

ROUND CLOCK TIPS

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Contents:

Taking a purchased clock apart.
Fabric and stabilizer recommendations

Taking a purchased clock apart:

Don't laugh but the first clock I took apart was a disaster! I took it apart from the back side and really struggled with it until I got it apart. Then I quickly realized I still had to take the clear face off! Boy did I learn something on my first attempt!

1. Take a small butter knife or small flat blade screwdriver and slip it down between the clear face and the round frame and pry one of the little plastic tabs inward so that it will pop out of the slot it is in. There are usually three tabs holding the clock face in place but all you have to do is get one of them loose and the other two come out on their own. Then just gently pry the clock face off.
2. Next, pull off the hands (straight up) and take the paper face out of the clock to use as a pattern for cutting your embroidered face so it will fit perfectly. Just lay the paper face over the embroidered clock and line up the hole in the center and the 12's at the top and trace around the paper. Then, carefully trim the fabric on the lines you traced.
3. Now, turn your paper face over on the back side and use a glue stick and smear glue on the outer edges and place your fabric face over the paper clock face lining the 12's up with the original paper face so the clock isn't upside down when you put it back in the round frame! (smile).
4. Then, put the hour hand on first, then the minute hand and finally the second hand. Put the clear face on and make sure the tabs pop back into their slots and your done!

It takes about 5 minutes and you have a wonderful gift that looks very professional without even breaking a sweat! It is really much easier to do than it is to explain. I use the "Mainstays" brand clocks at Walmart that are in the picture/frame department. They are about \$4.88 each and so you don't have to spend a lot to have a nice gift.

Fabric and stabilizer recommendations:

I use Pellon Stitch 'n Tear stabilizer for my clocks. I have tried many different stabilizers and found that this particular stabilizer works the best! I have used Trigger cloth, sanded twill cloth and denim bull drill cloth for all of my clock and frame designs.

Trigger cloth is a sport weight cloth mainly used for shorts, aprons, skirts, etc and it is 50/50 cotton/poly. I usually find it at Walmart. When I first started making clocks I used Trigger cloth. But I tried 8 oz Denim Bulldrill cloth (from Hobby Lobby) and sanded twill cloth (from Walmart) and I really liked how both fabrics worked with my clock designs. These are both medium weight fabrics as well. The sanded twill cloth had this information on the end of the bolt: James Thompson & Co. 60" Sanded Twill/Natural \$4.44/yd. I didn't think to write down the manufacturer's name for the 8 oz Bulldrill at Hobby Lobby, sorry! I have a friend that likes to use Osnaburg cloth for her clocks and she swears by it, but I have not tried it yet. I found that Walmart carries Osnaburg too.