



One or more fabrics are applied to another fabric. A pleasing piece of embroidery can be created using a combination of different fabrics with various edging techniques and embellishments.

AIM – To work an appliquéd embroidery demonstrating a high standard of technical skill; an understanding of the use of an appropriate design for the technique and an understanding of the use of varying weights, suitable padding and textures of fabrics, threads and cording and their relationship to each other. The emphasis on this piece should be working fabric to fabric edges. Designs should not be directly copied from other sources; referencing, interpreting or stylising shapes or designs is acceptable however designs should be original to you, which your tutor will encourage you to do.

Please note: All preparatory work (e.g. outlines, drawings, stitch plans, original source material) MUST be handed in for assessment or the work will not be marked.

DESIGN

- The piece must be worked on a slate frame
- The piece be no bigger than the size accommodated by a 24" Slate frame (approximately 40cm or 16in square worked area).
- The design should include large enough areas within which to apply fabric in one or more layers.
- Appliqué must explore texture and use a minimum of 4 different fabrics including plain, printed, dyed, distressed, machine embroidered, painted and sheer fabrics or various fibre content (e.g. silk, cotton, linen, etc.)
- The work must include evidence of three types of padding (e.g. wadding, Trapunto, felt, pelmet Vilene, stuffing, carpet felt, etc.) to add dimension to the piece. If Trapunto is used it should be worked directly on to the piece and not as a slip.
- The work should have at least four of the following edges, (the first 5 of which require a minimum continuous line of 10cms)
 - Couched
 - Turned
 - Frayed
 - Corded
 - Embroidered (minimum continuous line of 5cms) of which please select from the following:
 - Satin Stitch
 - Long and Short
 - Buttonhole (**not** over a wire)
 - Heavy Chain
 - Stem Stitch
- 3D elements can be used but **do not** count as edges
- Complimentary embroidery techniques can be added to the work, such as quilting, surface embroidery, beads and sequins.

Do be flexible in your approach, listen to your tutor's experienced advice and be prepared to alter your initial ideas if necessary.

2023-2024
ACADEMIC YEAR

ROYAL SCHOOL OF NEEDLEWORK

DIPLOMA

APPLIQUE



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MOUNTING

- You may choose the mounting method – for example the embroidery may be mounted as a hanging or cushion. If you choose to mount on mountboard wadding may be placed in between the work and the board. This will cushion any plunged threads on the back of the work.
- When planning this piece please give consideration to the mounting method, if working as a soft hanging careful selection of padding techniques is required. Discuss with the tutor before beginning.
- If working a soft hanging adding curtain weights to the piece can ensure that the piece hangs well. Discuss with the tutor before beginning.

PREPARATION – will vary depending on the design used, the number of layers of fabric and the order in which they are to be placed on the base fabric. Discuss with the tutor before beginning.

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA: Please see *Project Evaluation* sheet for details

TIPS

- Make sure that you keep fabrics clean in advance of application.
- Materials should be on the grain unless the design requires otherwise.
- Make sure any paint or pencil lines are thin or will be completely covered; no paint or tacking lines should be showing.
- Fabrics should be flat and smooth, unless for visual effect.
- When applying fabrics over padding, be careful to avoid puckers around the edges.
- Ensure that your frame is taut and straight when stitching, but slightly loose when applying fabrics to the background or to each other.
- No frayed edges should show, unless this is a deliberately frayed edge appropriate to the design.
- Make sure un-worked areas are covered by tissue paper while you work.

MATERIALS

- Calico mounted onto a slate frame.
- Fabric and thread of the student's choice to suit the design.
- Bondaweb or Heat & Bond as required
- Padding: craft felt, pelmet vilene, wadding, stuffing, carpet felt, etc. as required
- Needles: Embroidery No.10, 11 and 12 (plus other sizes for embroidery/embellishment if required)



BOOKS

- Kate Cross "RSN: Appliqué: Techniques, Projects and Pure Inspiration" ISBN 978-17-82211-88-4
- Juliet Bawden "The Art and Craft of Appliqué" ISBN 0-80311455-5
- The Art of Annemieke Mein. ISBN – 0-85532-775-8

STOCKISTS

- Royal School of Needlework 020 3166 6935 www.royal-needlework.org.uk
- John Lewis (fabrics) www.johnlewis.com
- The Silk Route (Silk dupion) 01252 835781 www.thesilkroute.co.uk
- MacCulloch & Wallis (Silks, fabrics, threads) Dering St, (Nr Oxford St) London 020 7629 0311 www.macculloch-wallis.co.uk
- Creative Quilting, East Molesey 020 8941 7075 www.creativequilting.org.uk (cotton fabrics, heat and bond, ribbons)
- V.V. Rouleaux www.vvrouleaux.com
- Stef Francis 01803 323004 www.stef-francis.co.uk (space dyed threads and fabrics)