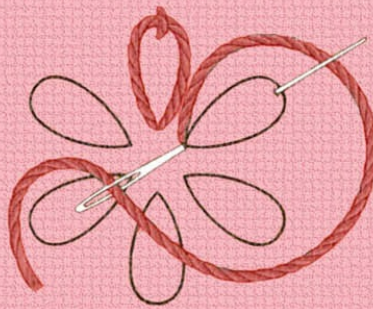


STITCH
ENCYCLOPEDIA

EMBROIDERY



AN ILLUSTRATED GUIDE TO THE
ESSENTIAL EMBROIDERY STITCHES

EMBROIDERY
BASICS

STITCH ENCYCLOPEDIA

An Illustrated Guide to the Essential Embroidery Stitches



CHRONICLE BOOKS
SAN FRANCISCO

For those of you who have never tried embroidery, or those who are challenged by variations of the basic stitches, the following step-by-step illustrations will give you all the assistance you need to master each stitch.

There is a wide variety of embroidery stitches, most based on easy-to-learn basics. This book will introduce you to the 10 basic stitches and a total of 84 different stitches. You will find once you have mastered each basic stitch, you can easily move on to one or more of the variations, adding to your enjoyment of embroidery with each new stitch mastered. Embroidery is one of the fiber arts that has been worked for centuries— a staple in the needlework field. Why not give it a try? Begin with the basics and you will soon find yourself embellishing a variety of garments, accessories, and home décor.



First published in the United States of America in 2014 by Chronicle Books LLC.

First published in Japan in 2010 as *Kihon No Stitch Ga Wakaru Hon Hajimemashite No Shishu Kyoshitsu* by EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION BUNKA GAKUEN BUNKA PUBLISHING BUREAU.

Text copyright © 2010 by EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION BUNKA GAKUEN BUNKA PUBLISHING BUREAU.

Illustration copyright © 2010 by Nakaniwa Rockett.

All rights reserved. No part of this book may be reproduced in any form without written permission from the publisher. English language rights arranged with EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION BUNKA GAKUEN BUNKA PUBLISHING BUREAU through Toppan Printing Co., Ltd.

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data is available.

ISBN: 978-1-4521-2707-1 (pb)

ISBN: 978-1-4521-3970-8 (epub, mobi)

BUNKA PUBLISHING BUREAU Credits:

Publisher: Sunao Onuma

Designer: Gen Watanabe

Illustrator: Nakaniwa Rockett

Copyediting Collaborator: Akiko Seino

Proofreader: Emiko Horiguchi

Editorial Collaborator: Tomoe Horie

Editor: Yoko Osawa (BUNKA PUBLISHING BUREAU)

Chronicle Books LLC

680 Second Street

San Francisco, California 94107

www.chroniclebooks.com

contents

10 Common Stitches 5

Running stitch, Basic 6

Running stitch, Variations 7

 Holbein stitch (Double running stitch) 7

 Darning stitch 7

 Threaded running stitch 7

 Whipped running stitch 7

Backstitch, Basic 8

Backstitch, Variations 9

 Seed stitch 9

 Whipped backstitch 9

 Pekinese stitch 9

Straight stitch, Basic 10

Straight stitch, Variations 11

 Spoke stitch 11

 Seeding stitch 11

 Bundle stitch 11

Couching stitch, Basic 12

Couching stitch, Variations 13

 Couching stitch techniques 13

 Pendant couching stitch 13

 Romanian stitch 13

Outline stitch, Basic 14

Outline stitch, Techniques 15

 Working curves 15

 Wider outlines 15

 Corners 15

 Connect the beginning and end 15

 Changing thread color 15

Satin stitch, Basic 16

Satin stitch, Techniques 17

 Diagonal stitch 17

 Three-dimensional stitch (Padded stitch) 17

Satin stitch, Variations	17
Long and short stitch	17
Roll stitch	17
French knot stitch, Basic	18
French knot stitch, Variations	19
Single wrap	19
Triple wrap	19
Long French knot stitch	19
Coral stitch	19
Zigzag stitch	19
Bullion stitch, Basic	20
Bullion stitch, Techniques	21
Curved stitch	21
Petal stitch	21
Chain stitch, Basic	22
Chain stitch, Techniques	23
Changing thread color	23
Connecting the first and last links	23
Creating angles	23
Lazy daisy stitch, Basic	24
Lazy daisy stitch, Variations	25
Double lazy daisy stitch	25
Threaded chain stitch	25
French lazy daisy stitch	25

Other Stitches 27

Line	28
Feather stitch	28
Double feather stitch	28
Triple feather stitch	28
Knotted feather stitch	29
Closed feather stitch	29
Long-armed stitch	30
Herringbone stitch	30
Closed herringbone stitch	31
Threaded herringbone stitch	31
Chevron stitch	31

Threaded backstitch 32

Double threaded backstitch 32

Split stitch 32

Alternating stem stitch 33

Fringe stitch 33

Cable stitch 33

Checkered chain stitch 34

Double chain stitch 34

Open chain stitch 34

Twisted chain stitch 35

Whipped chain stitch 35

Cable chain stitch 35

Framing 36

Blanket stitch 36

Blanket stitch techniques 36

Hem stitch 36

Blanket ring stitch 36

Honeycomb stitch 37

Scallop stitch 37

Whipped blanket stitch 37

Tailored buttonhole stitch 37

Motif 38

Fly stitch 38

Fly stitch techniques 38

Double fly stitch 39

Varied fly stitch 39

Plaited fly stitch 39

Cross stitch 40

Vertically 40

Horizontally 40

Top right to bottom left 41

Bottom left to top right 41

Continuous stitching (covering fabric) 42

Using the needle at different angles 42

Half cross stitch 43

Three-quarter cross stitch 43

Cross band stitch 43

Double cross stitch 43

Knot cross stitch 44

Star cross stitch 44

Star filling stitch 44

Fern stitch 45

Fishbone stitch 45

Leaf stitch A 46

Leaf stitch B 46

Self-padded leaf stitch 47

Cretan stitch 47

Bullion bar stitch 48

German knot stitch 48

Twisted loop stitch 49

Raised needle weaving stitch 49

Weaving 50

 Weaving wheel stitch 50

 Raised spider's web stitch 51

 Woven spider's web stitch 51

 Ribbed spider's web stitch 51

 Basket stitch 52

 Basket stitch techniques 52

Tools & Tips 53

Tools and materials 54

 Thread 54

 Needles 55

 Thicknesses of threads 55

 Fabric 56

 Other tools 57

Preparation 58

 Transferring designs 58

 Handling thread 59

Beginning and finishing touches 60

 Threading a needle 60

 Beginning knot 60

 Fastening off 61

 Finishing 61

A B C D E F G H I

J K L M N O P Q R

S T U V W X Y Z

a b c d e f g h i

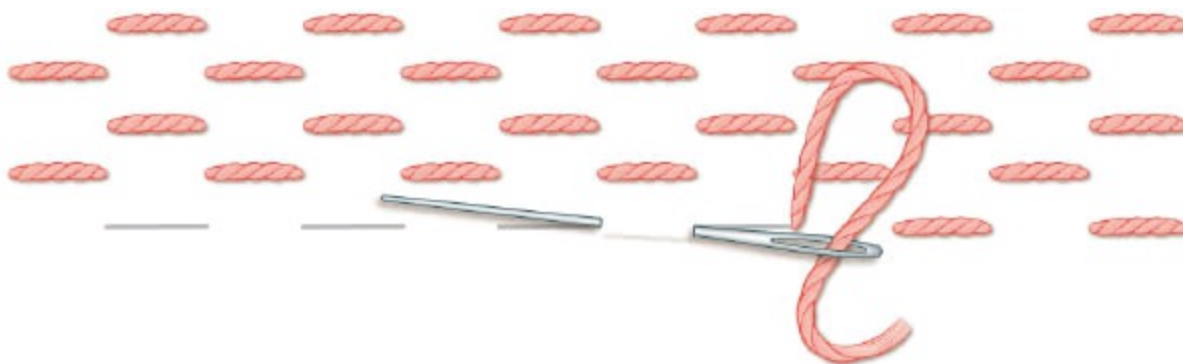
j k l m n o p q r

s t u v w x y z

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0

10 Common Stitches

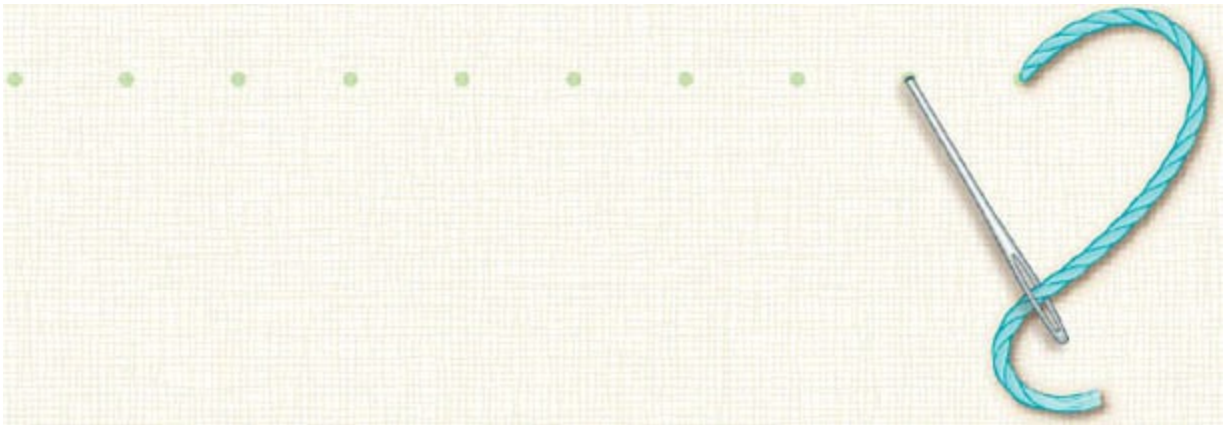
Out of the many available stitches, in this book we introduce ten types of stitches that are often used in works of embroidery. We have made it as easy as possible, even for embroidery beginners, by carefully illustrating step-by-step instructions. With these ten stitches as a foundation, we will continue by introducing related variations and techniques.

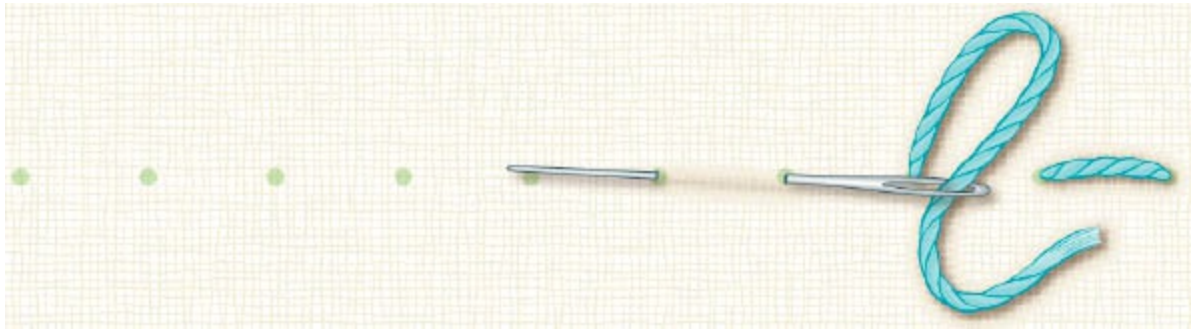
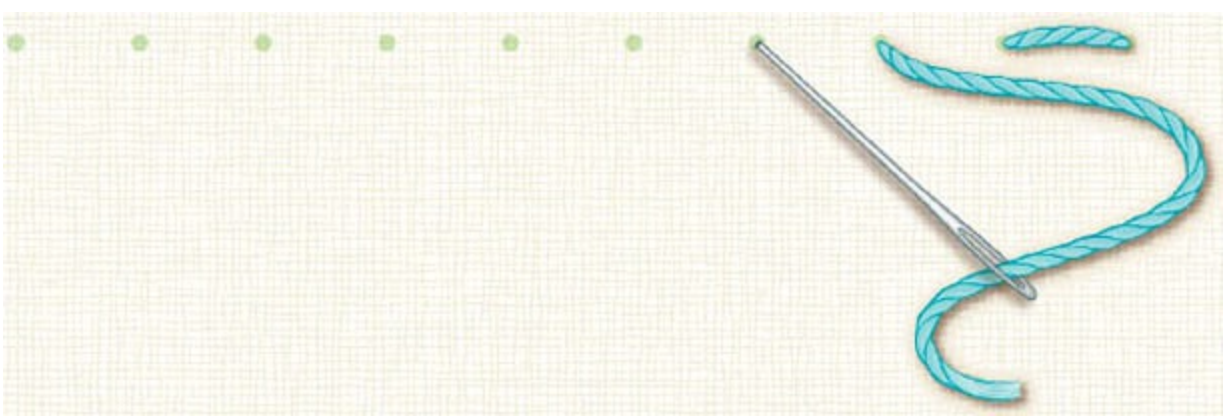


Basic

RUNNING STITCH

Work a line of stitches with even spacing on both the right side and wrong side of the fabric.





Variations

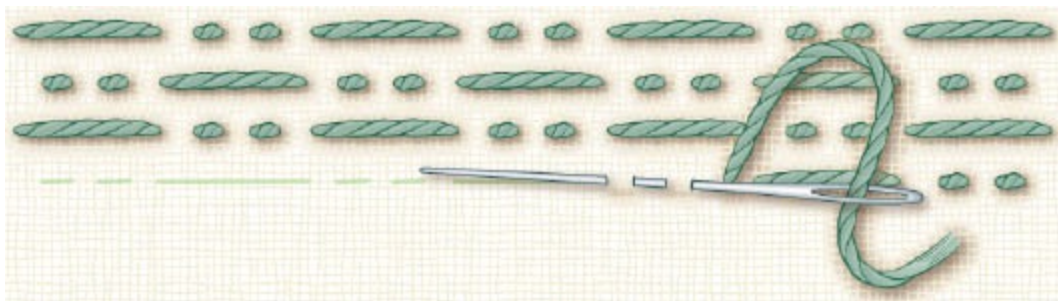
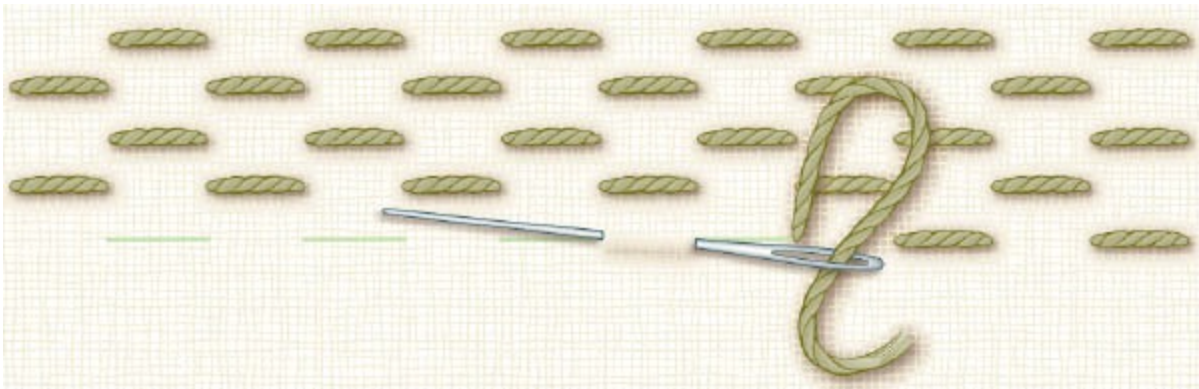
HOLBEIN STITCH (DOUBLE RUNNING STITCH)

Begin by working a row of running stitch; using the same or a different color, work another row, filling the spaces from the first row.



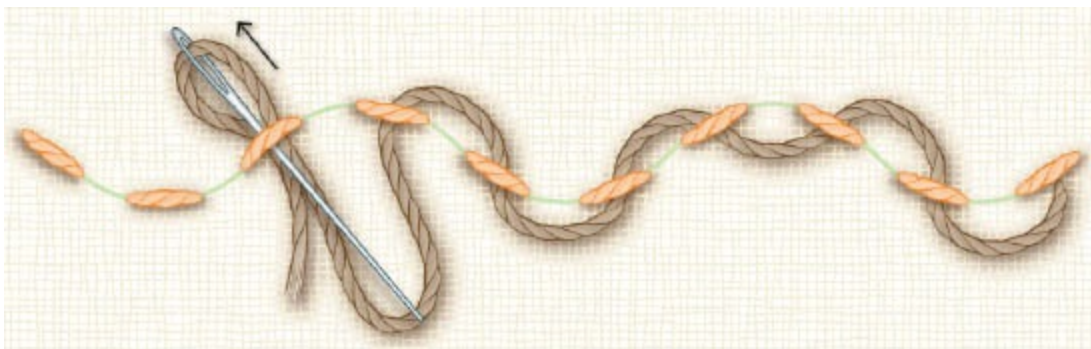
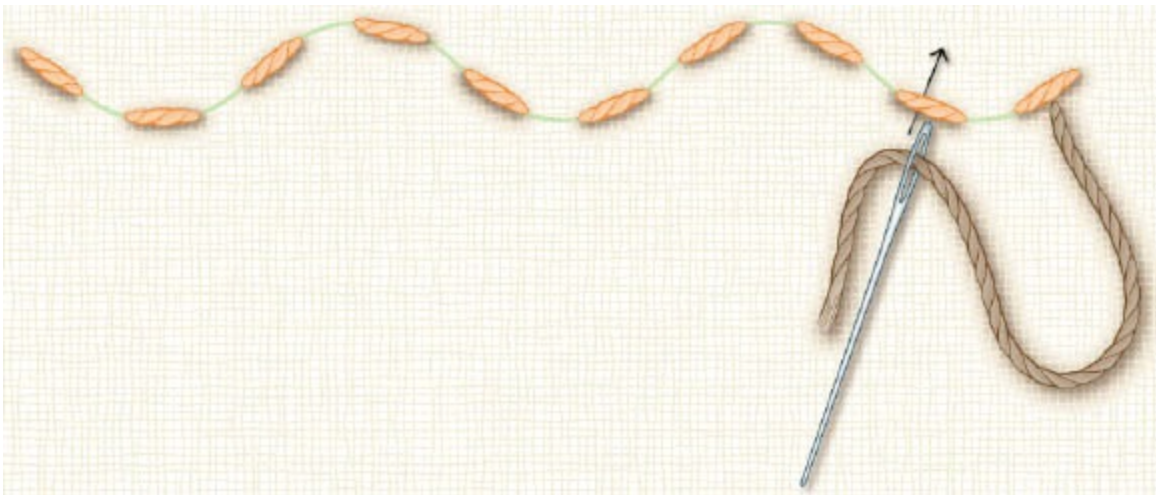
DARNING STITCH

Work a row of running stitch; work a second row, alternating the spaces and stitches.



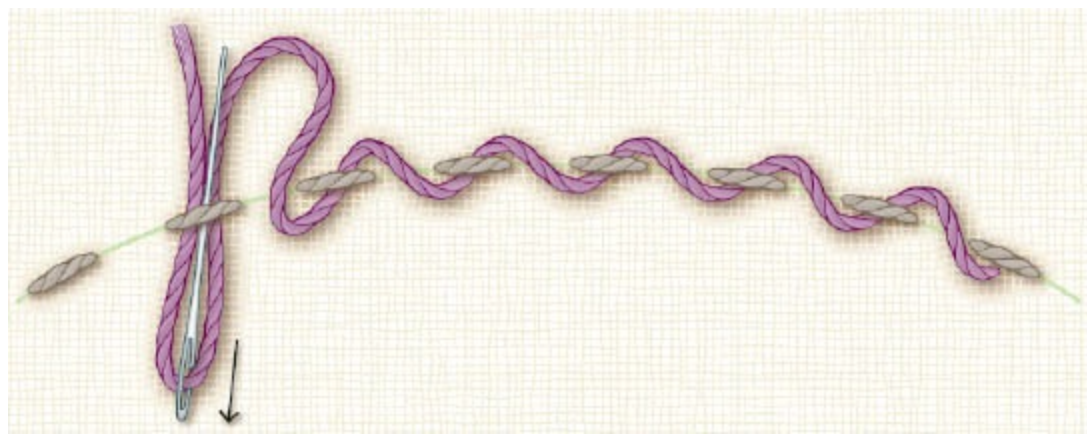
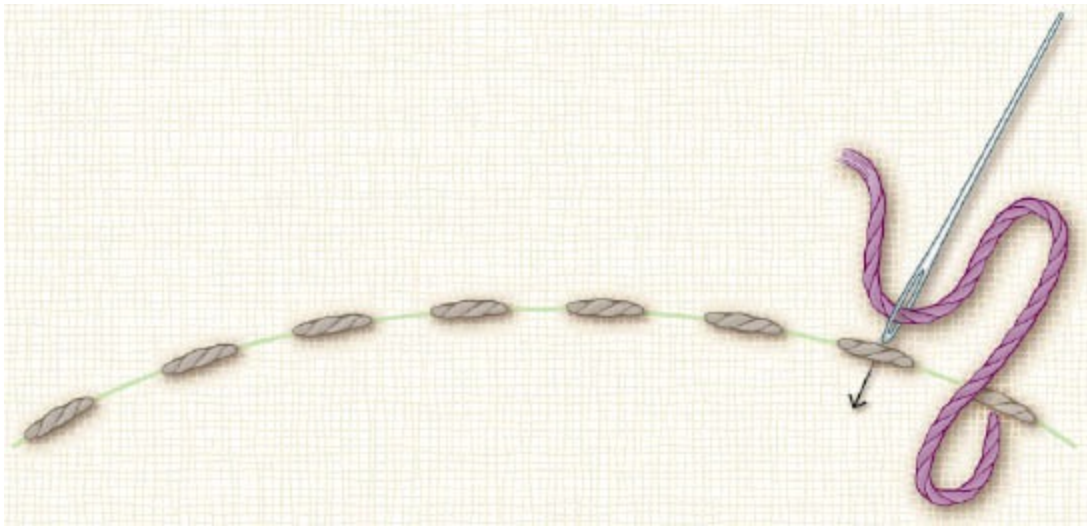
THREADED RUNNING STITCH

With a different colored thread, alternate the thread up and down through the existing running stitch.



WHIPPED RUNNING STITCH

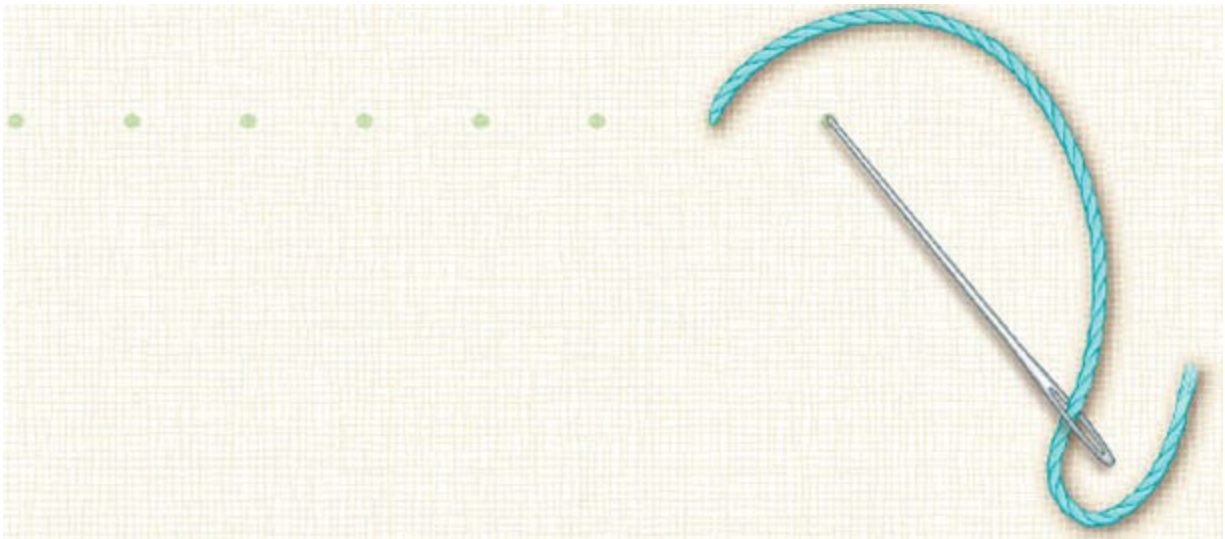
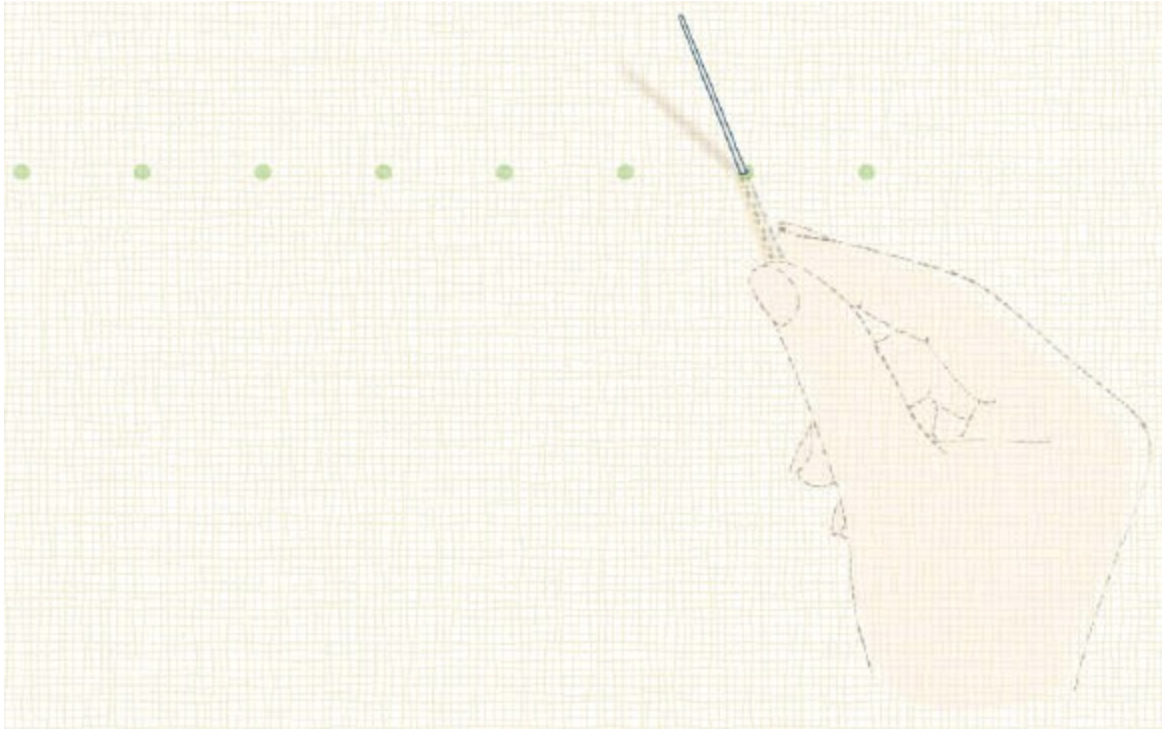
Wrap a different colored thread around the initial running stitch.

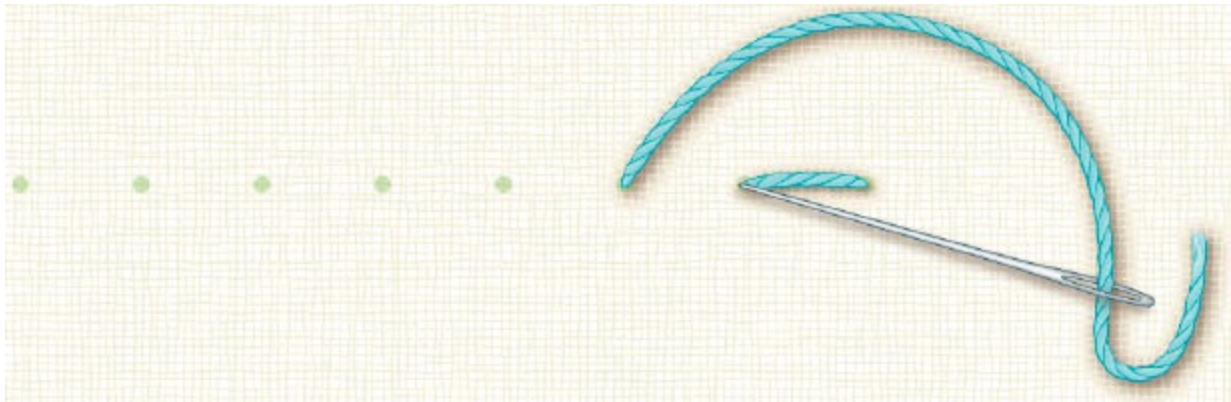


Basic

BACKSTITCH

Work a stitch; pull the needle through. Insert the needle into the end of the previous stitch and pull forward. Work another stitch.





Variations

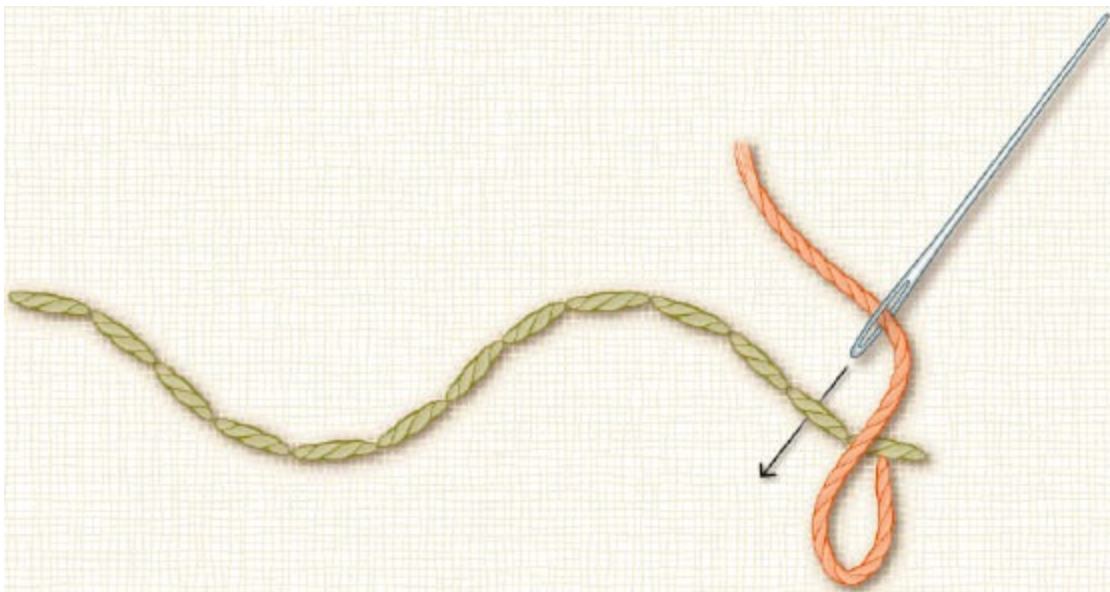
SEED STITCH

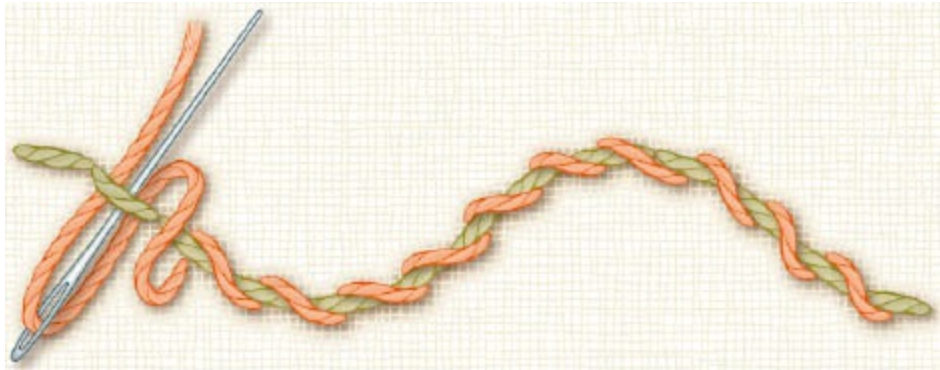
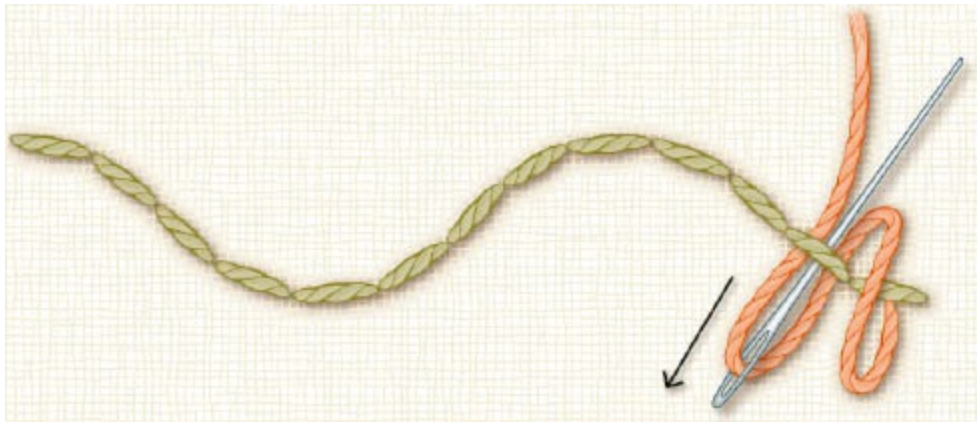
Worked similar to backstitch, but work only half the distance between the stitch holes.



WHIPPED BACKSTITCH

Wrap a different colored thread around the backstitch.

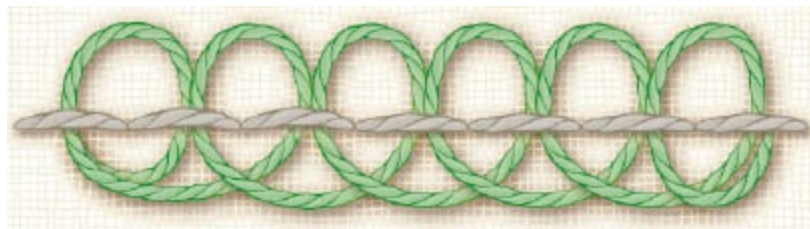
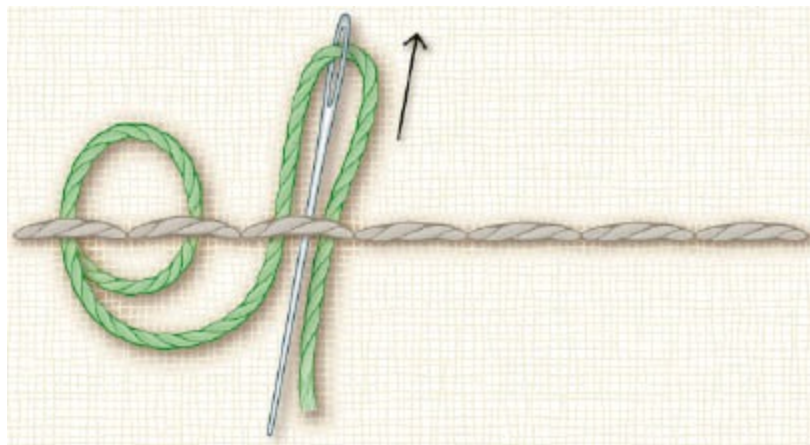
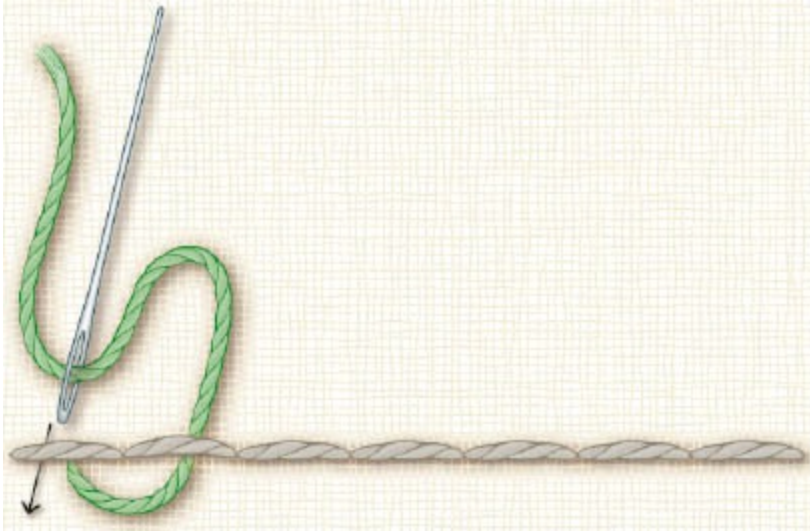
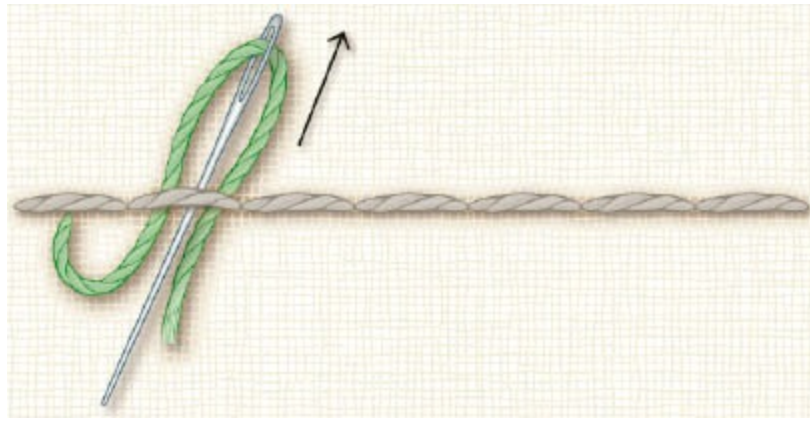




PEKINESE STITCH

Working from left to right, gently loop through the backstitch.

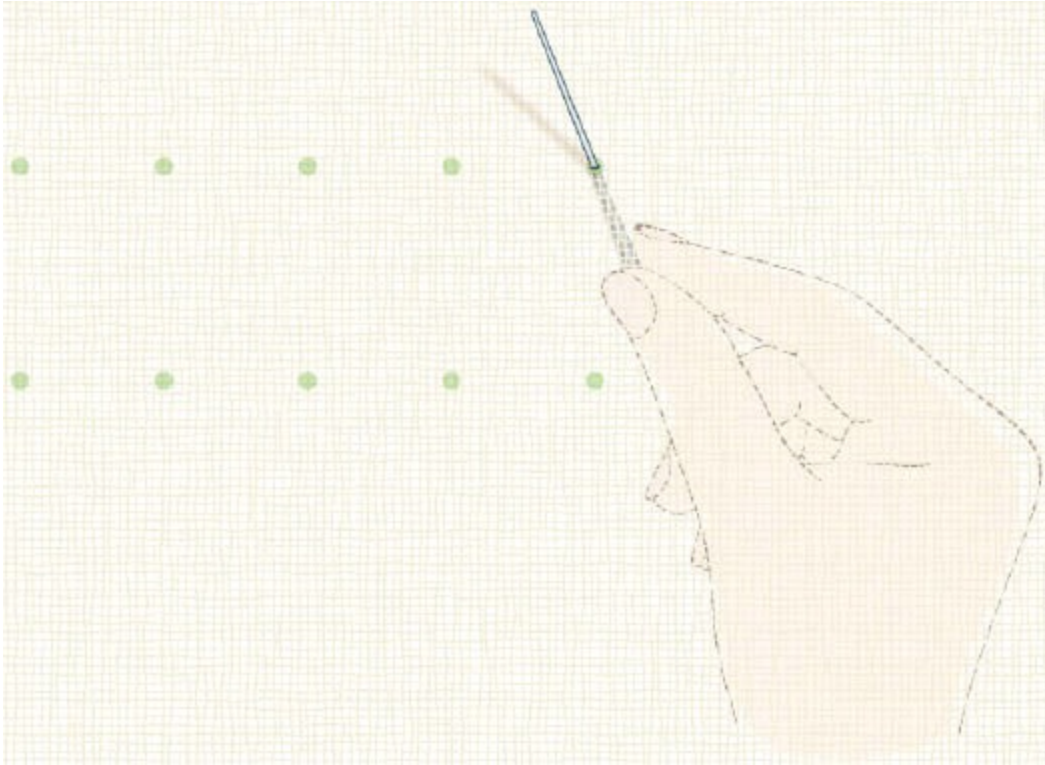


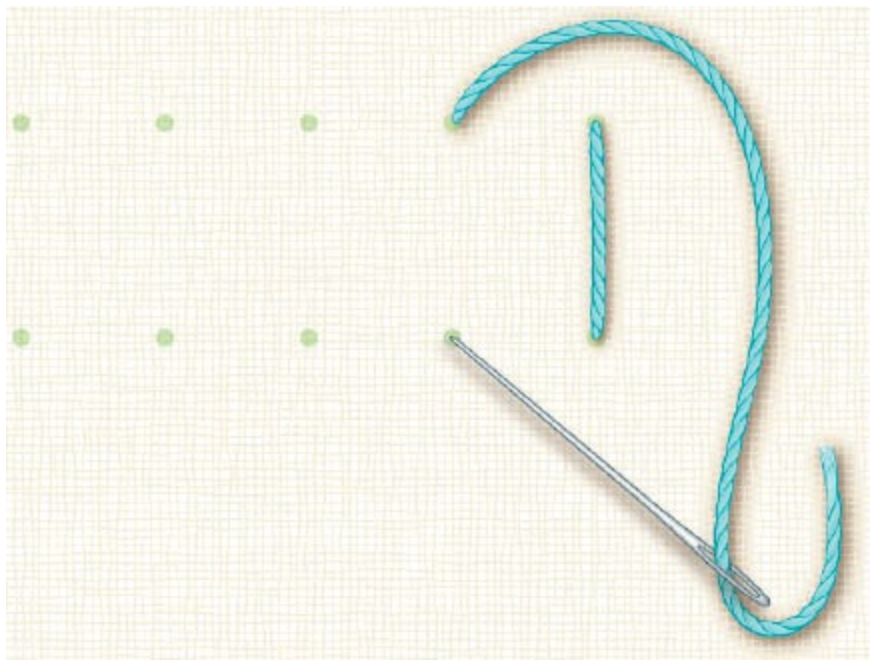
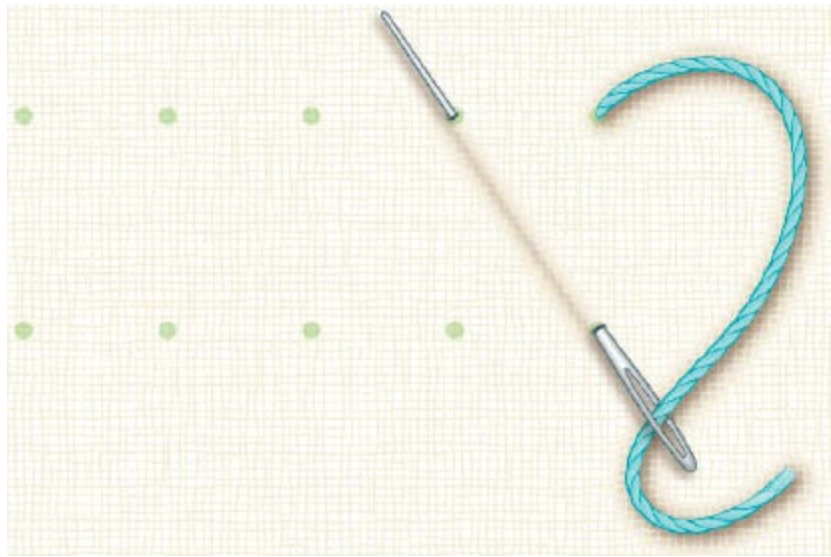
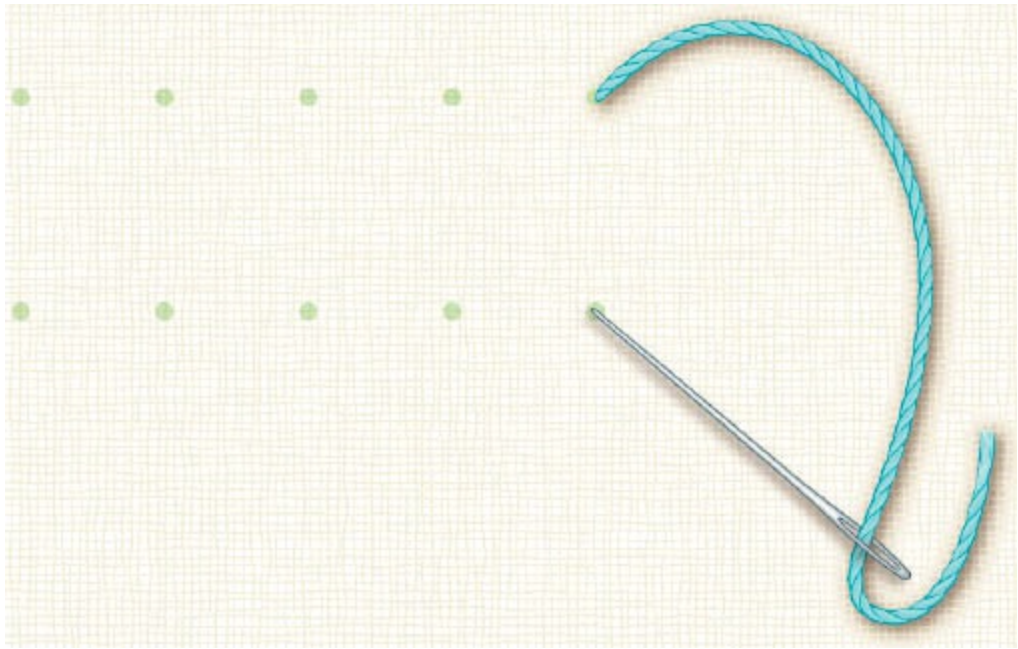


Basic

STRAIGHT STITCH

Work a simple stitch. Randomly change the direction and length of your stitches to create your design or pattern.



