



# America Sews

## with Sue Hausmann®

### 2902 Points of Interest for Quilting With Lisa Maki

Guest Lisa Maki from Crooked Nickel joined Sue to demonstrate how easy it is to take favorite T-shirts or focal fabric designs to create easy quilts, wall hangings or home dec bed scarves, pillows and more.

Lisa shared that many people ask her for instructions to make a T-shirt quilts because they want to make gifts and remembrances for graduation, kids off to college, life memories including special vacations, sport events, and memories of a lifetime!

Because there were so many requests, Lisa wrote Memories to a "T", The perfect T-shirt Quilt, with Quilt-N-Go

Template. This booklet/pattern includes complete instructions, fabric requirements, cutting and layout and sewing diagrams, borders, finishing, binding and the acrylic template for easy cutting.

Lisa's technique for making T-shirt quilts makes it easy for anyone to do because the T-shirts are fused to the special Pellon Quilters grid background which stabilizes them and provides the sewing guidelines. Memories to a "T" is available from Crooked Nickel Quilt Designs, phone 1-406-727-5833 or e-mail [lisa@crookednickel.com](mailto:lisa@crookednickel.com) Go to the web site



Lisa Maki and Sue Hausmann

### Sewing Supplies:

- Husqvarna Viking Sewing Machine
- Memories to a T Booklet and Template
- Pellon Quilter's Grid On Point #821 (yardage in Memories to a T Booklet)
- T-shirts (number depends on size of quilt)
- Fabric for Sashing, Borders, Binding and Backing (yardage in Memories to a T Booklet)
- Large Applique Press Sheet #140000970
- Mettler Sewing thread
- Husqvarna Viking Edge Stitching Foot #412796745
- Turntable style Rotary Cutting Board
- Rotary Cutter

at [www.crookednickel.com](http://www.crookednickel.com) for more information. Memories to a “T” includes two sizes of quilts, the Perfect Size Quilt (finished size 49” x 80”) which features the logos and detail from 22 T-shirts and the Mini-Me Quilt, (finished size 49” x 53”) which features 12 T-shirts.

The America Sews set was decorated with several of Lisa’s T-shirt quilts. The “Oregon State College Quilt” featured t-shirts in the school colors, orange and brown and every square started as a T-shirt. The sashing and borders frame the T-shirt blocks.



Another quilt called “Memories”, showcased T-shirts from a sorority. Lisa knows where each t-shirt came from and each has a memory.



One block in Lisa’s quilt featured a Disney image which is copyrighted, however this is fine when you use a T-shirt with the image because you bought the T-shirt and therefore did not copy or create the image.



One of the design elements that make Lisa’s T-shirt quilts special is that the blocks are set on point and logos on each block are not placed in the same direction. Because the T-shirt blocks are set on-point which is one of Lisa’s signature techniques, each one is unique.

Gather and pre-wash the T-shirts you want to put in your quilt. Remove the plastic coating from the Quilt-N-Go Perfect 10” acrylic template that comes with Memories to a “T”. Because you can see through the acrylic template it is easy to place it over the logo on the t-shirt and move it around until you have exactly the design elements you want on the T-shirt quilt block.

When cutting the blocks from the T-shirt Lisa likes to cut on a small turntable style rotary cutting board because as she cuts around the template she can leave the T-shirt flat and turn the cutting board. Place the T-shirt on top of the turntable cutting board and center the logo with the Quilt-N-Go Template on the board. Cut around the Quilt-N-Go template turning the rotary cutting board so it is easy to cut each side. If the t-shirt back is plain, cut through both the front and back layers. It makes it more stable to cut. If there is a logo you plan to use on the back, cut the front and back individually. You will want to cut some blocks from a companion fabric for the edges of the quilt. This will be explained in Memories to a “T”.

Lay the Pellon Grid out on a large pressing surface with the fusible side up. The size of the piece is outlined in the Memories to a “T” instructions. Tip: To



create a large pressing surface, Lisa covers her cutting table with a layer of batting and a large sheet. Do not do this on a dining room table or other surface that can be damaged by heat.

Thanks to our Underwriter:  
 Crooked Nickel Quilt Designs- On Point Quilt Patterns using fusible grid

[www.crookednickel.com](http://www.crookednickel.com)

Place the 10” T-shirt blocks on the Pellon Grid as shown in the Memories to a “T” for your quilt size. If you turn the grid so the squares are left to right it is visually easier to place the blocks. The Pellon Grid makes it easy to do an on-point quilt because the squares are printed on the fusible Pellon Grid on-point. Fill in the edge blocks with the squares cut from a quilting fabric as explained in Memories to a “T”.

As you position the blocks in place, take time to fuse them to the Pellon Grid as you go. You will press, not iron. Pressing is holding the iron in one place, not moving it back and forth as in ironing. When pressing the blocks to the grid, you must place a Teflon Appliqué pressing sheet over the blocks to protect the surface of the T-shirt (because many T-shirt logos can be damaged by heat) and to prevent the glue from the Pellon Grid from sticking to the iron.

When pressing the blocks in place, press for 30 seconds per block, without steam.

Continue to lay out your squares on the Pellon Grid as illustrated for your quilt size in Memories to a “T”.

Cut the sashing strips according to the instructions in Memories to a “T”. There will be long sashing strips and short sashing strips. Place the long sashing strips onto the Pellon Grid first, then place the short sashing strips. Use the appliqué pressing sheet to press the sashing strips in place. The fabric edges of the blocks and the sashing strips do not touch.

