

Welcome back! I do hope that you enjoyed volume 2 of this series titled New Beginnings.

This is the third and the last volume for this flower sampler. In this DVD, I will show you more interesting methods and stitches.

There are 20 new stitches and techniques in the stitch gallery, some of them are brand new. Once again, you will need to refer back to some stitches in volume 1 and 2. I have rather used this opportunity to show you new stitches here.

Many of the techniques here are shown step-by-step in my books. By using the books and this DVD, any difficulties that you may have encountered along the way, are sure to be solved!

I have received so many e - mails from embroiderers, the world over, and they have told me how much they have learned from our DVDs and I thank them for their feedback. Remember, I am only an e - mail or a phone call away if you have any questions.

In this volume, I will show you how to make Bluebells and Daffodils, a cheeky little termite and a cute little bird. Gorgeous Foxgloves and Red Tulips. Agapanthus and lilies, small butterflies and a woven basket. New ways to make roses and daisies. How to make a spider and its web and what I think you will learn a lot from: close - up views of how to use many of the stitches (that you have learned from the DVDs) in other designs and projects. I will teach you how to Trapunto a shape to create dimension, and how to use stamens on a flower. I will tell you about all the needles, threads and ribbons that were used to create the correct balance and texture. The items that you need for this volume are available worldwide. Do visit our website to find your nearest store. Or, order safely online at [www.dicraft.co.za](http://www.dicraft.co.za). When visiting our beautiful city, do pop in to one of our shops in Cape Town. We would love to meet you! We also offer lessons, and if you contact us ahead of time, we will arrange a class for you at our shop in the V&A Waterfront or in Bellville.

A list of the threads and ribbons that you require for this volume is available in printable format on this DVD. I do hope you have fun completing your masterpiece. Enjoy yourself, and until next time, take care.

#### Beads and needles

This needle has a large enough eye to thread, and a nice sharp point. In a mixed pack of needle always use the outer number 10 needle as this is the finest one in the pack. A mixed pack of 5/10 crewel needles is a good pack to buy as it has multiple uses. The

number 10 crewel needle does not bend as badly as the beading needle and is easier to thread.

## Panel 8 Bluebells

Use two strands of moss green thread on a size 8 crewel needle. Make a knot at the long end. Start at the tip and work downwards in Back stitch. I have already done this section and the stitches are 3 to 4mm (or an eighth of an inch) in length. I am going to come up here to complete the stem. Don't pull the stitches too tight as you will need to insert the ribbon under the stitches in the next step.

Make the stitches as evenly as possible, for a neat finish. I am using two strands here as the stem is quite thick. For finer stems in other designs, use one strand of thread.

If the flowers are in the way, as for the Bluebells on the far right, work over the flower. The Bluebells will be made on top of the stem later.

Work all the way to the tip and end off at the back. End off well so the stitches won't come loose when you wrap the ribbon around them in the next step. Thread up with 2mm silk ribbon number 23 (if you have any left over from the previous volumes) or, use number 16, 2mm ribbon. Make a knot at the long end. Here I have used a size 20 tapestry needle. Come up at the tip or at the base of the stem- it doesn't really matter.

Here I am starting at the tip, and will work down towards the base, then up the stem of the next Bluebell - all in one step.

Insert your needle under the stitch. Be careful not to touch the nearby stitches. Whip each Backstitch by inserting the needle under and over every stitch.

You could make the small leaves leading off the stem as you reach them. Use a Straight stitch for the leaves. Or you can make the leaves afterwards. In this case, I will do the stem first as I am using a blunt tapestry needle. If you are using a sharp Chenille needle, feel free to make the leaves now, as you form the stem.

Use an even tension; untwist your ribbon every now and then. This way, the wrapped stitches are not too narrow.

To close any gaps between the stitches, insert the needle under the same stitch twice. Untwist your ribbon and proceed up the next stem.

When you reach this section of the Bluebell, form the stem with a Straight stitch or use a whipped Straight stitch – it's up to you.

Take the needle to the back; come up close to the stem. If you are using a tapestry needle, it will be more difficult to insert the needle through the fabric, but it is possible, as long as you don't try to make all the leaves with this needle.

Form the leaf at the same time; use a Straight stitch. Take the needle to the back and change to a Chenille size 22 or 24 needle to make the remaining the leaves.

Come up at the base, close to the stem, and form the tiny leaves in Straight stitch. Work over a spare size 18 Chenille or tapestry needle and form a raised leaf.

Form the longer leaves the same way. Come up to form the next leaf. Only move the needle when you ready to form the next leaf. Work over the stem for added dimension

Complete all the leaves the same way.

Cut the ribbon at the back, leaving a tail about 2 cm (one inch) long.

Use one Strand of any matching green thread to coax the curved leaves into shape. Use tiny Stab stitches and secure the tail at the back with the same thread.

The folded leaf is made with a folded Straight stitch. Use the 7mm silk ribbon number 23. Thread up on a size 18 Chenille needle and make a knot at the long end.

Start at the base and form the underside leaf first. In this case it is the folded leaf. Use a spare Chenille needle to hold the fold in place. Take your needle and ribbon to the back at the tip of the leaf. Come up at the base again, holding the spare needle in place. Remember that both your ribbon and thread must lie on top of your work when using two needles. This way, they won't become entangled at the back.

Use one strand of any matching green thread and make a knot at the long end.

Come up at the folded section on the leaf and catch the ribbon, securing the fold in place. Use two or three tiny stab stitches and don't pull the thread too tight. Remove the spare needle once the fold is secured in place.

A good idea is to secure the tip of the leaf too. This way, it won't pull out of shape as you form the next stitch. Use one or two tiny stab stitches.

Come up along the base; allow the needle and thread to lie on top of your work. It will be used a little later.

Flatten your ribbon and refer to your black and white pattern. Please note if you need this pattern, that you are able to download this pattern from our website [www.dicraft.co.za](http://www.dicraft.co.za) on the DVD page.

See the shorter leaf in front – it is an upright leaf made on top of the folded one.

Use the same spare needle and flatten ribbon as much as possible. Make a Straight stitch on top of the folded leaf. Hold the bottom leaf in place with your fingertip and work over a spare needle. Pull the ribbon back gently with the spare needle if it needs to be flatter and take it to the back again.

Do the same for all the Bluebell leaves. Cut off the excess ribbon and leave a tail about 2cm (1inch) long. Use the green thread to secure it at the back

Secure the tip of the leaf as before.

To flatten the base of the leaf, for a straighter edge, use tiny stab stitches to coax the leaf into shape. If necessary, use a spare Chenille needle to help you along.

Thread up with one strand of the blue antique jewel thread and make a knot at the long end. Come up where the left Bluebell petal forms a curve. Lay the needle and thread on top of your work. Thread up with 7mm silk ribbon number 64 on a size 18 Chenille needle and make a knot at the long end.

Start at the tip and first make the tiny buds. If necessary, work over a spare needle to form a neat, raised stitch. Do the same for all the blue buds

I have used the thick size 18 chenille needle here as I don't want the blue ribbon to tear and fray when forming the Bluebell flowers in the next step.

Therefore I need a large hole in the fabric so the ribbon won't be damaged as I pull it through to form the stitches. Come up at the base of the Bluebell, alongside the stem. Ensure your ribbon is nice and flat before twisting it slightly to form a twisted Straight stitch. Insert your needle at the tip of the petal and come up at the base again. Lay the ribbon on top of your work. Use the thread that you placed earlier and catch or coax the petal into a curved shape. Come up on the right side of the flower and lay the needle and thread on top of your work.

Use the blue ribbon, twisting it slightly to form the petal as before. Come up at the base again.

Lay your ribbon on top of the work, and use the thread to coax the right petal into shape. Come up at the tip.

Lay your thread on top of your work and use the ribbon to form a raised petal in the centre of the Bluebell.

You will need to raise the ribbon up to form a rounded shape. With the red tulips you used a bead; here I will show you another way if you don't have a bead. Make a one or two wrap French knot on the widest section and take the needle to the back. Come up at

the base again. The ribbon is a bit bulky at this stage, but don't worry as this is your last stitch.

Flatten the ribbon and use a Ribbon stitch or Straight stitch to form this petal. I am going to make a ribbon stitch here.

Pierce the ribbon and use a spare needle inside the loop that is being formed to coax the petal into a pleasing shape. Allow it to curve to the side. See ribbon stitch with curled up tips in the stitches gallery.

Cut off the excess ribbon at the back and leave tail. Use the thread that you placed earlier to secure the stitch before removing the needle

Come up at the base again and neaten it Secure the stitches in place- in other words, use the needle and thread to tell the ribbon what to do.

If you like, use the blunt end of the needle to re-shape the flower.  
Do the same for all the Bluebells.

This is the Bluebell on the right, above the termite. Here I made the two side petals first. I then added two ribbon stitches on top of each other to form a raised shape. I made the French knot first then added two ribbon stitches on top so that there is an extra petal for this flower.

Here I used a French knot under this petal and when I made the Ribbon stitch on top. I pierced it on the right side so it curled up towards the right.

## Daffodils

Thread up with 2mm silk ribbon number 132 and make a knot at the long end. Here I am using a size 22 Chenille needle.

Start at the base and make a twisted Straight stitch inserting the needle into the yellow leaves.

Take the needle to the back; use a gentle tension to ensure the ribbon is loose enough to curve the stem into shape in the next step.

Come up at the base and make a twisted Straight stitch again. Insert the needle into the yellow leaves. Take the needle to the back and ensure the ribbon is slack enough to form the curved stem in the next step.

Cut off excess ribbon at the back leaving a 3 cm (one inch) tail so there is enough ribbon left if you need to slacken it a bit to fit the curves.

Use one strand of any matching green thread and make a knot at the long end. Come up and make five or six little stitches to secure the tail in place.

Come up at the tip of the stem and catch the Ribbon with an Overcast stitch spacing the stitches roughly 6mm or ¼ inch apart.

In the next step, this section will be covered so don't worry too much about neatness but do try to space the stitches evenly.

Come up at the next leaf and lay the needle and thread on top of your work.

Use the same 2mm silk Ribbon no 132 and make a knot at the long end.

Cut off the excess tail. Come up at the base and insert the needle under and over the couched stem. Start wrapping both stems at the same time. And as they split, wrap a single stem at a time.

Work needle under the same section more than once to form a rounded stem. Untwist your Ribbon every now and then for a neater effect.

Use a gentle tension for this technique.

This is a whipped couching stitch

Re-shape the stem with your fingertip and take the needle to the back.

Do the same for all the Daffodils

Make sure you don't catch the adjoining stems. Take the needle to the back and end off. Thread up with 4mm number 132 silk ribbon on a size 20 or 22 Chenille needle. The leaves are wider here and therefore you will need a slightly wider ribbon.

Come up at the base and make a long, twisted Straight stitch up to the tip of the leaf. Twist the ribbon more to form a thinner leaf. Come up at the next leaf and lay your needle and ribbon on top of your work.

Use the thread that you placed earlier to anchor the tip of the leaf in place with tiny stab stitches.

Catch the leaf with the same tiny stitches to coax it into shape.

Tuck in any wider sections of ribbon to form a curved shape.

Re-shape the leaf at the base.

Where there are any green edges showing on the design, go back to secure the ribbon in place.

Come up at the next section, and lay the needle and thread on top of the work.

Twist the ribbon and insert it at the base. Repeat for all the leaves.

Work from the tip downwards to the base.

Use the same thread and stitch to tell the ribbon where to lie.

Use a gentle tension so you don't pull the leaves out of shape.

Neaten the base with tiny stab stitches. Lay the thread on top of the work and repeat for the last three leaves.

If there is too much of a twist, lift the ribbon up; untwist it before taking it to the back again.

Cut off the excess ribbon leaving quite a long tail so you are able to adjust the tension, if necessary. Use the green thread to secure the tail in place and to re-shape any leaves.

