

# End of Summer Mix

**Triga Tutorials**

Triga Creative

with Sarah Creskey



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# clothes that have been partied in

by Shannon Lea Doyle

Party clothes: the well-loved garments that we revel in.

In this tutorial we think about how to avoid buying new clothes by embellishing stains, using the random outlines of spilled drinks as a decorative pattern.

Embroidery is an ancient, beautiful and practical craft. I am a beginner! There are many great books on the subject at the Toronto Public Library.





## STEP ONE

Grab that piece of clothing that has seen some partying in its time.

Pay attention to the garment's fabric. If it is stretchy you will want to add a stabilizing layer to the back of the fabric so that your embroidery doesn't change shape.

If the threads that create the fabric are woven or knit tightly you may want to use a thinner thread for your embroidery. If you can see the individual threads that make up the fabric, and the space between them, you could get nice results with a thicker thread.

The dress I chose to embellish is a dense silk crepe and has no stretch.



## STEP TWO

Gather your tools: scissors, an embroidery hoop, embroidery thread, and a needle with a long eye hole for easy threading. I chose a thread that closely matched the colour of the dress I was working on.



STEP THREE - Separate the hoop and place the fabric between the pieces.





## STEP FOUR

Tighten the top hoop piece and pull the fabric taught around the area you want to embroider.

