

Helpful Tips and Product Information

People often ask what products I use for my designs. The information below is simply to answer some questions you may have, and to give some helpful tips that I've learned over the years. We are not in any way affiliated with these companies. We encourage you to support and purchase these products from your local quilt shops, but if they are unavailable, you can find them on our website at www.thewoodenbear.com.

Tracing the Design to Fabric

The pen I used for tracing is the Pigma Micron 01 (.25mm) pen. It has a very fine tip which is great for embroidery. It makes a fine mark so it's easy to cover with the embroidery thread. Sometimes it's hard to tell if you are actually drawing on your fabric as you are tracing with the light box. To check your progress without moving your design, simply turn off the light box. It makes it easy to see your lines.

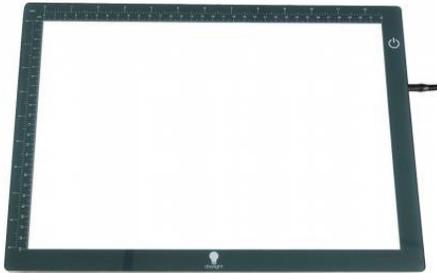


to be painted and work my way in, even leaving the middle almost white in most cases. Add a little more paint on an edge where there would be shading, for instance, where one part sits "behind" another. I would suggest playing around on a scrap piece of fabric before beginning on your project.



Light Box for Tracing Designs

Light boxes come in many sizes and price ranges. These are great for tracing applique or embroidery designs. Simply lay the pattern over the box, and your fabric over the pattern. It makes it much easier to see your design, which makes it easier on the eyes!



Hooping Your Design

This just "bears" mentioning because it's my absolute favorite hoop! I found it at a quilt show some time ago, and it is definitely my favorite tool for hand stitching. This is the Morgan 7"/9" Combo Lap Stand. It has both sizes, and it easily assembles to set on your lap, or on a desk, freeing up both of your hands to work the embroidery. You can also take them apart and use them as standard 7" and 9" hoops, or break it down to easily stow your work away in a travel bag!



Painting with Shiva Artist's Paintstiks®

For adding a little color to my design, I used Artist's Paintstiks by Shiva. These are oil paints in stick form. You simply peel off a little of the film from the top of the stick. Using a very small stencil brush (I used a 1/4" diameter brush.), rub some of the paint onto the brush, and then rub the brush on a paper towel in a circular motion to get off any excess paint. (It's a pretty dry paint.) Use the same light, circular motions to add the paint to the design. You really don't need much. I start at the edges of the area



Pearl Cotton Threads

I use Valdani size 12 pearl cotton threads for just about all of my designs. I like the look of the threads and the colors offered. The variegated threads are my favorite, because they add just a bit of dimension to the design. These threads are hand-dyed and colorfast, so they won't run when washed.