What I am going to show you to do with the daffodils is that the five visible yellow leaves are made in detached chain stitch. The sixth yellow leaf is hidden behind the trumpet shaped corona

This Corona is made the same way as the Blue delphiniums in volume 2, but it is attached a little differently.

Start with the five yellow leaves. Thread up with 4mm silk ribbon number 54 or 55 and make a knot at the long end. Come up in the centre and make a detached chain Take the needle to the back and come up inside the shape, about 3mm (eighth of an inch) from the edge. Remember that this stitch becomes larger once formed. Gently pull it into shape and anchor by taking the needle to the back. Come up in the centre again. Use a gentle tension until you are happy with the shape of the stitch

Form all the yellow leaves this way, working over any of the green stems

End off at the back and repeat the steps for the other two daffodils.

The corona part of the Daffodil is made the same way as the gathered Delphinium flowers in volume 2

Remember how you cut a blue piece of ribbon, wound it around a ruler and gathered it? This time I will use a cardboard about 3cm (1.2 inches) wide as my ruler has gone walkabout! Thread up with 1 strand of Gold rush thread and make a knot at the long end.

Wrap a length of 7mm silk ribbon number 54 or 55 around the card.

Come up along the raw edge and make small running stitches to secure the short edge in place. Cut off the excess ribbon 2mm (16<sup>th</sup> of an inch) away from the edge.

Be careful not to cut the thread.

Gather along the smooth edge as you did for the Delphinium. Slip the ribbon off the card or ruler and gently pull the thread it to form a gathered flower. Don't worry about the knot at this stage; it will disappear in the next step.

Attach the gathered flower to the design with the same gold thread.

Twist the flower so the raw edges are at the back and pull the thread quite taut to secure it in place. Use a few stab stitches to shape the flower and to secure it in place.

At this stage, the corona is too wide. So what you do, catch it along the one edge with tiny stab stitches to find the correct length that it needs to be. Fold the flower over itself to form a narrow, raised shape. Secure the underside of the gathered flower with tiny stab stitches.

Do the same on the left to secure the corona in place. Cover the orange bits showing on the design by using the stab stitches to re-shape the flower.

To summarise: Make the gathered flower and attach it to the design. Secure it on one side, fold it over to form a narrow, tapered shape and secure it in place along the edges.

Use tiny stab stitches to secure the corona at the base along the yellow leaves. Add small stitches here and there so the shape does not move around too much. End off at the back.

Use a stamen available from cake decorating shops or website. I have used an orange stamen here, but a yellow one will look just as good. This stamen for an Arum lily is also a good one to use.

Cut a length about 9 or 10 mm (3/8ths of an inch)

Use a clear fabric or paper glue stick-similar to the one's the kids use at school and a toothpick or spare needle to take a bit of glue off the stick. Apply it to the end of the stamen

Lift up the skirt of the flower and insert the stamen between the folds.

Use the sharp point of your scissors to hold the stamen in place for a minute or so until it dries.

If the stamen is too long, remove it, cut a section away and glue it in place as before.

## Grass and stones

Thread up with one strand of Forest Shade thread. Make a knot at the long end.

Make a few horizontal Straight stitches.

Make a few Single Knotted stitches; work over a spare needle – a size 18 chenille or tapestry needle is a good size.

Secure the loop in place with tiny stab stitches See Single Knotted stitch in the stitches gallery of volume 2.

Make a few Straight stitches to create the shadows.

Use one or two wrap French knots for the fatter tufts of grass

Make Single Knotted stitch for the long grass; work over a spare needle. Make three or four alongside each other, varying the lengths.

Pick up a small brown, grey or green seed bead. If the bead is very tiny, you may need to change to a size 10 crewel needle. Attach the bead with one stitch to get a feel for the texture and secure in place with a few more stitches on your return journey.

The far edge is completed in turkey or Single Knotted stitch made close together. See Turkey stitch in the stitches gallery.

Vary the length of the loops for an interesting effect and only remove the needle once the next stitch is made.

End off at the back.

Use a pair of scissors with sharp points to cut the loops. Pull the loops up towards the Bluebells as you cut them.

Use the sharp point of a fine needle to fluff the threads. Insert the needle between the twisted fibres to separate them. Use the sharp point of your embroidery scissors to complete the fluffy texture.

Here I used two strands of thread for a fluffy finish.

Here I made many short stitches, close together, for a heavier texture.

Termite

Trace the termite from the black and white pattern onto a white fabric.

Use the pigment ink fine liner pen that is wash and fade proof.

Trace the shape about one mm larger all around.

Place it in the centre of a hoop; don't pull the layers too taut. Alternatively, work off the hoop to form the Bullions in the next step.

What we also have available for you is a pre-printed stump work panel for volume 3. It is always easier to work on top of colour as this will guide you as you work.

Bullion knots are best made off the hoop, or if you prefer to use a hoop, ensure the fabric is not stretched too tight.

Refer to the Bullion stitch in the stitches gallery.

I am going to start at the head and work down towards the tip of the abdomen.

Thread up with one strand of Gold rush thread on a size 5 or medium Straw or milliners' needle and make a knot at the long end. Remember the straw/milliners' needle has a small slender eye and a longer than average shaft – this makes it easy to form the wraps and to slip the knot off the needle.

Use a waste knot and form a few Back stitches on the body of the termite to secure the thread, or come up inside the edge so the knot won't be damaged later when you cut out the shape.

Start your Bullion with a Back stitch the length of the little ridge on the body. Come up close to where the thread emerged.

Rotate your work so the point is facing away from you and lift the needle up with your finger. Wrap the thread around the needle, in a clockwise direction, about 10 times.

Neaten up the wraps and carefully pull your needle through the wraps.

Bring the needle over towards you, and pull the long thread to tighten up the Bullion.

Some people find it easier to use a needle to neaten the stitch – I find it easier to use my fingertip. Keep pulling the thread until all the wraps are lined up neatly and fit snugly against each other. Insert the needle to the back and come up at the next little ridge on the termite. All the Bullions are made with 10 wraps – only the last two are made with seven wraps as they are shorter.

Take the thread to the back and end off.

The remaining sections are embroidered on the hoop. Insert the fabric in a small 4 or 6 inch hoops and stretch the fabric until it is taut.

Thread up with one strand of baked earth (brown) thread. Start with a waste knot – this will be cut away later. Come up at the thorax and make a few stitches to anchor the thread. At the same time you are forming the foundation stitches for padded satin stitch in the next step.

Cover these stitches with satin stitch, working from the thorax towards the jaw.

Use a gentle tension so the stitches are not too flat. Stay inside the grey area – this will be outlined later

Refer to page 55 of my book: A Perfect World in Ribbon embroidery and Stump work. This little termite is shown step-by- step and there are wonderful ideas for how to add him to other projects such as quilts, cards, handbags, and clothing.

Use the same brown thread to fill in the brown shadows on his body in small straight or stab stitch. Go back to fill in any gaps on the head and end off at the back

Thread up with one strand of egg yolk yellow thread and make a waste knot, as before. Fill in the light yellow sections in Satin stitch

If you have purchased the stump work shapes in full colour then it is not always necessary to fill in this detail.

Work between the Bullion knots making vertical straight stitches. Stitch over the Backstitches and use a gentle tension so the stitches are not too flat.

Stay inside the grey outline, this will be added later.

Go back to fill in any spaces and end off at the back.

Change to one strand of Charcoal thread and Make a knot at the long end.

Come up with a waste knot and make a few stab stitches between the Bullion knots to create shadows. Start with a few stab stitches, one on top of each other, to anchor the waste knot.

Form the line between the head and thorax. Don't worry about the legs and antennae at this stage – these will be made later once the termite is attached to the design.

Outline the termite with the same thread and use a back, stem or split stitch  
Here I am making a backstitch overlapping the previous one slightly.

The reason why I am outlining this termite is that when the termite is cut out in the next step, the stitches are facing the right way. This prevents you from cutting the vertical stitches by mistake.

Make a little Backstitch from ridge to ridge to guide you with the cutting line. This way you won't cut the Bullions by mistake.

Leave your thread on the top of your work and apply anti-fray to the entire shape.

Allow to dry slightly, and cut out the shape leaving a 4mm (eighth of an inch) seam.  
Hint: I think it will be better to embroider all the shapes in this panel first: the basket and the little bird, before cutting out the shapes. This way the fabric won't be too loose in the hoop.

Be careful not to cut the thread

Once you are holding the shape in your hand, cut out the shape neatly along the edge.

Be careful not to cut the stitches or the thread.

Cut away the feet and antennae- these will be made later.

Re-shape the termite, pushing the white edges backwards. Or use the black pigment ink pen to colour in the white edges. I always find it better to curl the edges to the back – this way the shape curves nicely.

Place the termite on the design. Use the same thread to attach it with tiny stab stitches. Tuck in, or cut off any stray threads. It is not necessary to use many stab stitches, a space every 3mm (eighth of an inch) or so is good.

A good idea is to refer to the little yellow bird in panel 10. Use toy filling to fill the shape and stab stitches to close the gap.

Refer to the black and white pattern and note the position of the legs and antennae. Come up at the head and form the antenna in a one-wrap Pistil stitch  
Repeat for the second antenna. Allow your needle and thread to hang at the back to untwist the thread and start with the little legs. Come up on the yellow section, along the edge. Refer to the black and white pattern again and make a one-wrap Pistil stitch as before.

Do the same for the back leg.

Make the folded section of the leg with two Backstitches. Add another between the Pistil stitch and Backstitch to create the folded leg. The fourth leg is a one-wrap Pistil stitch. Finally, make a tiny little Stab stitch to form the eye. End off at the back.

## Panel 10

### Daisies

Thread up with two strands of the Green Olive thread on a size 8 crewel needle. Make a knot at the long end.

Form the green curved stems in Outline or stem stitch

Make the stitches quite long, about 3mm (1/8 inch) in length. These stitches will be wrapped in the next step so don't worry too much about neatness. The stitches however, need to be spaced as evenly as possible for a good finish.

Work up to the daisy centre, and overlap the stems that have been formed.

Come up a millimeter (1/32<sup>nd</sup> of an inch) in the centre of the daisy. Use either the blunt end or the sharp point of the needle and whip each stitch to form a neat raised stem.

I find it easier to use the sharp point as I find that I prick myself too much when inserting the blunt end first. But, see what works for you.

Pull the thread quite taut, but not so tight that the stem is pulled out of shape. Note how the needle is inserted under and over the stitch each time.

Do the same for all the daisy stems in this panel and work over the previous stitches for an authentic finish.

When you are on a curve, come up along the outer or widest part of the curve. This way, the stitches will be smoother without a jagged edge.

Note how I am on the outside of this curve

Now I am on the outside of this curve. This is why you need to use both Stem and Outline stitch See stem stitch and Outline stitch in the stitches gallery of volume 1 in this series.

Other good stitches to use are Backstitch or Split stitch

Work to the tip of the daisy and then whip each stitch as before.

It does not matter whether you insert the needle from the left or the right or whether you use the blunt or sharp point of the needle – see what works well for you.

Take the needle and thread to the back and end off.

Thread up with no 23 or 28 – 2mm silk ribbon on a size 22 or 24 Chenille needle. Another way to make a knot is to insert the needle through the long end of the ribbon. Make a few gathering stitches and pull the needle through the gathers to form a knot.

Form the little leaves alongside the stems in loose, puffed straight or Ribbon stitch Work over a spare needle –here I am using a size 18 Tapestry needle but a Chenille needle will do just as well.

This will form a neatly raised stitch

Bring your needle up at the base of the next leaf, close to the stem and only remove the spare needle once you are ready to form the next stitch

Form some of the leaves in Ribbon stitch for a curled up tip. Work over the spare needle as you pierce the Ribbon

Note how the straight stitch has a sharp tip and the Ribbon stitch a curled up tip. So, depending on the shape of the leaf, use either Ribbon or straight stitch and work over a spare needle to keep the ribbon nice and flat.