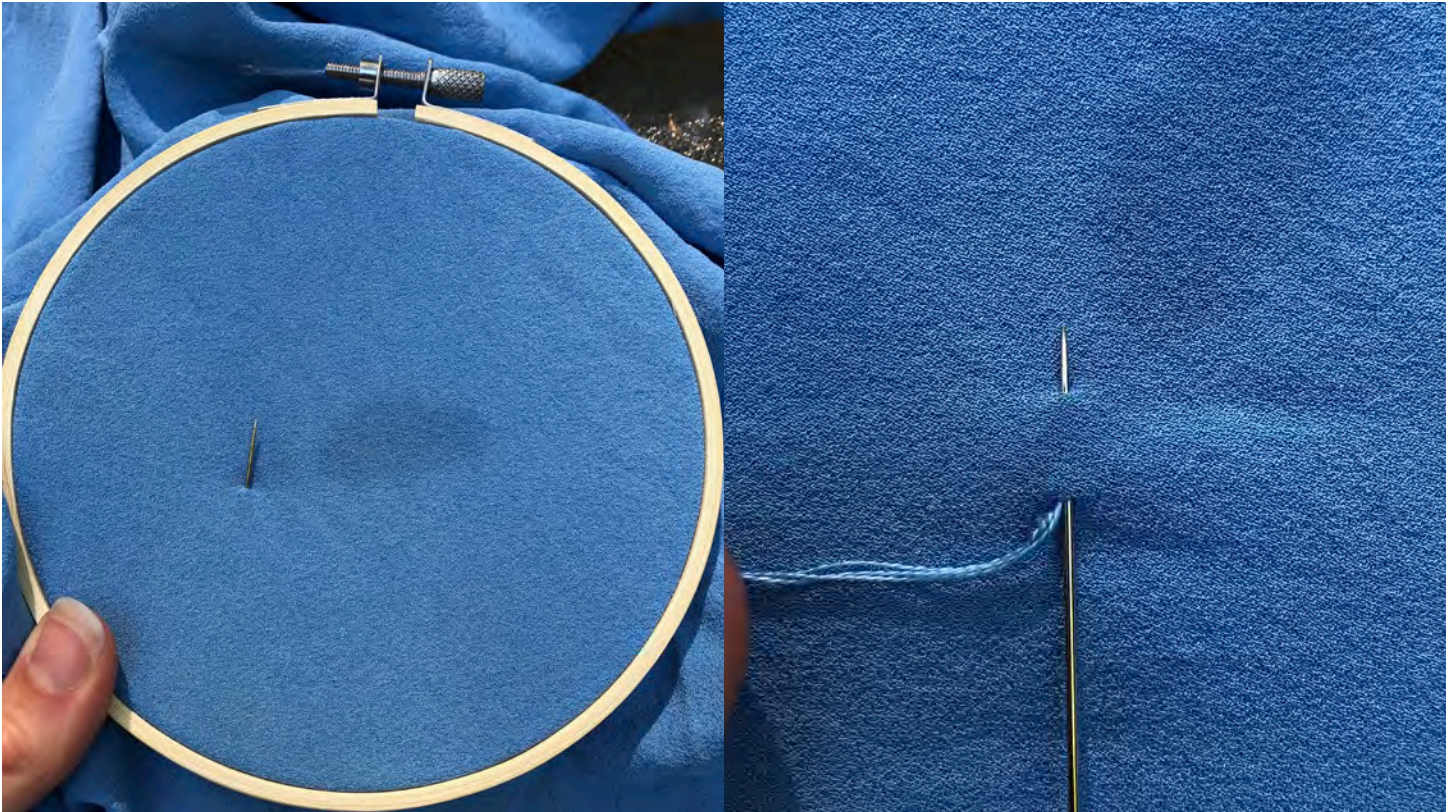


## STEP FIVE

Thread the needle and tie a knot at the end.

## STEP SIX

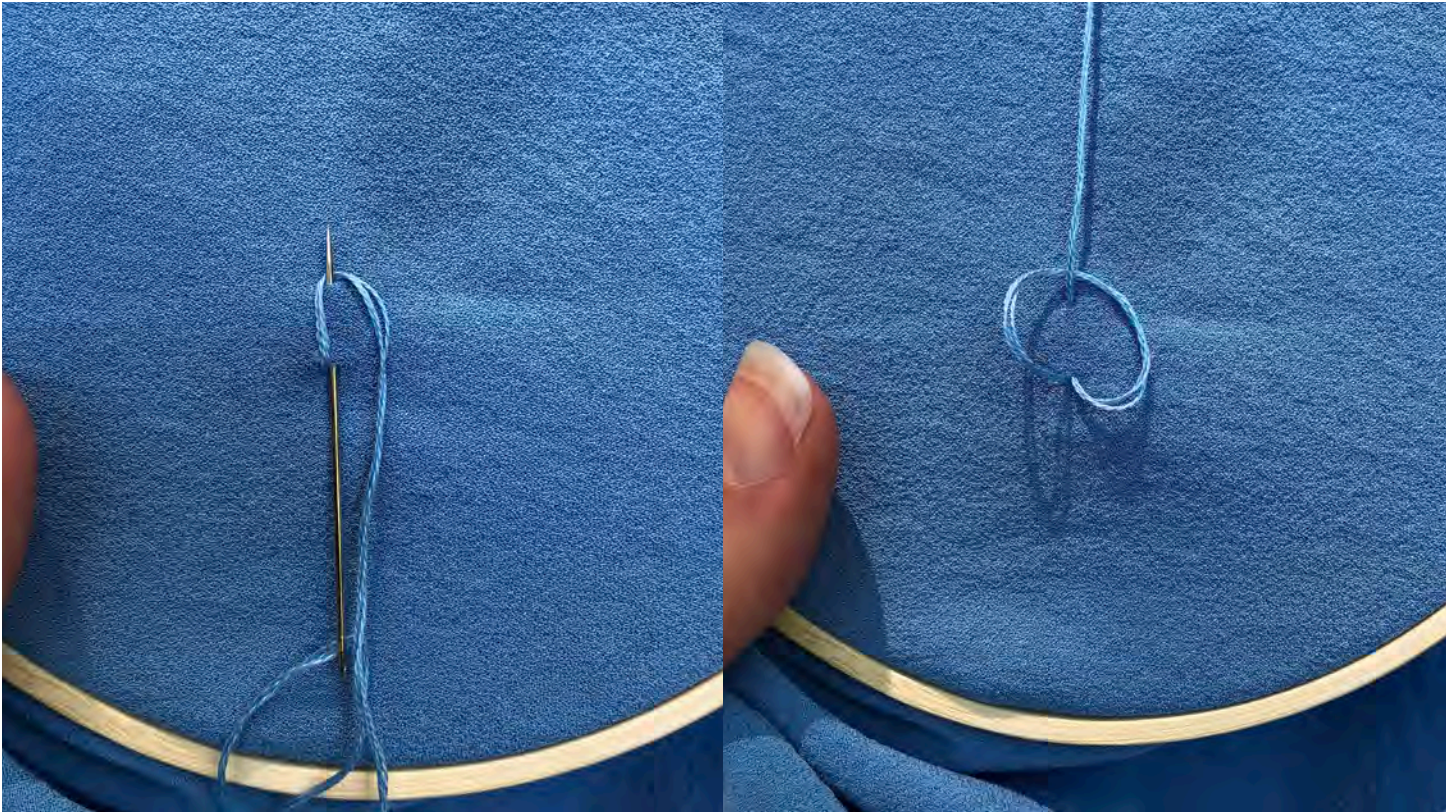
Start from under the surface of the fabric at the edge of the stain. Push the needle up and then pull through. Go back down at the same point that the thread emerges from the surface of the fabric. Then bring the tip of the needle up at the other side of the stain.





