

Candy Cane Heart Punchneedle Design

By: Linda Connors of Calico Crossroads®
Finished size: 3 1/4" x 3" high

Materials needed:

- Kreinik Silk Mori® in 1117 Very Dark Christmas Red, 8000 White, 6107 Very Dark Lavender, 4034 Medium Kelly Green, 4036 Dark Kelly Green — one 2.5m skein of each color, except for a 5m skein of 6107
- one 9" square of natural Weaver's Cloth
- 4" embroidery hoop
- 3-strand punchneedle
- one 8" x 4" piece of template plastic
- one 8" x 4" piece of batting
- one 4" x 4" piece of color-coordinated cotton backing fabric
- one package Mill Hill Glass Treasures #12110 (6mm red/gold balls, 3)
- 6" length of Kreinik 1/8" ribbon in pearl or gold for hanger
- white glue
- pencil or Sharpie pen
- light box or window
- Fray Check™ or similar product
- needle and strong sewing thread in red or white



Instructions:

1. Using either a light box or a well-lit window, trace all lines in the center of your fabric (pattern shown is actual size). Place in a 4" hoop and tighten fabric.
2. Using a 3-strand punchneedle and 3 strands of silk throughout, punch the design in the following order: 1) background, 2) leaves, 3) border.
Background: Silk Mori 6107 for Purple (P) areas
Leaves: Silk Mori 4034 for Light Green (LG) areas, and Silk Mori 4036 for Dark Green (DG) areas
Border: Silk Mori 1117 for Red (R) areas, Silk Mori 8000 for the white areas (blank on the diagram)
3. Before removing fabric from hoop, photocopy the back side to use as a pattern template. Cut the photocopy out on the punched outline to make a pattern template. Using this paper template, draw the heart shape onto one half of the template plastic and cut out.
4. Next attach the three red berries with 1117 red Silk Mori at the red star indicated on the diagram. If you sew them on before photocopying, it won't lay flat on the copier/scanner.
5. Remove fabric from hoop and test fit the template plastic heart by laying it on the back side of the heart. The plastic should come just to the edge of the punching. If it needs trimming, draw trim lines right on the plastic with pencil or Sharpie and trim.

6. When it fits the punched piece properly, write "up" on the plastic heart while it is still laying on the back of the punched piece. use that template to draw second plastic heart (on the other half of the plastic piece) for the back and cut it out. Flip it over and write "up" on the pattern. This will ensure that the two pieces will fit together perfectly since there will be a slight difference from one side of the heart to the other.

7. Cut two pieces of batting using one of the plastic hearts for a pattern. put a small amount of glue on each piece of plastic ON THE SIDE OPPOSITE THE WORD "UP" and glue the batting to each. When placed together, the words "up" on the two plastic hearts should be touching each other and the batting should be on the outside of both hearts.

8. Trim the punched work about 1/2" from the edge all the way around and seal the edges with a product such as Fray Check™. Cut a slit in the center "dip" of the heart at the top. use one of the heart templates to trim the backing fabric also 1/2" from the edge all the way around and fray check edges. Work a running stitch about 1/4" from the edge on both the punched piece and the backing fabric.

9. Place the punched piece flat on your working surface with the backside facing up. Place a plastic heart with the batting next to the punched piece. Pull the running stitches up tight around the template plastic and lace the fabric on the back until secure. Repeat with the backing fabric.

10. Cut a piece of batting to fit inside the middle area of the heart on the back to fill the void caused by the bulk of the edge gathering. Glue in place. Hint: you can use the paper pattern you used for the template plastic and cut out the center for a pattern. Repeat on the back.

11. Double the 6" hanger material in half and place on either half so that there is at least 2" extending beyond the edge. Secure in place with thread and/or glue.

12. Stitch the two heart halves together using the ladder stitch, making sure to catch the hanger in your stitches to further secure.

You are no finished with your ornament! You can trim the edges of the heart with twisted cord and/or beads as desired.

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