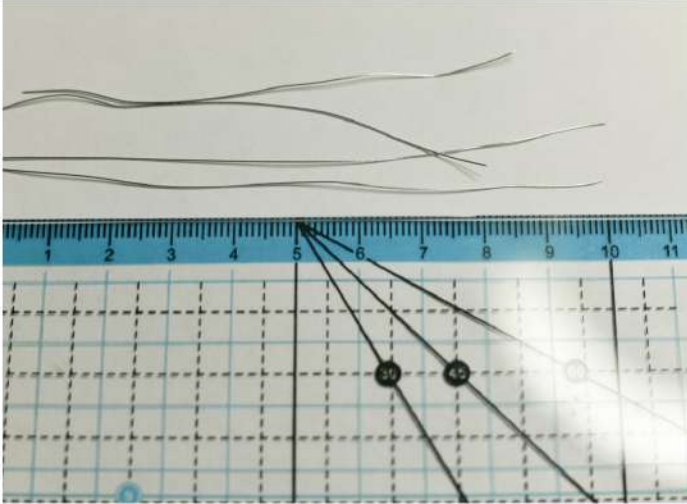


Lesson 12. SATIN LEAVES



In the current lesson, we are going to work on voluminous leaves. You will need some wire, rayon threads and water-soluble film, a hoop, a needle and some pins.

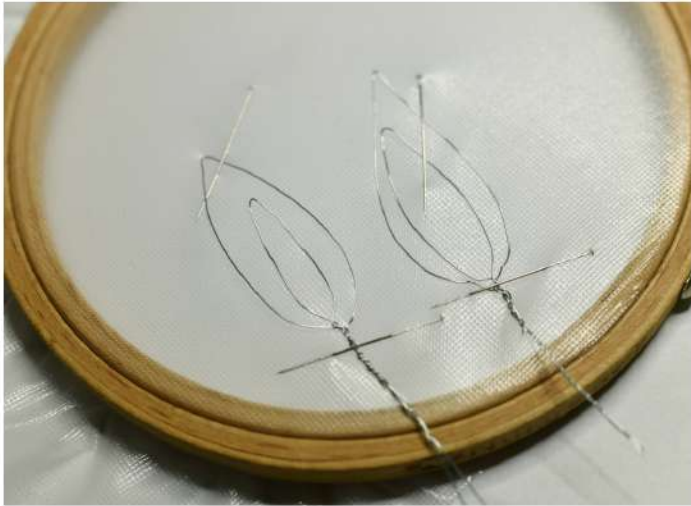
First of all, measure the wire and cut two pieces of ten centimetres long and two pieces eight centimetres long.



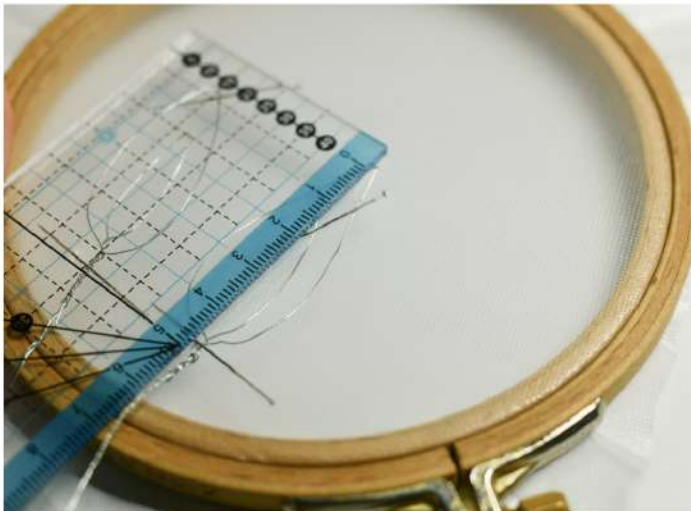
Shape the wire to form the leaf. The longer piece forms the outer "boning" and the shorter - makes the inner.



Set a piece of water-soluble film into the hoop.



Secure the wire forms on the film. Use pins.



Measure the leaves, they should be equal.

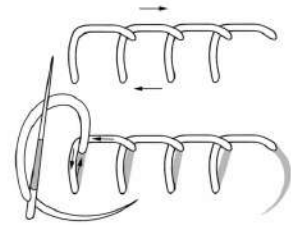


Use the familiar shades of embroidery threads Madeira Rayon 1126 and Madeira Rayon 1190. Stitch the wire onto the film. I used tambour hook. You are free to you any method and even just a sewing needle.





Using a "blanket stitch" cover the wire edge of each leaf.



Next, fill in the central parts of the leaves with a "satin stitch".
When leaves are ready cut them an out of the film and slightly wet the edges to remove the scraps of the water-soluble stabiliser.



The leaves are ready. If you wish, you may iron them in a moderate temperature to make them smoother and shinier.



Take an awl and make a tiny hole where the stem meets the hill.



Make the second hole a little lower.



Insert the ends of the leaves (wires) into the holes and pull them through to secure on the reverse side.



Pin the leaves (top sides) and stitch them onto the "face" of the embroidery with one or two invisible stitches.



Flip the embroidery to the wrong side and find the ends of the leaves (wires). Pull them a little and press to the surface of the work. Using sewing thread, secure the ends with a series of stitches.



Cut the excess of the wire.



Flip the work over again to the "face" side and secure the bottom parts (with invisible stitches) in the same way as you did on top of the leaves. First - one leaf.



Then, stitch on another one.



Well done! Not the embroidery is complete. However, if you turn to the next page, I will show you one more technique for processing the leaves and making them more stable and shiny.



Since I made this design for the first time, I have already embroidered it several times and improved some of its parts from one version to another. These changes related to the construction of the leaves, which I decided to frame with a piece of pearl golden purl (the same you used for "framing" the petals and contouring the stems).



This method perfectly works not only for making a more complete impression of the work, but for giving the leaf more stability and firmness. After embroidering the leaves and cutting them out of the soluble stabiliser, stretch a little the piece of golden pearl purl, and sew it to the edge of the leaf, following its curve.



You may also add some decorative "curls" made of the same pearl purl and set them close to the satin leaves, securing to the embroidered background with a couple of invisible stitches.