

FLORENTINE EMBROIDERY DESIGNS

By Helen Mar Adams

DESIGNS BY THE AUTHOR

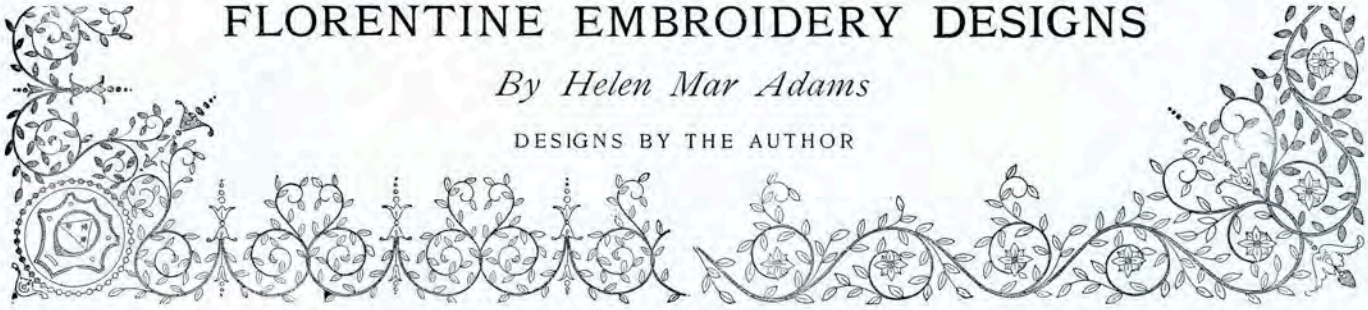


ILLUSTRATION No. 6

ILLUSTRATION No. 7



page is given a design for a square centre-piece with rounded corners; a good size for general use is about eighteen inches square, but smaller ones may be worked with equally good results. If eighteen inches square be the size desired the fringe should be about an inch and a quarter long. A line of buttonholing may be worked around the edge, and in from it another line, having a space of two inches in the clear that will be occupied by the running design. At the corners an indicated circle four inches and three-quarters in the clear should be filled with the main circular scrolls and leaf work. The inner edges of these scrolls are indicated by the inside line of buttonholing. In laying out this design the full size of the pattern care should be taken to get all the lines accurate so that the corners may correspond.

A number of color schemes may be worked out satisfactorily in a design of this nature, but, perhaps, the most pleasing result will be obtained if the buttonholing is done in white, the stems of the vine in a rich green, and the leaf work in a lighter green. It will be well to work the vine solid unless it should be too heavy, and the leaf work in outline; the solid treatment in working the leaves is, however, very satisfactory. To lend a slight contrast to the mass of green it would be well to work the flower and pearls at each corner in a shade or two of pink, also the little cross bar connecting the ends of scrolls at the sides of the piece. If a decided line is preferred around the edge of the centre-piece the buttonholing may be done in a shade of pink or light green, the inner line being treated in a similar manner.

In Illustration No. 2 is given the design for a doily that will harmonize in general lines with the centre-piece. In size it may be from five to eight inches square to outside of fringe, but, perhaps, for general use seven inches square will be the most serviceable. For the dining-table these doilies and the centre-piece will be attractive underlays if worked in white. If, however, delicate shades of green, corn color or lavender are employed the results will also prove satisfactory.

If this doily should be made in a size as small as five inches it would, perhaps, crowd the design somewhat, so that in working it as it is shown the ornament would be so close as to run together. This may be avoided by omitting the circular stem and leaves at the corners, and using only the serpentine stem around the outer edge and the leaves that may grow out from it, and if found necessary, when the scrolls are left out, a few leaves may be added to fill the design.

If a small centre-piece of this pattern is desired it would be better to enlarge this design to meet the requirement rather than to reduce that in Illustration No. 1, and crowd the ornament.



ILLUSTRATION No.

DESIGN FOR CENTREPIECE

A DESIGN for a round centre-piece is shown in Illustration No. 3. In general treatment the suggestion given for Illustration No. 1 may be carried out with equally good results.

