

# IN A CORAL GARDEN

*The underwater world of a coral reef comes to life with striking colours, many varied stitches and the optional addition of a little seahorse.*

*Embroidering this colourful underwater scene gives a greater understanding and appreciation of the many different effects that can be achieved when working with the punchneedle embroidery technique.*



**Requirements**

- small and medium punchneedles
- 20 cm (8 in) lip-lock embroidery hoop
- two 30 cm (12 in) squares of fabric
- iron-on transfer pen
- seahorse charm (optional)
- iron-on rainbow paper, pencils or fabric paints
- You Can Wash It craft glue
- 2 mm piece of plastic to fit on the small punchneedle (see *Pile Depth*)

<i>musty yellow</i>	2513	972
<i>burgundy</i>	2608	3685
<i>medium pink</i>	411	3801
<i>green</i>	1612	732
<i>dark purple</i>	714	550
<i>burnt orange</i>	407	498

*Madeira Glamour, a metallised effect yarn:*

- turquoise 2466
- sea green 2465
- purple 2412

This glitter thread can easily be substituted with any metallic thread in similar colours.

**Threads**

Some Madeira colours have no direct match with DMC colours. I have chosen colours from the DMC range which will work well together.

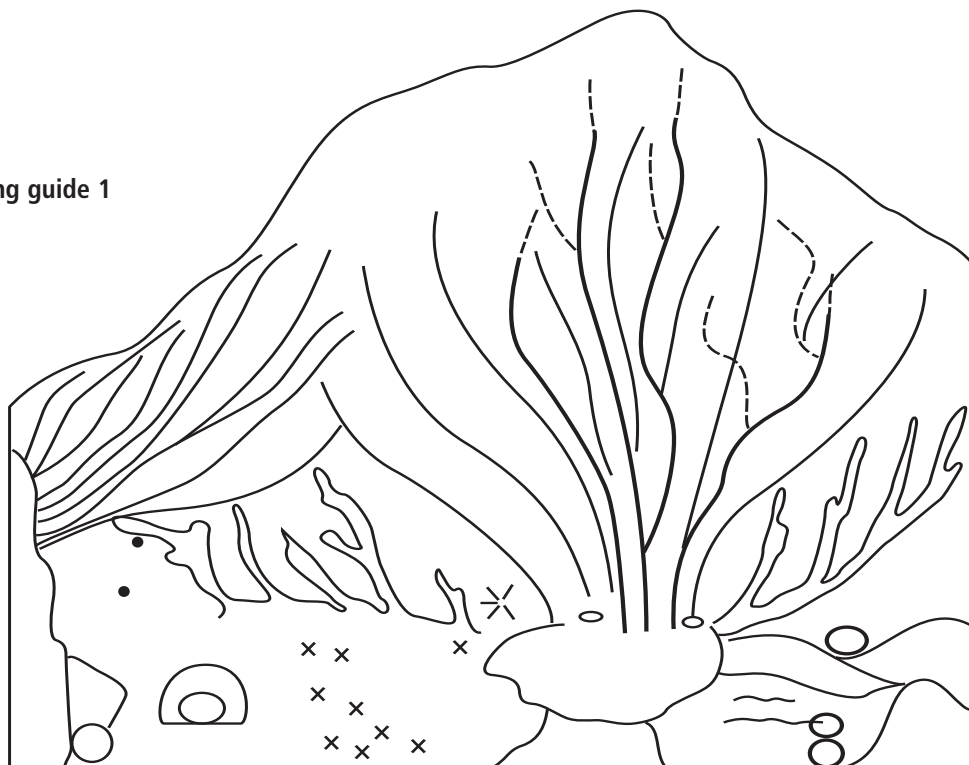
*Needle Necessities overdyed cotton:*

- floribunda 1791
- mayflowers 180

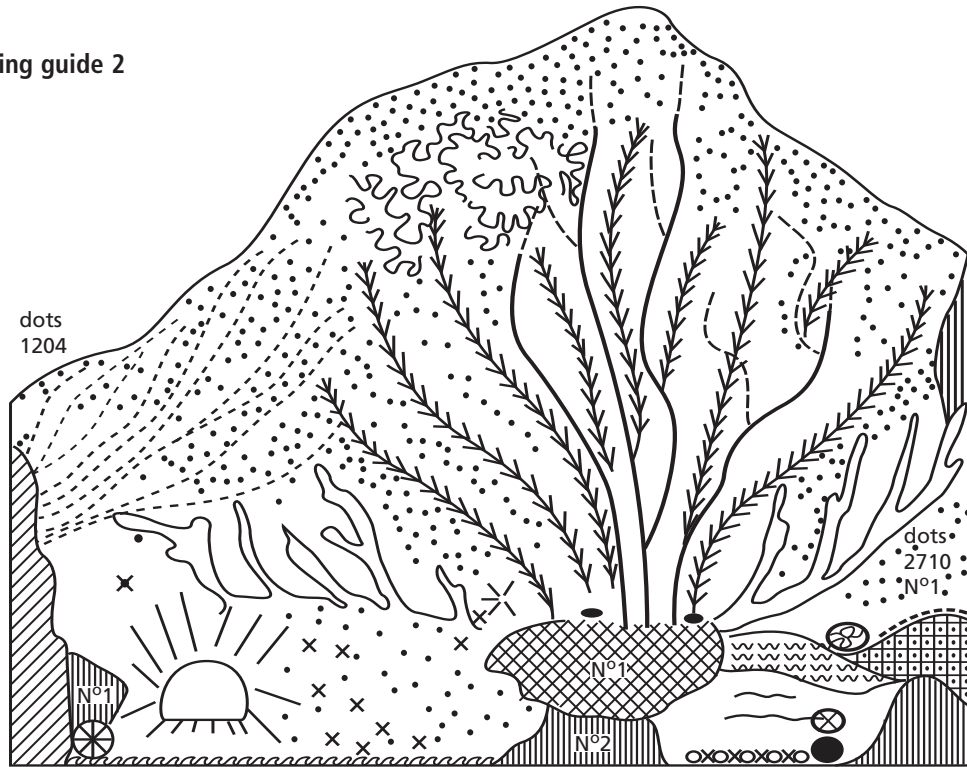
	Madeira	DMC
<i>pale grey</i>	1804	762
<i>orange</i>	207	946
<i>chartreuse</i>	1308	704
<i>blue</i>	906	793
<i>purple</i>	2710	333
<i>sea green</i>	1204	991

**Note** For this design any colour can be substituted and virtually any thread can be used so long as it flows freely through the eye of the punchneedle you have chosen.

Tracing guide 1



