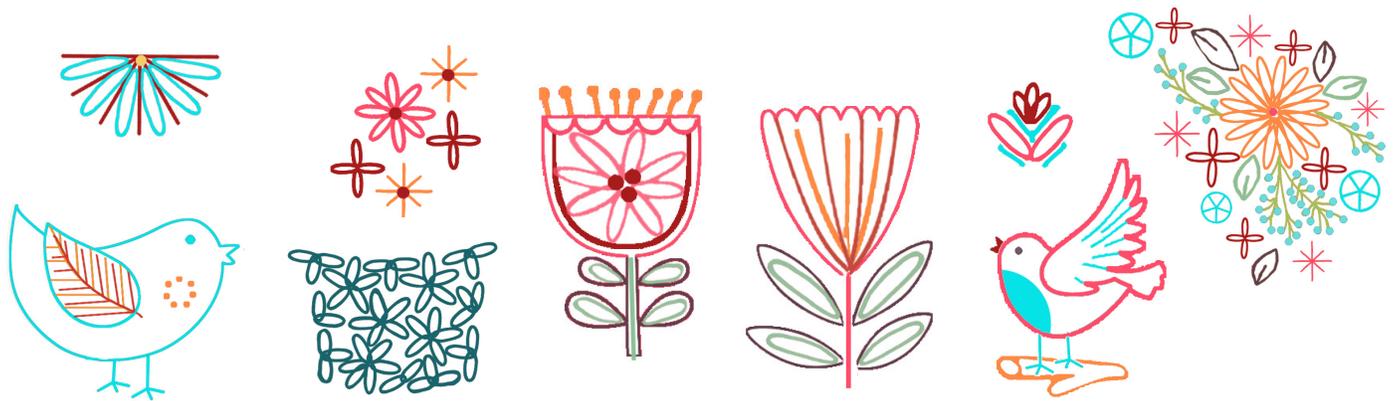


BLOSSOMS & BIRDS MOTIFS

embroidery pattern



This pattern pack has several little embroidery patterns for you to stitch onto your own favorite project. You might stitch a few flowers at the neckline of your t-shirt or the brim of your bucket hat, a bird on the pocket of your jeans jacket, a border of blossoms onto your tea towel. It's up to you!

transferring the pattern

On the last pages of this document, you'll find the patterns in color and black and white. You have several choices for transferring the pattern.

1 LIGHTBOX

This will work for transferring to light-colored fabric.

Print the pattern and tape to a light-box or window. Tape your fabric over the printed design. Trace onto fabric with a water-soluble transfer pen from Joann Fabric or Michael's.

2 CARBON PAPER

This will work for transferring to light or dark fabric. Purchase carbon paper made specifically for transferring to fabric. It comes in several colors. Choose a light color for transferring to dark fabric and a dark color for transferring to light fabric.

Layer as follows: 1. fabric to embroider, 2. carbon paper with transfer side against fabric, 3. pattern printed from this document. Tape in place if needed. Trace over pattern with pencil firmly enough to transfer the carbon--but not so hard you puncture paper).

3 STICKY-BACKED WASH-AWAY STABILIZER FABRIC

This is my favorite approach, and I like the Sulky brand sticky-backed, 8.5" x 11" fabric sheets.

Print from the last pages of this document onto the fabric sheet.

Trim design to stitch, leaving ¼" to ½" border. Remove backing, and stick to your project. Embroider. When done, soak in warm water and see the fabric dissolve.

This design already printed to sticky-backed, wash-away fabric is for sale in our shop at stitchedstories.com/washaway

stitching tips

1 Choose a floss color to start with and **cut a piece of thread 16" to 18" long**. For me that's finger-tips-to-above-elbow OR 2x my hoop width.

2 THIS IS SUPER IMPORTANT! Embroidery floss usually comes in 6 strands. **You'll stitch with just a few of those**. For our kits, we recommend 2 strands-and that's probably a good choice here since these designs are quite detailed.

At about 2" from the end of piece you've cut, tease the strands apart to find 2 that naturally come together and gently pull them apart.

3 Thread your needle with these 2 strands, and **make a knot at ONE end**. The other end is the "tail," which will slowly shorten as you stitch.

