

## Coloring the Texas Outline with Mockingbird in the Bluebonnets on Denim

By Michele Markey – Medina Domestic Arts Studio



Recommended colors for this design: The colors listed below are required in order to color the design as shown in the above picture.



Texas flag colors: Navy (1), White (2) and Crimson (3) paint

Leaf and Stem Colors:

- 4. Fabrico Pine (165)
- 5. Fabrico Pea Pod (167)
- 6. Fabrico Green Apple (110)

Bluebonnet Colors:

- 7. Fabrico Pale Aqua (139)
- 8. Fabrico Cerulean Blue (119)
- 9. Fabrico Midnight (162)

Mockingbird Colors:

- 10. Fabrico Cool Grey (181)
- 11. Fabrico Real Black (182)

Accent Colors for Overcoloring:

- 12. Gelly Roll Classic Blue M#36
- 13. Gelly Roll Stardust Blue (#736)
- 14. Gelly Roll Stardust Clear (#700)
- 15. Gelly Roll Stardust Silver (#744)
- 16. Gelly Roll Classic White (#50)

## Notes regarding painting or coloring on Denim

These fabric paints and gel pens are very compatible with denim. All the products included are excellent quality opaque or semi-opaque with high levels of pigments to completely cover the bare denim fabric. These coloring tools leave the denim soft after washing. **Note that some of the glitter can wash out** while washing so make sure to wash your painted items on the gentlest cycle in cold water wash and rinse. Do not use harsh laundry detergents but soaps that are made for delicate fabrics. To keep the gel pens from losing their sparkle, you can coat the gel pen coloring with fabric medium. **As with any fabric paint, pens or markers, the color needs to be heat set with a hot iron after the colors have dried for 48 hours. Be sure to use a press cloth so as not to scorch the fabric!**

Most of these applications go on the cloth very well – smoothly and with little effort. If your paint thickens while you are using it, just add a few drops of fabric medium and stir it into your paint. The best way to save and economize with your paints is to pour small amounts from a larger jar into smaller containers. This is so the paint doesn't dry out or form a skin in the larger containers. Most of these products dry relatively fast so the possibility of rubbing your paint or ink off is minimized.

These paints and gel pens can also be used synthetic fabric clothes (besides denim).

Fabric paints goes on easily with a Taklon or synthetic stiff brush. You will need to brush the paint on in multiple directions in order to fill the weave texture of the denim. Also, you may have to apply several coats of color (both with paints and gel pens) to get complete coverage.

However, even semi-opaque and opaque colors look different when painted on denim fabric. For example, even the brightest yellow will look greenish rather than true to its own color. It is advisable to create your own color key chart on denim fabric so that you can see what the color will truly look like once it has dried onto the denim fabric. Use the Black and White Version of the Dream Catcher attached to test colors first and to set up a color code chart before coloring on sampler. You may want to make several copies of the black and white version and color it several times to determine the best color combo for you.

Start with the state of Texas flag colors first in this order: Navy, Crimson then White. Allow each section to dry for about 30 minutes before moving on to the next color. As suggested above, you will probably have to go over each section twice in order to get full coverage. Also, it is best to start with all the little pieces behind the bluebonnets and Mockingbird design. Allow those little areas to dry before moving on to the larger section. This will prevent your hand from smearing paint.

Once the State background painting is done, move on to the Bluebonnets. In this example, the stems and leaves were done first. This example used Jacquard's Citrine Lumiere paint on the stems. Once the paint was dry, the stems were overcolored with Fabrico Pea Pod pen.



The leaves were colored first with Fabrico Green Apple, primarily in the center of each leaf. Then Pea Pod was used to outline each leaf and slightly overlapping the Green Apple color. Make sure not to completely overcolor the Green Apple.



The leaves that appeared to be back further into the background were colored with Pine to give the illusion of being back in distance. Use Pine sparingly so as to not make all the leaves uniform in color.

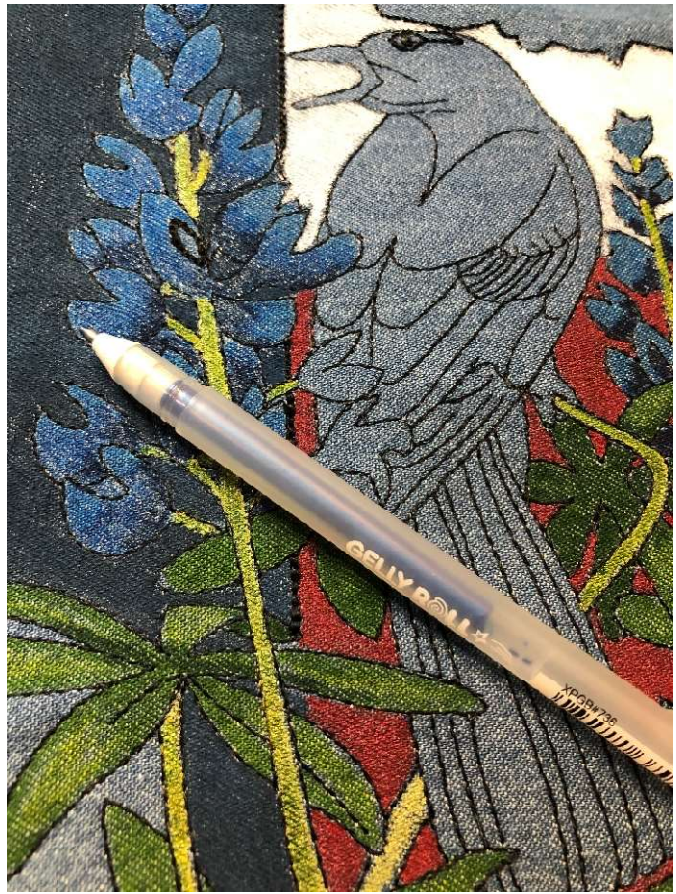
## Coloring the Bluebonnets

Starting with Fabrico Pale Aqua, color all the tips of the bluebonnet petals.



Next color the rest of the bluebonnet petals with Fabrico Cerulean Blue. Then color the bottom part of each petal with a bit of Fabrico Midnight. Use Midnight sparingly to preserve the other two colors.





Here is what the Block should look like after coloring the Bluebonnets. You can use the Blue Stardust pen to overcolor lightly on the petals to give the Bluebonnets some “bling”! Use the pen sparingly so that the other colors will still show.

## Coloring the Mockingbird



Start with the Fabríco Black pen and color the beak and the wing parts as indicated in the picture above. Be sure to leave the wing tips open for other color.





Using the Fabric Cool Grey pen, color the upper wing parts and 2/3 of the tail feathers. Use the Cool Grey to add a little grey underneath the black as seen in the photo above.



Use the Gelly Roll Silver Stardust pen to color the entire head, the right shoulder and the wing tips in the middle of the back. Use the Gelly Roll White pen to color the wing tips, the small areas under the black and the bottom 1/3 of the tail feathers.





Use the Clear Gelly Roll Stardust pen lightly over the Cool Grey and white in the tail feathers. Color the claw with black or grey (your preference).