

Miss Melinda

This doll is a great favourite because of her delicate colours and the shape of her gown with its ruffled underskirt. The pale pink, dark pink and mauve stem stitch roses embroidered on the skirts are complemented by Miss Melinda's beautiful picture hat trimmed with mauve-pink roses.







Stitch Key

dark maroon pink

stem stitch rose



light mauve

stem stitch rose



light pink

stem stitch rose



rose leaf



rose bud



daisy



colonial knot



Requirements

- * 1 half doll about 10 cm (4 in) tall painted in mauve colours, trimmed with mauve-pink roses, with 4 holes in lower section
- * 25 cm (10 in) square cream wool cashmere for top skirt
- * 35 cm (14 in) square cream wool cashmere for bottom skirt
- * 2 x 23 cm (9 in) squares cream wool cashmere for pincushion
- * other pincushion requirements: see page 30
- * cream sewing thread
- * 7 m (7 3/4 yd) cream 15 mm (5/8 in) cotton lace
- * 1.5 m (1 1/2 yd) cream 3 mm double-sided satin ribbon
- * 35 cm (14 in) cream 25 mm (1 in) fancy braid
- * 1 packet of small cream round pearl beads
- * good quality tracing paper, 2B pencil
- * blue water-soluble pen
- * 13 cm (5 in) diameter spring hoop

Needles

- * No.22 chenille
- * No.9 crewel

Threads

- * 1 skein Kacoonda thick silk No.4 variegated creams
- * Kacoonda mohair, 1 skein each:
 - ~ No.8J variegated greens
 - ~ pale pink (special Joan Watters colour)
 - ~ dark maroon pink (special Joan Watters colour)
 - ~ light mauve (special Joan Watters colour)
- * 1 skein Anchor stranded thread No.926 cream
- * Anchor Perle thread No.5-926 cream
- * Anchor Ophir gold thread No.0300

Notes

The pincushion base for this doll does **not** require a net skirt. The hoop is used only for the colonial knots embroidery.



Top Skirt (see pattern sheet B)

STEP 1 Make a template of the top skirt using template plastic. Mark the outline on the 25 cm (10 ½ in) square of cream wool cashmere using the blue water-soluble pen. Do not cut the skirt out. Machine a line of stitching along the skirt outline, including the waist section.

STEP 2 I would transfer only the front section of the skirt and embroider it before transferring any other sections. Trace the two large groups of stem

stitch roses onto the tracing paper using the 2B pencil, marking the centre of each rose with a dot and poking a hole through each dot with a stiletto or large needle. Pin the tracing paper to the fabric and through the holes, mark each position with a dot using the blue water-soluble pen. It is not necessary to trace the rose leaves; you can freehand them in.

Note: All the embroidery on this skirt is done with the No.22 chenille needle.

Miss Melinda

Following the pattern for colour placement, embroider the roses in the Kacoonda mohair in the three JW special colours of light pink, dark maroon pink and light mauve, using a double thread. These stem stitch roses are small.

Embroider the four groups of three colonial knot rose buds next using one thread of dark maroon pink mohair doubled to make 2 threads. You can freehand these buds in, marking each the position of each with the blue water-soluble pen.

Embroider the greenery around the buds using one thread of Kacoonda mohair No.8J variegated greens. Work one very small fly stitch around the centre colonial knot and extend the holding stitch back to the rose to form the stem of the bud. Embroider a small fly stitch around each of the outer buds, extending the holding stitch to form the stem of the buds and taking it back to the same hole as the centre bud stem.

Embroider the rose leaves next using the same needle and thread. You do not have to transfer these leaves, just freehand in with the blue pen. Each leaf is a small fly stitch with one small straight stitch in the centre of the fly stitch.

Freehand in the five bud stems above the stem stitch roses with the blue pen. Embroider the stems in straight stitches, again using the variegated green mohair. Embroider the single colonial knot buds on the top of these straight stems using one thread of Kacoonda mohair JW special dark maroon pink mohair doubled to



make 2 threads. The only greenery on these buds is the straight stitch stems.

