

**2024-2025**  
ACADEMIC YEAR

**ROYAL SCHOOL OF NEEDLEWORK**

**DIPLOMA**

**PRELIMINARY BOX**



Patron: HRH The Duchess of Cornwall  
President: HRH The Duchess of Gloucester



## **RSN DIPLOMA**

### **PRELIMINARY BOX**

**AIM** – To construct a small box from acid-free mountboard covered with fabric. The board is covered with fabric and stitched together to create a box with an attached lid. The objective is to master construction of a box and not to embellish it. Designs should not be directly copied from other sources; referencing, interpreting or stylising shapes or designs is acceptable however designs should be original you, which your tutor will encourage you to do.

### **MATERIALS**

Mount board

Cotton fabric in two colours. A fat quarter (50cm x 50cm) of each.

Gutermanns polyester thread in a matching colour.

Cotton felt in a white or matching colour, approx 20cm x 20cm.

Double sided tape, approx 10mm wide.

Curved needle.

### **DESIGN**

The finished small box is usually 5cm x 5cm x 5cm. Your tutor will give you exact measurements for the various pieces.

Contrasting colours for the inside and outside can be used; if the fabric has a print, smaller patterns work best.

The inside is padded with felt to give a cushioned effect.

### **BOOKS**

Jane Lemon, 'Embroidered Boxes and Other Construction Techniques' ISBN: 0-571-11606-x

### **TIPS**

- Choose cotton fabrics that are not too thin, as the corners of the card may show through.
- Card must be cut accurately, using measurements from the instructions. It is best to use a sharp knife.
- Cover the board with fabric on the grain.
- Stitching needs to be small, tight and secure using a single Gutermanns thread and a curved needle.
- Label each piece of board clearly so there is no confusion when making up.

### **STOCKISTS**

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- The Royal school of Needlework Shop [www.royal-needlework.org.uk](http://www.royal-needlework.org.uk)
- Creative Quilting, East Molesey (good range of fabrics) [www.creativequilting.co.uk](http://www.creativequilting.co.uk)
- EKA, East Molesey (double sided tape, mountboard)



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