkin background. Allow the needle to swing from side to side approximately 10-12 times to build up thread for each of the seed stitches. Lift the presser foot, move and rotate the fabric and create another seed stitch at a different angle. Continue creating seed stitches, moving and rotating the fabric with each stitch.
  - e. Adjust the machine for a 4mm wide zig-zag stitch.
  - f. Continue in the manner above, randomly creating the narrower seed stitches interspersed amongst the wider seed stitches.
  - g. Draw all thread tails to the back of the piece and tie off.
2. Randomly stitch beads on top of the silk dupioni by hand or machine.
3. Grasp one corner of a 2" purple chiffon square allowing the other 3 corners to drape down. Position the chiffon near the top of the burned square in the center of the dupioni with the top corner of the chiffon extending approximately 1" above the top of the burned square. Secure to the art square with purple Isacord thread and zig-zag stitches with the feed dogs lowered. Draw the thread tails to the back of the art square and tie off.
4. Fold each of the wire pieces in half. Wrap the ends of the wire, one at a time, around the needle nose pliers, creating spirals.
5. Referring to art square example for exact placement, position the folded end of each wire on top of a chiffon square and secure with zig-zag stitches with feed dogs lowered. Stitch slowly and ensure that the needle will swing wide enough to clear the wire. Increase the stitch width if the needle does not clear the wire on each side. Draw the thread tails to the back of the art square and tie off.
6. Stitch the buttons on top of the wire by hand, adding 3 small beads to the top of each button with the last stitch.

Back the Art Square and Finish Outer Edges:

1. Attach the remaining table napkin to the back of the art square with temporary spray adhesive.
2. Randomly tie knots in the rat tail cord.
3. Place foot #12 on the machine and re-thread with purple Isacord thread if you have changed thread colors. Raise the feed dogs.
4. Lay the knotted rat tail cord along the lower edge of the art square and position art square under the #12 foot with cord centered under the groove in the foot and art square extending to the left of the foot. Allow approximately 3" of un-knotted cord to extend behind the foot.
5. Zig-zag stitch, securing the cord to the edge of the art square. Adjust the stitch width so that the left swing of the needle stitches into the art square while the right swing of the needle stitches into the cord. Stop stitching as the foot approaches each knot in the cord. Reposition the art square and cord under the foot past the knot and resume stitching. Stitch all the way around the art square to secure the cord to the edge.
6. Stop stitching approximately 1" ahead of the beginning stitches. Remove the art square and cord from the machine. Tie the cord tails in a knot to join. Wrap the cord tails to the back of the art square and secure with hand stitches. Trim excess cord.