

Instruction Manual (PDF Content)

Modern Abstract Body & Botanical Embroidery Kit Instruction Manual

This guide will walk you through setting up your hoop and using basic stitches to complete your abstract embroidery design.

Step 1: Preparing the Fabric and Hoop

1. **Separate the Hoop:** Unscrew the metal fastener at the top of the **bamboo embroidery hoop** and separate the two rings.
2. **Position the Fabric:** Place the outer ring (the one with the screw) on a flat surface. Lay your **pre-printed cotton canvas** over it, centering the design.
3. **Secure the Hoop:** Press the inner ring tightly over the fabric and into the outer ring.
4. **Tighten the Tension:** Pull the fabric gently but firmly in all directions to remove any wrinkles. The fabric should feel **drum-tight**. Screw the metal fastener back down to lock the fabric in place. *Note: You will work directly onto this fabric.*

Step 2: Preparing the Thread

1. **Identify Colors:** Refer to the guide on the fabric (if provided) or the final design image to match your **colored embroidery floss** to the specific areas of the pattern.
2. **Separate Strands:** **Embroidery floss** usually has six individual strands twisted together. For most finer work, like the outlines and details in these designs, you will want to use **two or three strands** at a time.
 - Cut an 18-inch length of your chosen color.
 - Carefully pull apart the number of strands you need (e.g., 2 or 3).
3. **Thread the Needle:** Thread the separated strands onto one of the **embroidery needles** provided and tie a small knot at the long end of the thread.

Step 3: Basic Stitching Techniques

The body outline and floral stems use a simple, consistent stitch, while the colored sections (like flowers and leaves) use a filling stitch.

1. Outline (Body & Stems): Back Stitch (Recommended)

The **Back Stitch** is perfect for creating a clean, solid outline:

- **Start:** Bring your needle up from the back of the fabric (A).
- **Stitch Forward:** Insert the needle back down one stitch length away (B).
- **Bring Up Again:** Move forward another stitch length, but bring your needle up through the fabric (C).

- **Stitch Back:** Insert the needle back down into the end of your first stitch (B). This completes one segment.
- **Repeat:** Bring the needle up a stitch length ahead (D) and go back into (C). Continue this to follow the black lines of the abstract body and the green lines of the stems.

2. Filling (Flowers & Leaves): Satin Stitch or French Knots

- **Satin Stitch (For Leaves & Petals):**
 - This is used to solidly fill an area with color.
 - Bring the needle up at one edge of the area and go down at the opposite edge.
 - Keep the stitches close together, parallel, and neat, making sure no fabric shows through.
- **French Knots (For Centers or Texture, e.g., the yellow flower's center):**
 - Bring the needle up through the fabric.
 - Wrap the thread around the needle **two or three times**.
 - Insert the needle back into the fabric very close to where it came up (but not the exact same hole).
 - Pull the needle through, holding the wrapped thread taut until the very last moment to form a small, tight knot on the surface.

Step 4: Finishing Your Project

1. **Secure the Thread:** When you finish a section or run out of thread, turn the hoop over. Run the needle under 3-4 existing stitches on the back side of the fabric and snip the excess thread. Do not simply knot it, as this can easily come undone.
2. **Remove the Pattern:** The pre-printed lines are typically water-soluble. Carefully follow the manufacturer's instructions for the specific fabric, but generally, you can gently wash the finished piece in cool water to dissolve the ink, leaving only your stitching.
3. **Display:** Once dry, place the fabric back in the hoop (if removed), tighten it, and it's ready to hang as a beautiful piece of art!