Welcome to SAGA’s Silk Ribbon Embroidery (SRE) Smock-Along!

Over the next four weeks we will be making the cover for a travel pack of tissues as pictured below.

Week 1- Silk ribbon basics; design layout and the spider rose.
Week 2 - Rosebuds and Forget-Me-Nots
Week 3 - Leaves and Baby’s Breath.
Week 4- Construction of the case.

So let’s get started.

Some things to remember with SRE:

• We do not knot the end of our ribbon
• Only work with 11” or less of ribbon (the ribbon gets worn).
• Your thumb and pressure are important "tools" as is the tension on the ribbon.
• If available you may find A to Z of Silk Ribbon Embroidery a great reference book. There’s also visual help to be found on Pinterest and YouTube.
• I am only a Private Message or email (time4te@me.com) away.
Laying out your design:

We will be working with the 6” x 7” solid color piece of silk fabric (the outside fabric).

On one of the 6” edges find the middle point, which will be 3” from the side edges (the longer edge). Baste a 2 1/2” x 1” rectangle so that it is centered over that middle point and the top line of basting stitches measures up 1 1/2” from the cut edge. The bottom of the box measures 1/2” from the cut edge. Do not mark with pencil but with basting thread. This marks our “canvas” area for our SRE.

In the center of your basted rectangle lightly mark a 3/8” circle, then one on either side of that giving you 3 circles.

Thread the #10 embroidery needle with one strand of floss the color of your rose and knot the end of the thread.
You are going to divide the circle like a pie into 5 sections with a fly stitch and a straight stitch.

**Threading the Needle with Ribbon:**

Thread the ribbon through the eye of the #26 crewel needle.

Pull through a couple of inches and pierce the ribbon end with needle point and pull ribbon back on needle. This locks your ribbon in place so it will not come unthreaded as you work.
**Constructing the Rose:**

Thread your #26 crewel needle with the darker of the rose colors. The rose will have the darker color in the center and the lighter on the outside.

From the back of the design bring your needle up in the center of your "pie".

Draw the ribbon up leaving about 1/4" tail to the back.

Make a tight French knot and take ribbon through to the back, piercing the 1/4" starting tail as you go.

![Making the French knot](image)

![Piercing the ribbon tail on the back](image)

Next bring your ribbon back through to the front. You will want to come up in the point of one of your pie wedges.

With the needle you are going to weave over one spoke then under the next, completely around the circle once with the darker ribbon.

![Needle to front of work](image)

![Wrapping under and over](image)
Take the needle to the back and cut leaving a 1/4" tail.

Thread your #26 crewel needle with your lighter color.

Piercing the tail of the darker ribbon, bring your needle to the front of your work right where you left off with your darker color leaving a 1/4" tail of the lighter ribbon on the back of the work.

Continue to weave over and under with the lighter ribbon color until you have filled "the pie".
Take your needle the back, piercing the 1/4" lighter tail you left earlier.

Cut the ribbon leaving a 1/4" tail. This tail will be secured as you stitch other flowers or when you use floss accents.

A hint about stitching the rose:

The inner petals are stitched with more tension than the outer.

As you weave the outer petals the ribbon will tend to curl a bit which gives the petals some definition. You want the ribbon tight enough so fabric does not show through, but not so tight that it’s all packed together in a ball.

Visualize what a rose looks like. You may want to do a practice rose on a scrap of fabric.

Finish your three roses, grab a cup of tea, sit back and admire your work!

Remember, if you need help I’m a message or email away!

See you next week for rosebuds and forget me nots!

Happy stitching,
Wanda.