Form all the leaves in the same way. If you don't feel like using a needle, use your fingertip to hold the stitch in place as you pull the Ribbon to the back of your work. If you pull the Ribbon too tight, by mistake, don't worry, form a Padded stitch by making another stitch on top of it. This adds dimension in the design.

Use the tip of the spare needle to guide the Ribbon in place.

End off at the back.

Bullions are difficult to make when the design is stretched in the hoop. You don't want to remove your work from the hoop at this stage as it will affect the tension on the design. So I will show you a way to make mock Bullion.

It is an easier stitch to make when the fabric is stretched taut in the hoop or frame. You need to make a straight stitch first, and then the Ribbon is wound around this straight stitch to create a Bullion-like knot.

The bead is added in the centre afterwards.

Thread up with 2mm silk Ribbon no 40 on a size 22 or 24 Chenille needle. Make a knot at the long end. Come up on the outer tip and

Start on the outside and work towards the centre. This way the bulky knot won't be in the way as you work. Make the first stitch a little longer than the painted petal, about 4mm (1/8<sup>th</sup> of an inch) in length.

Make a straight stitch for each petal – a little longer than the painted petal. Pull the ribbon quite taut for this stitch. It does not matter if the ribbon is not flat, it will be wrapped in the next step.

This stitch is a lovely stitch to learn for any projects that are stretched tautly in a hoop or frame and for those that don't like making Bullion knots the conventional way. As you are using 2mm silk Ribbon a lovely raised petal will be formed.

Come up on the outer tip again, close to the edge of the stitch.

Insert the blunt end or sharp tip of the needle under and over the straight stitch, wrapping the Ribbon tightly around the stitch, overlapping the previous wrap slightly, to form a Bullion – like knot.

Try to keep the Ribbon as flat as possible as you work, untwisting it as often as necessary. At the end, hold the Ribbon in place to guide it into shape.

Pull it quite taut before taking the Ribbon to the back of your work.

For larger daisies in other projects, use 4 or 7mm silk ribbon. The 3mm organza ribbon works well too.

Allow the Ribbon to unwind itself, every now and then, by allowing the needle and ribbon to hang off the back of your work. Repeat for all the pink daisies and end off at the back. Leave a small tail that will be anchored when you add the bead in the next step.

The yellow daisies are formed the same way in 2mm-silk Ribbon no 55.

Be careful not to catch any of the adjoining stitches. If you do, reverse your needle slightly and lift it up slightly.

Every now and then, remember to allow the needle and ribbon to hang off the back of your work so it can untwist itself. To end off, leave a tail. It will be secured in place as you attach the bead in the next step.

For beading, I use the finest embroidery, also known as a crewel, needle.

Use a tiny pink, yellow, or red seed bead for the centre of the daisies. Thread up with one strand of a yellow (or any matching thread) on a size 10 crewel needle. Attach a bead to each daisy. Use four or five stitches per bead and pull the thread so the bead lies snugly on the design. Add a bead to all the daisies in this panel.

## Tulips

Thread up with 4mm silk ribbon number 132 and make a knot at the long end. Gather it as shown

Start at the base of the tulip. By starting at the flower and working downwards, this prevents too many stitches at the narrow section on the ground, where all the leaves meet.

Twist the Ribbon to form a narrow, slender stem insert the needle at the base. To form a curved stem, hold the ribbon in place as you gently pull it to the back. This way, you won't pull too much Ribbon to the back of your work.

Untwist the Ribbon at the back by allowing the needle and Ribbon to hang off the back of your work.

Come up and start the next stem.

Leave your Ribbon on top of your work and use one strand of any matching green thread on a size 9 crewel needle

Make a knot at the long end.

Come up on the stem, about 5mm (1/4 inch) from the tulip flower. Catch the ribbon and use a tiny stab stitch to secure the ribbon in place.

The reason why you need to start securing the stem from this end is that you will be able to loosen the ribbon to form the curved shape, as necessary.

Secure the ribbon in place, every cm, or 3/8ths of an inch.

If you like, use a couching stitch to secure the stem but this does sometimes spoil the effect as the stitch is too visible.

Come up at the next stem and lay your needle and thread on top of the work

Form the stems as before, allow the ribbon to lay on top of your work. Once the last stem is secured in place, come up at the tip of the leaf.

Form the leaves with the same twisted straight stitch but this time, don't twist the ribbon as much.

If the ribbon is too twisted, lift it up with your finger, allow it to untangle at the back to adjust it.

Use tiny stab stitches as before to secure it in place along the edges.

For the wider leaves, allow the needle and ribbon to untwist, letting it hang off at the back of your work, before coming up to form the leaf.

This time I have come up at the tip to save on ribbon. Remember that what you see on your screen is magnified many times and the completed leaf is actually much neater than shown here!

Cut off the excess ribbon leaving a tail and use the same green thread to re-shape the leaves and to secure the tail at the back of your work.

The raised red tulips are formed over an oval bead to form a realistic flower.

Choose an oval wooden, pottery or glass bead - it does not really matter what colour you use, as it will be covered with ribbon in the next step. Choose a similar size and shape to match the tulip on the design. Here I have used a 7mm (a bit over a ¼ inch) long bead.

Thread up with one strand of Ruby red thread on a size 8 crewel needle and make a knot at the long end.

Come up at the base of the tulip and attach the bead with four or five anchoring stitches. Pull the thread quite taut so the bead fits snugly on the design.

Repeat for all the tulips.

It is not necessary to end off with each bead as it will be covered with ribbon in the next step, so the bead won't come loose with wear and tear.

End off at the back.

Thread up with the 7mm no 58 silk ribbon on a size 22 Chenille needle

Make a knot at the long end by gathering the long end with one or two stitches. Cut off the excess tail

Come up at the base, make sure the ribbon is flat and make a straight stitch over the bead. Insert the needle to the back at the tip and pull the ribbon until it fits snugly on top of the bead. Use the spare size 18 Chenille or 13 Tapestry needle under the ribbon to guide it in place.

Come up at the base, close to the stem again. The tulip has a narrow base and the stitches should emerge close to each other.

Twist the ribbon so the darker side of the ribbon is on top, run the needle down the ribbon to flatten it and make a straight stitch on the left side. Pull the ribbon gently as you hold it in place so the stitch fits snugly on the bead.

Come up at the base again, almost in the same place as before, and twist the ribbon so the darker side will be on top. Make another straight stitch, holding the ribbon in place with your finger, or a needle to guide it in place.

Three or four stitches are formed. If you like, make a fourth stitch in the centre of the bead as I have done with this tulip.

End off at the back by leaving a short tail. Use the ruby red thread and tiny stab stitches to secure the stitches in place and to re-shape any of the petals.

At the same time, secure the tail at the back of your work by making small straight stitches the base. This also prevents the stitches from slipping off the bead over a period of time.

## Foxglove

Use the 2mm silk ribbon no 132 and thread a size 20 or 22 Chenille needle.

Make a knot at the long end.

Start at the base and work upwards make a twisted straight stitch by twisting the needle and ribbon until a thin, cylindrical shape is formed.

Hold the twisted ribbon with your free hand and insert the needle at the tip of the flower. Don't let go until almost all the ribbon has been pulled through to the back.

Allow the ribbon to untwist at the back –let the needle hang off the back of your work. Come up to form the first leaf, just alongside the stem, in straight stitch. Work over the stem, to couch it in place at the same time. Form small leaves along the stem in the same way and use a gentle tension so the twisted stem isn't flattened as you work. To form a raised stitch, work over a size 13 tapestry needle.

Another good idea is to pierce the ribbon as you come up to form the little leaf. Form a loose, puffed ribbon stitch. By piercing the ribbon – the stem will be secured in place. Make 6 or more little leaves all the way down the stem, alternating between ribbon stitch and straight stitch

To form curled up tips, insert the needle in the loop being formed and come up at the next leaf. Here I have made a straight stitch working over a 13-tapestry needle.

The two small leaves just beneath the pink flowers are formed in detached chain stitch. Note how I have left the needle in position under the previous stitch until the chain stitch has been completed. This way the stitch is not pulled out of shape as you work.

Make one last stab stitch at the base and end off at the back.

The very large leaves at the base are formed in 7mm silk ribbon after the pink flowers have been completed.

Thread up with 4mm silk ribbon no 127 on size 20 chenille needle and make a knot at the long end.

Come up at the tip and make a one wrap French knot to form the little buds.

Another good stitch for the buds is a Colonial knot. See Colonial knot in the stitches gallery. Two knots are sufficient for this Foxglove

To form the trumpet shaped flower, you will make two stitches that overlap each other. Use a size 13 Tapestry needle and form a raised straight stitch over this needle. If you find that the painted flower on the design is still showing along the edge, make another stitch alongside, overlapping the first stitch to form a wider flower.

Repeat for all the flowers until you reach the base, making one or two straight stitches depending on the width of the flower.

Remember to keep the spare needle in place until you are ready to form the next stitch. Another good idea is to work from the stem outwards. This forms a realistic flower. Note how I am using the spare needle to lift the stitch and to flatten the ribbon at the same time.

Go back to cover any painted detail on the design by making an extra ribbon stitch alongside.

End off at the back. Use the Peach Blossom thread and Stab stitches to secure the tail. Cut off any excess ribbon so it won't be in the way as you form the top layer in the next step.

Use the same Peach Blossom thread and tiny Stab stitches to secure each little petal along the base, close to the stem. Use the same thread and stitch to re-shape any stitches if necessary.

Thread up with the same pink ribbon and make the top layer of the flower to form the trumpet like shape.

Make a knot at the long end and come up at the base of the first petal. Form a Ribbon stitch with a curled up tip. Insert a size 18 Chenille or Tapestry needle in-between the loop that is formed as you take the ribbon to the back of your work. See Ribbon stitch with curled tips in the stitches gallery.

Make the ribbon stitch a bit shorter than the bottom stitch for a realistic flower.

At this stage, the flower does not look like much, but once the centre is added in the next step. You will see what happens.

Repeat this for all the flowers. You will only need one ribbon stitch for each flower.

Note how the needle is only removed once the next stitch is ready to be made.

Where you have made two stitches, come up in the centre of the stitches.

Use 1 strand of Gold rush thread and make a knot at the long end.

Come up beneath the top petal. Move it out of the way, if necessary and make a one, two or three warp French knot –make two or three close together. Re-shape the flower and add a few more knots if necessary. Note how the loose straight stitch underneath and the curled up ribbon stitch on top forms a lovely trumpet shaped flower.

Add the French knots to all the Foxglove flowers.

Where you have made two stitches alongside, work French knot on both stitches

Thread up with 7mm silk ribbon number 24 on a size 18 Chenille needle. Come up at the base of the leaf. Work over a spare size 13 Tapestry needle. Form a straight stitch over this needle pulling it downwards to create a good shape.

Do this for all the large leaves. Cut off excess ribbon and leave a small tail at the back of your work.

Thread up with one strand of moss green thread and make a knot at the long end. Come up in the centre and make a tiny stab stitch at the base of each leaf to secure the stitch in place and at the same time secure the tail at the back of your work. Note how I have left the needle in place until the tail has been secured.

Stones and grass

The ladybird is made the same way as in panel 3 of volume 2

To make the stones, thread up with one strand of charcoal thread on a size 10 crewel needle. Attach a black or brown seed bead to form the stones on the ground.

Thread up with 1 strand of number Forest Shade thread and make a knot at the long end.

Form the green edge beneath the tulips in horizontal Straight or Back stitch, about 3 to 4mm (1/8<sup>th</sup> of an inch) in length.

Repeat this for the opposite side of the Foxglove and to the right of the Tulip

Change to one strand of rustic Brick thread and make a knot at the long end.

Form a single-knotted stitch and use the size 13 tapestry needle to hold the loop in place

Secure the loop in place with a tiny stab stitch – this stitch locks the loop in place. Make a second loop alongside.

