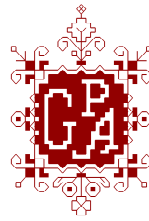


Elizabeth's Trunk

Making the risers and the tray



Design By: Giulia Manfredini
Copyright By: Giulia Manfredini
Giulia Puntì Antichi "GPA"
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Story behind this model

This trunk has been designed to complement **Elizabeth - A Sampler Pincushion Doll** and has been designed as a special token of love for the daughter of a dearest friend of mine.!

This wonderful teenager, **Elisabetta Gentileschi** of the **Atelier Merletto di Orvieto**, is an astonishing embroideress of Orvieto lace (www.inorvieto.it/en/discover/arts_and_crafts/orvieto_lace_art.html)

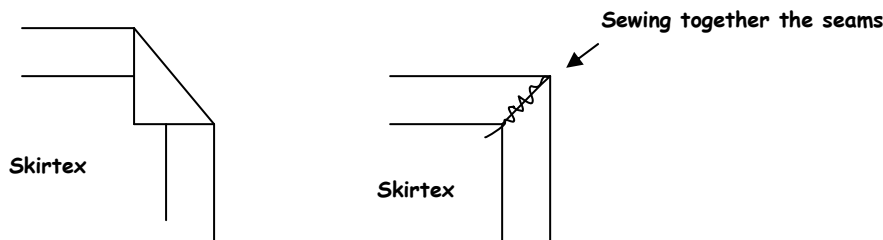
You should see Elisabetta making lace.... She is simply unbelievable!

Finishing materials and instructions for trunk risers

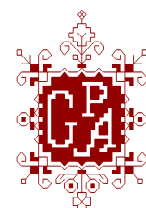
- white fusible interfacing (measurements as for cardboard templates)
- Iron on fusible web
- four 1 x 2 5/8 in cardboard panels for inside risers
- two 4 x 4 3/4 in pieces of olive green silk fabric for finishing inside risers
- olive green, polyester sewing thread to match with finishing fabric
- acid free stick glue (like Elmer glue) and fabric glue (Aleene's Super Thick Tacky Glue)

General instructions for how to turn seams

Trunk has been build by covering cardboard or Skirtex pieces with the corresponding stitched fabric. There is a general rule to be kept in mind in order to get a perfect finishing. Always apply a small amount of stick glue along the edges of the mounted cardboard or Skirtex panels. For corners, first turn seams at back over the corner (figure at left here below), finger press and iron press against the glue. Then turn seams back again over the edges (figure at right here below) and apply more glue if needed. Finger press and iron press again. Secure seams to Skirtex by sewing together the mitered seams with small stitches. I like to use acid free stick glue when I work over the Skirtex near the edges, because it is easy to apply, it is thicker than other fabric glues, and doesn't cause any humidity which might affect hand dyed fabrics and threads.

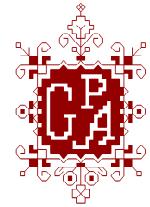
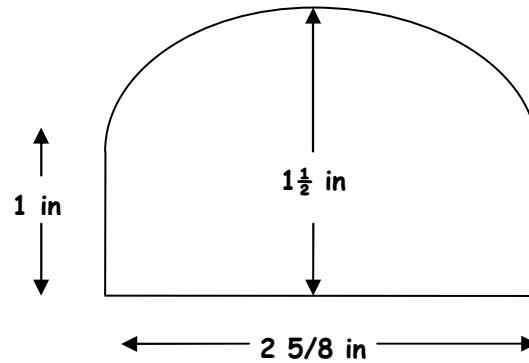


Prepare inside risers of trunk: each riser will be made by two 1 x 2 5/8 in cardboard panels, lined with silk fabric. Check that each cardboard panel properly fits inside the trunk. If needed, extra trim cardboard pieces. Cut one 2x 2 3/4 pieces of interfacing and fuse it to the back of one of the two 4 x 4 3/4 in pieces of finishing olive silk. Align and glue the cardboard pieces leaving a small gap in between for easy folding. Turn back and glue hems. Then, wrong sides in, fold and glue the lined cardboard pieces and secure along the vertical edges with small stitches. Make the other riser in the same way and let them both dry under pressure. Take the risers and glue them to the inside lateral walls of trunk. Press firmly and let the glue dry.



