

What do I need?

Printed copy of page 4 on A4 card

Scissors

Glue

Pencil

Any of the following craft materials; graph paper, tissue paper, paints, colouring pens or pencils, modelling clay, lolly sticks, etc.



English knot garden in a shoebox

What do I do?

Look at pages 2-3 to discover the main features of a traditional Elizabethan knot garden and to get inspiration for your shoebox design. Knot gardens follow the 'over and under' thread pattern of needlework, using low-lying hedging plants or aromatic herbs to form the lines.

Cut around the outside of the template on page 4 so you are left with the net of a shoebox with no lid.

Use your pencil to draw a Elizabethan knot-style garden design onto your template. The central rectangle will be the ground and the four outer rectangles will be the enclosing walls.

Once you're happy with your design, you can decorate it using your craft materials. For example, scrunch up pieces of tissue paper to make trees and shrubs or colour in graph paper for tiled paths. You could even cut out a section of a wall to make an entrance.

When you've finished, carefully fold the walls inwards along the dashed lines. Fold tabs A-D inwards then use your glue to stick these to the outside of your walls to form a box shape.

If you're feeling very creative, why don't you decorate the outside of your box to look like garden walls too!



English knot gardens

Birmingham Botanical Gardens, Birmingham; Cressing Temple Tudor Gardens, Essex; Hatfield House, Hertfordshire; Kenilworth Castle, Warwickshire; Moseley Old Hall, Wolverhampton; Sudeley Castle, Gloucestershire

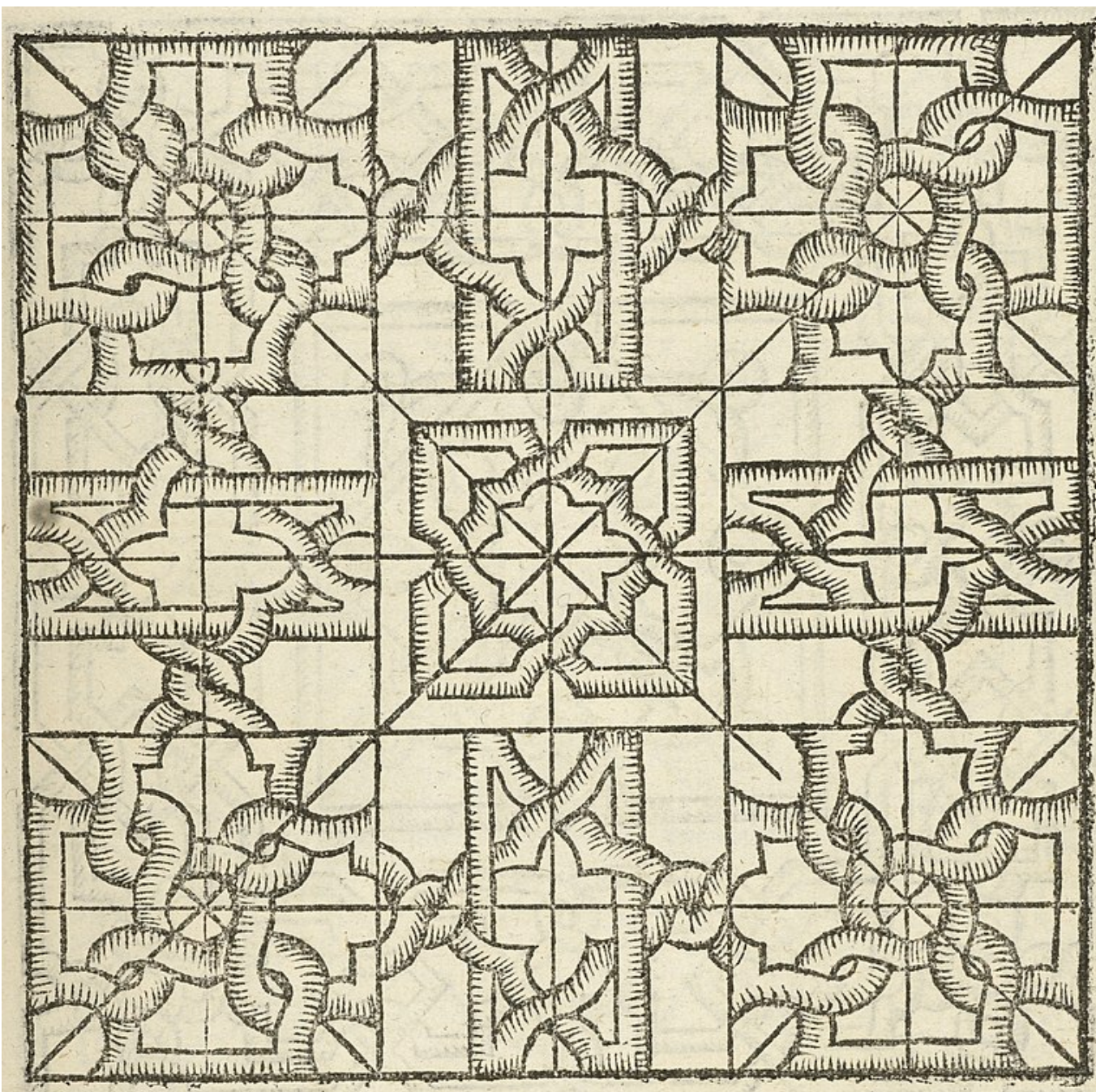


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British garden glossary

- **flower bed** - a plot in the garden used to grow flowers. The beds in knot gardens are usually enclosed by hedges and paths.
- **gravel path** - a walkway of fine gravel which separates beds and hedges in the knot garden. Gravel paths help to visually define the knot garden and allow people to walk around easily.
- **hedge** - a row of low-lying plants used to separate flower beds and paths in knot gardens. Box (*Buxus spp.*) is the most common hedging plant but herbs such as lavender and rosemary are often used too. Taller hedges may be used around the outside of the garden to enclose it.
- **herb** - plants used to add scent to the garden. Popular plants for knot gardens include chamomile, lavender, lemon balm, marjoram, rosemary and thyme.
- **pattern** - a symmetrical design of interlocking and interweaving lines (hedges) to form a knotted pattern.
- **symmetry** - a term used to describe a design that is identical on either side of a central axis or line.



A knot garden is a series of formal symmetrical interweaving patterns laid out within a larger rectangular frame. They were developed during the Elizabethan period with patterns influenced by Renaissance designs of the time found in many forms of interior decoration, especially carpets and textiles.