There is a little space between them.

To stitch your quilt top, thread your Husqvarna Viking with sewing thread top and bobbin in a neutral color

that coordinates with the colors in your quilt. Fold the quilt top right sides together along the rows of the blocks and sashing with the sashing side up. There are complete instructions about



stitching the quilt top in Memories to a “T”. Snap on your Edge Stitching Foot. Select a straight stitch, center needle position, 2.5 length and stitch with the edge of

the Pellon Grid against the flange/guide on the foot for a 3/8” seam allowance.

The Pellon Grid makes piecing the quilt top so easy. There is no need to pin. Flip your quilt back and forth as you stitch the seams. Always sew with the sashing strip on top.

Complete instructions for finishing your T-shirt quilt are in Memories to a “T”. Lisa has quilted some with batting between the top and the backing and some with no batting. Fleece makes a neat backing that adds some filler and warmth.

Lisa shared a number of other options for creating with the Pellon Quilters Grid. If you don’t have T-shirts to use why not have a special message silk screened or better yet embroider your message on a plain t-shirt back.

Her latest pattern concept for these home dec accessories is that sophistication like a five star hotel can be in your bedroom too! Using the same 10” squares cut with your template and the Pellon Grid, she has designed a pattern for accenting your room without major redecorating. Make a bed scarf, pillow shams and decorative pillows for a fast and simple way to create a look for every season. Lisa made them with a different fabric for each season of the year. Contact Lisa at [www.crookednickel.com](http://www.crookednickel.com) for more information.



# 2902 Quick Project

## Perfect Piped Placemat with Chris Dolinar

Chris Dolinar, Husqvarna Viking Freelance Educator joined Sue and Lisa with great tips on how to get perfect piping.

Chris travels the United States teaching and presenting programs to sewing enthusiasts! One of her favorite techniques to share is how to make and insert piping for a tailored detail that adds class to any project.

Chris brought several projects that feature piping. The purse is pieced together with piping in the seams dividing the sections of the embellished purse front. The fabrics were created in 4D Fabric Decorator Software Program with decorative stitches. Robison Anton 40 wt. embroidery threads embroidered the fabric decoration.



She also showed pillows that featured large piping.



Piping is made by covering a cord with fabric. There are many sizes of cord available including mini, medium and "fat" cording.



Sue Hausmann, Lisa Maki  
and Chris Dolinar

### Sewing Supplies:

- Husqvarna Viking Sewing Machine
- Robison Anton 40 wt. Rayon Embroidery Threads
- Mettler Cotton Sewing Thread
- Husqvarna Viking Piping Foot 411851045
- Husqvarna Viking Clear Mini Piping Foot #413183045
- Husqvarna Viking Single Welt Cord Foot #412627045
- Husqvarna Viking Double Welt Cord Foot #412627145
- Husqvarna Viking #204 Elegant Art Embroidery
- Piping Hot Binding Set #1400009 71
- Groovin Piping Tool Grande #140003185
- Quick and Easy Border Mitering Tool #104003276

The key to easy and quality piping is use the appropriate foot when making and inserting piping. The groove on

the underside of the foot should be approximately the same size as the cording that is being covered so that the foot will guide the cording/piping as it is stitched.



Chris featured mini piping around the border of the placemats.



For larger size cord choose the standard piping foot for the medium size and a Single Welt Foot for the larger cord.

Thread with Mettler sewing thread top and bobbin. Chris cut the fabric strips on the bias so they curve around the cord and the finished piping goes around the corners easily. She also cuts the strips wider than they need to be to make it easier to cover the cord and then trims the seam allowance to either 1/4" or 1/2" with the Piping Hot Binding Tool. To make the mini piping, select a 1-2mm cord and snap on the mini piping foot. Wrap the cord with the strip of fabric and place the cord under the presser foot with the seam allowances to the right and the cord under the groove on the underside of the foot. The groove feeds the cord. Select center needle position straight stitch. Chris uses a stylus as needed to hold the cord in place.

Once the cord has been covered, use the Piping Hot Binding Set for mini piping or the Groovin' Piping Tool Grande to trim any excess fabric from the edge of the seam allowances. There are grooves on the underside of these tools to place the cord/piping in for trimming so that the excess seam allowance extends outside the edge of the tool. Place the tool on a rotary



cutting board and use your rotary cutter to trim away the excess seam allowance. One side lets you trim to a perfect 1/4" seam allowance and the other side lets you trim a perfect 1/2" seam allowance.

To make Chris's Piped Placemat, begin with two strips of print fabric 2" wide for EACH placemat. Cut one print back 13 1/2" x 19 1/2".

Thread with 40 wt. Robison Anton Rayon embroidery thread on top and bobbin thread in the bobbin. Embroider design 6 on the center fabric 12" x 18". When the embroidery is complete, cut the center down to 10 1/2" x 16 1/2".

Make piping, and stitch to one edge of the print strips.

Using your Quick and Easy Border Mitering Tool, follow the instructions included to create a mitered frame. As you create the corners, be sure that the piping is to the inside.

Place the frame right sides together with the backing piece. Stitch all the way around the outside, using a 1/4" seam allowance.

Turn through the opening. Place the embroidery inside the "frame", centered, and pin. Place your piping foot on the machine and topstitch through all the layers, "in the ditch" of the piping seam.

Your placemat is finished!



Thanks to the Underwriter  
of our Quick Project:

[www.robison-anton.com](http://www.robison-anton.com)