

“The Versatility of the Blanket Stitch in Organic Embroidery”

January 2025

Mirjam Gielen, Instructor

- An embroidery hoop
 - 6-inch or 8-inch diameter.
 - The hoop is not obligatory, but with the stitch you are going to use, tension is important and it is easier to control that tension with a hoop.
- A plain fabric,
 - like linen or lightweight calico for sample making,
 - approximately 15 x 15 inch.
- A background fabric that will fit amply in your embroidery hoop.
 - For a 6-inch hoop you will need a minimum size of 8 inch
 - For an 8-inch hoop a minimum size of 10 inches
 - You can also choose to mount your final piece around stretcher bars, in that case the fabric needs to fit amply around the stretcher bars.
 - The fabric can be any material that you like stitching on, but preferably not too thin.
 - As the stitches you are going to make are rather open and lace-like it is best to choose a plain fabric, or with a vague pattern to let the stitches stand out sufficiently.
- A piece of fabric for appliqué.
 - Look for some contrast with the background fabric, like a contrast in colour, tone or texture.
 - This fabric can be a thinner fabric of any material, that you think will match the background.
- A selection of embroidery threads to match the appliqué fabric and with enough contrast to the background fabric.
 - Try putting a single thread on the background fabric to see if it stands out sufficiently.
 - You could use stranded cotton, pearl threads, wool threads, whatever you like best.
- Embroidery needle(s) with a sharp point.
- Some pins
- Scissors
 - A pair of scissors to cut out the fabrics
 - Sharp pointed embroidery scissors to cut into the appliqué. These last are not obligatory; it is one of the options.
- A piece of paper and a pencil for designing, optional.
- Seed Beads, if you like, to enhance the final piece