

Unveiling the Allure of Counted Sashiko Embroidery: Explore Projects and Patterns



Embroidery enthusiasts constantly seek new challenges in their craft. If you are one such enthusiast looking to delve into the world of Japanese embroidery, then counted Sashiko embroidery might be just the project for you. Counted Sashiko embroidery has a rich history and offers unparalleled satisfaction to those seeking artistic expression through needle and thread. In this article, we will take you on a journey to explore the fascinating history of Sashiko embroidery and provide you with project ideas and patterns to help you get started!

Discovering the Roots of Sashiko Embroidery

Sashiko embroidery originated in Japan during the Edo period, between the 17th and 19th centuries, as a functional form of needlework. The word "Sashiko" translates to "little stabs" or "little pierces" - a fitting description of the technique involved.



The Ultimate Kogin Collection: Projects and patterns for counted sashiko embroidery

by Susan Briscoe (Kindle Edition)

★★★★☆ 4.8 out of 5

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Initially, Sashiko served as a practical way to reinforce worn-out clothes and textiles by stitching visible layers of fabric together. Over time, this utilitarian technique gradually evolved into an art form, treasured for its beauty and intricate designs.

Preparation and Materials

Before diving into your Sashiko embroidery project, it is essential to gather the necessary materials. Traditionally, Sashiko requires a few simple materials:

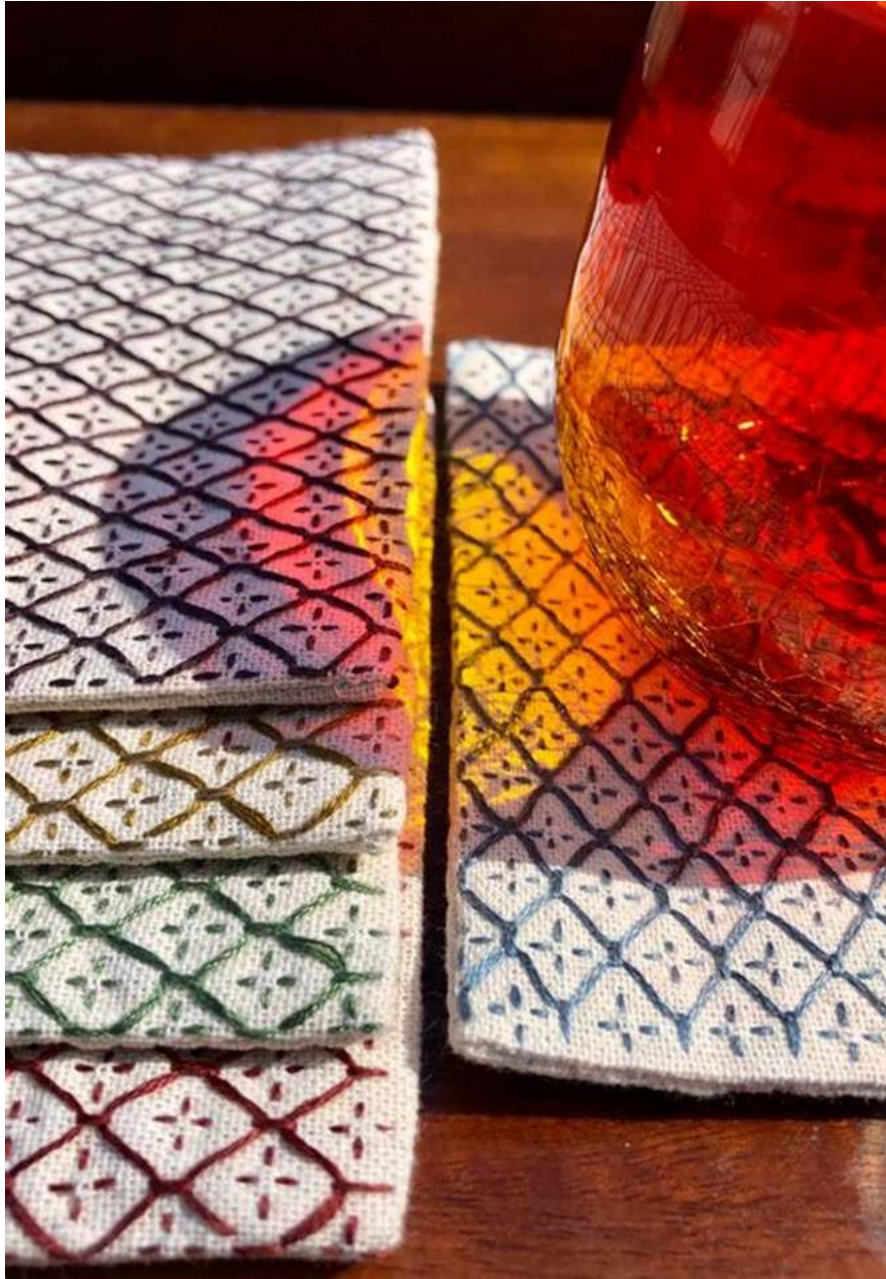
- Fabric: Choose a medium-weight fabric, preferably in a solid color to showcase the embroidered patterns.

- **Embroidery Thread:** Select a strong, sturdy thread that contrasts well with your chosen fabric.
- **Needles:** Use a sharp embroidery needle with a large eye for easy threading.
- **Transfer Tools:** Depending on your preference, you can use stencils, transfer pens, or carbon paper to transfer your desired pattern onto the fabric.

