

6 PUTTING ON THE GLITZ

Now to the glitz! There are many ways of adding sparkle to your quilt once it has been bound. In the following pages we concentrate on 3D paint, sequins, foil and, especially beads.

3D PAINT

3D paint is excellent for adding sparkle and interest to the surface when the quilt is finished (not puff paint, which needs heat and tends to be a matt in colour). 3D paint is widely available in many colours. Never iron 3D paint – it becomes flat and sticks to your iron.

I find it works well as little dots, which look very like beads on the surface. It can be applied in lines, but this is more difficult as you have to keep pressure on the bottle and squeeze for the length of the line. Sometimes bubbles get in the way. As I repeatedly say, practise on a sample first.

SEQUINS

I really like the transparent sequins as they give glint rather than 'bling' (too much shiny gold/silver). There are many different types of sequins: round, square, flower and leaf shapes. There are many suppliers on the Internet (see Suppliers, page 58).

To stitch sequins down, I often use a thread that tones in with the background. Then your eye is drawn to the sparkle rather than the stitch. I have tried using monofilament nylon but this often gets twisted and knotted. Use a single stitch or more. To add interest, sew beads in the hole of the sequin.

FOILING

Applying coloured foil gives instant glitz. It can be glued in place or ironed onto small pieces of Bondaweb/Wonder-Under. Try Applique glue, which is available in a pack with foils.



Detail showing sequins stitched onto the surface, and gold 3D paint applied in dots

Sample showing the use of small pieces of foil – also couching, appliqué, paint and free machine embroidery