Add a few straight stitches to form the brown grass in Back or stab stitch – do this to the left of the Foxglove and to the right of the Tulips. End off at the back

Use small, sharp embroidery scissors to cut the loop and use the sharp point of a needle to separate and fluff the threads. Trim if necessary to make shorter grass.

Use 1 strand of Charcoal thread and tiny Stab stitches to create the shadows beneath the grass. End off at the back.

The little yellow bird

The wings are made directly on the designs as they will be too tricky to make as a separate stump work piece.

The body, however, is made separately as a stump work shape and then cut out and placed on top of the wings later.

Thread up with one strand of Charcoal thread on a size 9 crewel needle. Make a knot at the long end.

Outline the wings in Back stitch. Use small stitches about 2 to 3 mm in length.

Outlining the shape in grey creates a natural shadow that emphasizes the detail of the bird.

Fill in the dark lines on the wing as well to create the shadows.

End off at the back.

Thread up with 1 stand of number 23 Daffodil rayon.

Start at the tips and make one short stitch about 2mm (a sixteenth of an inch) in length, then, one long one about 4mm (eighth of an inch) in length and make a third, short stitch again. Note how the stitches radiate from one hole at the tip. Come up a short distance away; go back into or between the previous stitches. Stagger the length of your stitches as you work. It is also perfectly acceptable to insert your needle into the end of the previous stitch – this creates a smooth finish.

Fill in all the yellow detail on the wing, working back into or between the previous stitches each time. Note how the grey outline is not covered with stitches.

Use a gentle and even tension – not too loose, not too tight. Go back and fill in any gaps if necessary until you are happy with the shape.

End off at the back.

The little body of the bird is embroidered separately on a stump work panel and then cut out and attached to the design. This little bird is available, printed in full colour and it certainly does make life much easier.

If you are unable to find this panel, trace the little bird (minus the wings) onto white fabric with a pigment ink fine-liner pen. Trace the shape about one mm (1/32<sup>nd</sup> of an inch) larger all around. This slightly enlarged shape will fit nicely on the design later.

Place the shape in a 6 cm (1/4 inch) hoop. Roll up the corners and pin them out of the way so they don't hinder you while you work.

Thread up with one strand of Charcoal thread and make a knot at the long end.

Come up in the centre of the shape so the knot won't be in the way when you cut out the shape later.

Fill in the dark lines on the body in Backstitch or stab stitch and outline the body in back stitch as you did for the wings. Form the eye with a tiny little Back stitch. Outline the tail in the same way, and form the shadows on the tail with the same Back stitch.

Make a few straight stitches in the same thread on the body to form the shadows too.

Make another little stitch to fill in the beak and end off at the back.

Thread up with one strand of Peach Blossom thread and fill in the pink feathers in tiny little Straight stitch, made close together.

End off at the back

Use one strand of brown thread and fill in the brown feathers in Long and Short stitch as you did for the wings on the design.

Come up in the centre of the body to prevent the thread from being too close to the edge; fill in the brown feathers on the tail the same way. Use quite long stitches for the tail.

If you are using the pre- printed panel in colour it will not be necessary to fill in the entire shape, allow the printed color to do the work for you.

End off at the back.

Thread up with one strand of daffodil yellow thread and make a knot at the long end.

Fill in the yellow section on the body as you did for the wing.

Use a row of Stem stitches to start, then change to Long and Short stitch working from the head towards the tail.

Keep going back to fill up the gaps and stagger the length of your stitches for a smooth finish.

Use the grey outline as a guide for when to change the direction of your stitches. The stitches don't look very neat here, but remember they are magnified many times and the little bird actually looks a lot neater than shown here!

Every now and then, change to rows of Stem stitch. Make them about three to five mm (1/8<sup>th</sup> of an inch) long.

I am going to stop here as I will allow the colour on the bird to do the work for me. If however, you have used the black and white pattern to trace the bird, complete the entire section in yellow thread.

Apply Fray stop all over the bird and allow it to dry.

Cut out the shape roughly, leaving a small seam. Once you are holding it in your hand, cut it out neatly along the edge. Use the black fine - line pigment ink pen to colour the white edges or, bend the edges towards the back of the bird to curl up the shape.

Place the shape on the design. Re-shape the bird if necessary. Thread up with one strand of Charcoal thread and use tiny little stab stitches to attach the shape to your design.

Tuck in any white sections as you work. Leave the tail free - this looks good

Change to one strand of black Rajmahal thread and form the legs in one long straight stitch and a tiny little Fly stitch to form the little feet.

Alternatively, make a small Fly stitch with a long anchoring stitch.

If you would like the bird more raised off the background, insert a small ball of polyester toy filling under the body allow the tail to be free and close the gaps with the black thread.

## Far-away birds

Thread up with 1 strand of Charcoal and make a knot at the long end.

Fill in the outline of the birds in Split or Back stitch. Stitches are about 2 or 3mm ( ) in length. Stem stitch is also a good stitch for these birds.

If you find the stitch is not as curved as you would like it to be, come up on the line and couch the stitch in place. Work over the thread and back into the same hole. Here I am making a Split stitch – a good idea is to hold the thread taut at the back as you come up between the fibers of the thread to form the stitch.

End off at the back.

## Panel 12

### Agapanthus

Thread up with two strands of Green Olive thread. Make a knot at the long end. Start at the base and make a row of Back stitches about 3 mm (eighth of an inch) in length.

Don't pull the stitch too tight as you will need to insert a needle under the stitch in the next step.

The reason why I am using the darker green is because I will use this thread to make the little flower stalks at the end of this stem. Don't worry too much about the neatness of the stitches- these will be covered in ribbon.

Do try to make them as even as possible though. Work over the Lily and the stem – this is how you create dimension in the design.

When you reach the tip of the stem, work into the centre of the flower. Use the same thread and Back or straight stitch to form the flower stalks.

Work back into the centre each time.

This is why I used a darker green. The stalks will show through the blue flowers that I will be making in the next step. Form a circular shape of radiating stitches.

End off at the back.

Use the 2mm silk ribbon number 132 on a size 24 tapestry needle. Make a knot at the long end.

Come up at the base and whip or wrap each Backstitch by inserting the needle under and over the stitch each time.

Lift your needle up slightly so you don't catch the adjoining stitches. Insert your needle under and over the stitch each time. Unwrap your ribbon every now and then and use a gentle, even tension for a neat stem. End off at the back

Thread up with the blue 2mm silk ribbon number 88 or 89 on a size 20 or 22 Chenille needle. Make a knot at the long end. And start forming the flowers on the outer edge of the flower.

Use a spare needle chenille or tapestry and make a ribbon or straight stitch to form the petals.

Work every alternate flower and raise them quite high off the surface with the spare needle.

Note how I only move the spare needle once I need to form the second stitch.

End off at the back.

Thread up with the 2mm number 64 silk ribbon. This ribbon is slightly lighter than the first one and this will help to add sunlight in this panel.

Make a knot at the long end.

Come up close to a stem and form the second circle of flowers. Wrap the ribbon once around the needle to form a Pistil stitch. Use a gentle tension to form a raised flower.

Work from the stalk outwards and don't pull the stitches too tight. Use a ribbon stitch for some of the outer petals, pushing the ribbon up slightly before piecing it to form a raised flower.

Alternate between Pistil and Ribbon stitch to complete this section

Use the same ribbon and come up in the centre. Use a spare size 18 Chenille needle and work single Knotted stitch in the centre.

Only move the needle once the next stitch is being made. The loops are about 4 to 5mm (1/8 inch) in length. Come up close to the loop so your anchoring stitch is almost invisible. Lift your needle up towards you so the loop is facing upwards.

Note how the green stalks are still visible. This creates a realistic agapanthus.

End off at the back

Use a pair of scissors with fine sharp points and pull the loop upwards as you cut each loop.

This ensures the loop stands up straight

Use the sharp point of the needle, or the sharp points of your scissors to gently fluff the ribbon. Ribbon does not fluff as much as thread does, but a soft feathery texture is possible if you fluff the raw ends.

End off at the back.

To add more texture, thread up with 2 strands of the antique jewels blue thread and make a few more loops between the ribbon loops about 6mm(1/4 inch) in length.

End off at the back.

Cut each loop and fluff as before.

Thread up with 4mm silk ribbon number 132 on a size 20 Chenille  
Make a knot at the long end.

Come up at the base of the stem and twist your ribbon very slightly. Insert the needle at the tip of the leaf. Pierce the ribbon to make a ribbon stitch or if you prefer to use a straight stitch pull the ribbon all the way to the back of your work.

Leave enough ribbon at the top of your work to form a curved leaf. Come up at the tip of the next leaf. This way you will save ribbon.  
Lay your ribbon and needle on the top of your work. Use one strand of moss green thread and make a knot at the long end.

Start at the base and coax the ribbon into shape with tiny stab stitches. These stitches are about a centimeter (3/8ths of an inch) apart. Catch the tip of your leaf to anchor the stitch in place. Lay your thread on top of your work.  
Form the second leaf as before. Here I am twisting this leaf a little more as it is a slender leaf. Allow the needle to hang off the back of your work to untwist the ribbon. Come up to form the next leaf and lay your ribbon on top of your work.  
Use the thread to secure the leaf in place as you did before. Do the same for all the leaves.

End off at the back.

#### The little bird

On the Agapanthus leaf is made the same way as the little birds in pane 1 of volume 1  
Use the charcoal thread and tiny stab stitches to outline the shape and to form the little legs and the twig in its beak.  
Change to red metallic thread and make a few straight stitches to highlight the feathers and the tail.

#### The grass and beads

The grass is made the same way as you did for the other panels. This time, thread up with one strand of Moss green thread. Make horizontal stitches to add the texture. Work on the top edge; the stitches are about 3 to 4mm (eighth of an inch) in length. Make as many or as few stitches as you like. The texture created by these stitches has a lovely effect once the design is completed.  
End off at the back.  
Change to the brown thread-any of the brown threads will do. Use a size 10 crewel needle. Make a knot at the long end.

Repeat the same stitches between the green ones to add the brown grass. I will use the same thread and needle to attach a bead in the next step.

Use a green, brown, or grey bugle beads about 4mm (eighth of an inch) in length  
Pick up the bead and insert your needle about 4mm away – the same length as the bead.  
Secure in place with three stitches.  
End off at the back.

### Lily

Thread up with two strands of moss green on a size 8 crewel needle and make a knot at the long end.

Form the stem in Chain stitch. Make the chains about 3mm (eighth of an inch) long. Insert your needle into the chain each time. This is the foundation row-ribbon will be wrapped around these stitches in the next step. Don't worry too much about the neatness of the stitches but do try to keep them evenly spaced.

Note how the chains are made stab stitch style- take the needle to the back in the first step and then come up into the loop to form the chain.

Every now and then, allow your needle to hang at the back of your work to untwist the thread.

If you need to end off, take the thread to the back and end off. Re-thread and come up inside the last chain to form the next stitch

Stitch to the end of the little bud.

Stitch over the lily, and insert the needle to the back and end off.

### Wrap the stem

Use a size 24 tapestry needle for this stitch

I find the Piecemaker's needles from the USA are a superb quality. Thread up with 2mm silk ribbon number 16.

Come up at the base of the chain and wrap the ribbon around the stitch

Insert the needle under and over each stitch; use a gentle tension - not too loose, not too tight, for a neat stem. Try to keep the ribbon as flat as possible as you work.

At times it may be necessary to insert the needle twice under the same stitch for a better cover. You could also hold the ribbon in place with a spare needle until it is flat against the chain stitch

This is a lovely stitch to use for raised and rounded stems. It is also quite a quick and easy stitch to do.

Note how the stitches overlap each other slightly for a neat finish.

This ribbon has a light side and a dark side and I am twisting the ribbon slightly to allow the dark side to add the shadows.

