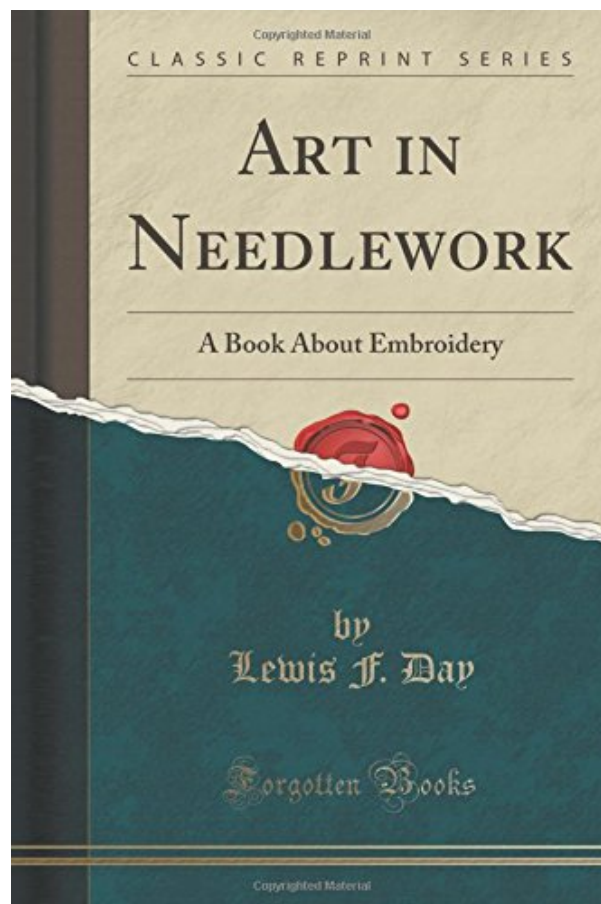
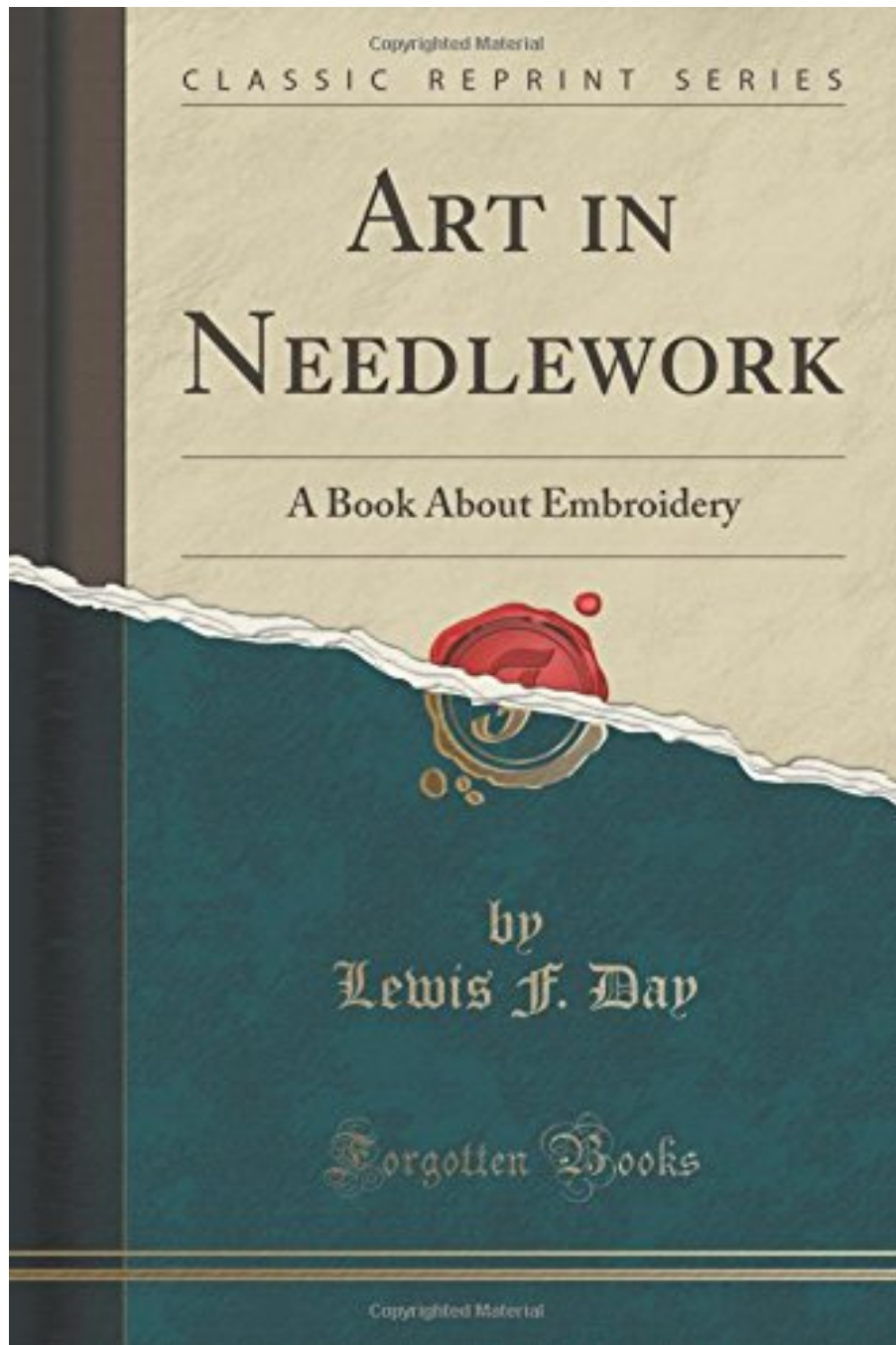