STEP 3 Trace the remaining groups of stem stitch roses onto the tracing paper and transfer the positions as previously. Embroider the roses following the colours marked on the pattern. Embroider the rose leaves as before.

STEP 4 Trace the cream daisy markings onto the tracing paper, mark the centre of each one with a dot and transfer as before. The daisies are embroidered in one thread of Kacoonda thick silk No.4 variegated creams in the No.22 chenille needle. Each daisy has five evenly placed lazy daisy stitch petals. Do not extend the holding stitch. Omit the pearl bead centres at this point.

STEP 5 Transfer the colonial knot dots next. You may not be able to embroider the lines of dots around the outside of the skirt in the hoop, but the inner ones are easy to embroider in the hoop. Each dot is one colonial knot using one thread of Kacoonda thick silk No.4 variegated creams in the No.22 chenille needle.

STEP 6 Now you can hand sew the small cream round pearl beads in the centre of each cream daisy using 2 strands of stranded thread No.926 off-white in the No.9 crewel needle.

It is a good idea to initial and date your embroidery in back stitch using Anchor Ophir gold thread No.0300 in the No.22 chenille needle.

Bottom Skirt (see pattern sheet B)

STEP 7 Make a template of the bottom skirt using template plastic. Mark the outline on the 35 cm (14 in) square of cream wool cashmere using the blue water-soluble pen. Machine a line of stitching along the skirt outline. Do not cut the

skirt out at this time.

Embroider the stem stitch roses following the instructions for the top skirt.

Embroider the colonial knots following the instructions for the top skirt.

Lace Edging

STEP 8 Cut the excess fabric away from both skirts leaving a 4 mm (¼ in) allowance outside the machine stitch line. Cut the waist section away from the top skirt. Overlock the edges of the skirts.

The cream cotton lace is sewn to the skirts using 2 strands of stranded thread No.926 off-white in the No.9 crewel needle. I do not gather the lace first, I simply push a small pleat into the lace with my needle and stitch the pleat to the fabric before making the next one. This method is quite quick once you master how to pleat the

lace. The amount of lace required depends on how fully you gather it. I have allowed for this in the requirements list.

Starting at the centre back, stitch the lace edging all around the bottom skirt.

On the top skirt, start and finish the lace at the waist line, in the positions marked on the pattern. Cut the 3 mm double-sided cream satin ribbon in half. Fold each piece in half again and stitch at the folds to the top skirt on either side of the waist opening using 2 strands of stranded thread No.926 off-white in the No.9 crewel

Assembly

STEP 9 Assemble the pincushion base following the instructions on page 30. Remember, the pincushion base for this doll does not have a net skirt.

Machine two rows of gathering stitches around the lower edge of the bottom skirt where marked on the pattern, beginning and ending at the centre back.

Mark the centre point of the bottom skirt and the top of the pincushion with a dot from the blue water-soluble pen. Match the centres and pin the skirt in position. Thread the No.22 chenille needle with Anchor Perle No.5-926 thread and secure the skirt to the pincushion. Do not cut the thread yet.

Gather the bottom skirt in carefully to fit snugly around the lower edge of

the pincushion base. Tie the gathering threads off securely and trim. Very carefully even out the gathering out all around the skirt.

Starting at the centre back, pin the fancy braid along the gathering to hide the gathering threads. Carefully stitch the braid to the skirt at just four points—centre back, centre front and either side, using 2 strands of stranded thread No.926 off-white in the No.9 crewel needle.

Centre the half doll on the pincushion, stitching securely in position through the four holes in the lower section using Perle thread No.5-926 off-white in the needle which is still in the top of pincushion after sewing on the bottom skirt.

Place the top skirt around the doll's waist and tie the ribbon in a bow at centre back.



You have now completed

Miss Melinda