

A Summer Garden by Caroline Sharkey 2020

This little picture of Summer Garden is made on the sewing machine with the free motion foot but could be slow stitched hand embroidered if that is your preference.

I have also given different options of drawings to use so that you can mix up your design or use the project as a guide for placement of your flowers and plants.



1. Start prep for the background, Position the white and coloured background fabrics wrong side down onto the sticky side of the stabilizer, overlapping just slightly at the join then press with a warm-hot iron to fuse this all together use pressing cloth to protect your iron. The stabilizer needs to stick to the wrong side and will help hold all the fabrics nice and flat while you stitch all the layers of plants and flowers onto this surface.



2. Position the strip of sheer variegated organza over the middle of the joined area this will help to blur this line, then add the sky layer of variegated organza over the first strip of organza and white sky area. Pin this all down flat ready for the garden. Addition some thread colours to start the plants.



There are 2 sheets of drawings that I have provided so you can mix up your garden design.

Decide which flowers and plants off the pattern sheet you want to use on your picture.

There are full size A4 pages with these drawings at the end of this paperwork.

3. Sketch some of the details of the shapes onto your background with a water soluble or heat reactive pen.

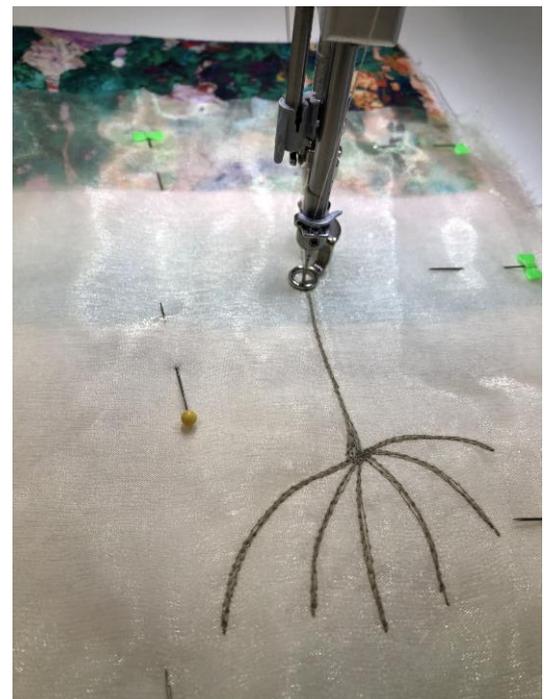
And select your thread colours to start stitching.



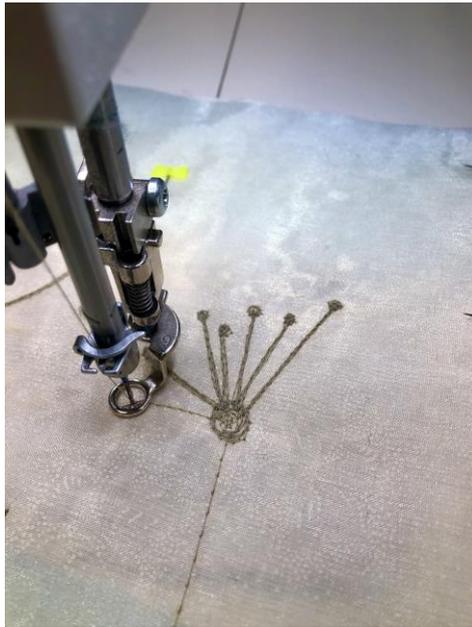
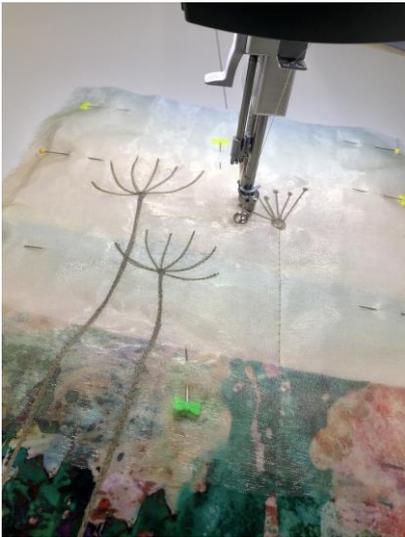
4. Fit the free motion foot or darning foot to your machine and drop the feed dogs. This will allow you to move your work and draw on the surface freely.

