“Lifestyles”

Creative Living with Sheryl Borden

Crafts Section II
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Due to the size of this section, there are 2 different PDF files. Example: Paintability is page I-3, which means it’s in Part I on page 3. Ribbon Flowers is page II-8, which means it’s in Part II, page 8.
When ribbon is cut, it can become frayed after a little use. To avoid “hairy” edges, dab a little Fray Check™ on the freshly cut edge of the ribbon.

Fabric glue or tacky glue works well for wrapping thread or ribbon around the stems of flowers, but use it lightly and sparingly and always test a scrap of ribbon before applying.

If you absolutely detest stitching, you may use a hot glue gun and glue stick to assemble the flowers after all the petals have been stitched. However, I don’t recommend glue for any wearable or soft furnishing piece. (Mass production work for resale would be an exception.)

Steaming a ribbon flower that has become a little squashed or rumpled will give it new life. Simply place the article to be revived over a steaming tea kettle or pot of boiling water until the ribbon is pliable. Reshape the ribbon and remove it from the steam. A commercial steamer is also an option. To assist you in the shaping process and so your fingers aren’t hurt by the hot steam, use a smooth-edged tool, a cotton swab, or pad the ends of a pair of tweezers with something soft.

Sometimes a stitch pattern requires you to remove one wire from the ribbon for easier gathering or stitching. To remove a wire, simply expose it at the cut edge of the ribbon and pull it out.

A note to left-handed stitchers: Feel free to stitch and fold ribbons from whichever direction you are most comfortable with.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR MAKING A TULIP

You will need:

Note: This supply list is for one flower with wide leaf only.

- 30” red wire-edge ribbon, 1-1/2” wide
- 3 black double-headed stamens
- 18” of 18-gauge thread-covered wire
- 12” olive green bias-cut silk ribbon, 1” wide
- 18” olive green ombre wire-edge ribbon, 1-1/2” wide
- 10” of 22-gauge thread-covered wire
- Glue
- Green floral tape

Steps:
1. **Stamens:** The tulip has a stamen center surrounded by six arched petals. Prepare three black stamens as illustrated, using the 18-gauge wire.
2. **Petals:** Make six petals using 5” of red wire-edge ribbon for each petal. Begin stitching the arched stitch pattern 3/4” from the top fold.
3. When the stitch pattern is complete, turn the ribbon inside out and press flat. Gather across the bottom of the petal and pull tightly.
4. Stitch the first petal to the stamens.
5. Arrange two more petals evenly around the stamens and glue in place. This helps stabilize the stamens on the stem. Glue the remaining three petals under the first row of petals so they peek out between the petals in the first row.
6. Cover the raw edges of the petals and the stem with floral tape or wrap with green bias-cut silk ribbon.
7. **Tube stem cover:** Make a tube stem cover, using 8” of olive green bias-cut silk ribbon. Slip it over the stem and glue/stitch it as close to the base of the petals as possible.
8. **Wide leaf:** Make a wide tulip leaf using 18” of olive green ombre ribbon and 10” of 22-gauge wire. Fold the ribbon in half and stitch the pattern shown. Start stitching 2” down from the fold.
9. Turn the ribbon right side out and press flat. Insert the wire into the cavity and secure with a dot of glue at the raw edge of the ribbon.
10. Fold the base of the leaf with floral tape.

COURTESY: Helen Gibb
Author & Designer - Helen Gibb Designs
www.helengibb.com
Sunflower Wine Glasses

Supplies:
- Brushes
  - #12 flat
  - Large Scruffy Brush
- FolkArt Enamel Paints
  - School Bus Yellow
  - Yellow Ochre
  - Maple Syrup
  - Licorice
  - Green Forest

Center: Double load large scruffy brush with Maple Syrup/Licorice. Pounce bottom of glass around stem, making sure that Licorice is toward the center.

Petals: Double load #12 flat with School Bus Yellow/Yellow Ochre. Place chisel edge of brush alongside center of sunflower and push down on the bristles. Now turn the Yellow Ochre corner of the brush toward the tip of the petal. To bring the petal to a point, lift the brush to its chisel edge. Continue all around center.

Stem: Using the #12 flat brush, double load Green Forest/School Bus Yellow and paint the entire stem.

Leaves: Using the same #12 flat brush, push the bristles down, turn the green edge toward the tip of the leaf and lift the brush to its chisel edge. Continue painting leaves all around the base of the glass.

COURTESY: Kris Cranford
One Stroke Instructor
www.onestroke.com

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Raggedy Reverse Applique” patterns...
are a fun, fast and forgiving way to teach kids to sew.

Kidzsew.com is here to introduce a fun, fast and forgiving way to sew. Want to try your first sewing project? Want a easy pattern for a class, Girl Scout Troop, or 4-H project?

Pattern designer Kim Deneault has seventeen patterns that are great for everyone! These quick projects can start with a pillow cover then continue on to bigger projects like a wall hanging or quilt.

COURTESY: Kim Deneault
www.kidzsew.com
Lovely Reversible Tapestry Crochet Basket

Two threads are tapestry crocheted at the same time to create the diamond and heart motifs on this lovely basket. One thread is carried while the other is crocheted. The fabric created with the crocheted threads forms a decorative cloth that is substantial enough to support the beads and the basket structure. For more information about tapestry crochet, please look at www.tapestrycrochet.com.

