

# CORAL HIBISCUS

Designed by **KERI DESIGNS- KERI DUKE**

Stitch guide by River Silks Ltd. Copyright © 2008 River Silks Ltd.

Painted area 5.5X5, canvas 9X9, 14 mesh

**Materials needed:** 9 X 9 stretcher bars, #22-24 tapestry needles

**River Silks Ltd. 100% silk, hand dyed ribbon**

Information (877) 944-7444

[www.riversilks.com](http://www.riversilks.com)

4mm	Color	Spools	7mm	Color	Spools
281	Odye aspen/damson	1	83	CYPRESS	2
209	GARNET	1			
104	Odye Yellow/wine	1			
103	Odye Deesrt Flower/org	2			
10	DESERT FLOWER	2			
70	STONE GREEN	1			
75	FOG GREEN	5			

**GARNET CENTER** Color 209

**PETALS:** Colors: 10, 103, 104

**PISTIL:** Color 281

**LEAVES:** Color 83, 70

**BACKGROUND:** Color: 75

## GENERAL PLANNING

Attach the canvas to the stretcher bars preferably using tacks.

There is no need to ply the silk ribbon. You will want to work with 2 to 3 foot lengths of ribbon. The ribbon won't show wear so don't worry.

**THREADING THE NEEDLE:** Cut the ribbon on the diagonal. Insert point of the ribbon through the eye of the needle. Then insert the point of the needle through the ribbon cut end about 1/2" from the cut. Pull the long tail to secure the ribbon to the needle.

**SECURING THE RIBBON TO THE CANVAS:** We have chosen not to use an "away knot" as it is unnecessary with River Silks ribbon. **There is an easier way.** Bring the needle up through an empty hole where you want to begin. Pull the needle and ribbon through the canvas leaving about a one-inch tail of ribbon on the back of the canvas. With a finger press that tail flat against the canvas. Go back down through an adjacent hole passing through both the canvas and the ribbon tail. Try not to stitch through your finger! With your finger still pressing on the tail pull the needle and ribbon through the canvas and keep pulling until the ribbon is secure on the canvas. Check the back of the canvas to see that there are no loose ends. This is called the "Canvas Lock Stitch".

**HELPFUL HINTS:** The ribbon does not need to be pulled tightly. Untwist the ribbon as you stitch and lay the ribbon with a laying tool to show the surface. Stitching style will affect the number of spools required. The “economy stitch” is quite acceptable if you are pleased with the look. With shorter stitches this is not always the best.

**I RAN OUT OF RIBBON. NOW WHAT?** When you need to add more ribbon to continue stitching or to change color or width of ribbon use this easy technique. Select your new piece of ribbon and secure it to a new needle using the “Needle Lock Stitch” described previously. On the wrong side of the canvas cut the ribbon you had been using (removing the old needle) leaving about a 1 1/2 inch tail. Hold that tail and pierce it with your new needle and ribbon very close to the surface of the canvas, keep pulling the new ribbon leaving another 1 1/2 inch tail. Put that tail over the next hole that you want to stitch and put the needle through that new tail and the canvas. Keep on pulling until secure. Turn the canvas to the right side and continue stitching. You may trim those tails to a half-inch as desired.

### **CANVAS MANAGEMENT**

**BACKGROUND:** Stitch in BRICK horizontally. It is easiest to turn the canvas 90 degrees and start next to the flower petals and work across to the edges and down to the side of the picture. Stitch over five holes. Final row should have all stitches ending in a straight edge.  
Petals and leaves can stitch over onto the background.

**LEAVES:** Stitch in LEAF STITCH starting at the tip and working down the leaf towards the flower alternating sides for symmetry. Finish with a STEM STITCH in the lighter color for the rib of the leaf.

**FLOWER CENTER AND PETALS:** Stitch in BRICK STITCH over five holes filling in the petals in the direction in which they lay (vertical, horizontal, diagonal). Start with the burgundy center. The final stitch on the edges of the petals is a RIBBON STITCH with a small loop overlapping the background or leaf. A suggestion when stitching the petal at 11 o'clock would be to complete that petal and omit part of the leaf between the petals.

**PISTIL:** The yellow pistil is stitched in BRICK STITCH over three holes with double wrapped FRENCH KNOTS filling the tip.

**HAVE FUN!**