

# **Hand Embroidery Basics**

Semester: Summer 2024

Days: Wednesday, June 5-June26

Times: 6-8PM

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## **Course Description**

In this class, we will learn the basics of hand embroidery and will study many stitches to create a sample practice piece. Learn to create your own patterns based on your own photo or drawing with guidance from the instructor. Discover how to choose fabric, thread, and other supplies based on what you want to create.

## What will you learn?

Embroidery is fun! Students will learn many stitches to create a sampler while picking up an interesting and relaxing new skill. Through embroidering this sampler, students will learn the skills to apply to other embroidery. They will gain the confidence to make their own patterns and learn how to incorporate those ideas into thread.

#### **Materials**

- Embroidery floss in a variety of colors. I recommend a higher quality brand like DMC or Anchor. It is usually easier to work with than cheap floss and worth the extra little bit of money to make your embroidery more enjoyable. You do not need to invest in an entire color palette. 10 or so colors are plenty.
- For most of the stitches, we will be using 6-strand embroidery floss listed above. Here are a couple of other types of embroidery floss to try in addition to the 6-strand. Pearl Cotton Skeins, Metallic Embroidery Floss, Mouline Etoile Floss
- Embroidery hoops. This is my favorite hoop. It has an inner ridge (sometimes called a super grip lip) that keeps your fabric taut, so you do not have to constantly readjust. I would get at least two hoops in a 6"-8" size so you can work on both without having to change out fabric. Another option for Embroidery hoops
- <u>Embroidery needles</u>. To begin, I would get a variety pack of many different sized needles. With the number of different embroidery techniques we are going to do



in this class, you will need everything from small to large needles. Another option for <u>needles</u>, <u>Chenille hand needles</u>

- This is my favorite place to get <u>needles</u>, but it is in the UK so you will have to account for shipping time if you choose to order from here.
- <u>Fabric</u>. Another option for <u>fabric</u>. This is the linen I use. It is a good weight and loose enough weave that it works for a variety of projects. Any color is fine, but lighter colors will make it easier to see what you are doing. Half a yard of either should be plenty for this class.
- <u>Scissors</u>. You will need sharp scissors that will cut fabric. It is your choice if you
  want to buy fancy ones or not. Any will work if you only use them for fabric or
  embroidery floss.
- Needle threaders, Option 2, Option 3 Here are a couple of types if you need them. You do not need to buy all of these; they are just options.
- <u>Fabric marking pen</u>. This is the one I use, and there are several varieties available. You're welcome to just use a regular pencil if you would like. This one is erasable with heat. There are also water-soluble pens (erases with water). I would not recommend air soluble pens (erases with air).

#### Class Schedule

**Week 1:** Class introduction, explanation of supplies. Starting with the basics from how to prepare your hoops, thread needles, tie knots. We will begin at the beginning with running stitch, backstitch, chain stitch, and variations, satin, fly, feather, French knots, pistil.

**Week 2:** Buttonhole, blanket, raised fishbone, couching, colonial and bullion knots, woven wheel rose, spiderweb wheel, seed, needle weaving.

**Week 3:** Textured/raised embroidery stitches like turkey work, woven picot, shisha, tassel flower.

Week 4: Thread painting, stumpwork, padded embroidery.