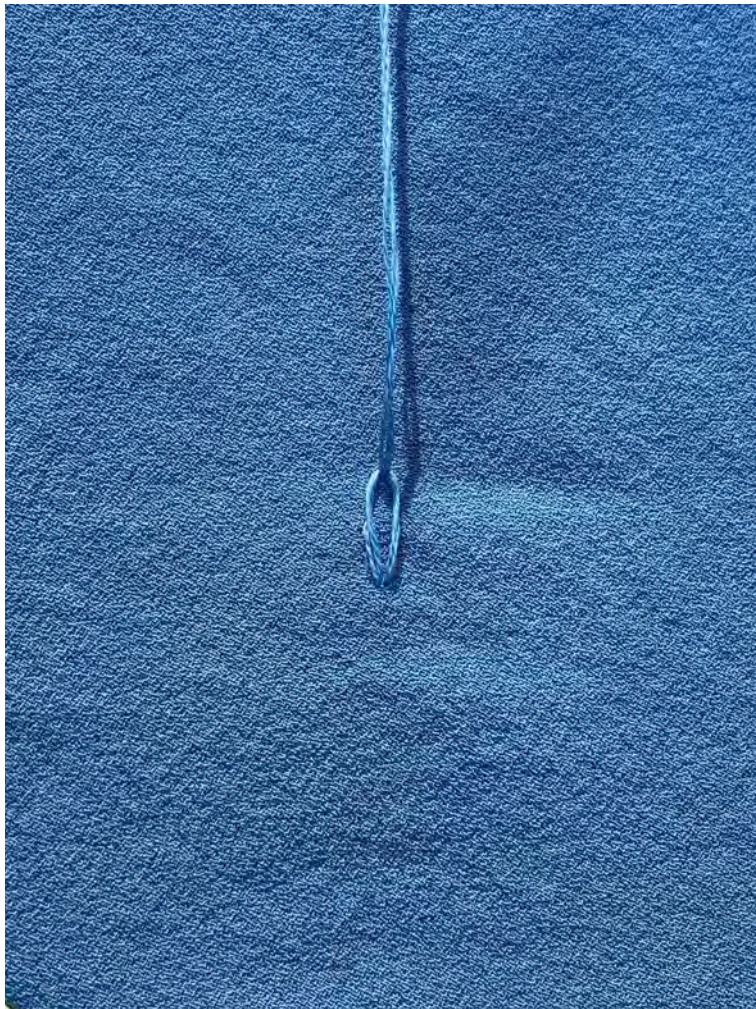
## STEP SEVEN

Wrap the thread around the top of the needle. Pull the needle all the way up through the surface of the fabric.





