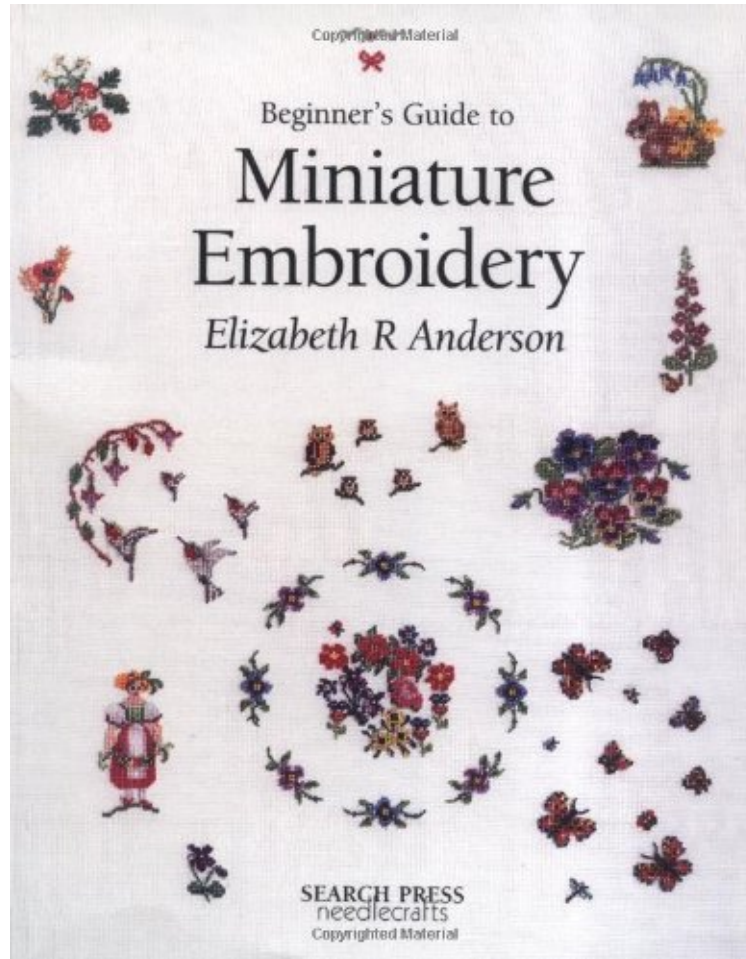


## Beginner's Guide to Miniature Embroidery

*Elizabeth R. Anderson*

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**Elizabeth R. Anderson : Beginner's Guide to Miniature Embroidery** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Beginner's Guide to Miniature Embroidery:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Excellent book to try your hand at high-count thread projects By Jane in Milwaukee This is another great book from Search Press. These are others I have that I can highly recommend: Beginner's Guide to Blackwork Traditional Blackwork Samplers (Needlecrafts Series) Beginner's Guide to Hardanger You can tell Elizabeth R. Anderson is English because she spells it "colour." She really knows what she's talking about: this is a sweet little book with sweet little projects. According to the inside front cover, she designed her first piece when she was 13, a sampler, and this led to starting her own business. The best thing about this book is the close-up photos showing each step of the process with the author's own hands doing the work. I like the two full-page photos of antique pieces and the author's works as well as the photo showing the remarkable number of tiny frames and findings upon which you can mount your tiny masterpiece: doll house frames, brooches, watches, bracelets,

