

## Design to stitch: Blackwork embroidery workshop

### Something to think about before the workshop

What colour would you like your backing cloth to be? Traditionally blackwork is black thread on an off-white background but in this workshop Jill is happy to work on a coloured background. You could work on a black background with white threads or a pale green/brown with either black or white threads. Remember we are working on tone and value for this project.

### Requirements list

Any tree bark pieces or photographs that you would like to use as your starting point Jill Kipnis will have some pictures and pieces of tree bark for all those that do not have anything. When you go for a walk in a forest have a good look out between now and the workshop for inspiration. You are looking for pieces that have linear lines and variation in texture.

Newspaper or any black and white prints you may have

Paper to work your design/s onto. Ideally a few sheets of A3 white cartridge paper.

Pritt stick or PVA glue

Black roller ball pens/biros

Various pencils; ideally various grades from 4B to 4H

Even weave fabric; ideally a 32 count but 28 will do. If you suffer from eye problems perhaps go for the 28 count. Ideally, Belfast linen antique white or soft brown. Happy also with pale green

Black threads of various thicknesses, look at sewing cottons and stranded cottons. Fine silks are great but NOT FLOSS it must be a spun thread

You can work your design on black fabric with white threads if you so wish. If so, please bring black paper and white pens, black even weave fabric, white threads of various thicknesses, look at sewing cottons and stranded cottons. Again, fine silks are great but NOT FLOSS it must be a spun thread

A 10 inch embroidery hoop with stand (large enough for your fabric to fit into)

Needles - fine embroidery and small tapestry or cross stitch

Scissors

Needle threader if required

Pincushion

Magnifier if needed and I would recommend one even if you think your eyes are good

Jill Kipnis will have some items available such as newspaper/white cartridge papers/pens that you can use but if you can bring your own equipment that would be great as she will have a limited supply.

Jill has DMC stranded cotton skeins you can purchase for £1 but please order in advance. Jill has some even weave cloths available but has a limited stock so if required please contact directly to discuss before the class. The key to good blackwork is to have a good quality even weave fabric and good spun threads