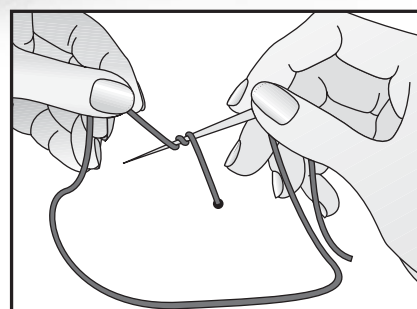
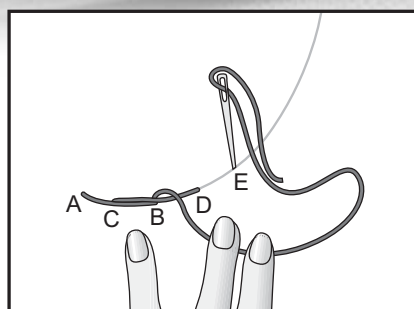
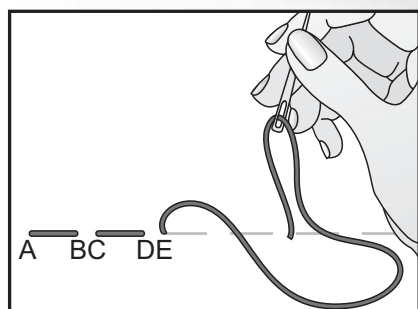


BASIC STITCH GLOSSARY

Magic Embroidery



MAGIC AT YOUR FINGERTIPS

- BEGINNER TO EXPERT ■ TRAINING KITS ■ DÉCOR KITS ■ KITS FOR CHILDREN
- FOOLPROOF INSTRUCTIONS ■ STITCH GLOSSARY ■ TRAINING VIDEO & DVD

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

Our mission is to bring a fresh, new look to the wonderful art of embroidery. You too can share in the creativity and sense of achievement that comes from making something unique and beautiful.

With step-by-step training anyone can become a good embroiderer and have lots of fun too. Magic Embroidery has compiled this Basic Stitch Glossary to teach you a variety of easy stitches that can be used in many designs.

These tips will ensure beautiful embroidery everytime.

Work in a hoop: Work in the hoop whenever possible as this prevents puckering and makes stitching easier.

Accuracy is the key: Be particular about where the needle enters and exits the fabric. If you are learning a new stitch, rather do it slowly to begin with. Speed will be sure to follow once the stitch has been mastered. If you have made a mistake, undo the stitch immediately. It will save you time in the long run and give you a professional finish.

Use the Right Needle: Its very important to use the correct needle if you want a professional finish. Some stitches cannot be made with the incorrect needle or incorrect size of needle. Use the correct needle and stitching will be easy. You will need the following needles for the basic stitches:

Embroidery Needle



A fine needle with a large eye and sharp tip. Used for most embroidery stitches, which do not have knots, as the eye is too wide for knots.

Straw (Milliners) Needle



A needle with a long fine shaft with a tiny eye. Excellent for stitches with knots.

Tapestry Needle (size 26)



A medium length needle with a thick shaft, long eye and blunt tip, which parts the thread rather than piercing it. Suitable for weaving and whipping.

Untwist your thread: Your thread will become twisted as you work. This will lead to knots and poorly formed stitches making stitching difficult. Let go of the needle so that it can dangle down

and unwind itself. Do this often.