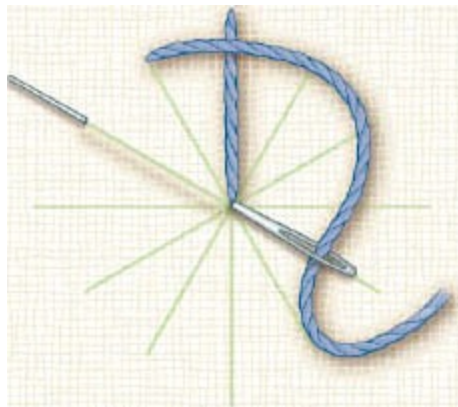
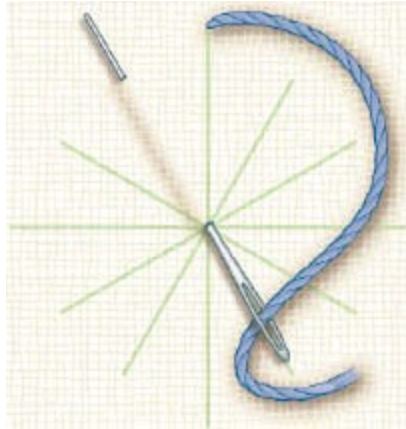




Variations

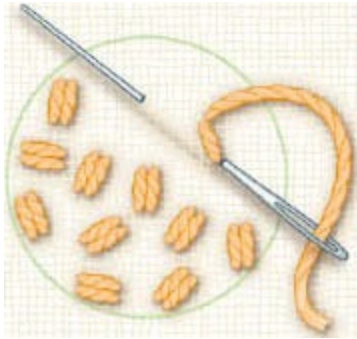
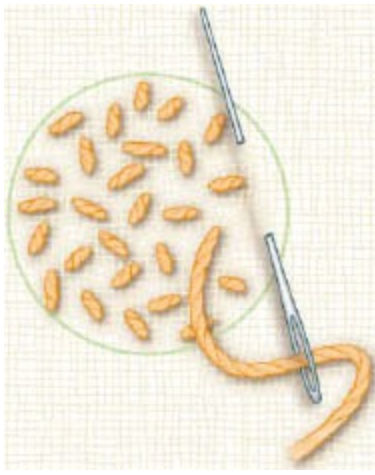
SPOKE STITCH

Work a straight stitch, then choose a central hole from which to create the spokes.



SEEDING STITCH

Using basic straight stitch, change directions and double the lines or cross them as desired.



BUNDLE STITCH

Work three straight stitches, then work a short stitch around the center to bundle them together.

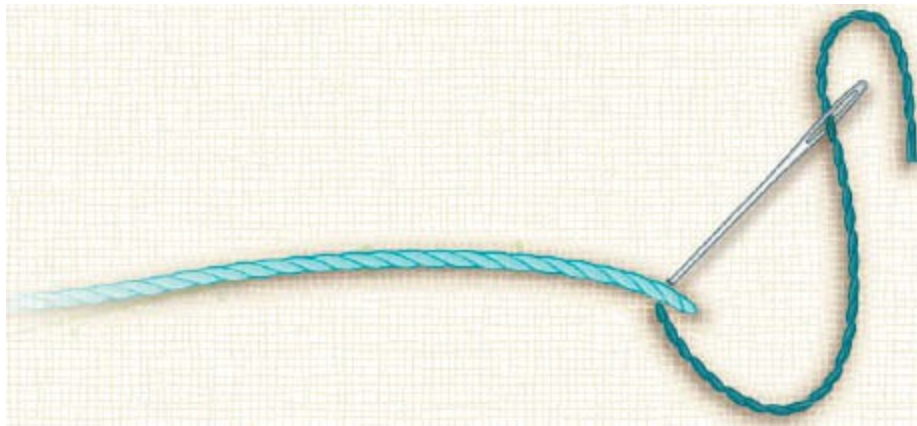
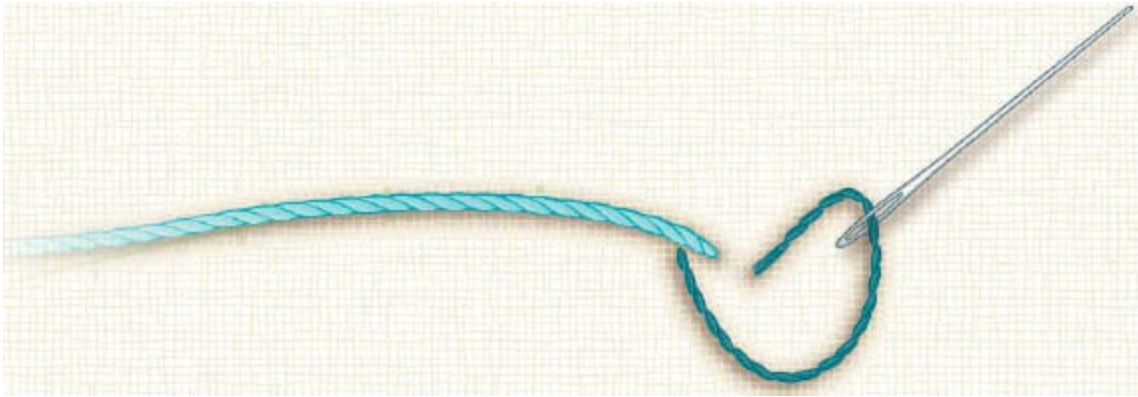
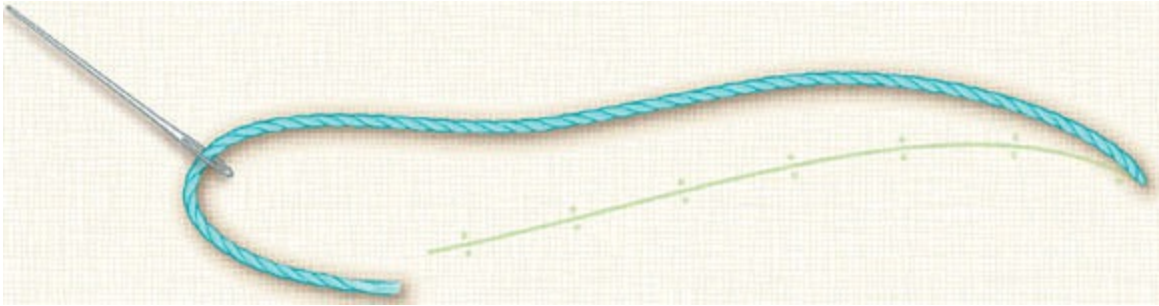


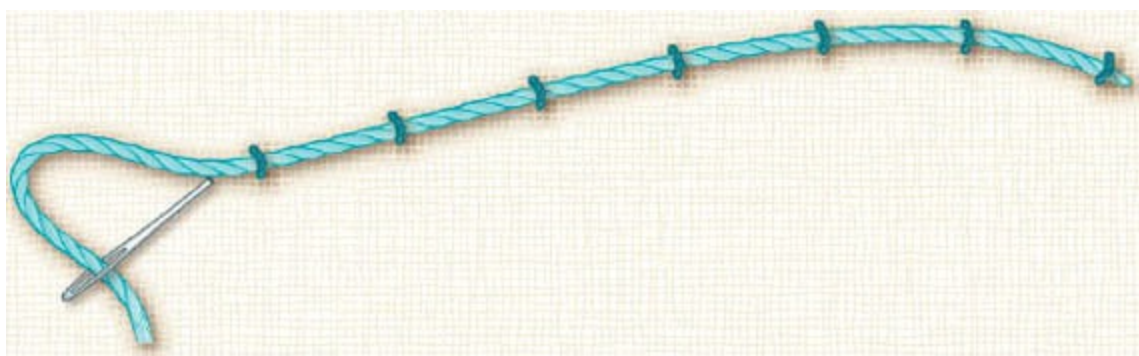
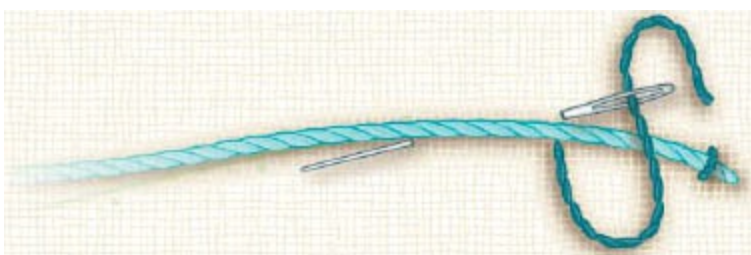
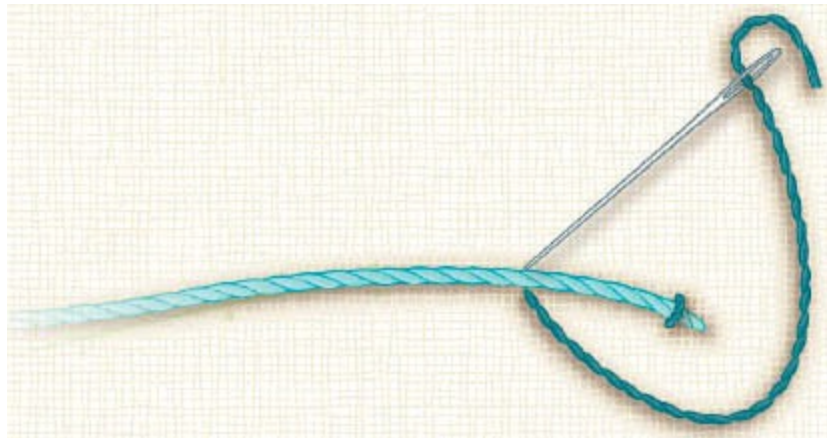


Basic

COUCHING STITCH

Using a thick thread, lay the thread in place as desired. Use various stitching methods and colors to attach the thick thread to the fabric.





Variations

COUCHING STITCH TECHNIQUES

A



B



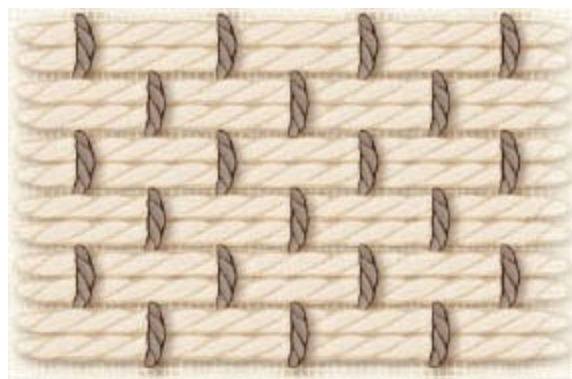
C



D



E



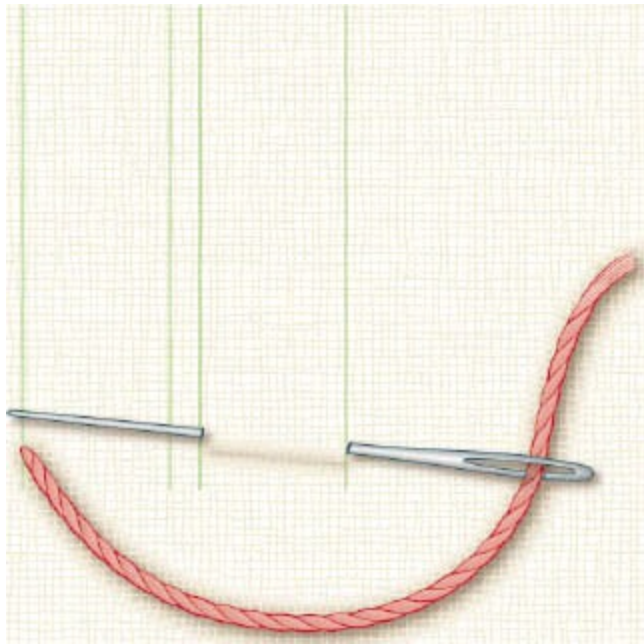
PENDANT COUCHING STITCH

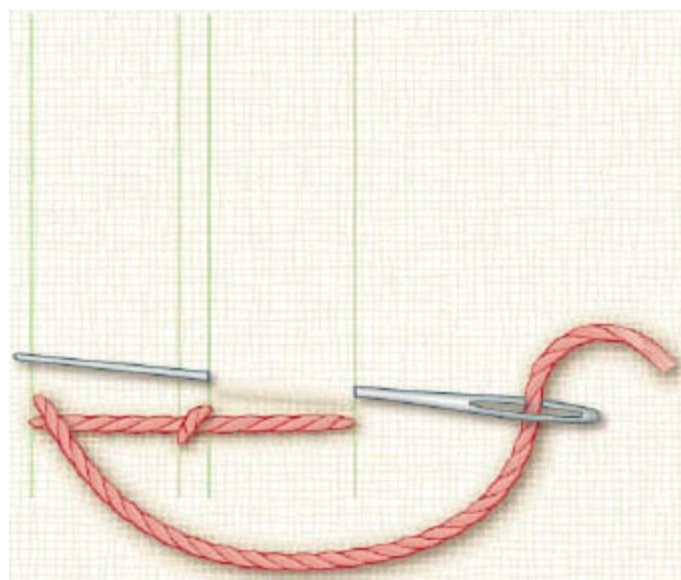
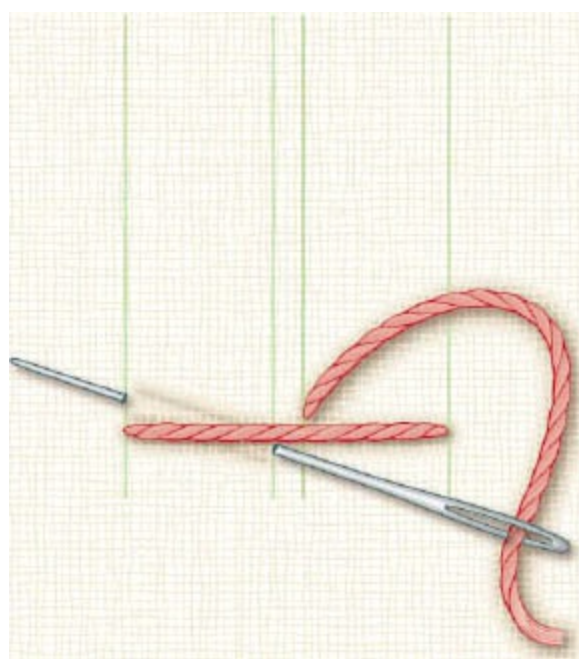
Use a couching stitch to secure the thread, while creating a looped fringe at every other notch.



ROMANIAN STITCH

Work a horizontal straight stitch, bring the needle to the right side of the fabric at the center of the stitch, and work a small stitch over the center of the horizontal stitch. Repeat.

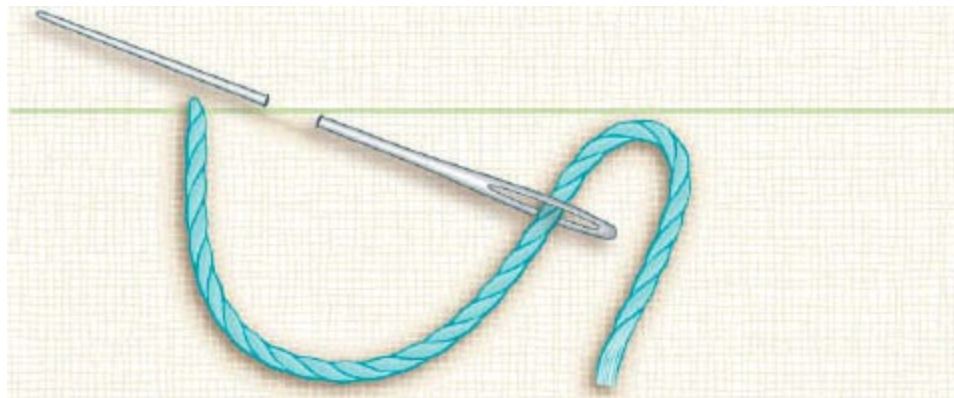
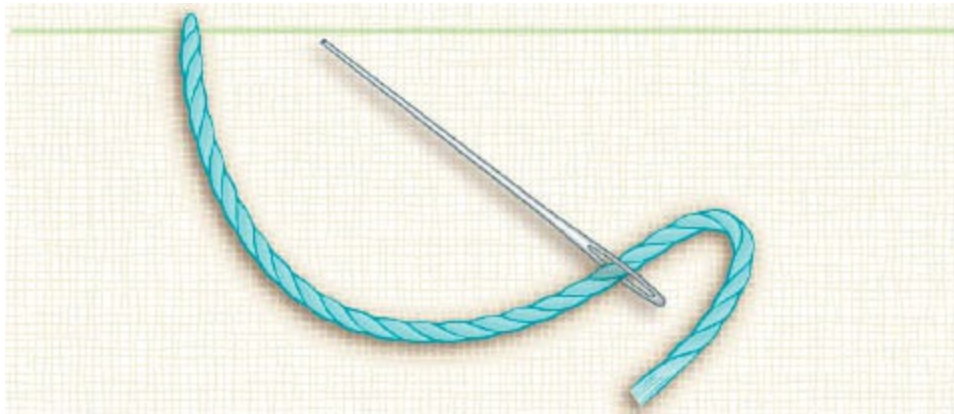
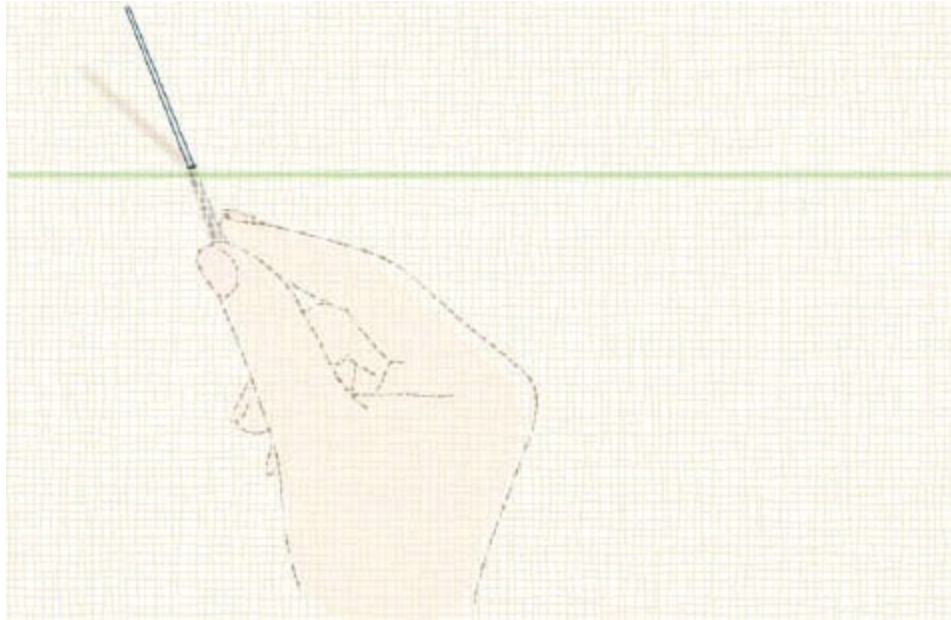


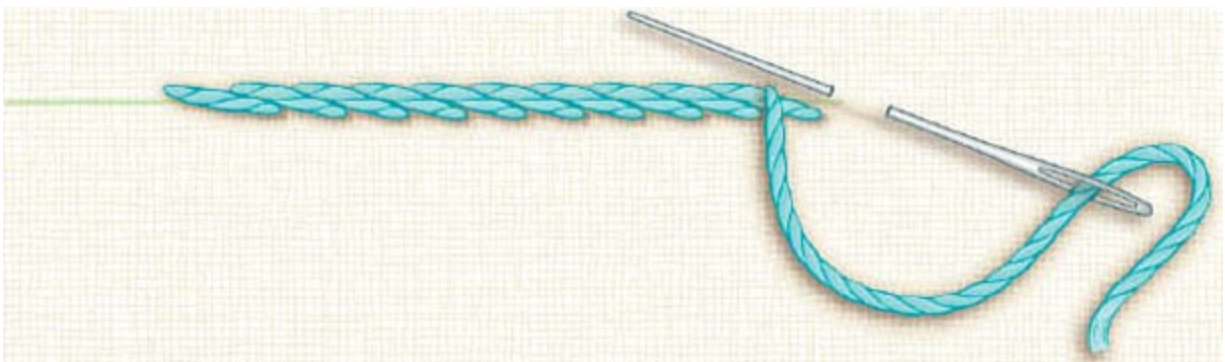
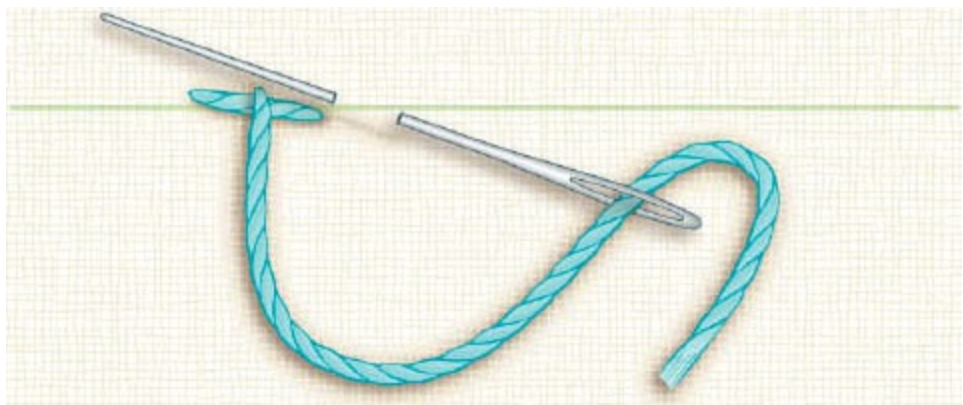
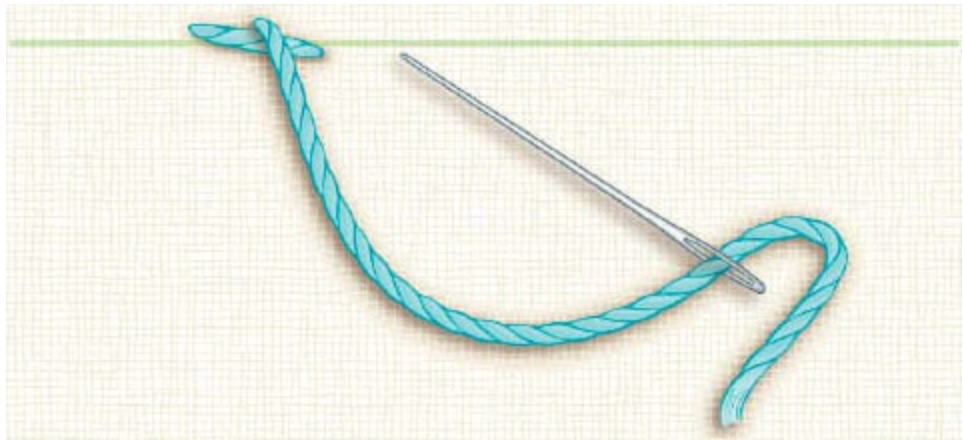


Basic

OUTLINE STITCH

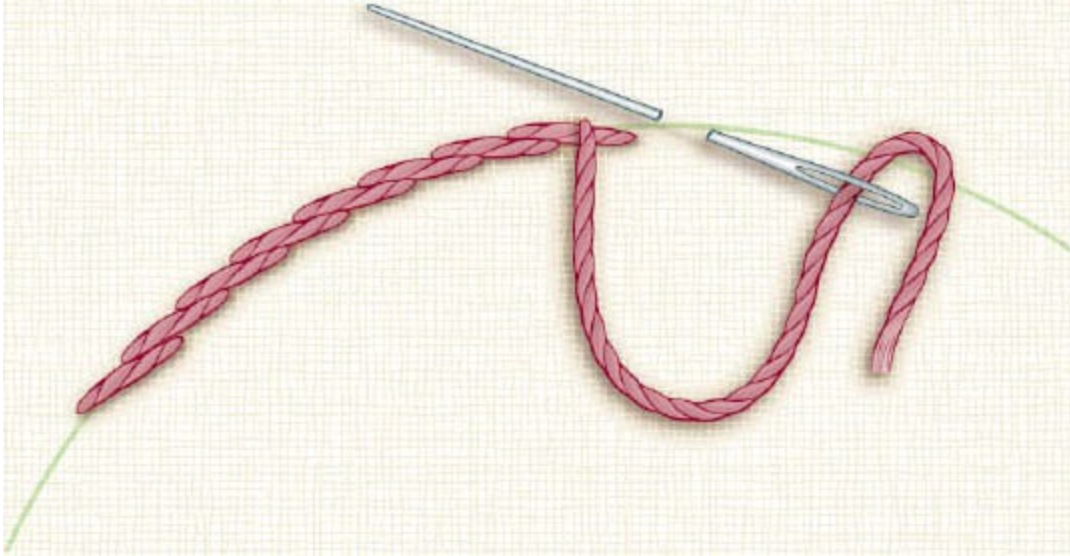
Following the illustration and working from left to right, insert the needle to the right, then bring it out to the left, overlapping half of the previous stitch. Repeat.



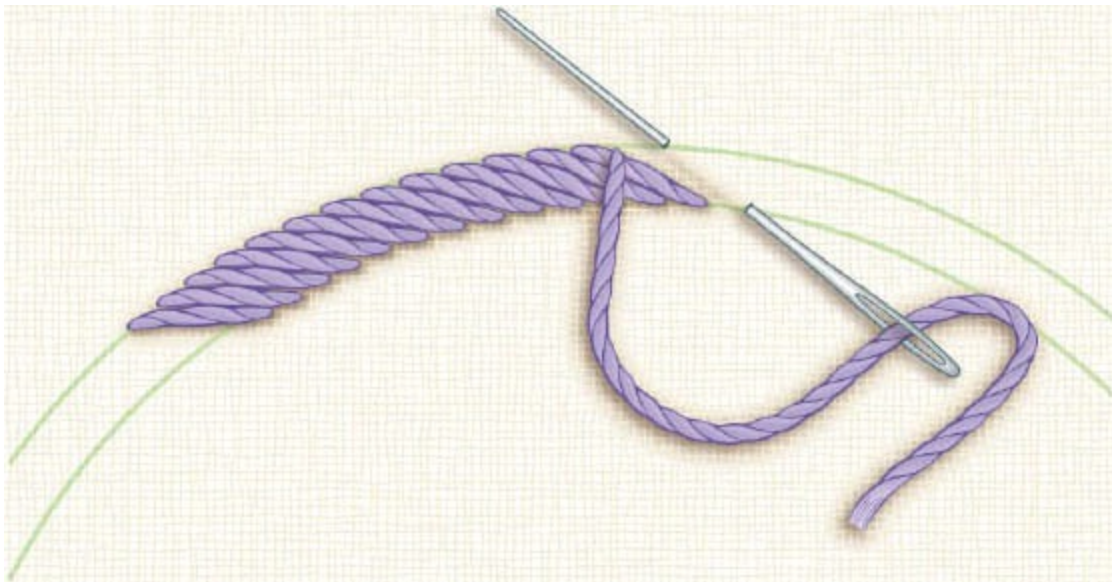


Techniques

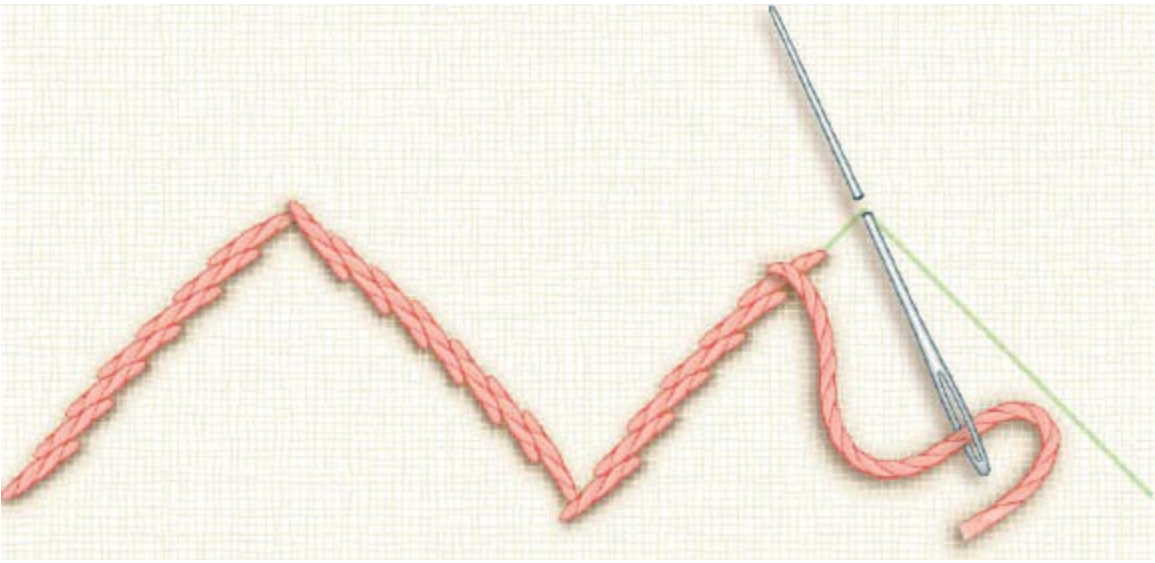
WORKING CURVES



WIDER OUTLINES



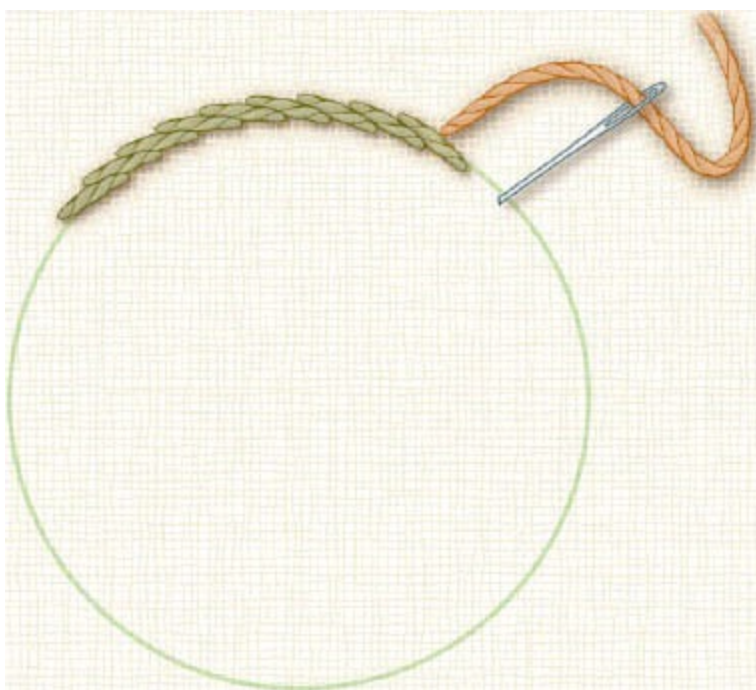
CORNERS



CONNECT THE BEGINNING AND END



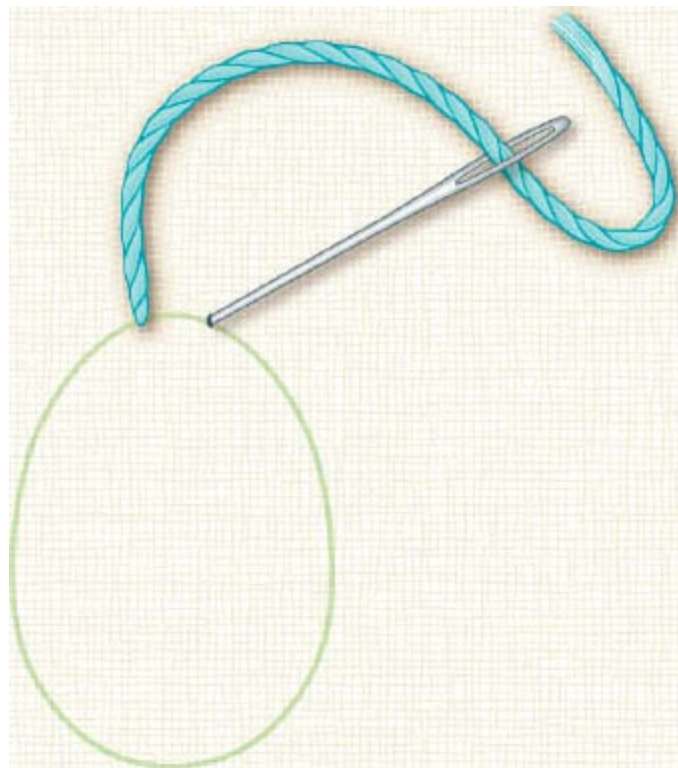
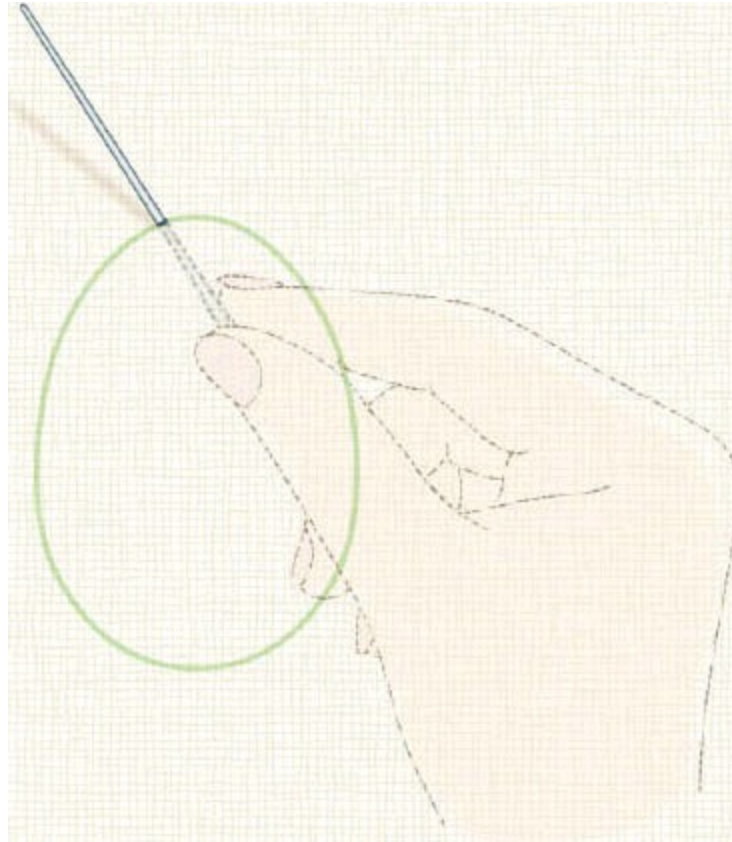
CHANGING THREAD COLOR

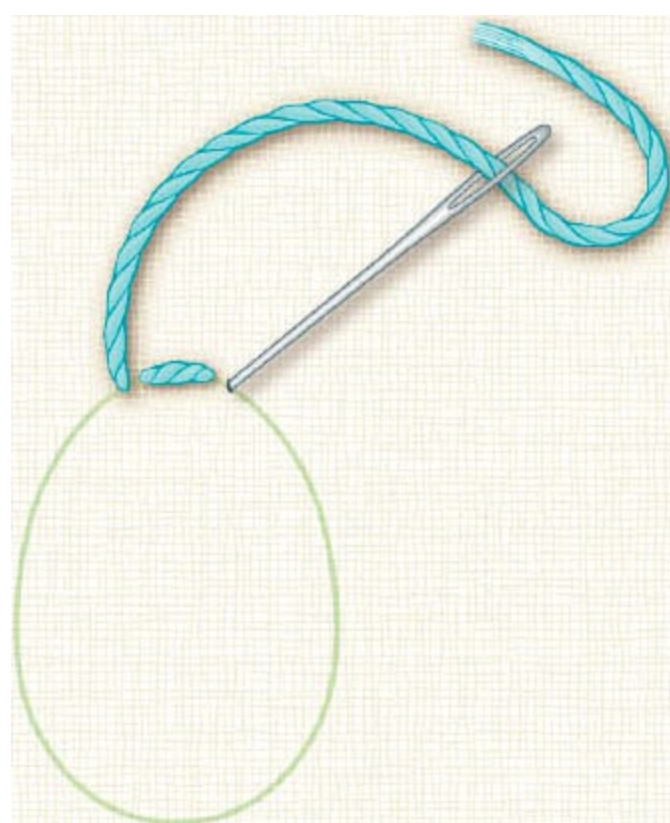
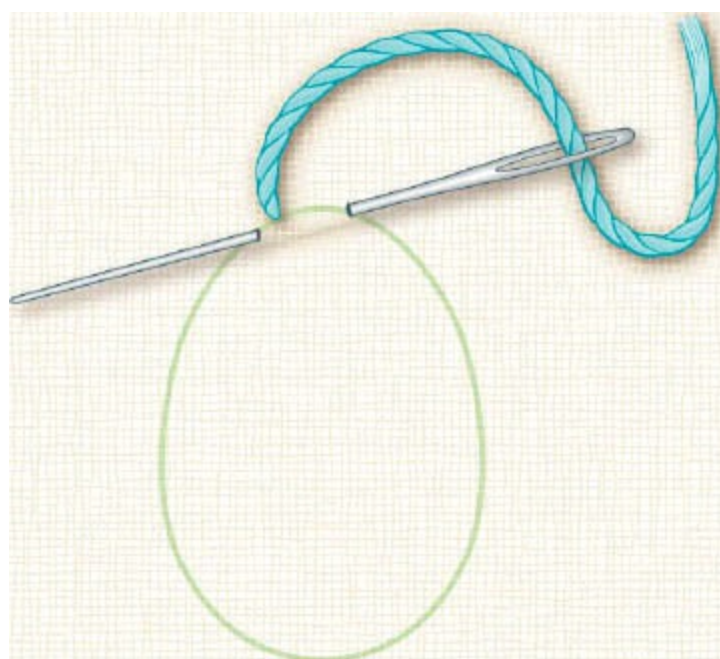


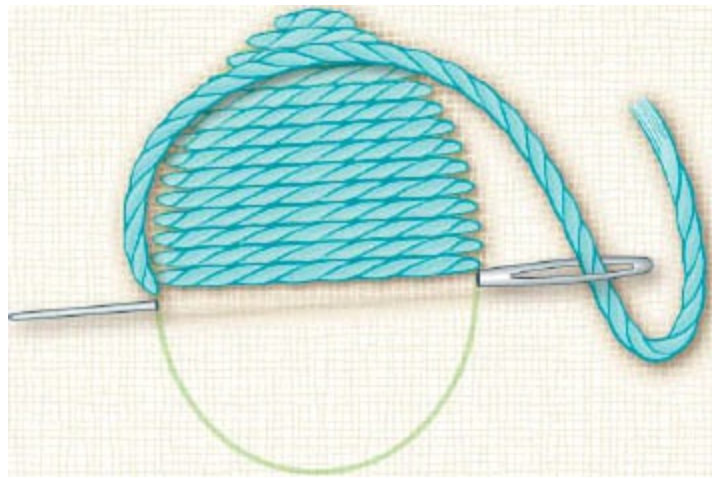
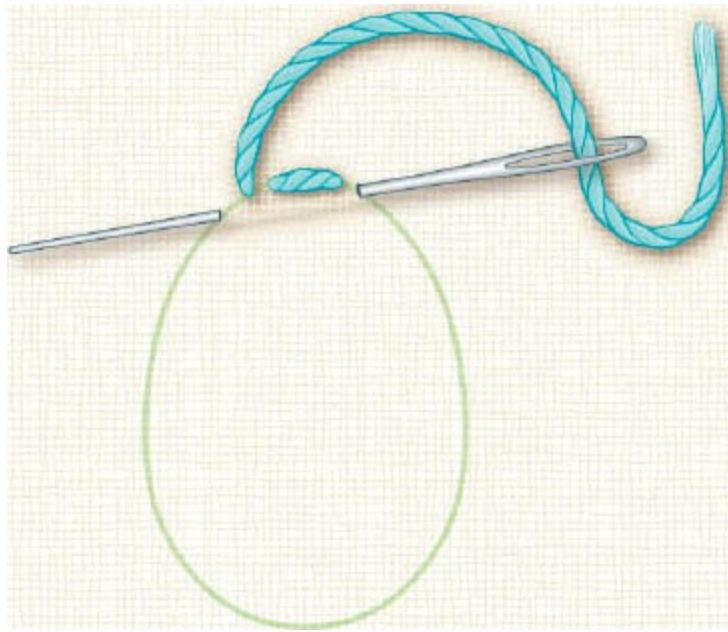
Basic

SATIN STITCH

Working from side to side, fill the shape completely, so the fabric does not show through. Using stitches $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ in/1 to 2 cm in length will give your design a tidy appearance.

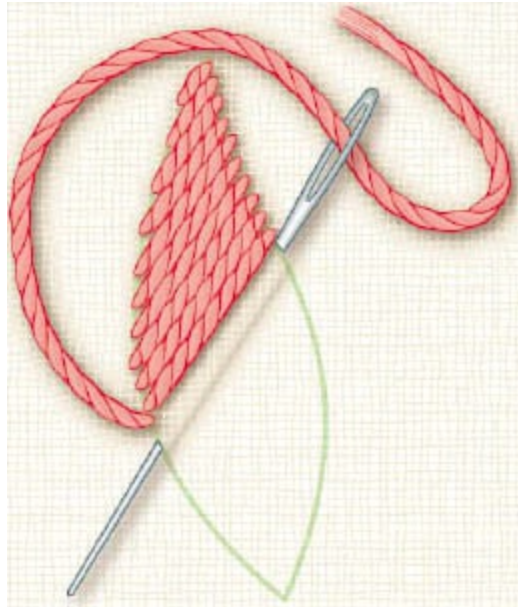






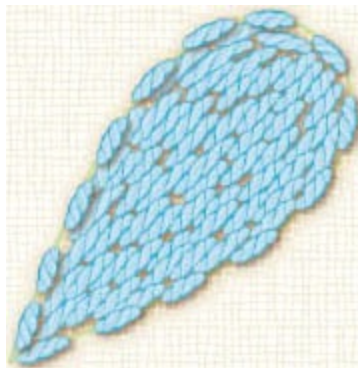
Techniques

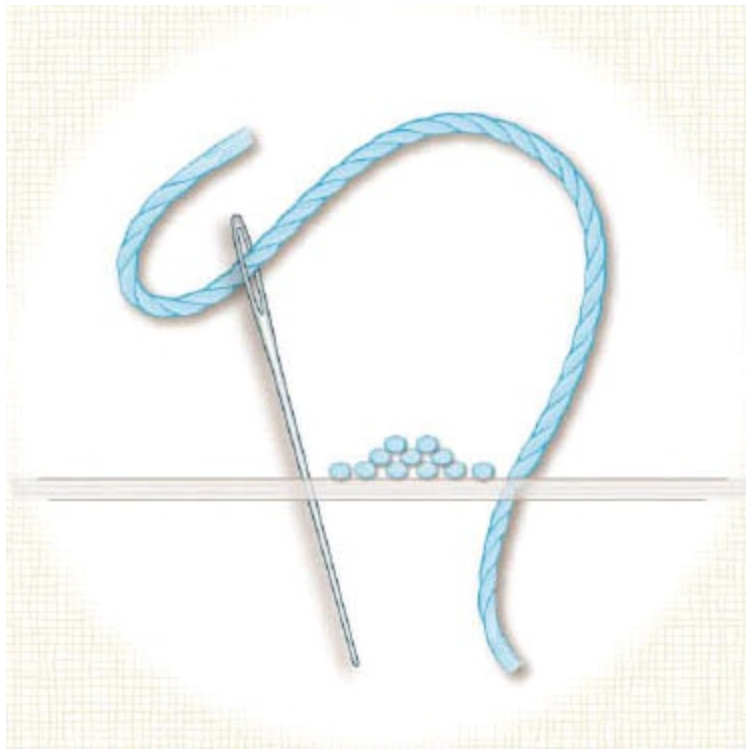
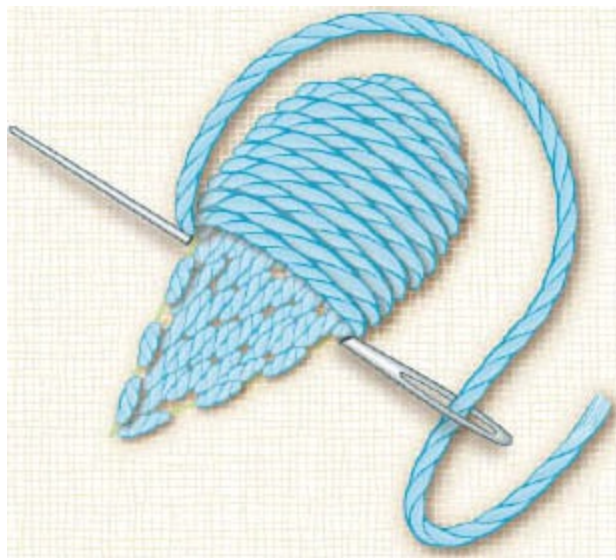
DIAGONAL STITCH



THREE-DIMENSIONAL STITCH (PADDED STITCH)

The diagram shows that the middle of the pattern is raised. Use layers of running stitch to achieve this, then use satin stitch.

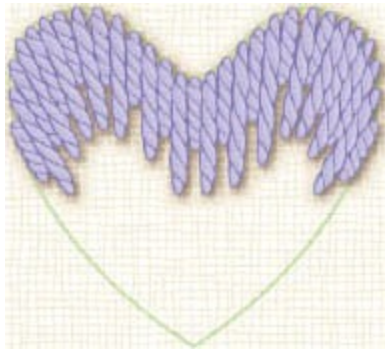




Variations

LONG AND SHORT STITCH

Alternate long and short satin stitches to fill the shape.



