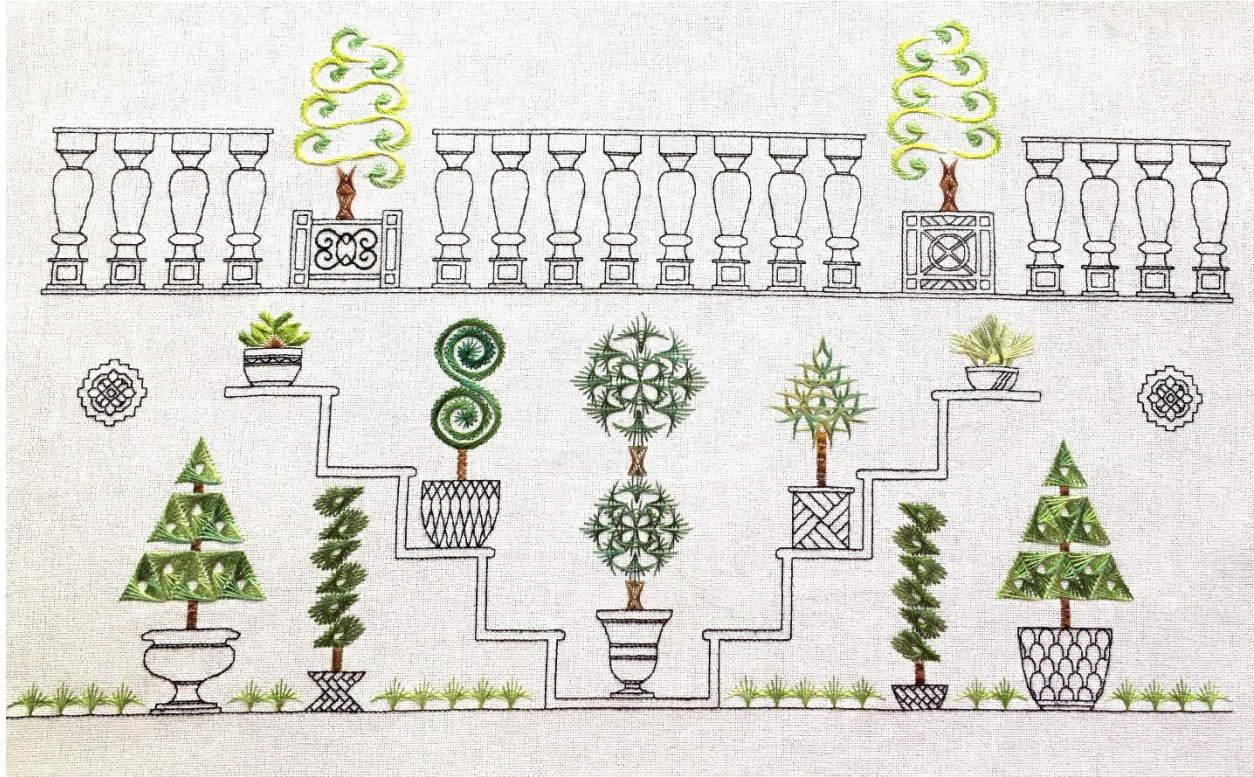


Topiaries by Kay Ackerman

EGA Online Studio
Materials Information



This project does not offer a kit. It can be stitched using a handful of green and brown threads, plus black, or you can go with the colors I used, or something in between. Feel free to experiment with different colors to make these topiaries your own. Raid that stash!

The project is broken down into ten lessons, released every week.

This design was stitched using 28-count Birch Lugana from Vintage Needle Arts, which costs around \$35.00.

<https://www.vintageneedlearts.com/listing/1304508502/birch-lugana-and-linda-evenweave-lglnd>

Design measures 260 x 170 squares or 520 x 340 threads.

Divide 520 and 340 by the thread count of the fabric you want to use. If it is 28-count it will come to 18.5 x 12.1 inches, rounded off to 19 x 12 inches.

Allowing 2 inches per side allowance comes to 23 x 16 inches of fabric needed to make the design, or 25 x 18 if you would like a three-inch allowance on each side.

If these types of long-stitched motifs are new to you, practicing them would be a good idea. A 9x13 piece of 28-count Lugana costs less than \$10.00. Or you may have some fabric in your stash you can use. 25-count evenweave or even linen in these counts will also work.

I use Q-Snaps for my frame, with waste pieces of evenweave fabric inserts between the fabric and the “snap” part of the Q-Snap to protect the stitching. I also removed the work from the frame after every stitching session.

However, feel free to use whatever frame works best for you, keeping in mind that most of the motifs in this design are made up of long stitches, so you need to be careful about not warping or stretching them if they fall under the edge of your frame.

Threads:

I pulled variegated threads from my stash to stitch this design, using nine different shades of green, three of brown, plus black for the backstitching. If you want to use my colors, the cost of the entire kit (threads plus fabric) will be around \$130.

The threads listed below can be ordered at 123Stitch or Needle in a Haystack.

<https://123stitch.com/> <http://www.needlestack.com/>

Using DMC floss will cost you around \$50.00 for the entire kit.

If you want to use inexpensive variegated threads for each of the motifs, take a look at Cosmo Seasons embroidery floss as well as DMC color variations floss. These retail for much less than the flosses and silks listed below. If you haven't used variegated threads much, this would be an opportunity to get some experience stitching with them.

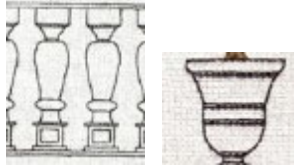
Threads I used:

DMC Suggestions:

Classic Colorworks floss 156 Almost Auburn	433
Classic Colorworks soie 90 Hula Skirt	V4050 or V4069
Cosmo Seasons Variegated floss 8024	986
Dinky Dyes silk 189 Evergreen	520
Gloriana silk 160 Blythe Green	987
Gloriana silk 200 Leaf Green	906 or 908
The Gentle Art 7098 Black Licorice – 2 skeins	310 x 2
The Gentle Art 410 Tarnished Gold	434 or 829
Silk'N'Colors 47 Willow Green	3347
SNC 76 Chocolate Caramel	801
SNC 85 Holiday Greenery	3346
SNC 181 Golden Pines	367 or 471 or 581
SNC 326 Clover Leaf	906 or 3363
Soie d'Alger 4215 Earthen Brown	400

To help you in selecting threads from your stash, thumbnails of the motifs and the general color I used are given below:

Urns, stairs and balustrades – black



Globe topiaries large and small – pine green



Left side swirl topiary – pine green



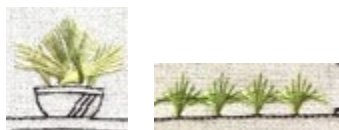
Privet shrub on top left stairs – leaf or grass green



Right side spiky topiary – olive green



Privet Shrub on the top right stairs, and grasses - light green/yellow



Cone topiaries – medium to dark olive green



Spiral Topiaries - Dark Pine Green



Left and right side spiralling trees - variegated yellow/green or light yellow-green

