



# VALENTINE POSIE PINS

designed and copywrited by Mary Mittelstadt of DesignAndBeMary/Mittelstadt Artworks

Now you can wear your heart on your sleeve...your coat...your best sweater...your hat....well you get the idea! These adorable little pins are a fun way to 'spread the love!' I designed these pins in 2015 and have been asked over the years to publish a pattern....so here it is. And it's a free download! My gift to all of you. They make great little gifts for the young and the old - and no one will gain a pound! These sturdy little pins are constructed on a cloth wrapped wire support and extra heavy weight Pellon interfacing so they will retain their shape throughout wearing. Time to use all those scraps of wool felt/felted woven wools, threads, beads, fancy ribbons, buttons, sequins, etc. Plus you have a wide variety of ways to make each heart all your own. The following directions include templates for the above shapes, but the instructions are written for the construction of one pin (as seen here in the right bottom photo on this page.) All the pins are constructed in much the same manner. Feel free to be creative!!

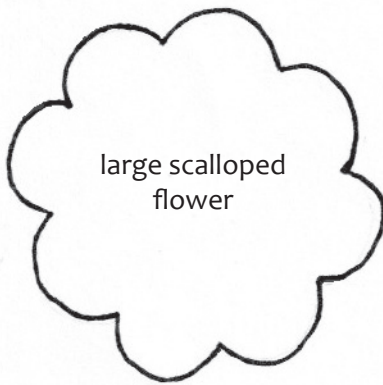
## MATERIALS:

- small pieces or scraps (3x3" or larger) of wool felt, wool felt blends, or well felted woven wools. Two different colors (for the flower and the leaves) - the backing of the flower could be different.
- store bought felt hearts about 1" - 1 1/4" across. You could also cut your own hearts.
- small scraps of Heat N Bond lite paper backed fusible (about a 3 x 6" piece)
- small 2" square of Pellon 72 F extra heavy weight fusible interfacing
- 6" length of cloth covered floral wire 18 gauge (per pin) - available at large craft/floral stores
- pin clasp 1" - 1 1/4" long
- glue ( I use and recommend E 6000 - also available at larger craft stores)
- Silamide thread (found in beading supplies) OR strong synthetic regular sewing thread.
- **Do not use NYMO monofilament** as it is not strong enough and may not survive any fusing!
- preferably sz. 11 Japanese glass seed beads for beaded edgings - they have BIG holes
- any glass beads or buttons about 6mm in size for embellishment
- your choice of perle cotton or stranded embroidery threads - for embroidery
- needles: size 10 long beading needle for beading **OR** a Jeana Kimball sz 9 redwork/embroidery needle which will go through Japanese seed beads and is suitable for the embroidery as well.
- any assortment of decorative threads for embellishment
- sequins, ribbons, buttons, etc. for accents - dig into that stash!!!
- miscellaneous supplies: small to medium sharp scissors, pliers (optional), pencils/pens for tracing, work surface for tracing/cutting/pressing, small contain cover for beads, good lighting, iron

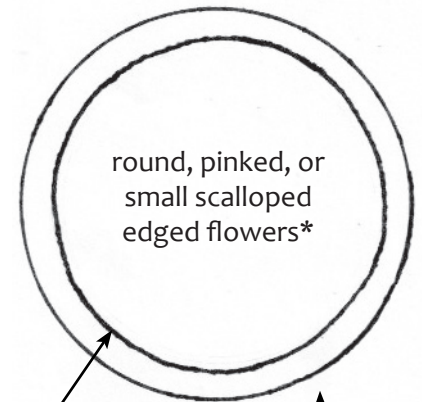
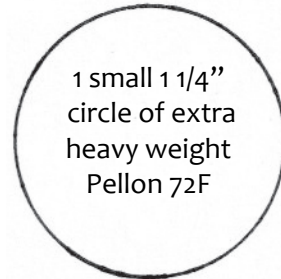


## INSTRUCTIONS FOR CREATING A VALENTINE POSIE PIN

### AVAILABLE TEMPLATES FOR ALL PINS



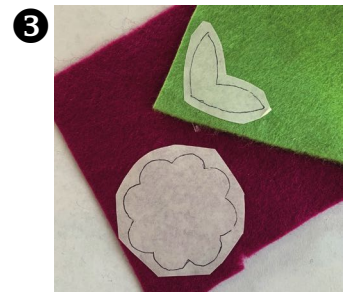
Double leaves for the stem.  
Template shows embroidery pattern.