FILL IN STITCH

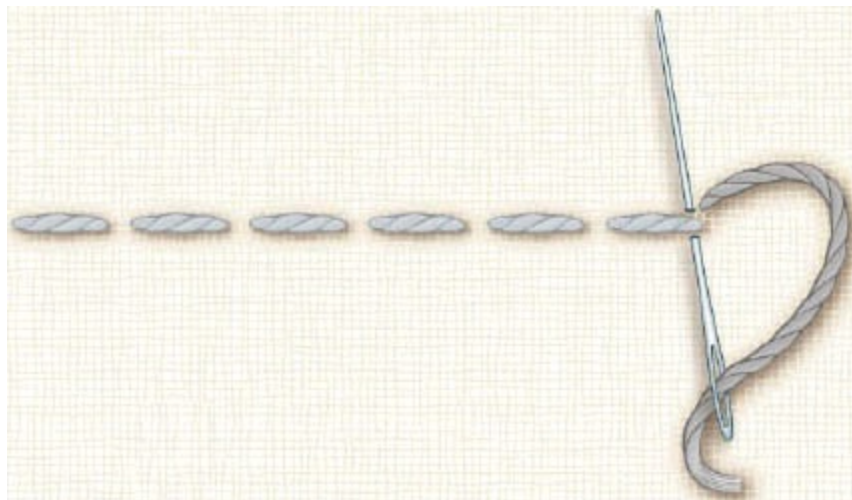


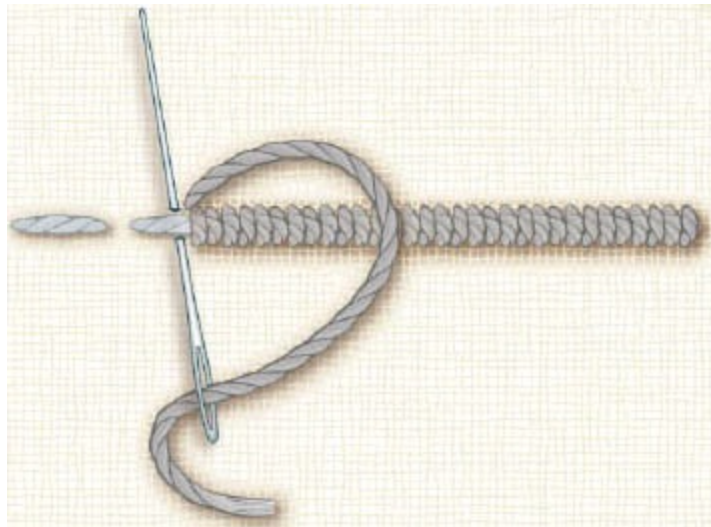
LAYER STITCH



ROLL STITCH

Begin with a running stitch, then wrap with the same thread, catching the fabric each time.

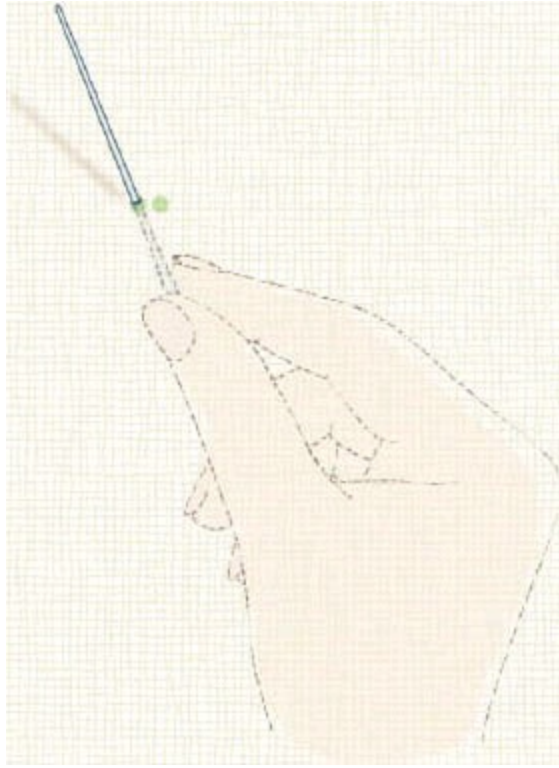




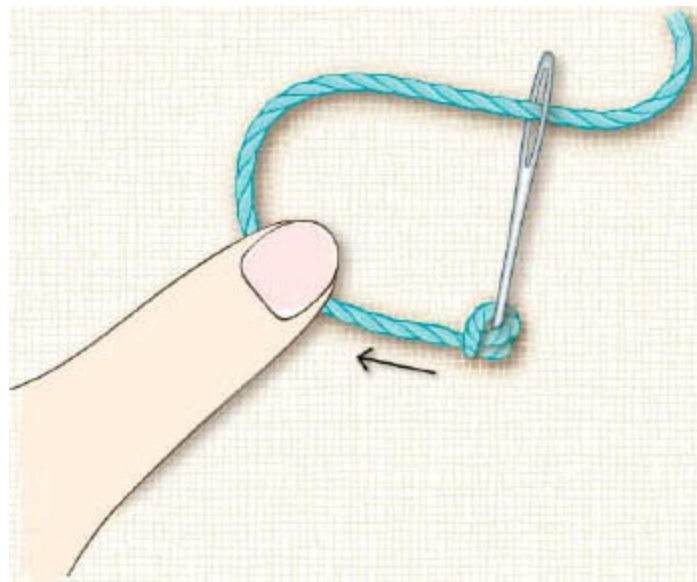
Basic

FRENCH KNOT STITCH

Bring the needle out, wrap the thread twice around the needle, and insert the needle back down into the same hole.





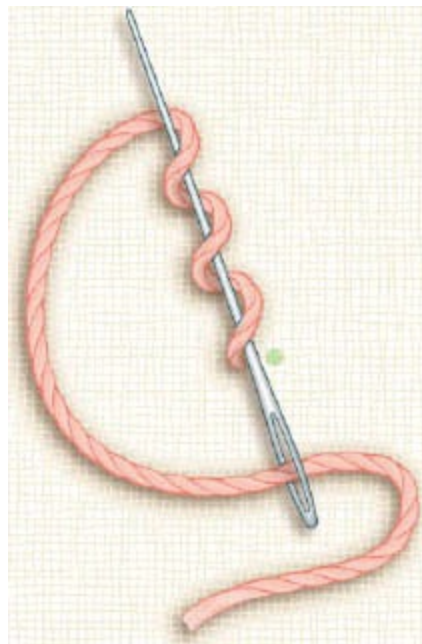


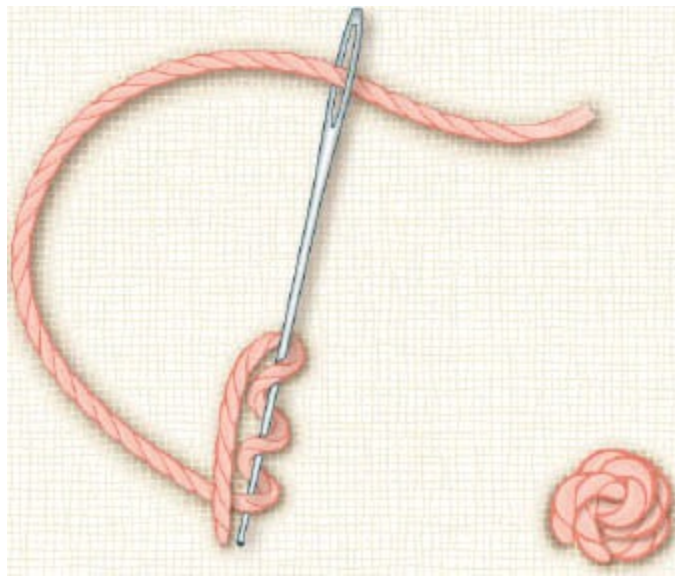
Variations

SINGLE WRAP



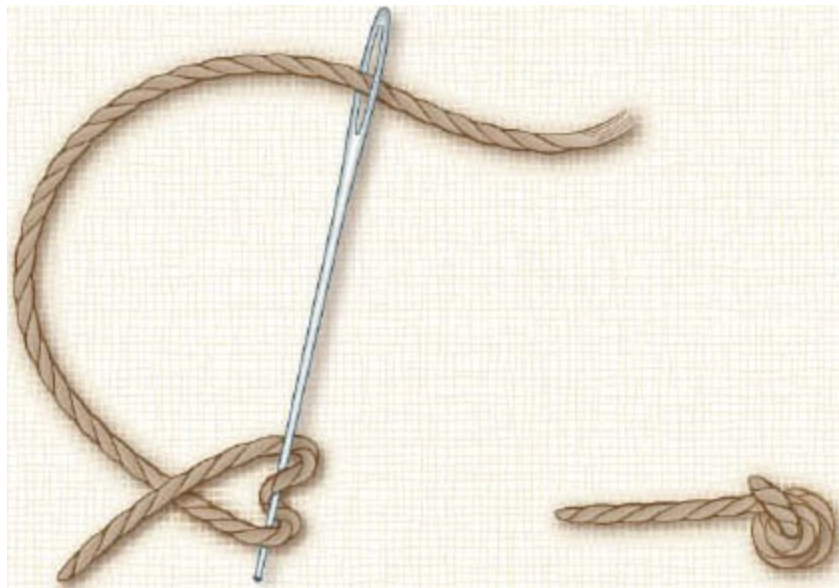
TRIPLE WRAP





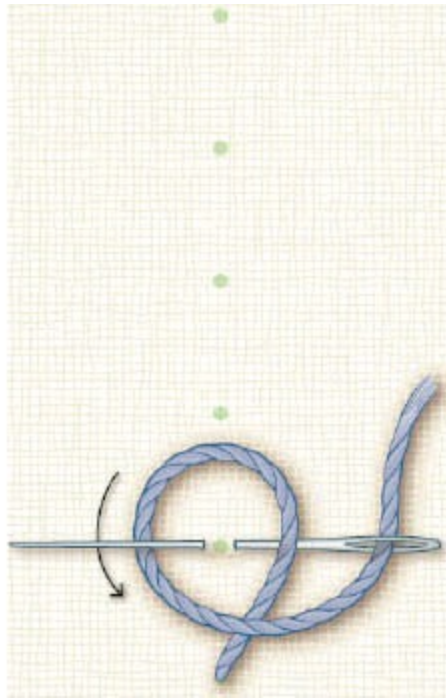
LONG FRENCH KNOT STITCH

Work the same as a French knot, except insert the needle down a short distance from the beginning hole.

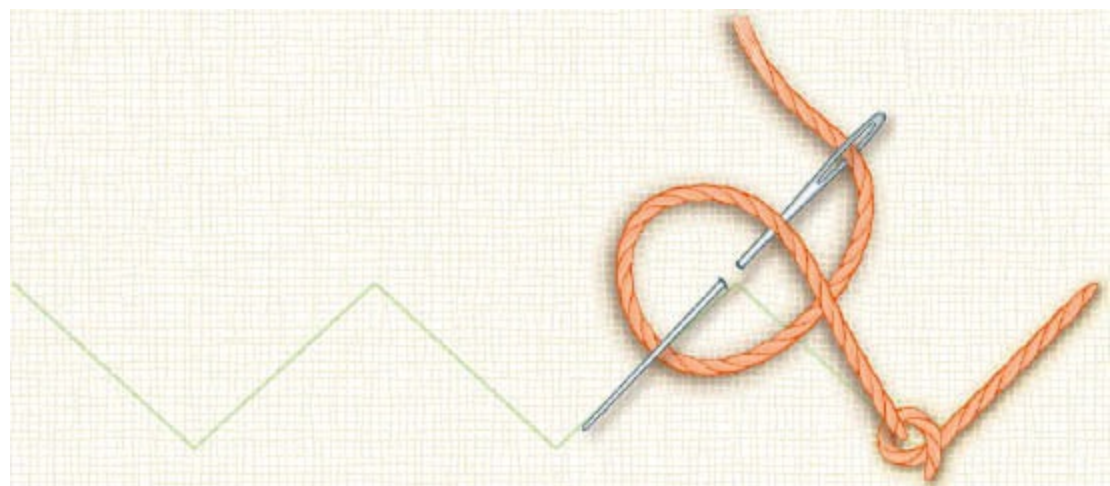
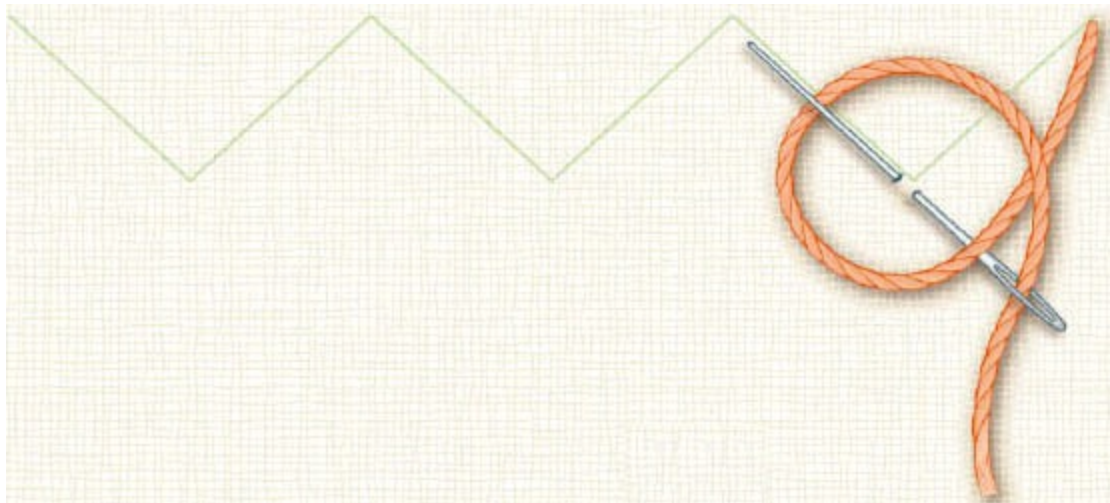


CORAL STITCH

Bring the needle out, then, catching the fabric at a right angle, loop the thread from top to bottom under the needle, pulling it through and creating a knot.



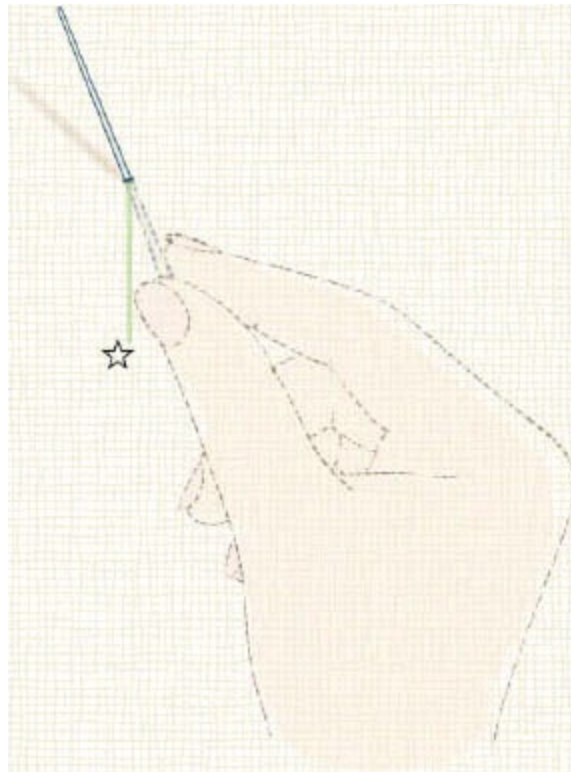
ZIGZAG STITCH



Basic

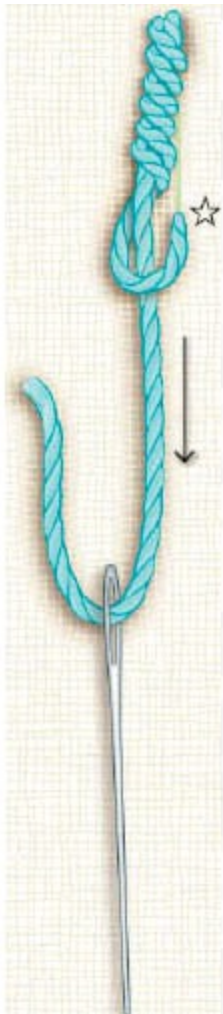
BULLION STITCH

Pull the needle through the first hole. Insert the needle into the second hole (*), then bring it halfway through the first hole. Wind the thread around the needle tip, wrapping a little less than the length of the exposed needle tip. Holding the wrapped thread with your finger, pull the needle through, then insert the needle into the second hole (*).







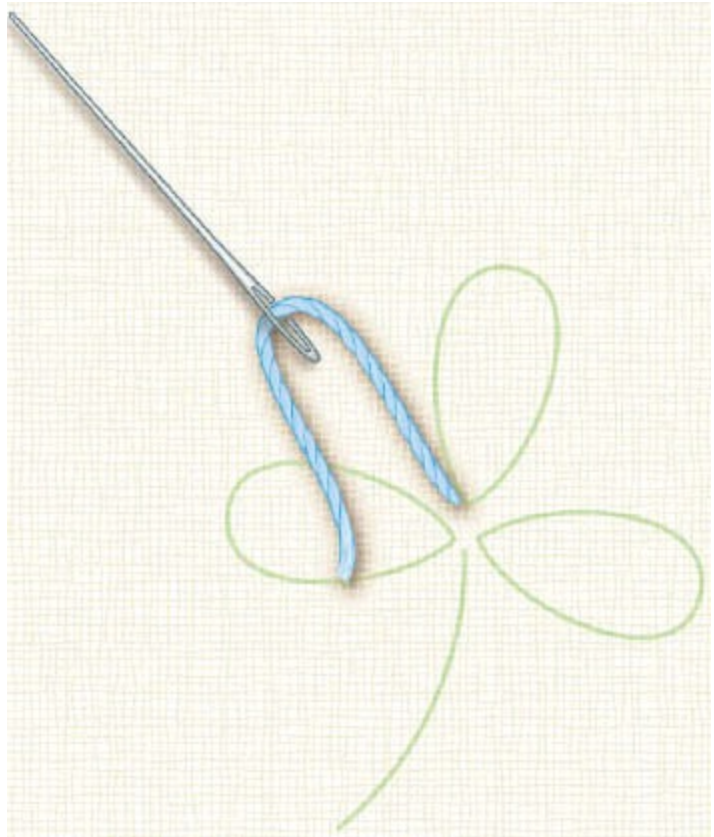


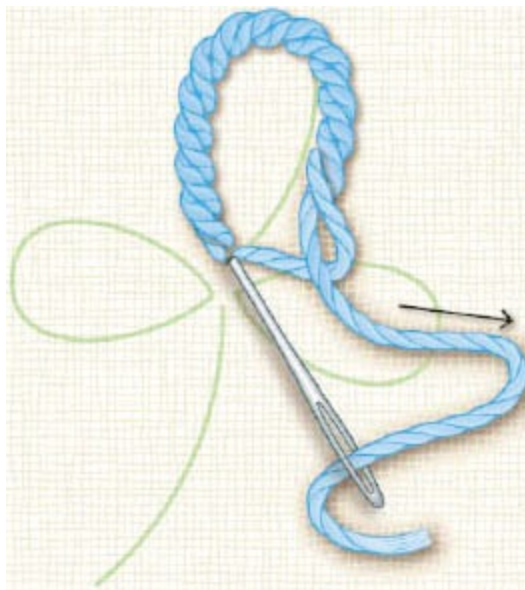
Techniques

CURVED STITCH



PETAL STITCH







Basic

CHAIN STITCH

Pull the needle through the first hole, loop the thread around, and reinsert the needle into the first hole, pushing the tip out of a second hole (*) over the looped thread. Pull the needle completely out. Repeat.









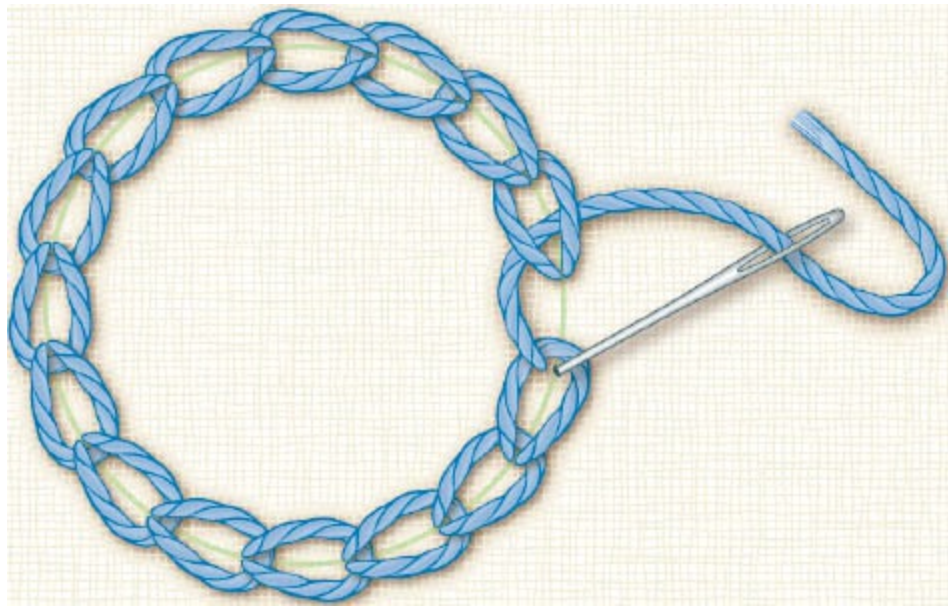
Techniques

CHANGING THREAD COLOR

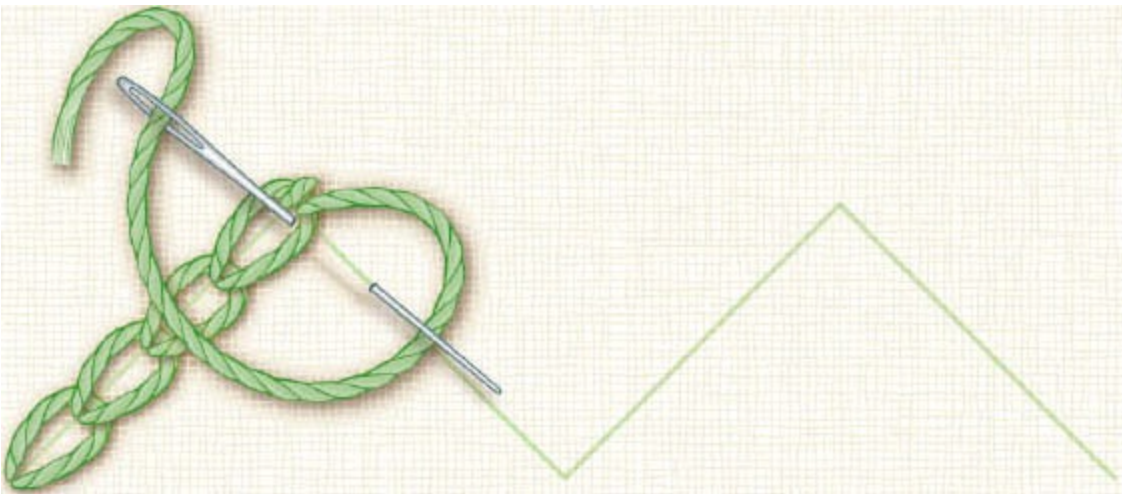
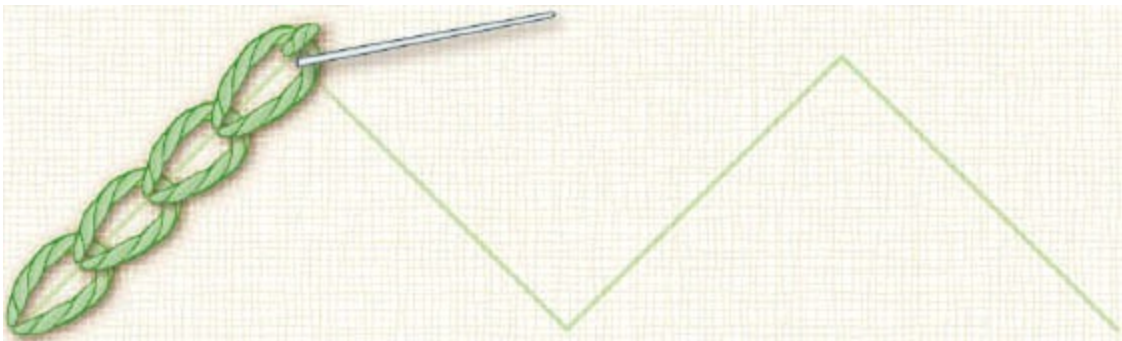


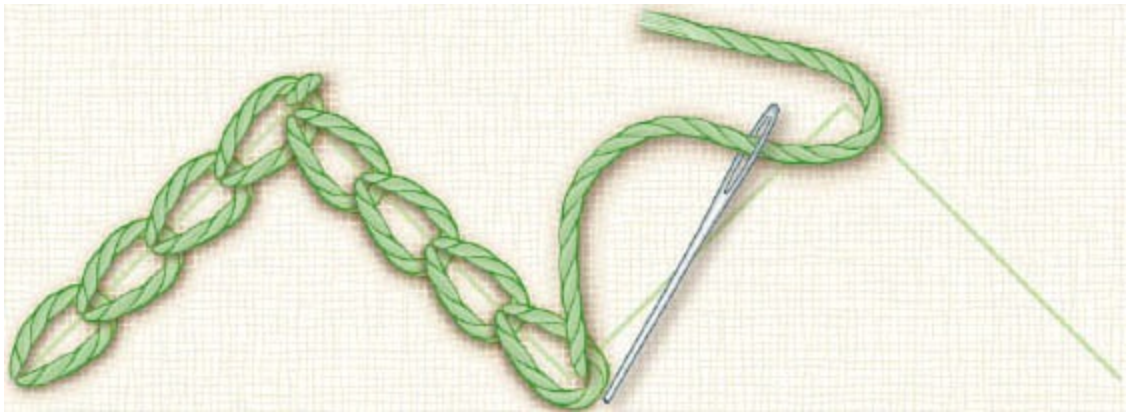


CONNECTING THE FIRST AND LAST LINKS



CREATING ANGLES

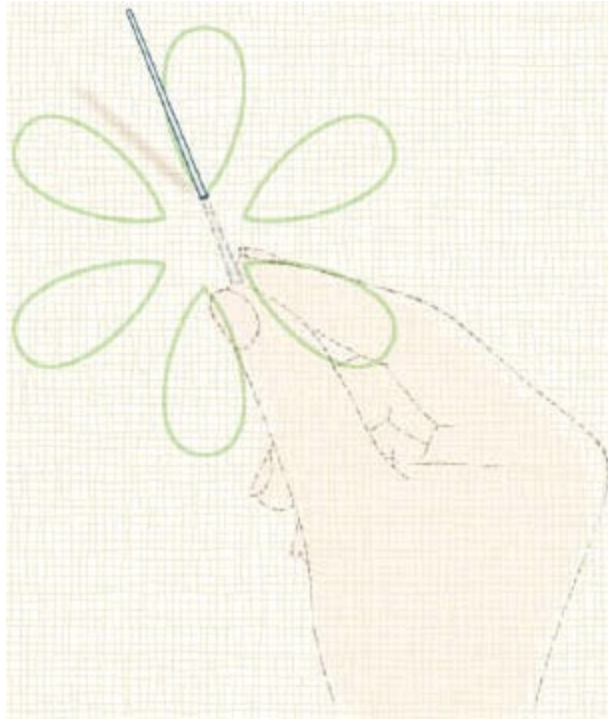




Basic

LAZY DAISY STITCH

Pull the needle through the first hole, create a loop, and reinsert it in the same hole, then place the tip of the needle at the top of the loop, over the thread, and sew a small stitch to secure the loop.







Variations

DOUBLE LAZY DAISY STITCH

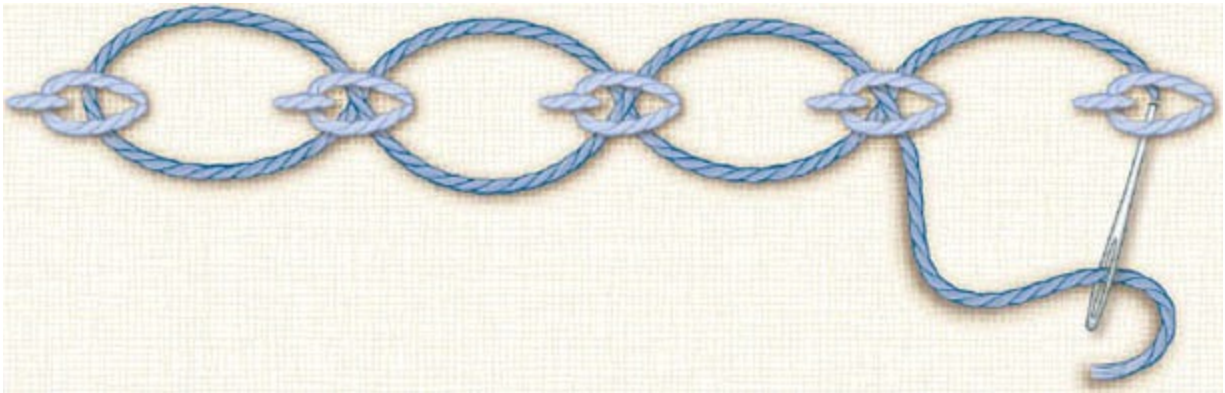
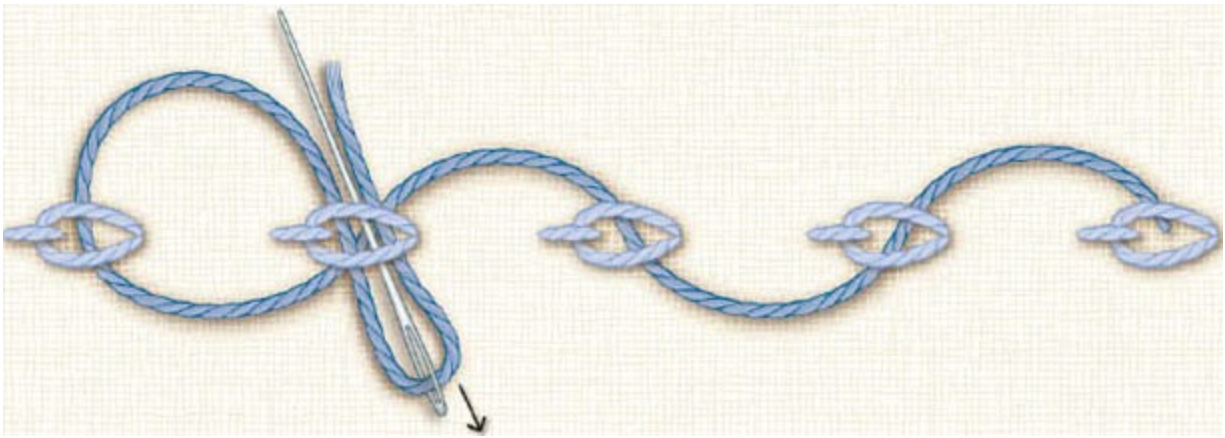
After creating one lazy daisy stitch, create a smaller one inside.



THREADED CHAIN STITCH

Working several lazy daisy stitches equally spaced in a row, weave up and down alternately under the lazy daisy stitches with a different colored thread. Loop back around at the last one.





FRENCH LAZY DAISY STITCH

A basic lazy daisy stitch, affixed with a French knot at the top of the loop instead of a small stitch.





A B C D E F G H I

J K L M N O P Q R

S T U V W X Y Z

a b c d e f g h i

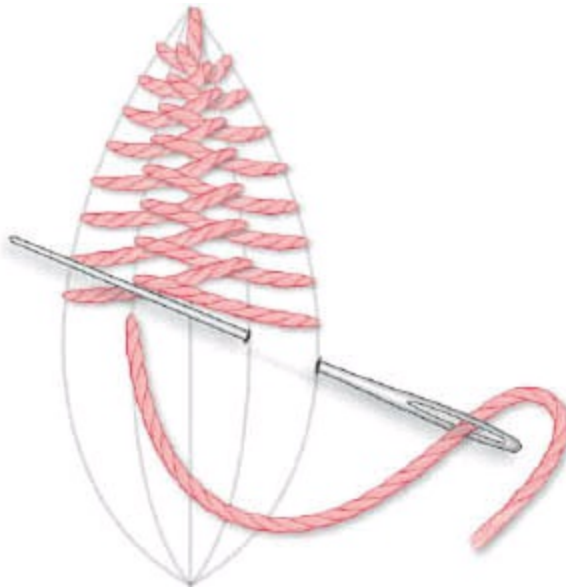
j k l m n o p q r

s t u v w x y z

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0

Other Stitches

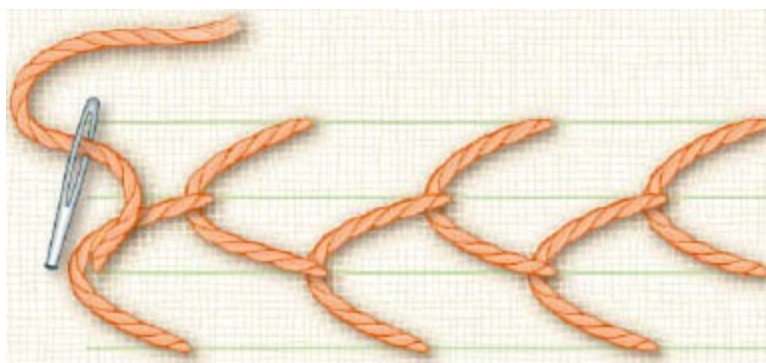
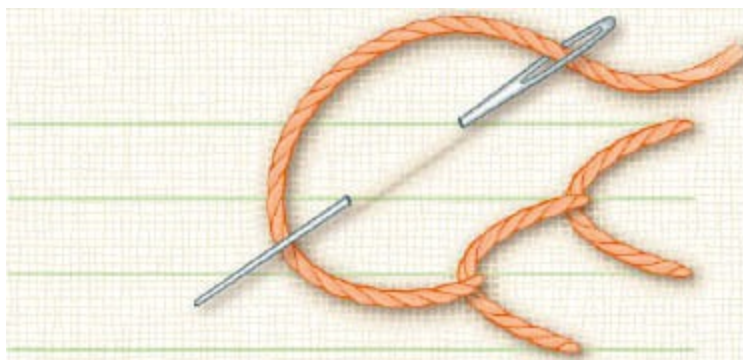
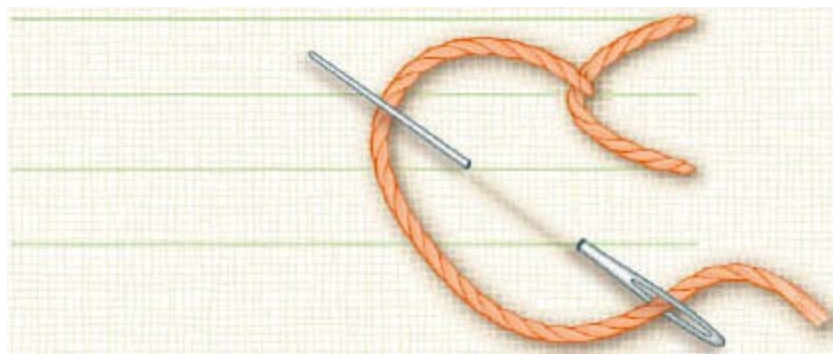
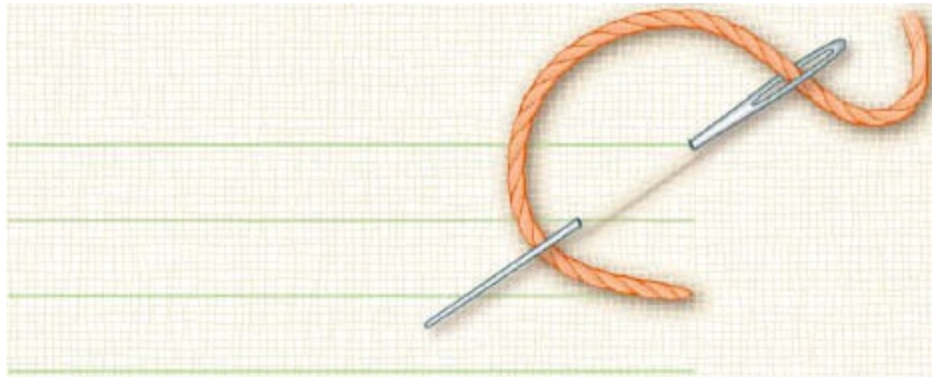
In addition to the ten basic stitches and their variations, the following stitches are an excellent way to add more texture and color to your work. The stitches are divided into four sections: line, framing, motif, and weaving. Whether stitching an initial for a monogram or a flower on a blouse or handkerchief, the following stitches, combined with the basics, are sure to create a pleasing accent or an all-over design.



Line

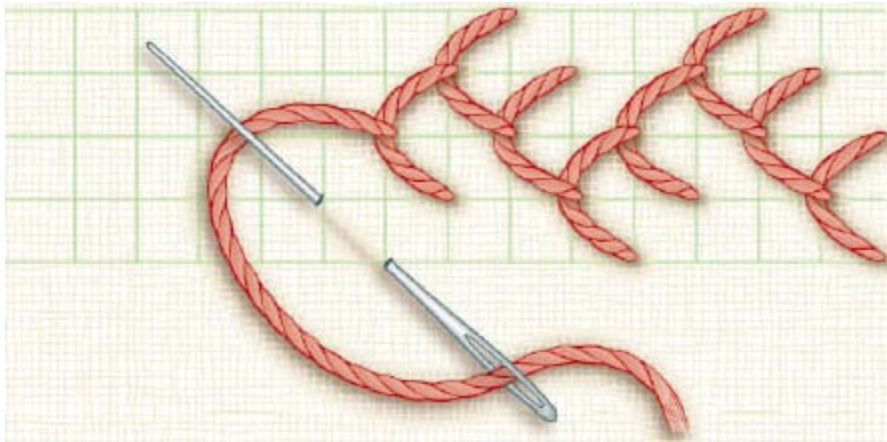
FEATHER STITCH

Begin by pulling the needle through. Create a triangle-like pattern by inserting the needle at an angle and pulling it through on the opposite angle over the thread.



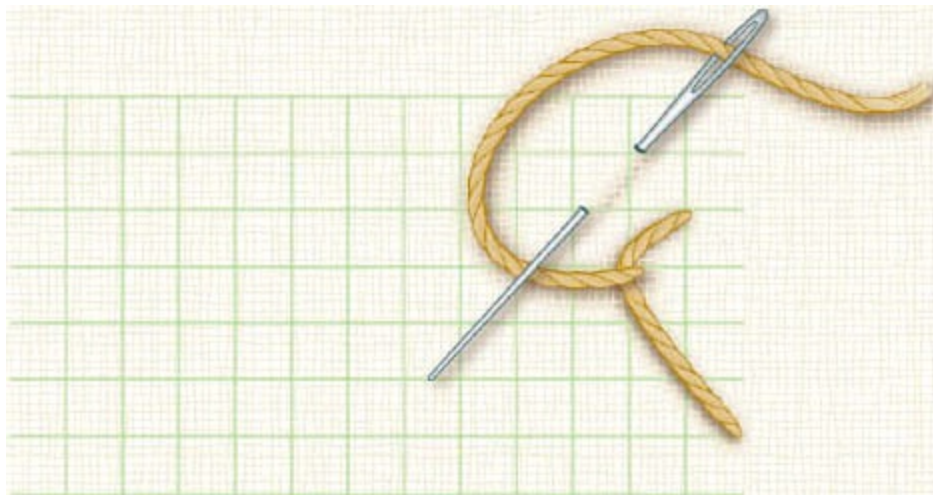
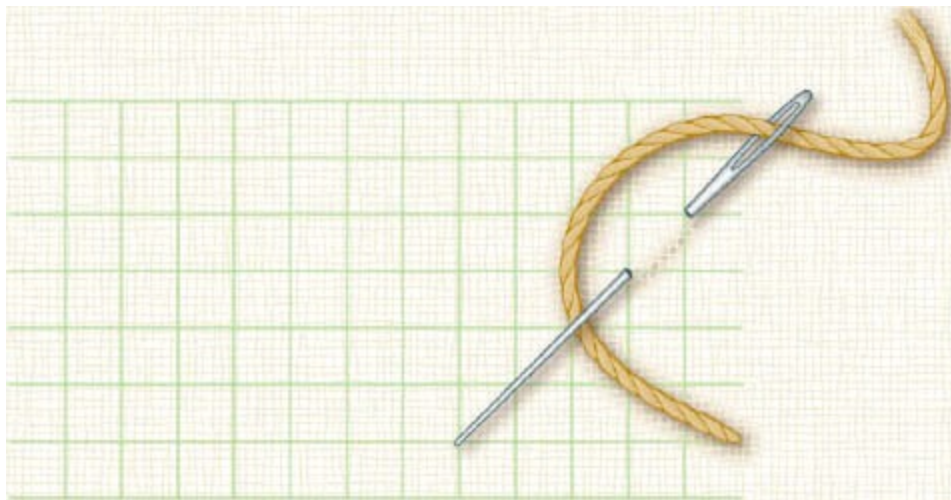
DOUBLE FEATHER STITCH

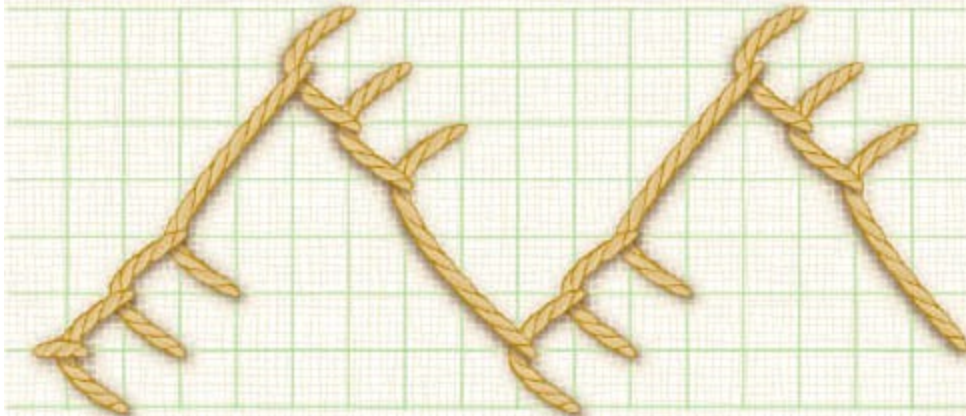
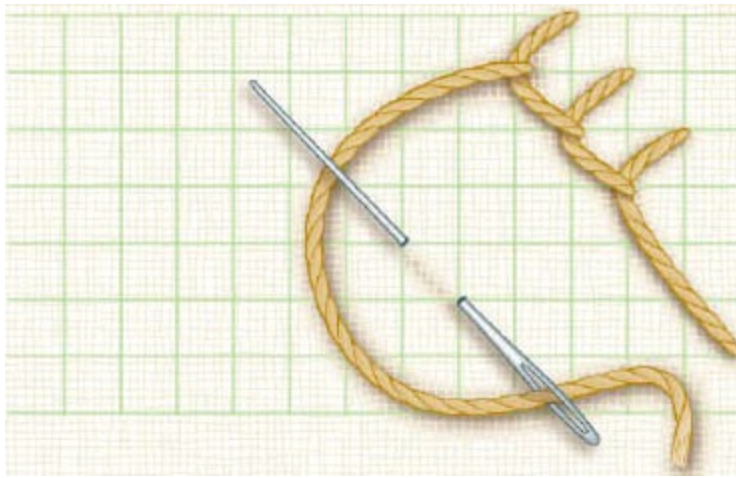
Work a feather stitch three times in the same direction, then work two feather stitches downward, and repeat another two upward. Repeat.



TRIPLE FEATHER STITCH

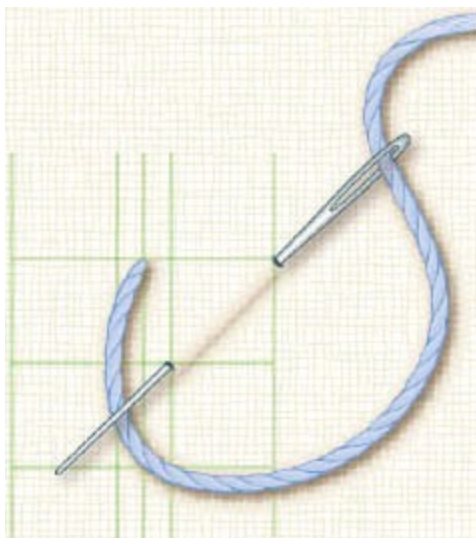
Work a feather stitch three times in one direction. Repeat in a zigzag to create a mountain-like shape.