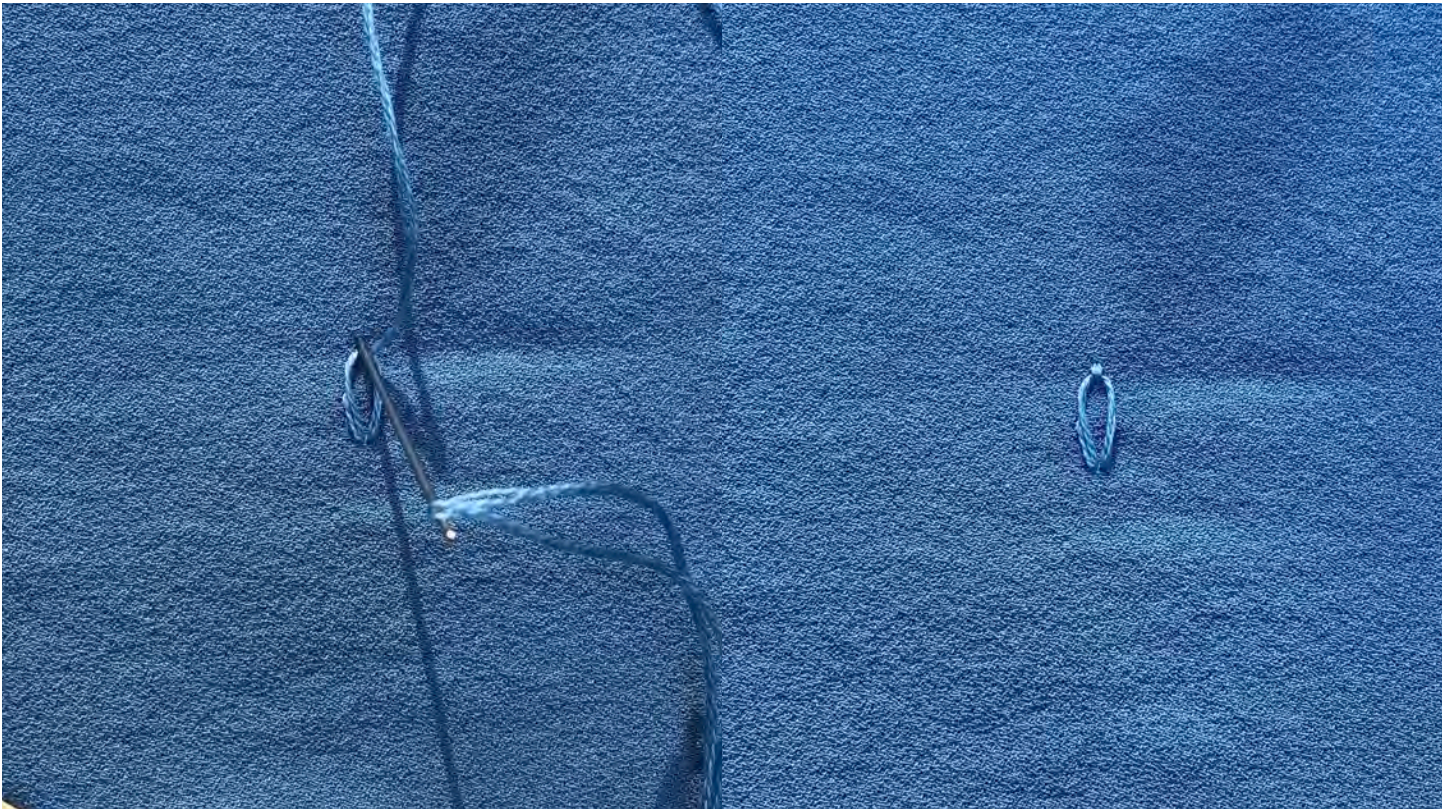
You have made one chain stitch!





