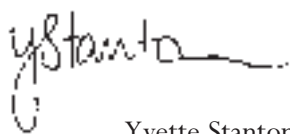




Welcome again to NeedleNews. I'm sure everyone is gearing up for Christmas, and making some very special embroidered gifts for family and friends. We have lots of useful information included, which should

inspire you to get cracking with your embroidery!



Yvette Stanton

christmas decoration kits

We have a number of new kits available, and this issue we are featuring our new Christmas decoration kits. I know that many of you enjoy making Christmas decorations as gifts for people.

As a follow up to our highly successful 2002 blackwork decorations, we have a gorgeous new set, this time in navy, gold and white.



We also have an elegant smocked Christmas decoration. The kit features pre-pleated fabric, materials, and all the instructions you need to complete the project.



after sales service

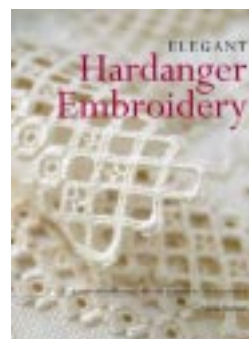
I would not like to think that you have unfinished Vetty Creations projects sitting around because you've gotten stuck and lost your way, or maybe you can't figure out

where to start! Because of that we offer after sales service on all our projects, whether they are from one of our patterns, kits, books or even classes. Just post, call or email us with your questions. We love to help!

Elegant Hardanger Embroidery: a step-by-step manual for beginners to advanced

The new, revised edition of *Elegant Hardanger Embroidery* has now been released onto the Australian and New Zealand markets.

If you are new to Hardanger, or you already know how to make it, this book has great information for you. With comprehensive step-by-step stitch instructions, and 15 projects graded from beginners to advanced, *Elegant Hardanger Embroidery* has something for everyone.



For Australians and New Zealanders, the book is available from all good needlework and craft shops, or by mail order from Vetty Creations, and from our website.

website relaunch

Keep watching our website, which I am currently revising in its entirety. In the next few months it will be relaunched, with a new look catalogue, and fantastic and informative new articles on Hardanger and Mountmellick embroidery. Check it out at: <http://www.embroidery.more.at>

upcoming classes

Recently I was privileged to gain accreditation with the NSW Embroiderer's Guild as a tutor in Mountmellick and Hardanger embroidery. This means that I will soon be teaching at the guild's headquarters and am available to guild groups.

I am also currently working with various shop owners to schedule embroidery classes for next year. For those of you in and around Melbourne, it is likely that I will have more Mountmellick classes there next year, so keep your eyes peeled!

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www.hardanger.how.to • www.mountmellick.how.to

Don't forget that if you are in Sydney, or going to be visiting Sydney, you are welcome to arrange a private lesson for yourself or with a small group. Classes are based in Hornsby, one of Sydney's northern suburbs, and can be tailored specifically to your needs.

features in recent magazines

Keep a look out for our Christmas projects in the October issues of *Embroidery and Cross Stitch* (a smoked Christmas ball), and *Australian Country Craft and Decorating* (4 blackwork Christmas decorations). There was also a profile of me in the same issue of *Australian Country Craft and Decorating*.



question and answer

If you would like to submit a question, please send it to me at the postal or email address on the front of the newsletter.

Q What type of needle should I use for Hardanger?

A Hardanger embroidery is a counted embroidery. This means that each stitch needs to sit in a particular place, as determined by the chart. The stitches need to be placed so that their ends are in the spaces between the fabric threads. (Many other forms of embroidery do not require this, they can come out through the fabric threads, even piercing the threads.)

So that the needle is less likely to pierce the fabric threads, we use a blunt pointed needle – a tapestry needle. This slips between the threads more easily than a sharp needle does.

Q How can I know what size needle to use for my embroidery?

A You should choose a needle that is the right size for the thread you are working with. Using one which is too small will cause extra wear on your thread. Using one that is too big will mean that slips out of the eye too often.

View our website at www.embroidery.more.at

To choose the right size, find a needle that is the approximate thickness of the doubled thread. This is the appropriate guide, because doubled thread is what you will need to pull through the fabric (coming from the eye, you will have the working part of the thread, and the tail). If you choose a needle that is too small, the needle will not create a large enough hole for the doubled thread to go through, meaning that the thread will wear more quickly. It also may be difficult to thread the eye.

Keep in mind that eye sizes can vary between brands of needle, or even just between needles of the same brand. You might find that No 24 is just right for your thread with one brand of needle, but if you switch to another, it might be too small.

If you are having difficulty with worn or breaking threads, change up a needle size. If you have problems with the needle unthreading all the time, change down a size.

embroidery discussion groups

Have you joined our Yahoo Mountmellick or Hardanger discussion groups yet? You can learn with others about embroidery by posting your questions. The groups are moderated by me, and you will usually get a helpful answer to your question within 24 hours. Because there are members from all around the world, you may get an answer even sooner! You can join the groups from the Vetty Creations website.

competition winner!

It is with great pleasure that I announce that S. Gale of Lidcombe NSW is the winner of the \$25 Vetty Creations gift voucher! S. Gale nominated The Crewel Gobelin at Killara as her favourite needlework shop. She wrote a lovely letter describing all the features of the shop that she loves.

Congratulations to S. Gale and her favourite shop The Crewel Gobelin! Thank you to all our competition entrants.

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The information contained in this newsletter is general in nature and should not be relied upon. You should seek advice for your specific circumstances.