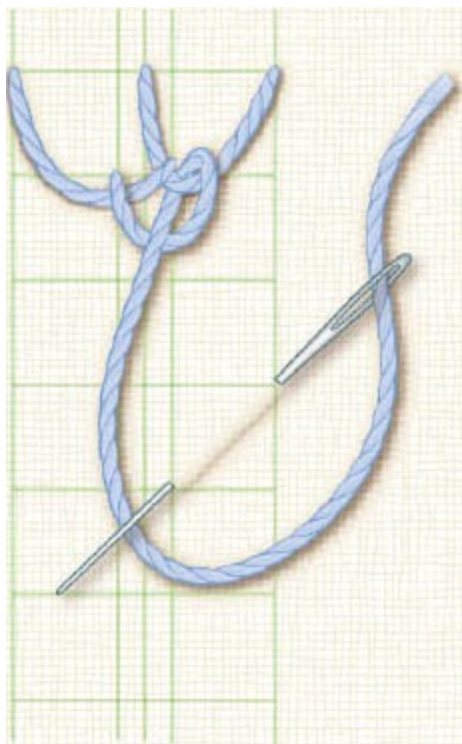
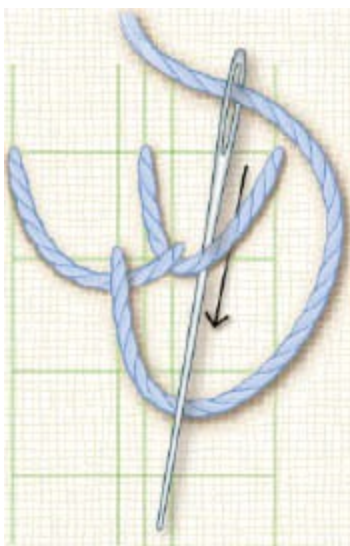
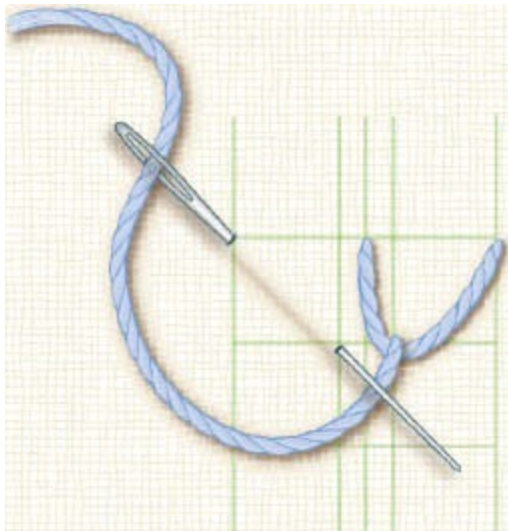


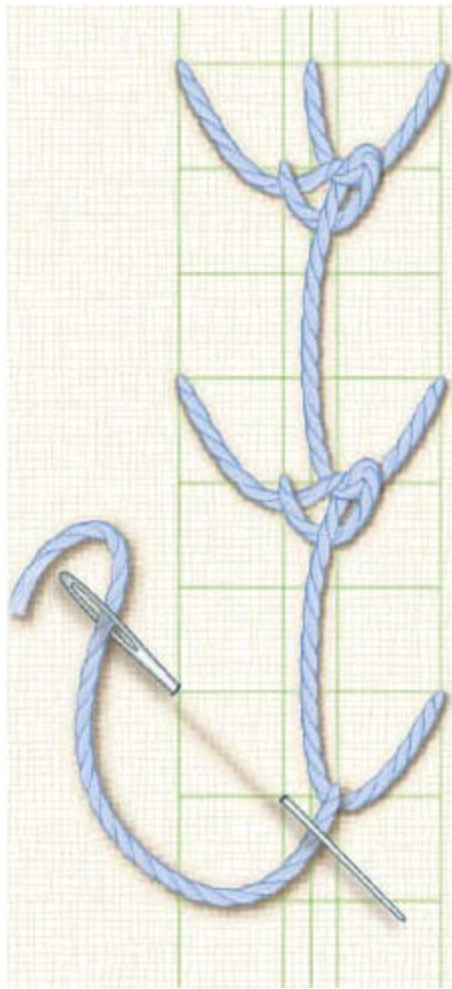


KNOTTED FEATHER STITCH

Work a feather stitch side by side by hooking the first loop, then tying a knot.

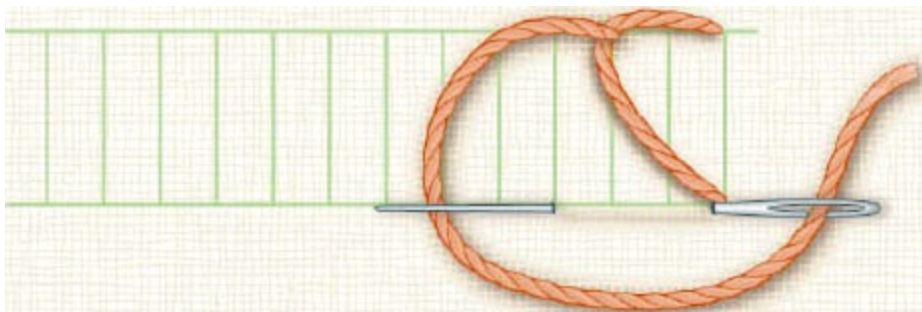
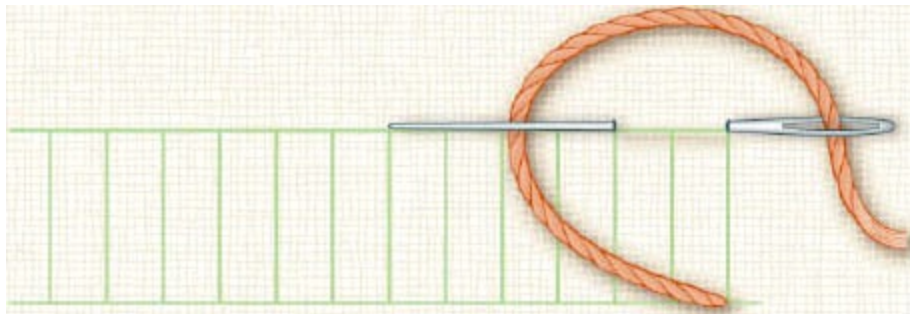


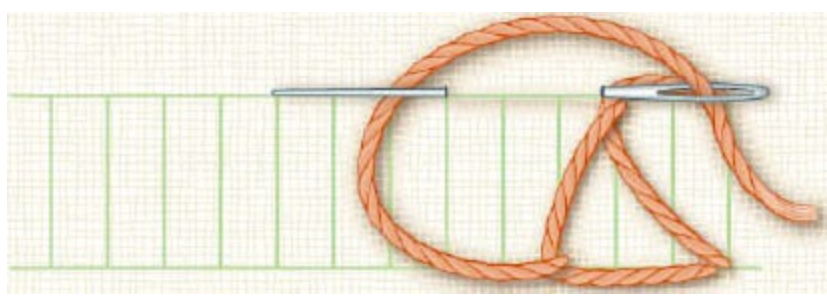




CLOSED FEATHER STITCH

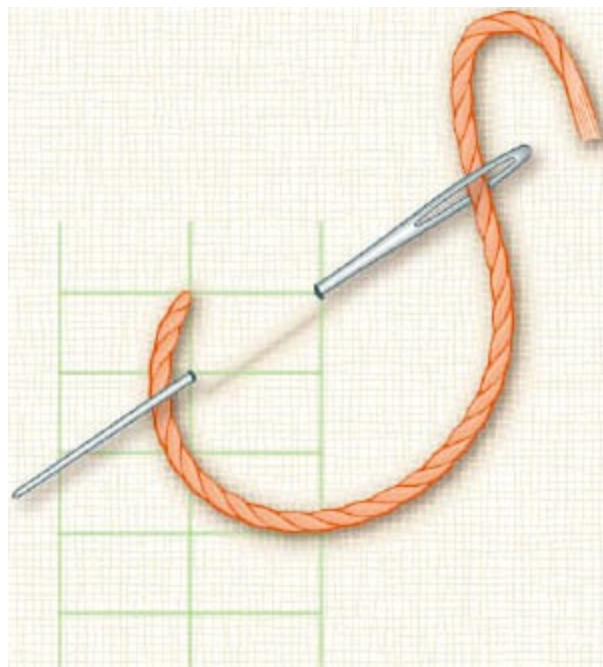
Work a single feather stitch, then place the needle back through the initial hole and out a new hole to create a vertical line.

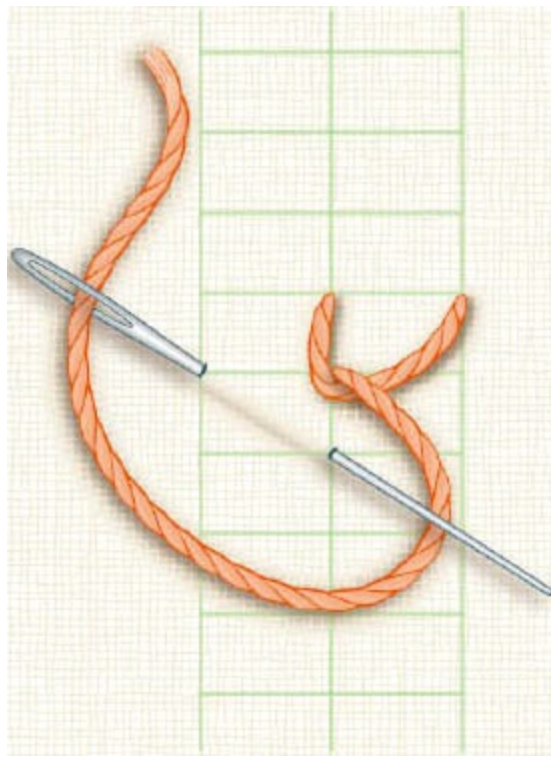




LONG-ARMED STITCH

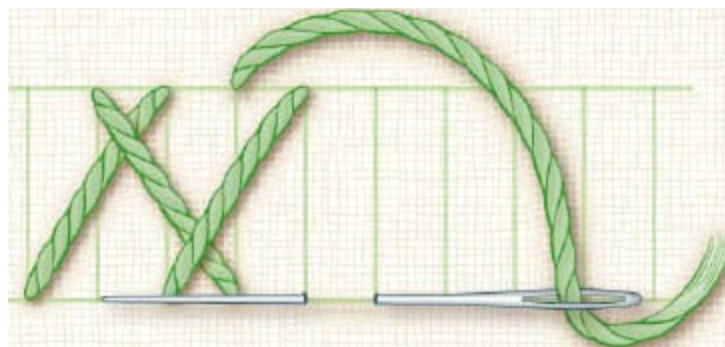
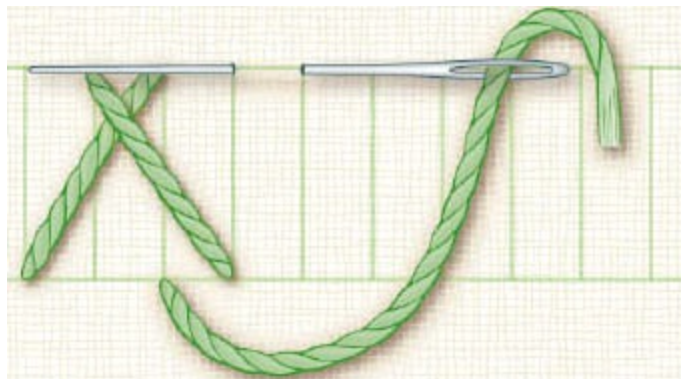
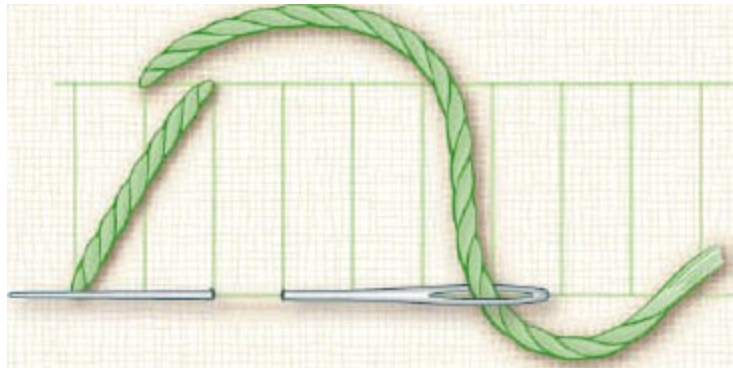
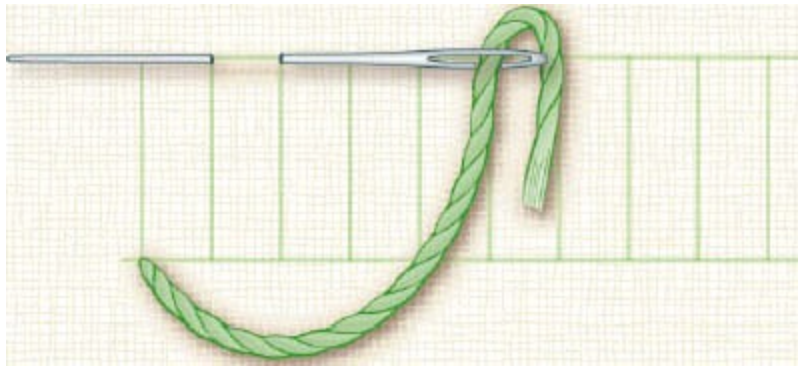
Work the same as feather stitch, with a vertical line down the center.





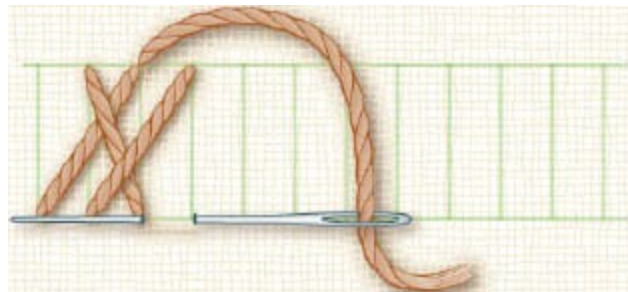
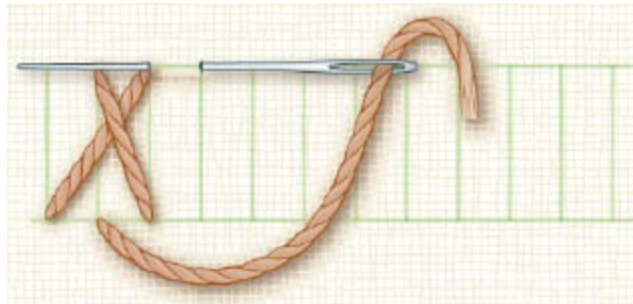
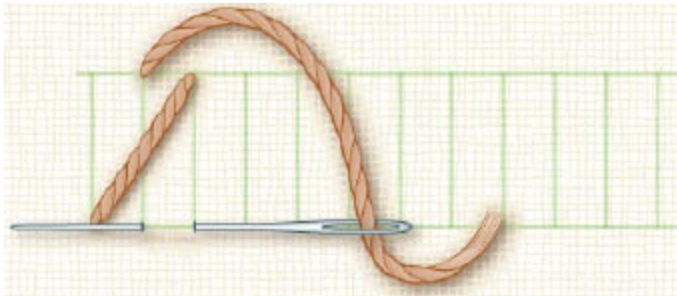
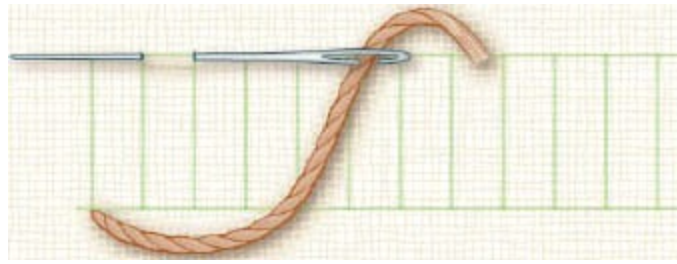
HERRINGBONE STITCH

Work a small cross from top to bottom, moving left to right.



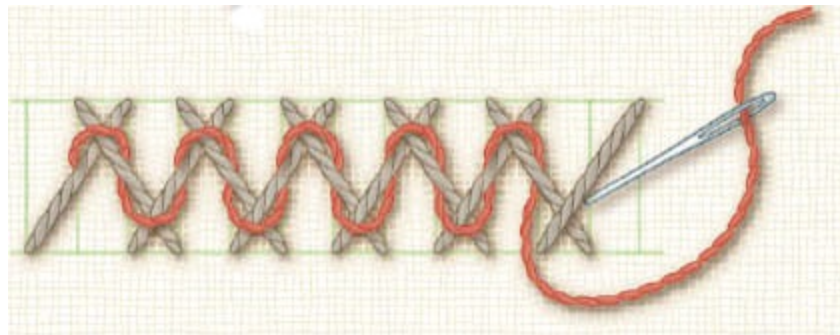
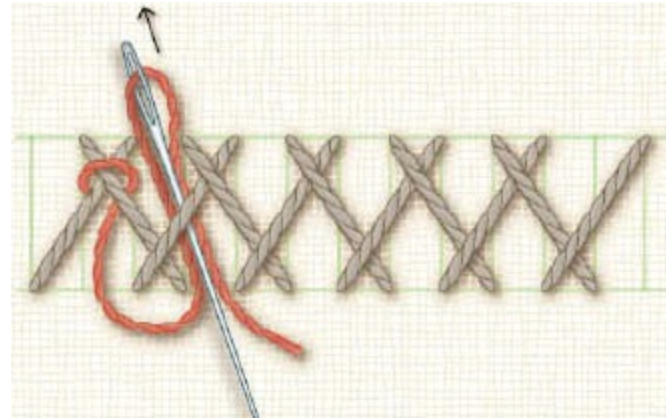
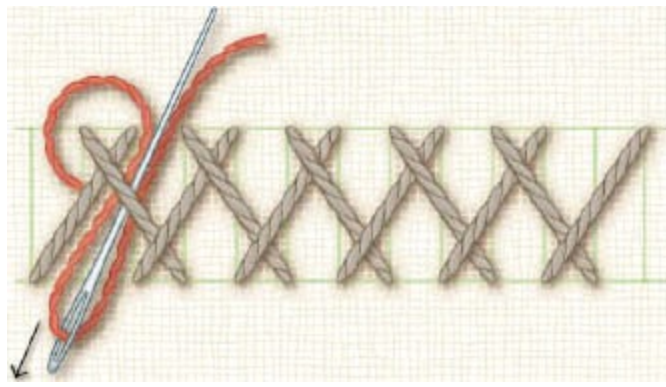
CLOSED HERRINGBONE STITCH

Herringbone stitches worked close together.



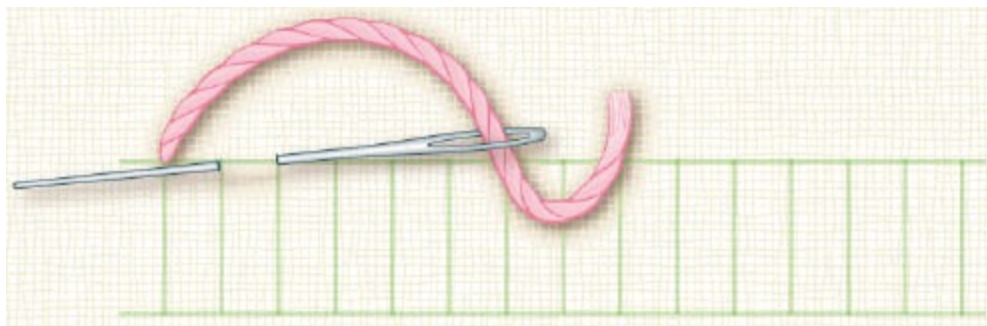
THREADED HERRINGBONE STITCH

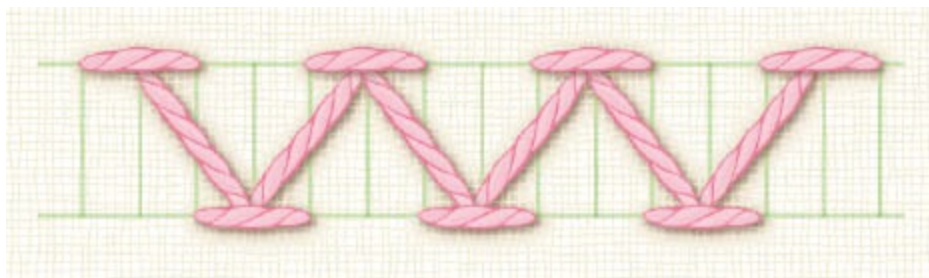
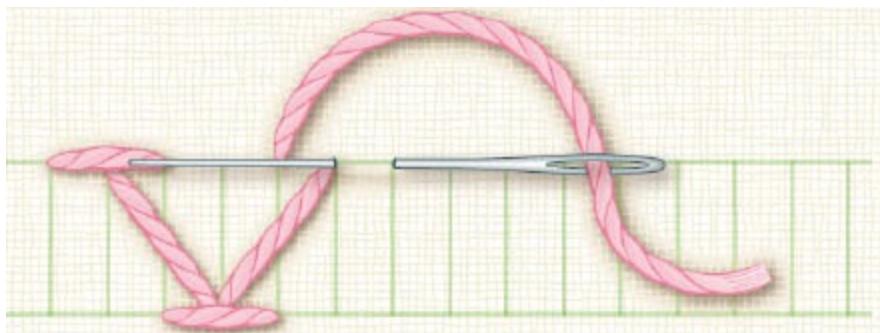
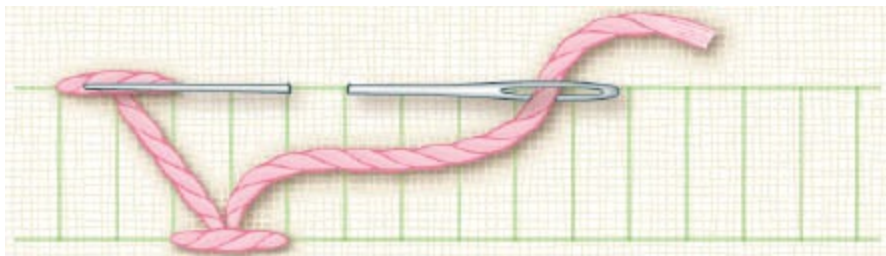
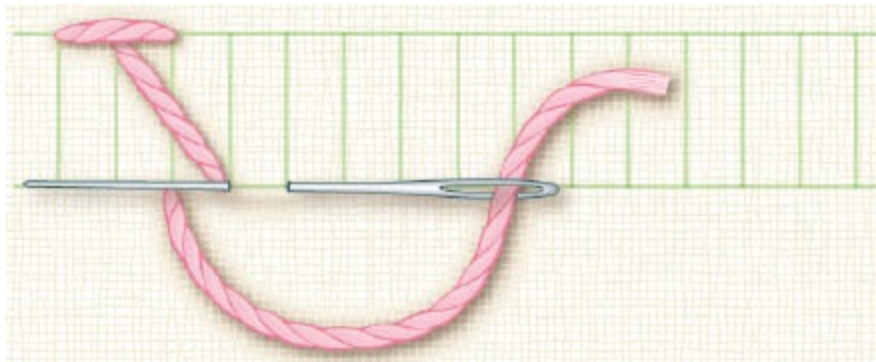
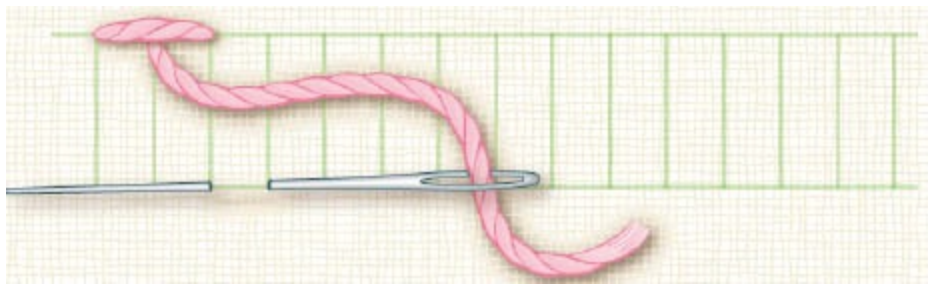
After working herringbone stitch, weave a different color thread over and under, from top to bottom.



CHEVRON STITCH

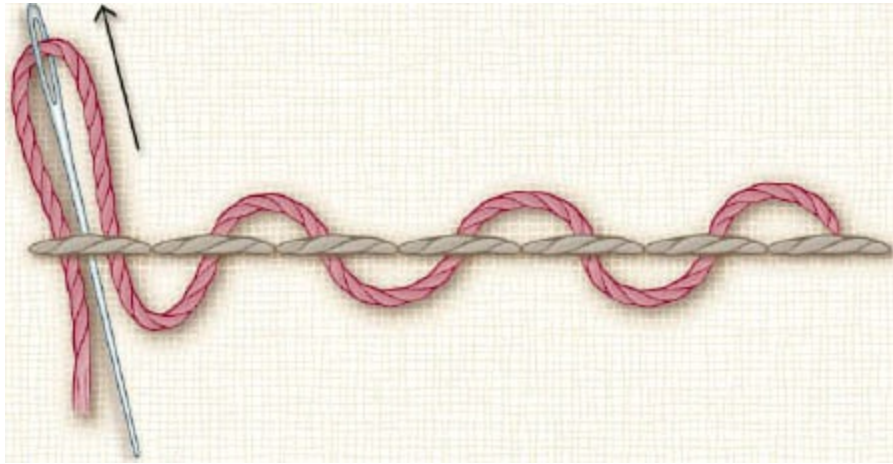
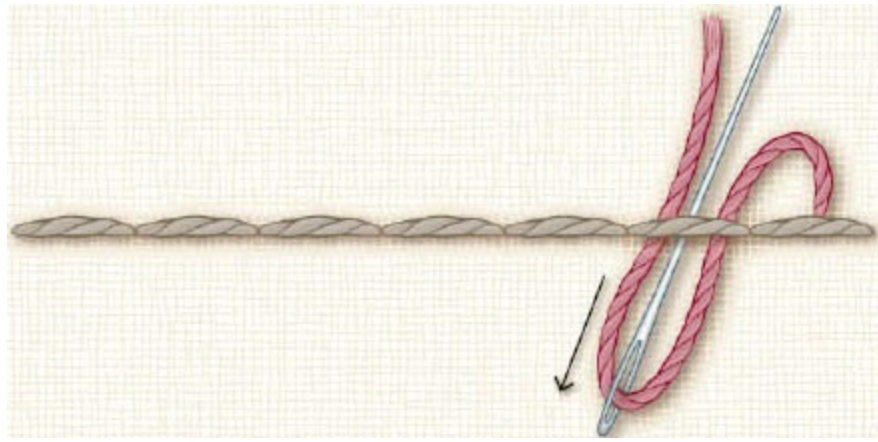
Work a small lateral stitch, then move right and down; work a small lateral stitch, then move right and up. Repeat.





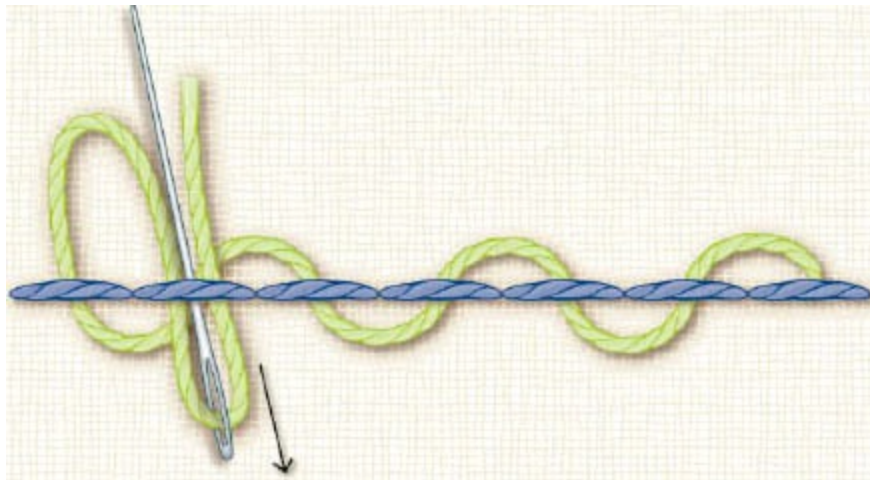
THREADED BACKSTITCH

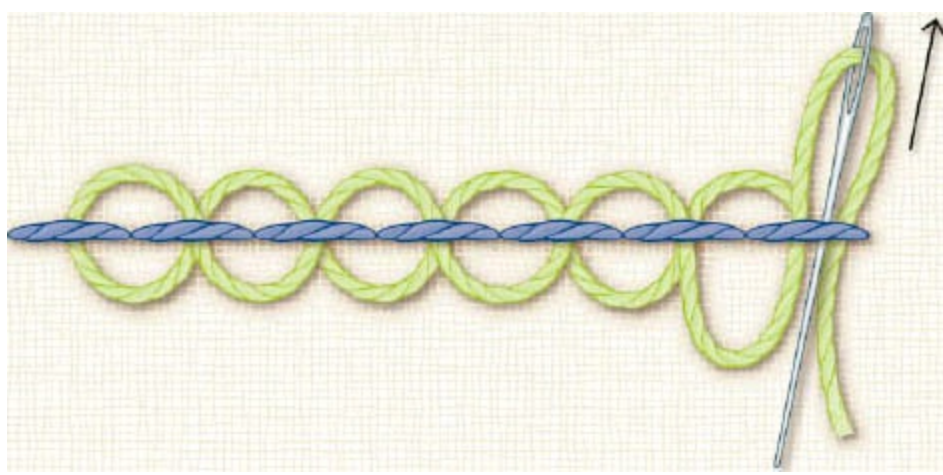
Work a line of backstitch. Using a different color thread and leading with the needle's eye, weave up and down through the backstitch.



DOUBLE THREADED BACKSTITCH

After working a threaded backstitch, loop back around, weaving the second color thread back to the start.

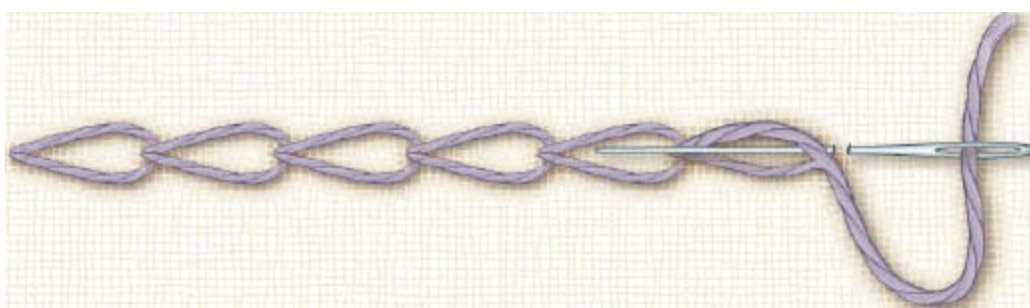




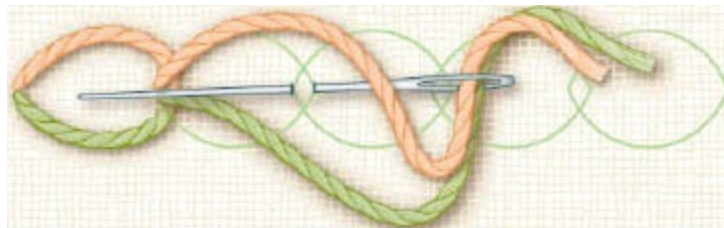
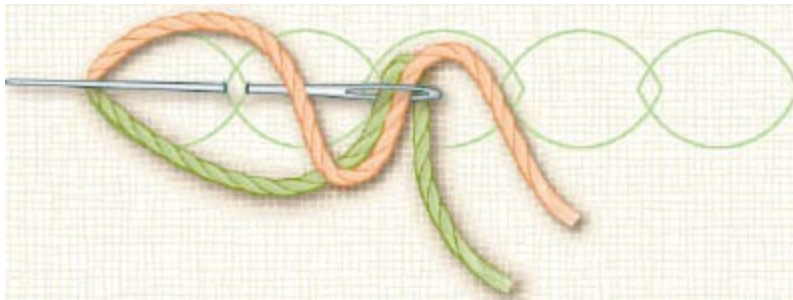
SPLIT STITCH

Similar to an outline stitch, but when pulling the needle tip through the fabric, come up through the thread, splitting it.

Splitting a single thread



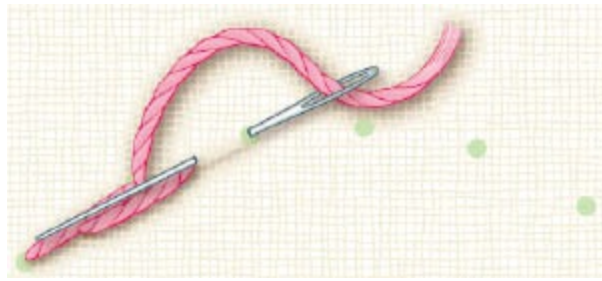
Using two different color threads



ALTERNATING STEM STITCH

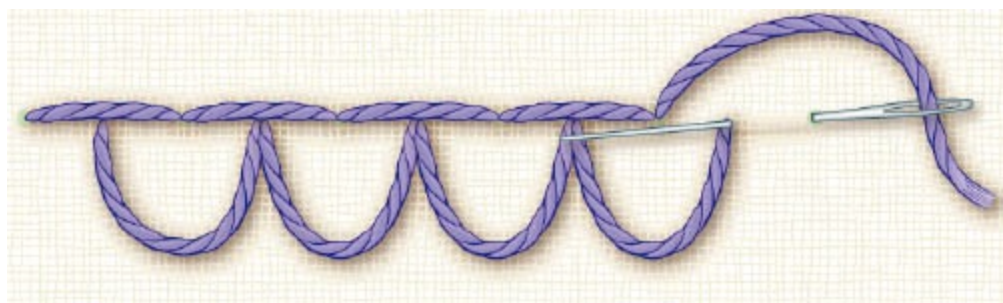
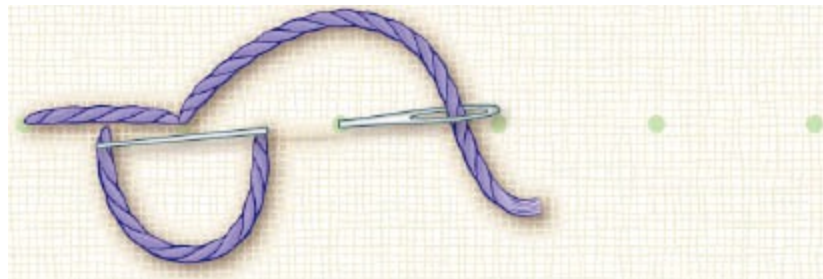
Similar to an outline stitch, but when pulling the needle out, alternate over and under the previous stitch.





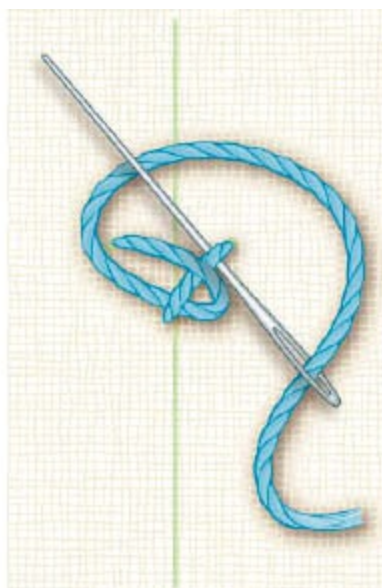
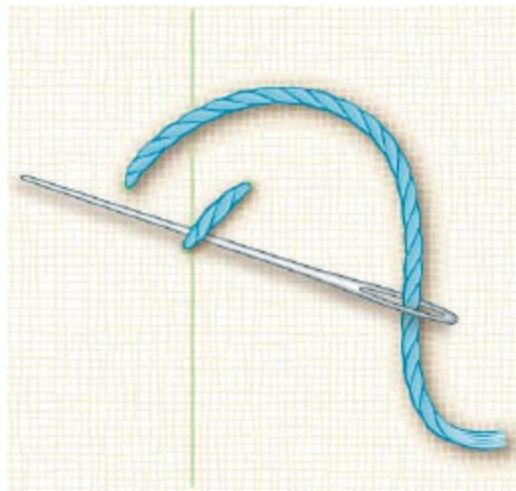
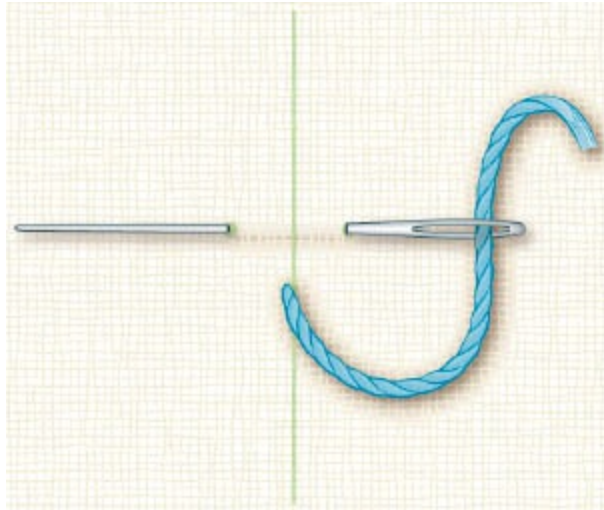
FRINGE STITCH

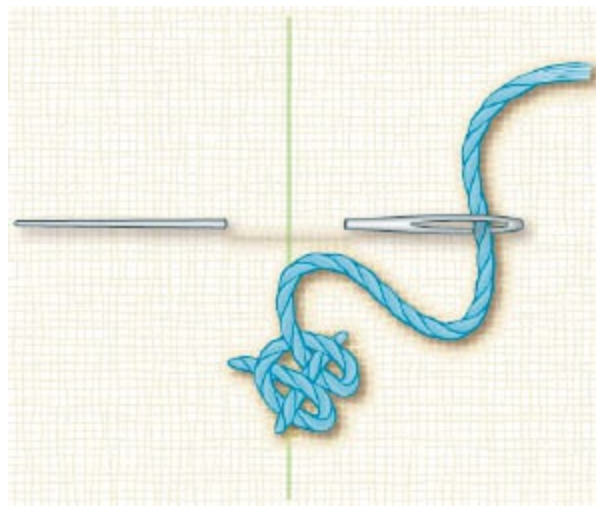
Using alternating stem stitch, let the bottom stitch hang down to create a fringe.



CABLE STITCH

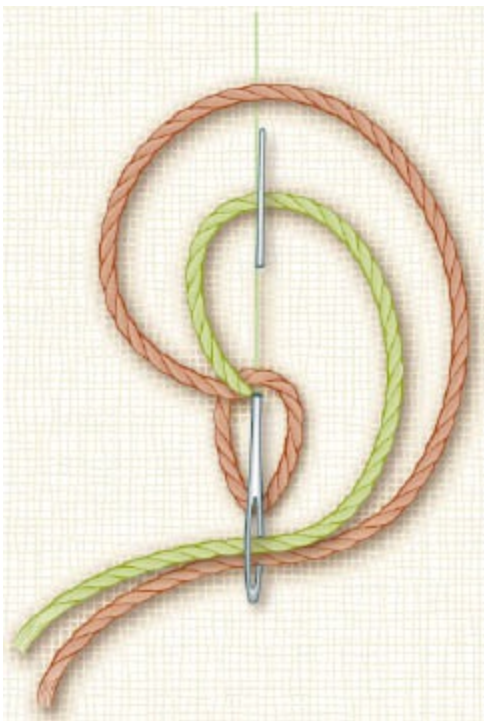
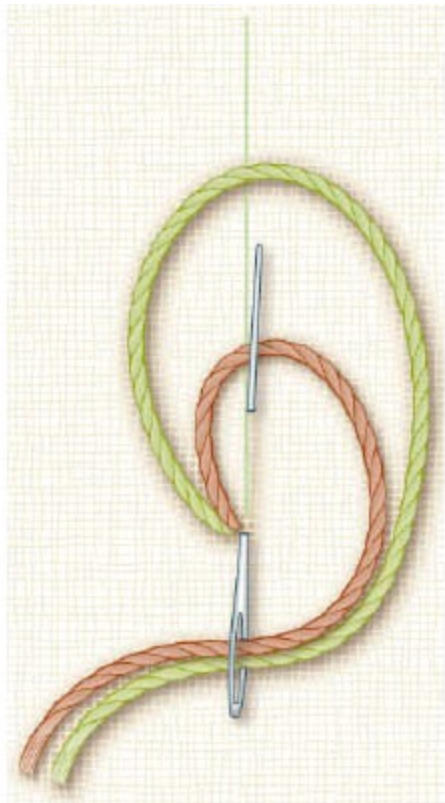
Connect German knot stitches ([see page 48](#)) as shown.

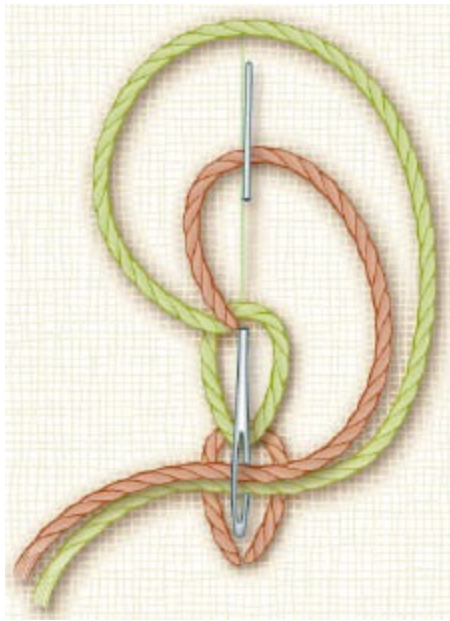




CHECKERED CHAIN STITCH

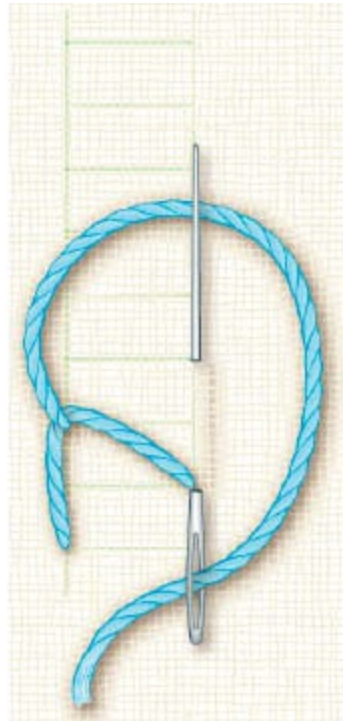
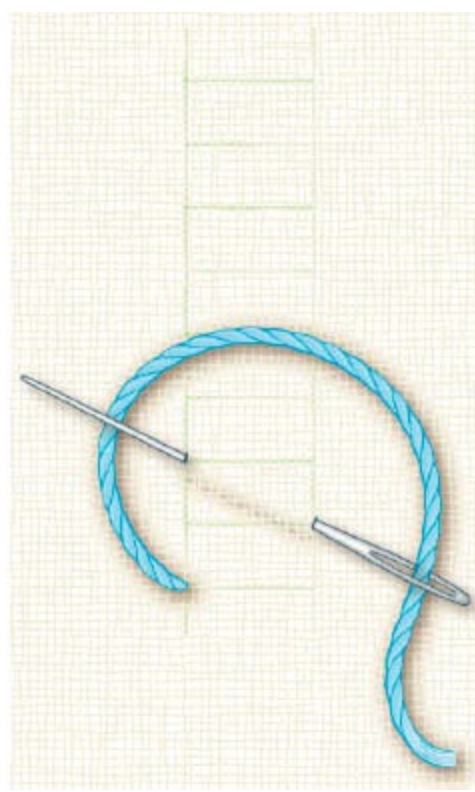
Using 2 different color threads on a single needle, alternate by pulling one of the colors through while creating the chain stitch.

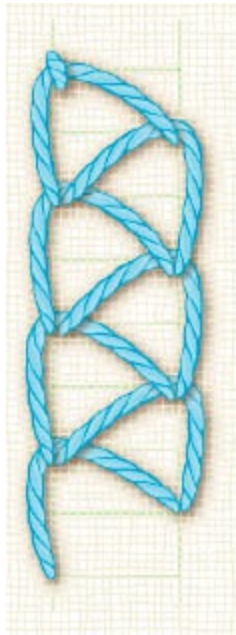
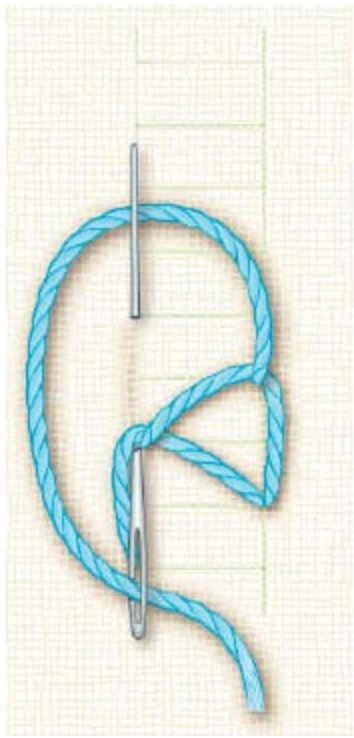




DOUBLE CHAIN STITCH

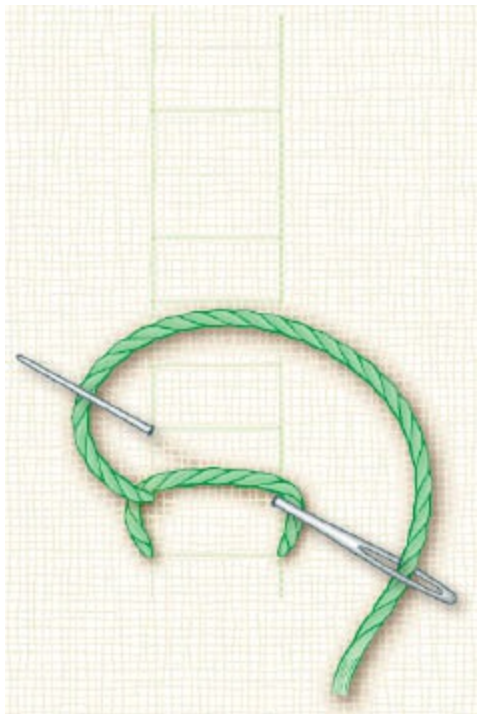
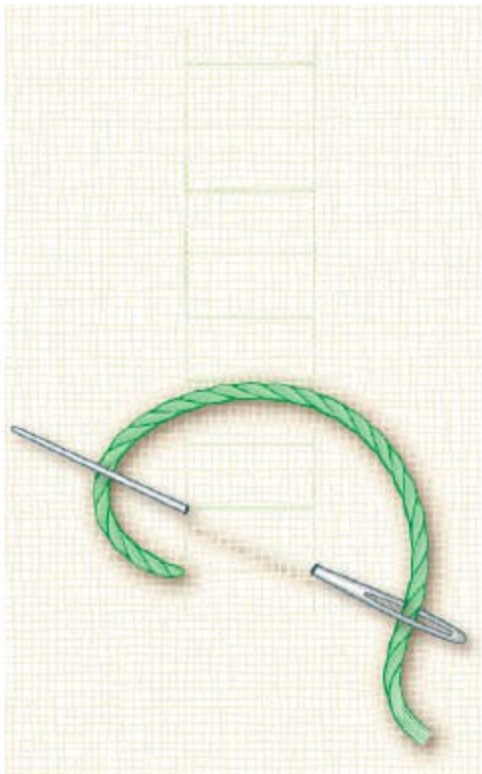
Similar to chain stitch, place the needle to the side of the initial hole, repeating as shown.