## Tracing guide 2



### Preparation

Iron the rainbow paper onto the front of the two pieces of fabric (see Chapter 3 Techniques); alternatively, softly colour the fabric with pencils or paint.

Transfer the main design from Tracing Guide 1 onto the back of one piece of fabric.

Use Tracing Guide 2 as further reference. There are areas of this design, indicated on the pattern, which need to be worked from the front. These lines need to be marked on the front by holding the fabric to a light source or using a light box and tracing over the lines. These are shown on the pattern as lines of dashes and 'v's.

Assemble the fabric for the major design into the hoop. Ensure that the fabric is extremely taut and the hoop nut is done up very tightly.

Transfer the design from Tracing Guide 3 onto the second piece of fabric, marking the lines of dashes to be embroidered from the front onto the front of the fabric. Put this piece to one side for now.

### Embroidering the major design

Follow the Stitch and Colour Guides in conjunction with the Symbols Chart. Each symbol is numbered, but not necessarily in order of embroidering. Written instructions follow for each number.

- 1 This is the large sea-green feathery sea fan. The centre line is marked onto the front of the fabric and the sea fan is embroidered from the front, with the loops being made on the back of the fabric. Thread one strand of 1204 in the small punchneedle set at No 3 and embroider with closed feather stitch (see Stitch Glossary, sample b). Vary the length of the outward stitches between 3–5 mm ( $\frac{1}{8}$ – $\frac{3}{16}$  in)
- 2 This is the burnt orange gorgonian coral. Thread six strands of 407 in the medium punchneedle set at No 1 and follow the markings on the pattern.
- 3 Set the small punchneedle at No 1. Use three strands of 407 and from the front of

Stitch and colour guide 1

