

Projects > Tea Towel Tea Cozy

Time for tea! Use our Brother Free Design this month to decorate the center of a tea cozy made from a tea towel. The red work tea set design is the perfect accent to the circular applique we created from built in Brother frame shapes. This is a quick project and while it's perfect your next tea party it also makes a thoughtful gift.

Materials and Supplies

- [Brother Sewing and Brother Embroidery machine or a combination model](#)
- [Brother Embroidery Threads](#)
- [Brother Tear-Away Stabilizer](#)
- Curved tip scissors for trimming appliqué.
- One tea towel measuring approximately 20-inches wide X 26-inches long.
- One 7-inch square piece of white tone on tone printed cotton.
- One 7-inch square piece of thin fusible fleece.
- Insulating batting for quilted side of tea cozy, two pieces measuring 16-inches X 12-inches.
- Coordinating fabric for lining tea cozy two pieces measuring 16-inches X 12-inches.
- ¾ yard of 1-inch wide ruffled lace.
- Paper, straight edge ruler, and curved fashion ruler for creating tea cozy pattern.
- Brother Free Design, redworkteaset.pes. *See **Figure #1**.



Figure #1



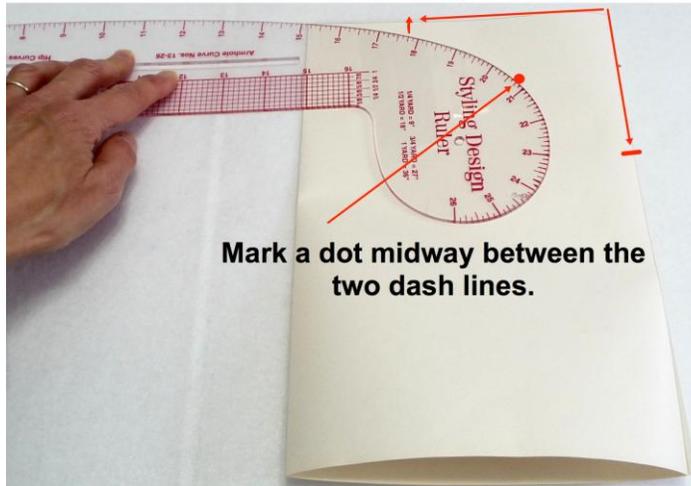
Note: The featured free design will fit a 4-inch hoop. To use the appliqué technique with added lettering featured here you will need a hoop that accommodates a design approximately 6-inches round. We used an 8-inch hoop to stitch our design.

Instructions for Creating Tea Cozy

1. Begin by creating the tea cozy pattern as follows:
 - Draw and cut a rectangle measuring 15-inches wide X 11-inches high. Fold paper half across the width of the piece.
 - Mark a dash line 5-inches in from the top corner and then mark a second dash line 4-inches down from the top corner. Use a straight edge to connect the two dash marks and make a dot where they intersect at the center. Use fashion ruler to draw a curved line beginning at center fold and ending at the marked dot. See below:

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Dashline 5" in from top corner and 4" down from top corner.



Mark a dot midway between the two dash lines.

Figure #2a

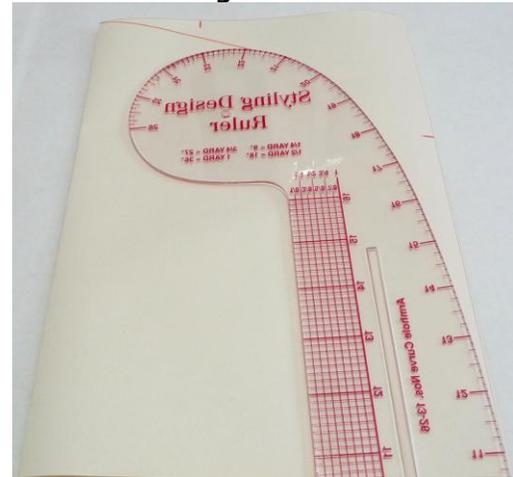


Figure #2b

- Finish by drawing a curved line beginning at the dot and continuing to the bottom edge. *See **Figure #2a and #2b**.
- Open folded paper to reveal complete pattern. *See **Figure #3**.

Note: Our pattern is designed for a standard 6-cup teapot. To make a trial pattern for your teapot we suggest cutting one from craft felt, pin fit on your teapot, adjust, and then alter pattern as necessary for your teapot size.