As you reach the leaf- it is more economical to make the leaf with the same ribbon, at this stage. You will use less ribbon this way. Work over a spare Chenille or Tapestry needle and form a ribbon or Straight stitch for each leaf.

This will raise the leaf up slightly.

Come back, close to where the previous wrap was and carry on wrapping the stem as you did before.

If the ribbon folds over itself, don't worry, all you do; make another wrap on top.

Form the long thin leaf in straight stitch Come back close to your previous wrap and proceed up to the tip that forms the calyx of the bud.

Take your needle to the back and end off.

Thread up with the 3mm organza ribbon number 37 on a size 18 or 20 Chenille needle; the organza is slightly stiffer than the silk and you will need to make a bigger hole in the fabric as you stitch

Start with a tail at the back; don't use a knot for this ribbon. Use a thread to attach the tail at the back of the work, out of the way of the flower that is being formed. Cut off the thread and any excess ribbon.

Form the trumpet shaped section on this lily first. Work over a spare needle and make a straight stitch. Insert the needle into the petals of the lily - these will be made on top in the next step.

Come up into the centre of the lily.

Make a ribbon stitch. To form a nice sharp point, insert a spare needle into the loop being formed and take the ribbon to the back. Where possible, leave the spare needle in place until the second stitch is formed.

The lily has 6 petals – note how the needle is inserted at an angle to form a curled up tip. See Ribbon stitch with a curled up tip in the stitches gallery.

Every now and then, flatten your ribbon as you form the stitch

The last petal is made on top of the first stitch. Use a straight stitch here.

Cut off the excess ribbon and leave a tail at the back. This tail will be secured in place in the next step when you add the stamens.

Use the spare needle to e-shape the stitches if necessary.

Thread up with 1 strand of Charcoal thread. Make a knot at the long end.

Come up in the centre of the lily

Form a one-wrap Pistil stitch to form the stamens. Move the petals out of the way and come up in the centre again.

Three stamens are usually sufficient for this kind of Lily. End off at the back. Have you noticed how when the stamens are added, the flower comes to life? If you like, use any matching thread and tiny Stab stitches to re- shape the petals until you are happy with the flower.

Use the same organza ribbon. Leave a tail and make one ribbon stitch to form the bud. Pull it quite taut and it will become a straight stitch to form a narrow bud. Come up in the centre of the adjoining Lily and make a ribbon stitch over the stem for a lovely dimensional effect. Make all the Lilies in the same way. Use Pistil stitch to form the stamens, and end off at the back.

### Yellow Butterflies

The body of the butterfly is formed with a Mock Bullion knot. I am using a Mock Bullion here, since the fabric is stretched taut in the hoop. A normal Bullion knot is usually made off the hoop. In this case, a Mock Bullion is a good substitute.

Thread up with the 2mm silk ribbon number 14. Make a knot at the long end.

Make a straight stitch, keeping it quite loose, and come up at the tip again. Wrap the straight stitch and use the needle to keep the ribbon as flat as possible. Allow the stitches to overlap each other. Come back to the centre again. The reason why I am doing this is because I want to couch the stitch into a curved shape as I take the needle to the back. Push the stitch into shape as you take the needle to the back. End off at the back.

Thread up with one strand of Thatch grey thread and make a knot at the long end.

Make two tiny Straight stitches to form the antennae. Use the same thread to re-position the body of the butterfly, if necessary and to secure the tail of the grey ribbon at the back. Don't end off, come up close to the base of the wings and lay your thread and needle on top of your work.

Thread up with the 4mm silk ribbon number 55 on a size 20 Chenille needle. Make a knot at the long end.

Come up at the base of the wing, close to the body. Form the wings in Ribbon stitch. Use the sharp point of a spare Chenille or Tapestry needle and insert it inside the loop being formed.

Hold it at this angle to form a straight edge. Allow the stitch to lock into place; see ribbon stitch with a curled up tip in the stitches gallery.

Come up to form the next wing, flatten the ribbon and form the wing as you did the first.

Cut off the excess ribbon at the back, leaving a small tail.

Use the grey thread and tiny little Stab stitches at the base of each wing to secure the stitch in place. Secure the tail at the back of the work at the same time. Remove the needle and end off at the back.

Use any complementary coloured metallic thread to add a bit of sparkle on the wings. In this case I am using yellow. Thread up on a size 8 crewel needle and make a knot at the long end.

Add a few straight stitches on top of the wings.

Use the same thread to re-shape the wings with tiny little stab stitches.

### Panel 13

#### Tiled floor

Thread up with one strand of Charcoal thread and make a knot at the long end.

Make long straight stitches to form the edges of the tiles.

The intersections are secured in place with tiny stab stitches

Pull the thread quite taut as you make each stitch holding it taut at the back as you work.

Come up on the edge and make a few straight stitches to form the shadows.

I am using quite a dark colour here as it will complement the basket later.

Work over the flowers, these will be added on top later.

Make more tiny straight stitches along the edge, under the basket. These will create the shadows

Use the same thread to anchor each intersection with a tiny stab stitch, try to make them almost invisible.

#### Red flowers

Thread up with the 7mm silk ribbon number 24 ribbon and make a knot at the long end.

Cut off the excess tail so it does not get in your way as you work.

Come up at the base of the leaf. Work over a spare size 18 Chenille needle to form a ribbon stitch with a curled up tip. See Ribbon stitch with a curled up tip in the stitches gallery.

Do the same for all three leaves. Cut off you ribbon at the back, leaving a small tail.

Note how the needle is kept in place. Thread up with 1 strand of Green olives thread.

Make a knot at the long end.

Secure the tail in place at the back and use the same thread and make a little straight stitch into the flowers to form the stem. Catch the curled up tip to secure the stitch and come up at the base again to form the next stem. Repeat for the third and last stitch. Make another stitch or two alongside the stem to cover the painted stem. If any of the colour is showing on the side of the ribbon stitches, use a tiny stab stitch to re- shape where necessary. Add some veins on the leaf in Straight stitch and Fly stitch. End off at the back.

Use 2mm silk ribbon number 60 or 58- this is the ribbon you used for the roses in volume 1.

Use a size 22 or 24 Chenille needle and make a knot at the long end.

Work over a spare needle and start in the centre of the flower. Form very short, but raised ribbon stitches. This is a nice technique to use if you don't feel like working over a small bead. If you were to work over a bead (like you did with the red Tulip) to form a raised flower, use a straight stitch

Here I am using a straight stitch to show you a variation. Here I am using a ribbon stitch. Lift the spare needle up slightly to raise the stitch off the fabric.

For an interesting effect, it is good to alternate between ribbon and straight stitch.

Repeat for all the flowers. Another interesting variation is to use a French or colonial knot to form the raised flowers.

When making French knots, remember to point your needle upwards as you wrap it. If pointed downwards, a knot doesn't form.

Make a few more knots and end off at the back.

### Yellow flowers

Thread up with 4mm silk ribbon number 19 or 132 on a size 20 Chenille needle. Make a knot at the long end. Come up at the base of the leaf and make a detached chain/lazy daisy stitch

Repeat for three leaves. Use a gentle tension for raised leaves. Work over the tiled floor and end off at the back.

Thread up with 7mm silk ribbon number 54 or 55 that you used for the wood Poppies in volume 2.

Make a knot at the long end. Cut off the excess tail.

Working over a size 13 tapestry needle, come up and form a raised loop stitch. Lift the stitch to form a dome like shape. Hold it in place and only move it when you are ready to take the needle to the back for the second stitch. Do the same for the third stitch. If you are not happy with the ribbon, take it to the back to make a straight stitch. Make another loop stitch on top.

Cut off the excess ribbon and leave a small tail at the back of the work

Thread up with 1 strand of the Ruby red thread and make a knot at the long end. Turn your number so the blunt tip is under the loop. Come up into the loop that you formed last. This way you will catch the tail at the same time. Make a 3 or 4 wrap French knot, remove the tapestry needle, and come up into the second stitch. Repeat the process for all the loops. Hold the thread taut at the back and pull it so the knot lies snugly on the loop. End off at the back.

Rose basket.

If you don't have the pre-printed panel in full colour, use your pattern and a black fine-line pigment ink pen.

Trace the shape of the basket onto a block of white cotton. The shape is about 2mm (sixteenth of an inch) larger than the pattern so it will cover the painted basket nicely. Place fabric in a 6-inch hoop.

If you have the pre-printed stump work panel, place this panel in the 6 - inch hoop.

Thread up with one strand of Charcoal thread and make a knot at the long end.

Come up away from the edge so the knot won't be in the way when you cut out the shape in the next step.

Form the black lines on the inside of the basket in tiny straight stitches-these will form the shadows.

Start on the outside and outline the rim in Stem, outline or Back stitch

Here I am using stem and outline stitch

These stitches are about 3mm in length. Work over the white section, work forwards, a kittle bit back, and forwards again. If you are not happy with the curve of the stitch, couch it in shape.

Outline the rim until you reach the starting point again.

Take the thread to the back; come up to make a line of Backstitches about 4mm (eighth of an inch) in length.

Do the same for the bottom of the basket; work up along the left side.

End off by making a few Backstitches inside the basket. These will be covered with French knot in the next step. Cut off the excess thread.

Start with a fresh thread on a size 8 or 9 crewel needle

Come up away from the edge and make a few seeding stitches.

Form the foundation spokes for the woven filling stitch.

Work from the edge of the rim downwards, over the Backstitches.

These foundation stitches are roughly 4mm (eighth of an inch) apart. Use a gentle, even tension – not too tight, not too loose. These are the stitches you will be weaving in and out of in the next step.

End off with Backstitches and cut off the thread; end off quite well as you don't want the stitches to come loose when you weave the ribbon in and out in the next step.

Use one strand of any of the green threads and make a knot at the long end.

Make three- wrap French knots, quite loose; don't wrap them too tightly around the needle. This forms the moss inside the basket. Keep the knots a bit away from the outer edge; you don't want to be cutting the knots when you cut out the basket in the next step. End off by making a few stab stitches between the knots and cut off the thread.

Thread up with 2mm silk ribbon number 14. Make a knot at the long end.

Come up on the inside of the basket -this way, the knot won't be too close to the edge. Here I have used a size 26 tapestry needle from the Piecemakers needle range; these are wonderful needles to use.

Make a Back stitch and come up on the edge.

Weave the needle over and under each stitch to form the first row. Pull it through gently for a neat finish

Don't worry if the ribbon twists slightly- this looks quite good.

Take the needle to the back stitching over the Back stitch

Come up again, either just beneath it to save on ribbon or on the right- it's up to you. I will start here and weave the ribbon over and under, as before, alternating the stitches to form the weaves.

If you are not happy with the weave, lift the ribbon up to straighten it. Come up 2mm (1/32<sup>nd</sup> of an inch) away and repeat the process. Alternate the stitches for every row to form the weave.

As you reach the end of the basket, push your needle up slightly to coax the weaves into place.

Take the needle to the back and end off by making a few Stab stitches inside the basket. This adds texture and secures the ribbon at the same time. Cut off the tail close to the edge.

Thread up with one strand of the black or brown thread make a knot at the long end.

Form a row of Chain stitch along the bottom of the basket to form a pretty base.

End off with a few Back stitches as before and cut off your thread.

Apply Fray-stop along the edge and cover the entire basket too.

Allow it to dry slightly and then cut out the shape 6mm (1/4 of an inch) away from the edge.

Once you are holding it in your hands, start cutting the basket out neatly.

Leave a 4 or 5 mm (1/8 inch) seam along both sides; these will be tucked in later as you stitch the basket onto your design.

Cut along the edge of the base of the basket; don't leave a seam. Do the same for the top rim of the basket; don't leave a seam.

Fold the two seams backwards – this will help to create a rounded basket that is raised off the design. Cut off any extra bits that are in the way and place the basket on top of the design.

