



1. Fill in the initial: Use thread **a** to couch thread **b**, filling in the initial in couching stitch. Make the rows of couching close together which will form the foundation stitch for the satin couching. See more about satin couching on page 35. Work over the flowers and stems as these will be made on top later. Use thread **a** and work satin stitch over the couching. Make the stitches close together, use a gentle and even tension for a neat finish.

2. Outline the initial: Use thread **c** and make a row of chain stitch on one edge of the initial to create an interesting shadow and to neaten the edges of the pink stitches. Change to thread **e** and form a row of stem stitch along the opposite edge of the initial.

3. Make the green stems: Use thread **d** and back stitch to form the green stems. Make back stitches about 3 mm ($\frac{1}{8}$ in.) in length. Change to ribbon **1** and whip the back stitches to form the thick stems. The very fine stems are whipped with thread **d**.

4. Make the leaves: Use thread **d** and make the leaves at **A** and **D** in fly stitch. Use a straight stitch for the tiny leaves at the end of the stems. Change to ribbon **1** and make with the small leaves at **B** and **C** in detached chain stitch. The last leaf at the end is a one-wrap French knot. Use a detached chain for the larger leaves below the blue flower and between the yellow flowers.

5. Embellish the leaves: Change to thread **c** and use feather stitch on top of the leaves at **B** and **C**. Work from the tip of the leaves towards the initial. Use thread **c** and fly stitch on top of the large leaf at **D**, and use thread **a** and straight stitch to make the pink veins on the small leaves at **A**.

6. Make the pink and yellow buds: Use ribbon **2** and **3** and a detached chain or ribbon stitch for the larger buds and straight stitch for the tiny buds.

7. Make the calyx of the buds: Use ribbon **1** and form the green calyx at the base of the buds in fly or grab stitch.