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BAKESHOP

Original Recipe



Happy Birthday Banner by Jen Duncan

They'll know as soon as they walk in the door and see this cheerful banner that a fun time is soon to follow!

Ingredients:



From Sandy Gervais' Objects of Desire, I used:
one Layer Cake (10 inch squares)
and one Charm Pack (5 inch squares)

Also:

3 yards Moda Pom Pom trim in Sunshine
1/2 yard white fabric
Heat N Bond, or other iron on adhesive
Thread

Garnishes (optional):

smaller pompom trims, dress trims, buttons, ric rac, fabric yoyo's

Original Recipe can be found at www.modabakeshop.com

Instructions:

You will be making 14 individual pennants—the 13 letters that spell HAPPY BIRTHDAY plus one that will act as a space between the 2 words.



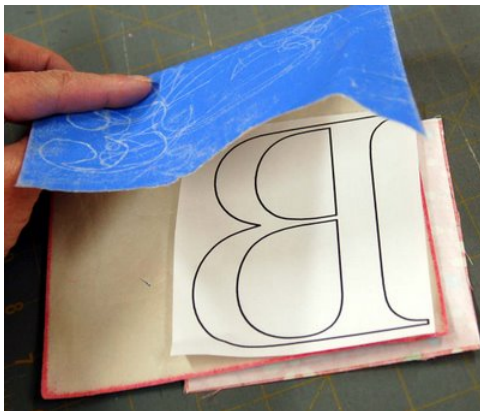
Select 14 ten inch squares from the layer cake. Trim the squares down to 5.5 inches by 8 inches. Select 14 five inch squares from the charm pack (these will be used for the letters). Lay the pennants and coordinating letter fabrics out in a way that pleases you.



Cut 14 five inch squares of the Heat N Bond



Iron them on to the backs of the five inch squares.



I own a die cut alphabet set, and used it to make the letters for this banner, but here is an alternative way to produce your letters. In whatever computer program you have at home (I've always used MS Publisher) create a letter 4 inches tall and mirror image it (flip it backwards). Pick a font that has some width to it. Print on copy paper. Do this for each letter needed. Now create a sandwich in the following order: fabric wrong side up (Heat N Bond paper facing you), dressmaker's carbon paper (ink side down), and finally; right side up, the paper with the backwards printed letter.

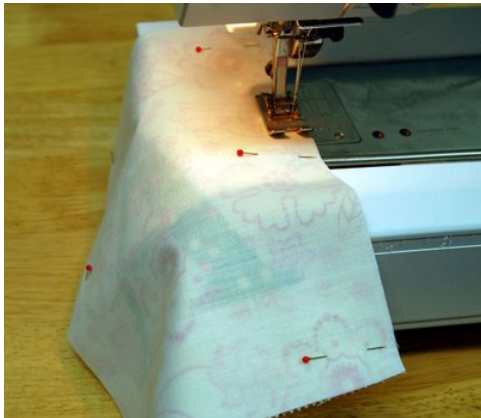
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Trace over the letter with a pen, which transfers the marking to your project



Cut out and peel off paper back. Iron it on to it's coordinating pennant.



From the white fabric, cut 14 rectangles 5.5" by 8". This is for the backing (or lining). Pin a white backing fabric to each lettered pennant, right sides together. Sew 1/4" seam up the two long sides.



Turn inside out and press. **TIP:** I got a fast and accurate straight edge press by inserting a piece of cardstock like this (use steam + be quick = no burning)

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Now lay them out in order and play around with placement of different trims and edgings. Sew trims in place. **TIP:** from this point on I use clear monofilament thread in the upper position and white bobbin thread. That way I don't have to keep changing thread colors.

Next you will attach the individual pennants to the long piece of pom pom trim. Find the center of the trim piece and the center of your saying (in this case the center is between the B and the I in Birthday) and begin attaching each pennant. You could pin and then sew on the machine, but I get much better results by running a quick basting seam. If you do it in the same color as the trim you won't even have to bother with pulling it out later.



I found myself using Aleene's Fast Grab Tacky Glue for a few things as seen in the next picture. The buttons on top of the fabric yo-yos, applying the yo-yos themselves to the pennants, applying the three layered button (on the T) to the fabric, and finishing the edges of the thick green pom pom trim for added security. It was dry enough to work around within 10 minutes. The smaller buttons I sewed by hand.



The amount of embellishments you choose to use is all a matter of personal taste. Here are a couple of close ups for a few ideas

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Notice on the D pennant in this next picture I used the scrap strip from a scallop rotary blade cut as a trim piece

If you hang this throughout the year for various family members birthdays you could even start it with no embellishments but keep adding small pictures and mementos here and there as the years go by.

Yield:

There will be enough fabric for two banners (give one to a friend!) with plenty leftover to brighten up your scrap stash. Approximately six feet long, not including extra length of trim on each side.



Come visit me at my blog!

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<http://www.jenduncan.typepad.com/>

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