

Lesson 1



To stitch the design, you will need quite a minimal set of materials and tools, most of which you may find in your collection of textile scraps, beads and threads, a simple embroidery hoop, cardboard and glue.

To assemble the box, you will need a paper cutter, pressing clips, ruler and cutting mat.



Find some piece of cloth. It may be cotton or linen fabric. Choose organic materials without any synthetic fibres because they are easier to work with.

For the outer part of the box, you may use linen (coloured) or cotton/linen blend.

You will need to cut two pieces of fabric (for the cover of the box and bottom part) size 16x16cm. Cut one long piece (to cover the borders of the box 80x20cm).

For the inside part, you may use cotton (white), cutting it the same sizes as the linen for the outer part.



To process the key part of the design, you will need a thick cotton cord. You can use macrame yarn or any other cotton cord or raffia. You may even make it yourself, using cotton threads and twisting them thick.



Metallic thread is used to attach the cotton cord to the base. It makes the embroidery shimmer. You may use silver or golden thread (according to the preferred palette), floss or on a bobbin - any that you have or like.



You will need about 6-8 sew-in crystals (3mm) to use in the embroidery and in the beaded element. If you have some - that is great! If you do not, please, no worries, substitute them with bicones (if you have) or simple glass beads.



For the central beaded element, you need 4 beads (imitation of pearl) size 6mm. You may choose any colour you have in your collection of materials, but consider the mood and the palette of the design you wish to achieve.



For beadworking use nylon beading thread and fine needles.



You will also need 40 glass beads (golden/silver, choose the colour you like). To spread around the design and to use in the beaded element (central).



White pearl tiny glass beads to use in bead weaving and embroidery (you will need about 60pcs).



In the design, I used freshwater pearls "potato" shapes. You are free to substitute them with any other beads if you do not have pearls. You will need 6 pcs (the size of a green pea) and 4 pcs a bit smaller.



To fill in the space around the pearls you will need some metallic bullion rough purl (golden or silver). Look for some scraps, you will not need much. If you do not have any bullion purl you are free to use any other materials you have like beads (fill in the space with beads), or metallic threads (fill in the space with "french knots").



Print out the pattern (next page). The size of the design should be 12x12cm. Transfer the design onto the fabric. Use the method of transfer you like most. I used a lamp and a pencil to trace the design. You may use film, tissue paper, or powdering (first piercing the lines of the design).

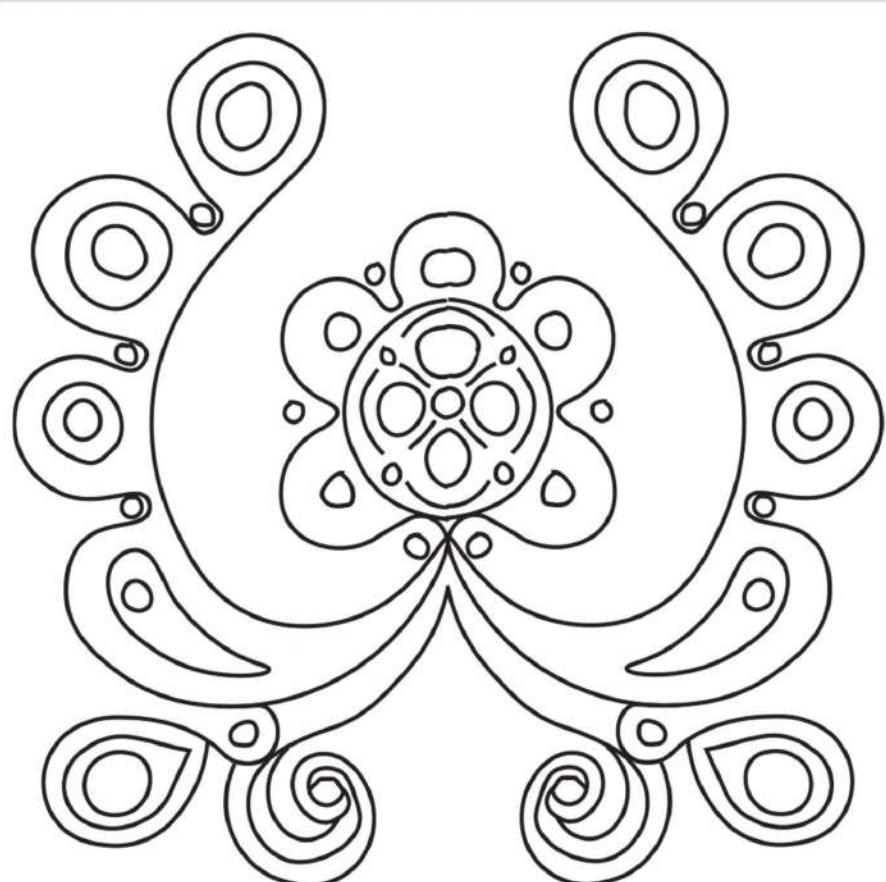


Secure the piece of fabric you going to stitch with some pins. After, set a series of securing stitches all around.



Stretch a piece of fabric in the embroidery hoop. In this design I used very light linen, so to make the construction more stable, first I stretched a piece of backing fabric (thick cotton). On top of it, I attached the piece, which I am going to embroider on.
Also, I stabilized the piece of linen with a fusible non-woven material (to prevent overstretching, because the linen used appeared to be very fine).

Pattern



12X12CM