

*Dressed  
in  
History*

# *Historical Florals*

## Instructions

*Digitization courtesy of Sewstine.*

*Original garment courtesy of the Chicago History Museum.*

There are five total designs included in the [Historical Florals pack](#) that are taken from an embroidered 18th-century robe à la française (or RALF for short) in the Chicago History Museum's costume collection. [Visit this gallery to see close up shots of the original embroidery.](#)

Designs include:

- Three different flower motifs
  - [Files are named “chm-flowers 1, 2 & 3”]
- Two vine motifs that connect the flowers
  - [Files are named “connecting bits 1 & 2”].

The [ZIP file](#) includes all 5 designs in the following file types: PDF, DST, HUS, VIP, EXP, PES. The PDFs of the designs are for hand stitching and DST, HUS, VIP, EXP, and PES files for machine embroidery.

### **Tips for Machine Stitching**

The original was embroidered with silk chenille on silk satin fabric of a fairly tightly woven but thin weight. Sadly, silk chenille is now extremely expensive at around 8 pounds for 3 meters as of 2024, so we have replaced that with silk thread (which can be purchased from multiple places—Tire Silk Thread is recommended). Use a tearaway stabilizer and 30–50wt thread. The smaller designs can be done on a 5x5 hoop but the others will need a 7x7 hoop or larger.

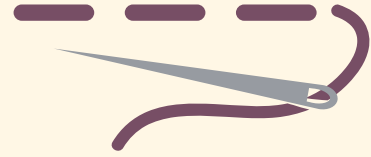
### **Tips for Hand Stitching**

Use a combination of satin stitch and stem stitch in a hoop of your choosing with a floss that works for you. Wool, cotton, and silk floss all work beautifully.

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# The Designs

Share your makes with us  
using #CHMRALF



chm-flowers 1



chm-flowers 2



chm-flowers 3



connecting bits 1



connecting bits 2



Finished machine stitch outs by Sewstine