## STEP EIGHT

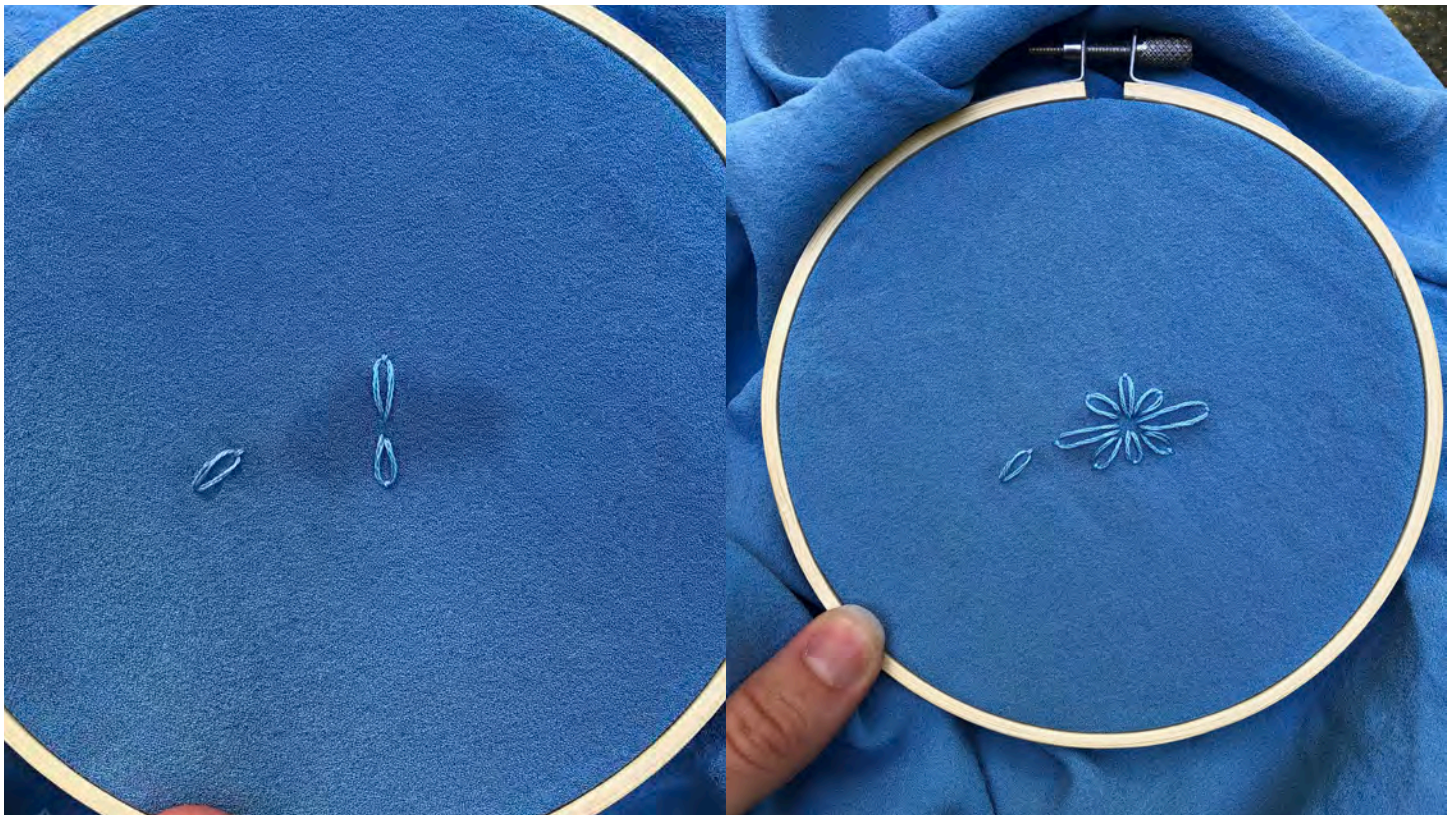
Anchor your stitch by pushing the needle down into the surface of the fabric just on the other side of the thread loop.





## STEP NINE

Continue using this stitch to cover the stain. Try staying within the edges of the stain. Try orienting the direction of your stitches in the same way or radially to create a flower shape.





Continue to experiment using the location and organic shape of the stains as a pattern. Try using other stitches and contrasting colours.



we need to take  
care of each other

by Sarah Creskey, volunteer for the Encampment Support Network

Ginger Dean and Simone Schmidt first envisioned these beautiful canvas signs for an action in May 2020. Since then we have rolled with this idea, and a whole team of volunteers are now providing signs for encampments through out the city.

