

English embroidery.

Focal Point Filmstrip Ltd. - Introduction to English Embroidery



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Broderie anglaise

Professional workshops had long experience of secular embroidery and found little difficulty in producing the new styles of ornament influenced by the Renaissance.

English Embroidery in the Metropolitan Museum 1575

Man's white linen Tudor night cap with a turned back brim faced with fine linen. The craze for Berlin work peaked around 1850 and died out in the 1870s, under the influence of a competing aesthetic that would become known as art needlework.

Introduction to English Embroidery

This included applied work - small motifs embroidered on linen then cut out and stitched onto a finer cloth background, or larger bands of embroidery used as orphrey bands sewn onto the background cloth. Portrait of an Unknown Lady of the English Court, formerly identified as Mary I of England, now thought to be Lady Margaret Douglas 1515-1578. Today, most broderie anglaise is created by machine.

Anne Lane, English Embroidery KIT x Pure Linen Counted Cross

Detail of stitching on the Bayeux Tapestry. Embroidery styles for smock-frocks varied by region, and a number of motifs became traditional for various occupations: wheel-shapes for carters and wagoners, sheep and crooks for shepherds, and so on.

English and United Kingdom embroidery designs

Shapes cut from opulent fabrics and small motifs or worked on fine linen canvas were applied a background fabric of figured silk, velvet, or plain wool and embellished with embroidery, in a style deriving from the later, simpler forms of Medieval work. A fine example with metallic threads and motifs of camels is used in the Erpingham Chasuble. By the mid-nineteenth century, wearing of traditional smock-frocks by country laborers was dying out, and a romantic nostalgia for England's rural past led to a fashion for women's and children's clothing loosely styled after smock-frocks.

Magna Carta (An Embroidery)

The jackets themselves appear to have been fashionable from about 1600 to 1625. These new samplers were more useful as a record of accomplishment to be hung on the wall than as a practical stitch guide.

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