

Spring Quail

The Blue Flower

Finishing Instructions:



Once the pieces are stitched, press them and trim around the stitched area. (The margin of fabric will depend on how much of a border you want to have, but I generally leave a margin of 1-2 inches for a pillow, and 1/2" for a biscornu.) Then trim interfacing to fit within the stitched area, and attach it to the back of the stitched piece.



For the pillows:

Cut a piece of backing fabric the same size as your stitched piece. Put the stitched piece and backing fabric together with the right sides facing together in the center. (I generally use a pencil and clear ruler to mark a line on the back of the linen where I'd like to put the seam.)



Then sew around the pillow along the seam line. But be sure to leave an open space in the seam so that you can turn the pillow afterward. Once the pieces are stitched together, trim the seams and clip the corners. Finger press the fabric at the seam opening, so that it folds back at the seam line. Then, using the seam opening, turn the pillow right side out.

Stuff the pillow with whatever material you prefer, then sew the seam opening closed using a whip stitch or ladder stitch.

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For the biscornu:



Trim the top and bottom piece and apply interfacing to the back of each (as described in the pillow finishing instructions).

To begin stitching, match the corner of the bottom design to the center of the top design (in the middle of the flower petal). You can do this the other way around, but the top of this design has a center point that's easy to identify.



Whip stitch around the edges of the biscornu, going through each of the back stitches around the edge of the top and bottom pieces. Check each time you reach a corner or midpoint, and be sure the pieces are still lined up properly. If the corner no longer matches up with the midpoint, just remove your whip stitches and go back to the last matching point. Continue around the edge of the biscornu, until you reach the last side of the seam.



Fill the biscornu with whatever stuffing you prefer, and then whip stitch through the back-stitched edges until the entire seam is closed.

Using a long needle (a beading needle is particularly good for this), sew through the center of the biscornu to form a little divot. You can use a button to mark the center, or just make a tidy "x" through the center from top to bottom.

