



*liz payne / embroidery artist*

Because these socks are a loose weave and quite stretchy, I initially tacked soluble canvas up inside them - this keeps the weave of the fabric sturdy, and makes it a little easier to stitch. Using a small embroidery hoop I then hand-embroidered them in a range of stitches using wool and different threads, with embellishments like beads, sequins and fringing. After all that was done, the socks got rinsed to dissolve away all the soluble canvas and put on the line to dry in the sun! They're called Cluster-kickers. (And they are covered in little 'clusters' of colour, texture, shine and sparkle. (And they are designed to be worn during a series of radical continuous air kicks!) I wanted to play on decoration versus functionality, creating socks that you could wear, but were still delicate enough in all their embellishments to make them decorative, too. The thickest part of this entire sock project was the stretchiness of the fabric - even with the soluble canvas, it was quite difficult to reach down into the sock to pull out the thread. Plus my dog is a major sock thief, so trying to keep them away from him was tough!