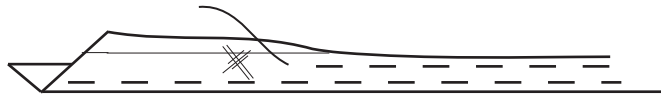


Fabulous Stems and Vines

- Use #18 gauge mason line for cord--it doesn't shrink
- To anchor stems for appliqué, use basting glue sparingly
- Use well-matched thread for all appliqué patchwork
- Metal bias bars give the best results
- Use white, 2-ply basting thread
- Straight-of-grain may be used for some applications mentioned

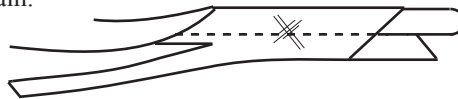
1. Tri-fold and Hand Baste (traditional)

For a stem which finishes $\frac{1}{4}$ " wide, cut bias strip $\frac{3}{4}$ " wide x length needed. For wider stems, add $\frac{1}{2}$ " to the desired finished width and cut the bias strip that width. Lightly mark the $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowances along the length of both cut edges of the bias strip. Fold and baste one side at a time along the lengthwise mark. Appliqué stem or vine as needed and remove basting stitches. Press.



2. Bias Bar (traditional Celtic)

Cut the bias strip twice the width of the bias bar plus about $1\frac{1}{4}$ " for seam allowance. Wrong sides together, fold bias strip in half lengthwise. Sew a tube to accommodate the width of the bias bar. Trim seam allowance to $\frac{1}{8}$ ". While running the bias bar through the tube, move the seam allowance to the back of the bar and press. Use steam. It's HOT. Be careful. Remove the bar. Press the finished strip again.



3. Double-fold, Stitch and Roll (contemporary)

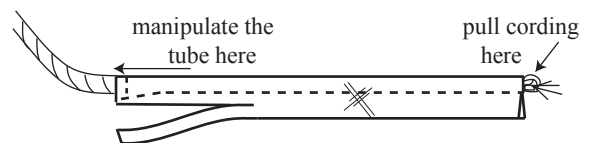
For a stem which finishes $\frac{1}{4}$ " wide, cut a bias strip $\frac{7}{8}$ " wide x length needed. Fold in half lengthwise, wrong sides together. Place the aligned cut edges along a pre-drawn sculptured line and sew into place either by hand or machine. The stitching should be $\frac{1}{4}$ " from the folded edge of the bias strip and should be pre-marked for hand sewing. For machine sewing use a quarter-inch presser foot. Trim the seam if necessary and roll the bias fold over the stitching. Appliqué the folded edge into place. Press.



4. Turn Tube with or without cord (contemporary)

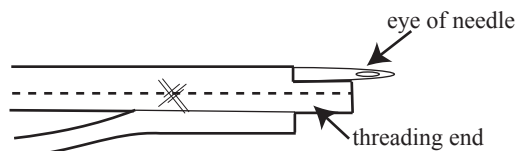
Cover a 36" length of nylon cord with 15" of bias-cut fabric as you would for piping but with right sides together. Use your zipper foot. Note: About 1" before the end of the fabric strip, gradually stitch away from the cord. This provides space for an easier turn. At the end of the fabric strip, midpoint of the cord and using your regular machine foot, sew across the fabric through the cord to secure it. Trim seam allowance to $\frac{1}{8}$ ". At the securing stitches, manipulate the fabric down over the cord while pulling the cord at the opposite end, thus turning the tube right side out, enclosing the seam allowance. Cut through the fabric and cording at the stitched end. Slip out the cording and press flat. Use for fine stems and vines by appliquéing into place, or leave the cord in place and make Lacy Loops and other embellishments.

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5. Twigs (neo-fabulous)

Find a long, ballpoint needle used in knitting for sewing seams. Cut a bias strip 1" wide x 20-25" long. Fold the bias strip lengthwise, right sides together, and sew into a tube that will accommodate the circumference of the needle. Make a test run with a short bias strip. Trim the seam allowance to $\frac{1}{8}$ ". At one end of the tube, cut a threading end as shown. Insert the needle into the tube just to the eye, and thread the eye of the needle with the threading end. Pull the needle through the tube, turning the tube right side out. Press. A small-gauge bodkin in place of the ballpoint needle can also be used for this process. Although short, a child's plastic needle works as well.



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