



MyCraftBasketStudio

Paper Piecing Technique: A Simple Technique for Instant Pizzazz

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Print these instructions and follow along with my video:

<https://youtu.be/sVxVoAGMjYQ>

Paper piecing and appliqué have been around a long time, but they're still some of the easiest ways to add instant pizzazz to your projects!

Paper Piecing:

1. Select the die cut you'd like to use (example: Tim Holtz Silhouette Birds).
2. Cut the base shape from a patterned paper with a random design.
3. Cut out smaller pieces from colored or patterned paper to match the areas you want to highlight (for example: red paper for the bird's breast).
4. Tear the inside edge where it overlaps, then glue in place with a glue stick (I like Tombow Mono).

Appliqué:

1. Stamp your image (example: guitar from Country Livin' – Stampin' Up #141922) onto white cardstock for your card face.
2. Stamp the same image again on a decorative paper (example: woodgrain for the guitar body).
3. Cut out the section you want and glue it over the base image.
4. Add extra elements (like boots stamped on brown cardstock) and pop them up with foam tape for dimension.

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Paper Piecing vs. Paper Appliqué

Paper Piecing and Paper Appliqué

Both techniques use layers of paper to create a finished design, the process and the final effect are different.

Aspect	Paper Piecing	Paper Appliqué
Technique	Involves assembling multiple paper pieces, much like a jigsaw puzzle, to form a complete image. The separate pieces are often cut from different colored or patterned papers and are glued together to re-form the design.	Involves cutting a complete, singular shape out of paper and then layering or gluing it on top of a background piece of paper.
Result	Creates an inlaid, flat design where the edges of the different paper pieces meet to form the final picture.	Creates a dimensional, layered look where one shape is placed on top of another.
Inspiration	The technique is similar to fabric patchwork, where many pieces are sewn together to form a block.	The technique is similar to fabric appliqué, where one piece of fabric is stitched onto another.
Complexity	Can be used to create very intricate designs with many small pieces.	Typically uses fewer, larger pieces and is often considered a less complex process than paper piecing.