



VISIBLE MENDING

How to embroider a 'Skull Flower'



ESSENTIALS

- Item of clothing to repair
- Needle
- Embroidery Thread
- Pen
- Scissors

USEFUL TO HAVE

- Embroidery hoop
- Scraps of material
- Transfer paper or water-soluble fabric

What do you need?

REPAIR SITE



The skull flower is suitable for covering small holes or tears and split seams.

If the area around the hole or tear is also thin and worn, you may need to strengthen the area with a patch of fabric on the reverse side of the garment.

The flower petals are the best parts to place over a hole or tear as the fishbone stitch works well to securely cover an area.

If you prefer, the skull can also be placed over the hole or tear, but you may need to add a patch on the reverse so that the stitches have something to hold on to.



PLACEMENT



GATHER TOGETHER EVERYTHING YOU NEED

PRINT OUT THE DESIGN



Print out the skull flower design or use it as a guide to draw directly onto the garment.

Change the size of the design outline depending on the size of your repair.





TRANSFER THE DESIGN ONTO THE FABRIC

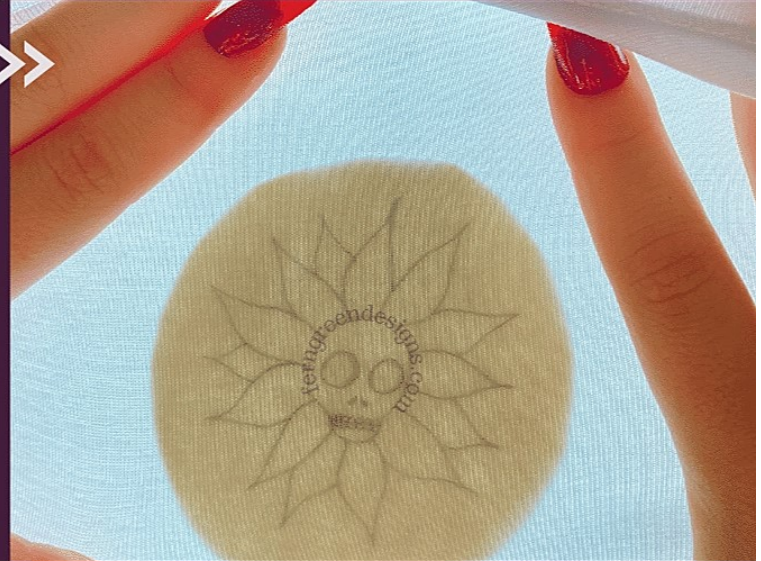
The easiest way is to draw the design directly onto the fabric using a pen. If you have dark fabric, use a white marker pen.

Not keen on drawing the design freehand? Then you will need to transfer the design outline onto the fabric.

FOR LIGHT FABRIC

Place the design template against a window. Place the fabric over the top and using a pen, trace the design outline onto the fabric. It even works on a grey, rainy day.

If you have a lightbox, you can also use this too.



FOR DARK FABRIC

Use transfer paper and a pen to transfer the outline. Place the transfer paper onto the fabric and place the design on top of the transfer paper.

Trace the design outline using a ball-point pen. Press firmly but not so hard that the paper tears.

FOR LIGHT OR DARK FABRIC

Print the design onto soluble stick-and-sew fabric. This can then be stuck onto the fabric and the design is stitched through the soluble fabric.

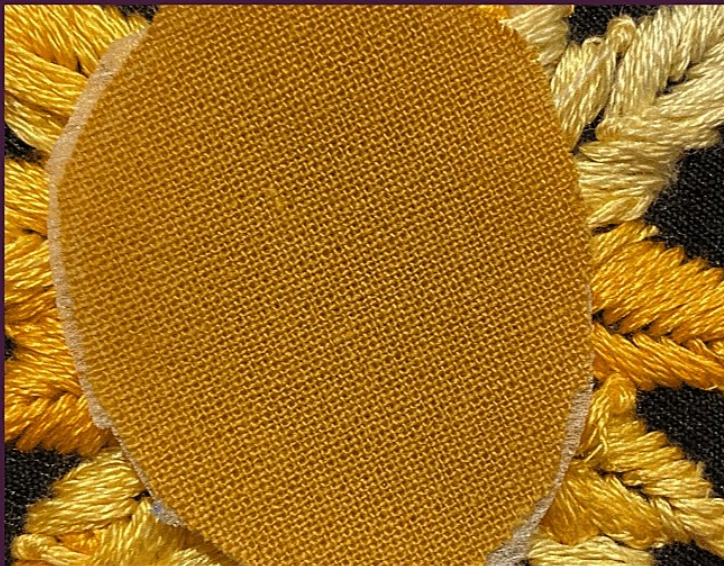
Once the design is finished the soluble fabric paper is removed by soaking in cold water.