OPEN CHAIN STITCH

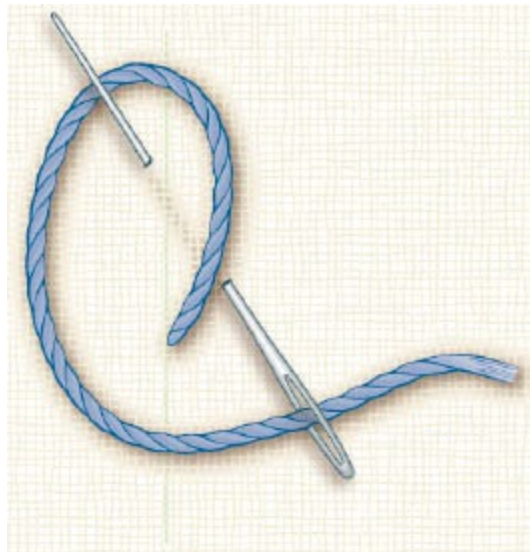
Similar to chain stitch, space the needle with each stitch a little wider.

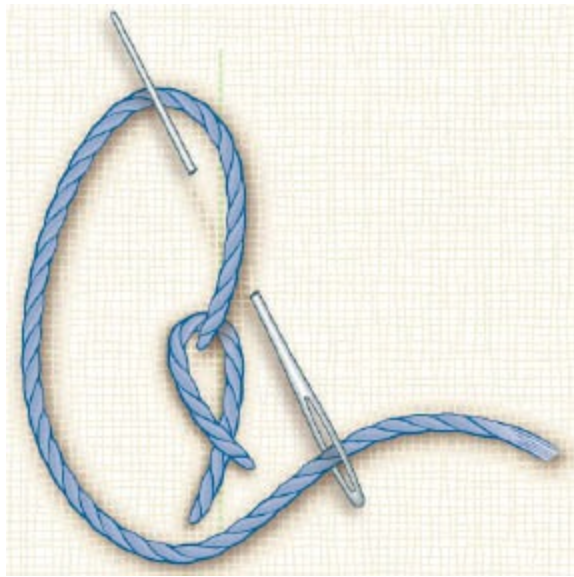




TWISTED CHAIN STITCH

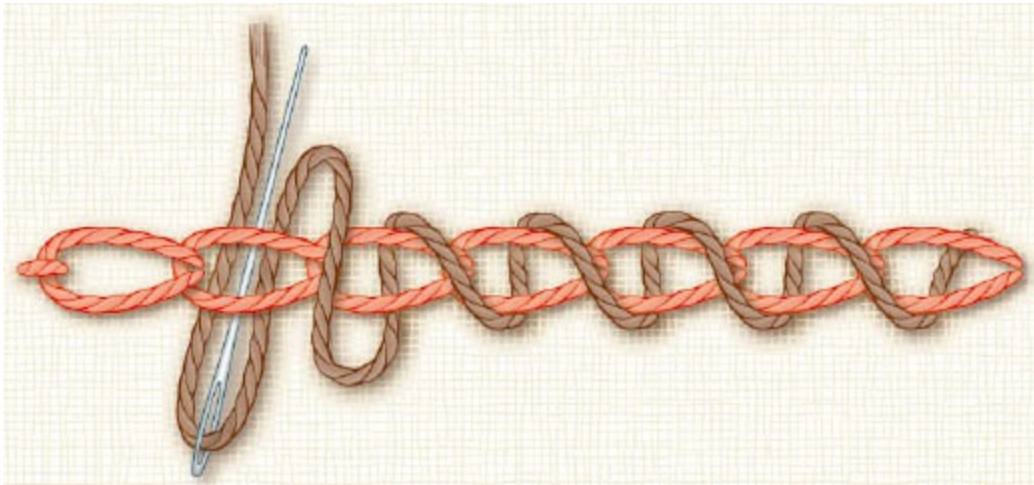
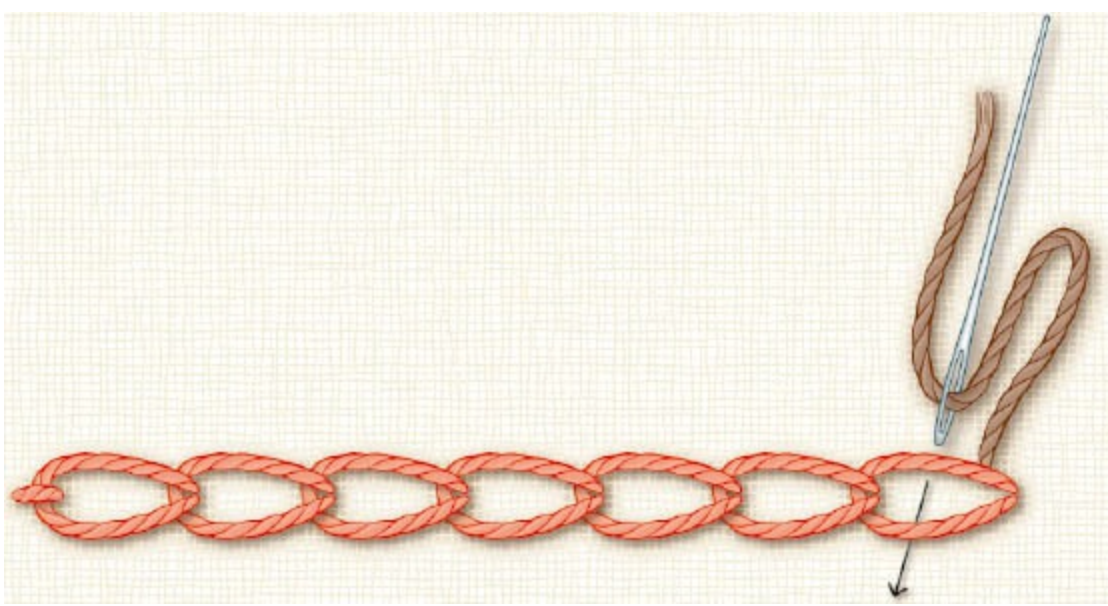
Similar to chain stitch, reinsert the needle just to the outside of the initial hole around the loop.





WHIPPED CHAIN STITCH

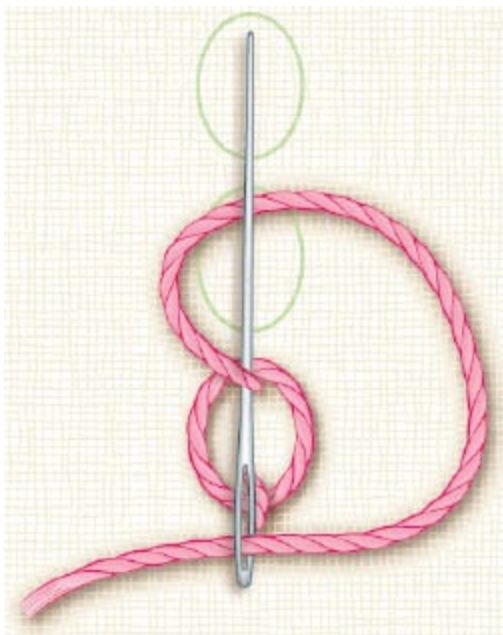
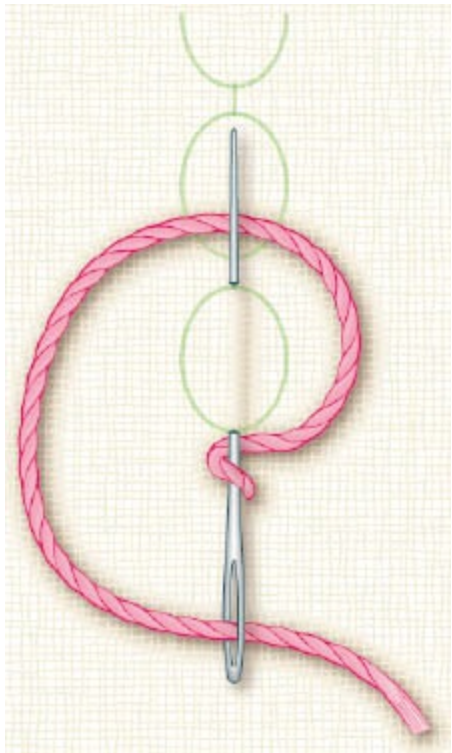
After creating a chain stitch, use a different color thread and wrap under and over the chain stitch.



CABLE CHAIN STITCH

Pull the needle through, then wrap the thread around the tip of the needle. Holding the thread with your finger, catch a small section of the fabric with the needle tip and pull through. Repeat.



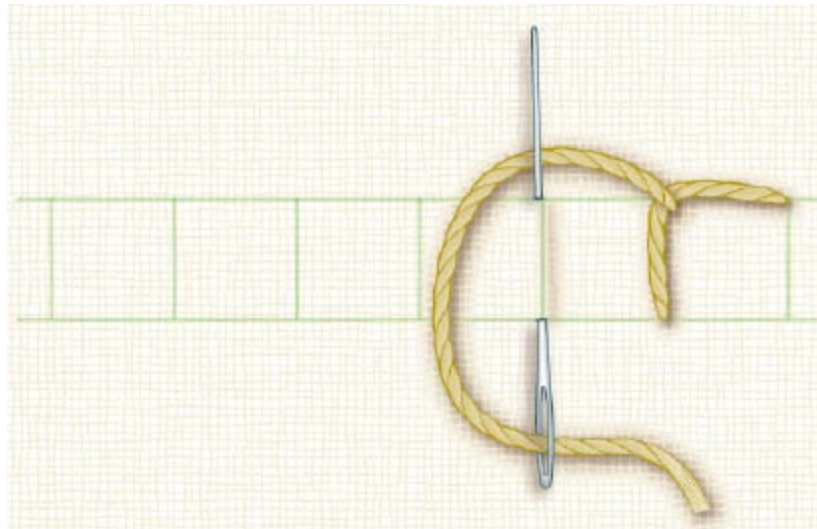
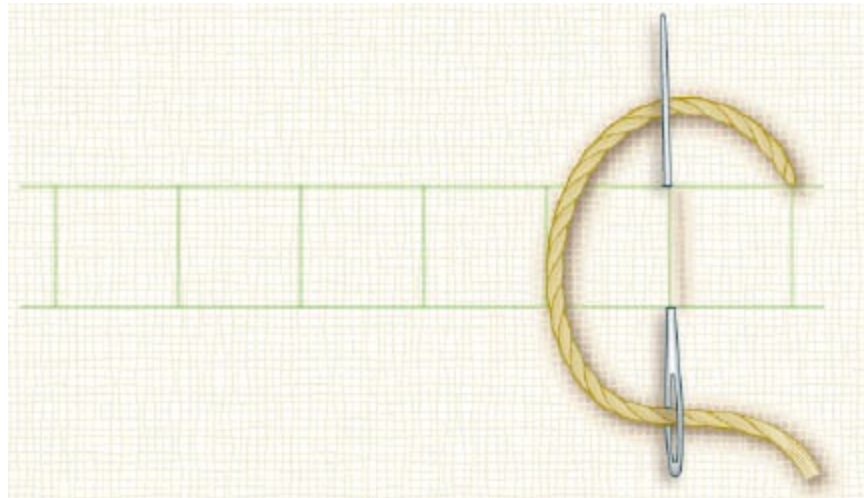




Framing

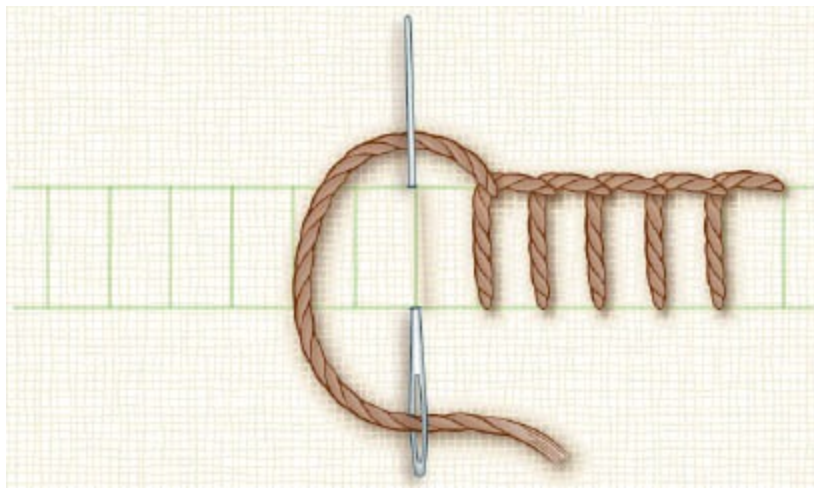
BLANKET STITCH

After pulling the needle through, reinsert the needle slightly to the bottom left, pushing the tip out over the thread. Pull out completely. Repeat.



BLANKET STITCH TECHNIQUES

A



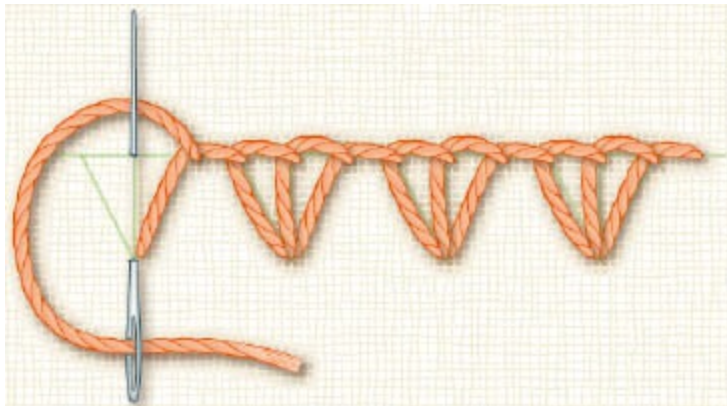
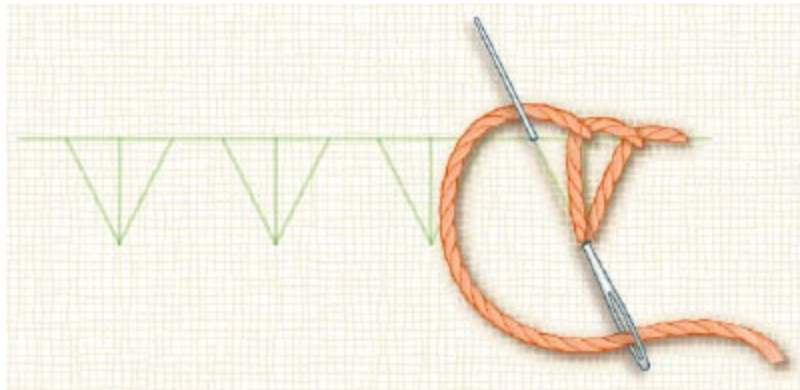
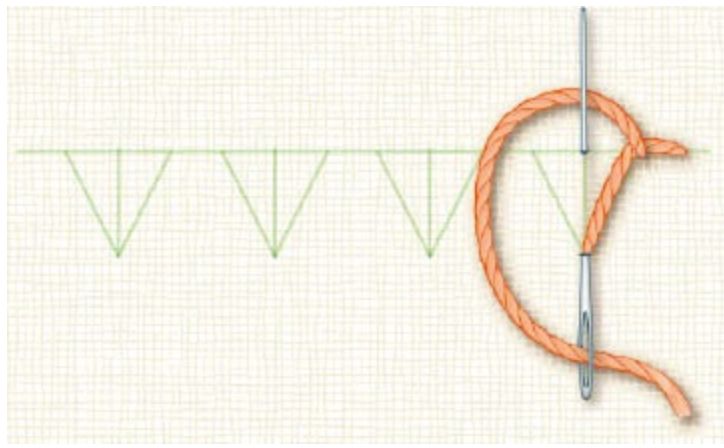
B



HEM STITCH

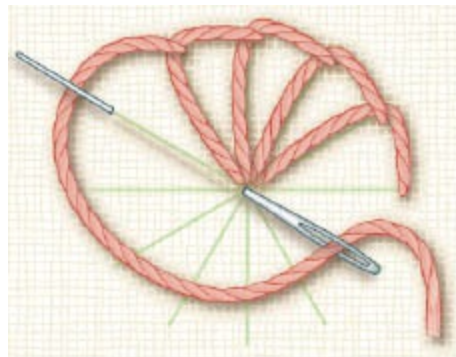
Similar to blanket stitch, use the initial hole to make triangular stitches.

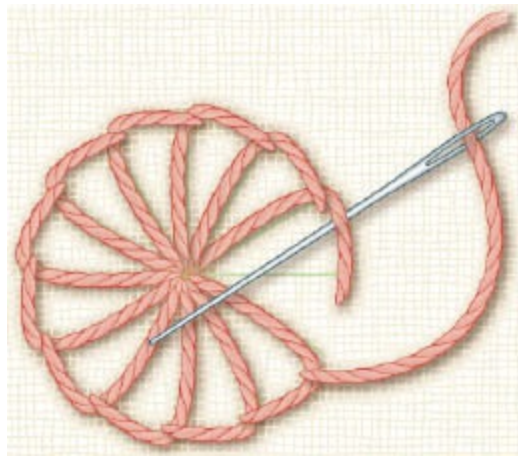




BLANKET RING STITCH

Similar to blanket stitch, use the same initial hole to make a circle.

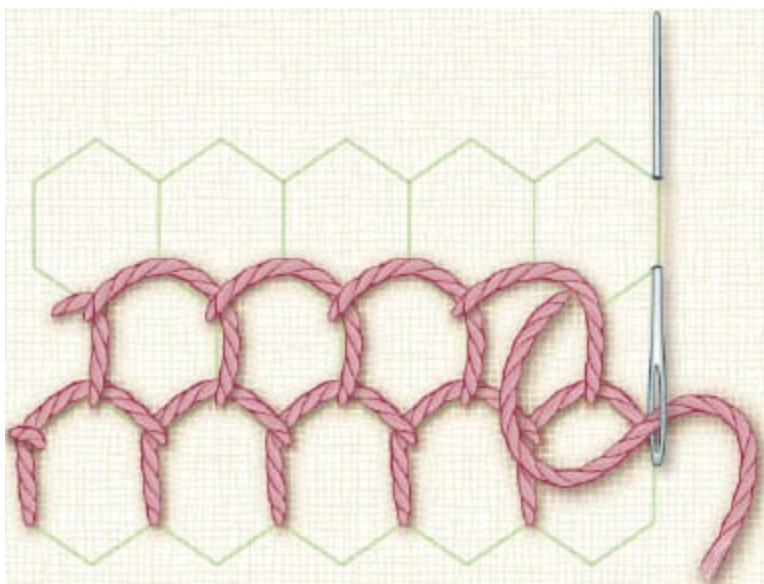
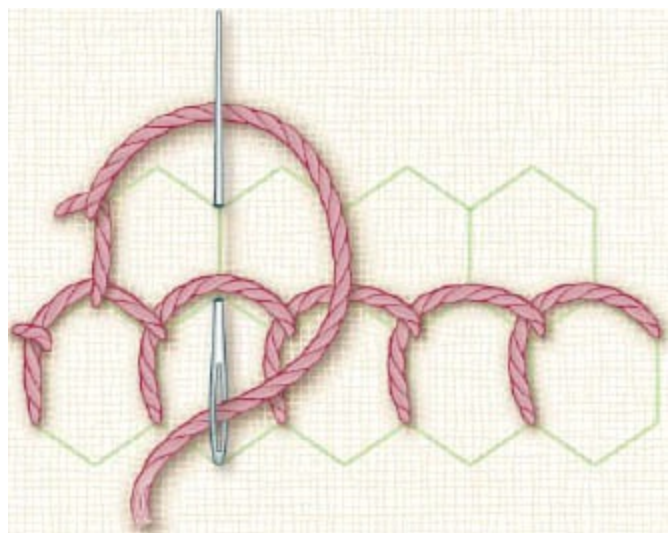
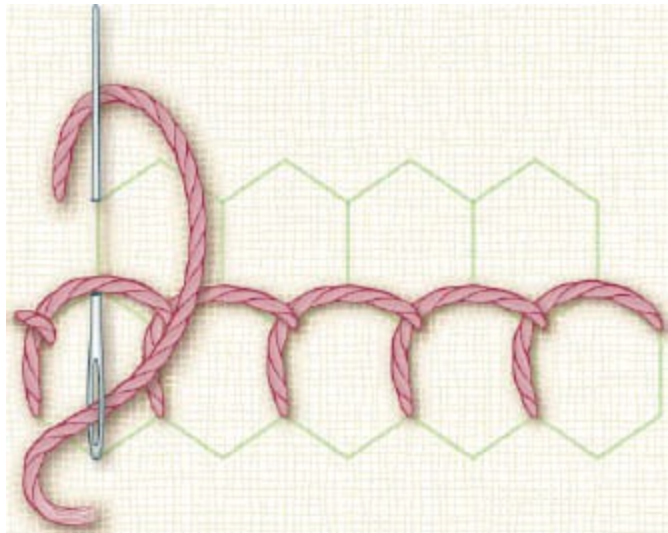


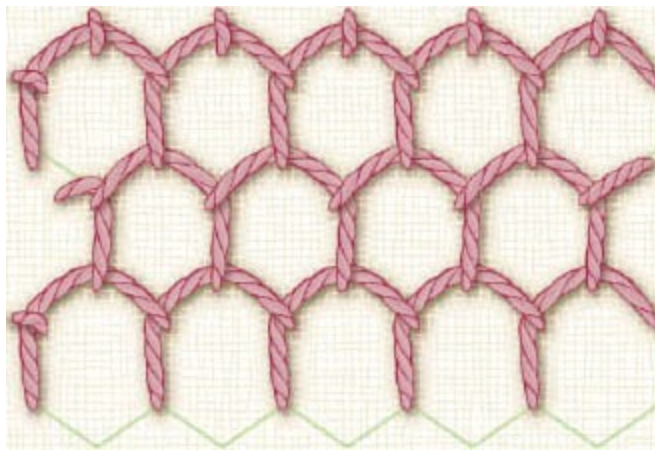


HONEYCOMB STITCH

Using blanket stitch, loosely work the first row; pull upward when making the second row, inserting the needle into the loop of the first row.

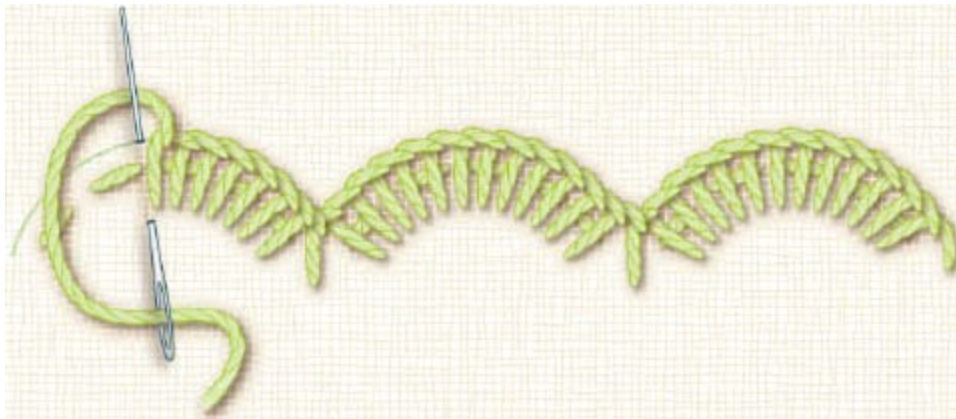
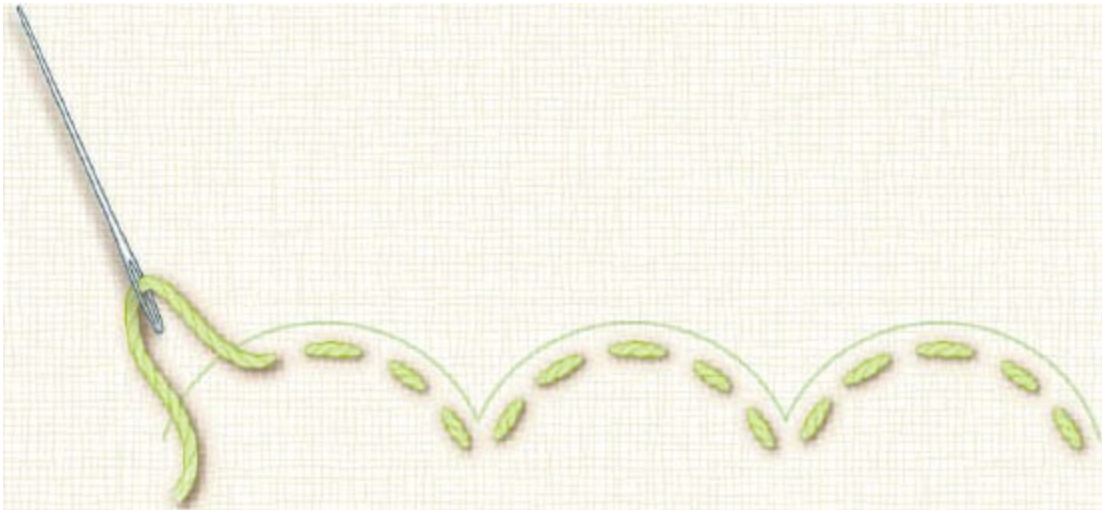






SCALLOP STITCH

Referring to the illustration, make a running stitch. On top of the running stitch work blanket stitch to fill in the design.



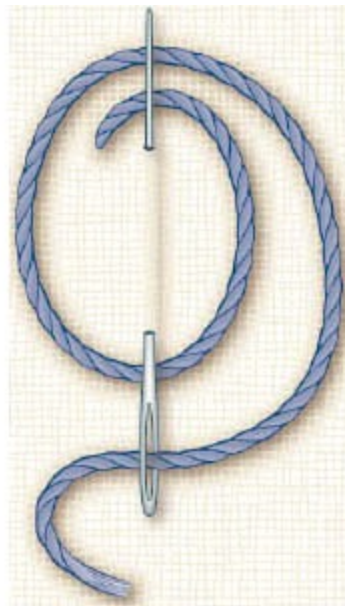
WHIPPED BLANKET STITCH

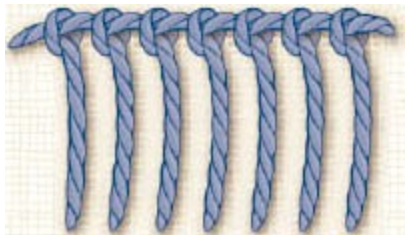
Using a different color thread, wrap around the blanket stitch.



TAILORED BUTTONHOLE STITCH

Work blanket stitch in either direction; pull the needle through over the thread and keep the spacing of the stitches close together.

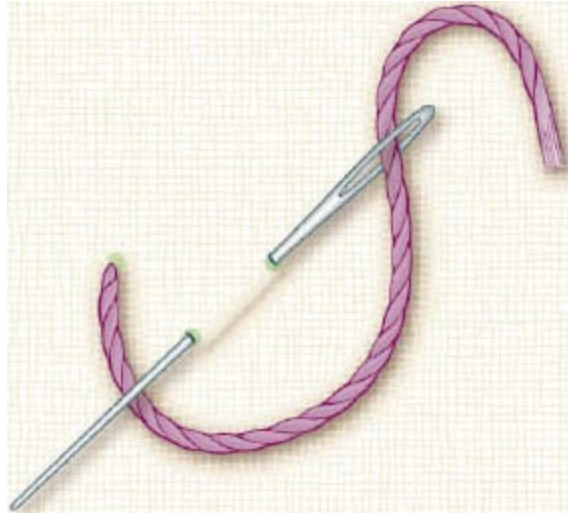




Motif

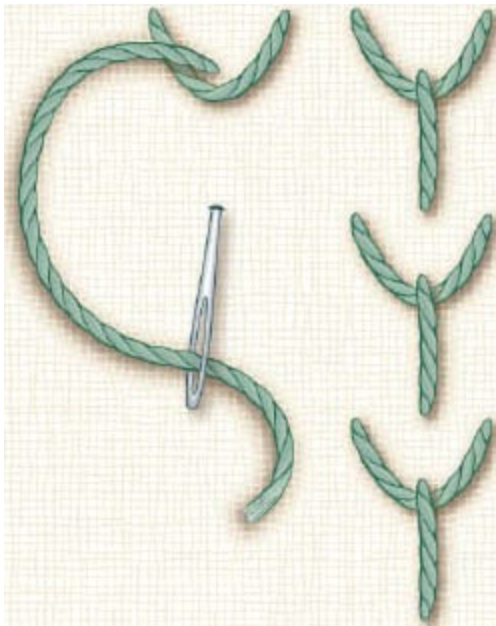
FLY STITCH

Pull the needle through, reinsert it at an angle over the thread, and work a small stitch under the thread.

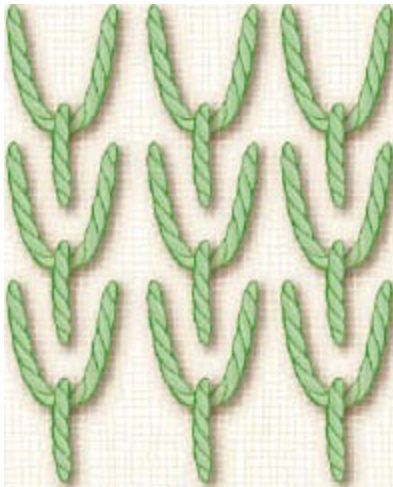


FLY STITCH TECHNIQUES

A



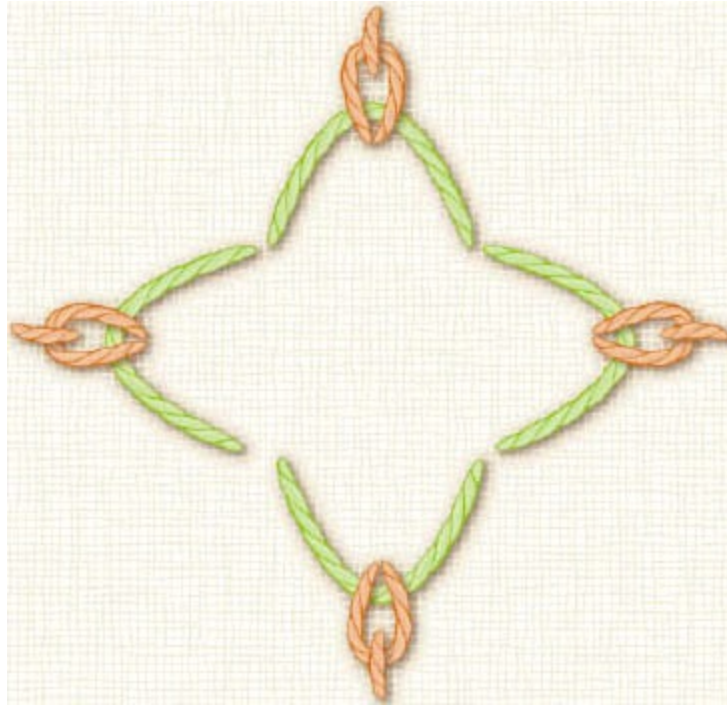
B



C



D



DOUBLE FLY STITCH

Create a large fly stitch, then work a smaller one inside the larger one. Repeat.

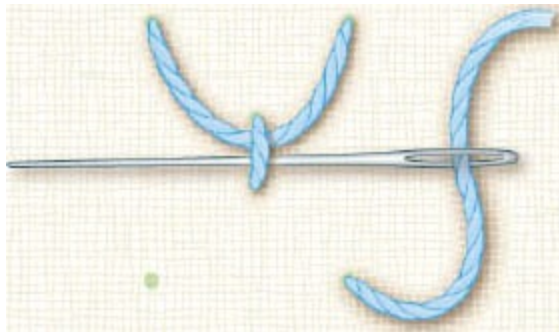
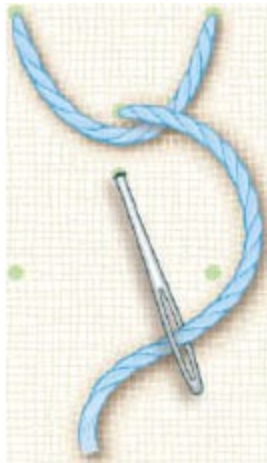


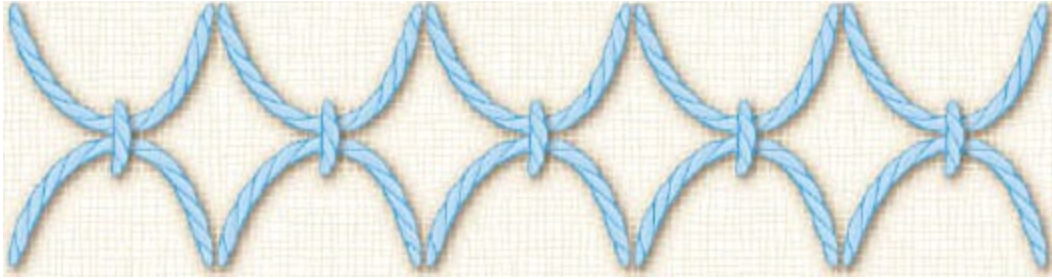
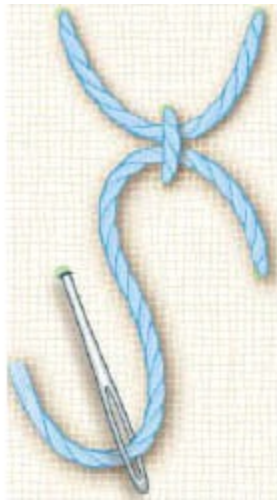




VARIED FLY STITCH

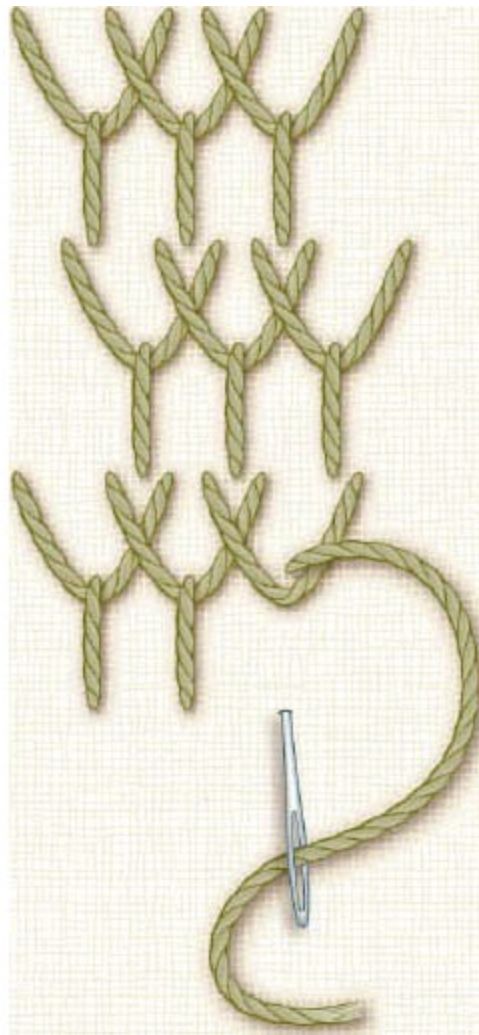
Work the first fly stitch. Underneath it, pull the needle out of the fabric and through the notch of the first fly stitch, then reinsert the needle.





PLAITED FLY STITCH

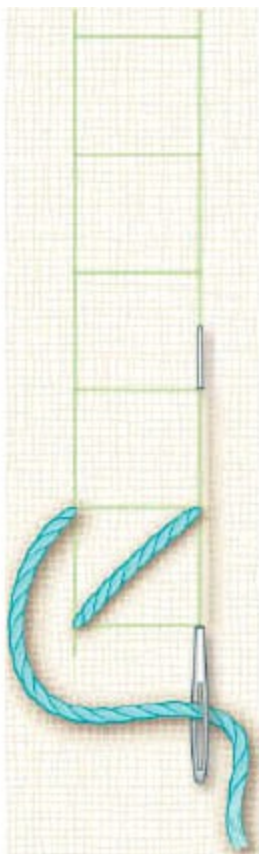
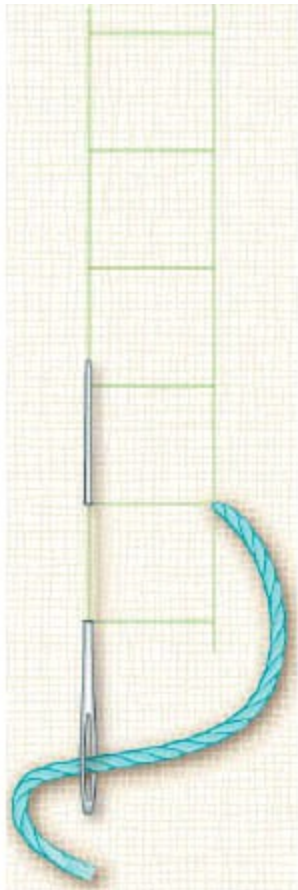
Moving from left to right, layer fly stitches one on top of the other.

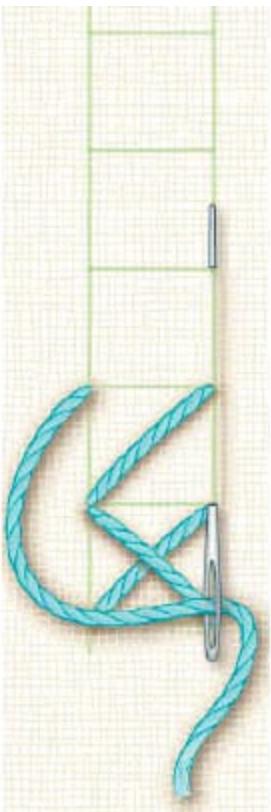
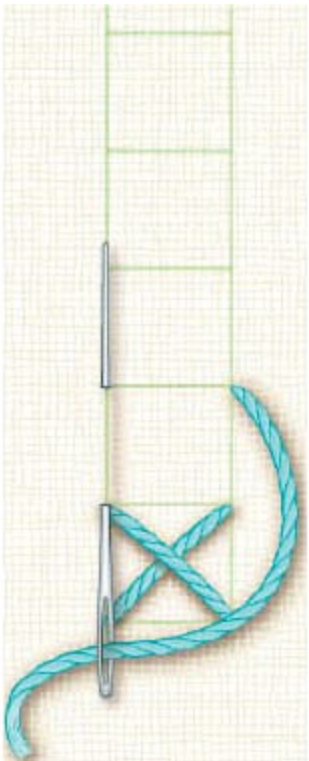


CROSS STITCH

Stitching an X in various ways.

