



Flowerpot Needlekeep

Have fun practising a variety of stitches whilst making yourself this sweet little flowerpot needlekeep. It must be summer as the flowerpot is brimming with flowers, it even has a birdhouse on a stick. I have used one of my handpainted snail buttons to add dimension and interest to my needlekeep but you could easily embroider the snail instead if you want.

Finished size approx. 10cm x17.8cm (4" x 7")

What You Will Need:

20cm sq. (8"sq) cream yarn dye, stitchery background
 11.5cm x 19cm (4½" x 7½") floral print, needlekeep lining
 7.5cm x 15.2cm (3" x 7") cream wool, for the needles

Embroidery thread, I used DMC #221 country red, #728 lt.green, #839 milk chocolate, #926 lt. blue, #3051 green, #3768 blue, #3829 old gold and #3865 cream

Button: I snail *available from Lynette Anderson Designs

20cm sq. (8"sq.) iron-on stitchery stabiliser, optional

Fine tipped fabric marking pen, I use a Pigma .1 in brown

Light box, optional

Template plastic, optional

General sewing supplies

Getting Started:

Using a light source such as a lightbox or window centre the design under the background fabric and using a suitable fine tipped fabric marking pen transfer the stitchery design onto the right side of your background fabric.

Stitchery Stabilizer:

If you are using an iron-on stitchery stabilizer you will need to iron it on before the stitching can be started, by putting this on the back of your stitchery you will not get shadows from the threads on the back of your work.

On close inspection of your iron-on stitchery stabilizer you will see that it is shiny on one side, place the shiny side to the wrong side of your fabric. Following manufactures instructions bond iron-on stitchery stabilizer to wrong side of your fabric.

Stitches used are:

Backstitch (BS), satin stitch (SS), cross stitch (CS), lazy daisy (LD), running stitch (RS) feather stitch (FS) and French knots (FN). Numbers below correspond to DMC Stranded Embroidery threads. Use two strands of Embroidery thread unless otherwise stated.

#221 country red

Birdhouse roof (BS)

Dots on birdhouse roof (FN)

Heart on flowerpot (SS)

#728 lt. green

Leaves around daisy heads (LD)

#839 milk chocolate

Plant pot (BS)

Birdhouse (BS)

Hole on birdhouse (SS)

Alternate strips on bee (SS)

Bee's flight trail (RS)

Bee's antennae (BS & FN)

Birdhouse post (BS)

Snail post (BS)

Snail's antennae (BS & FN)

#926 lt. blue

Daisy petals on lower left flower (SS)

Dots in outer border (FN)

#3051 green

Flower stems (BS)

Leaves on trailing flowers (LD)

Outer border (FS)

#3768 blue

Daisy petals on remaining 3 flowers (SS)

#3829 old gold

Daisy centres (fill with FN)
Alternate strips on bee (SS)

#3865 cream

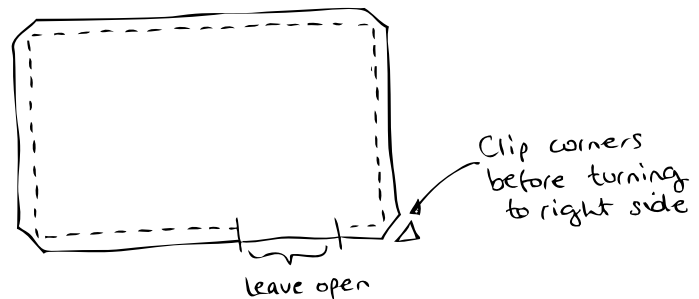
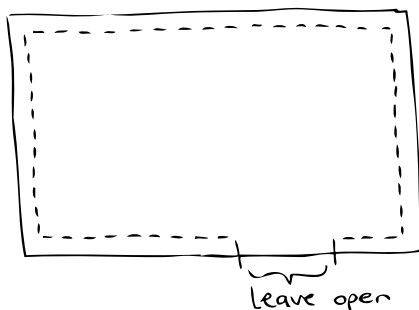
Flowers on trailing flowers (FN in groups of 3)
Bee's wings (BS)

Once all the stitching has been completed, gently press your work.