Finishing materials and instructions for tray

- out of cardboard cut one $2\frac{1}{2} \times 4\frac{3}{8}$ in panel (base) and one $7/8 \times 2\frac{3}{8}$ in panel (divider)
- out of Skirtex, cut two $1 \times 4\frac{1}{2}$ in panels (front and back sides), two $7/8 \times 2\frac{1}{4}$ in panels (large inside compartment), two $7/8 \times 1\frac{5}{8}$ in panels (small inside compartment), and four panels (lateral sides) as for the following template:



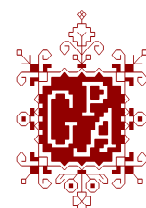
- Iron-on fusible web
- olive silk finishing fabric (approximately 16x10 in)
- white fusible interfacing (measurements as for cardboard/Skirtex templates)
- one $2\frac{1}{4} \times 2\frac{1}{4}$ in piece, and one $2\frac{1}{4} \times 1\frac{1}{2}$ in piece of olive green wool felt for inside finishing of tray
- olive green polyester sewing thread
- acid free stick glue (like Elmer glue)

Outside structure of tray: try the fit for front, back and lateral sides Skirtex panels to the inside of trunk. If needed, extra trim panels widths. Fuse the Iron-On fusible web to one side of the Skirtex panels. Cut a $3\frac{1}{2} \times 16$ in stripe of silk finishing fabric. Cut a $1\frac{1}{2} \times 14\frac{1}{2}$ in stripe of white interfacing and center and fuse it to the back of the silk fabric stripe.

Align the Skirtex panels one near the other, alternating one lateral panel, the front panel, the other lateral panel and the back panel, with the fusible web sections in contact with interfacing. Leave a small gap between panels for easy folding. Fuse with iron and trim fabric all around leaving $\frac{3}{4}$ in selvage. Turn seams back over the Skirtex panels and glue them with stick glue. Once you turn and glue the seams along the curved edges, cut away tiny triangles of fabric toward the edges, but not up to them, in order to follow better the curved shape. Sew together with small hidden stitches the free vertical edges at the end. In this way you have "built" the outside wall of tray. Now try the fit with the cardboard base of tray; the base should fit inside the tray wall. Extra trim cardboard if needed. Cover the cardboard base panel with a piece of silk fabric lined with interfacing. Turn and glue seams back as already explained. Sew the tray base to the outside wall with small hidden stitches with olive polyester thread. The section fully lined with silk fabric should be outside while the section with glued seams must be inside the tray and it will be covered by wool felt.

Attach the tray wall to the base with small hidden stitches with green polyester sewing thread. Now the outside structure of tray is done and it should fit properly inside trunk.

Inside structure of tray: take the lateral Skirtex panel and the two $7/8 \times 2\frac{3}{8}$ in Skirtex panels. Insert them inside the tray and extra-trim at their base to align the upper edge to the outside wall. Fuse the Iron-On fusible web to one side of the Skirtex panels. Cut one $3\frac{1}{2} \times 9\frac{1}{4}$ in stripe of silk finishing fabric. Cut one $1\frac{1}{2} \times 8$ in stripe of white interfacing and center and fuse it to the back of the silk fabric stripe. Align the Skirtex panels one near the other with the lateral panel in the middle and the fusible web sections in contact with the interfacing. Leave a small gap between panels for easy folding. Fuse with iron and trim fabric all around, leaving $\frac{3}{4}$ in selvage. Turn seams back over the Skirtex panels and glue them with stick glue. Once you turn and glue the seams along the curved edges, cut away tiny triangles of fabric toward the edges, but not up to them, in order to follow the curved shape better. Fold and glue this structure to the inside walls to make the large tray compartment.