**Hook:** Steel crochet hook size 4 (2 mm.) or the size that will give an acceptable gauge

**Gauge:** 10 stitches equals 1 inch; 9 rows equals 1 inch

**Size:** 4 3/4” diameter by 2 1/2” high

**Materials:** One ball each of Teal, Bridal White, and Scarlet Red Aunt Lydia’s Fashion Crochet size 3 crochet cotton from Coats and Clark; 744 Rainbow #8 seed beads; heavy beading needle; stitch marker.

**Instructions:**
Round 1: Make a slip knot with Teal, then chain 4 stitches. Join the ends together to form a ring by working a slip stitch into the first chain stitch. Single crochet 6 Teal stitches into the ring while carrying the tail-end. The basket should have a total of 6 stitches when you finish this round. This basket is worked as a spiral, not in concentric rings, so it is difficult to tell where each round ends. To keep track of where each round ends, slip a stitch marker into the top of the last stitch of the round. You will remove the stitch marker from the last stitch as you come to it again and slip it into the new last stitch at the end of each round.
Round 2: Cut the tail-end piece of Teal and start to carry the White thread. Increase in every stitch with Teal to 12 stitches.
Round 3: While carrying the White thread, increase in every stitch with Teal for a total of 24 stitches.
Round 4: While carrying the White, increase in every second stitch with Teal to 36 stitches.
Round 5: While carrying the White, single crochet one Teal round without any increases.
Round 6: While carrying the White, increase in every third stitch with Teal to 48 stitches.
Round 7: While carrying the White, increase in every fourth stitch with Teal to 60 stitches.
Round 8: While carrying the White, increase in every fifth stitch with Teal to 72 stitches.
Round 9: While carrying the White, increase in every sixth stitch with Teal to 84 stitches.
Round 10: While carrying the White, single crochet one Teal round without any increases.
Round 11: While carrying the White, increase in every seventh stitch with Teal to 96 stitches.
Round 12: While carrying the White, increase in every eighth stitch with Teal to 108 stitches.

The above graphs are for right-handed crocheters. Left-handed crocheters should look at the reversed images of the graphs in a mirror.

**Begin the motif:**
Round 13: Rounds 13 through 32 correspond to the motif on the side of the basket (read from right to left and bottom to top). To do a tapestry crochet stitch, colors are switched while 2 loops are still on the hook; yarn over with the other thread and pull it through the loops to prepare for the tapestry crochet stitch. Crochet the motif as follows: tapestry crochet 1 White, then 8 Teal stitches. Repeat this sequence around.
Round 14: Tapestry crochet 2 White, then 7 Teal stitches. Repeat this sequence around.
Round 15: Tapestry crochet 3 White, then 6 Teal stitches. Repeat around.
Round 16: Tapestry crochet 4 White, then 5 Teal stitches. Repeat around.
Round 17: Tapestry crochet 5 White, then 4 Teal stitches. Repeat around.
Round 18: Tapestry crochet 6 White, then 3 Teal stitches. Repeat around.
Round 19: Tapestry crochet 7 White, then 2 Teal stitches. Repeat around.
Round 20: Increase in the first stitch with white, then tapestry crochet 7 more White, then 1 Teal stitch. Repeat around.
Round 21: String the beads onto the red thread. Push the beads down, leaving a 2 yard-long piece without beads on the thread. Tapestry crochet almost all the way around with White, while carrying the Teal. Cut the carried Teal flush and begin to carry the beaded Red 10 stitches before finishing the round.
Round 22: To crochet a beaded stitch, insert the hook, slide a bead down next to the crochet hook and project, then continue crocheting the stitch, capturing the bead, which will fall to the back of the stitch. Tapestry crochet 1 beaded Red, then 9 White stitches. Repeat around.
Round 23: Tapestry crochet 2 beaded Red, then 8 White stitches. Repeat around.
Round 24: Tapestry crochet 3 beaded Red, then 7 White stitches. Repeat around.
Round 25: Tapestry crochet 4 beaded Red, then 6 White stitches. Repeat around.
Round 26: Tapestry crochet 5 beaded Red, then 5 White stitches. Repeat around.
Round 27: Tapestry crochet 6 beaded Red, then 4 White stitches. Repeat around.
Round 28: Increase in the first stitch with beaded Red, crochet 6 more beaded Red, then 3 White stitches. Repeat around.
Round 29: Tapestry crochet 9 beaded Red, then 2 White stitches.
Round 30: Tapestry crochet 10 beaded Red, then 1 White stitch. Repeat around.
Round 31: Tapestry crochet 1 White, 4 beaded Red, 1 White, 4 beaded Red, then 1 White stitch. Repeat around.
Round 32: Tapestry crochet 2 White, 3 beaded Red, 2 White, 3 beaded Red, then 1 White stitch. Repeat around.
Round 33: Single crochet around with White while carrying the Red thread.
Round 34: Single crochet around with White while carrying the Red thread, then cut the carried Red flush, do a slip stitch with White, cut the White (leaving a 6 inch tail), then yarn over and pull it all the way through the loop. Work in the end for 2 inches to secure it, then cut it flush. Cover the basket with a towel and carefully block the basket (too much heat might break the beads) with a steam iron. Now for the big decision: should the beads be on the outside or the inside of the basket?

COURTESY: Dr. Carol Ventura
author and designer