

Red silk clutch purse

This purse can be made as separate project, or to complement the outfit in the magazine flair machine embroidery UK.

Requirements.

Husqvarna mult-format CD E73, Blooming Elegance by Sari Ahokainen

- Length of red dupion silk. 15 inches x 13 inches
- Length of lining to match 15 inches x 13 inches
- Length of tearaway stabiliser 15 inches x 13 inches
- Embroidery sewing machine capable of using a computerised design and a conventional sewing machine or a combined unit
- Minimum 5 inch x 7 inch hoop
- Software compatible with the embroidery machine
- Embroidery threads to complement your chosen colour fabric
- Dressmakers pencil
- Number 70 needle for the clutch bag construction, number 80 needle for the embroidery
- 8 inches of decorative flanged beading
- Small gold button
- Straight stitch foot.
- Embroidery foot.

Silk is a very difficult fabric to work with. It is wise to double check all seam lines, and embroidery placements, as you cannot unpick and sew again, holes are left behind, even using the finest needle. Do not press with a steam iron, use a dry iron or water marks will appear, 100% Dupion silk is dry cleanable only.

I don't advise finishing the edges of fabric pieces prior to making a bustier as it can alter the shaping of the curves. The seams need to be perfectly marked and sewn to make the exact shape, and to be able to snip into the curves with precision.

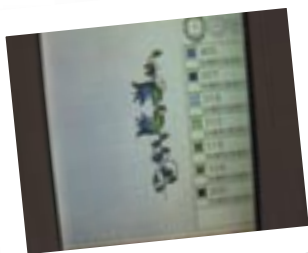


1 Fold the 15 inch x 13 inch piece of silk fabric in half horizontally, so that it measures 7.5 inches by 13 inches. Press with a dry iron.

Open the fabric out again. Lightly finger press the centre vertical axis.

Hoop the sticky stabiliser Even though the sticky is essentially a lightweight tearaway, the design is not stitch intensive, so it is sufficient for this stabilising. Press down to adhere the fabric to the stabiliser, lining up the pressed line with the long side of the hoop, and ensuring the grain line of the fabric is straight.

Tip Use masking tape to hold it more securely at the base. When you tighten the screws on a large hoop, the laws of physics cause the sides to expand very slightly, the masking tape stops the stabiliser from moving.



2 Use the editing function in your machine to take design 3 as far to the side of the hoops sewing area as you can, so the design is parallel to the pressed line. Sew out the design.



3 Remove the sew out from the hoop, tear away excess stabiliser and cut the fabric in half.

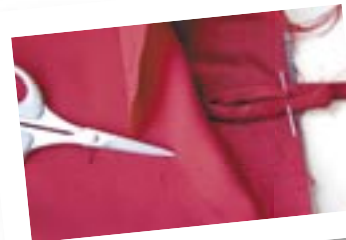
I have chosen to use this method, so the silk frays less, a neat edge is important to get the base of the bag straight. If you have an overlocker, neaten the edges. Pin the flanged beads to the bottom, making sure that the beaded side lies inside.

4 Sew the base of the bag, trapping the flanged beads in the seam. Sew as close to the beads as possible. Top stitch if you wish.

5 Turn the bag over, so that the inside is uppermost. Using a ruler, measure 1.5 inches from each end of the embroidery, and draw a straight line from top to bottom using a dress makers pencil. Trim 1/4 inch away from the outside of this line. Use temporary adhesive, and stick the tearaway stabiliser to this side. Turn the bag over, so that the front is uppermost. Place the lining on top, and trim to the same size



6 Cut a 3 inches x 1 inch piece of fabric on the bias, fold together, and sew 1/4 inch in from the folded edge. Trim close to the stitching, and turn right sides out. Fold in half, to form a loop. Mark the centre spot of the top back, and tack the loop into place.



7 Sew around the edges of the bag, trapping the loop, but leaving a 3 inch gap on one side edge. Turn to the right side, and tack the gap closed. Press.



8 With the right sides together, stitch up each side seam, tapering the seam slightly inwards towards the top, to shape the edges. Turn back to the right side, and stitch the gold button to the front, pull the loop over the button.