



Embroidered Cactus Hoop

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It was fun to come down in scale a little from my more usual designs to stitch this two little cactus hoop - guaranteed to be maintenance free and suitable for even the least green-fingered among us!

I chose a vibrantly coloured linen fabrics for the background, against which the cactus reallsy pops.

The design use a variety of stitches including satin stitch, French knots, basket weave stitch and cross stitch.

Shown mounted in 4" hoop.



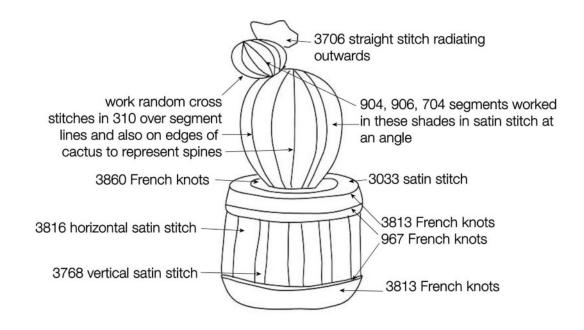
Materials

- 6" square background fabric cotton, linen or a blend of the two is nice, but any non-stretchy fabric that's heavy enough to hold the weight of your stitching (no lighter than quilting cotton) is fine
- For the hoop on purple linen you will need DMC stranded cotton floss in colours 310, 704, 904, 906, 967, 3033, 3768, 3813, 3816, 3860
- 4" embroidery hoops



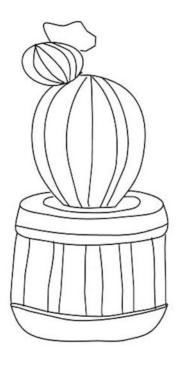
Stitching Guide

- Use two strands of floss throughout.
- Follow the stitching instructions on the next page.
- Iron your fabric well before transferring your design. Make sure the fabric is taut in the hoop, but not so tight that it will distort and spoil your stitching.
- Don't carry your thread across large areas of stitching at the back - it's better to fasten off and begin again.
- When finished remove from the hoop and press (not iron this time) lightly on the reverse. Use a padded surface so that you don't flatten your stitches.
- When pressing hold your iron still, then lift it to transfer it to the next area to be pressed rather than using a backward and forwards movement - that's ironing and again may distort your work.



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Template is full size



Why do we love to stitch? After all you can purchase mass-produced textile items at many high streets stores for very little cost. 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 personalise an item, or perhaps 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 all your natural creativity. And you can keep up to date with all the latest news from Somerset where I live as well as the newest patterns and much more over on the Bustle & Sew Blog.



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