

TEMPLATES

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YOUR GIFT

By Jenny Blair

PAGE 7



01 Cut out the monstera leaves and plant pot templates on page 92, pin on to the required felt colours, then cut around.

02 Place the fabric in the hoop, making sure the design is central. Take two strands of black thread and stitch the plant pots in place, using straight stitches on the blue and pink pots and French knots on the yellow pot. Refer to the images as a guide to design and placement.

03 Secure the monstera leaves in place using backstitch and three strands of aqua green thread, stitching along the veins to attach the leaves to the background. Use the printed fabric as a guide for placement and where to stitch.

04 Embroider the pilea leaves with two strands of aqua green thread, using backstitch to outline the leaf shape and the stems. Fill the circular leaves with

straight stitches that radiate out from the dot within each leaf to the outer edge. Embroider the string of pearls plant using two strands of moss green thread. Stitch the 'strings' first with split stitch and then add the 'pearls' using French knots.

05 Add the rope element of the hanging plant pot using straight stitches and two strands of black thread. Stitch a small French knot to create the knot below the pot.

Take three strands of the brown thread and stitch the shelves using long stitch.

06 To finish, trim the excess fabric to at least 1cm ($\frac{3}{8}$ ") larger than the hoop. Sew running stitch along the edge, then pull the thread so the fabric gathers at the back. Secure the gathered fabric in place with a few stitches on top of each other. You can also neaten by glueing a circle of matching felt to the back.

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