Pick the colours for your design. Remember, the bigger your design, the more thread you will need.

Fill the petals using the fishbone stitch.



If the area around the hole or tear is worn and thin, you may need to add a patch on the reverse to strengthen the area.

Back stitch or split stitch around the edge of the skull.

Back stitch or split stitch around the eye sockets.

Add French knots for teeth.





Add individual stitches around and in between the teeth to add as a divider.

Fill the eye sockets using satin stitch. Make sure the stitches follow the same direction.



Fill the skull using long / short stitch. Add a couple of straight stitches for the nose.

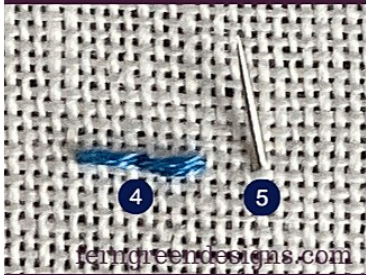
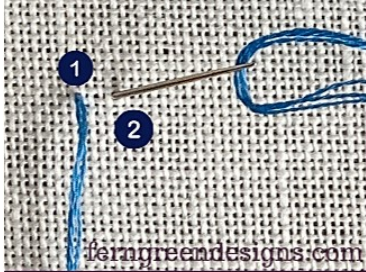
Finished!

Your design is complete and your garment has a new lease of life!



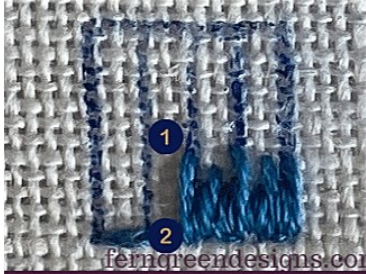
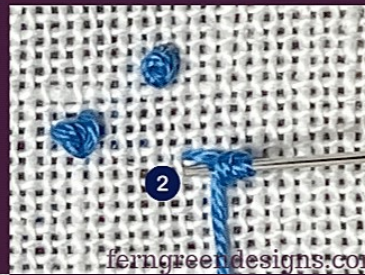
BACK STITCH

- Bring the needle from the back of the fabric at (1), to the front.
- Push the needle in at (2) - one stitch length away from (1). Pull the thread all the way through.
- Bring the needle out at (3).
- Push the needle back in at (4) - same hole as (2).
- Bring the needle out at (5). Repeat as required.



FRENCH KNOT

- Bring the needle from the back of the fabric at (1).
- Wrap the thread 2 - 3 times around the tip of the needle.
- Keeping the thread taut, push the needle in at (2) - close to (1).
- Pull the thread through the fabric until a knot forms on the front of the fabric.

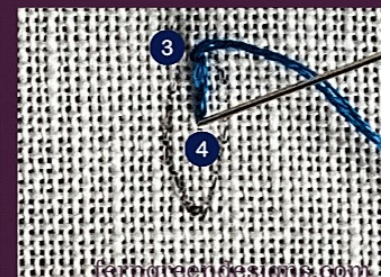
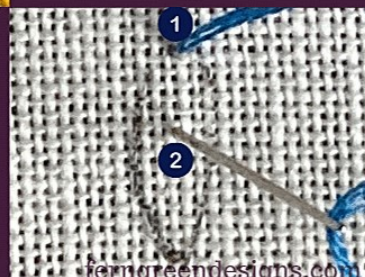


LONG / SHORT STITCH

- Outline the edge of the shape with back stitch or slip stitch.
- The first row has alternating long and short straight stitches, (1) to (2), close to each other. (2) is on the outside of the edging stitch.
- Subsequent rows are made of only long stitches, with each new stitch starting in the stitches of the previous row (3).
- For the last row, the final stitch (4) is placed outside the edging stitch.