Carefully centre and trim the stitchery down to $4\frac{1}{2}'' \times 7\frac{1}{2}''$

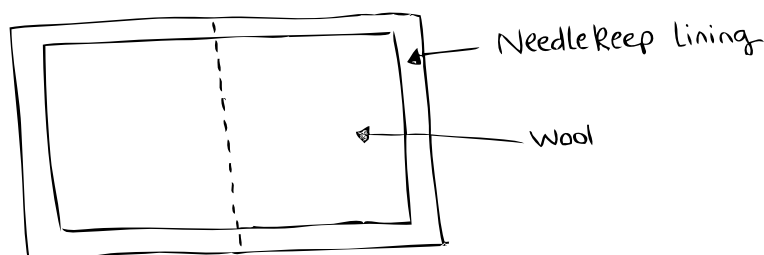
*TIP If your nervous about trimming your stitchery down then make a template from template plastic. Place the template plastic over stitchery and centre, once you are happy with positioning draw around the template and cut on line.

Take the stitchery and the lining fabric and place them right sides together. Stitch together using a $\frac{1}{4}''$ seam and leaving a small opening in the bottom so you can turn the needlekeep through to the right side.



Clip the corners before turning to right side. Press gently; try to make sure there is no lining fabric showing from the front of the needlekeep. Stitch the opening closed.

With the needlecase lining up, centre the 3" x 6" wool on top and stitch the two together down the centre line.



Stitch the snail button in place.



Stitchery Design



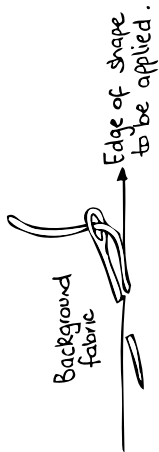
Lynette Anderson



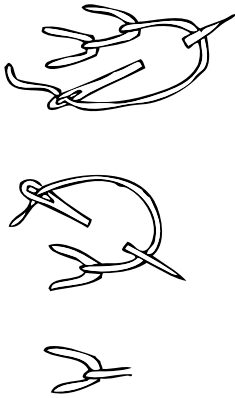
You can trace this
snail onto your work
if you don't wish to
use a button.

Stitch Guide

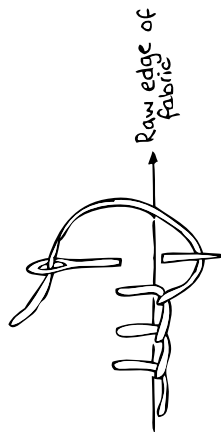
Blind Hem Stitch



Feather Stitch



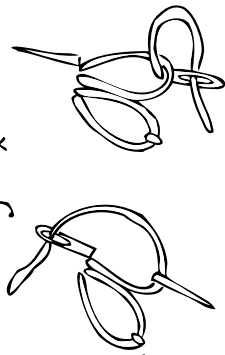
Blanket Stitch



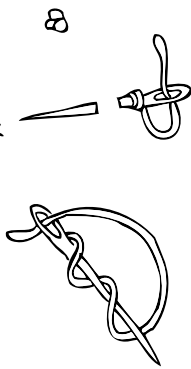
Cross Stitch



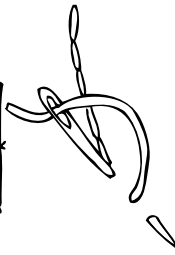
Lazy Daisy



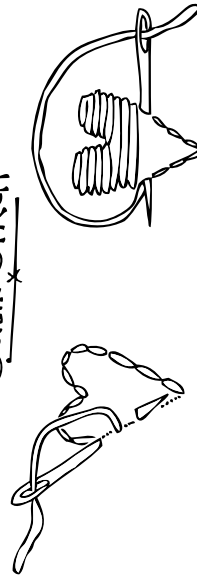
French Knot



Backstitch



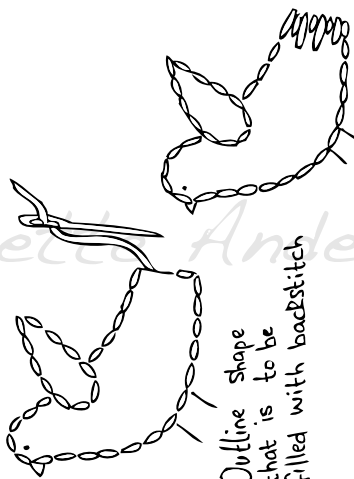
Satin Stitch



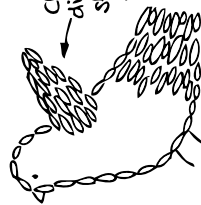
First outline shape with backstitch

Fill in shape, covering original backstitches.

Long and Short Stitch



Change the direction of stitches in some areas.



Continue filling shape with long and short stitches.

Running Stitch