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# **ART IN NEEDLEWORK: A BOOK ABOUT EMBROIDERY (CLASSIC REPRINT) BY LEWIS F. DAY PDF**

Sharpen up your needlework and tighten your stitching techniques with this detailed and highly effective instruction book. Those looking for how to improve their embroidery skills should dive straight in.

Art in Needlework: A Book About Embroidery is an instructional originally published in 1900 and written by Lewis F. Day and Mary Buckle. As the name suggests, this book is all about the techniques and materials one must master in order to become an expert in the art of embroidery.

Art in Needlework begins with a series of chapters on specific stitches used in embroidery. From canvas and crewel stitches to herringbone and buttonhole stitches, all of the basics and a great deal of the advanced stitches are detailed here. Large black and white images accompany the text, greatly assisting those who are oriented more towards visual learning.

The book progresses from a detailed description of specific stitches to a discussion of the decisions faced by an embroiderer and the big-picture techniques to be used. Chapters focus on selecting the appropriate stitch, creating outlines, shading techniques, and much more.

In the author's own words: "The custom has been, since woman learnt to kill time with the needle, to think of embroidery too much as an idle accomplishment. It is more than that. At the very least it is a handicraft: at the best it is an art... [This book] sets forth to show what decorative stitching is, how it is done, and what it can do."

## About the Publisher

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- Published on: 2015-06-04
- Released on: 2015-06-04
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 9.02" h x .68" w x 5.98" l, .96 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 322 pages

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24 of 25 people found the following review helpful.

Great for improving your craft

By Melinda

This is a new book containing old information about the correct way to make embroidery stitches. I think it

is a great book. It is a little difficult to read, but only because embroidery is such a visual and hands-on activity. I love how it goes into specific details as to how to make variations of different stitches. The pictures are black and white. The reading and examples of stitches are fairly easy to follow if you study the information and have some experience with embroidery. I do not have a lot of experience, I've done it off and on all my life (49 years); this book has made my work better quality and more attractive. I feel like I know what I'm doing, so I'm not embarrassed for others to look at.

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful.

I smile when I see this described as a new book: published in 1900

By Jane in Milwaukee

This book is 115 years old. The reason it's still so fresh is that it both gets down to the basics and does something hardly any other needlework book has done since: it shows what the stitchery looks like from the back side. Beyond how the stitches strike your eye, you know you're doing it right if you can replicated the back...you can see how to start and finish off threads too.

It is a 262 page book with a very nice index, Table of Contents and fully Descriptive List of Illustrations which number 94. These are all PHOTOGRAPHS of finished embroideries which are superb; the additional line-drawings of the stitch diagrams are not included among the 94 photos. And "descriptive" means explaining everything in the photo from the fabric to the fibers to the image of the embroidery (i.e. what the project is) to all the stitches to the era and culture it's from to where it was located at the time of publication in 1900. With the exception that they're b&w, just these photos are remarkable...and color printing was simply not available a century ago. The majority of pictured embroideries were in the possession of "Mrs. Lewis F. Day" or at the Victoria & Albert Museum in London.

There are 30 chapters most of which cover specific techniques including stitches of canvaswork, chain, herring-bone, feather and oriental, ropes and knots, satin, darning, laid-work, couching--including goldwork--applique, cut-work, quilting and raised work. Then outlining, shading, creating figures and religious needlework are covered. Such detail: there is a several-page discussion of which way stitches should lie based on the effect you're trying for. I make a rough count of about a hundred stitches that are extremely well laid out. The final chapter is the 5-page A Word To The Worker which is guidelines as applicable and accessibly written as anything published within the last couple years. Compared to the 800 or so needlework books in my library.

One thing to know: when the authors titled this book, they were serious: the very last paragraph in this book challenges us:

"One last word as to thoroughness in needlework. Those who have really not time to do much, should be satisfied with simple work. The desire to make a great show with little work is a snare. Ladies make protest always, "There is too much work in that." Well, if they are not prepared to work, they may as well give themselves up to their play. There was no labour shirked in the old work illustrated in these pages; and nothing much worth doing was ever done without work, hard work, and plenty of it. Should that thought frighten folk away, they may as well be scared off at once. Art can do very well without them."

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