FISHBONE STITCH

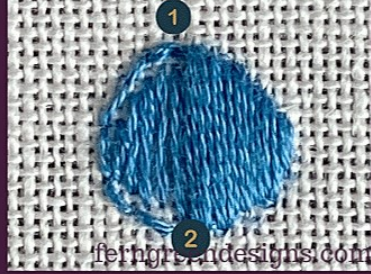
- Make a central stitch from (1) to (2).
- Bring the needle out at (3), close to, but slightly left of (1).
- Push the needle back in at (4), directly below (2).
- Bring the needle out at (5), close to but slightly to the right of (1).
- Push the needle back in at (6), directly below (4). Continue along the edge of the petal shape.



SATIN STITCH



ferngreendesigns.com



ferngreendesigns.com



ferngreendesigns.com



ferngreendesigns.com

- First, outline the shape using back stitch.
- Make several parallel stitches inside the shape.
- To fill the shape, start by making a central guideline from (1) to (2) across the shape.
- Repeat these lines until the shape is filled.
- Make sure the stitches are outside the edging stitch.

I hope you've enjoyed using this free guide showing you how to stitch the skull flower to repair clothing. A complete 'Skull Flower' repair kit will be available in the web shop from 03 December 2022.

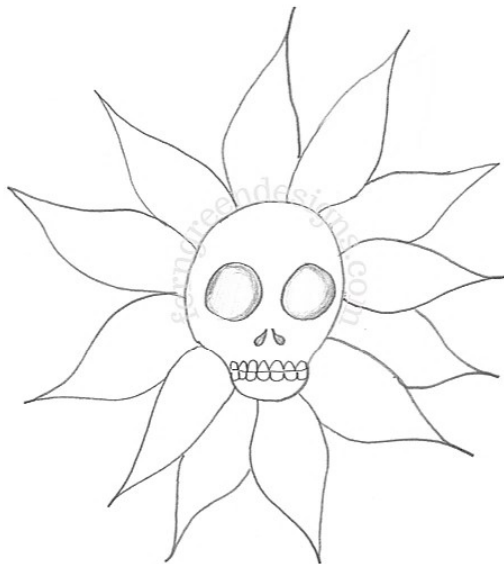
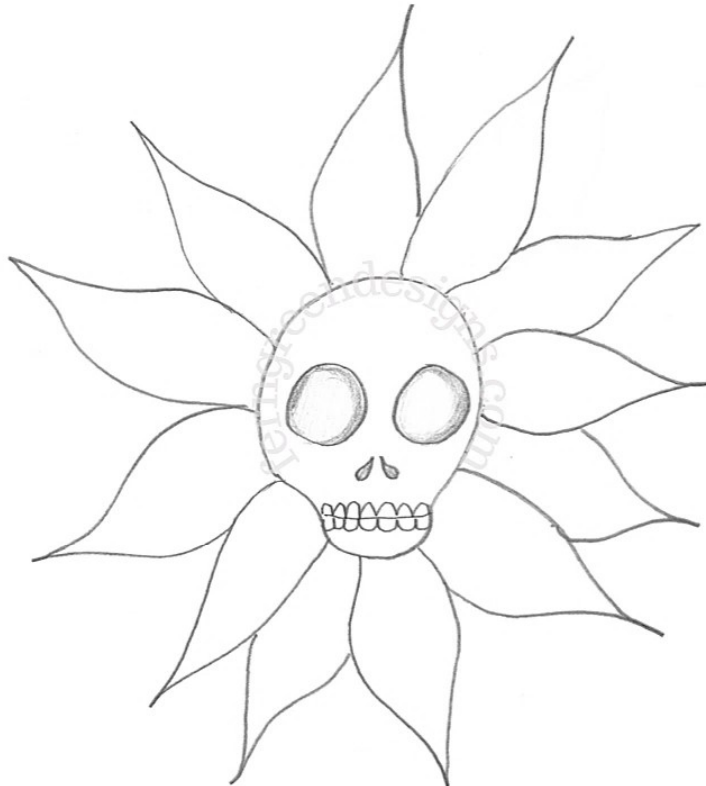
ferngreendesigns.com



Fern Green
Designs

'Skull Flower' Design Outline

Print out a design outline big enough to cover the hole or tear.



© Fern Green Designs 2022

ferngreendesigns.com