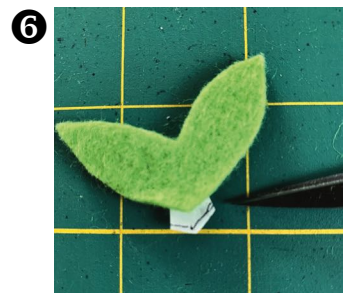
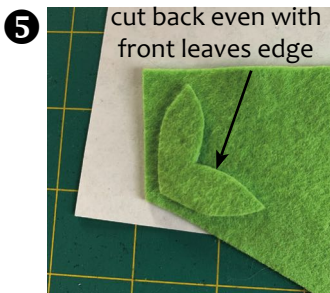
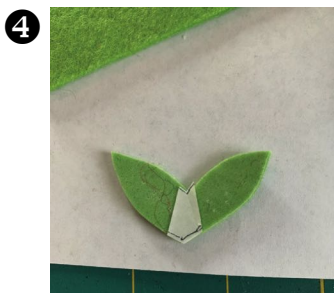
\* For plain round flower use the inside line; for pinked or scalloped edge use outside line and then trim with the appropriate scissors.

- 1) Bend and shape a roughly 6" piece of cloth covered 18 ga. floral wire as shown in photo 1 below. Use the measurements on the cutting mat - as shown - to give you an idea of the approximate size.
- 2) Trace the template and cut out 1 small circle of extra heavy weight Pellon 72F fusible interfacing. This circle should be about 1 1/4" round. Place the bent wire stem on top of the circle and baste it securely in place as in photo 2. Set aside.
- 3) Using the above templates, trace the chosen flower shape\* and the leaves onto the paper side of Heat and Bond light fusible. Roughly cut out the fusible paper about 1/8-1/4" outside the traced lined. Remove the paper backing, place right side up on your chosen wool fabric and fuse with a hot iron. Use a bit of steam for a good fuse! Let cool. See photo 3. Cut out the wool appliques on the traced lines.

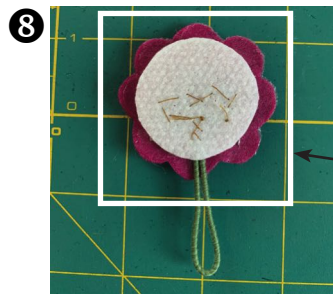
NOTE: \*If you are making the round flower and wish to use pinking shears or a scallop scissors to make a decorative edge, trace around the outer line and then cut along that line with the decorative scissors, trimming off about 1/8-3/16th inch.



- 4) Remove the paper backing from the back of the flower shape and set aside. Remove the paper backing from the back of the leaves, **taking care to leave a small section of the paper in the very center** as shown photo 4. This will prevent this area from fusing when you cut the leaves' backing piece and fuse the two together.
- 5) Place this leaf applique, fusible side down, on top of the backing wool (in this case the same color) and fuse with a hot iron. Let the piece cool. Cut out the back leaves applique along the edges of the front leaves applique. Let cool. Then remove the little piece of paper backing from the center (photo 6). This tiny 'unfused' area will allow you to slide the leaves onto the wire stem in a later step. Set aside fused leaves.



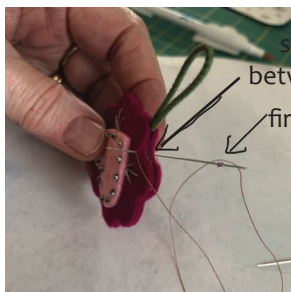
- 6) Using the flower shape that was set aside in step 4, proceed to embellish and decorate your flower. I used a store purchased compressed wool felt heart with a fun Valentines expression common on the little candy hearts one sees every Valentines Day. You can fuse the heart to the right side of the flower shape (If fusing, be sure to protect the back of the flower shape so you don't fuse it somewhere you don't want it! The waxy side of freezer paper works well!) **OR** you can also secure it with beads, back stitches, or running stitches as well as the option of using a few dots of glue. You can use any threads you like for the embroidery. Have fun! If using beads, use Japanese size 11 or larger glass seed beads **AND** use a very fine strong synthetic thread that will not break easily. If you have access to beading supplies, Silamide is wonderful; as an old Japanese tailoring thread it is extremely strong and very difficult to break. You can use a sz. 10 long beading needle **OR** a sz 9 Jeana Kimball red work/embroidery needle (so long as you are using Japanese beads!). Look at the samples on the 1st page of this pattern. BTW - you can cut out your own hearts (mine was about 1 - 1/8" wide) from your own stash! Stitch all the way through the flower and finish all threads securely on the back of the flower. Don't worry if the fusible looks a bit broken up - it still will work!



