



Food colouring or silk paint

- Pink
- Red
- Blue

Needles

- Chenille 20 or 22
- Sharps

STITCHES USED

- Running stitch
- Straight stitch
- Ribbon stitch
- Stem stitch

See Diagram 1.

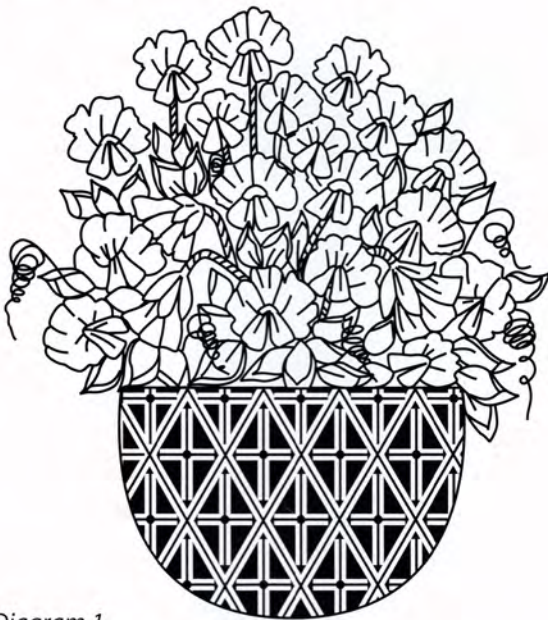


Diagram 1

Preparation

Refer to pages 114–116 for full instructions on making pots and diagram 2 for the pot template. Once you have completed the pot and it is

completely dry, using a fine, dark blue marker pen, divide the pot's surface into small diamonds with straight lines as shown in diagram 3. Draw the outline of a cross in each full diamond and a partial cross in the partial diamonds.

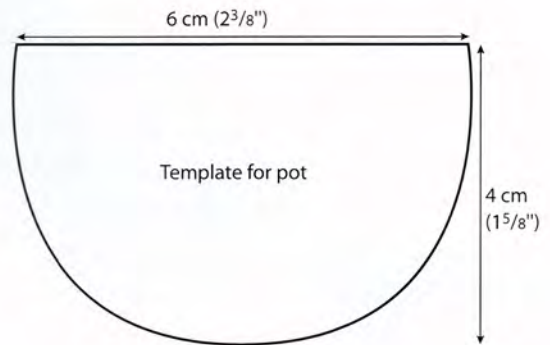


Diagram 2

Following diagram 3a, add lines around each cross to mark the area to be coloured in. Colour around each cross and add a dot in the centre as shown in diagram 3b. Complete with a dot in the centre of each of the diagonal lines at the point where they cross.

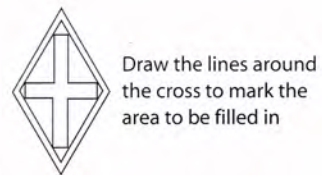


Diagram 3a



Diagram 3b

Fold the background fabric in half lengthwise and widthwise and tack along the folds with white machine thread. With small tacking stitches and following diagram 4, mark the position for the top of the pot 2cm ($\frac{3}{4}$ ") down from the marked centre.

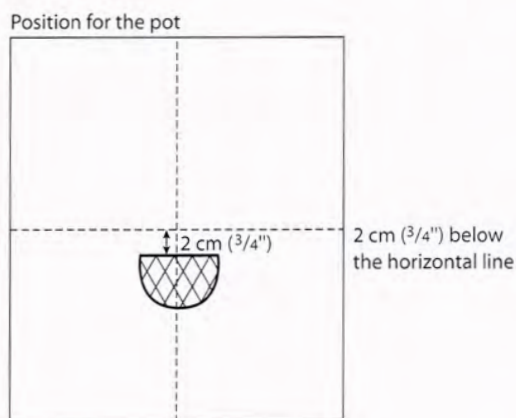


Diagram 4

The approximate number of flowers required for this design is 6 pale pink, 3 pale rose pink, 4 pale lavender, 2 burgundy and 1 dark plum. A few extra flowers may be needed to balance the design, as the size of each flower may vary. The main petals are worked in 7mm ($\frac{5}{16}$ ") ribbon, each flower requiring an 8–10cm ($3\frac{1}{4}$ "–4") length of ribbon.

Sweet Pea Flowers

Using matching machine thread or a single strand of stranded cotton and a sharps needle and starting 1cm ($\frac{3}{8}$ ") from the cut end of the ribbon as shown in diagram 5, work very small running stitches along the ribbon until 1cm ($\frac{3}{8}$ ") from the end. Do not end off the thread.



Diagram 5

Following diagram 6, pull up the gathers firmly. Cross over the two 1cm ($\frac{3}{8}$ ") ribbon ends and stitch through both. Fold the two stitched ends to the back of the gathers and stitch in place between the folds of the gathers. Trim carefully.

On completion of all the flowers, stitch in place on the background fabric using matching machine thread. You may wish to arrange all the flowers and pin in place before stitching. Stitch between the folds formed by the gathers, taking care not to flatten the ribbon by stitching too tightly.



Diagram 6

Embroider the centre of each flower with two straight stitches, some in matching, some contrasting, 4mm ($\frac{3}{16}$ ") ribbon as shown in diagram 7. Do not pull too tightly or twist the ribbon.

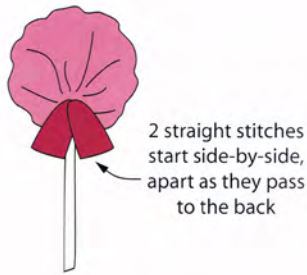


Diagram 7

Fill the spaces between the flowers with ribbon stitch leaves using medium blue/green 7mm ($\frac{3}{16}$ ") and pale sage green or dark blue/green 4mm ($\frac{3}{16}$ ") ribbon.

Embroider three or more buds in any available spaces. Stitch the stems with three strands of very pale green stranded cotton using stem stitch. Following diagram 8, add foliage with pale sage green 4mm ($\frac{3}{16}$ ") ribbon in ribbon stitch and the petals in straight stitch using pale rose pink 4mm ($\frac{3}{16}$ ") ribbon.



Diagram 8

Some of the taller flowers will require stems. These may be worked as straight stitches in three strands of very pale green stranded cotton.

Form the tendrils using a single strand of very pale green stranded cotton. Wind the thread onto a satay stick, leaving a straight length at each end of about 8cm ($3\frac{1}{8}$ "). Do not wind too tightly. Spray with hairspray until wet. Allow to completely dry before carefully removing from the stick, taking care not to stretch the coils.

Stitch in place using the straight thread left at each end of the coil. If necessary, hold in position by couching between the coils with matching thread.

Colouring

Colour the outer edges of the petals using pink, or red and blue together for purple shades with silk paint or food colouring applied with the fine tipped paint brush. Build the intensity of the colour gradually, drying with a hair dryer between coats.

Glue the prepared pot in place using Aquadhere or a strong craft glue. Remove any tacking stitches showing on the background fabric.