

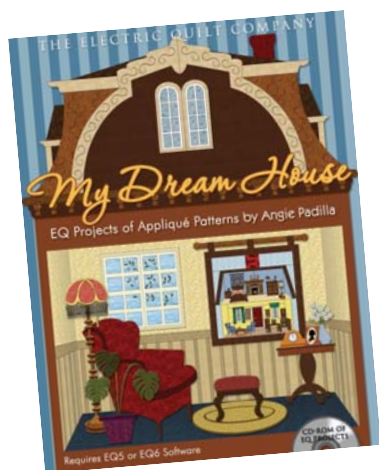
THE ELECTRIC QUILT COMPANY

It's Not All About Quilting

By Sarah Kollar , The Electric Quilt Company

Busting The Myth

For 16 years The Electric Quilt Company has been at the forefront of the digital quilting craze. Although, most known for the Electric Quilt design software, EQ has developed an extensive line of software add-ons, stand-alone programs, books, printable products, and sewing tools. As masters of point and click quilt design and printable fabrics, it's easy to forget that EQ has something to offer all crafters and sewers alike, not just quilters.



My Dream House: A collection of appliqué designs by Angie Padilla

My Dream House is a fun collection of appliqué designs for EQ5 and EQ6 owners. Designed by award-winning designer Angie Padilla, this EQ compatible program is filled with whimsical designs of doll house furniture and accessories. Everything from living room sofas to Kitchen accessories; if it's in your home, it's in this collection. The patterns have been designed as appliqué pieces but that's not the only application! For those who don't quilt or just get scared off by the mere thought of appliqué, we've got news for you...it's not all about quilting!

Digitizing Patterns

If you have EQ5 or EQ6 and digitizing software, changing the My Dream House patterns into embroidery is very easy to do. In EQ5 or EQ6, browse through the hundreds of designs in the Block Library to find the one(s) you'd like to use. Edit a design from the Project Sketchbook to the Block Worktable at any size you'd like. EQ even allows you to manipulate the design to personalize it yourself. Once you have the pattern the way you'd like it, follow these easy directions to create your embroidery:

Step 1: Be sure your design is on the Block worktable

Step 2: In EQ6, click File > Export Image
In EQ5, click File > Export Snapshot, then drag a marquee around the image

Step 3: Save the image as a bitmap (.bmp)

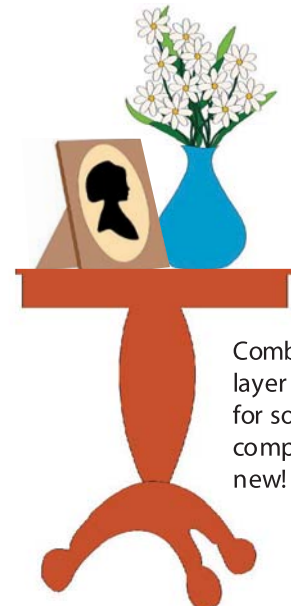
Step 4: Import the image into your digitizing software.

That's all! Take a look at some of the samples below:



Make It Yours

One of the greatest features about using My Dream House with EQ is that you can mix and match the patterns however you want. As noted before, the patterns themselves can be manipulated if you'd like to change the placement of a patch, take something out, or even add an element. But remember, you can also mix and match the patterns to create a whole new design! Let's say you really like the flower arrangement from the Houseplants and Flowers category, a photo frame from the Decorative Accent category, and an end table from the Tables category. Of course, you don't want to export them all separately and it will be difficult to position them correctly on your fabric later. So, instead of doing all that extra work, arrange the objects as you'd like them on a custom set quilt layout in EQ, go to File > Export Maquee Selection, or Export Snapshots in EQ5, select the objects as they are grouped together, and save.



Combine and layer patterns for something completely new!

Now you've simplified the whole process and can import a single image into your digitizing software. This process makes digitizing whole rooms and arrangements easy!

It's fun and easy to keep reinventing your personal embroidery design library. You have endless possibilities when you can mix and match designs like you've never been able to do before.

Digitize a Whole Room

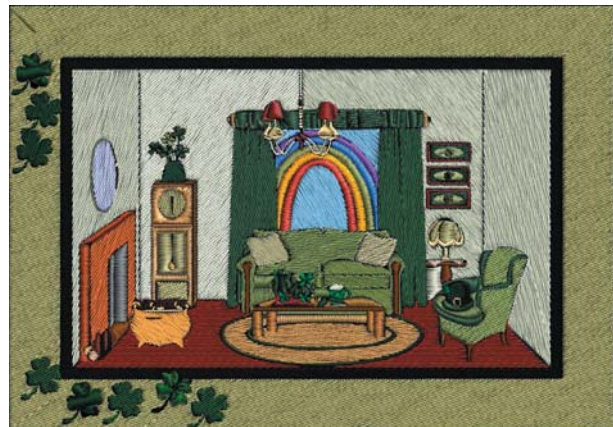
Below, we've designed a St. Patrick's Day theme room using the separate pieces from My Dream House, including a room template, (the framed out border and perspective space). This

room is composed of 25 separate pieces. Imagine the combinations! The two images below represent the way the design looks in both the EQ program (the image on the left), and after it has been digitized (the image on the right). It's absolutely beautiful and almost too easy!

Try creating rooms of your own that match the decor of your home, seasonal holidays, or create your fantasy dream house. The project ideas for My Dream House patterns is endless. Apply them to tote bags, home decor, clothing, aprons, and remember, you're not limited to appliqué and embroidery. In fact, there are many other ways to use the MDH patterns in your projects.



Room design in the EQ program



Digitized room

Other Techniques and Project Ideas

There are a few ways to use the My Dream House patterns for your projects other than exporting for digitizing. You can print for appliqué, or print designs onto EQ printable fabric.

Printing for appliqué is simple. You just select the design, choose the type of pattern you'd like (template, block, yardage, etc...), choose the size of the pattern and print. EQ will take care of all the calculations and paper tiling.

If you don't like appliqué or you're just not patient enough to appreciate the process, then try printing onto EQ Printable Fabric Sheets. The 100% cotton, 8.5" x 11" sheets go right into your inkjet printer tray. Print your fully colored patterns directly onto the fabric and trim away the extra fabric around the design. Use a satin stitch around the edges to finish. (For more information on the printable fabric sheets, visit www.electricquilt.com).

Fusible patches



Felt Board Doll House



Decorative pillows



Wall hangings



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