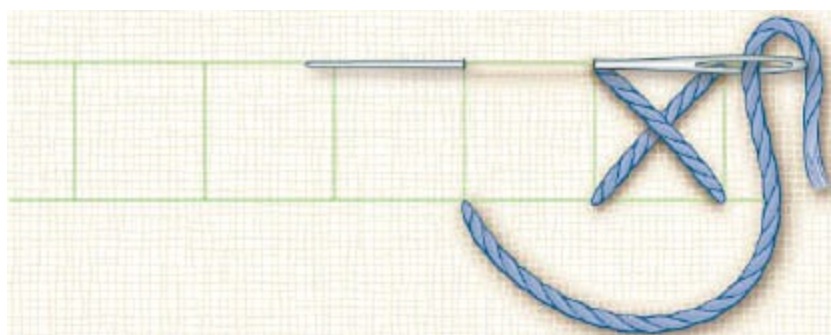
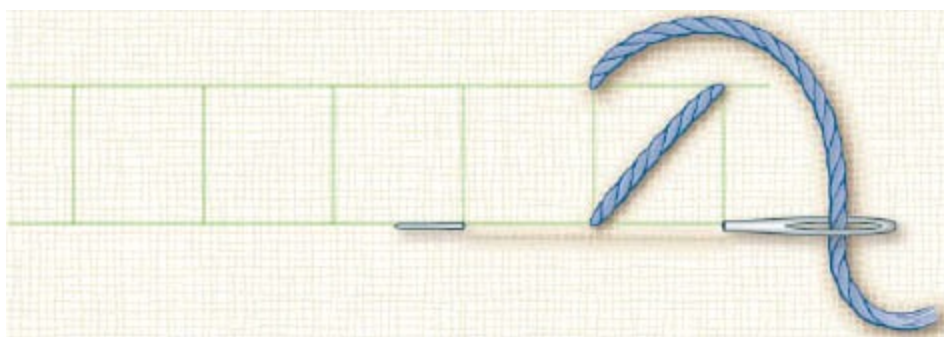
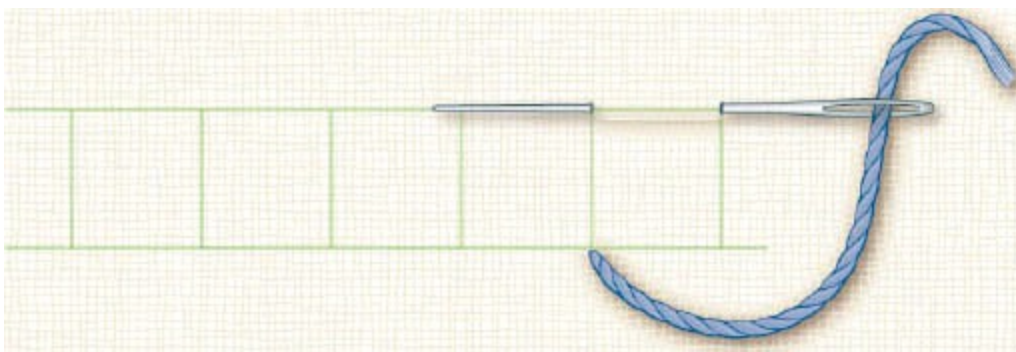
Vertically

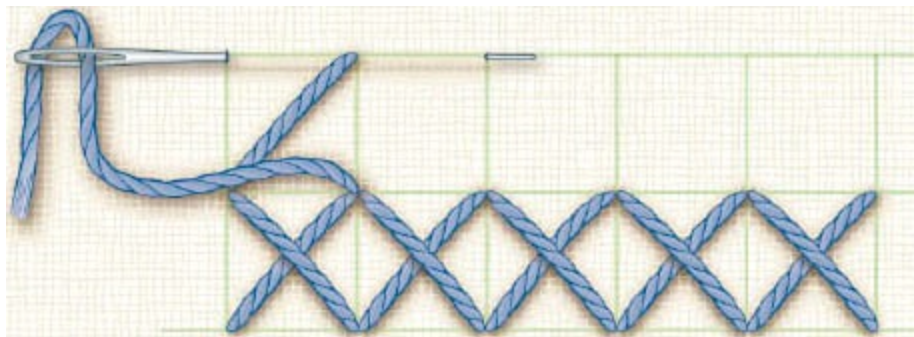
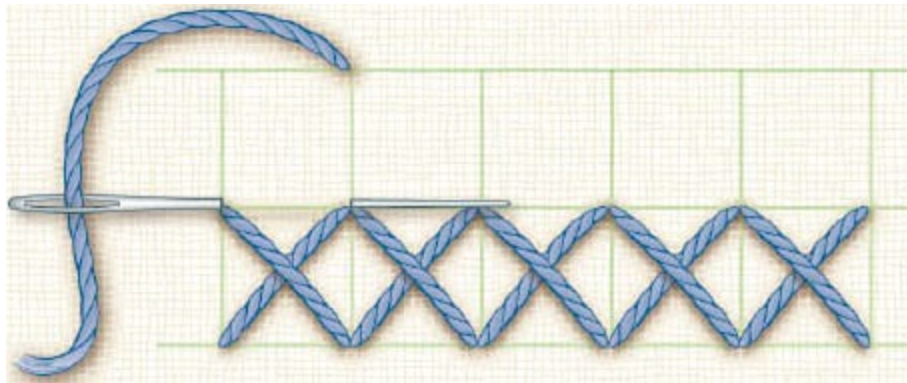
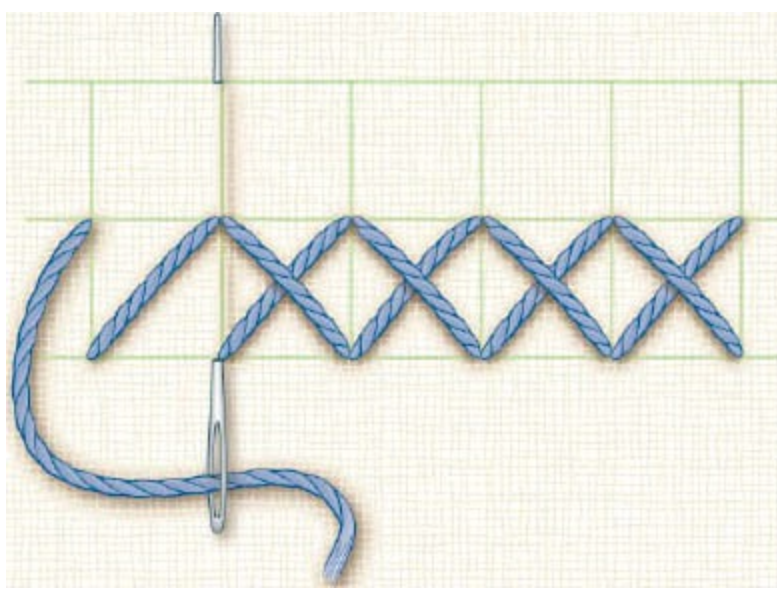




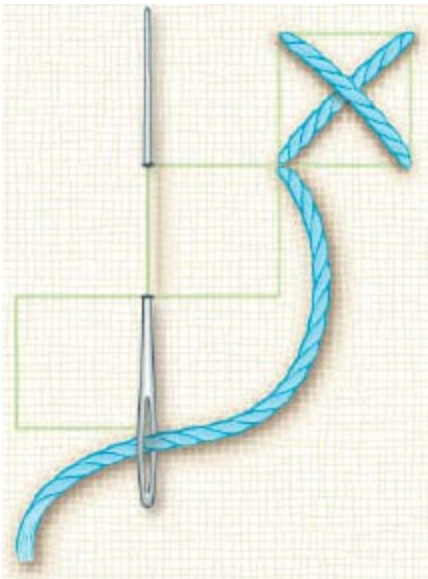
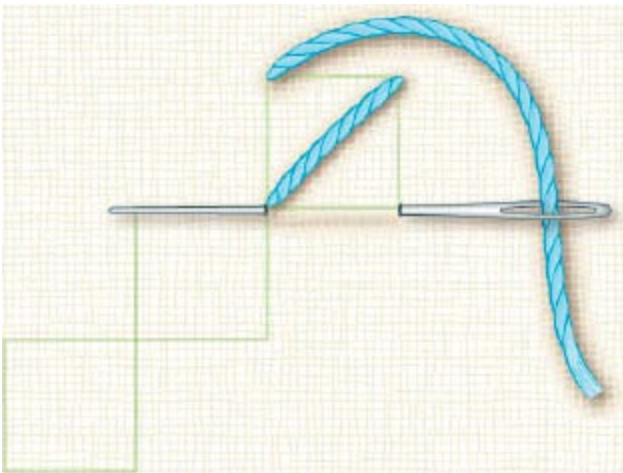
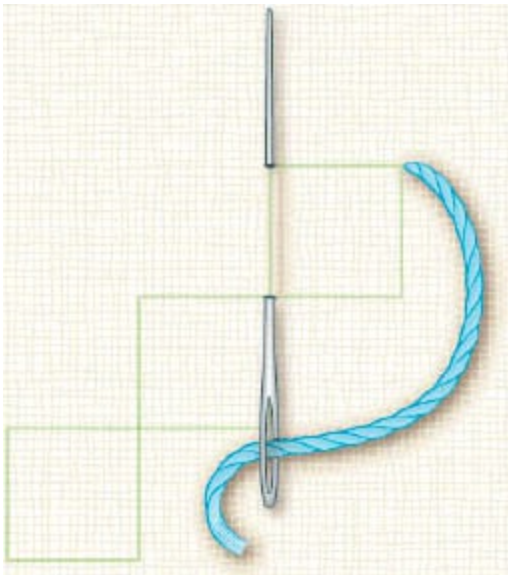


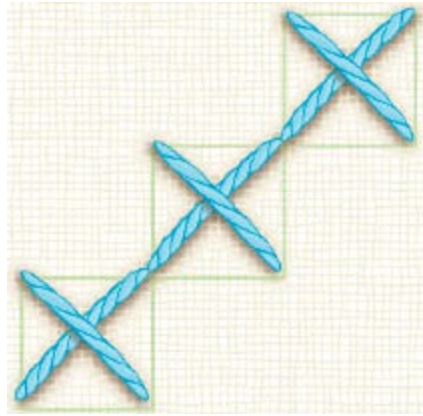
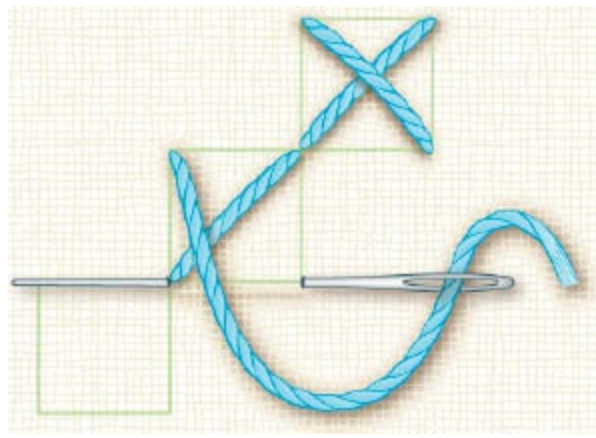
Horizontally



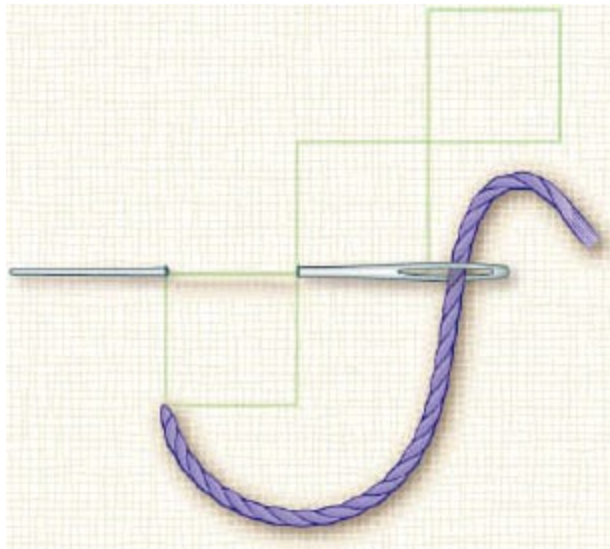


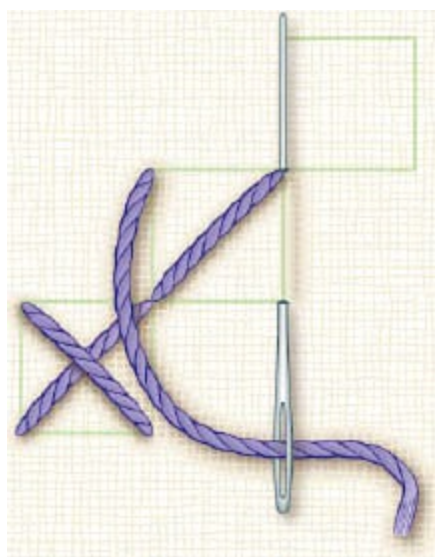
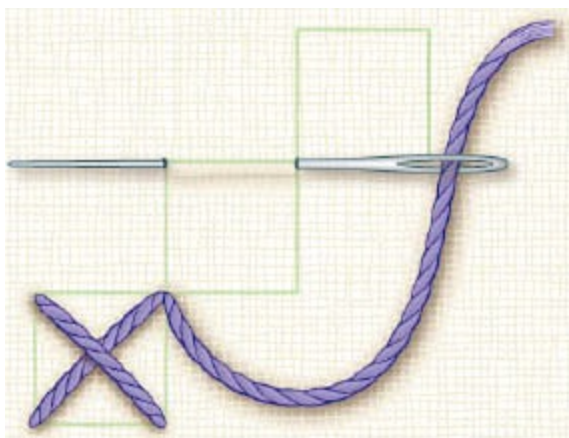
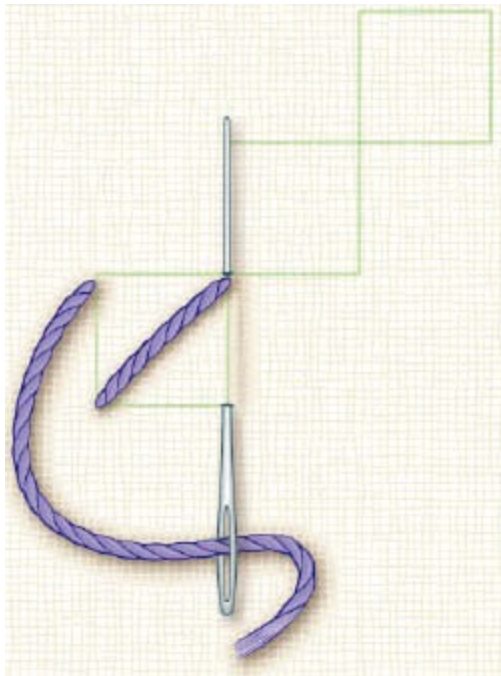
Top right to bottom left

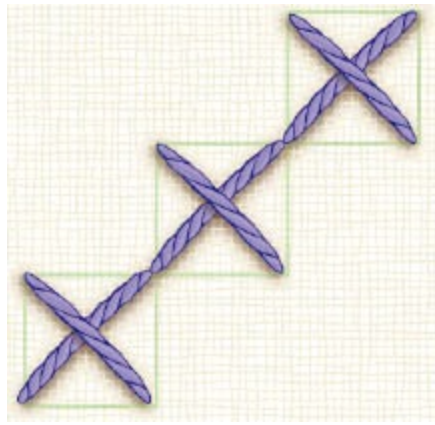




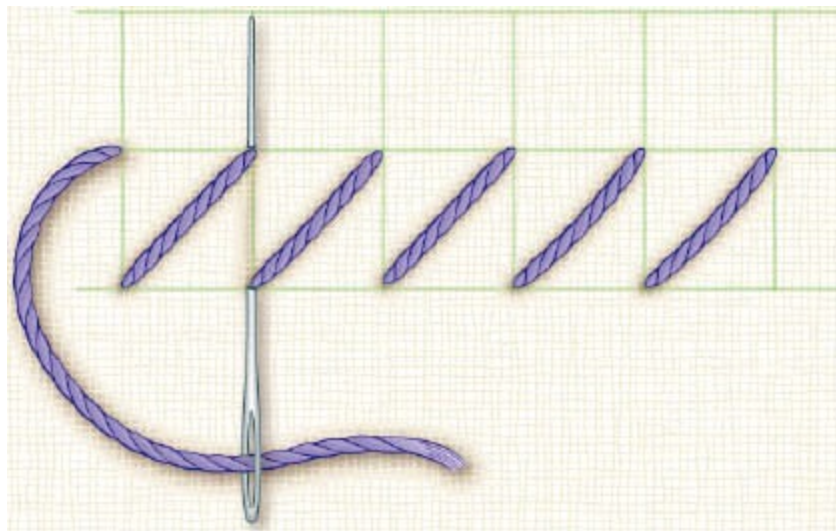
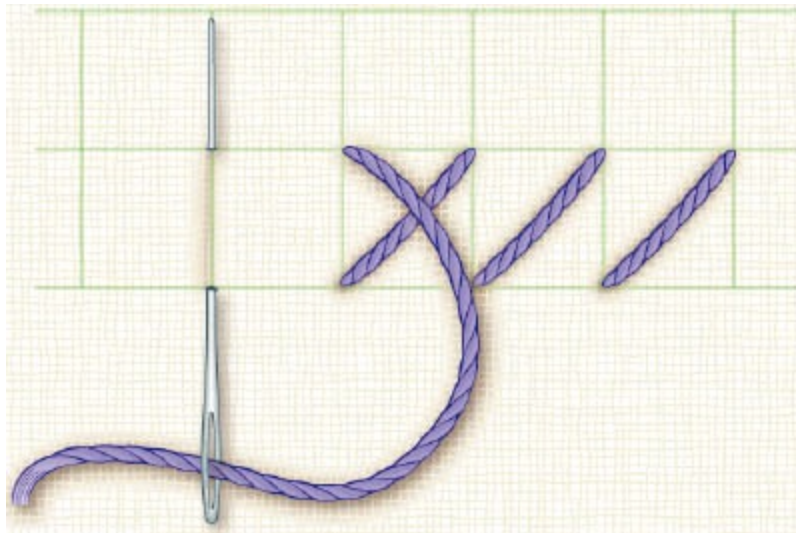
Bottom left to top right

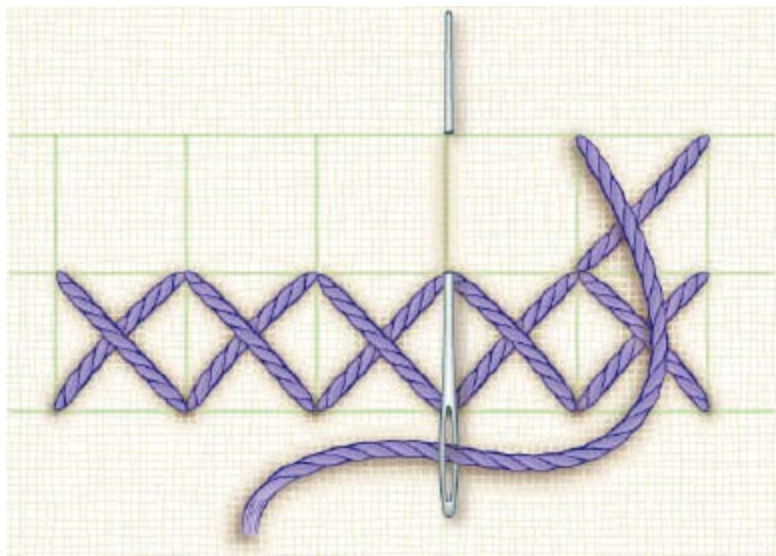
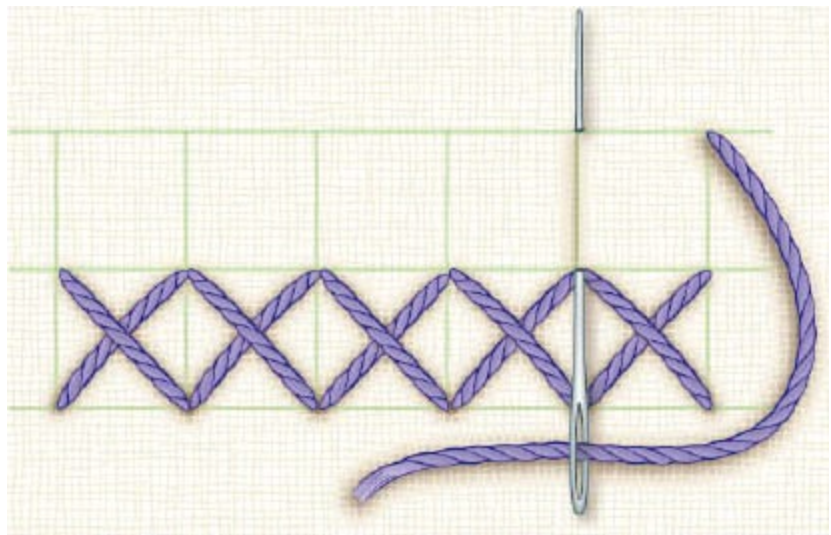
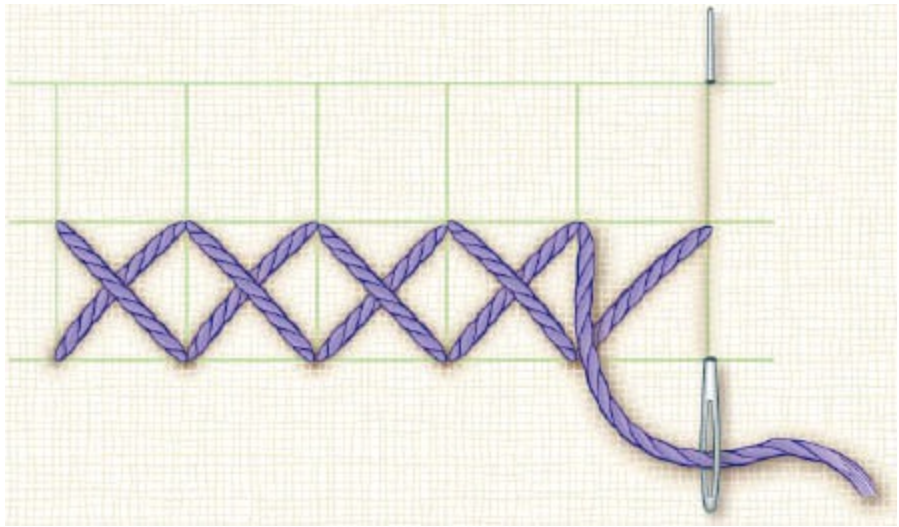


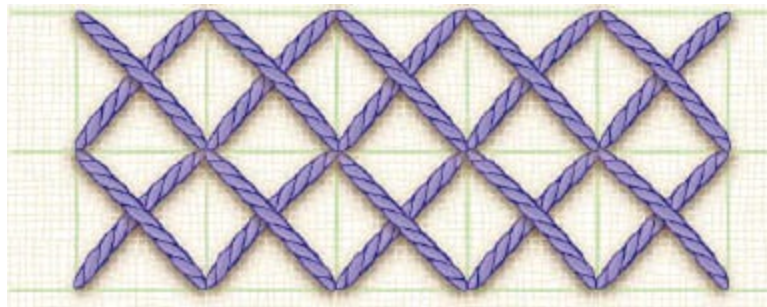
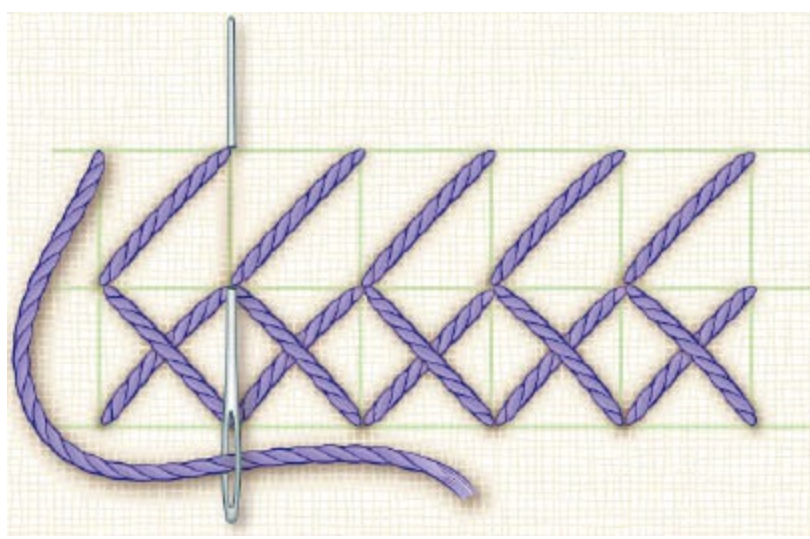




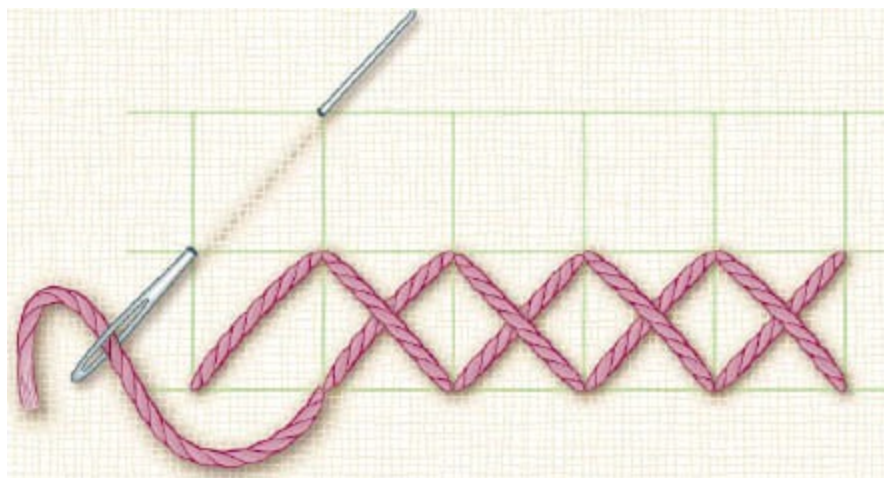
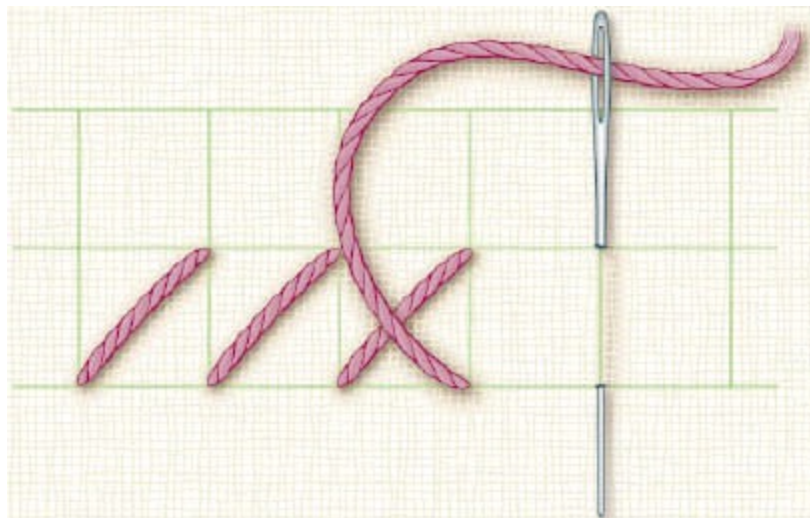
Continuous stitching (covering fabric)

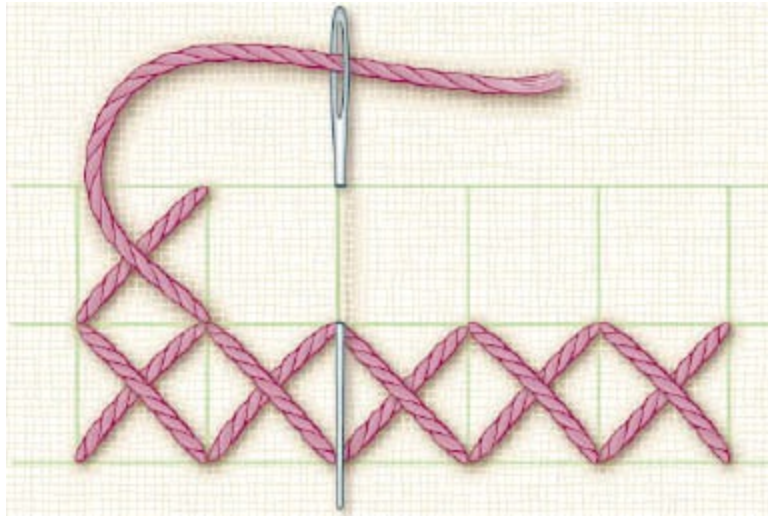
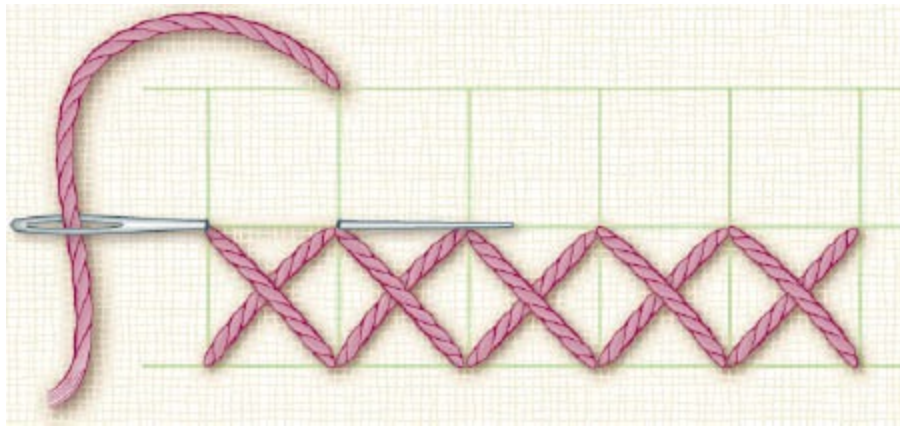






Using the needle at different angles





HALF CROSS STITCH

Stitch half of a cross stitch.



THREE-QUARTER CROSS STITCH



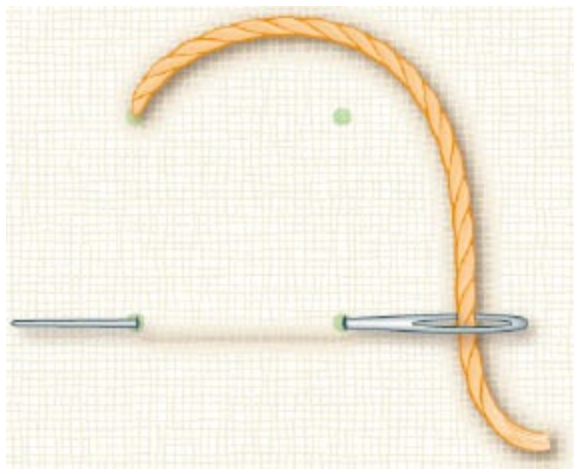
CROSS BAND STITCH

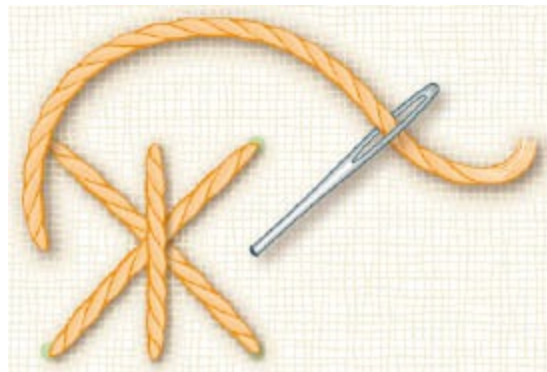
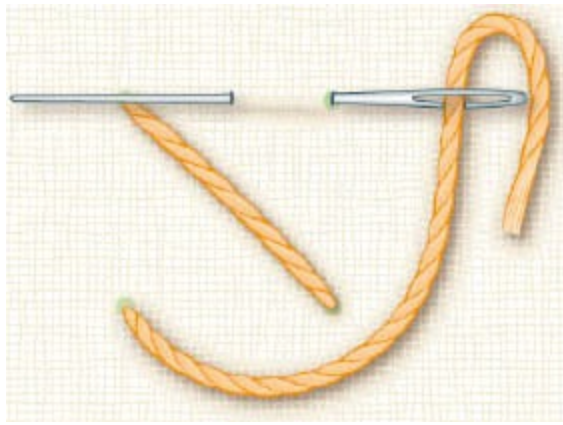
Work a small stitch in the center where the stitches cross.



DOUBLE CROSS STITCH

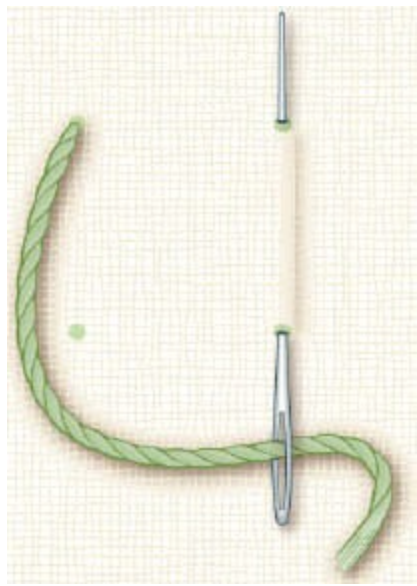
Layer a plus sign over a cross stitch.





KNOT CROSS STITCH

Create a knot in the middle when crossing the stitches.



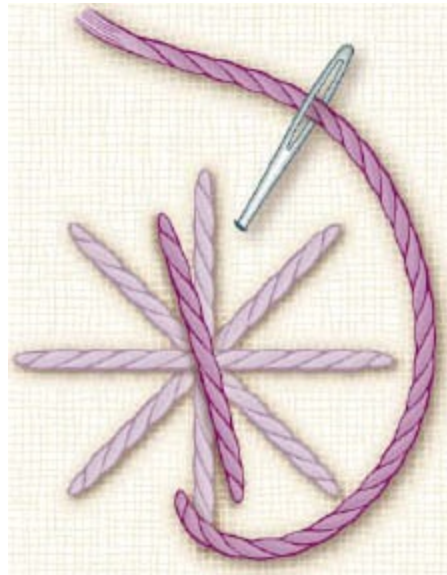
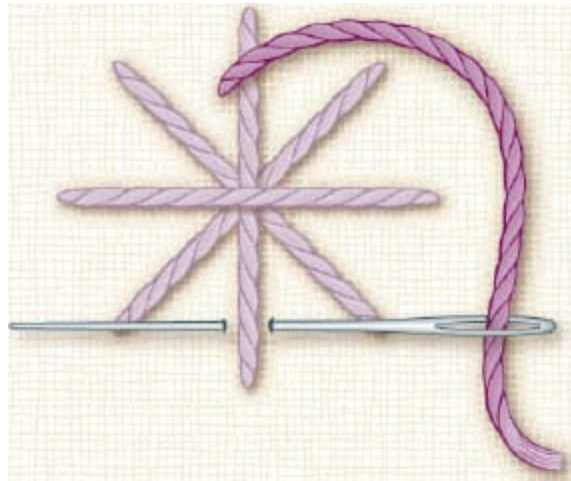
STAR CROSS STITCH

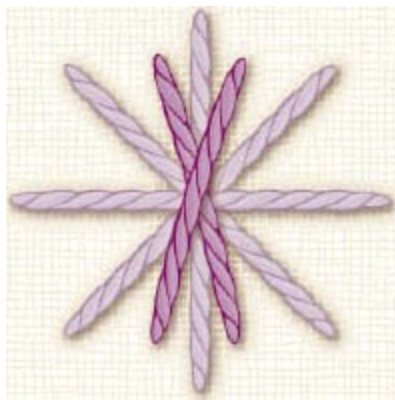
Similar to double cross stitch, but with a smaller plus sign stitch.



STAR FILLING STITCH

Layer a longer and thinner cross stitch on top of a double cross stitch.

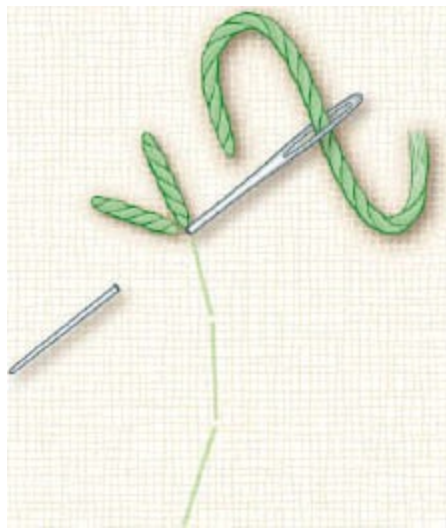




FERN STITCH

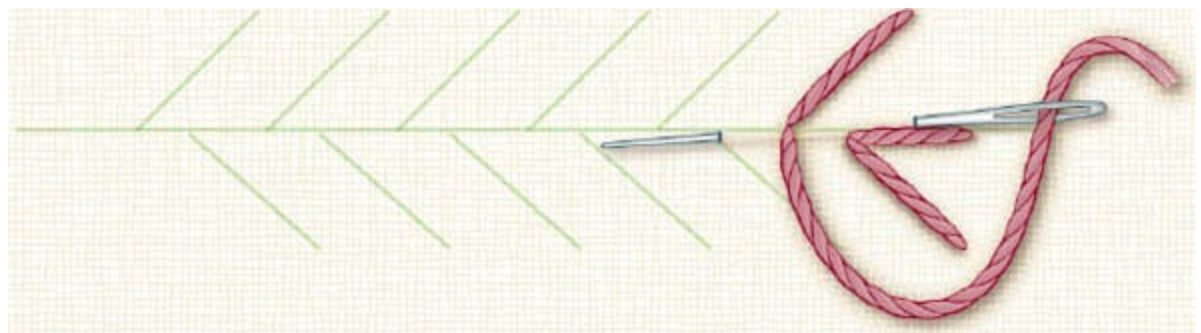
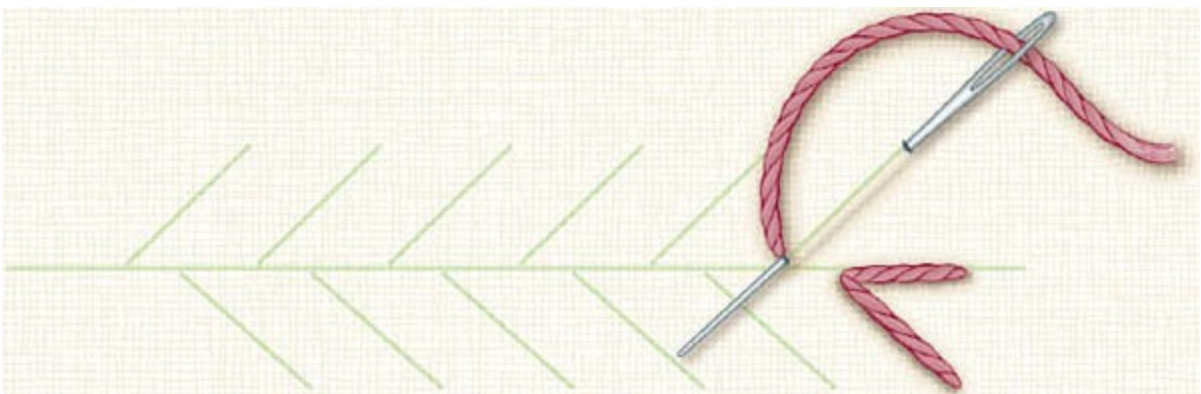
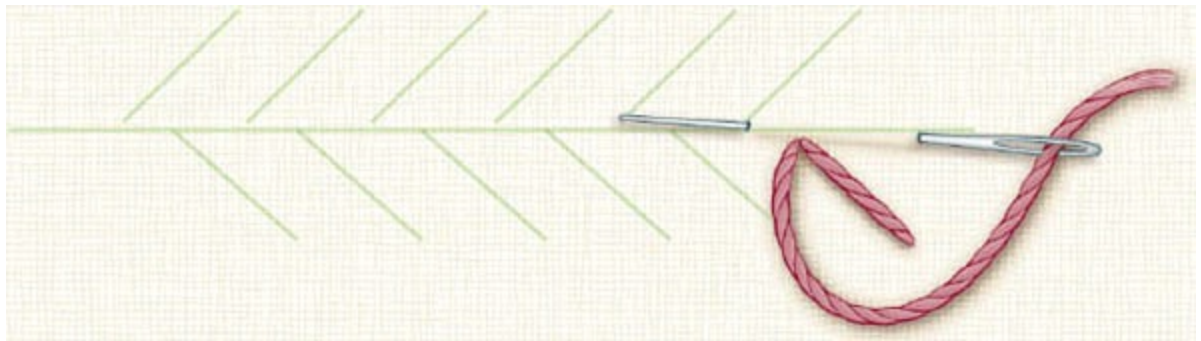
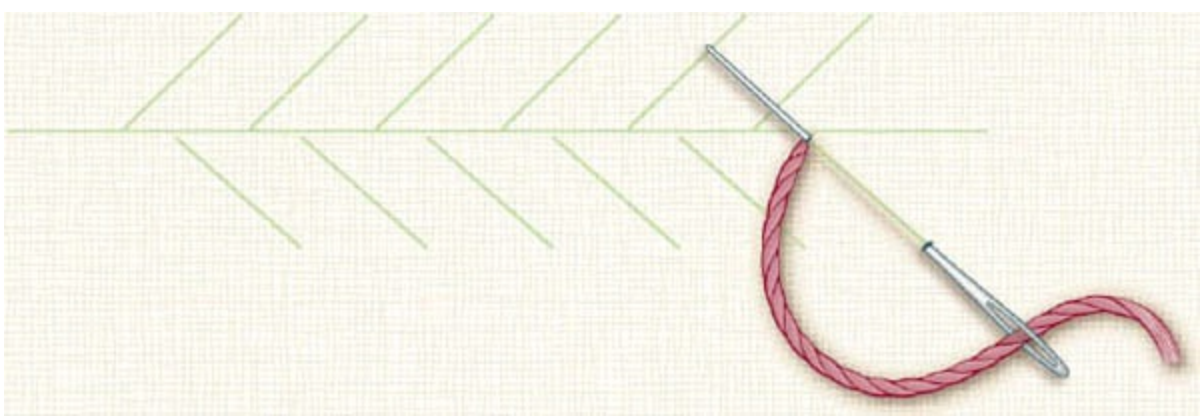
Using straight stitches, create an arrow shape.





FISHBONE STITCH

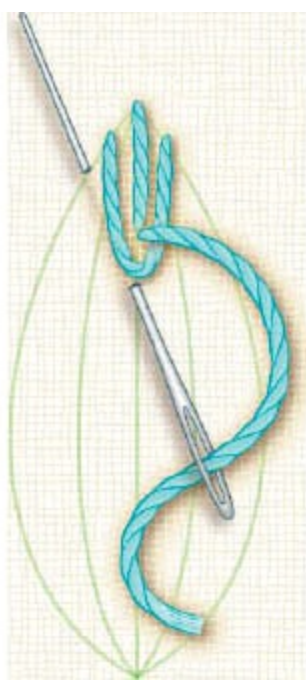
Using straight stitches similar to fern stitch, stagger the third stitch and place two staggered straight stitches in the middle.



LEAF STITCH A

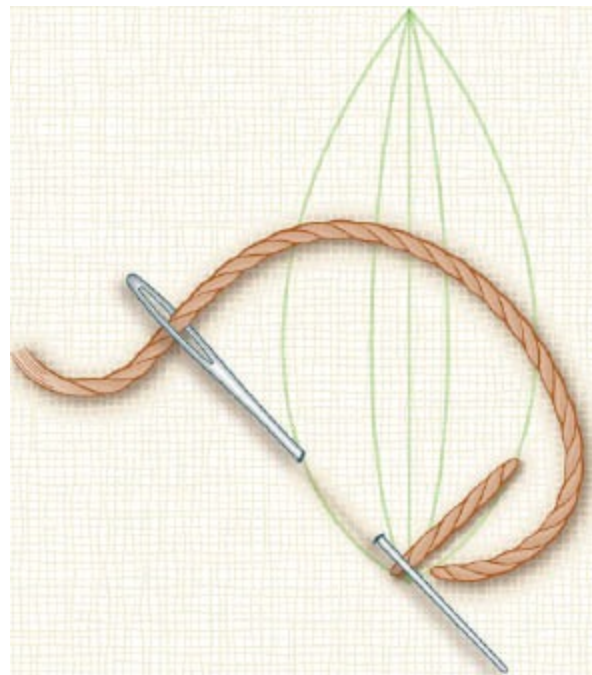
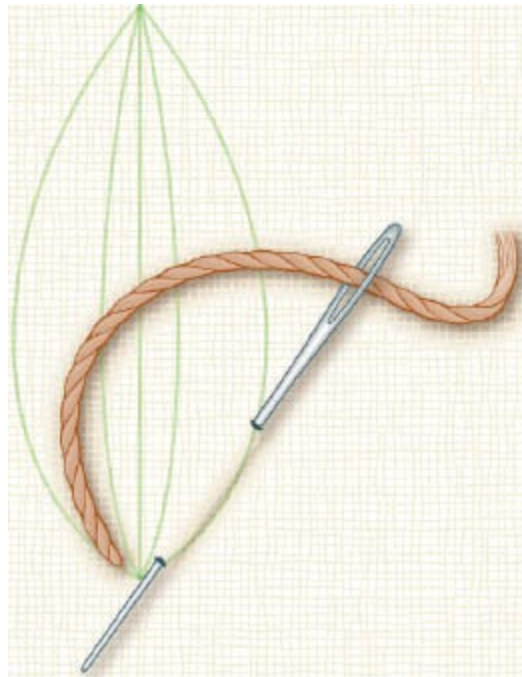
Working the stitches close together, work increasingly large fly stitches to create a leaf shape.

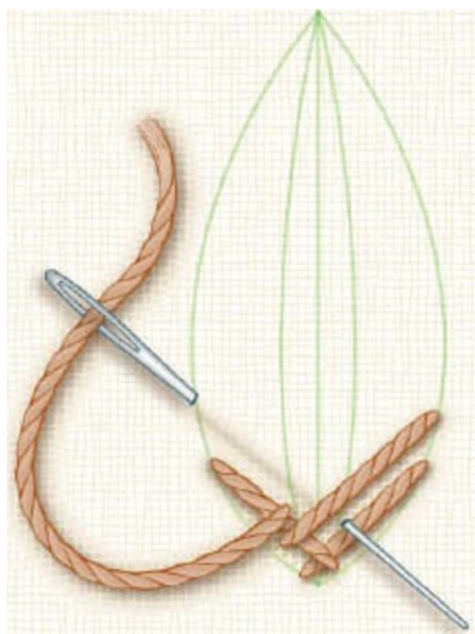
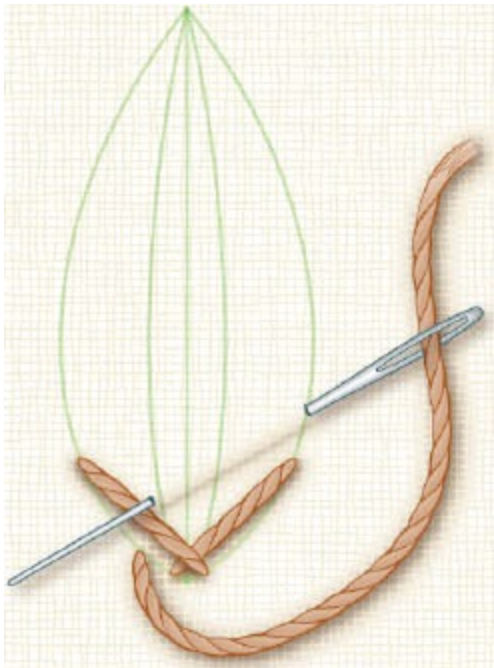




LEAF STITCH B

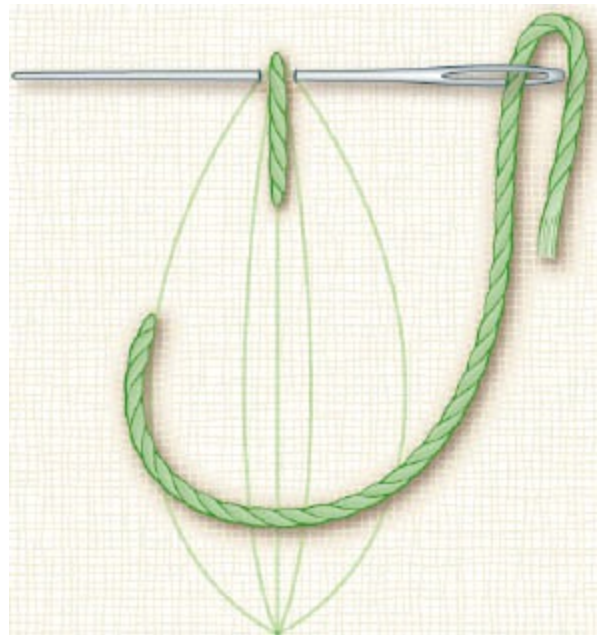
Work similar to leaf stitch A, but cross the stitches at the center.

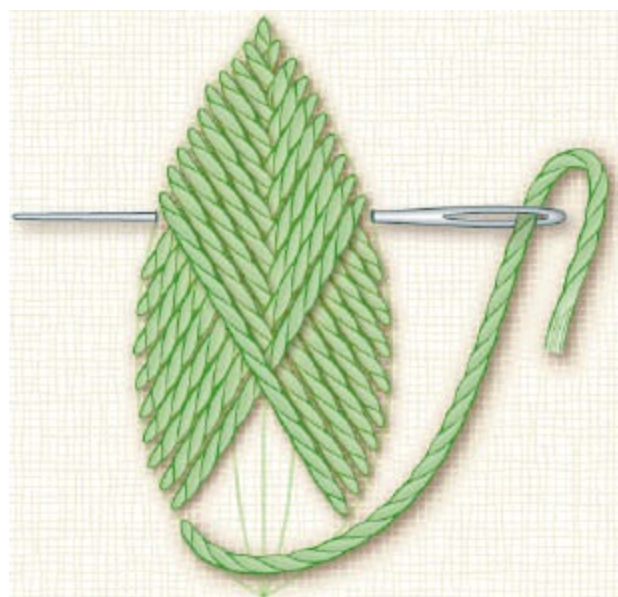
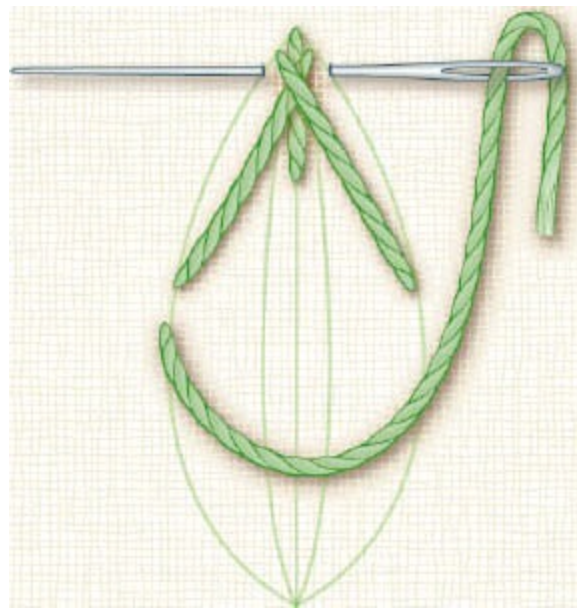
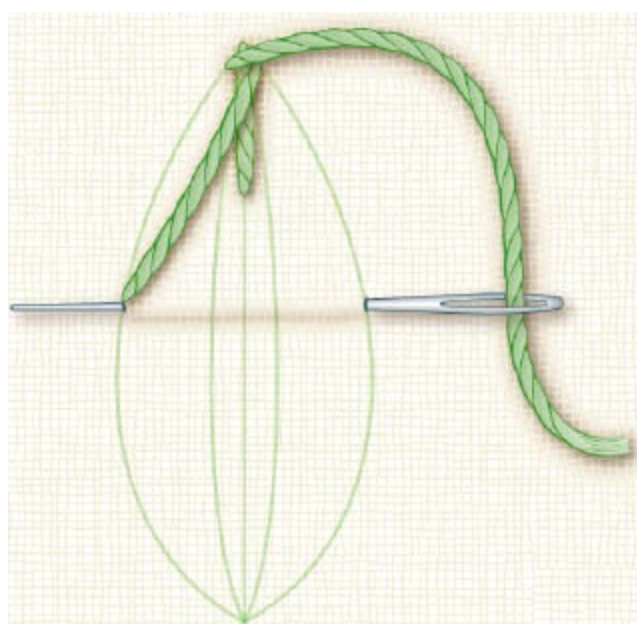




SELF-PADDED LEAF STITCH

Work one vertical stitch, then work stitches as shown, from bottom left to top right and top left to bottom right, alternating the stitches to create a layered leaf shape.