place backing  
wool  
over the  
whole  
flower shape



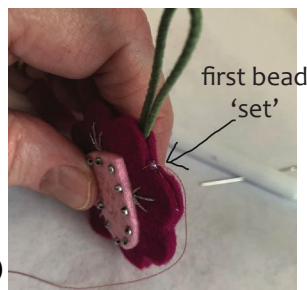
- 7) When finished with the front of your flower (photo 7), turn it face down and place the stem/interfacing piece (made in step 2) on top in the center with the wire stem next to the flower - photo 8. Be sure the stiff interfacing doesn't extend beyond the 'valleys' of the scallops of the flower. Feel free to lightly pin it in place. (For the round flowers, it should be about 1/8th- 3/16ths inside the outside edge of the flower.) Then place the piece of wool felt that you have chosen for the back of your flower over this making sure that it extends at least 1/4" beyond all the edges of the scalloped flower. Place it so that the right side is facing out. **While this step is not shown in the photos (all you would see is a piece of fabric! - LOL!) you can see how it will look from the front of the flower in photo 9.** Fuse the backing in place with a hot iron. Let cool. Turn over and trim the backing even with the edges of the front flower - photo 9.
- 8) Once you have trimmed the backing even with the front edges, you are ready to finish the outside edge. This can be done with a tiny embroidered blanket stitch, running stitch, whip stitch, or any stitch of your choice. Use a size thread appropriate for the size of the pin. One fun way to finish these outside edges is with single edge beading as seen in the main photos on page 1. I recommend Japanese sz 11 glass seed beads, a size 10 long beading needle **OR** a Jeana Kimball sz 9 redwork/embroidery needle, along with Silimide thread - or any very fine strong synthetic sewing thread. Thread color should match your wool felt color. The beginning steps are shown in the photos below and I've included drawn instructions with this pattern. **If you are a visual learner, check out my Single Edge Beading tutorial at my DesignAndBeMary YouTube channel.** You may surprise yourself with your success - the right type of beads, needles and thread can make a huge difference!
- 9) Knot your thread and find a small 'open' area in between the two flower layers - in one of the 'valleys'. Pull the needle to the outside of the flower and pick up a single bead with your needle. Then take the needle around to the other side, go through both layers of fabric and come out where the needle/thread started (photo 10). As you pull the thread the bead will start to go down toward the edges of the flower. As it nears the fabric edges, take your needle up through the bead (see illustrations in beading instructions) and then pull the thread and snug the bead next to the edges (photo 11). Your thread will be coming up out of the bead. To add the next bead, simply place another bead on the needle, take your needle and thread through both layers of the flower edges and then coming up through the bead just added - in the same manner as the first bead (photo 12). Again see the illustrations on page 4. Note: simply bead around the wire stem - you can bring the thread through the middle of the two wires!



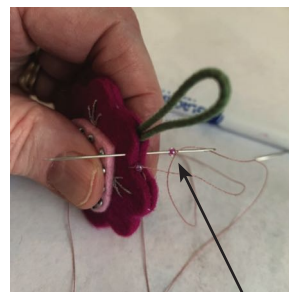
10

starting knot in  
between wool layers  
first bead

11



first bead  
'set'



12

placing/stitching  
the second bead



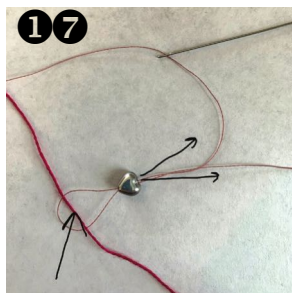
view of edge  
beading as it  
progresses

