


Pansy and Beetle

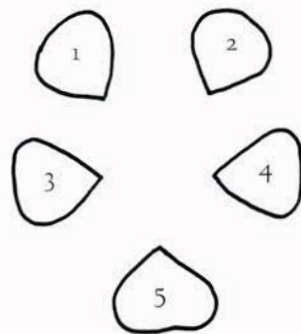
This design can be worked with any coloured pansy, and a bee instead of a beetle if desired. When mounted in a small paperweight it makes a lovely gift.

REQUIREMENTS

- Ivory satin — 20 cm x 20 cm (8" x 8")
- Calico (or quilter's muslin) — 2 pieces (20 cm x 20 cm) (8" x 8")
- 10 cm (4") embroidery hoop
- Wire: 30 gauge green-covered, 12 cm (5") length
- Pansy (see p.104)
- Beetle (see p.120)
- Small snail (see p.116 )
- Needles: Crewel/embroidery 5-10
Straw/milliners 3-9
Chenille 18
Sharp yarn darning 14
- Threads: Stems and leaves — three shades of green (DMC 3346, 3345, 895)
Beetle — blue/grey (DMC 930 or Cifonda Silk 215)
Pansy — choice of colour — see individual pansy directions for threads
Snail — own choice of stranded threads for body and shell



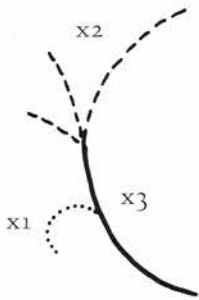
Skeleton outline



Detached pansy petals

ORDER OF WORK

1. Mount the satin and a piece of calico/muslin for backing into the hoop.



2. Trace the skeleton outline onto the satin.

3. *Stems.* Embroider the stems with whipped chain stitch in dark green thread (895). Work the chain stitches and the whipping with the number of threads indicated on the diagram.

4. *Leaf on main fabric.* This leaf is worked with one strand of green thread:

— work the central vein in chain stitch (3346)

— pad the leaf surface inside the outline with long stitches (3345)

— working from the base to the tip, embroider the leaf with long buttonhole stitches (3345)

— work the veins in straight stitches (3346).

5. *Pansy bud.* The bud is worked with one strand of thread in colours to match the pansy.

— work the lower edge in long and short buttonhole stitch, then embroider the bud in straight stitches

— using two strands of green thread (3345), work three detached chain stitches at the base of the bud to form the sepals.

6. Small Snail.

7. Beetle.

8. Pansy.

9. *Detached leaf.* This is worked on calico mounted in a hoop with one strand of green thread and green-covered wire:

— couch then overcast the wire down the central vein (3346)

— couch then buttonhole the wire around outside edge (3345)

— pad stitch leaf and work split backstitch around inside edge of wire (3345)

— work leaf in satin stitch (3345)

— work veins in straight stitches (3346).

10. Assemble into paperweight if desired.




Detached pansy leaf

BEETLE

Never kill a beetle, but leave him to go about his important work in the garden. If a black beetle crawls over your shoe, it is a warning against illness which bids you to take better care of your health. Many nocturnal flying beetles predict fine weather.

CLAIRE NAHMAD, GARDEN SPELLS, 1994.

MATERIALS REQUIRED

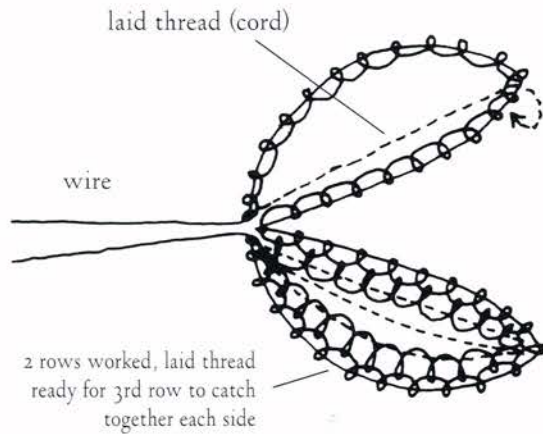
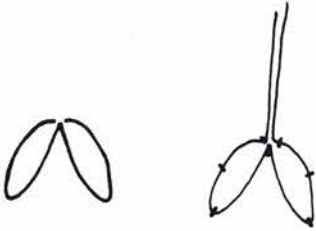
- Pad for working detached buttonhole stitch (see p 17 )
- Wire: 28 gauge uncovered, 15 cm (6'') length
(or 30 gauge blue-covered wire is easier to manage)
- Fine tweezers to shape wire
- Grey felt and paper-backed fusible web — 5 cm x 8 cm
(3'' x 2'')
- Blue/bronze snakeskin — small piece
- Mill Hill Petite Glass Beads — 40374 (blue/black)
- Needles: Crewel 3-9
Tapestry 26
Chenille 18
Sharps needles 12
- Thread: Blue/grey stranded (DMC 930 or Cifonda Silk 215)
Slate blue metallic thread (Kreinik Cord 225c)
Nylon clear thread

Detached wings (elytra)

1. Wrap the middle 5 cms (2") approximately of the wire with one strand of the blue/grey thread, leaving a tail at each end.

2. Transfer the wing outline to the buttonhole pad and cover with self-adhesive plastic (see p. 17). Tack the wrapped wire around the wing outline, leaving two tails of wire (mostly not wrapped) as shown.

3. With one strand of metallic thread in the tapestry needle, work a row of buttonhole stitch over the wire around the inside of one wing, then work about three rows of corded detached buttonhole stitch to fill the wing. Repeat for the other wing. Remove the tacking stitches to release the wings.



Abdomen

1. Using the paper-backed fusible web, cut two pieces of grey felt to pad the abdomen; one the actual shape of the abdomen and one slightly smaller.



2. With one strand of the blue/grey thread, stab stitch the felt in place (applying the smaller shape first), then cover the felt with satin stitch, worked from side to side to represent the segments of the abdomen.



To apply detached wings and complete beetle

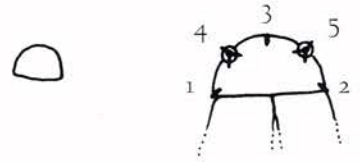
1. Insert the wires and any thread tails at • using a cherrille needle (or large yarn darning), bend under the abdomen and secure at the back with a few small stitches.



2. With blue/grey thread, work a few satin stitches at • for padding under the head. The head is cut from snakeskin and applied with nylon thread in a sharps needle. Cut the snakeskin a little larger than the head shape, then trim to size as you apply — make sure it is wide enough to cover the top of the wings.

Attach the snakeskin head at five points as follows:

- work the first two stitches on either side of the wings (1 and 2)
- make one stitch at centre front (3)
- on either side of the centre apply two petite beads for the eyes with 2-3 stitches into the snakeskin (4 and 5).



3. With two strands of the metallic thread in a straw needle, work three backstitches for each leg. Complete by working a fly stitch for the feelers with one strand of metallic thread.



eye — 3 stitches