4 Using an embroidery hoop will enable you to work on taut fabric that makes the stitching easier. With our kits, we ship 8" bamboo hoops that fit our designs. With these smaller designs and individualized projects, you should find a hoop size that works for you. With something very stiff and thick like denim, it may be easier to work without a hoop.

5 Don't rush your sampler. Take time to get comfortable with the stitches and **enjoy the process** of working with color and thread. Watch how the motifs and patterns emerge into a textured finished piece. Use the stitches suggested below or do as you wish to complete your piece.

recommended stitches

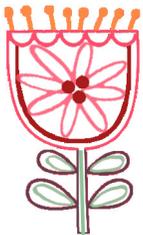
On the next page, you'll find detailed how-tos for each stitch. Below are recommendations for stitches for each motif BUT you can absolutely do what you prefer.



LAZY DAISY for ovals. STRAIGHT stitches between the Daisies. FRENCH KNOT at the central intersection of the lines.



LAZY DAISY for the small, 3-loop blossom and for the two bigger loops. FLY stitch between the two blossoms (shown in turquoise). STRAIGHT at bottom.

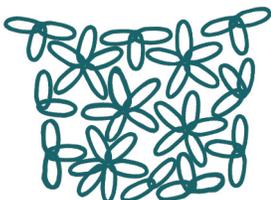


FRENCH KNOT + STRAIGHT at top. FLY for the scallops. LAZY DAISY for blossom in center and FRENCH KNOTS at their center. Outer border in SPLIT. Second blossom border (shown in red) render in CHAIN. Leaves & stem outline in WHIPPED BACK. Inner leaves in LAZY DAISY.



Outer flower border in WHIPPED BACK with FLY for scallops at top. Red flower lines in BACK. Orange flower lines in CHAIN.

Leaf outlines in WHIPPED BACK. Inner leaves in LAZY DAISY. Stem in CHAIN.



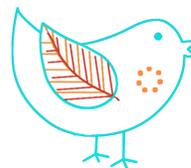
LAZY DAISY all the way!



Big orange flower with LAZY DAISY + FRENCH KNOT at center. Red four-petal flowers with LAZY DAISY. Pink "star" flowers with STRAIGHT. Use LEAF for the leaves. The circles with five-armed star should be done with the WAGON WHEEL stitch. For the dotted branches, use FRENCH KNOTS for the dots and OUTLINE or BACK for the stems.



Outline bird with SPLIT--but use FLY for the curvy wing tips. Render the light blue "feather" lines with CHAIN. Fill belly (and even tail) with SATIN. FRENCH KNOT for eye. STRAIGHT for beak and legs. Use SPLIT for the branch.



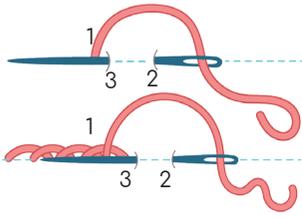
Outline bird & wing in your choice of SPLIT, OUTLINE or WHIPPED BACK. Eye and the circle of dots in FRENCH KNOT. Feet with STRAIGHT. Stitch wing in alternating colors with STRAIGHT and then top with OUTLINE down through the center.



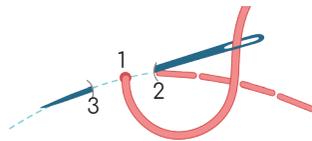
LAZY DAISY for the loops. STRAIGHT for the straight lines. FRENCH KNOT for the centers.

embroidery stitches

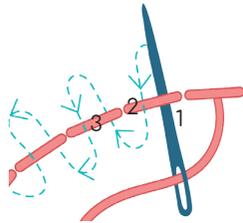
Outline Stitch. Bring needle and thread up through fabric at 1. Insert needle back into fabric a stitch-width to the right (2) and then come back up just before the previous stitch (3). The result is overlapping stitches. (NOTE: you'll start at the LEFT end of line to be stitched.)



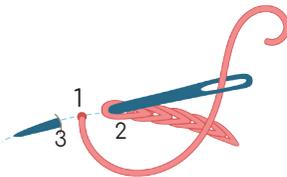
Back Stitch. Bring needle and thread up through fabric at 1. Insert needle back into fabric a stitch-width to the right (2) and then come back up a stitch-width to the left (3) of the thread. (NOTE: You'll start at the RIGHT end of line to be stitched.)



