

Isobel Moore



BASIC EQUIPMENT

Sewing machine in excellent working condition – including a new needle (I use Schmetz top stitch needles 90/14)

A free motion embroidery foot or darning foot – to fit your machine

Usual sewing equipment (scissors, needles, pins)

Iron and ironing pad

Baking parchment or a teflon sheet to protect your iron

Paint brush and a water jar

Newspaper or cloth to protect your table surface from paint

FABRIC & THREAD

Canvas or firm calico (PLEASE don't use lightweight calico or cotton - you'll curse it when it buckles, and it will once we add the paint - trust me!) Around ½ metre to allow for practice pieces.

Fusible web adhesive - I use Bondaweb. You'll need a piece at least as large as the seascape you want to make, plus any practice pieces, so at least ½ metre or a fat quarter. You'll need a small piece for image transfer too (Bondaweb is best for this).

Embroidery Stabiliser – a papery, firm embroidery stabiliser such as Stitch'n'Tear.

Lightweight coloured fabrics in sea colours, plus some natural/unbleached. Stick to lightweight/dressmaking weight cottons and silk. The majority of my fabrics are recycled, and I also use skeins of sari silk ribbons. You don't need a lot – just a variety.

A chiffon scarf or scraps of organza in blue/rainbow/sky colours **plus a piece of white**

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Scraps of lace, white muslin, unbleached scrim and maybe hessian (just a scrap)

A few decent machine embroidery threads and some all-purpose, in seascape colours plus natural/unbleached; maybe a metallic or two (silver/gold)

Invisible thread – a quality Madeira or Gutermann invisible monofilament.

A few thicker threads, including a metallic (e.g. Twilley's Goldfingering thread)

Salvaged and recycled non-shiny papers e.g. old book pages, junk mail, music manuscript, maps, wrapping paper, paper bags

White tissue paper – one sheet

White artist's gesso or primer (small amount - go without if you can't find it)

Water colour paints

Acrylic matte medium or acrylic wax

OPTIONAL EXTRAS

Small embroidery hoop (check it fits under your embroidery presser foot)

Water soluble fabric – any kind, you only need what fits in your hoop

Bonding powder/tacky glue and gold/silver transfer foil. You only need a bit.

A magazine with colourful pages - sea colours if possible!

PVA white glue or glue stick

A few A4/A5 white card or handmade paper (e.g. Khadi paper)

Small things that will rust or have already rusted e.g. wood screws/nails

White or cream/unbleached light cotton, silk or muslin fabric – for rust dyeing.

An old plastic tray (e.g. a supermarket food tray) and cling film/plastic bag

Salt and vinegar or a couple of teabags

Seed beads in natural colours/white; shells with holes to allow for stitch

Walnut ink crystals to “age” paper, or you could use strong black tea