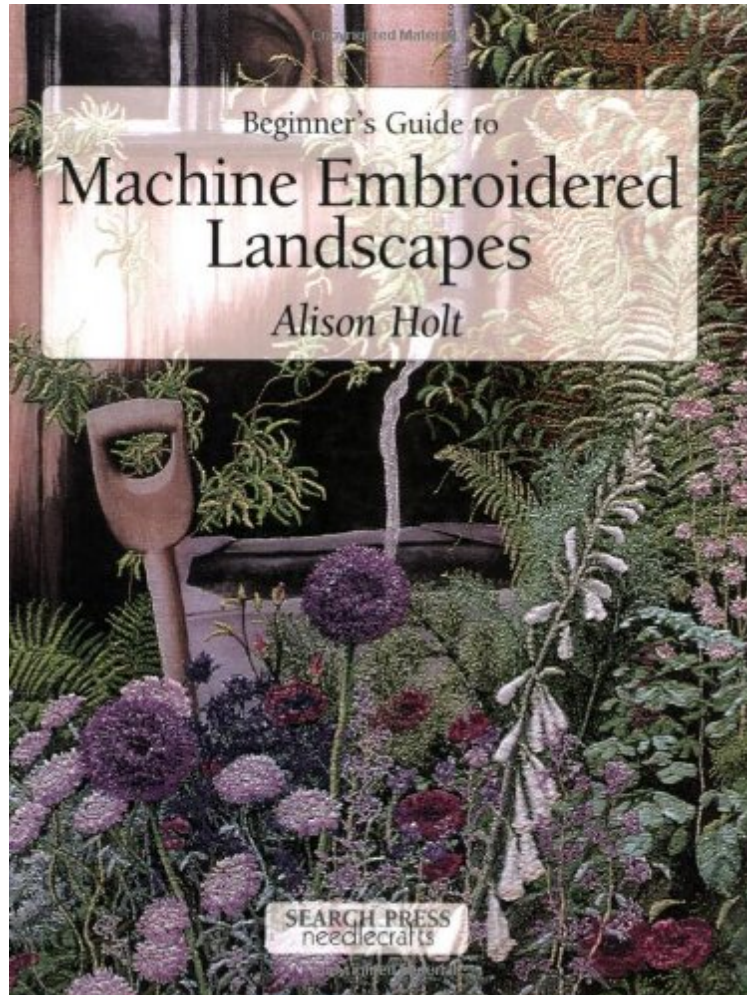


[Free] Beginner's Guide to Machine Embroidered Landscapes

## Beginner's Guide to Machine Embroidered Landscapes

*Alison Holt*

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**Alison Holt : Beginner's Guide to Machine Embroidered Landscapes** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Beginner's Guide to Machine Embroidered Landscapes:

7 of 7 people found the following review helpful. Absolutely amazing machine artistry - gorgeous work! By Gayle H This is the best book I've read on thread painting technique - truly inspirational! This book is about free motion embroidery and artistic expression of the beauty of nature around us. Alison Holt creates incredible works of landscape art from garden photographs, many of which she takes herself. The title might be a tad misleading, however; especially to those who might be looking for a book on modern machine embroidery and enjoys using someone else's design concepts downloaded into a computerized embroidery / sewing machine in a format compatible with their machine. This is definitely NOT that kind of book! The author shares many of her free motion techniques for achieving the various results in the multitude of examples in this book. Her work is so realistic that I had to look twice to

determine which was the photograph and which was her embroidered work in several cases. This is such an awesome book that it motivated me to write this review so that others will be inspired to express themselves using this artistic medium of manual thread painting by machine using the straight and zig zag stitches of even the most basic of any sewing machine available today. Order this book and be prepared to be amazed and inspired! 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. *Beginner's Guide to Machine Embroidered Flowers* By Pam S. If you want to learn thread painting/machine embroidery than this book is for you. Great details, well written, nothing is left to your imagination. Clear, concise instructions, lots of color pictures make this book highly recommended. Alison makes what should be difficult, easy to do. Some of it looks very complex but with a little practice I'm sure that you too can make beautiful embroidery. I know that I was amazed at what I could accomplish in a relatively short learning period. 75 of 79 people found the following review helpful. *A New Technique for an Old Embroider...* By JKI've been into freehand machine embroidery and thread painting for 20 years, using ordinary sewing machines. I still don't see the attraction for the new embroidery machines, simply copying stuff off of a computer, but obviously everyone doesn't agree! It is regrettable, though, that many younger or less-experienced sewers don't realize that there is a long and rich history of machine embroidery dating back into the 19th century, long before even zigzag stitching was available. Expensive and complicated embroidery machines are NOT required to make beautiful and original artworks. This fact is ably demonstrated in Ms. Holt's book. She has a technique that is apparently more popular in Britain than here. It involves coloring the background fabric-in this case dyeing silk-with a preliminary rough sketching of the scene. This is followed by the appropriate stitching to make the scene. I am new to this technique and have yet to try it. However, it looks like it should be simple enough even for a non-painter like me to obtain good results. One of the great attractions of this book, and one of the reasons it's worth its price, are the profuse color illustrations of her work, along with dozens of color photos of the techniques involved in its production. I am looking forward to trying Ms. Holt's method for producing machine embroidered art. This book should serve as a great illustration and instructional tool for those interested.

Many people at first mistake Alison Holt's embroideries for paintings or even photographs. Alison's way of working has evolved into a technique of painting with threads on to a canvas of hand-painted silk. She uses two basic stitches - straight stitch in various combinations and zigzag stitch - to make fine and broad brushstrokes on silk, blending both to achieve stunning results. The raised embroidery on the glowing colored/colorful background produces a beautiful three-dimensional effect. This comprehensive and colourful book covers everything from composing a landscape and setting up the machine to choosing threads and silk dyes and framing up. Alison encourages the reader to experiment with the techniques as they go along, making sure the color/colorful, length and direction of stitch are right for the effect they are trying to recreate. Step-by-step demonstrations of an autumn river bank and colourful flower border are included as are many examples of Alison's inspiring and original work.

Oct 06 ...another excellent reference book for machine embroiderers who want to learn about composing, painting and stitching still life designs. Sample projects are included to help the reader practice the techniques. **SEWING WORLD** About the Author Alison Holt studied Fine Art, Textiles and Embroidery at Goldsmiths College, London where she experimented with many textile techniques before choosing machine embroidery as a medium. She started to explore her love of gardens and the countryside through embroidery, finding it the perfect vehicle to express the various textures and forms she finds so fascinating. She now teaches machine embroidery, silk painting and surface decoration and runs courses at her studio. She also works to commission, and exhibits her embroideries in Britain and America. Her work is sold to private collectors all over the world.