Use 1 strand of Charcoal thread with a knot at the end. Come up from the back and secure the basket in place with tiny Stab stitches.  
Space the stitches about 4 to 5 mm (1/8th of an inch)  
Work along the left side, tucking in the seams as you work.  
Leave the bottom of the basket open, and do the same on the right. Tuck in the seams as you work; use the painted basket on the design as a guide when coming up along the edge.  
Leave the needle and thread on the top of your work.

Use a small ball of polyester toy filling and insert it under the basket.  
Don't fill too high up as you will need to form the stem and stake of the roses in the next step.  
Use the same thread to close up the gap with tiny stab stitches. Neaten up any stray stitches and end off at the back

### Rose stem and stake

Thread up with 2mm silk ribbon number 14 on a size 20 Chenille needle. Try to cut a length of the darker grey on the ribbon.  
Make a knot at the long end.  
Come up in the centre of the opening in the basket; make a twisted Straight stitch to form a thin stake. Take the needle to the back quite high up in the roses. This will be covered later by roses and leaves.  
Come up again and secure the stake in place with a tiny overcast stitch.  
Form some branches with twisted Straight stitch on top of the roses and leaves. You would be surprised what a difference these branches make once the rose bush is finished. Even though you cannot see the branches on a design, they do form the framework that determines a realistic shrub or tree.

Re-twist your ribbon when necessary to create finer branches.  
Work some branches in stem stitch. Finally connect all the branches to the main stem with a few Straight stitches. End off at the back.

Thread up with all six strands of the Baked Earth brown thread. Use a size 22 chenille needle and make a knot at the long end.  
Come up to form the stem of the rose. Make a long Straight stitch all the way into the centre of the rose bush. End off at the back.  
Come up with one strand of the same thread on a size 9 crewel needle make a knot at the long end.

Secure the stem in place with an overcast stitch; work over the grey stake at the same time to create the ties that hold the stem to the stake together. End off at the back.

## Rose bush

Thread up with 4mm silk ribbon number 46. Use a size 20 or 22 Chenille needle and make a knot at the long end

Come up and form the larger roses using the French knot rose. See Rose-French knot rose in the stitches gallery.

Here I am making two wraps around the needle. Gather your ribbon, insert the needle to the back and pull it through. It is quite important not to use too large a needle as this makes it too difficult to pull through.

Come up to make another rose. Here I wrap once around the needle but am gathering a longer length of ribbon to make a fuller rose.

Don't worry about any pink showing along the sides; this will be covered with green leaves later. Make one or two wraps around the needle, depending on the size of the roses you wish to make.

Fill up the roses as shown and ensure that there is a good colour balance by making the same amount of roses on the right side of the rose bush. Leave gaps in-between the roses; these will be filled in a darker organza ribbon in the next step, to add the shadows

Work over the branches and for the small roses, make two or three-wrap French knot

The tiny little buds can be made in loop stitch working over a spare needle

Do bear in mind that as your ribbon becomes a bit short, it is easier to make a Loop stitch instead of a French knot.

Use a small ribbon stitch for the buds at the end of the branches. Cut off the excess ribbon and leave a small tail.

Thread up with Peach Blossom thread and make a knot at the long end

Come up where the tail of your ribbon is and catch the stitch to secure it and the tail at the same time. Do the same with your loop stitches securing them in place with a tiny French knot-the same way you did the yellow flowers in this panel. Add centre in the French knot roses with the same stitch.

Thread up with the same number 46 ribbon and repeat the stitches on the right side of the rose bush. Work over some of the branches for an authentic finish and end off at the back.

Thread up with the 3mm organza ribbon number 37-the same ribbon you used for the Lily in panel 12. This ribbon will add the shadows that are so necessary for dimension.

Come up and leave a small tail. This tail will be secured when the centre is added in the next step. Make a loop over a spare needle. Add the loops in-between the roses, checking that the colour is evenly distributed throughout.

Cut off excess ribbon and leave a tail. Thread up with gold rush thread and make a knot at the long end. Make French knots on top of the loops securing the tails at the back at

the same time. Repeat for all the roses-the golden yellow thread is a good colour to add in this rose bush.

Finally, add the green leaves between the roses. Thread up with 2mm number 16 Make a knot at the long end

Come up in the centre and make loop stitch to form some leaves. Remember that rose leaves are not very large, so rather make many small ones than a few large leaves.

Alternatively, make a one-wrap French knot, or choose a small ribbon stitch or Straight for some of the leaves.

Don't make the leaves too close together, keep the texture light.

To make a calyx around the outer buds, use a Fly stitch around the pink petal. Cut off the excess ribbon and leave a tail at the back.

Come up with a matching green thread. Make a knot at the long end and secure the loop stitches with tiny stab stitches. Secure the tail of the ribbon at the back at the same time. Add some loosely wrapped French knot between the ribbon leaves and make some detached chain on the outer edge of the rose bush.

Change to 2mm silk ribbon number 30 and add a few more stitches in this lighter green ribbon to create highlights. End off at the back.

### Blue Butterfly

Thread up with 2mm silk ribbon number 14 on a 20 or 22 tapestry or Chenille needle and make a knot at the long end.

This butterfly is made the same way as the yellow butterflies in panel 12. Use a mock Bullion stitch for the body. Untwist the ribbon every now and then so it stays flat and be careful not to catch the adjoining stitches.

Use 1 strand of black or grey thread on a size 9 crewel needle form the antennae in tiny Stab stitches.

Leave your thread at the top of the work.

Thread up with 7mm silk ribbon number 64 on a size 18 Chen needle and leave a tail at the back of the work. Use the thread to form a shadow on the wing and to secure the tail at the back. This way, you won't have a bulky knot at the back of your work. Make a Ribbon stitch with a curled up tip. See Ribbon stitch with a curled up tip in the stitches gallery.

Come up to form the second wing. Note how the ribbon has formed a little loop. This happens every so often and all you need to do is to make a Straight stitch first and add another stitch on top. This creates texture in your design.

Cut the ribbon at the back, leave a tail and use the thread to anchor the stitch and to create a shadow on the wing. This will secure the tail at the same time.

End off at the back and remove the needle on the wing.

## Spider web

The spider web is stitches in a silver or soft gold metallic thread.

Here I am using a soft gold metallic as I feel that this design tends to lean towards the golden or yellow tones. Here I have used silver metallic thread and in this example today, I will use the soft golden thread.

Thread up with a long, 50cm length of DMC Precious Metal effects code E677 or any good metallic thread. Use a crewel number 7 or 8 needle so the thread won't be stripped from going in and out of too small a hole. Remove 1 of the 6 strands of thread. Here I have already removed a thread. Make a knot at the long end. Cut off the excess tail. Come up to form the centre spokes first. Use long Straight stitch. This is a long piece of thread – the DMC thread is strong and this means I won't need to re-thread that often for the spider web. If you are using a flimsier thread, do cut a short 25cm length to prevent the thread from fraying and breaking.

Work from the outside towards the centre. If the black line on the fabric shows, don't worry this creates the shadow.

This stitch makes a slight angle, so make one Straight stitch first then a smaller Back stitch to create the curved line.

Did you know that the Victorians added spider webs to their embroidered pieces for good luck? I think a spider web is a delightful feature in a design.

Come up in the inner circle and make a Back stitch working over the spoke. Make another back stitch and so on until the circle is formed. The back stitch also secures the foundation spokes at the same time.

Do the same for all the circles on the web, including the spoke leading off the branch. This pale golden colour is a good choice here. A point to consider: where you have used a lot of blue in a design, choose silver metallic thread. If you have used a lot of red, yellow and orange, use gold metallic thread.

The thread is becoming quite short now but there is enough to come back and couch any stitches that need to be re-shaped.

Form the long thread from the web to the spider in Straight stitch and end off at the back.

## Spider in Satin stitch

Thread up with one strand of the Rajmahal black thread on a fine number 9 crewel needle. Make a knot at the long end.

Come up at the tip of the abdomen and make Straight stitches, close together from the tip of the abdomen to the thorax. This is a padded satin stitch, so you don't need to

worry too much about the neatness of these stitches; they will be covered by another layer in the next step

Come up at the thorax and work from side to side to form the second layer. The third and final layer is stitched neatly from thorax to the tip of the abdomen. Stitch down the centre of the shape first, working to the side and then fill in the left side of the spider. This is a useful stitch to use when you want to make small, raised shapes. Repeat for the cephalothorax. Alternatively, for a quicker option use a 3-wrap French knot work the knots close together to fill in this section.

The legs are couched Straight stitch. Make your stitch as normal, come up where you want the fold and couch in place with a small overcast stitch. This could also be a very open Fly stitch. Repeat for the opposite side for balance. I am changing the legs here slightly; the legs exit from the cephalothorax.

See how I form the legs in the same stitch coming from the thorax each time? Form four legs on each side.

Embroider the short palps in stab stitch

The little legs showing on the design can be left alone. Remember this camera is magnifying the actual size many times and if you look at your design, they lines are hardly visible. If you like, these can be covered with a white metallic thread and Straight stitch. Here I am using the Kreinik blending filament number 32. It is a lovely thread to use for highlighting.

The spider is enhanced at the same time by adding the pearly white stitches between the legs. Add a few more stitches alongside the body too.

End off at the back.

### Beaded Spider

Instead of stitching a spider, a quicker way is to use beads. In this example, I have used a larger oval bead for the abdomen and a smaller round bead for the cephalothorax

When forming the legs, make a Fly stitch and come up between the beads and allow the thread to anchor itself around the bead before taking the needle to the back. To form the folded legs, make a Straight stitch and couch the stitch in place along the folded section of the leg.

The palps are made with small Straight /stab stitches.

## Stitches and techniques

### Bullion Knot stitch

The secret to making any Bullion knot is in the needle.

Use a milliner's or straw needle for this stitch; this needle has a fine eye with a long shaft. This means that it is not only easier to make the wraps, but also easier to slip them off the slender eye of the needle.

Make a back stitch

Lift the needle up slightly with your fingertip and wind the ribbon around the needle in a clock wise movement.

If necessary, push the needle out to make a longer point, wind the ribbon around the needle. It is not necessary to keep the ribbon flat- the folded ribbon creates an interesting texture.

Don't wrap too tight and notice that I am wrapping in a clockwise direction.

This way, the wraps are not too tight around the needle.

Have a look how much fabric is on the needle and how much ribbon is wrapped around the needle.

Push the wraps down to neaten the stitch and to gauge the length. Always try to have a millimetre or two (16<sup>th</sup> of an inch) extra ribbon on the needle for a better knot.

Push the needle through the wraps, bring needle up and pull the length of ribbon through the knot.

Notice how I am using my fingers to push the wraps down onto the fabric.

Give the ribbon a slight tug to bring it all the way through the knot. At this stage it may look a mess. Don't worry, the knots have nowhere to go and you have plenty of time to neaten them up in the next step.

Keep pulling the ribbon and pushing the wraps down to neaten.

Use the tip of your finger or a needle to arrange the wraps alongside each other.

Once you are happy with the knot, take the needle to the back, inserting it close the edge of the Bullion.

Here is an example of how Yvonne Lane has used long Bullion knots to form the Zulu lady's hair. Here she used a Rayon thread and probably 30 or more wraps around the needle to achieve the length required. If you are wondering what stitch she used to create this lovely textured background – it is a seeding stitch in Perlé number 8 thread; the stitches were made close together and even overlapping each other. Her shawl was embroidered in Long and short stitch in one strand of cotton thread.

To form this head dress she couched a piece of wool in place and covered it with an overcast stitch, made close together.

Here the Bullion Knots were made first and beads were added on top to create the head dress.

The grey stones and ground here are French knots made close together.

### Bullion Knot –Looped

To make a looped Bullion Knot, make a tiny back stitch and come up close to where the ribbon emerged. Have a look how much fabric is on the needle and wrap the ribbon around the needle in a clockwise direction. Make 2 to 3 times the length of the fabric on the needle, depending on the loop required.