If you are new to this technique you could use a very light thread colour and do your first drawing onto the fabric background so that it's not as noticeable first-time round.... then you could stitch over it all again with thread colours.

Stitch the lines over and over to make them darker and thicker to your liking as this is a personal option the drawings are a guide only.



5. Continue to stitch the skeleton parts of the stems and shapes to get the placement and order for your arrangement of flowers and plants.



6. Continue to fill in the areas with more designs and stitch them with different coloured threads.



7. Clip out some flower shapes from the yellow organza and leaf shapes from the green organza ready for placement onto the background.



8. Position the flowers onto the plant stitched ready with yellow thread starting in the centre of the flower stitch out petals and centre.



Add the flower shapes overlapping and stitching each down.

9. Change thread colour to the green and start adding the green leaves down the plant stems as you go the organza is very forgiving as long as you catch it on the edges to catch it down.

Notice I used a different green to the original stem thread colour and stitched extra stitching down the stems as I added the leaves.





10. Continue to add other leaves to stems.



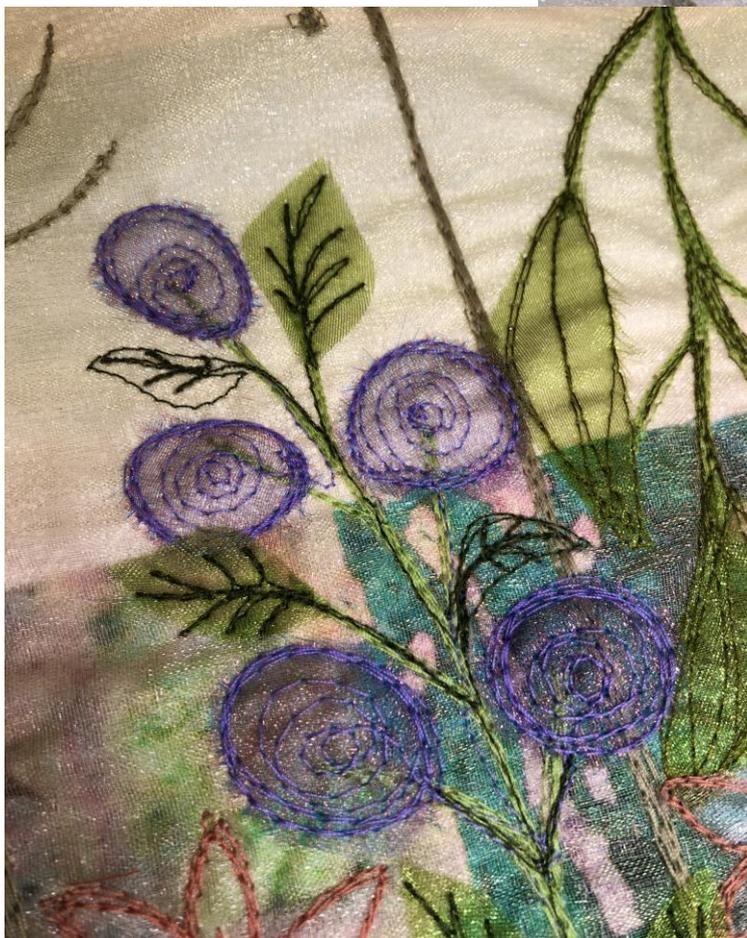
11. Position the pink organza over the flower shape and trace it lightly onto the organza then Cut the flowers out I did 3 of these.



12. Put the pink thread onto the machine and stitch the pink flower as per the drawings.



13. I cut circles out of the purple organza to add to one of the plants and stitched it with purple thread in a circular direction.



14. Adding the flowers tops. Cut random scraps of the pink organza and position them onto the top edges of the large flower heads. I used a light blue thread to add the little stitched flower heads over the pink organza.



15. Put the bright pink thread onto the sewing machine and add the little balls to the ends of each part of the flower head. As you do a circle around the ball on the end lift the machine foot to the next stitch another circle of pink and then clip off the joining threads.



Once your picture is completed you can either quilt it into a little wall hanging, frame it, make a cushion or bag.

I hope you enjoyed this little Isewolation project and would love to see what you make...

You are free to share this project information with your friends, please remember that this is not for teaching as it is copyright to myself....thank you.

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