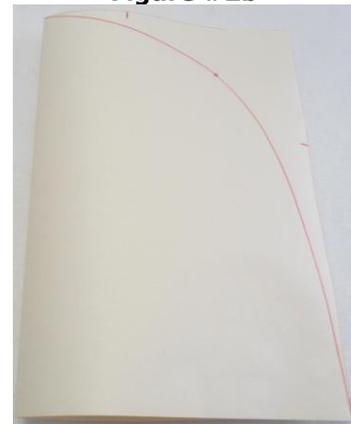


Figure #3

2. Wash, dry, and press the tea towel. Fold in half crosswise and cut in half so you have one oversized piece for the tea cozy front and one for the back.
3. Fuse fleece to wrong side of 7-inch cotton square.
4. Select one half of the tea towel to use for the front. Hoop the piece with the width centered in the 8-inch hoop and tear away stabilizer underneath. Layer cotton square in the center with right side of fabric facing up. *See **Figure #4**.
5. Transfer design to machine. We added Time for Tea lettering and used the array feature to arch the letters over the design.



Figure #4



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6. Complete the design with a circular appliqué as follows:

Select a triple straight stitch circular frame shape from the built in menu. Increase size to surround combined design. We increased our circle to equal 5.28" X 5.28". Next, Select the satin stitch circular frame shape and increase the size so it is approximately one-quarter inch larger than the first circle. We increased our circle to equal 5.51" X 5.51". *See **Figure #5a and #5b**.

7. Embroider the design, stopping after stitching the straight stitch circle. Use curved tip scissors to carefully cut away fabric outside stitching line. *See **Figure #6**. Cover the raw edges by stitching the satin stitch circle. *See **Figure #7**.

8. Center your tea cozy pattern over the circular appliqué. To allow for some shrinkage during quilting, cut piece for front with an additional 1/4-inch of fabric outside the pattern line. Repeat this process to cut the back piece and two matching pieces from insulating fleece. Layer fleece under each front and back piece and quilt the layers together as desired, quilting around the circular appliqué. We used a walking foot to stitch around the circle and then followed the pattern on the towel for quilted lines in a gridded fashion.



9. Use the tea cozy pattern to cut two pieces for lining.
10. To create a loop for the top of the cozy cut a strip measuring 2-inches wide X 6-inches long from tea towel remnants. Fold 1/2-inch to the wrong side on each long edge, and then fold in half and press. Top stitch close to each long edge to finish.

Figure #5a

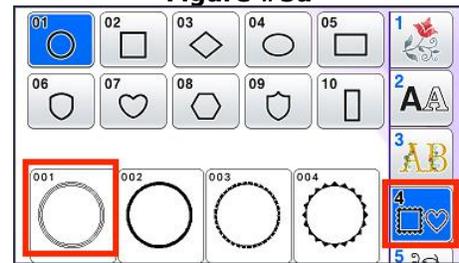


Figure #5b

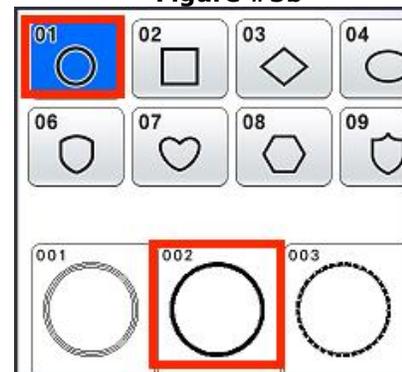


Figure #6



Figure #7



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11. Place pattern back on quilted pieces and trim to size. Baste lace along ½-inch seam line of curved edge of front piece. Pin loop at the top with all raw edges even. Layer back cozy piece with front having right sides together.

*See **Figure #8**.

12. Sew the tea cozy seam for using a ½-inch seam allowance.
13. Place lining pieces right sides together and sew seam in the same manner as you did for the tea cozy. Trim seams to eliminate bulk and press both lining and tea cozy.
14. Turn both tea cozy and lining right sides out and press.
15. Slip lining inside tea cozy with wrong sides facing. Turn under ½ inch along the bottom edge of each and hand stitch to close the opening and secure the lining to the tea cozy.
16. Using small hand stitches stitch in the ditch of the seam to tack the lining and tea cozy layers together, beginning and ending a couple inches from each side of the loop at the top of the tea cozy. You are finished!

Figure #8

