

Gimp -the beautiful unknown creature



Gimp is a “thread with a soul” so it is the perfect thread for us mostly very sensitive stitchers! Soul is called the part of the thread that lies inside, that is, like the “real” soul it is not visible. And yet so important for the stability of the material! This soul consists of any number of single threads, usually made of cotton. Imagine thick ropes for e.g. stair railings and the pretty fine material from which, for example, many decorative trims are produced. Our gimp is a single loop. Ropes and gimp for the single loop are the same material: only with a different number and strength of the threads used for the soul. Of course, the threads that surround this soul are also of different size.

The production of Gimp is very laborious and is most easily done with a swivel hook that is fixed to a ball bearing.

Gimp is a round thread that cannot be flattened even by the greatest effort. So it is ideal for wrapping of tassel heads, as a decorative thread for the edge of bobbin laces, for the couching foot of the sewing machine-and for hand embroidery. Most use Gimp as a couching thread in various techniques, such as the border for appliqué. It adapts to any shape, forms a beautiful, slightly elevated edge and can be easily overcast.



*Painters gimp colour Klimt.
Overcast stitch with Soie 100/3 colour Klimt.*



*Painters gimp colour Picasso.
Overcast stitches worked with Painters
colour Mary C.
The end finished off in a way that it
can be used, for example, on a piece of
jewellery.*

Use gimp to make French Knots. You know - this little knot that keeps disappearing on the backside, rather than forming a beautiful element on the surface. That doesn't happen with Gimp. The effect is stunning. This also applies to all other knotted stitches.



*Colonial Knot
Painters gimp colour IngeMeta.*



Small design from the series: "Only one stitch...", in which all elements are formed by the same stitch, in this case being Sorbello Stitch.

Gimp (painter's Gimp Mary C) is used in the blossoms, the leaves and stems are made of Painters Soft Cotton Monet, Little bullet points are worked with Painters Shimmer Macke.



Twisted Chain stitch.



Raised Chain Stitch and Sorbello.



Parisian Stitch in the Vase and Milanese Stitch in the Bowl.



Railway Stitch - Gimp and Shimmer.



*Homage to August Mack
Parisian Stitch in Gimp.*



Coral Stitch



Chain Stitch



*Pendant Couching
Gimp, Metallics twist,
braided Metallics.*



Ceylon Stitch



Beautiful little spiders crawling over the canvas.



Renaissance Stitch

Tips for working with gimp

The wrapping around the core is very delicate so always use a very thick needle.

For canvas or other fabrics for counted thread embroidery, use Tapestry Needle #13 or #14.

For surface linen, use Chenille needle #13 or #14.

When pulling the needle through, hold the eye of the needle and thread between the fingers. If it is difficult to pull through, rotate needle and thread slightly, do not try to pull through with a vigorous jerk.