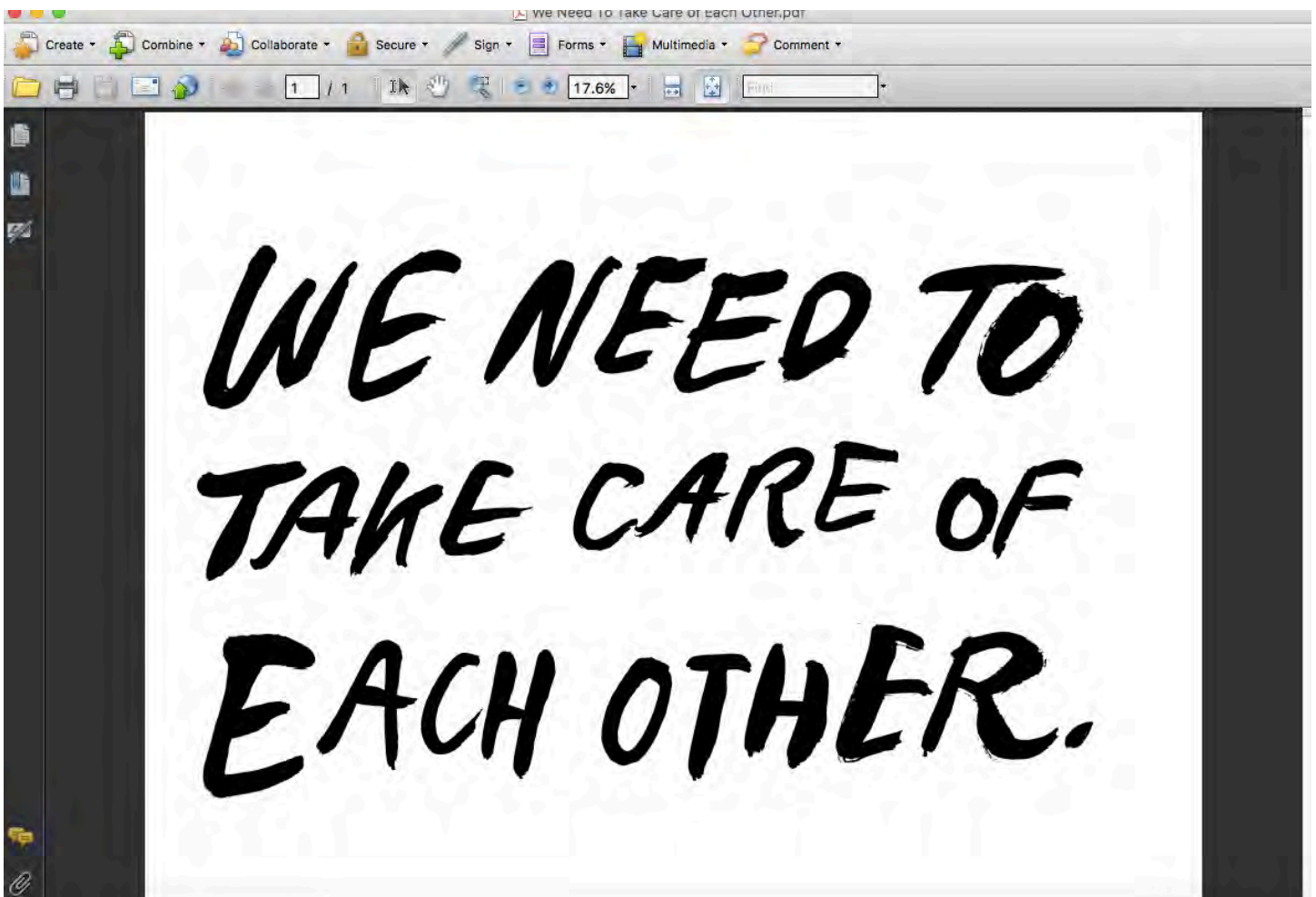
The power in these signs is in their message. The many hours of care and skill that go into them serve to appropriately amplify that message. The process itself is meditative and loving, and I feel this shines through. What a powerful thing for a community to come together as the Encampment Support Network has! The strong visuals only serve to capture that.

Find out more on Twitter here: @ESN\_TO  
and on Instagram here: @esn.to.4real



## STEP 1 - DESIGN

Design your graphic, either in photoshop/illustrator or by hand. Here Simone has used a mixture of hand painted and regular font. Convert to digital file if hand drawing/painting.



## STEP 2 – PREP YOUR CANVAS/MATERIAL

Canvas works really well for these signs, but an old sheet or table cloth will work to! “Hem” the raw edges. Think about how you will want to hang/display your canvas. Here I’ve done a simple hem on the sides and bottom, and a three inch hem at the top for a piece of rope or doweling to go through for hanging.





If you don't have a sewing machine you can use:

- \*fabric glue

- \*a few hand stitches (embroidery thread would be nice!)

- \*duct tape



### STEP 3 – PRIME

If using canvas your going to want to prime it, if using a sheet or table cloth skip this step. If you are planning to thread with rope or doweling, don't prime that spot. It will become too stiff to thread.



