

Y-016A	An Almoner's Purse		A Stitch Out of Time
Date/Period 1291 - 1310	Country Europe	Museum Kerk O.L.Vrouw Geboorte, Tongeren, Belgium	Catalog Number 36

The purse would originally had an flap, embroidered in the same pattern:



Only the front of the purse is embroidered. The back is plain fabric. The Museum has made available photos of the piece taken during restoration. From these it can be seen that the embroidery is done to match the shape of the bag, not cut out of a larger piece of embroidery.

Materials:

According to the writeup, the ground fabric is woolen, not linen, this is decorated with colored silks and gold strip in brickstitch.

Missing from the artifact are the following:

- The embroidered cover flap
- The ring that reinforced the circular opening
- The fabric drawstring collar that closed the opening.

"Purse with arms of Brabant and Limburg Bourbon - Almoner's purse without flap : Front, brick stitch on a woolen fabric; back, blue linen." ~48 thread per inch evenweave fabric.

