

Needlepoint Decor Bags

Diana Parkes

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Diana Parkes : Needlepoint Decor Bags before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Needlepoint Decor Bags:

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Charming, Inspiring Useful Project BookBy Janet Perry"Needlepoint Decor Bags" by Diana Parkes has a fresh approach to needlepoint which she uses to create lovely stitched bags. Using painted or dyed canvas and a variety of stitches, she combines color and texture, showing off the great qualities of needlepoint for decoration.The bags are mostly flat pouches and have bands of stitching, sometimes separated by couched ribbons. The bands incorporate different stitches and colors and most bags have areas of both horizontal and vertical bands.The variety of purses in the book is wonderful. Not only are there several rectangular purses, there is an Easter Egg purse with a pocket, a rounded design with a gusset, a gathered top flat bag, and a pouch. Bags are decorated with tassels, fringe, and beads.The first section of the book covers several different ways to color your canvas. The advantages and disadvantages of each method are covered, and there are pictures of stitched samples on canvas colored with each method.Each bag is pictured in color with a color chart of the stitching design. The different stitches and threads used are outlined in the text. Each bag also has information on how the canvas was colored as well as an alternate suggestion for colored canvas.The third section of the book covers designing your own decor bag. There are many stitched samples on various kinds of painted canvas. Some of these include ribbons, feathers, beads or other objects. Just looking at them is such an inspiration of ideas! Stitches are charted and you will find many variations of familiar stitches. Incorporate stitches and colors of your choice to make a unique bag, there is a section on designing your own bag. I'm planning one right now!The last section of the book is made up of galleries, one of the original bags designed by attendees at some of Parkes' workshops and another of Parkes' needlepoint on painted canvas.The book is thoughtfully designed with wide margins and space for taking notes. The pictures and charts are clear and easily read. This book is a great addition to the world of needlepoint!

These dcor bags are wonderful vehicles for learning the needlepoint techniques, working through simple design formats experimenting with numerous other embroidery combinations. These are not practical for conventional bags

but ideal to hang on door handles, hat stands, or to display in decorate rooms.