

Fine Dining

by Diane Kron, courtesy of Baby Lock





Dress up your dining room chairs with cheerful holiday-themed chair backs.



SHOPPING LIST

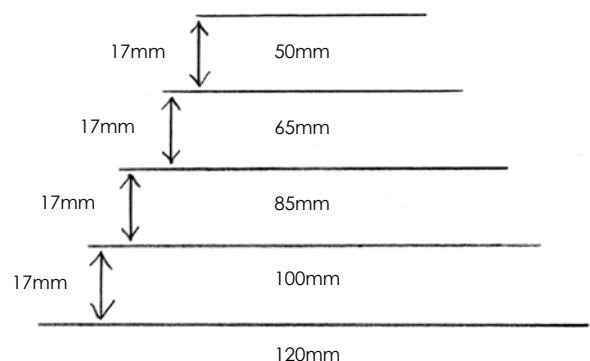
Materials listed are enough to make one chair back.

- ½ yard of maroon silk doupioni
- ¼ yard of cream silk doupioni
- embroidery software with digitizing capabilities
- tear-away stabilizer
- heavyweight interfacing
- walking foot
- temporary spray adhesive
- thread: all-purpose, embroidery
- embroidery designs

Creating the Design

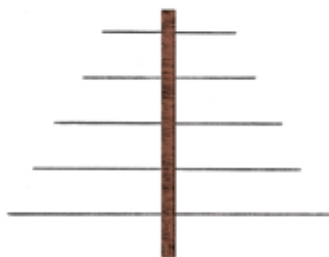
- Open the embroidery digitizing software.
- Choose a line motif in the software program. Select the line drawing tool and draw five horizontal lines approximately 17mm apart. Stack each line beginning at the page lower edge with a 120mm-long line. Position four more lines above the lower line that measure 100mm, 85mm, 65mm and 50mm, respectively **(A)**.
- Select a line motif in the software program. Activate the line drawing tool and draw an 88mm-long vertical line to create a tree trunk.

A Draw four horizontal lines.





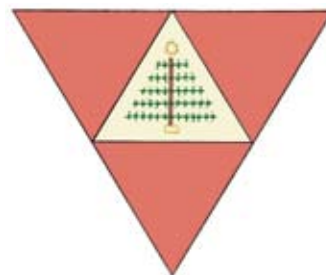
B Position trunk stitches along center.



C Center star over tree.



D Stitch triangles.



- Select the tree trunk line and change the width to 6mm. Position the tree trunk so it's centered along the five horizontal lines (**B**). Color the tree trunk brown. Set the software to embroider the tree trunk first.
- Select the rectangle drawing tool and draw a small rectangle on the current software page to create the tree holder. Adjust the rectangle dimensions to approximately 13mmx19mm. Center the tree holder below the tree trunk. Color the tree holder yellow.
- Choose a star motif from the software program. Adjust the star size to 32mmx33mm. Center the star over the tree branches (**C**). Color the star yellow.
- Print a template of the design. Save the design in the appropriate machine format and name it "Tree."

Embroidery

- Using the pattern on [page 00](#), cut three triangles from the maroon silk doupioni and one triangle from the cream doupioni.
- Audition the tree design template in the cream triangle center, with the triangle point as the upper edge.
- Hoop a piece of tear-away

stabilizer and position the cream triangle wrong side over the stabilizer, using temporary spray adhesive to secure. Embroider the design. Once the embroidery is complete, gently remove the fabric from the hoop and tear away the stabilizer; press.

- Repeat to embroider cream triangles for as many chair backs as desired.

Construction

- Using $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowances, stitch each maroon triangle lower edge to each cream triangle edge with right sides together. Press the seams toward the maroon triangles (**D**).
- Cut one triangle each from the interfacing and maroon doupioni 1" larger than the embroidered triangle. Sandwich the interfacing between the large maroon triangle and the embroidered center triangle. Using a walking foot, stitch in the ditch around the center triangle. Quilt the triangle by stitching parallel rows 1" away from the center triangle on all sides. Evenly trim the edges.
- Cut $2\frac{1}{2}$ "-wide bias strips from the maroon fabric. Stitch the strip ends to create two bias

strips; cut one 45" long to use for the chair-back upper edge. Cut the second 62" long to use along the chair-back sides. Fold each strip in half lengthwise with wrong sides together; press.

- Measure 15" from one long bias strip end; pin-mark. Align the pin-mark with the triangle upper right corner with right sides together and raw edges aligned. Pin generously. Stitch the binding to the chair back sides using a $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance. End the stitching at the triangle point; cut the thread.
- Miter the binding at the triangle point, creating a 45° corner. Continue binding the chair back, ending at the triangle upper corner.
- Measure 15" from the remaining bias strip along one end; pin-mark. Align the pin-mark with the triangle upper right corner, with the bias strip and chair back right sides together and raw edges aligned. Stitch using a $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance.
- Fold each bias strip to the chair back front; press. Stitch close to each bias fold using an edge-joining foot. Trim the ties so they're even, if necessary.
- Repeat to stitch each chair back. ■