APRIL SHOWERS

April 2012 Aurifil Design Team Project

Materials

6″ x 8″ cream fabric for stitching background
Aurifil 12wt thread in the following colours:
- Red 2230
- Orange 1133
- Green 5012
- Brown 1285
- Blue 5005

Fabric for border (sassy by Sandy Gervais)
General sewing supplies
Hoop if desired

Instructions

1. Trace the design onto the right side of your fabric using your preferred method. I like to use a brown pigma pen.
2. Following the stitch guide, stitch the design with one strand of 12wt thread (straight from the spool!)
   Stitch guide: all stitching is backstitch except for; all dots are French knots, all loops are lazy daisy, dotted line is running stitch, centre of daisy flowers are satin stitch.
   Red: daisy flowers, all loops on bird, lines on large flower and dots at end of the lines.
   Orange: large "umbrella" flower petals, dot flowers.
   Green: all stems and leaves, umbrella flower base, running stitch on umbrella flower base.
   Brown: bird eye, beak, red daisy centres.
   Blue: bird, raindrops.

3. Trim the design to 6 ½″ x 4 ½″. Some of the stitching will be right up to the sewing line, so take care when trimming.

4. From the red fabric cut 2 strips 1 ½" x 2 ½"
   From the green fabric cut 2 strips 1 ½" x 2 ½".
   Sew the red strip to a green strip along the short end. Repeat for the other two strips. Sew to each end of the stitchery centre, making sure the colours are at opposite ends.
5. From the blue fabric, cut 2 strips 1 ½" x 4 ½".
   From the orange fabric cut 2 strips 1 ½" x 4 ½".
   Sew the orange strip to a blue strip along the short ends. Repeat for the other two strips. Sew the borders to the top and bottom of the stitchery centre, making sure the colours are at opposite ends.
   Press.

Stitching tips:
- don't trace the loops, instead place a dot where you will start the lazy daisy.
- don't trace the filled in sections of the flower centres or the running stitch on the flower base.
- if using a pigma permanent pen, trace lightly.
- use a hoop to keep the fabric taut but not tight!
- enjoy!