## Bees In The Greenhouse

The Blue Flower

#### Finishing Instructions:

Once the pieces are stitched, press the fabric and trim around the stitched area, leaving 1/2" of fabric around the line of back stitching. Then trim interfacing to fit within the stitched area, and attach it to the back of the stitched piece. (As the piece is an unusual shape, you can lay out the interfacing over the stitching, and use a pencil to trace the outline of the design, then cut the interfacing to fit.)

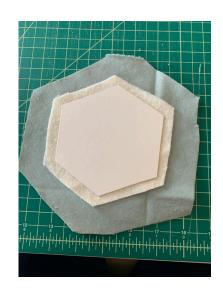






Finger-press the side seams back from the front of the stitched piece. Then, using the back-stitched line on each side, sew the two sides of the design together.

Using mat paper, cut a hexagon slightly smaller than the base of your piece. (The size of the hexagon will vary depending on the count of your stitched fabric. If you have a quilting hexagon template that would be very useful to try out different sizes.) Then cut a hexagon of cotton batting slightly larger than the mat paper hexagon, and a hexagon of base fabric slightly larger than both.



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Attach the batting to the mat board using stitchery tape. Then place the mat hexagon on the bottom fabric (with the batting against the back side of the fabric). Lace the bottom fabric securely around the hexagon.



Finger-press the fabric back around the base of the stitched piece. Pin the fabric hexagon in place, making sure that it fits within the edges. Then whip stitch through the line of backstitching at the base of the stitched piece and into the fabric covering the hexagon. (I like to use an upturned glass as a support to keep everything level for pinning and stitching.)





Once the hexagon has been attached, flip the piece over and fill up to the beginning of the triangle top pieces. (I like to use walnut shells, because they're heavy and give the piece good stability.)

Then begin whip stitching each side of the triangles together through the line of back stitches. Be sure to keep the stitches matched up, or the top will not meet properly. Just finger press the excess fabric out of the way as you stitch up each seam.



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As you reach the top of each seam, anchor your thread and then leave the excess thread hanging loosely at the top. When only one seam remains open, fill the top of the "greenhouse" with your preferred stuffing. Then stitch up the final seam and gather all the loose threads at the top.





Make a small tassel using excess thread in a coordinating color. Then use the extra threads gathered at the top to anchor the tassel in place.