13

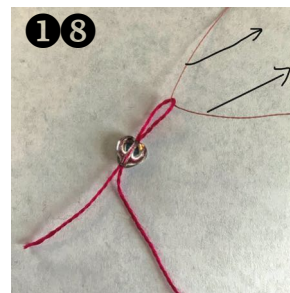
- 10) When you have finished the edge beading and are back at the beginning (see illustration for ending/joining the beginning and ending of the beaded edge), knot thread discreetly and hide the ends in between the wool layers of the flower.
- 11) When your flower is completely edged, place it face up. Take the fused leaves from step 5 on page 2 and slide the leaves up the wire stem through the little hole that was left open during fusing. Using embroidery thread or perle cotton, embroider the veins of the leaves as illustrated on the leaves template. Hide the thread ends/knots in between the layers. Be sure to take a few stitches in between the 2 wire stems to anchor the leaves so they will stay put! Photo 14



- 12) Once the leaves are embroidered, turn your pin over and stitch a 1 - 1/4" pin backing to the center and a bit above half way so that it will hang nicely. I also use a bit of E6000 glue to secure the pin back before I stitch it down. Then cut a small piece of matching wool and place it over the base of the pin back and take tiny stitches to secure it for a nice finish. You could also glue that as well. Let dry. See photo 15.
- 13) You're almost done! Tie a small bow around the base of the flower above the leaves. This can be done with ribbon, a piece(s) of fun yarn, a bit of lace or rick rack, or several strands of embroidery thread. Be creative! I also included a couple of 6mm glass bead hearts that hang from the bow. Buttons also work! Wondering how to get a thread or thin ribbon through the hole in a larger glass bead? See photos 17 and 18. Use a couple of discreet tiny stitches to secure the bow from coming undone. Enjoy your pin! See photo 16

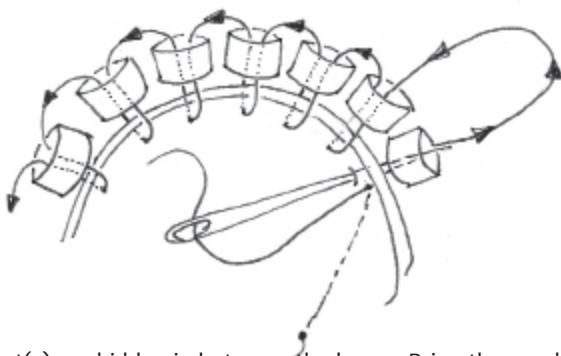


Thread a thin needle with fine strong synthetic thread. Go down through the bead, leave a large loop of thread and bring the needle up through the bead again. Place the thicker thread/ribbon through the loop as shown.

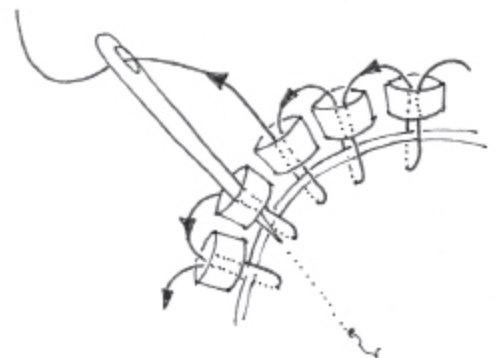


Slowly pull on the needle and the other end of the thin thread tightening the loop. Then pull gently but firmly - the thicker thread will come up through the bead. Knot the thread ends to keep the beads secure.

### SINGLE BEADED EDGE ILLUSTRATIONS



Visit  
DesignAndBeMary  
YouTube channel  
for beading tutorials



Knot(s) are hidden in between the layers. Bring the needle out of the 'side' of the wool, pick up 1 bead and then take the needle around the wool edges and inserting it so that it comes out at the same spot where it came out from the initial starting knot, much like a circle. Bring the needle up through the bead that was just picked up, give a tug and the bead will sit flat with the thread coming out of the top hole - ready to pick up another bead. Repeat, taking the needle around the wool edges and bringing it up through the bead just picked up. Arrows show the needle/thread direction. Note how the beads all sit flat against the wool edges, sewing the edges together at the same time!

This illustration shows how to join the last bead added to the first bead. Simply take the needle and thread down through the first bead and sink the thread and a knot in the layers of the wool.