

#6911 AFRICAN DAISY
Designed BY LEIGH DESIGNS
 STITCH DESIGN COPYRIGHT © 2004 RIVER SILKS LTD.

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

4mm	Color name	Spools	7mm	Color name	Spools
#92	Summer shower	1	#3	Dandelion	3
#97H	Over dye lemonade	1	#6	Aspen gold	3
#135H	Over dye golden rod	1	#174	Macaroon	2
#199	Copper	1	#177	Dachshund	1
			#189	Licorice	1
			#201	Buff yellow	1
			#48	Yolk yellow	1

You will work with both 4mm and 7mm Silk Ribbon

PETALS: Colors 3, 6, 48, 174, 177 and 201

BLACK CENTER: Color 189

WHITE SECTION: Color 92

CENTER: Colors 6, 48, 97H, 135H and 199

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. This is called the "Needle Eye Lock Stitch".

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

This flower is best started from the outside petals working towards the center. As you work inwards overlap all stitches to give a natural effect and improve coverage. In overlapping the needle should be inserted through an existing long Satin Stitch. Don't worry the ribbon will not run! This technique lets you build the flower towards the center. Mix and match the colors as seems most reasonable to you. Be an impressionist!

PETALS: Begin working from the outside edge using long Satin Stitches. The curved edges are done with Side Ribbon Stitches* inserting the needle at the right or left edge of

* **SIDE RIBBON STITCH** - For this stitch the needle pierces the edge of the ribbon close to the selvage. As you slowly pull through you will see that a curl is created. Piercing the right edge of the ribbon gives a curl on the left and piercing the left edge gives a curl on the right.

the ribbon for the curved effect. Work all the way around the canvas before moving inwards.

BLACK CENTER: Use Ray or Scallop Stitch.

WHITE SECTION: Use Colonial Knots** or knot of choice.

CENTER: For long vertical lines use Pistil Stitch***. Fill with French Knots or Colonial Knots. Mix the colors.

** The **COLONIAL KNOT** is really just a **French knot** that's started with an added twist. Bring the needle and thread up through the canvas. Position the ribbon towards you at 6 o'clock. Hold it about 4 inches from the canvas, but don't pull it tight. Bring the end of the needle across the ribbon near the canvas. Next hook the needle under the ribbon so the needle is now pointing to 9 o'clock. Make certain that you have enough of the tip of the needle free for the next step. This needle position looks just like it did at the start of your **French knot**. So you'll finish the **French knot**: place a single wrap around the needle and put the tip of the needle just into the canvas. With your free hand gently pull the ribbon until the wrap slides down the needle and meets the canvas. Let the ribbon go. The ribbon should now be lightly snugged against the needle and canvas. Pull the needle through the canvas and carefully keep pulling the ribbon through until you have the desired knot.

*** **THE PISTIL STITCH:** Do a **French knot** but instead of going up and down the same hole, go down about 6 or 7 holes away. This creates a **Pistil stitch** referring to the "pistil" of a flower. The length of the **Pistil stitch** can vary, as you desire. Adding a **French knot** to the end of any straight stitch can give a similar **Pistil stitch** effect. If you choose this technique you can become an impressionist by using a different color ribbon for the French knot!