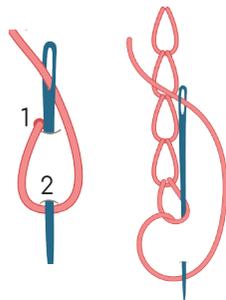
Whipped Back Stitch. Stitch the design completely with Back Stitch. Then pass needle under 1st stitch (1). Come back over that stitch (2), and then go under the next stitch (3). Do this again and again so that all of stitches are wrapped.



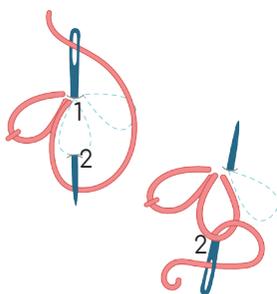
Split Stitch. Do this like the Back Stitch EXCEPT, enter right through the middle of the previous stitch rather than to the left of it. This is great for tight detailed curvy lines.



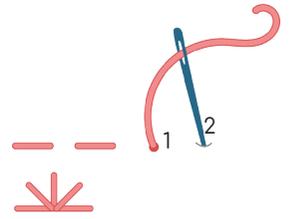
Chain Stitch. Bring needle and thread up at 1. Insert at the same spot and up at 2. As you do this, loop working thread under the needle at 2. Pull thread all the way through to create a snug loop under the thread. Repeat by inserting needle at 2 and coming up a stitch ahead--again with the working thread looping under the needle.



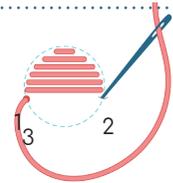
Lazy Daisy. Bring needle and thread up at 1. Insert back at same spot and up at 2. As you do this, loop working thread under needle at 2. Pull the thread all the way through and create a snug loop under the working thread. Insert needle back down very near 2 to secure. Loops can be combined to create a full flower.



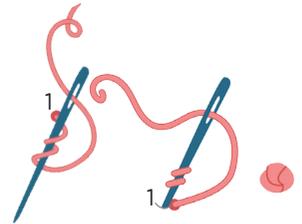
Straight Stitch. Bring needle and thread up through fabric at 1. Insert the needle back in at 2, and make a straight line.



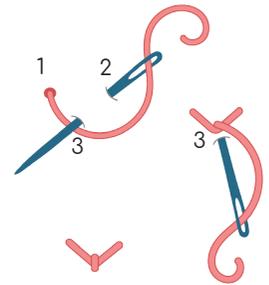
Satin Stitch. Bring needle and thread up at edge of shape you're filling (1). Insert at the other side of shape (2). Come back up a little below 1 (3).



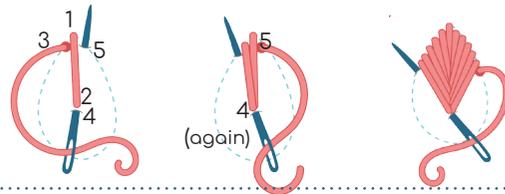
French Knot. Bring needle and thread up through fabric at 1. Wrap thread twice around needle (front to back). Hold thread taut and insert needle back very very close to 1. Continue keeping thread taut. Slide wrapped thread down to fabric and pull needle all the way through to the back--which creates the French Knot on top of the fabric.



Fly Stitch. Bring needle and thread up at 1. Insert to the side at 2 and back up at 3. As you do this, loop working thread under needle at 3. Pull the thread all the way through and pull snugly to create a "V". Insert needle back down very close to 3 to secure. Taut, deep stitches will look like a "V" and looser, shorter stitches like scallops.



Leaf Stitch. Bring thread up at top center of leaf (1) and insert about halfway down the leaf (2). Come up a bit to the left of top center (3) and insert below bottom of last stitch (4). Come up a bit to the right of top center (5) and insert again at 4. Continue working side to side along top and filling to bottom of leaf.



Wagon Wheel. Add 5 straight stitches that go from outer edge of circle into center. Come up next to center. Weave needle and thread over and under the "spokes" of wheel, going around until wheel is full. At end insert needle at wheel edge, hidden just under the last round. Don't pull too tightly as you weave. Let the thread layer up to create a rosette.



COLOR PRINT FOR TRANSFER



BLACK & WHITE PRINT FOR TRANSFER