earrings, pendants, and just about anything you could glue a bit of embroidery to like a needle case. For reference to compare miniature embroidery from standard size is the same flower design stitched onto the counts of silk gauze: 54, 40 and 30 and 18-count and 14-count aida. As you probably know, "count" means the number of threads per inch (although the authors counts holes per inch...almost identical measure). 54-count silk is almost 4 times finer than 14-count aida, the most common cross stitch fabric. The higher count you use, the tinier the project and the more realistic is the design. If you find all of this daunting, she includes projects stitched on 18-count aida...you can handle that if you're used to 14-count and you can ease into finer fabrics. One thing I've never heard of before is coloring both the fabric as well as the background. Silk gauze has large holes compared to fine linen: while you can completely fill in the embroidered area, the edges and border surrounding the design are see-through. She shows good examples of using a permanent marker to color both sides of the gauze and then placing it against a bunch of different-color backgrounds to see the effect. I have made some minis and it never occurred to me to do this. One of the most important suggestions is what needle to use: I never heard of silk gauze needles but, apparently, there is one slender enough to stitch on 72-count fabric. Use a size 26 or 28 tapestry needle or beading needles to work on as high as 84-count fabric! If you bead at all, you know these needles are quite long--they're easier to find if you drop them. Always use a needle threader unless you want to go blind. She shows how to put your fabric in a frame if desired but I'm delighted to see she also does stitching "in the hand" or without any frame--my favorite because you can flip it from front to back. You don't see the first suggested chart till page 26 so you know how detailed the instructions are. All of those first pages are filled with photographs showing each step--more photos than text. The subject matter, the chapters, include: a Victorian sampler, flowers plants, birds butterflies, animals, and figures. My only quibble is I'd like to see samplers or pictures that are more dense. If you study the cover, you see how spread apart motifs are. The way to solve this is to use any other chart you like and just stitch it onto super-fine fabric. I have a million different patterns so this should pose no problem! If you enjoy this book, consider these as well: *Oriental Carpets in Miniature: Charted Designs for Needlepoint or What You Will Making Miniature Oriental Rugs Carpets Embroidery in Miniature Needlework Designs for Miniature Projects: 64 Charts for Counted Cross-Stitch and Needlepoint* (Dover Needlework) (

Miniatures are fun, and anyone can do them, according to expert miniaturist Elizabeth R Anderson. Her enthusiasm and understanding of the subject have resulted in a wonderful, easy-to-follow book. Using three simple stitches, she shows how you can create your own embroidery miniatures to use as gifts or to decorate your home. Using charts and beautiful photographs, her step-by-step guide explores all the materials and techniques you will need in detail. She guides the reader through an exquisite selection of samplers, flowers, fruit, birds, butterflies, figures, animals and silhouettes in a series of clear, practical projects, which are suitable for all levels of embroiderers.

May 06 Not every embroiderer enjoys stitching on a monumental scale. There are those who believe big is not beautiful and the smaller the better! The author is certainly one of these as she has been creating tiny embroideries since 1989. The book introduces a beginner to stitching in miniature with a brief history of the technique. This is then followed by a guide to the basic materials. Different framing-up options are presented so the best one for you can be chosen. Once the fabric is ready it is time to be taken step-by-step through a pretty rose motif stitched on 40 hpi silk gauze. The designs that follow use fabric from 14 count Aida to 60 hpi gauze but they can be worked on any gauge. There is a dainty sampler, a selection of plants, flowers, birds, animals, butterflies and more. All stitched in Cross, Back and Half cross stitch, the designs are given as colour charts with DMC stranded cotton listings. Miniature Embroidery is a perfect purchase for anyone who owns a dolls' house. All the designs in the book are absorbing, yet manageable, projects that are ideal to stitch as a break from larger, ongoing pieces of work or other techniques. *NEW STITCHES* No. 99, Jun/Jul 06 In her new book Elizabeth Anderson aims to dispel the myth that miniatures are difficult to embroider, using specialist materials. She explains that miniatures are normally worked on evenweave fabrics: linens, Aida and silk gauze, and they are measured in holes per inch...There are many projects in the book, all preceded by materials lists and clearly illustrated instructions on stitching methods. *Feature. Workbox* Dec 05/Jan 06 Available at last - a comprehensive guide to miniature embroidery covering in details all the materials and techniques needed. With a selection of delicate and beautiful projects of flowers and animals, this is a great book for embroiderers of all levels. *Stitch About the Author* Elizabeth Anderson is a leading designer and specialist in the finest silk gauze embroidery. She runs a successful business, selling her miniature embroideries all over the world, although she still finds time to undertake commissions for prestigious companies and private individuals who love her work. She sells her work at major needlecraft exhibitions and also teaches by appointment.