

Embroidery Workshop



Apple Blossom

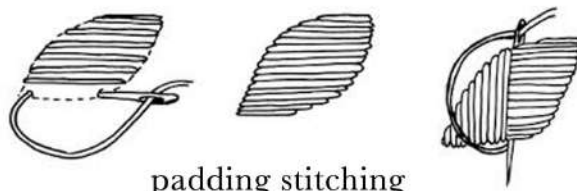
An illustrative story of many magic tricks told by Masha Reprintseva

myrtusworkshop

Padding



The parts of the design where we are going to work to add some volume -- I marked in the diagram. The fast and the easiest way to stitch these areas (using 2 strands of light-pink and 1 strand when you need less bulk shaping).



padding stitching

Shaping the Petals



You will understand when you have worked enough on the volume.



Shaping the Petals



Just imagine how graceful is apple blossom and try to imitate this.

Covering the Petals with Satin Stitch

When the volume is padded, it is a high time to stitch the surface of the petals.

I am sure you like the result you have got and you foresee the result already.



Before you start to stitch, mind the direction of stitches. To get better result you are to observe the natural structure of petals any flower has. The ribs, grooves, veins are going along the petal from the edges to the centre, from the sides to the middle. The same way you are to arrange the stitches (short and long).



the direction of stitches



long & short stich

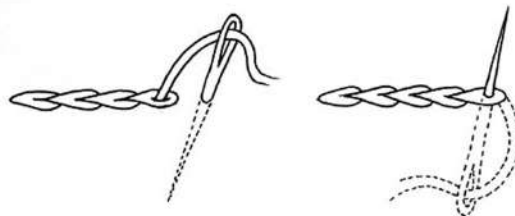
Shading the Petals



These are shades of threads needed for stitching the petals. You have already used light-pink when you padded the edges of petals, adding the volume.

Soon, you will finely work them on but also you are going to stitch smartly, intuitively choosing the right colour for each area of the petal. Typically, apple blossom is more intense rose at the sides and a bit bleacher to the middle, mind this!

Use “split stitch” for better shading. It gives embroidery smoothness and helps to achieve the best gradient.



split stitch

Shading the Petals



Start with white colour (1 strand) and minding the direction of stitches getting the petal covered (radiantly).



Add some accents of light-peach. It will give the petal a cupped look.

Shading the Petals



Take some peach-rose (1 strand) and use it for adding some accents (ring next to the padded area), it will make the petal look more natural, volumized. The same shade you may use next for covering the padded area or even take another tread (a bit more hue and saturated).

Shading the Petals



Now take the same light-pink you have used for padding, or more intense colour (it is up to you). Here you are going to stitching the “cover” of the padded area (watch the diagram below).

Use 1 strand and enclasp the padded bump with every stitch, arranging them close to each other, repeating the rithm of the previous stitches and curves of the petal.



Shading the Petals



If you did everything right, your result possibly looks the same as mine.

Shading the petals was the most difficult part and I congratulate you for your success of going through.

Now we pass to the easiest stage -- the leaves.

Shading the Leaves



Here we come the same story - told by your imagination. Remember the touches and the surface of apple-tree leaves, their matt-velvet of the reverse side - sage green and emerald hue glossy face - turned to the sun.

Using the palette selected by me (or your own), try to imitate this, starting from the lightest shade of green and going to the most intense.

Shading the Leaves



No volume is needed here. The effect of liveliness is reached by the same short & long stitch and needle-painting. Use olive-green to emphasize the curves and edges of the leaves.



Shading the Leaves



When the reverse side is stitched we go to the embroidering of the glossy “face”. We need intensive emerald and moss-green threads.



Shading the Leaves



Remember that bigger leaves are typically darker than smaller ones, so you are to stitch them with more intense threads. The stems should also be more vibrant.

The sepals should also be stitched with some more dark-green thread.

Shading the Leaves



With moss-green and bullion stitch, you may add some “touches” to the surface, to make leaves look more natural and uneven.



bullion stitch