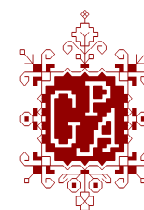
Cut a 3 x 4½ in piece of silk fabric. Cut one 1¾ x 2¾ piece of white interfacing and center and fuse it to the back of the silk fabric stripe. Fold silk piece in two, apply stick glue on both sides of cardboard divider, and line the divider with silk fabric. Let the piece dry under pressure. Insert the divider inside the tray and glue seams to the base and the walls, and place the divider just in contact with the lining structure already glued.

Mount the last Skirtex panels (two 7/8 x 1 5/8 in size and lateral panel) by doing exactly what you did for the other wall lining structure (trimming if needed, fusing Iron-On and Interfacing, turning hems...). Glue the mounted structure to the walls of small tray compartment. The divider will be held in place by the lining structures. Glue the two pieces of wool felt at the inside base of compartments. The small compartment will hold the pincushion.



Finishing materials and instructions for pincushion

- olive silk finishing fabric (approximately 5 x 4½ in)
- olive green polyester sewing thread
- fibrefill
- 2 carved Mother of Pearl buttons (¾ in width)



Pincushion: right sides in, fold finishing fabric to make a 4½ in tall cylinder. Close the cylinder with a vertical seam with ¾ in selvage. Make a gathering stitch along one base, pull thread tightly to close the opening and secure with extra stitches. Turn right sides out. Make a gathering stitch at ¾ in selvage along the upper edge of pincushion. Fill with fibrefill while pulling the sewing thread. Keep filling and then pull tightly and close with extra stitches. Sew the MOP buttons over the gathering stitch on each side of pincushion.

Where to find instructions for the pincushion doll and the trunk

Instructions for Elizabeth pincushion doll are published on Sampler & Antique Needlework Quarterly Summer issue 2014.
 Instructions for Elizabeth's Trunk are published on Sampler & Antique Needlework Quarterly Fall issue 2014

Credits

I owe a huge thank to **Christy Schmitz**, Editor of **Sampler & Antique Needlework Quarterly** for her strong support. She wanted me to publish a pincushion doll of her wonderful magazine she was also very happy to host Elizabeth's trunk too! It a big honor to have my designs published in this prestigious magazine, definitely the most exquisite magazine in antique style needleart.

I also want to give a big thank to my friends **Simona Bussiglieri**, Designer of **Mani di Donna**, for conceiving with me the finishing process of this trunk and to my model stitcher **Monica Marchi** for beautifully stitching the model.

Another big thank goes to my dearest friend **Roberta Dazzini**, goldsmith from **Laboratorio Gli Etruschi**, for creating for me the scissors fob and the beautiful thimble with tiny lake pearls.

Lastly I want to thank the following Companies for providing me with their products: **Lakeside Linens** for their beautiful hand dyed linen, **Gloriana Threads** for their lovely hand dyed silk threads, **Duerre Bottoni** for the lovely mother of pearl buttons used for the pincushion, and **Uncommon Scissors** for the beautiful silvertone scissors.

Sewing accessories

Elizabeth's Thimble: hand made silver thimble with tiny lake pearls from **Laboratorio Gli Etruschi**

Elizabeth's Scissors Fob: beautiful scissors fob from **Laboratorio Gli Etruschi**, made with metal components and glass Venetian beads

Spring Primrose Scissors: beautiful silver tone scissors from **Uncommon Scissors**

References for materials

Lakeside Linens (www.lakesidelinens.com)

Gloriana Threads (www.glorianathreads.com)

Laboratorio Gli Etruschi (www.tombolomania.com)

Duerre Bottoni (www.duerrebottoni.com)

Uncommon Scissors (www.uncommonscissors.com)

FINISHING CONCEPT BY SIMONA BUSSIGLIERI AND GIULIA MANFREDINI
MODEL STITCHED BY MONICA MARCHI
FINISHED BY GIULIA MANFREDINI

Giulia Punti Antichi "GPA"

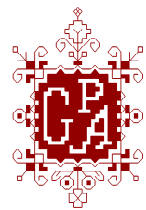
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