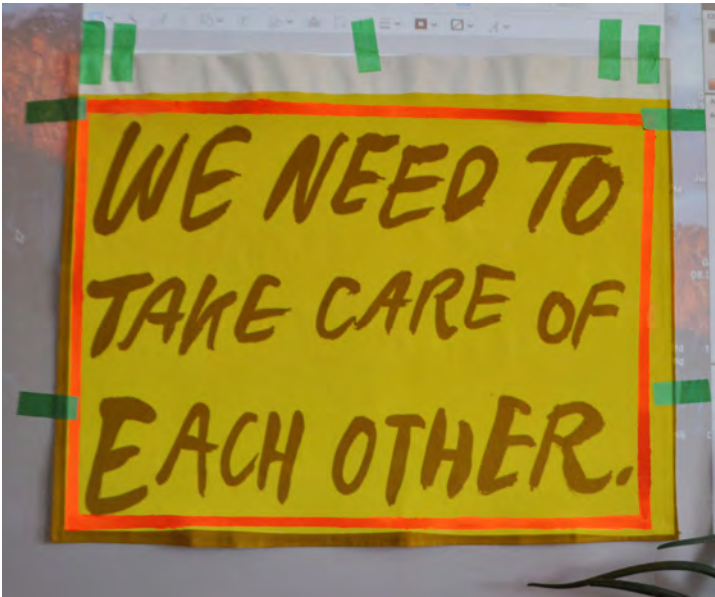
Gesso is ideal for priming, but many other products work well to. We use regular wall primer, or any old left over paint. Whatever you have lying around!





## STEP 4 – TRACE

Use a projector to trace your graphic onto the canvas.  
Don't have a projector? Draw it on by hand!



## STEP 5 – PAINTING

Use whatever paints you have at hand, I'm using screen printing ink. Regular acrylic or house paint work well too! Use a flat tip (not round) brush for the cleanest results. Try blending the colours for a beautiful fade



TIP! Add a tiny bit of water (not too much or it will bleed) to your first coat, it will glide on nicely for very clean lines



## STEP 6 - HANGING

Depending on how you will use the sign, you can:

- \*thread the top with rope
- \*punch a hole in each corner for rope
- \*thread the top with a piece of doweling





WE NEED TO  
TAKE CARE OF  
EACH OTHER



# rainy day celebration

by Shannon Lea Doyle

The inspiration for this tutorial is three-fold:

1. Days when you can't (or don't want to) celebrate outside
2. A general disinterest in both making and buying party decor
3. My late grandmother's favourite poem, which was written by Chinese poet, tea master and writer Lù Yǔ (733 AD-804 AD):

The clouds above us join and separate,  
The breezes in the courtyard leave and return.  
Life is like that, so why not relax?  
Who can stop us from celebrating?

## STEP 1 - GATHER

Look at what you already have on hand.

A few good elements could be: houseplants, scrap pieces of fabric, cups, wine glasses, bowls and plates, or your favourite objects and art.





## STEP 2 - FOOD AND FLOWERS AS DECOR

Late summer fruits and vegetables are beautiful and delicious. Be inspired by the shape and colour of what is locally grown and available to you.  
Bonus: you can eat the decor.



A few flowers go a long way and always make a celebration feel special. I walked to the closest flower store from my apartment and asked for whichever flowers were locally grown.

### STEP 3 - MATCHING AND CONTRASTING

Okay, you have the resourcefulness of an indie designer. Now, notice what shapes are similar across your categories of objects, and which colours make each other look vibrant when placed close together.





## STEP 4 – ARRANGING, SNACK TABLE STYLE

Let the unexpected qualities of your favourite things lead the way. Use levels (think high school tableaux), and arrange short objects in front of taller ones. Objects that lie flat, such as the fabric, can be used as a starting point or canvas.



Let the fruit and veggies spill out of containers onto clean surfaces.





## ARRANGING, SIT-DOWN DINNER STYLE

Keep the decorative elements in a narrow line down the centre of the table. Without as many guests as usual you can repurpose wine glasses as vases. Berries can be gathered in clear cups to create height, but any fruit looks good on its own.



## ARRANGING, SOLO CELEBRATION STYLE

There is no reason to have all of the colour and beauty of late summer in one place. Spread a small bouquet of flowers throughout your space by picking a handful of your favourite vessels. Select a group that have at least one shape or colour in common and then place one or three stems in each, along with water.





# Triga Creative

Triga is Alexandra Lord, Shannon Lea Doyle and Michelle Tracey. We create art experiences with an Ecoscenographic approach. Applying an autonomous, collaborative model that values the sustainability of people, planet and profit, we are able to design for any scope, always at the human scale. Find us @TrigaCreative



# Sarah Creskey

Sarah Creskey is a screen printer in Toronto. In non-pandemic times she facilitates work permits and the Clothing Boutique at Romero House. Currently she is the volunteer sign coordinator for the Encampment Support Network.