Insert the needle close to where the thread emerged to create a loop. This stitch is useful for forming the petals of Roses or Hollyhocks.

### Bullion Knot –Mock Bullion

The mock Bullion is an ideal stitch to use when you are working on a design that is stretched tautly in the hoop. Bullion knots are quite difficult to make on a stretched design and then this is a good option.

Make a Straight stitch with 2 or 4mm ribbon and come up at the tip. Insert needle under and over the stitch, overlapping the previous stitch each time.

Note how the needle is under the previous stitch.

Try to work with the ribbon as flat as possible. Insert the needle to the back and end off.

### Colonial Knot

Come up and insert the needle under the ribbon from left to right.

Wrap the ribbon over and under the needle.

Insert needle close to where the ribbon emerged.

Pull the ribbon to the back – pulling gently for an open knot and firmly for a small knot.

### Concertina Rose

Somebody in Italy has asked me to show the Concertina Rose on you Tube and here it is.

This rose can be made with double sided satin ribbon or use our 25 or 35 mm ( one inch) silk or organza ribbon. Here I will use the organza ribbon. Thread up with one strand of matching thread on a size 8 or 9 crewel needle Make a knot at the long end.

Use a 1 metre length of ribbon for a nice rounded rose. Find the centre point by folding it in half- make a diagonal fold, folding it forwards towards you. Fold it backwards, like this. One fold, two folds.

Do you remember we used to make these with paper for decorations?

Keep folding the ribbon backwards, all I am doing is folding back and back again. The more folds you make, the fuller the rose.

Keep going until there is no ribbon left. Here I have made 5 folds; now the sixth one.

Hold the two tails firmly in your hand and allow it to spring forward like a jack in the box. Pull one of the tails and find which length is the easiest to pull. In this case it is the bottom one. Pull gently; pull it until you are happy with the rose. Here I stopped when it made a nicely twirled centre.

Use the needle and thread and carefully catch the tails to secure the folds in place with several stab stitches.

Re-shape the rose and cut off the excess tails. But you are able to go a step further, instead of cutting the tails at this point, use the extra length of ribbon and make a loop. Use the same needle and thread and secure it in place as before. Use the other tail and make some more loops. Secure the folds in place. These form the open petals of the rose. Cut off the excess tails. Use the same needle and thread to secure it to the design. These roses are ideal for wedding dresses or attach them onto hats, handbags or hairclips. Here I have used silk for the pink rose and organza for the orange rose.

### Coral stitch

I will show you two ways to make a Coral stitch. When your design is quite loose in the hoop or if you are working off the hoop, you will use this method. The stitch is made with one scoop. Make the stitch, form a loop from left to right, insert the needle under the ribbon and come up inside the loop. Note how the ribbon is underneath the needle. Pull gently to form the knot. Repeat the process, spacing the stitches evenly for a neat finish.

Here I will show how to work stab stitch style when your design is stretched tautly in a hoop or frame.

Come up on the line. Take your needle to the back just above the line. Note how a loop is formed. Come up just below the line, into the loop. Pull ribbon gently to form the knot.

Work ahead on the line and make a loop from left to right. Take needle to the back, just above the line; come up into the loop, just below the line. Pull gently to form the knot. Space the stitches evenly for a border.

If you are making a branch with buds or thorns, space these according to the branch on the design.

In this example I have used a Perlé number 8 thread for the first row and 2mm silk ribbon for the two subsequent rows.

### Detached Chain with a Bullion knot tip.

The Detached Chain with a Bullion Knot tip make interesting leaves and rosebuds. Thread up with ribbon and Make a knot at the long end.

Here I am making a normal Detached Chain stitch to show you the difference. I am using a 4mm silk ribbon on a size 20 Chen needle.

To form the Detached Chain with a Bullion knot tip, come up from the back, make a loop and insert the needle close to where the ribbon emerged.

With this stitch you have to scoop the fabric in one step.

Leave the needle in the fabric and lift the needle to take the ribbon behind the needle and wind the ribbon once or twice around the needle.

Pull the needle through the wraps holding them in place. Neaten the knot, gently pulling the ribbon for a neat knot. Take the needle to the back a short distance away.

### Gathered flower petals

Draw 5 equidistant panels on the ribbon; use a blue water erasable pen for the lines. These panels are about 2.5cm (1 inch) apart. Cut off the excess ribbon about 2mm away from the edge. Here I am using a 13mm silk ribbon with 5 partitions. Here is an example of the 7mm ribbon with 5 partitions. Here is an example of the completed stitch once it has been attached to the design.

Here I will work on 13 mm silk ribbon. Start with a matching thread. Make a knot at the long end. Draw 5 panels, equal in size, on the ribbon; use a blue water-erasable pen. Here I am using 13mm silk ribbon. Come up a short distance away from the edge and make a few gathering stitches about 3mm in length. Proceed down the smooth edge of the ribbon until you reach the first drawn line. Gently pull the needle and thread through the fabric. Stitch down alongside the line and pull the needle and thread through. Stitch up again about 2mm away from the stitched line. Stitch along the smooth edge as before, stitching up and down to form the 5 partitions.

To summarise, I start a short distance away from the edge and worked up and down to form 5 petals. Stitch up the last edge and gently gather the ribbon and you will see how 5 scalloped shaped petals will form. Catch the first seam with your needle and thread and pull until a flower has formed. See how 5 petals have been formed. Remove any blue lines with a wet cotton bud and the blue lines will disappear.

Attach the flower to the design with the same needle and thread; Come up in the centre of the flower and use tiny stab stitches to re-shape the flower at the same time.

Add a few French knots in the centre in golden yellow or a darker pink thread; or add a few beads. Re-shape any petals as necessary.

Here I made the same gathered flower petal with 25mm silk and added three beads in the centre. These flowers are very useful for wedding dresses, hairclips, handbags and cards.

### Gathered flower with Picot edge ribbon

Picot ribbon has a lovely ornamental edge formed by a series of small loops. A quick and easy method for making flowers is as follows:

Cut a length 5cm (2 inches) or longer depending on the size flower you require. Use one strand of thread on a size 8 or 9 crewel needle and Make a knot at the long end

Come up 2mm away from the edge and make Running stitches along one edge. With this ribbon it is the smooth edge. The stitches are about 2mm in length and they don't need to be all that even. Pull the thread through and gather.

The edges tend to fray a bit so, if you like, use an anti fray product such as Fray –Stop to prevent this.

Come back to the raw edge with original knot and gather. Attach it to your design, tuck in the raw edge with tiny stab stitches and come up in the centre. Make a few French knots, two or three wraps, to form the stamens in the centre; or add a few beads.

Re-shape the flower with tiny stab stitches until you are happy with the shape.

### Gathered leaf

The gathered leaf is a useful stitch to use in the Aloe in volume 1, if you need to make a quick and easy project.

Here I have used 7mm silk ribbon number 35.

Come up with the ribbon; don't make a knot at the long end. Leave a short tail. Thread up with a matching green thread on a size 9 crewel needle. Make a knot at the long end. Catch the tail of the ribbon at the back and come up alongside the ribbon.

Make a few stab stitches to secure the tail in place and cut off the excess tail

Use the same thread and gather the leaf, making zigzag gathers or stitch in a straight line, depending on the shape you prefer. Add a few more gathers if you want a longer leaf, and pull. Twist the leaf or flatten it, depending on the leaf. Take the thread to the back and pull to gather the ribbon. End off or come up to the top of your work to form your next stitch. Take the ribbon to the back and end off or come up to form the next stitch. Remember never to leave your thread or ribbon at the back when working with more than one needle. This prevents them from becoming entangled at the back.

To make a smaller, raised leaf, gather as shown, pulling the thread quite taut to form an interesting shape. Pierce the ribbon and take the thread to the back. Pierce the ribbon and take the ribbon to the back. This shape is also useful for raised flowers.

### Miniature Protea.

Marlene from Scotland has asked me to show how to make a miniature Protea. The larger Proteas are shown in my book: *A Perfect World in Ribbon Embroidery and Stump work* on page 124 and 37.

Pre-made little balls made with polyester toy filling are available from some craft shops in different colours. If you cannot find these, make a little ball from your own toy filling. Re-shape the ball, cut out an egg-shaped ball to suit the Protea shape.

Thread up with two strands of oyster grey or cream thread and secure the ball in place with small stab stitch. Cover the ball with Satin stitch working from the base to the tip. Pull the thread so it wraps nicely around the little ball, crating a sharp tip by inserting the needle in the same place each time. Don't worry too much about the edges; these will be covered with ribbon later. To end off, make a few stab stitches into the ball and cut off the excess thread. Re-thread and Make a knot at the long end. Come up from the back and repeat the process.

Tuck in any untidy threads as you stitch come up at the sharp tip and work backwards to find the stitch direction, if necessary.

Thread up with 6mm organza ribbon number 45. Use a size 18 Chenille needle; organza is quite a lot stiffer than silk and you will need this needle to make a large enough hole in the fabric for you.

Come up from the back, leave as short tail. Use the same thread to secure the tail (out of the way) at the back of your work. Cut off the excess tail so it is not in your way as you work. Make a ribbon stitch on the side of the Protea and pull the ribbon through until a sharp point is formed. Do the same on the right. Keep your ribbon flat as you stitch. Come up almost in the centre of the ball; hold the stitches on ball so they do not move around too much. Keep the ribbon flat and make a Straight stitch. Notice how the threads have moved out of place-don't let this worry you, this section will be covered with ribbon.

Come up again and repeat the process. Use Ribbon or Straight stitches to form the pink leaves. Use quite a gentle tension so you don't flatten the ribbon too much. Keep working down towards the base so the petals overlap each other.

Cut off your ribbon at the back and use the same thread to secure the tail in place. Come up catch the tail at the back and fill in any of the white spaces that are worrying you, with Straight stitches. End off at the back.

The green leaves are made with 6mm organza ribbon number 19. Come up and make a ribbon stitch to form the first leaf on the right or the left.

Add another few ribbon stitches to form the Protea leaves. Move your ribbon around until you find the correct position. Push the ribbon stitch up before piercing the ribbon to form the raised leaf. Re-shape if necessary, fill in any white gaps with the oyster grey thread.

Finally, thread up with 1 strand of black stranded cotton and use small Straight stitches to form the black tip of the Protea; insert the needle into the same hole each time.

### Plume stitch

Thread up with 4 or 7mm silk ribbon. Make a knot at the long end.

Come up and form a loop, working over a spare size 18 chenille or tapestry needle. Insert the needle a short distance away. Hold the loop in place; allow the ribbon to untwist at the back. Come up through the ribbon loop, close to the base, pulling the ribbon quite taut to lock the stitch in place.

Flatten the ribbon with the spare needle and repeat the process to form an interesting, textured stitch.

Use this stitch to form a lacy frill on the dress in a Victorian design or use Plume stitch to form the flowers and leaves in a garden scene.

Use needle and thread to secure the last stitch in place with tiny stab stitches and secure the tail at the back at the same time. Allow the stitches to stand upright or flatten them, depending on the texture you require.

### Ribbon stitch with a curled up tip.

Come up, keeping the ribbon as flat as possible. Make the ribbon stitch but this time use a long, thin straw needle (or similar object) and insert it in-between the loop that is formed. Hold this needle in place; pull the ribbon to the back to lock the stitch in place.

Come up to form the next stitch. Leave the spare needle in place until you are ready to form the next stitch.

To make a different shape, pierce the ribbon on the edge. Insert the spare needle at an angle to form a different shape. End off at the back and then remove the spare needle.

Rose: Fly- stitch Rose.

This is the Fly stitch Rose. It is surprisingly easy to make and forms a very realistic rose. Thread up with darker pink or a golden yellow thread and make 3 or 5 French knots close together to form the centre of the rose.

Always try to make an odd number of knots to form a circular shape.

End off at the back.

Thread up with 4 mm silk ribbon. Here I have used number 46.

