



A Bowl full of Snowdrops

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I love snowdrops, they always seem to me to be such brave little flowers, pushing up through the frozen ground, their delicate-seeming blooms surviving all the weather has to throw at them.

It's lovely to bring some inside to enjoy as well, as to be completely honest, January is not the time of year to be sitting out in the garden!

This hoop uses only very simple stitches and its success depends purely upon the accuracy of your stitching.

Shown mounted in 5" hoop.



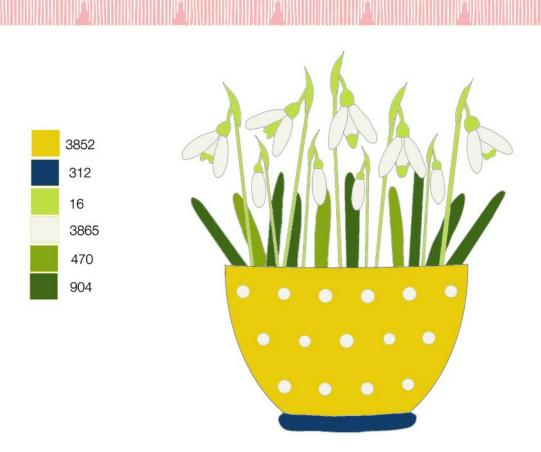
Materials

- 9" square cotton, linen or other fabric suitable for embroidery - I used a nice biscuit-coloured pure linen fabric.
- 5" hoop
- DMC stranded cotton floss in colours 16, 312, 470, 904, 3852, 3865

Method

Use two strands of floss throughout

- Iron your background fabric well before beginning.
- Stitch design in accordance with guide on following pages.
- When finished press lightly on the reverse being very careful not to flatten your stitches and mount in hoop for display.



Stitching Guide

- Transfer the design to the centre of the fabric and hoop up. Don't pull your fabric too tightly when hooping up, you want it to be taut but not stretched as this may cause your stitching to distort.
- Stitch the design in the colours specified above. Begin with the spots on the bowl and work these in satin stitch. Do this first so you can make sure they have a nice shape.
- Then fill in the bowl with split stitch worked in a vertical direction, angling outwards slightly at the edges of the bowl.
- Add the base of the bowl in vertical satin stitch.

- Now work the snowdrops. Begin with the leaves worked in satin stitch at a diagonal angle, not horizontally across the leaf or vertically up and down it.
- Add the stems in a broad stem stitch.
- Finish with the flowers which are also worked in satin stitch.
- Finally work a line of back stitch in 312 across the top of the bowl.
- FINISHED





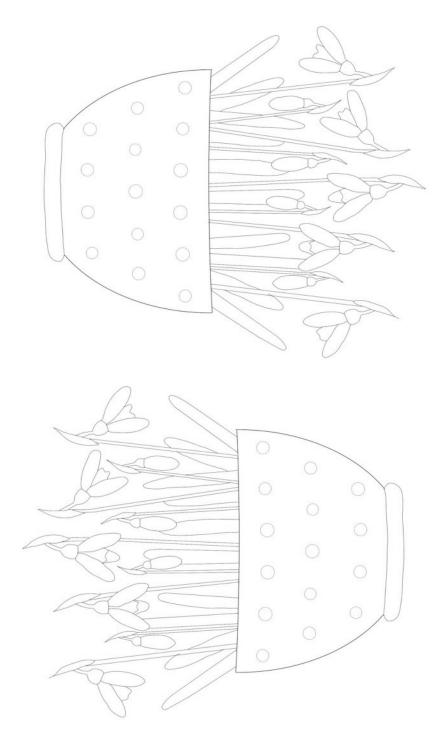
Snowdrops

I like to think
That, long ago,
There fell to earth
Some flakes of snow
Which loved this cold,
Grey world of ours
So much, they stayed
As snowdrop flowers.

Mary Vivian

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Pattern is full size and reversed to suit your preferred method of transfer.



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.

Find out more about our magazine..



PS If you love stitching, then you're sure to enjoy my Bustle & Sew Magazine. It's delivered by email to your in-box each month and is crammed full of ideas, projects, features, articles, patterns and more to inspire you. To learn more please visit the Bustle & Sew website.











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