Embarking on Your Sashiko Journey: Project Ideas

Now that you have your materials ready, let's explore some intriguing project ideas to help you bring your Sashiko embroidery to life:

1. Sashiko Coasters:



Create elegant and functional coasters by stitching intricate Sashiko designs onto small fabric squares. These coasters not only add a touch of sophistication to your home decor but also serve as excellent conversation starters when you have guests over. Choose patterns like geometric shapes, nature-inspired designs, or traditional Japanese motifs for an authentic feel.

2. Sashiko Handbags:

Explore the art of combining Sashiko embroidery with practical accessories by crafting your own Sashiko handbag. Choose a sturdy fabric for the bag and adorn it with beautiful Sashiko patterns. The intricate stitches will elevate the appearance of your handbag, making it unique and eye-catching.

3. Sashiko Wall Hangings:

Elevate your home decor by creating stunning Sashiko wall hangings. Delve into intricate patterns and designs, and embellish your fabric with vibrant threads. Hang your finished masterpiece on a prominent wall in your living room or bedroom to add a touch of elegance and cultural charm.

Patterns to Inspire Your Sashiko Projects

Now that we've explored a few project ideas, let's delve into some classic Sashiko patterns that you can incorporate into your embroidery:

1. Asanoha:

This traditional geometric pattern resembles hemp leaves and symbolizes growth and good health. Asanoha's repetitive design allows for a continuous flowing stitch, offering a sense of tranquility and harmony to your embroidery projects.

2. Shippou:

Shippou, also known as Seven Treasures, is a pattern inspired by Buddhist teachings and represents luck, fulfillment, and protection. This intricate design can be overwhelming for beginners but provides a rewarding challenge for those seeking to push their embroidery skills to the next level.

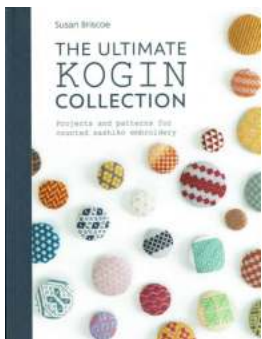
3. Kikkou:

Kikkou, or Tortoise Shell, is a pattern featuring interlocking hexagons resembling the shell of a tortoise. It symbolizes longevity, good luck, and a sense of stability.

This pattern is perfect for creating larger Sashiko projects like table runners or quilts.

Embrace the Artistry of Counted Sashiko Embroidery

Counted Sashiko embroidery offers a meditative and fulfilling experience, allowing you to immerse yourself in the rich traditions of Japanese needlework. With its endless project possibilities and mesmerizing patterns, Sashiko embroidery promises to captivate and inspire crafters of all skill levels. So, gather your materials, select a captivating pattern, and embark on a Sashiko journey that will bring forth beautiful creations!



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Discover the beautiful Japanese pattern darning technique kogin and how it can be used to create stunning stitched and quilted projects. Kogin is a variation of the popular Japanese embroidery technique sashiko and is rapidly becoming as popular as its 'big sister'.

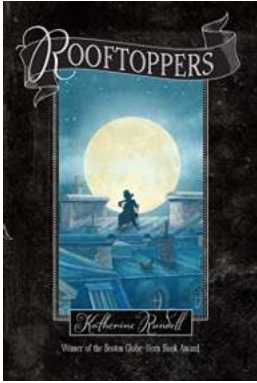
Japanese embroidery expert, Susan Briscoe, has compiled a collection of over 60 pattern charts - kogin is a counted embroidery technique - and 12 accompanying projects to create The Ultimate Kogin Collection, following on from her previous title The Ultimate Sashiko Sourcebook.

The projects range from small and very accessible items such as simple greetings cards and coasters to larger projects including wall hangings and table runners.



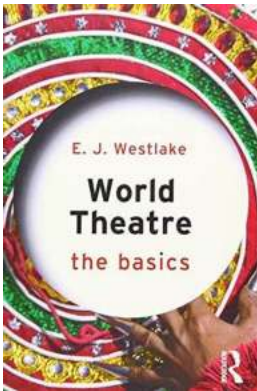
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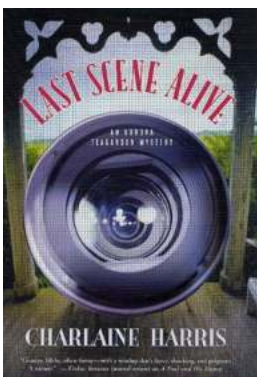
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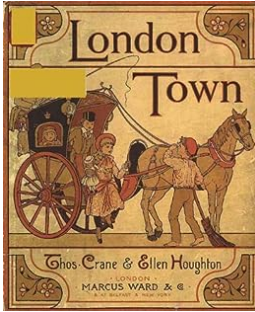
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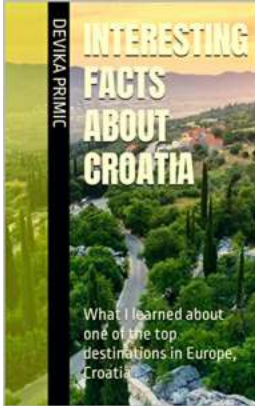
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