Make a knot at the long end and come up at the circle of knots and make a Fly stitch. Wrap the Fly stitch around the knots and insert the needle, very close to the stitch, to take it to the back of your work.

Come up on the left again, pushing the previous stitch out of the way if necessary.

Untwist the ribbon and insert the needle to the back on the right.

Come up just to the right of the previous anchoring stitch and take the needle to the back. Repeat the process, alternating the placement of the Fly stitches: some are longer on the right; others are longer on the left.

As you reach the outer edge, work on top of the previous stitch. Come up in-between the stitches so the stitch is lying on top of the others to form a life-like rose. Allow your ribbon to untwist at the back and re-shape the rose with your fingertip. Finally, if you like, add a few Ribbon stitches to form the open petals on the rose. Here is an example of how I have used the Fly-stitch roses in our new Box Full of Lessons series. Here I used the French Knot roses. See French Knot rose in the stitch gallery.

Rose: French- knot rose

For this French knot rose I am using 7 mm silk ribbon. Come up from the back; wrap the ribbon once around the needle as if you were making a French knot. Leave a 5 cm (2 inch) length of ribbon between the fabric and needle.

Turn the needle down towards this piece and gather the ribbon, making the gathers as even as possible. Pierce the ribbon and take the needle to the back.

Re-shape the rose with your fingertips; leave it as it is or form a dark centre. Come up with a yellow or pink thread. Make one or two French knots in the centre. Use the same thread to end off the tail at the back.

See how this rose has no knot in the centre, this rose has three or four knots and here I have used two Knots.

### Stem stitch -raised

A raised Stem stitch is a very useful stitch when you require a raised texture in your design. In this example I will use a Perlé number 8 thread on a size 5 straw needle. Form the foundation rows, by making vertical Straight stitches about 3 to 4mm (eighth of an inch) apart; pull the thread quite taut for this stitch

Take your needle to the back and come up on the top left. Keeping your thread below the needle, insert your needle over and under the first stitch; see how the needle is pointing to the left. Pull the thread upwards so the stitch locks in place.

With the thread below the needle, do the same for the second stitch. Remember to pull the needle upwards so the thread wraps nicely around the foundation stitch. Push the stitch upwards with your fingertip to create a neat row. Take the needle to the back, close to where the row ends. Allow your needle and thread to untwist at the back. Insert the needle under the Straight stitches at the back without piercing the fabric and come up very close to the first stitch

Repeat for all the rows. Remember the thread is below your needle for this stitch. Keep pushing the stitches up with your fingertips, every so often, to form a dense texture; remember to insert the needle close to where the row ends to create a dense texture. Take the needle to the back and end off.

### Trapunto

Trapunto is a quick and easy method used to raise sections in a design thereby creating dimension.

The trick is to embroider the entire design first and only then do you add another layer of fabric at the back of your work. This layer must be the same size as the design so you are able to stretch it tautly in the hoop before starting Trapunto. Here I will use the cosmos to show you how.

In this project from our Box Full of Lessons series, I used the Trapunto technique to elevate this terracotta pot on the design. Once I had completed all the embroidery, I added another layer of fabric behind, stitched around the pot, in-between the roses and leaves to form an oval shape at the back. I then filled it at the back of the design to create a rounded shape. I will show you how on this Cosmos flower.

Once your embroidery is done, pretend that this one is completed; take another block of fabric, similar in weight to the embroidered cloth. Too flimsy a cloth will mean that all the wadding will fill out on the wrong side, and this will not be of much help.

Insert all the layers back in the hoop, stretch tautly so the back and top layer are as taut as a drum. Tighten the hoop; roll up the one corner or all four corners and pin them out of the way. This way, they won't be in your way as you work.

Tighten the layers again so they are stretched as taut as a drum.

There are two choices with Trapunto. Use a contrast thread as I did with the pot (I used a dark grey) to create shadow, for the cosmos use a matching pink thread. Alternatively, use a thread that matches the background so the stitches are hardly visible.

Thread up with one strand, or two, depending on the size of the shape to be trapuntoed. Make a knot at the long end. Come up from the back and outline the shape in Back or Stab stitch. I find that stab stitch is the easiest and quickest stitch to use. Stitch around the entire flower, or pot or section to create a round, oval, square or any other shape and end off where you started.

Turn your work to the back and end off with a few stab stitches.

Cut your thread and make a knot at the long end. You will be using it a little later. See how the shape has formed a circle at the back. Use a seam ripper or the sharp point of your embroidery scissors. Whatever you do, be careful **not** to cut your stitches. Lift the back layer up as you make a small cut in this back layer of fabric.

A small cut about 2 cm (16<sup>th</sup> of an inch) is sufficient here.

Use the size 13 Tapestry needle or similar object- a small metal nail file is always handy as are the sharp points of your embroidery scissors. Insert a small piece of polyester toy filling into the gap. Rather use several small pieces than one big piece that could become too bulky.

Push the filling up to the edges and repeat the process until the shape is filled

Remember to fill the shape in the centre too. Turn it over to the front to check whether you are happy with the shape. If you like, add some more filling. If the fabric starts to pucker around the edge, then remove some of the filling. Trapunto is a subtle technique that should not be too apparent in the design.

Here is a good example where I have raised sections in a group of flowers to create dimension. Here I stitched in-between the leaves and daisies in green thread to form a circular shape. I turned the design to the back and filled this circle, to enhance the daisy bush.

I did the same with the red Geraniums, and stitched between the leaves to form an oval shape and filled the shape at the back.

The blue flowers were Trapuntoed too so they appear to be in front of the other flowers alongside.

That's how, by using Trapunto, I have raised this section, this one and that one.

This section is flat but the pot is raised.

A little bit of filling was added at the back of this pot. Be careful not to fill too close to the edge as this will affect the shape of the pot. I worked a circular shape around the red roses and leaves in green thread and these too were filled from the back.

To close the gap, use a whip stitch or cross stitch. At the same time, I am catching a bit of the wadding so it does not move around too much. This is necessary especially with large shapes as the wadding does tend to sag with gravity over time.

### Turkey stitch

Insert the needle from the top of your work. Take the needle to the back and leave a tail. Use a spare size 5 straw needle or similar object to hold the loops in place.

Come up alongside the tail and form a short Straight stitch to anchor the tail.

Come up just above or just below the Straight stitch; make a loop over the spare needle; insert the needle a short distance away- about 1mm is good.

Come up alongside the Straight stitch; hold the loop in place with the spare needle and make another Straight stitch to anchor the loop. Repeat the process to form the first row. End off with a tail at the end of the row.

Start the next row by inserting the needle to the back, leave a tail and secure it with a straight stitch, as you did for the first row. Repeat the same stitches as before. End off with a tail on the front of your work

Cut each loop and trim to the desired length. Insert the sharp point of the needle into the fibres to separate them. Brush gently to form a fluffy texture.

A good thread to use for Turkey stitch is Perlé thread as it fluffs nicely, or use a silk thread for a shiny texture.

Trim again if necessary and fluff until you are happy with the shape. This shape will make a gorgeous fluffy flower.

### Turkey stitch –adapted

This is an adapted Turkey stitch. I find this an easier stitch to make simply because it is easier to control the direction of the loops. Make a knot at the long end and come up from the back.

Make a loop working over a spare needle. Come up close to where the thread emerged and anchor it in place.

This tiny Straight stitch locks the loop in place and if you hold the loop in the direction you want it to lie, it will remain in that position. It is not always necessary to form a row of loops. You could make another loop alongside, a short distance up or down from the previous loop. This is similar to Single Knotted stitch but the stitches are made close together to form a dense texture.

This stitch is useful for animal fur where you wish the coat to have a smooth texture or for leaves that need to be flat, yet fluffy.

End off at the back, cut the loop, and as you cut, pull the loop in the direction you require. Trim it slightly, if necessary, and use the sharp point of the needle to separate the fibres and to fluff it.

I am going to show you an example now where I have used the adapted Turkey stitch and Single Knotted stitch quite extensively in this tree. I used silk thread and stranded

cotton here, one strand or two. In-between these stitches I used Fly and Feather stitch to create the small branches.

Here I will show you how to use the adapted Turkey stitch with 2mm silk ribbon. It creates a lovely, raised texture and fills up a design very quickly. Use it for grass, long slender flowers and fields of wheat.

Here I am using a size 20 chenille needle

Examples of stitches used in other designs.

To give you an idea of how to use the stitches you have learned in all 3 volumes of this “New Beginnings” design, here are some examples:

This gate from the Swan Cottage design in my Dreamscapes book was made in Raised Stem stitch.

Here the tree was made with Stem stitch to form the branches, ribbon stitch was used for the flat leaves and the raised leaves were made in ribbon stitch worked over a spare needle.

The roof of the Swan cottage design was made in Stem stitch filling. Rows of stem stitch were made close together to form a thatch-like texture.

In the Floral Vista design were made in picot stitch –the same stitch you used in the Aloe in volume 1.

The yellow irises and red Cannas were made in Iris stitch with 7mm silk ribbon. In-between these flowers I used Turkey stitch for the fluffy green foliage and loose French knots for the rounded shapes.

The red roses in the Floral Vista from the Dreamscapes book are folded ribbon roses in 7mm silk ribbon. Here I used Spider–web roses with 4mm silk ribbon and French knot roses in-between

The leaves are Detached Chain stitch in 7mm silk ribbon

This is ribbon stitch in organza ribbon

In the same design, I used Turkey stitch here to form the fluffy leaves

These leaves were made with organza ribbon to create a lovely texture.

And here I use 7mm silk ribbon and ribbon stitch

The red hibiscus were made in gathered ribbon stitch –the same stitch used for the Delphinium in panel 3, volume 2

I couched bouclé wool in place with a matching thread to form this texture.....  
and long detached chain stitches for the leaves.

For the Yucca plant in the same Floral Vista design, I used layers of long, twisted Straight stitches for some leaves and twisted ribbon stitch for others. 7mm silk ribbon was used here.

These are all Folded Ribbon roses made in 7mm silk ribbon. I used various shades of pink and burnt orange to create a rich texture. In-between the roses I made loose French knots with a Rayon Chain thread from the Threads for Africa range.

To complete the shrubs against the wall, I used a variety of stitches and textures. The shadows were stitched in Straight stitch and seeding stitch, I used loose French knot in red ribbon to add the rich colour.

With the Bottoms Up design in the same Dreamscapes book, these gate posts were made in the Raised stem stitch that I have taught in this volume. I used stranded cotton here.

The slats of this gate were made in Stem stitch filling. That is rows of stem stitch made close together to form a dense texture.

On the brown pants I used a combination of Stem, Straight and long and short stitch the turn-up along the hem is Blanket/Buttonhole stitch

This little hat was formed in Chain stitch in 2 strands of cotton thread.

The hair was formed by making a tassel, but you could easily use long Turkey Single knot stitches made close together to form the same texture.

The pants were made in Long and Short stitch

This is my favourite feature in this design. He was made in adapted Turkey stitch, working from the bottom up so the stitches overlap each other. Stranded cotton and silk was used here.

This black cat was also made in Turkey stitch and the Trapunto method was used to raise the shape off the design.

In this cape scene, Emma Kriegler used rows of Stem stitch made close together to form the mountains in the background. She filled in the gaps with Straight stitch and added French knots for texture.

The sea was made the same way and she used Rayon thread to create the shiny water.

This is the design from my Ribbon Embroidery and Stump work book. The red tulips were made the same way as shown in panel 10 of this volume

The oranges in the same design are made from covered beads as shown in volume 2. This basket was created in Woven Filling stitch and Perlé thread -the same stitch I have taught in panel 13 in this DVD.

Here is an example of another spider where made in silver met thread and instead of embroidering a spider, I used a tiny ear stud and stitched it in place.

In the Aloe on this design I made Bullion Knots to form the orange flowers instead of using loop stitch as shown in DVD volume 1, panel 4