

Dragonfly and Cattails

A Study in Silk and Metal Thread Embroidery



Margaret Kinsey

Some Closeups



Course Description

When one is near a marshy area in late summer/early autumn in our state, one sees the elegant dragonflies in abundance. They love these marshy places for breeding and survival.

Dragonflies have fascinated artists since early times. We find them in carvings, textiles, jewelry, decorating furniture, paintings, and subjects of poetry. Myths and legends about dragonflies abound.

Come join us and create this beautiful golden dragonfly using 3 sizes purls, metal wire thread, metallic organza, and Japan metallic threads. Brick pattern couching technique, diagonal satin stitch, and French Filling stitch, colored wire purls using chip-ping technique over padding. The background fabric is silk shantung.

Student will learn to assemble the frame and transfer the design to the fabric, and dress the frame in the traditional western culture style.

This is a beginning silk and metal thread exercise.

Time: 2 days (12 hours)

Proficiency level: Basic

Kit cost: \$70.00

Design size: 5.5 W X 8.5H Inches

Overall size: 9 X 12 Inches

Yellow or silver quilter's pencil or the Ultimate™ Marking pencil,**

A mechanical pencil with graphite lead or an artist pencil

Magnification and light – a must in most seminar classrooms

Goals:

Review basic techniques of silk and metal thread embroidery.

Work with Soie ovale.

Review and work with basic couching techniques using Japan thread such as brick pattern couching, and turning corners

Work with felt and thread padding

Review working with Purls

Working with a pliable metal wire (relatively new product)

Creating and attaching wings

Reinforce the student's knowledge of silk and metal thread techniques.

Inspire the students to continue their embroidery education.

Kit Contents:

| | | |
|---|------|-------------------------|
| Silk Shantung | Blue | 10 X 12 inches |
| Muslin Backing | | Hemmed and ready to use |
| Lacing Threads | | 3 yards |
| Tissue Tape | | |
| White silk thread for attaching tissue tape | | |
| Soie Ovale | | #s2125 & 2123 |
| 2 sizes gilt check purl | | |
| Wire Purl | | Brown |
| #7 gilt rough purl | | |
| #3 Japan imitation thread | | |
| Metallic organza, | | gold |
| Black and gold wool felt for padding | | |
| White Cotton thread for padding | | |

Student Supplies:

| | |
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| Stretcher Bars | 1 pair 10 inch bars 1 pair 12 inch bar, |
|----------------|--|

| | |
|--------------|--|
| Frame holder | a clamp, a sand bag or your preference |
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Scissors for cutting silk
Scissors for cutting metal
Scissors for cutting felt, ribbon, paper and cord

Fine Pointed Tweezers

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|------------------|--|
| Needle threaders | 1. A fine wire one for fine needles' eyes 2. A regular tapestry needle threader |
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Beeswax – not Thread Heaven – good quality beeswax can be found in bead shops,
and fine needlework stores

Thumb tacks or a staple gun and staples

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|-------|------------------------------|
| Ruler | 6" see-through clear plastic |
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Notebook and pencil for note taking
2 Pencils for pattern making