

HOOPLESSLY DEVOTED TO YOU

Create a cheap and cheerful wall display using embroidery hoops and oddments of your favourite fabrics.

There's something incredibly satisfying about designing and making your own art.

It need not be an expensive undertaking – in fact, we think that a constrained budget can sometimes be a blessing in disguise, as it forces you to be more creative and resourceful.

So we procured a selection of gorgeous prints from Kelani Fabric Obsession and set about incorporating them in an artistic arrangement. We had some spare embroidery hoops in the office and knew they would make fantastic frames.

Of course, it's not necessary to buy new fabrics – you can easily go through your sewing box and find some scraps of pretty prints, then select hoops of an appropriate size or buy some new ones for a few dollars each. But if your decorating budget permits, it's so much fun to look at the new ranges in the shops and choose a series of prints that complements your interior colour scheme. Only a small amount of material is needed for each hoop, making it an affordable indulgence. Best of all, you can replace the material whenever you find

another one you like, when the seasons change or simply because you're in the mood for something new.

We used four 12in hoops and a 6in one, though your display can accommodate any size hoop that takes your fancy. When it comes to positioning them on the wall, you could bunch them closely together like we did, or string them out in a long line, hang them diagonally, place them in a circular pattern or arrange them in orderly rows. The possibilities are endless.



1 Assemble plain wooden embroidery hoops in various sizes.

2 Select your fabrics and iron out any creases.



3 Unscrew the top of one hoop.



4 Place your fabric over the inner piece.



5 Stretch the fabric until it's taut.



6 Tighten the screw to keep the material firmly in place.



7 Fold the surplus fabric neatly at the back. You could also trim it to size but this will result in a lightweight, flimsy hoop that may blow about in the breeze.



8 Tape the leftover fabric in place at the back with masking or gaffer tape.



9 The finished hoop.

10 Repeat the process for the other hoops and hang them on the wall with small hooks. You might like to affix the bottom of the hoop to the wall with a dab of Blu-Tack to keep it in place.



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