A very satisfactory treatment would be to work the stems in a rich golden-brown shade, and the leaves in several lighter shades, employing either the outline or solid stitch. The light blues or pinks may be used also, but care should be taken in selecting these shades and the question of their durability well looked into. A design for a round doily which will match this centre-

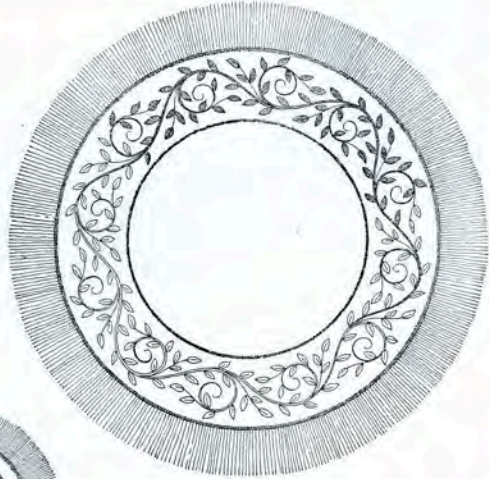


ILLUSTRATION No. 3

piece is given in Illustration No. 4. About seven inches in diameter to outside of fringe will, perhaps, be the most de-

than to turn deep hems or borders. This design is admirably adapted to portières, and would result in extremely rich results if embroidered on a sage or light olive green with Japanese gold thread. A VERY RICH EFFECT A VERY rich effect would be to form the centres of a lighter shade, and the border on which the design is to be worked of drawn, and the hemstitching worked along the edge and at the ends of the scarf. At the ends a space five inches and one-half or six inches should be left, and a line of buttonholing worked. Below this the linen may be fringed as deep as desired. To make a strong and durable fringe it is necessary that an antique or a good quality of hand-spun round-thread butchers' linen be employed. The colors for a scarf end of a similar design to this must, of course, harmonize with the room it will be placed in. For a carving-cloth the fringe might be omitted from the ends, and, instead, a wide hem turned, or the ends may be buttonholed and left without fringe. Owing to the design running all around the cloth perhaps it is best to buttonhole the ends rather

sirable size for this doily, although smaller ones may be worked showing the design to good advantage.

For the end of a dresser-scarf, a carving-napkin or a lambrequin a simple and attractive design is given in Illustration No. 5. For a dresser-scarf this design may be carried out about eighteen inches in width, but if the dresser top to be covered is but sixteen inches or less the width may be governed by the space to cover. For general use, however, a width of fifteen inches will be found available for almost any dresser, as the average tops are made sixteen inches wide.

DRESSER-SCARFS

LENGTH is, of course, dependent on the size of the dresser, but it may be stated as a partial guide that from fifteen to eighteen inches of scarf end should hang below

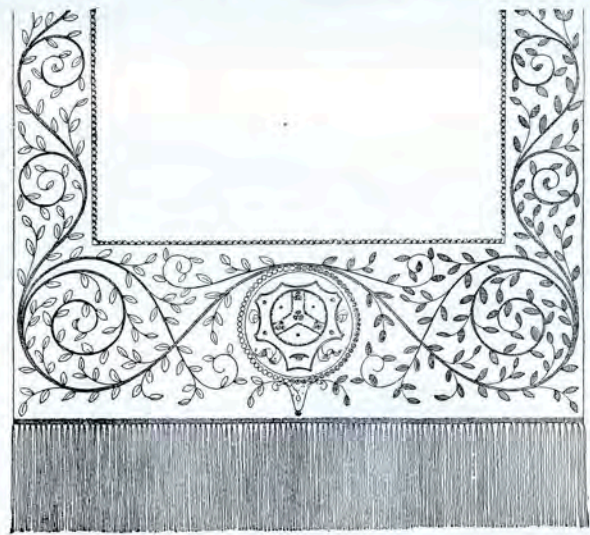


ILLUSTRATION No. 5

a darker shade of the same color. When the edges are brought together they may be caught with the same color the embroidering is done with. Some fancy stitches will add to the appearance greatly.

An attractive centre is depicted in the initial letter. It is one that may be adapted to pillow-shams, to corners of table-cloths if the lower scrolls are omitted, or applied at the ends of a plain dresser-scarf, the corners of a lambrequin, or other linen piece sufficiently large to receive it. From one to three colors can be employed in working it, and several shades of each color can be advantageously used.

Of the many attractive and appropriate running borders and corners that this style affords, two are shown in the heading of this page. A good width for these borders would be from three to five inches, but, perhaps, the best for the one to the left is four inches, and for the one on the right at each alternate scroll three inches, with every other tendril an inch or two in width.



ILLUSTRATION No. 2

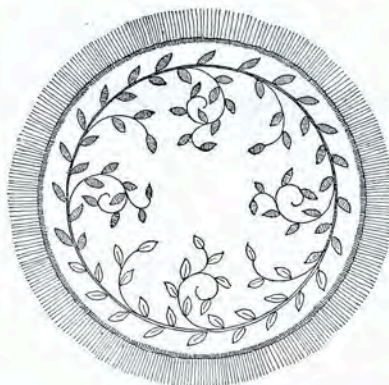


ILLUSTRATION No. 4

the top of the dresser. For a scarf eighteen inches in width the border should be about two inches and a half in width. This width is governed by the threads that are to be