



## Blooming Lovely Applique Picture

This is a very simple, but effective design, which relies heavily on the right choice of fabric for its success.

And it's a lovely way to bring a feeling of spring into your home during these dark, and often dreary January days. Finished picture measures approx 11" x 8 ½" (A4).



This is a very simple, but effective design, which relies heavily upon the right choices of fabric for its ultimate success. Try to use fabrics within the same tonal range - if you're unsure about colour theory then you can learn more in my free mini-guide "[Thinking About Colour](#)"

In the picture above you can see that I used vintage blanket for the "ground", picking up the blue it contains in the blue dotted cotton "sky." Notice that the green is reflected in both the two greens of the leaves and the feedsack scraps of the flower petals. The violet pansy tones with these colours and again with the feedsack scraps, whilst the pot and flower centre offer a touch of contrast without being glaring.

It's a good idea to pick a single fabric and work back all your colours from there.

Look for different textures too – it's hard to tell in the photograph but the blanket is satisfyingly woolly, the leaves and pot have a raised nap and are very tactile, whilst the petals are smooth cotton. The crochet flower again provides a point of interest.

If you don't want to crochet a flower, then cut in felt – but don't sew around the petal edges – just at the centre of the flower so that you retain the three dimensional effect. There is no hand sewing in this design whatsoever,

I used very dark grey thread in the top and lighter in the bobbin to soften the effect – all black or dark grey would look very harsh. Stitch around the pot,

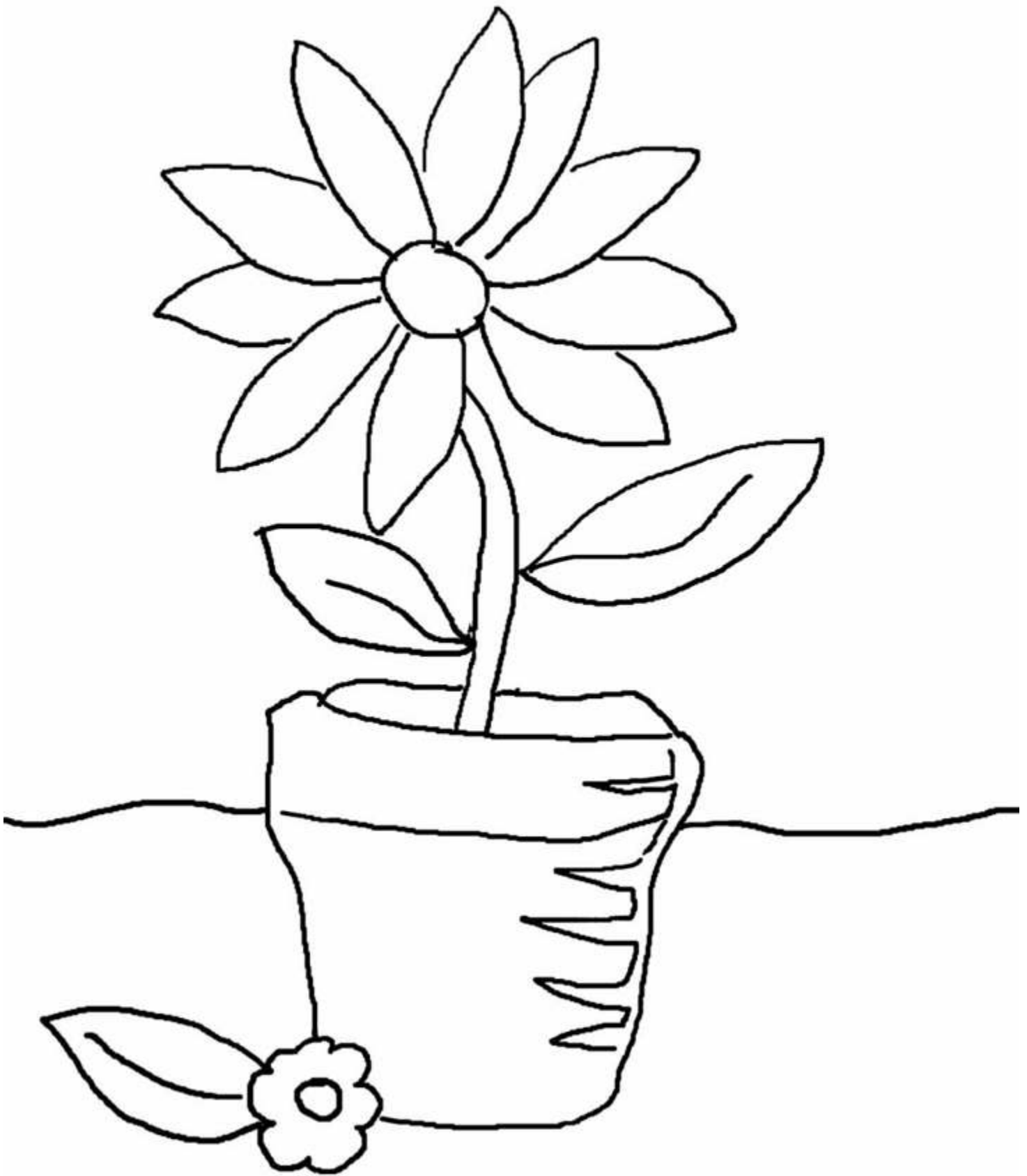
stem and leaves twice, don't try to follow your first stitching exactly – you want it to look a little rough and hand made. The shading at the side of the pot is a single line of stitching, lifting your foot and turning the fabric right round at the centre of the points.

The petals have a single line of stitching – detail below. The crochet flower is simply glued in place, though you could catch it with a few stitches if you prefer. I have mounted my design over an artist's canvas block which suits the simple design.

If you haven't tried freestyle machine embroidery before, then this is a great beginner's project - and you'll find lots more hints and tips to get you started in my [free guide and tutorial](#).



I do not mind if you sell items you personally make from this design, but you are not permitted to go into mass production. Thank you.





Why do we love to stitch? After all, you can purchase mass-produced embroidered items at many high street stores. These days, handmade means something special – a unique item created with love, a gift from the heart, not one that can be bought. Hand stitching is also a great way to personalize an item, or even to breathe new life into an old favourite that has seen better days.

[Bustle & Sew](#) offers my own unique patterns, designed to appeal to all skill levels and bring out your natural creativity. And you can keep up-to-date with all the latest news on the [Bustle & Sew Blog](#).

But none of this would mean anything without you, the stitcher.

**PLEASE SHARE THE LOVE:** I am happy for you to circulate this short tutorial as widely as you wish – with just two conditions: Firstly that you leave all links to my website and blog in place. And secondly, it is not a commercial publication and must not be reproduced for resale in any form.

Best wishes

Helen xx



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To learn more, please visit my website.

<http://bustleandsew.com/magazine>