





I have seen lots of nursery wall hangings, but none that are personalised in quite the same way as mine! I made this little hanging for a very good friend of Rosie's - who also happens to be Freddie's godmother to celebrate the arrival of her little baby girl earlier this month.

The finished cloud is 8" wide (approximately) and has a hanging loop on the back.

The floral embroidery uses straight stitch and French knots, whilst the text is worked in split stitch. Obviously I can't include your choice of text, but you could use any curly font you like. Isla Mary Caruana 16 November 2016

Felt Cloud Wall Kanging

Materials

- 18" x 12" white wool blend felt. Don't be tempted to use cheap acrylic craft felt as this isn't nice to sew with and as it tends to be a bit stiff won't give you a nice softly rounded cloud.
- Scraps of pastel coloured felt

- Stranded cotton floss in black, white, two or three shades of green for leaves and whatever colours you like for the flowers
- Cotton pearl thread
- Toy stuffing
- Long needle (optional but very useful)
- Temporary fabric marker pen

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Method

- Draw around your white cloud template onto your white felt with your temporary marker pen. Do not cut out yet.
- Transfer your embroidery design to the felt using the shape you have drawn as a guide.
- Stitch the design. Use two strands of floss throughout.
- The large flower is worked in radiating straight stitch. I find it easiest to work stitches at 3, 6, 9 and 12 o'clock then fill between them - this helps keep my stitches properly angled towards the centre. I used a variegated floss for the large flower which gave a nice effect. The centre is small single twist French knots -I worked a centre ring in purple which I surrounded with light blue.
- The text is worked in split stitch be careful to keep your stitches nice and small when

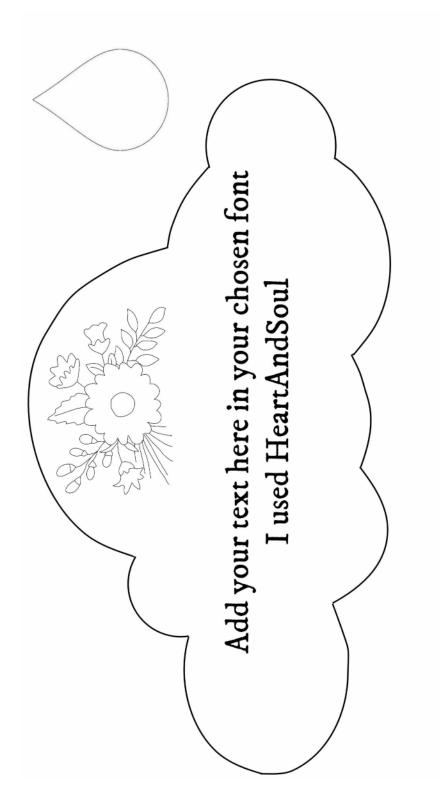
you're stitching around the curves of the letters - this will ensure they're nice and smooth.

- When your embroidery is finished cut out the cloud shape and also a second cloud in white felt.
- Join the shapes with wrong sides together using whip stitch in 2 strands of white floss. Return in the other direction to make a decorative cross stitch. Leave a gap at the bottom for stuffing.
- Stuff lightly and close the gap.
- Cut and join your raindrop shapes in the same way. I used white floss for all the shapes. (1)
- Thread your long needle with pearl thread and join the raindrops together through their centres (2) then stitch to the bottom of the cloud.
- Repeat for the other strands of drops and then stitch a hanging loop on the back (3)



Felt Cloud Wall Hanging

Template is actual 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.

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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 Devonwhere I live as well as the newest patterns and much more over on the Bustle & Sew Blog.

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Conto

Helen xx

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