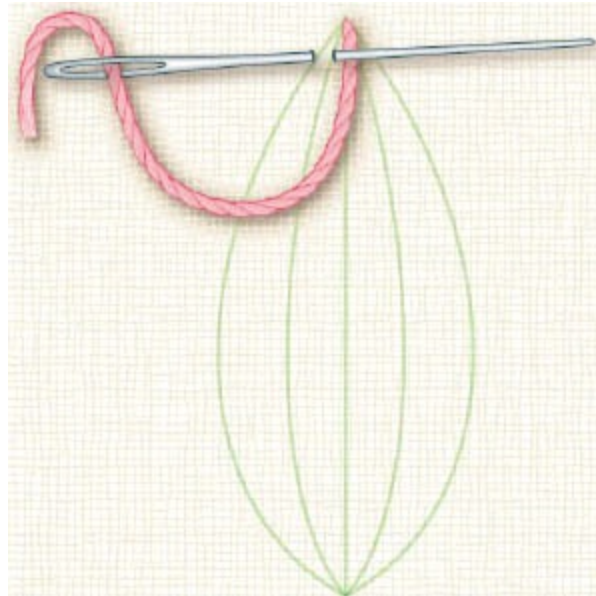


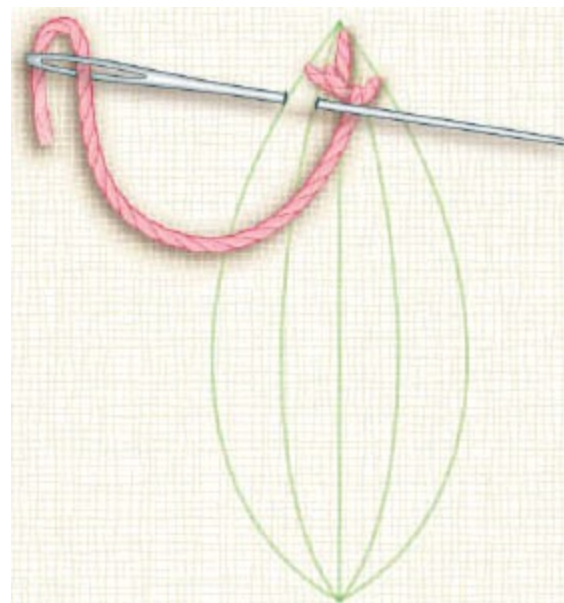
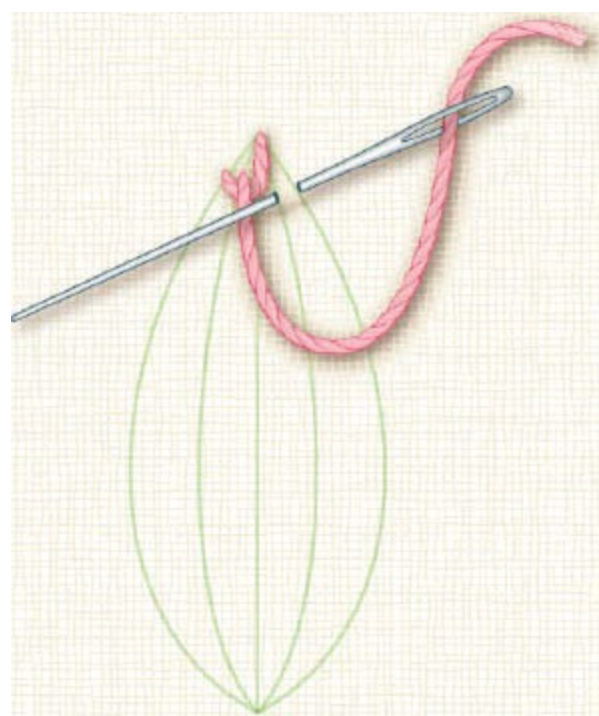




CRETAN STITCH

A modified version of feather stitch. Alternate stitches close together left to right to create a leaf shape.



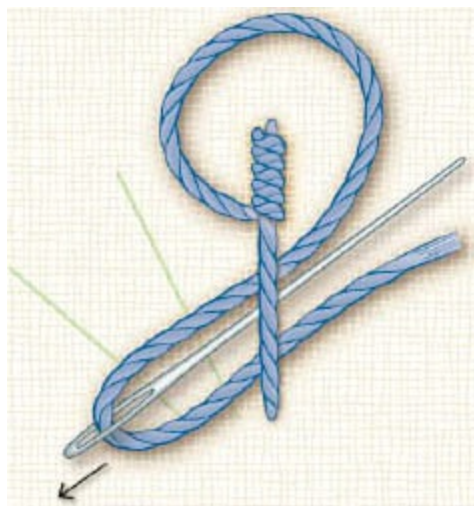
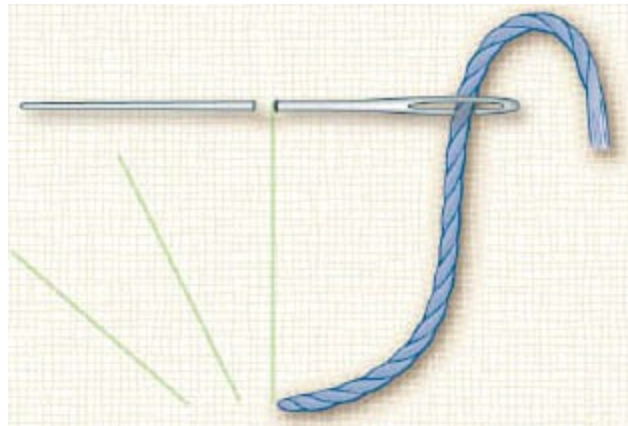


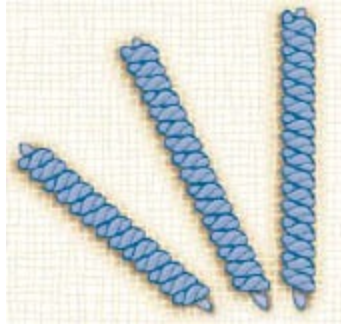
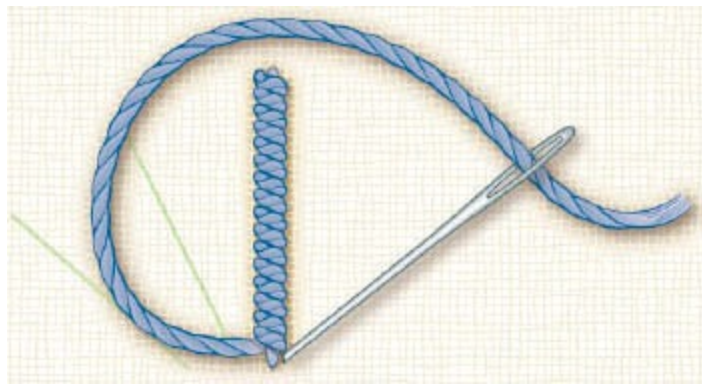


BULLION BAR STITCH

Work a straight stitch, then wrap the thread around the stitch. Use the same method for double stitches.

A



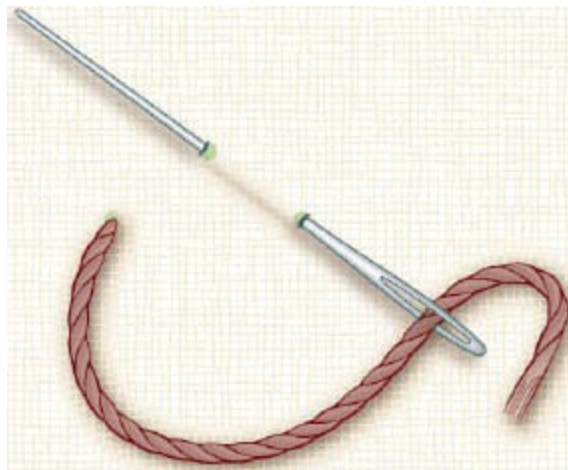


B



GERMAN KNOT STITCH

After working an angled stitch, thread the needle from top to bottom then left to right, wrapping it around, and finally securing the knot with your finger and pulling the needle through.

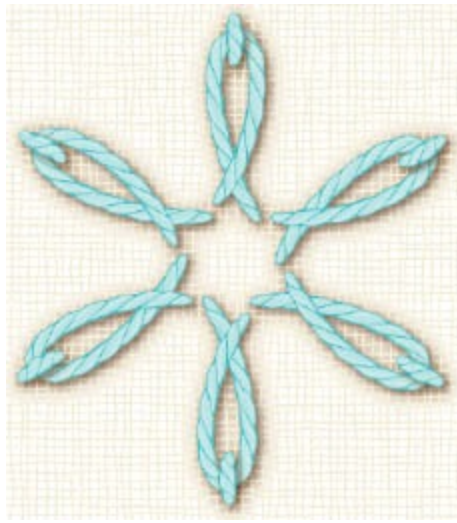




TWISTED LOOP STITCH

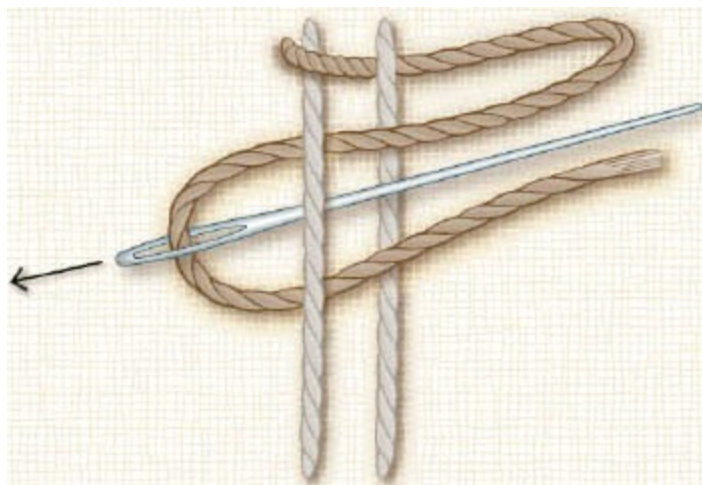
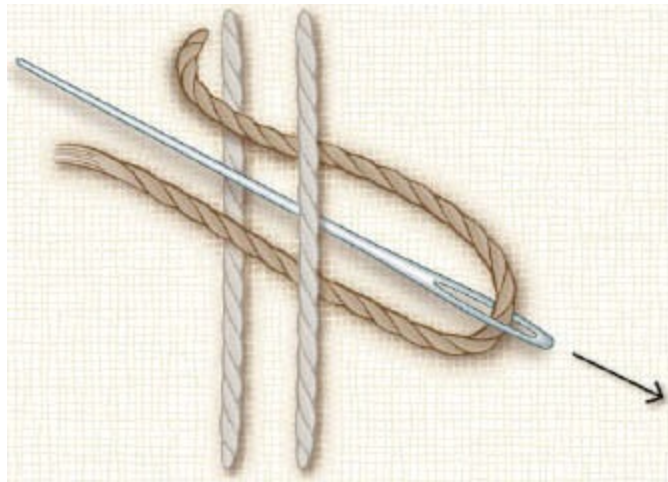
Pull the needle through, catch a small section of the fabric with the needle tip, and loop the twisted thread under the tip of the needle. Sew a small stitch at the top of the loop.





RAISED NEEDLE WEAVING STITCH

Work 2 straight stitches. Starting at the top, alternately weave around each stitch.

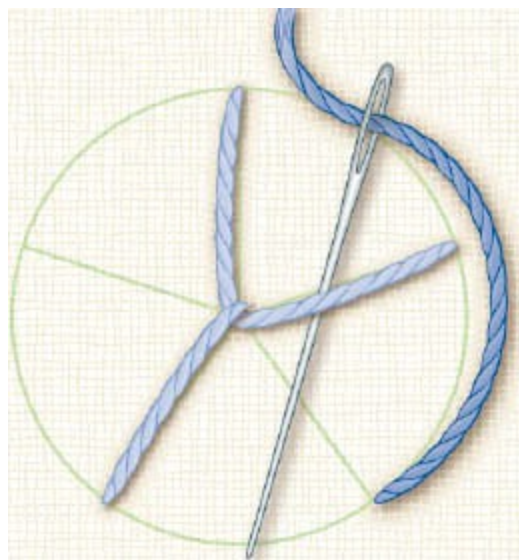
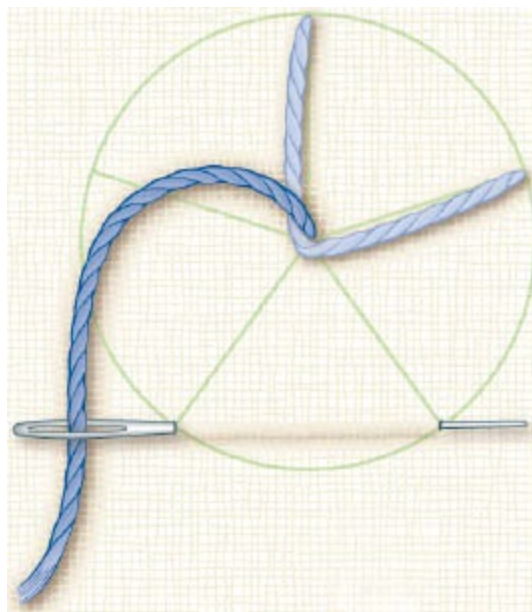
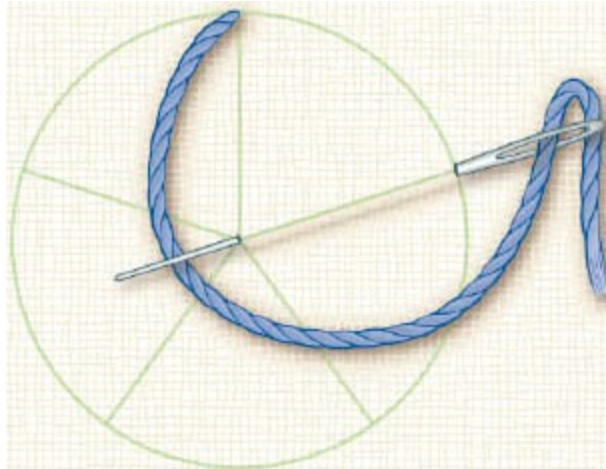


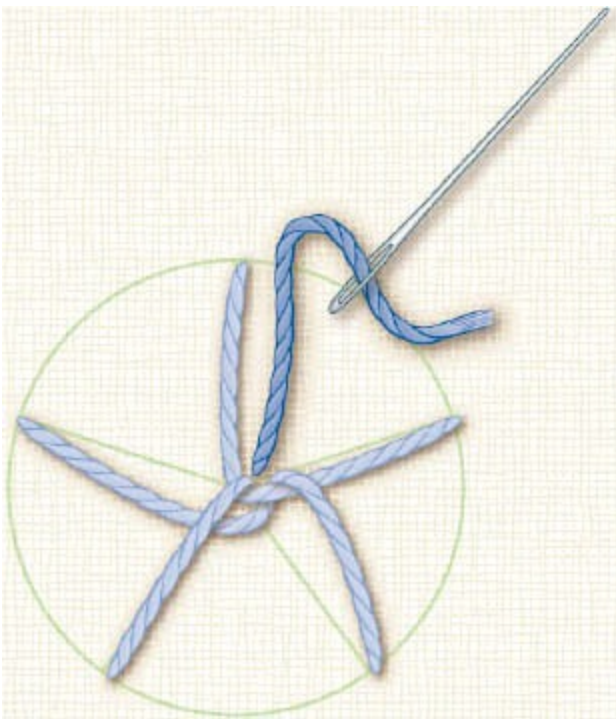
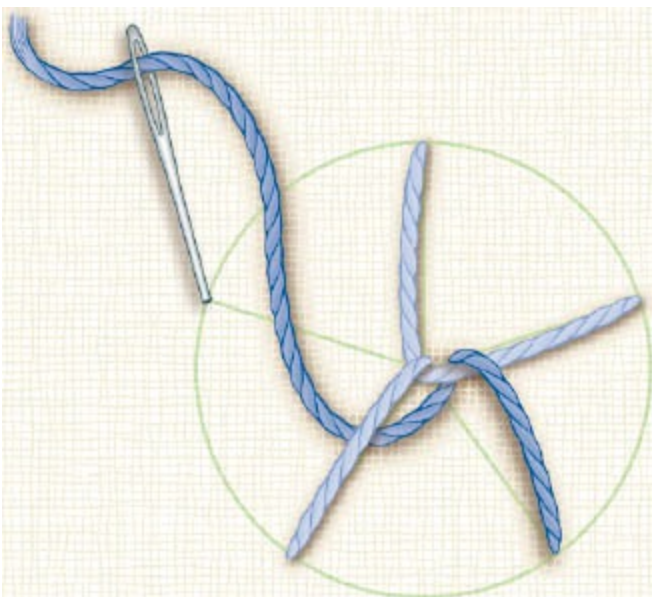
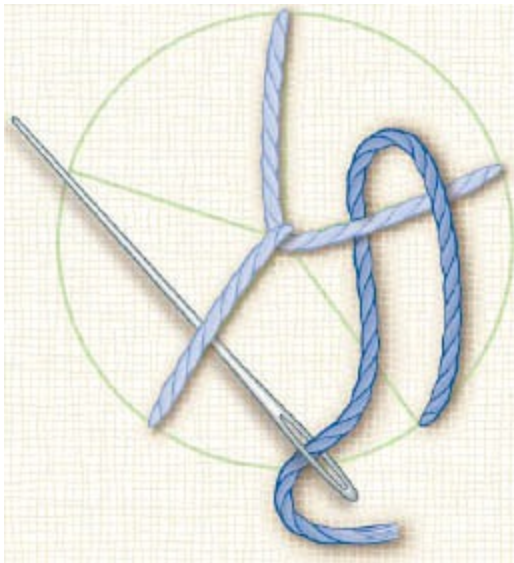


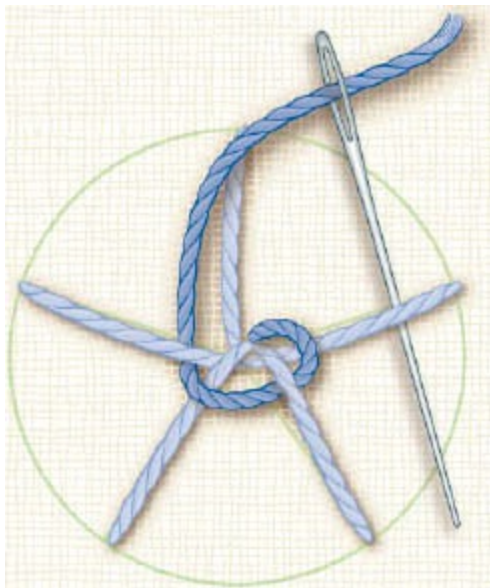
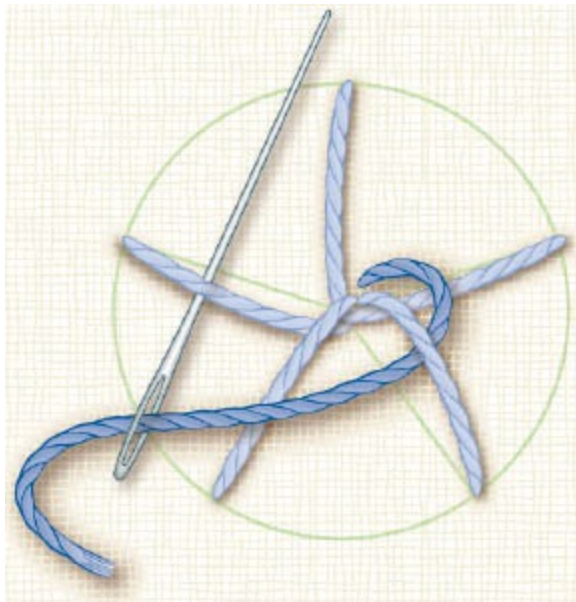
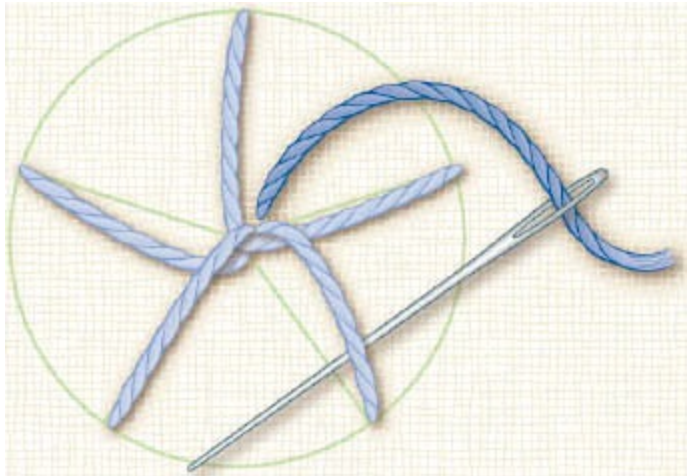
Weaving

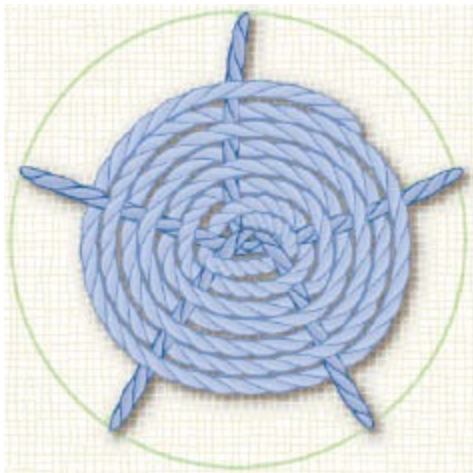
WEAVING WHEEL STITCH

Use fly stitch to create 5 stitches. From the center, weave over and under the stitches.









RAISED SPIDER'S WEB STITCH

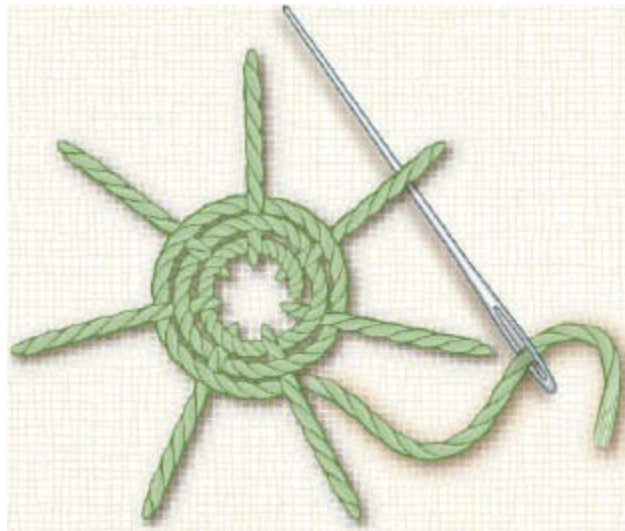
Work 3 straight stitches crossing over each other, then pull the needle through the center. Use outline stitch to weave counterclockwise around.





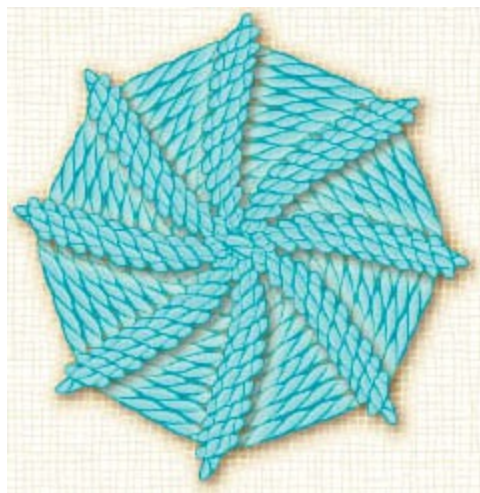
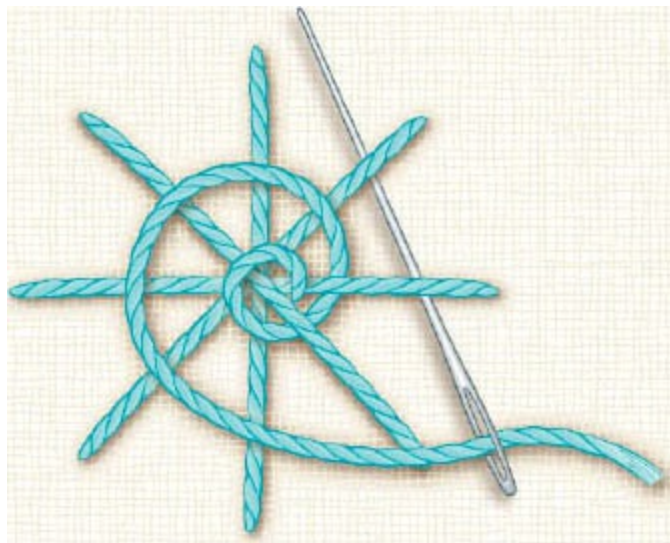
WOVEN SPIDER'S WEB STITCH

Work 7 straight stitches outward from the center, then weave over and under the stitches.



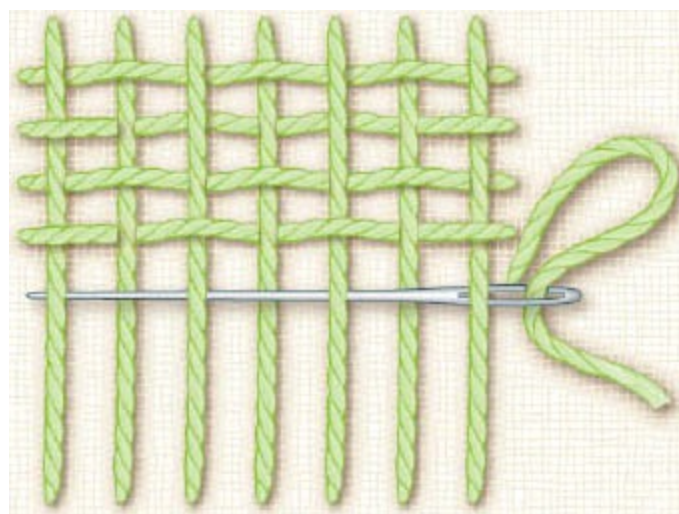
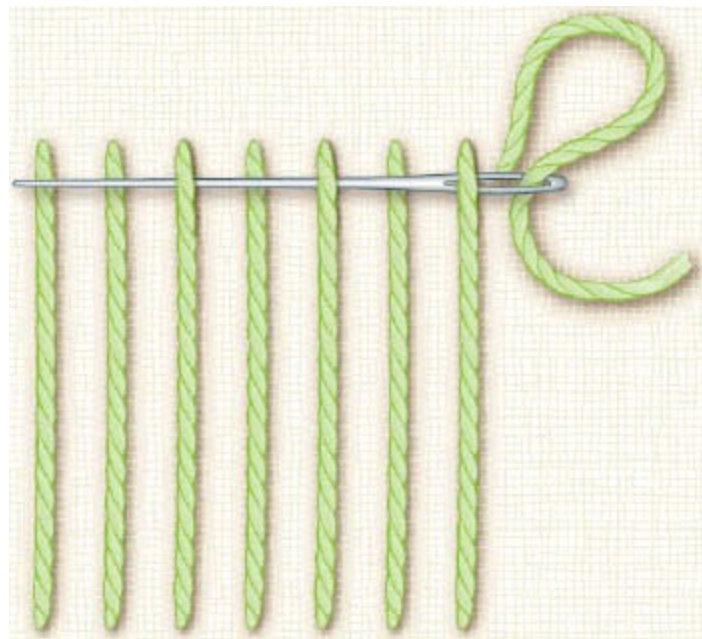
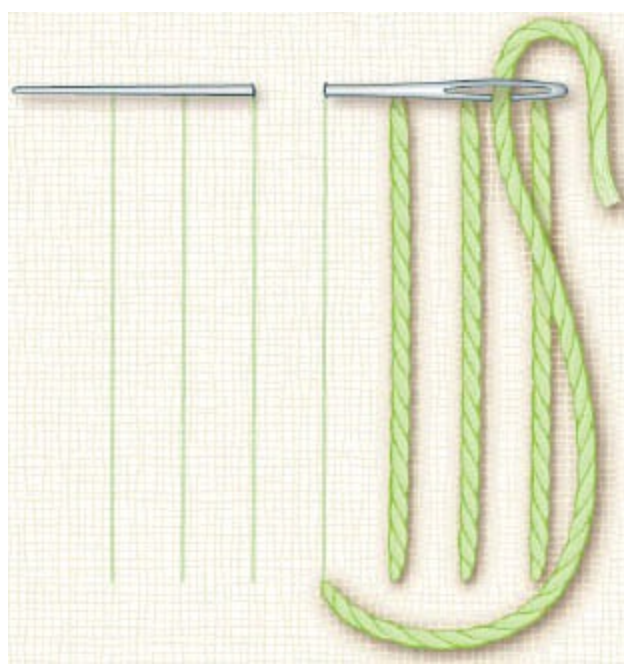
RIBBED SPIDER'S WEB STITCH

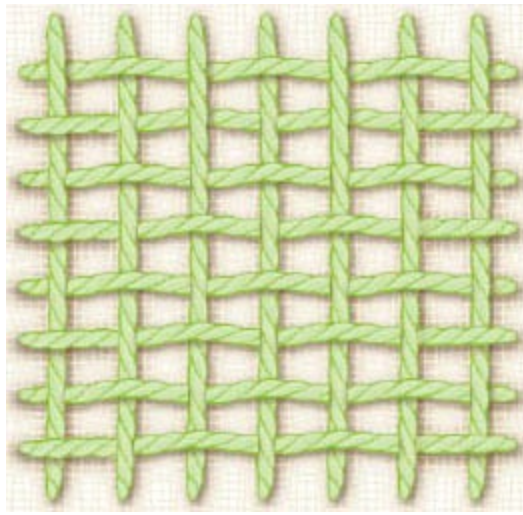
Work 4 straight stitches overlapping each other, then pull the needle from the center. Weave counterclockwise using backstitch.



BASKET STITCH

Make several vertical stitches, then horizontally alternate weaving over and under them.



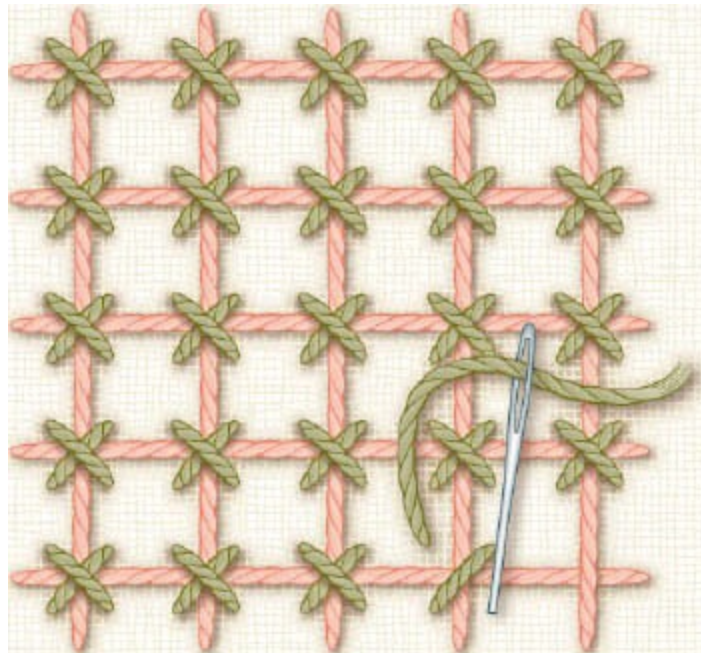


BASKET STITCH TECHNIQUES

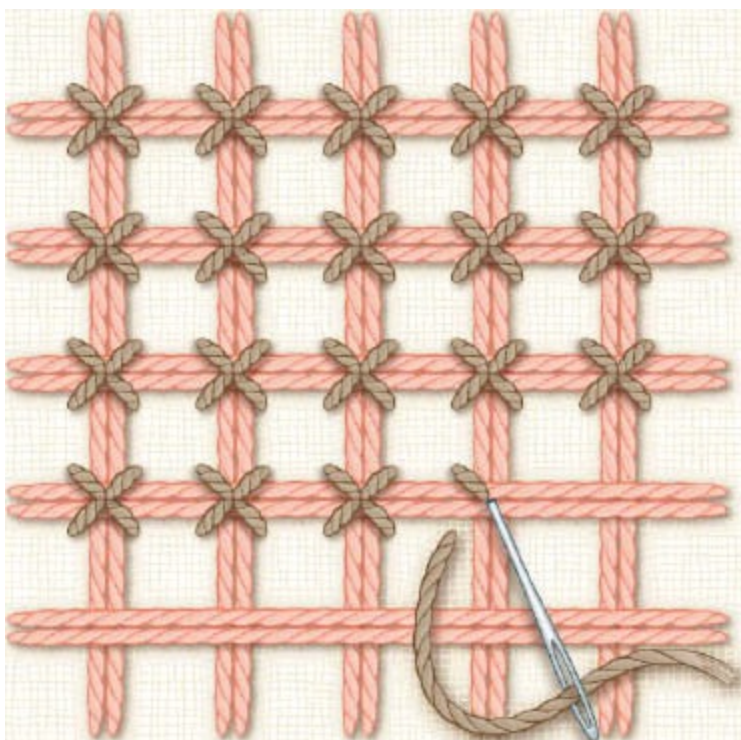
A



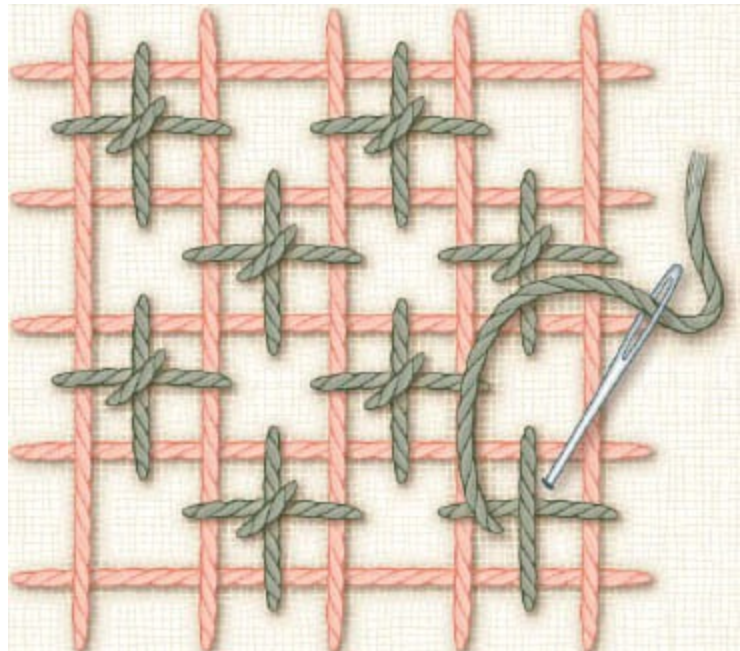
B



C



D





Tools & Tips



You can start an embroidery project even if you do not have all the specific tools or items listed, as long as you have the thread, fabric, and needles that you wish to use. Embroidery is a craft that requires only a few simple tools and materials. This section is a list of the necessary items, those that are nice to have, as well as a few tricks of the trade to make your stitching neater and your experience more enjoyable.



TOOLS AND MATERIALS

THREAD

Embroidery thread is available in skeins or hanks in a wide variety of thicknesses, fibers, and colors. Some are loosely gathered multistrands that can be separated; others are tightly plied (twisted) and are used without separating.



No. 25 Embroidery Thread

Six strands are loosely gathered together and may be separated or combined to create a variety of thread weights.



Pearl Cotton

Available in a variety of weights and a wide range of colors; strands are twisted and not used separately. Thread has a slight sheen.



Coton à Broder

Made in France, coton à broder is similar to pearl cotton, with less luster. Strands are twisted and not used separately.



Soft Embroidery Cotton

Made in England, a soft, matte cotton thread. Strands are twisted and not used separately.



Wool

Wool threads are available stranded or plied and are usually used on heavier fabrics or texture. They

can be used for other needlecrafts as well.

NEEDLES



Embroidery (Crewel) Needles

These needles are sharply pointed and medium in length; the eyes are longer than on a sewing needle, making them easier to thread. Sizes run from 1 (thickest) to 10 (thinnest) and are best used on fine-to medium-weight plain-weave fabric and with fine-to medium-weight threads.



Cross Stitch (Chenille) Needles

These needles are similar to crewel needles but a bit longer and thicker, with larger eyes, making them a good choice for heavier-weight threads. The tips of these needles are slightly rounded. Sizes run from 14 (thickest) to 26 (thinnest).



Finishing Needles

These needles have blunt tips and are commonly used to assemble knitted or crocheted pieces and to weave in ends after a garment is finished. For embroidery they work well with thicker threads like tapestry wool for canvas work and embroidery on even-weave fabric.



Straight Pins

Pins are used to hold 2 pieces of fabric together or to temporarily attach diagrams to your fabric while tracing a pattern.

THICKNESSES OF THREADS

(enlarged)



#25 Embroidery Thread (6 strands)



#25 Embroidery Thread (3 strands)



Pearl Cotton



Coton á Broder (#16)

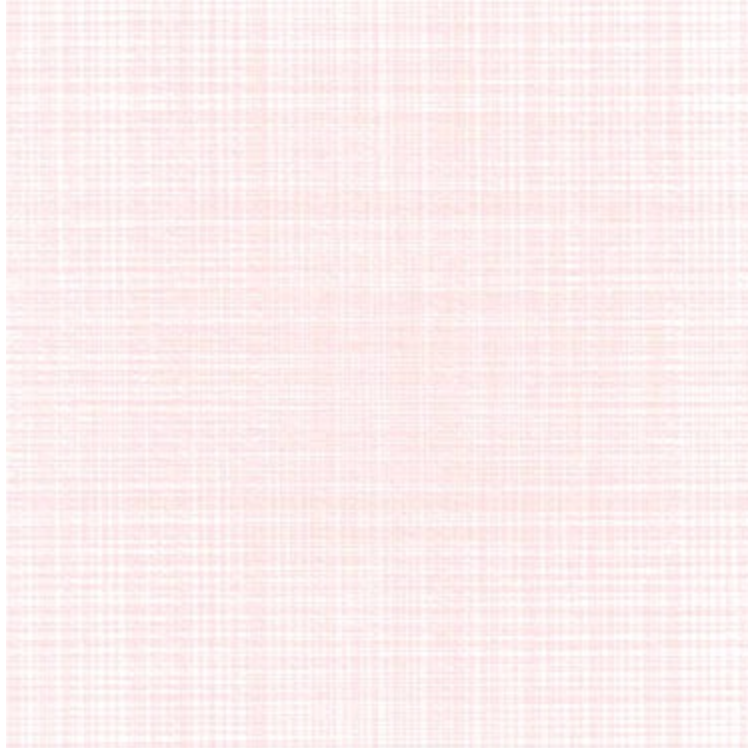


Soft Embroidery Cotton



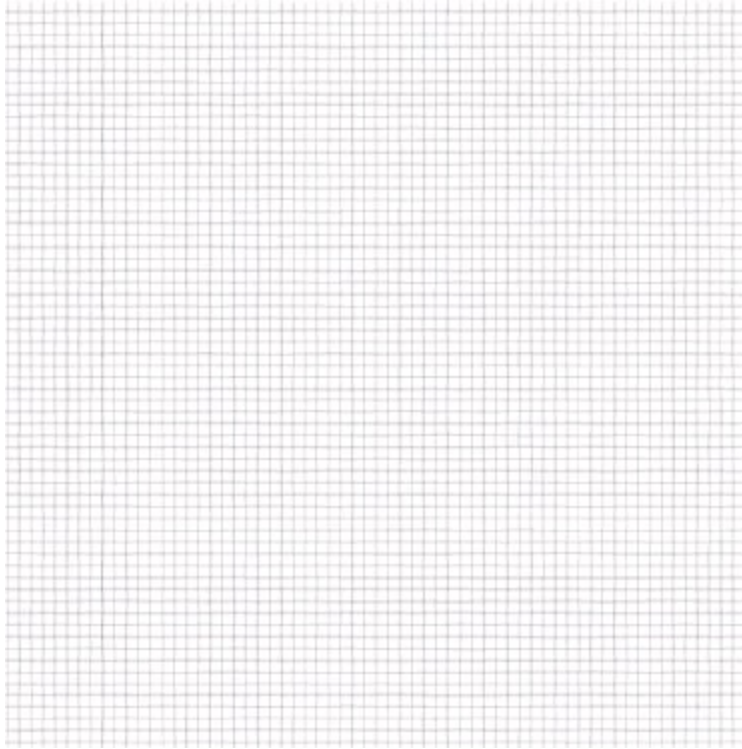
Wool

FABRIC



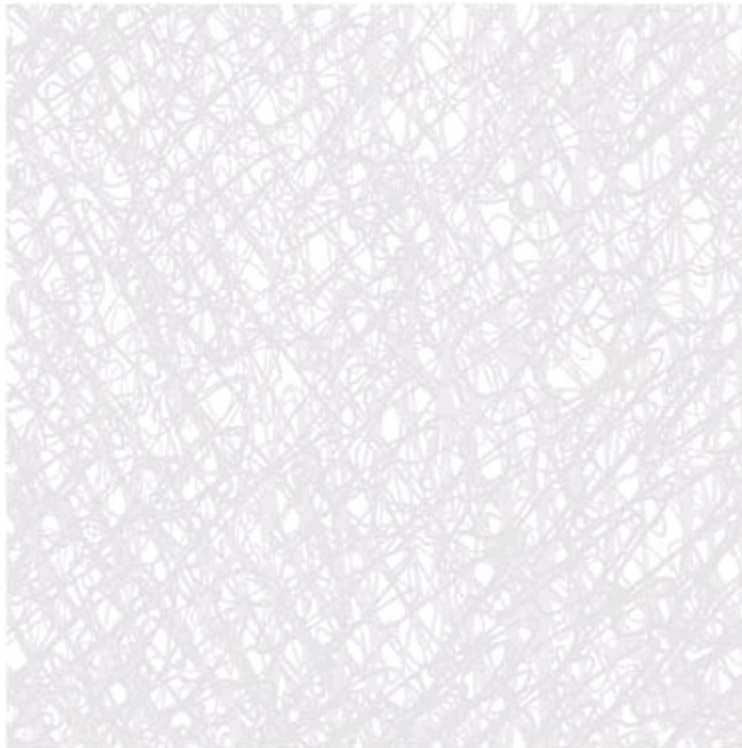
Plain-Weave (Common Weave) Fabric

This fabric does not have a regular weave and is available in many different weights, ranging from lightweight voile or organdy to heavyweight denim and velvet. It is available in cotton, wool, linen, and various blends.



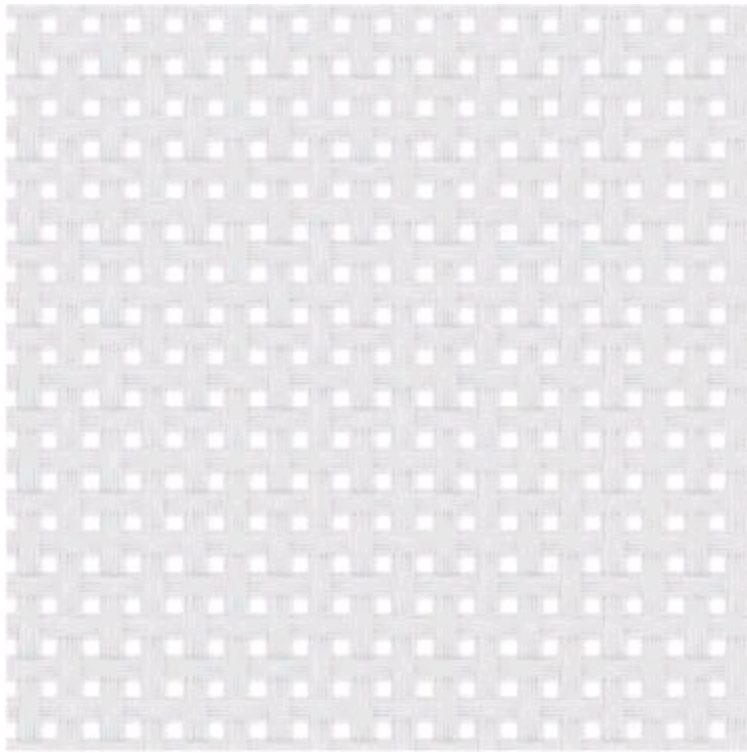
Even-Weave (Linen Weave)

This fabric is available in the same fibers as plain-weave fabric but is sold with a gauge/count (an identical warp and weft count) per in/cm. Some even-weave fabrics are woven in a manner that provides regular shaped blocks, over which stitches are worked.



Felt

Any fabric that is tightly woven, then processed so that it will not fray when cut. It is usually made of wool, rayon, or polyester.



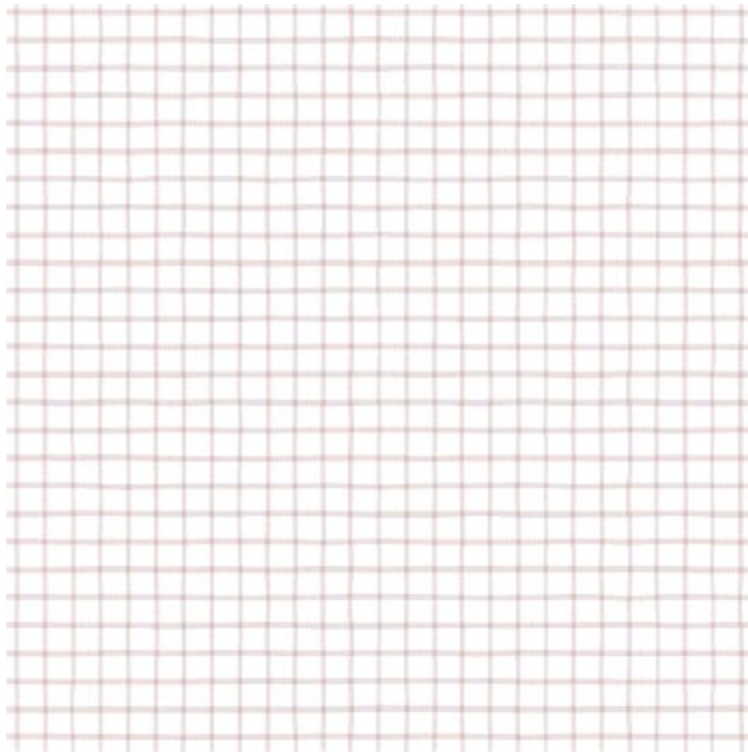
Aida Cloth

This soft fabric, most commonly made of cotton, has distinct horizontal and vertical lines, making it easy to work a design on; it is an even-weave fabric.



