Compliments of The Caron Collection and Our Featured Designer

Colonial Knot Ring Pillow

by Sandie Lush of Winterbourne, England

Requirements

- 1 skein Caron Watercolours thread (This sample was worked in color 131 Banana)
- 12 inch square top fabric. This can be silk, satin, cotton, lawn or calico
- 12 inch square fine lawn or muslin
- 12 inch square wadding
- 8 inch square backing fabric. This may be the same as the top fabric or plain cotton
- 1¾ yds x 1 inch wide lace
- 2 x 1 yd lengths of ¼ inch wide ribbon
- 1 packet Mill Hill Seed Beads
- Size 22 Chenille needle
- Quilting needle
- Quilting thread to match fabric
- Polyfill or similar to fill cushion
- 10 inch quilting or embroidery hoop
- Pattern (See page 3)

NOTE: A 7 inch scale line is included in the pattern, if re-scaling, using a photocopier/Xerox is necessary. When printing out the PDF file, ensure that the 'shrink oversized pages to paper size' is unchecked in the Print Dialog box (accessed via Ctrl-P).

Instructions

1) Center the top fabric over the pattern and trace all of the design on to it using an artist's watercolour pencil or marker of your choice. It is suggested that you mark the position of the beads in a different colour pencil to those for the knots to avoid confusion later!

2) Layer the muslin, wadding and marked top together and tack with a white tacking thread. Place in a quilting or embroidery hoop.

3) Using the chenille needle and following the diagrams given, work all the Colonial knots using **one strand** of Caron Watercolours thread where indicated by open circles. Detailed instructions for creating colonial knots can be found on page 4 and 5.

4) Quilt (by hand or machine) the dotted lines.

5) Sew in the beads where indicated by filled circles. These may be quilted or backstitched into position.

6) Secure the two ribbon lengths in the centre of the cushion and finish off with a seed bead to hide the stitches. Tie the ribbons in a bow so that they don't get in the way.

7) Run a gathering thread along the inside edge of the whole length of lace and ease this to fit around the cushion just outside the inner of the solid lines around the pattern. Tack into position with the lace lying towards the centre of the cushion.

8) With a rotary cutter, trim the cushion top to 8 inches square

9) With right sides together pin the cushion back to the finished cushion front. Being careful to anchor the start and end points with backstitches, machine stitch around the sides of the cushion to leave a 4-inch gap midway along one side.

10) Turn the cushion right-side out and check that all the lace is secure. Turn the remaining seam allowances to the inside and finger press in place.

11) Stuff the cushion with Polyfill or similar and then slip stitch the 4-inch gap closed.

12) Attach rings using the ribbon strands in the centre of the cushion.

Knot Instructions

1. Make a knot in the end of the perlé thread and bury this in the wrong side of your work.

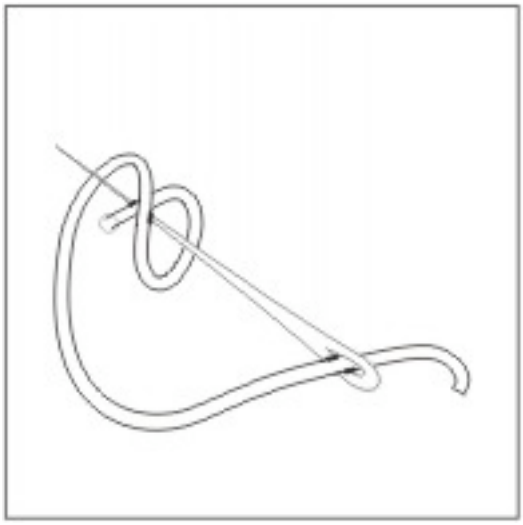
Bring the needle and thread through to the right side of the fabric, directly under a dot marking a knot position.

2. With your left hand, hold the thread about 2" to the left of where it emerges from the fabric, keeping it straight and parallel to the fabric.

With your right hand, hold the needle with the point facing away from you. Lay the needle across the thread and rotate the needle tip down and around the thread in an anticlockwise direction.

3. The thread should now lie clockwise around the needle.

With your left hand, rotate the thread over and then under the needle tip in an anticlockwise direction.



4. The thread should now be in a figure of eight around the needle.

5. Keeping the thread held in your left hand taut, push the tip of the needle back into the fabric close to where the thread emerged.

Pull the needle and thread through to the wrong side, easing off the tension slightly as the eye of the needle passes through the formed knot.

6. Pull the knot tight. Bring needle up at the next knot position and repeat.

To end a thread, oversew or knot off securely on the wrong side of your work.

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