

## COLOUR BLENDING WITH STRANDED COTTON – One day workshop - All levels

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### Outline

This workshop was inspired by old embroideries from my collection and concentrates on using stranded cotton threads to create colour blending and shading. Stitches taught will include detached chain, French knots, seeding, crosses, couching, Turkey Track, running and laced running.

Students can either use the design provided (Circle Flowers) which is about 8 inches square or their own design and a larger size. The colour blending which is a 6 step graded blend of 2 colours can be completed in a day but the quilting which is graded from one to six strands has to be finished at home. The sample can be made into a picture, the centre of a small cushion, a pocket or the side of a bag.

Lots of samples will be shown, illustrating various ways of blending using different numbers of strands of threads and colours – colour blending is very addictive!

### Materials Required

- Greaseproof paper or a few sheets of tracing paper A4 size.
- Propelling pencil, ruler and fine, black, felt tip pen.
- Pair of compasses and or circle templates
- Chalk pencil for marking dark fabrics.
- Cotton/ linen mix, linen or silk noile, minimum size 13 inch (35cm) square, maximum size fat quarter. (The design is about 8 inches but you need a bit extra for the embroidery ring)
- 2 pieces of polyester wadding or Hobbs wool wadding, minimum size 13 inches (35cm) maximum size fat quarter.
- Cotton or calico backing, minimum size 13 inches (35cm) maximum size fat quarter.
- Fabric either for binding edges or making into bag or cushion (done at home)
- For the embroidered flowers – Stranded cotton (cotton floss) DMC, Anchor or Aurifil – green or other colour for stems plus two other colours for flowers which contrast with background fabric.
- For quilting the layers – same stranded cotton threads or Aurifil 12 or 28 or a fine cotton perle.
- Embroidery and chenille needles for hand stitching. Mixed size packs are most useful.
- Small pair of scissors.
- Optional – 6 inch embroidery ring (useful for French knots).
- Optional – book of embroidery stitches should you wish to try some more unusual stitches.