

Embroidery Workshop



Apple Blossom

An illustrative story of many magic tricks told by Masha Reprintseva

myrtusworkshop

apple blossoms bloom
branches old and frail reaching
high above the walk

apple tree (haiku)
by The Preacher Man



I am happy to introduce you an embroidery pattern that reveals my love for botanical illustration and embroidery art.

Here I am going to show you some ways of how to make your embroidery volumized, imitating the natural structures and surfaces.

You will get the idea that needle-painting is not as difficult as it may seem, and finally, you will get the embroidered piece done by your hands, proving that.

Let's start!



Materials & Tools



At first, think about the purpose of your embroidery, if it is going to be a wall-pannel or you are going to decorate your blouse, jacket or anything else.

You will need threads (I used Anchor threads (cotton mouline) and marked them according to the palette, though you are free to use threads you like or dye them yourself).

An embroidery hoop or frame, embroidery needles and pins, scissors, tracing paper or water-dissolving stabilizer (you may also use just a piece of plastic bag for transferring the pattern), trick-marker or pencil or ball-pen, the pattern (printed) and artificial stamens (optional).

Transferring the Pattern



To make this task easy I use different ways of transferring. The one I use here (easiest) is - water-dissolving non-woven material/film. You transfer the pattern on it and fix the piece with pins/stitches on top of the fabric. Finishing the embroidery, you cut out the excess stabilizer or wash your work in lukewarm water. It works perfectly when you need to stitch on a dark background or sheer fabric.

Another way is to use tracing paper. I use this method when I need to make embroidery on velvet. I draw the pattern on a tracing paper, fix it with pins on a piece of cloth (the piece I am going to stitch) and go along the drawing (pattern lines) with tracing (contrast) stitch. When you are done with tracing/transferring, you need to tear off the paper and start with embroidery.

One more trick - plastic bag and ball-pen. Transfer the pattern to the plastic bag with ball pen and fix it on top of the cloth with pins or stitches, embroider the pattern (together with the bag) and tear the plastic off when the embroidery is finished(you may need tweezers).

When the background is light and see-through, I use a trick-marker(washable) and simply transfer the pattern.

You are free to use anything you like!

Getting Prepared



Having transferred the pattern, fix it on the fabric with pins.



Stitch it along the edges. You may add some fixing stitches in the middle of the design.

Setting the Frame



Tastes are different. You may use a square frame or hoop. It depends on your need and purpose. When you want to make a wall-pannel or some embroidered piece that is going to be processed afterwards in some way, the frame is better.

When you stitch on some clothes, jeans, sweatshirt, jacket or blouse, you will feel more freedom with an embroidery hoop.