Knit Fabric

This fabric is produced either by hand or machine. Use thicker threads or yarn to embroider on knit fabric.



Mesh Canvas

Single-weave (mono) canvas and double-weave (Penelope) canvas are usually made of stiffened cotton, although they may also contain other fibers. They are even-weave fabrics, available in a wide range of gauges, and are commonly used as the base for all-over embroidery designs. It is important to match the thread size to the mesh gauge, to provide good coverage. Rug canvas is an example of a heavyweight mesh canvas.

OTHER TOOLS

Transfer Paper

Chalk paper or dressmaker's carbon (used by quilters) are used for transferring designs directly onto your fabric. Choose a color similar to the thread colors you will use for the stitching. Be sure that the color contrasts with the fabric color. Washable types are available.

Fabric Scissors

These scissors are larger and heavier than embroidery scissors and are used for cutting fabric.

Tracing Paper

This is thin, transparent paper used to copy a design prior to transferring it to fabric.

Embroidery Hoop

This double hoop holds your fabric stretched out enough to make it easy to work your embroidery stitches. The fabric is placed between the two circular hoops, which have a screw on the outer hoop for adjusting the tension. Hoops are available in various sizes.

Embroidery Scissors

These scissors are small and lightweight, with sharp points. They are used for cutting thread (floss).

Threader

A tool with a diamond-shaped wire at one end, used to thread needles. Insert the shaped wire into the eye of the needle, place thread through the diamond-shaped wire, then pull the wire and the thread through the needle eye.

Stylus, Dull Pencil, or Old Ball-Point Pen

Use any of these items to trace designs from tracing paper placed over transfer paper onto your fabric. If using a ballpoint pen, be sure that it has run out of ink.

Removable Marker

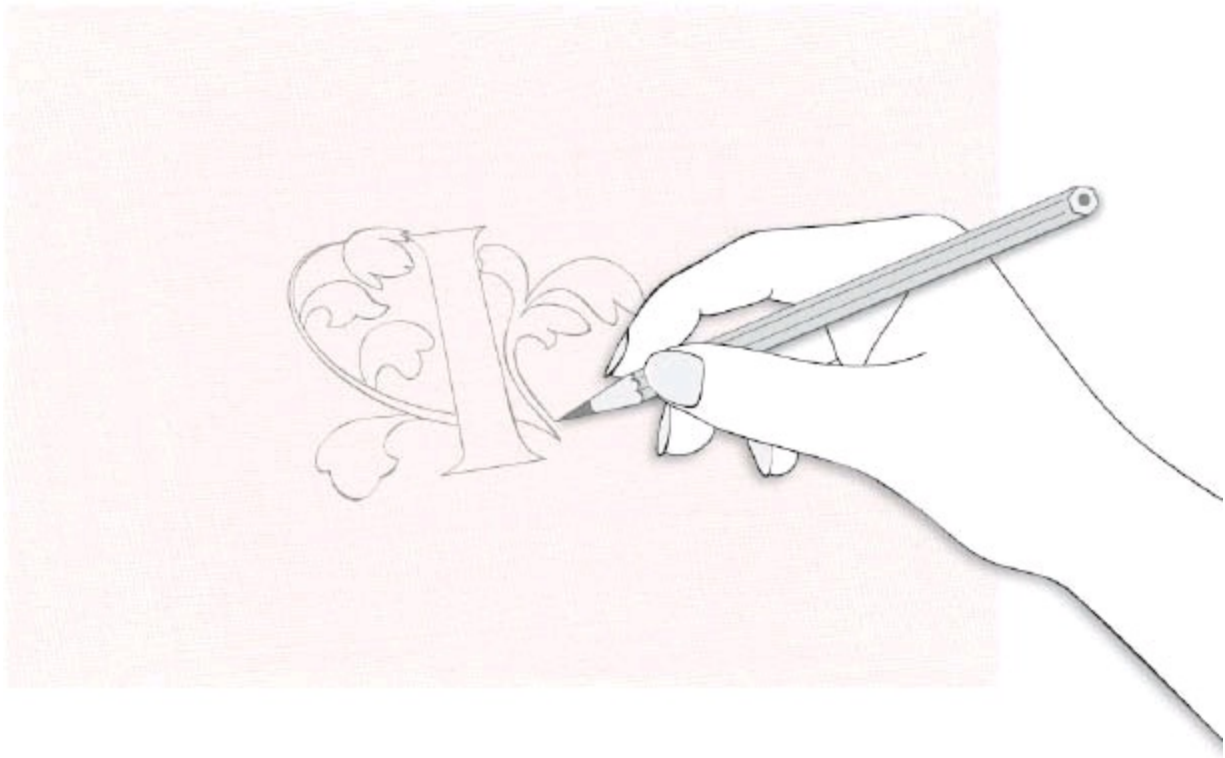
A washable marker, such as those used by quilters, or a pencil-shaped piece of chalk, can be used for drawing simple lines or designs directly onto fabric.



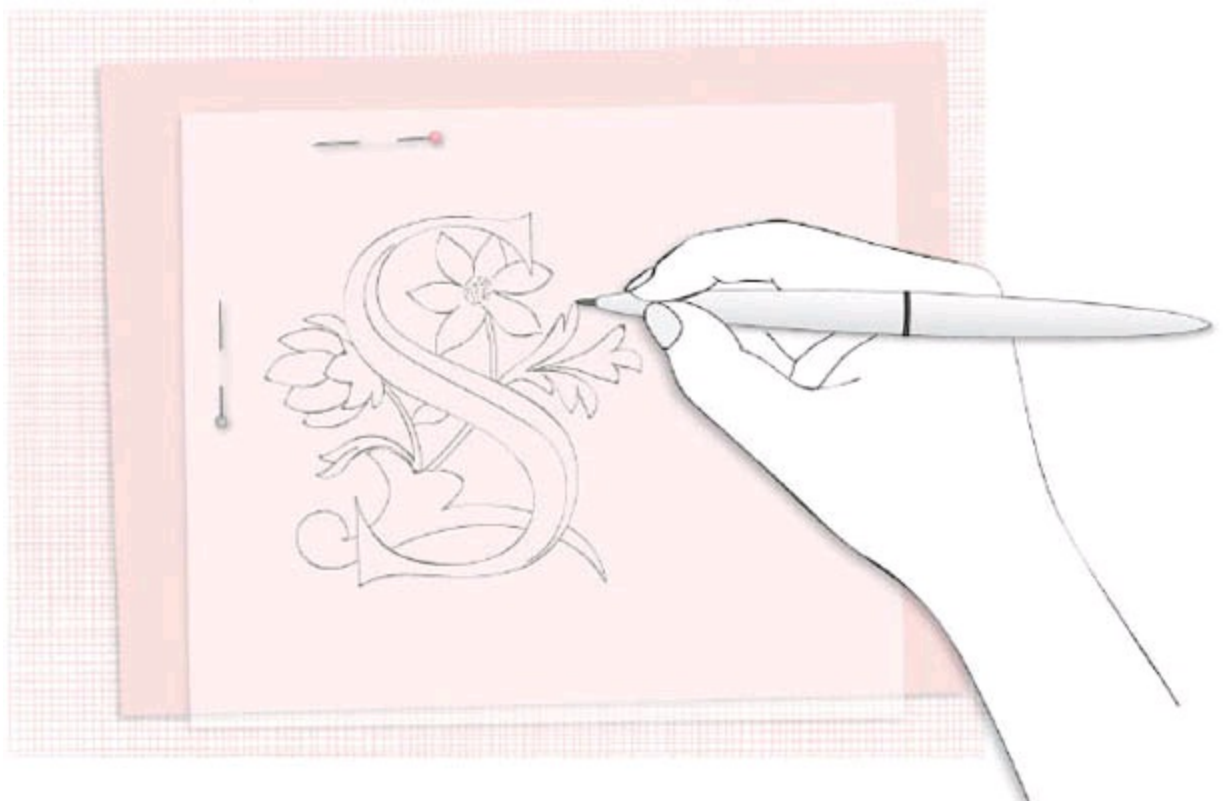
PREPARATION

TRANSFERRING DESIGNS

USING TRANSFER PAPER

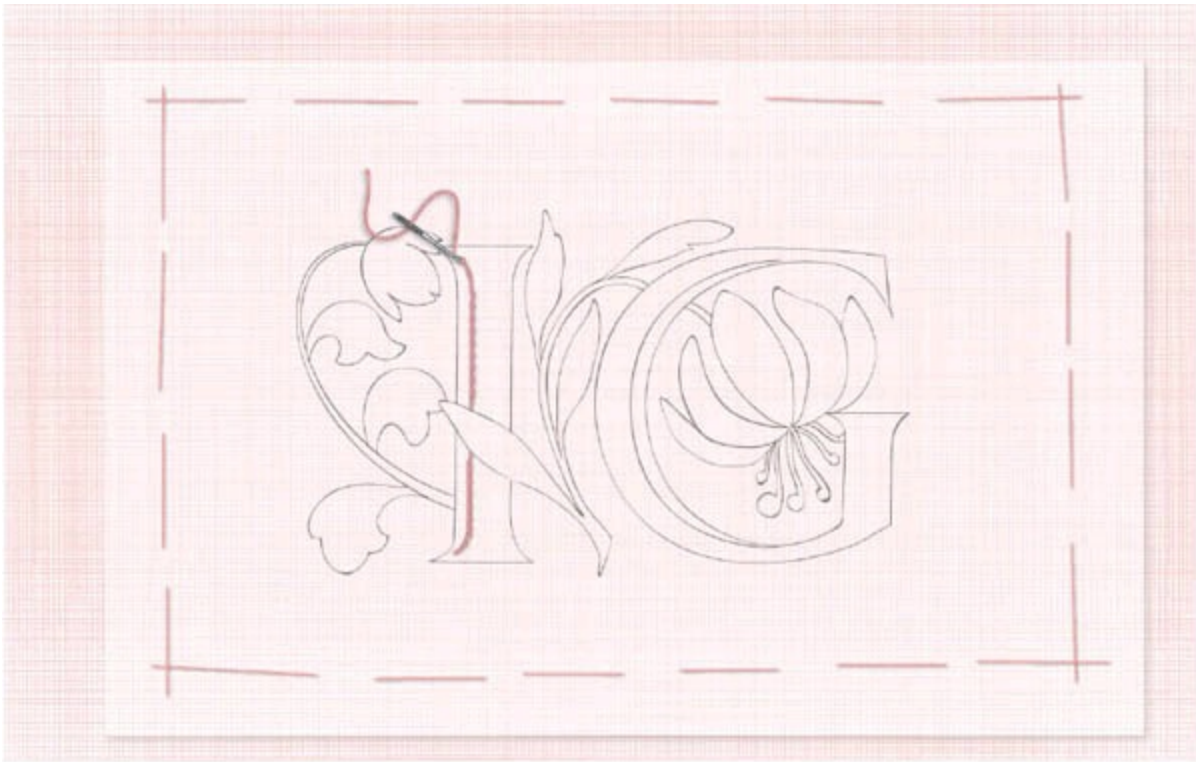


Draw the design directly onto the tracing paper with a pencil.



Layer the tracing paper and transfer paper onto the fabric. Use a stylus or ballpoint pen to trace the design.

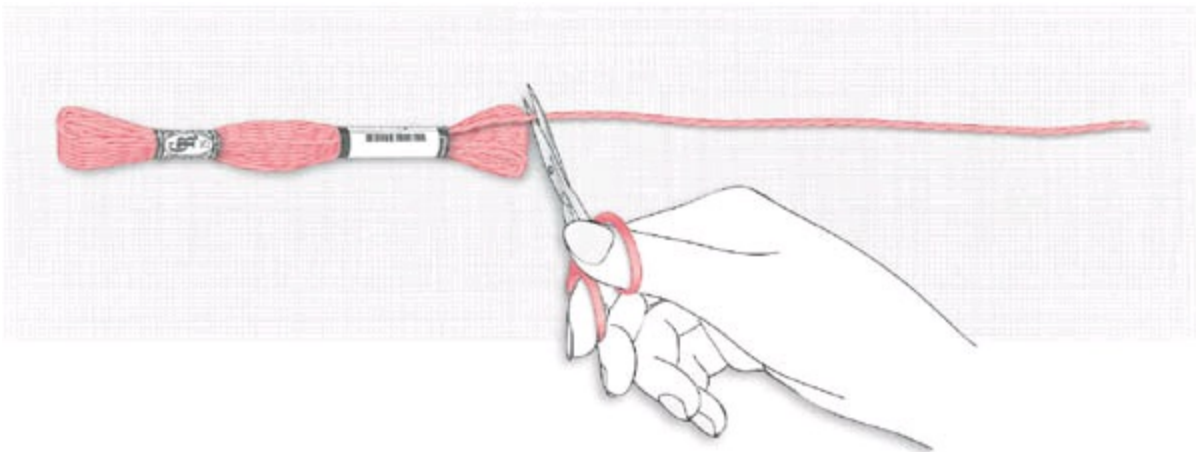
USING THIN PAPER



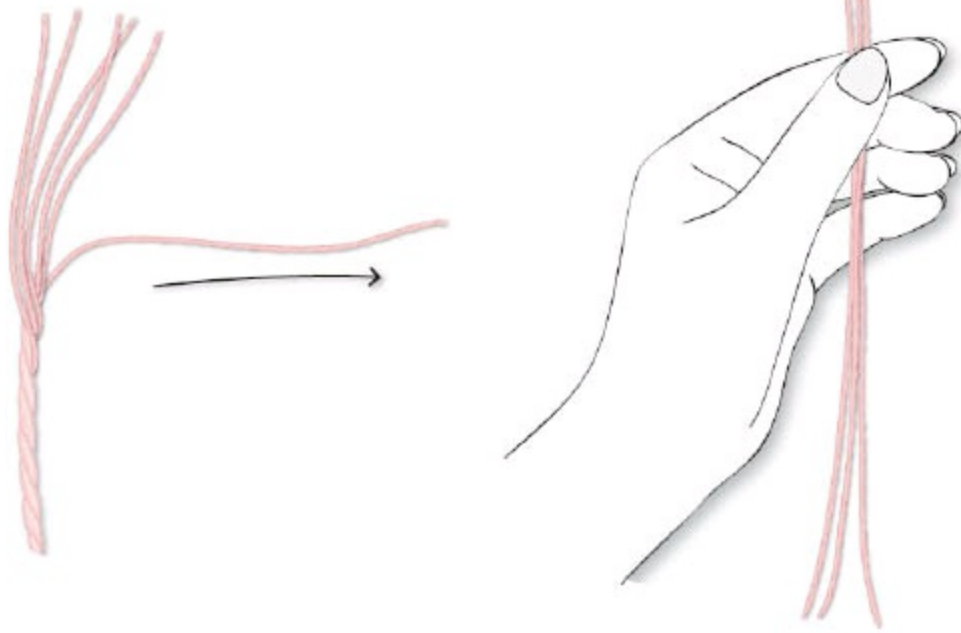
Affix thin paper to fabric by lightly stitching it in place. Embroider the design onto fabric with the paper attached. When all embroidery has been completed, gently tear the paper off.

HANDLING THREAD

WHEN THE END IS ACCESSIBLE

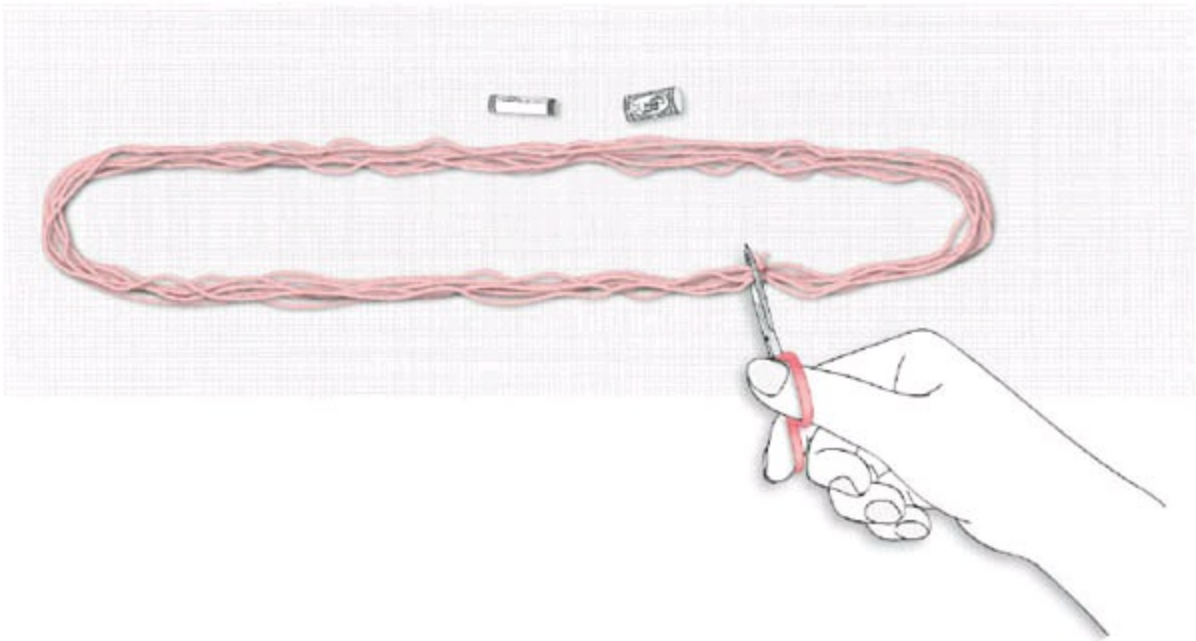


Pull out approximately 18 to 20 in/46 to 50 cm of thread at a time.

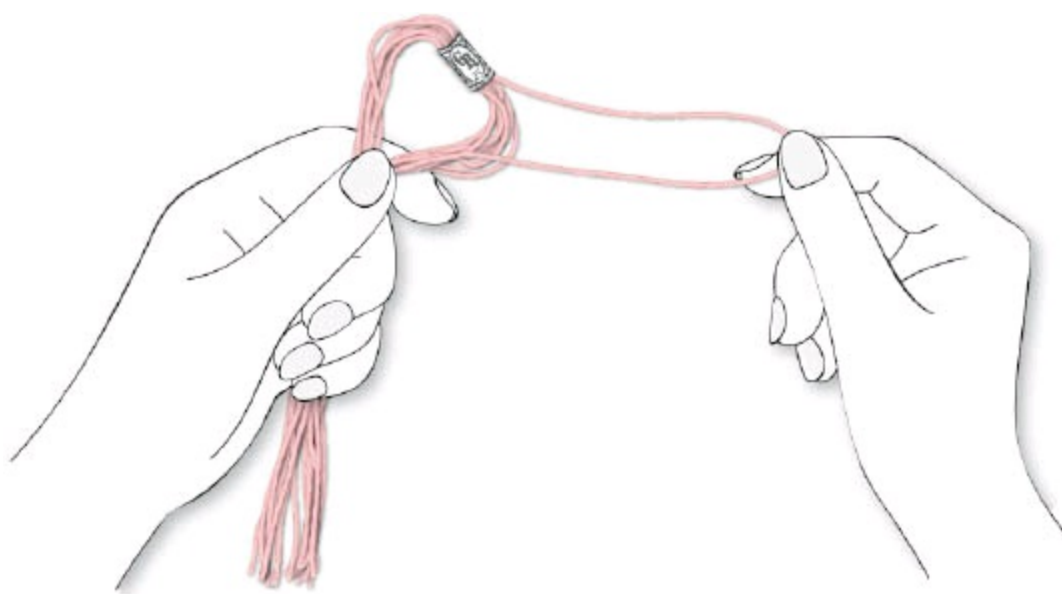


After cutting the desired amount, separate strands as desired.

WHEN THE END IS NOT ACCESSIBLE



Remove the thread completely from packaging to find the end and cut.

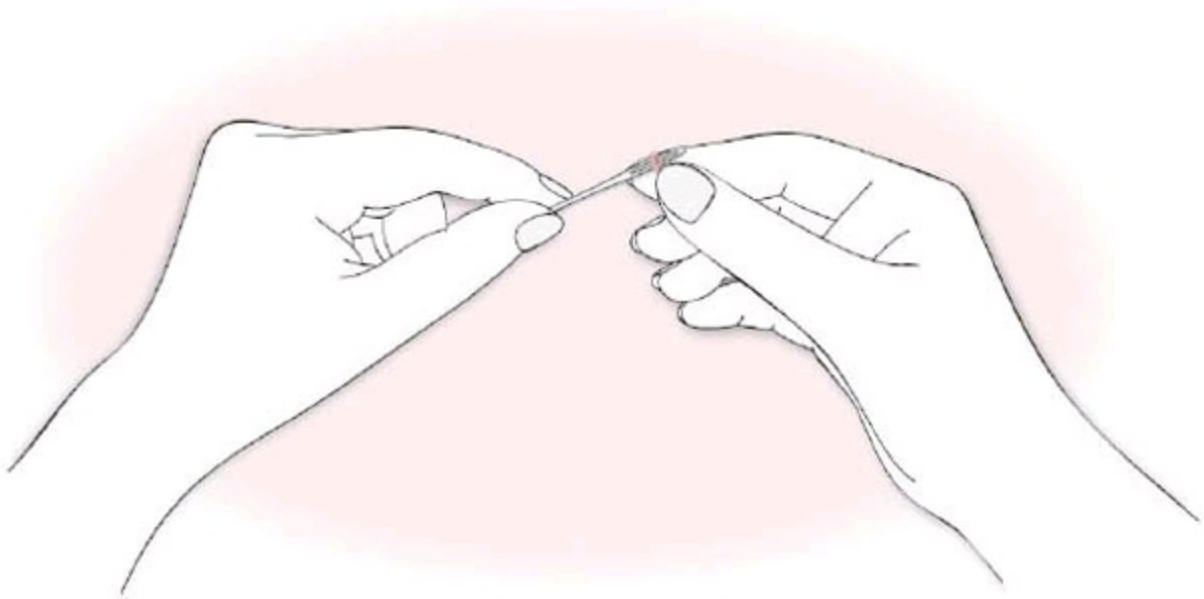
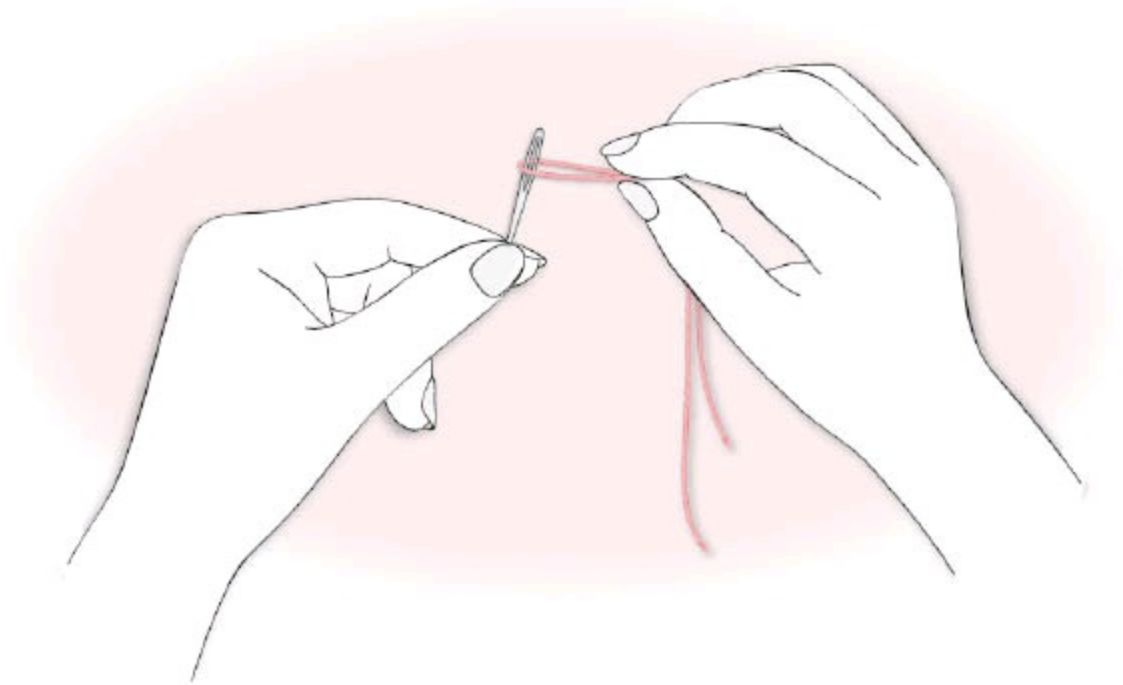


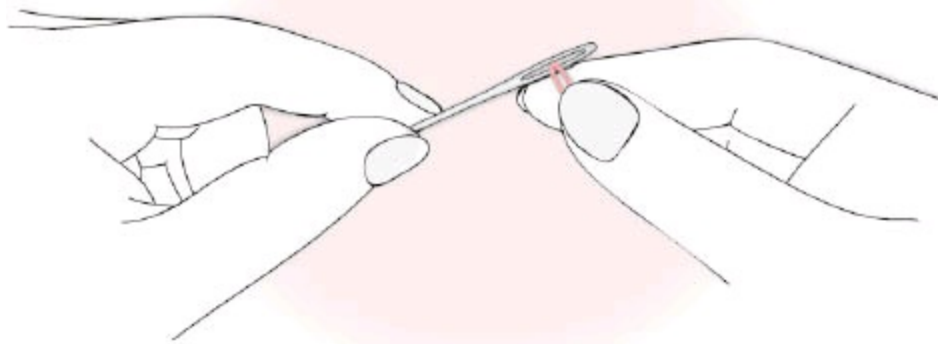
Run back through the thread label, then remove 1 at a time.

BEGINNING AND FINISHING TOUCHES

THREADING A NEEDLE

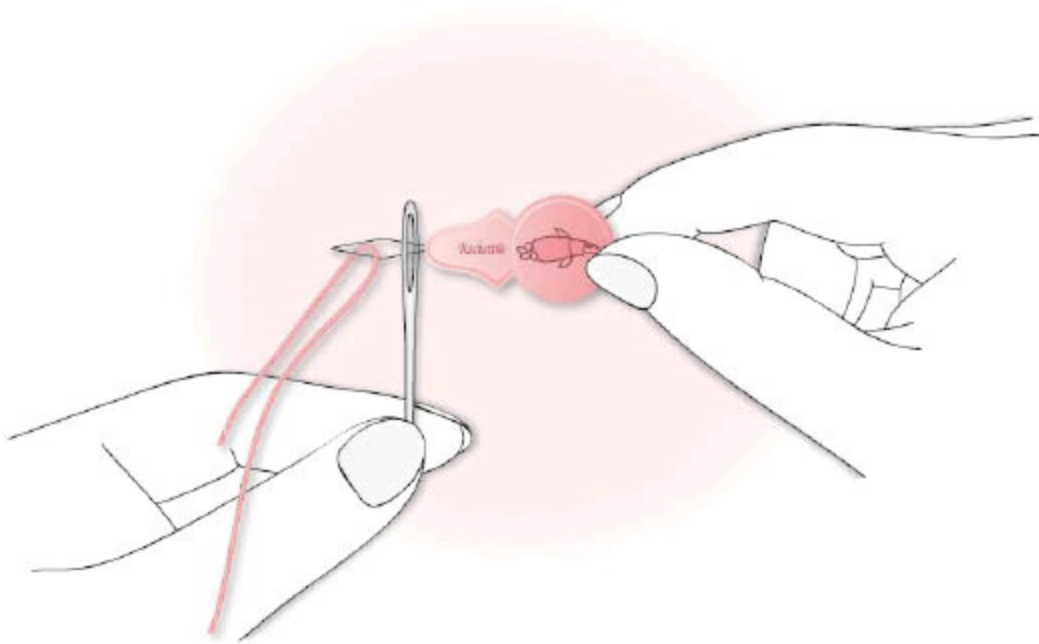
USING THE LOOP METHOD



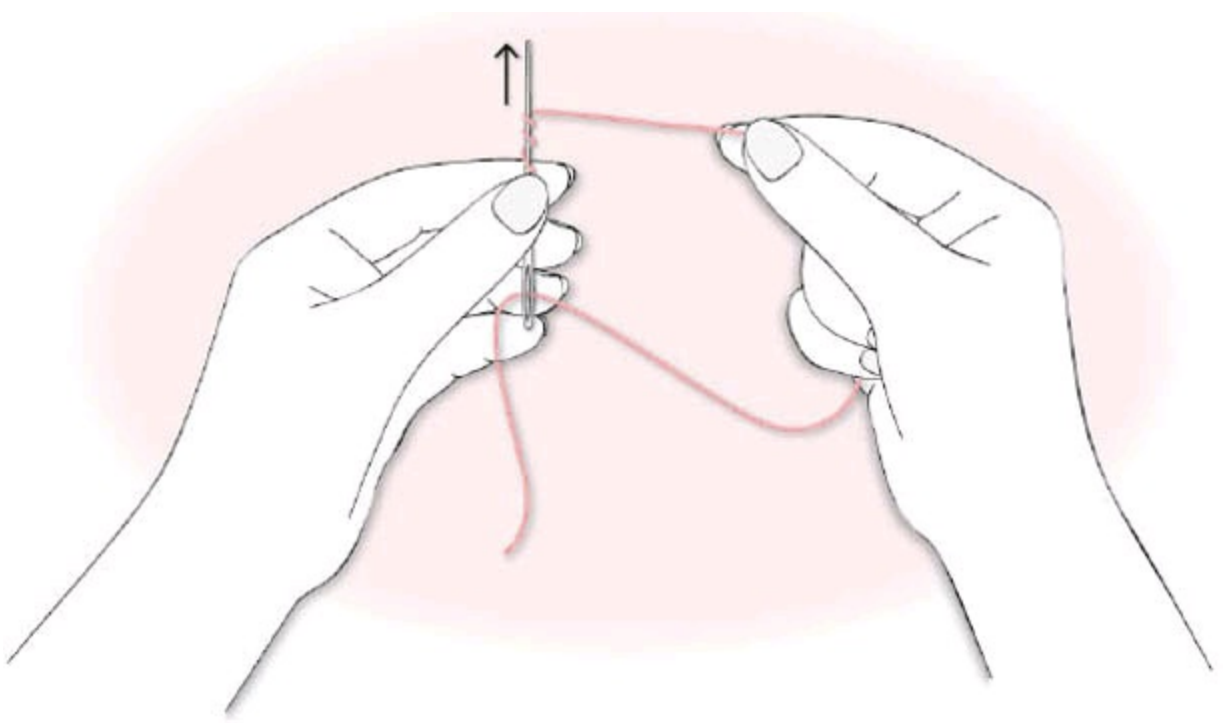


Loop the thread around the needle, pull tight, and insert the folded thread through the eye of needle.

USING A THREADER



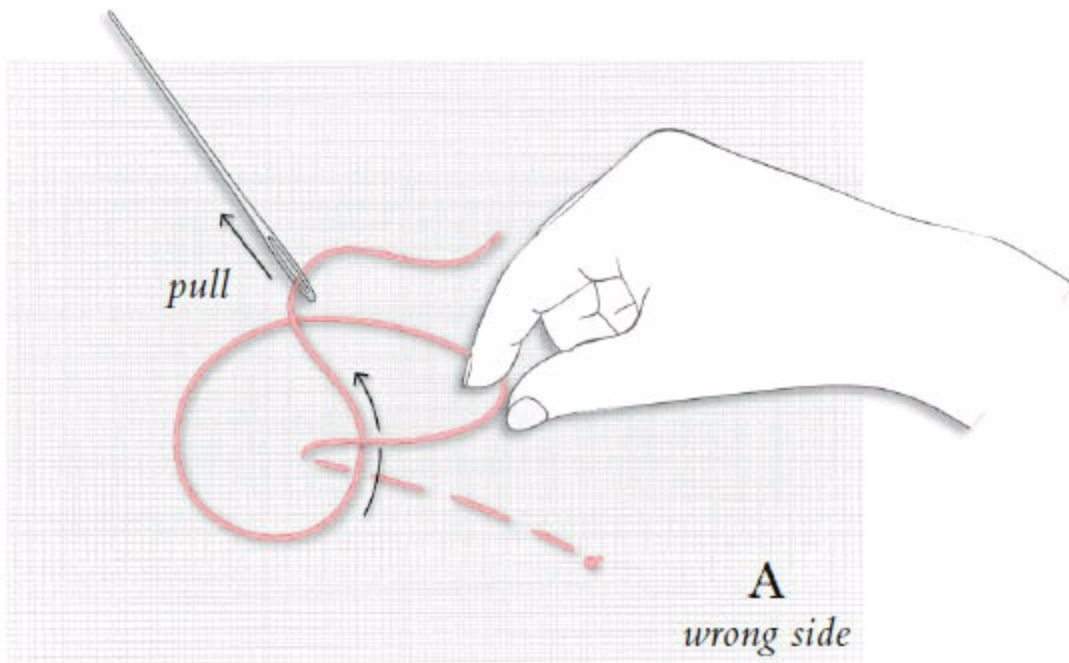
BEGINNING KNOT



Wrap the thread 2 or 3 times around the needle. Holding the thread down with your finger, pull the needle through to make a knot.

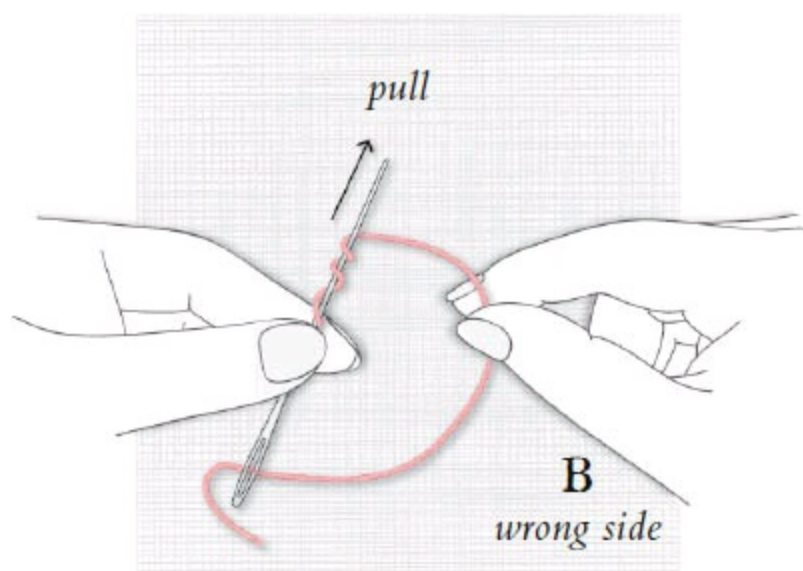
FASTENING OFF

HOW TO MAKE A FINISHING KNOT A



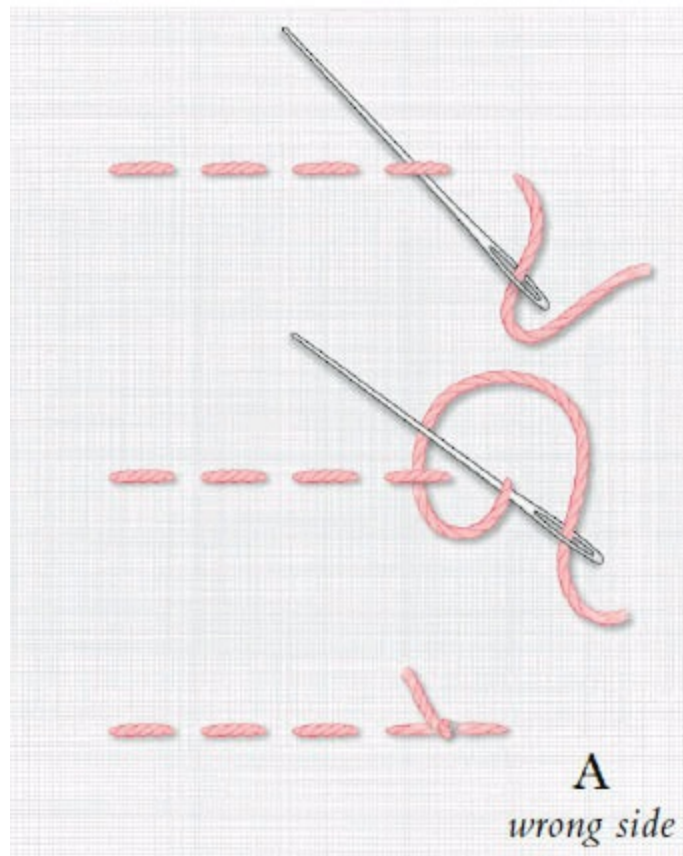
On the wrong side of the fabric, loop the thread around the needle and pull it through to make a knot.

HOW TO MAKE A FINISHING KNOT B



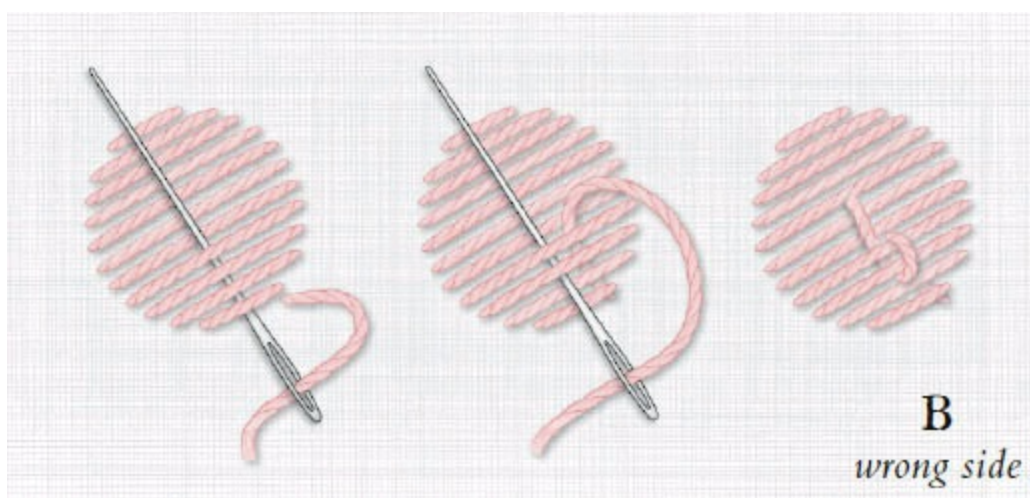
Wrap the thread around the needle 1 or 2 times, then pull it through to make a knot.

HOW TO HIDE THE THREAD END A



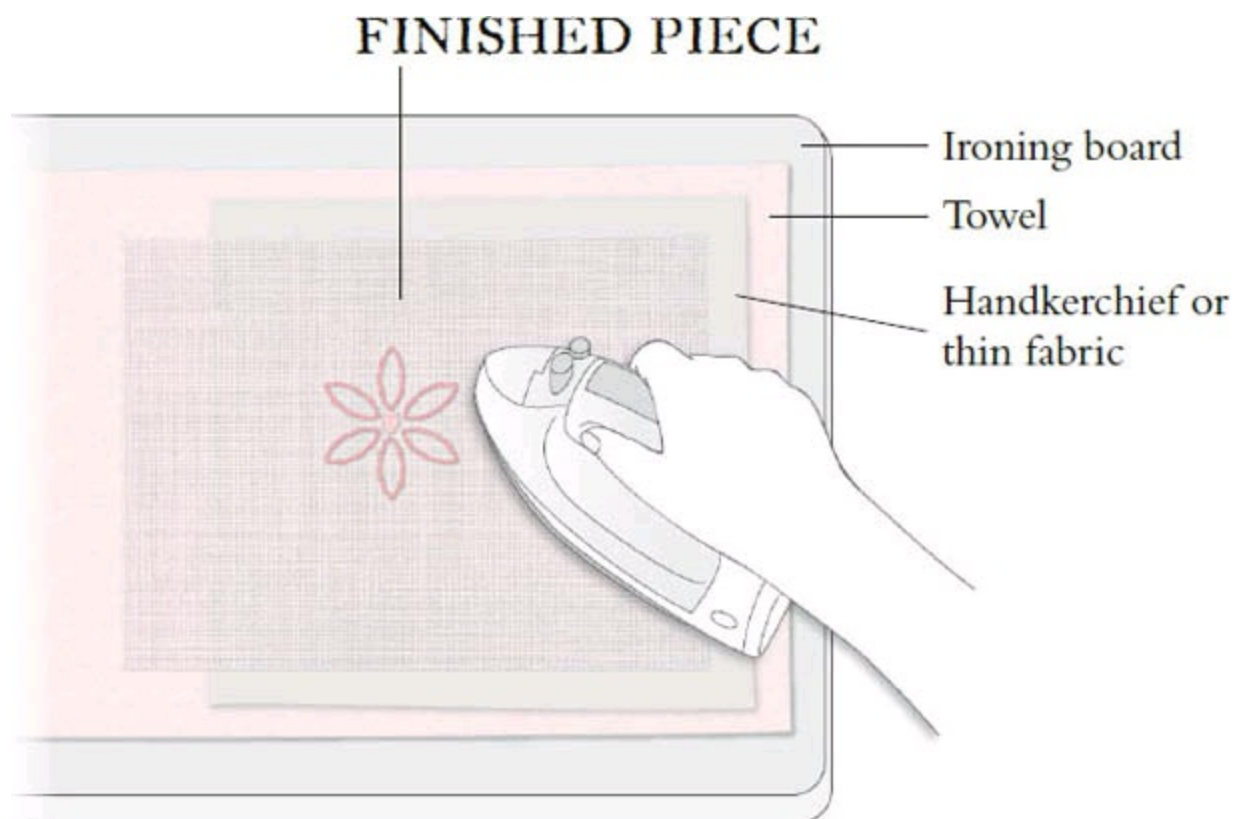
Using a stitch like a running stitch, pull the needle through to the wrong side, loop the thread around the needle, then pull the needle through to make a knot.

HOW TO HIDE THE THREAD END B



Using a stitch like satin stitch, pull the needle through to the wrong side, run the needle under several stitches, pull the needle through, and sew one small stitch; cut the thread.

FINISHING



If the fabric used is wool, nylon, or cotton, place the piece facedown on a thin piece of fabric on your ironing board, then place a towel on top. Using a setting on your steam iron appropriate for the fabric, gently steam the piece; do not flatten the piece by placing the weight of the iron directly onto the towel. For silk, do not use steam; use a dry heat only, letting the heat penetrate the towel.

index

A

[Alternating stem stitch 33](#)

B

[Backstitch 8](#)

[Basket stitch 52](#)

[Blanket ring stitch 36](#)

[Blanket stitch 36](#)

[Bullion bar stitch 48](#)

[Bullion stitch 20](#)

[Bundle stitch 11](#)

C

[Cable chain stitch 35](#)

[Cable stitch 33](#)

[Chain stitch 22](#)

[Checkered chain stitch 34](#)

[Chevron stitch 31](#)

[Closed feather stitch 29](#)

[Closed herringbone stitch 31](#)

[Coral stitch 19](#)

[Couching stitch 12](#)

[Cretan stitch 47](#)

[Cross band stitch 43](#)

[Cross stitch 40](#)

D

[Darning stitch 7](#)

[Double chain stitch 34](#)

[Double cross stitch 43](#)

[Double feather stitch 28](#)

[Double fly stitch 39](#)

[Double lazy daisy stitch 25](#)

[Double threaded backstitch 32](#)

F

[Feather stitch 28](#)

[Fern stitch 45](#)

[Fishbone stitch 45](#)

[Fly stitch 38](#)

[French knot stitch 18](#)

French lazy daisy stitch 25

Fringe stitch 33

G

German knot stitch 48

H

Half cross stitch 43

Hem stitch 36

Herringbone stitch 30

Holbein stitch 7

Honeycomb stitch 37

K

Knot cross stitch 44

Knotted feather stitch 29

L

Lazy daisy stitch 24

Leaf stitch A 46

Leaf stitch B 46

Long and short stitch 17

Long-armed stitch 30

Long French knot stitch 19

O

Open chain stitch 34

Outline stitch 14

P

Pekinese stitch 9

Pendant couching stitch 13

Plaited fly stitch 39

R

Raised needle weaving stitch 49

Raised spider's web stitch 51

Ribbed spider's web stitch 51

Roll stitch 17

Romanian stitch 13

Running stitch 6

S

Satin stitch 16

Scallop stitch 37
Seed stitch 9
Seeding stitch 11
Self-padded leaf stitch 47
Split stitch 32
Spoke stitch 11
Star cross stitch 44
Star filling stitch 44
Straight stitch 10

T

Tailored buttonhole stitch 37
Threaded backstitch 32
Threaded chain stitch 25
Threaded herringbone stitch 31
Threaded running stitch 7
Three-quarter cross stitch 43
Triple feather stitch 28
Twisted chain stitch 35
Twisted loop stitch 49

V

Varied fly stitch 39

W

Whipped backstitch 9
Whipped blanket stitch 37
Whipped chain stitch 35
Whipped running stitch 7
Weaving wheel stitch 50
Woven spider's web stitch 51

Z

Zigzag stitch 19

Want More
Chronicle Ebooks?

CLICK HERE!

**Get
freebies,
discounts,
and more!**