

## CLEMATIS

Designed BY LEIGH DESIGNS FOR DOROTHY FRYE

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**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 name	Spools	7mm	Color name	Spools
239	Apricot	1	219	Eggplant	3
176	Nougat	1	170	Boysenberry	3
229	Chinese yellow	1	208	Radiant Orchid	2
44	Sharp green	1	191	Dazzling Rose	1
193	White pearl	1	18	Orchid Pink	1
202	White White	1	52	Pale Lilac	1
52	Pale Lilac	1			
18	Orchid Pink	1			
191	Dazzling Rose	1			
208	Radiant Orchid	1			

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

**PETALS:** Colors: 219, 170, 208, 191, 18, 52, 202, 193 (other color suggestions to consider 223, 238, 54, 272, 164, 163 in 7mm or 4mm )

**CENTER:** Colors 176, 229, 44, 193, 239

### 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

**BASIC CONCEPT:** 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 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!

**CENTER:** Begin with the center area mixing colors with knots of choice (French or Colonial) filling the general area. The number of wraps depends of the amount of 3D effect desired. Come back at the very end to add some detached twisted stitches and some pistil stitches with single wrapped knots for the fuzzy parts.

**PETALS:** Begin working from the outside edge using long Satin Stitches or Straight Stitches. The curved edges are done with Side Ribbon Stitches\* inserting the needle at the right or left edge of the ribbon for the curved effect. Work all the way around the canvas before moving inwards. Lay the straight stitches first and come back to overlap with the curved ribbon stitches from the outside towards the center. It may take several stitches in width to give you the effect desired.

Stitches can be longer on the outer edge and become shorter as you move to the center. If you want the striped parts to be above the petal rather than part of the petal, you can stitch the total petal first and stitch on top the striped sections again starting at the outer end and moving toward the center. Backstitch or Stem Stitch can give a slightly ridged effect

**HAVE FUN!**

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\* **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.