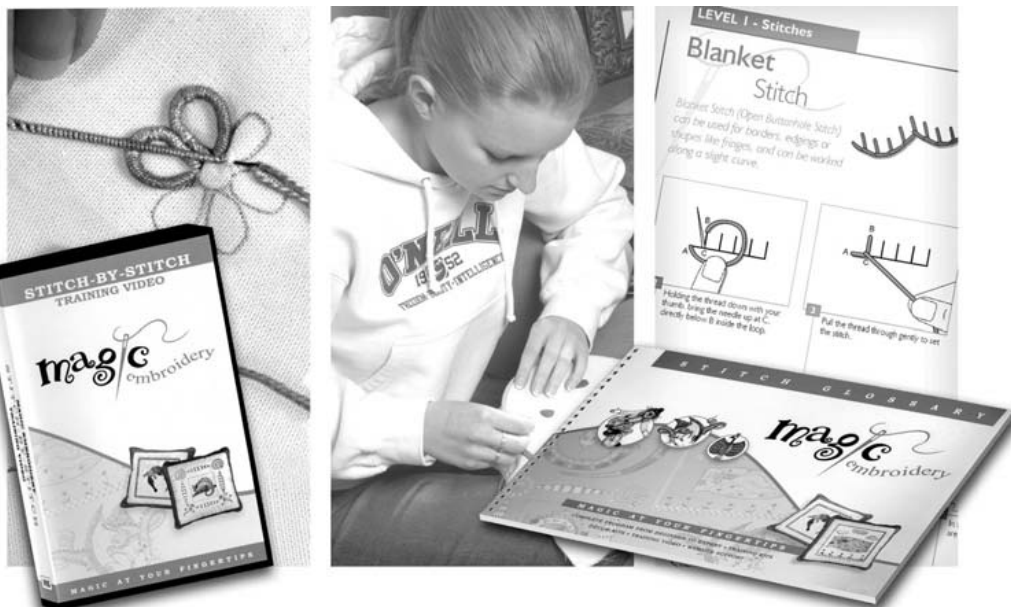
Good light is essential: If you work in poor light, your stitching will not be accurate leading to an imperfect finish.

Check your eyesight: If you cannot see your stitches clearly at the close range at which you will be working, find a pair of inexpensive reading glasses that you would only use for embroidery. It will make a world of difference to your accuracy.

Keep your work clean: Wash your hands before you begin embroidering. If it is necessary to wash your work, then wash in a cold water detergent for delicate fabrics. Add 1 teaspoon of salt to the solution. Do not bleach. If you prick yourself and get blood on the fabric, rinse out immediately with cold water.

Press your work: When your work is finished, press it very lightly under a cloth.

ALSO AVAILABLE...

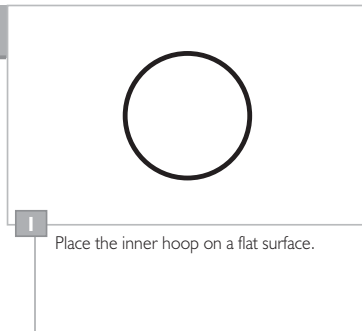


The Magic Embroidery Complete Stitch Glossary and Stitch-by-Stitch Training Video or DVD can also be ordered. These teach over 100 stitches and variations divided into 6 levels of difficulty with inspirational applications of stitches and tips and tricks from the experts! Designed to work hand-in-hand with our Training Kits, the glossary includes all the stitches needed to complete any of our Décor Kits.

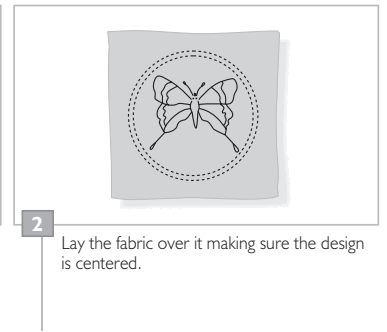
Visit our website at
www.magicembroidery.com
for more information

How to use the hoop

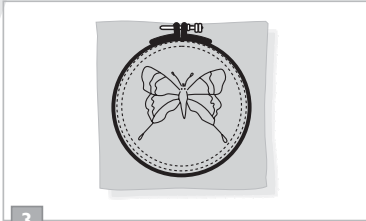
Working in a hoop is easier, prevents puckering, and gives a professional finish. Most stitches are done with the fabric in the hoop to prevent puckering. Some stitches however, can only be formed out of the hoop.



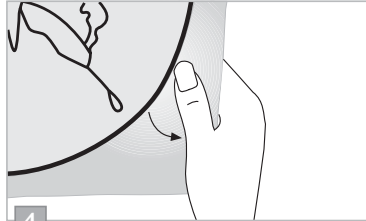
1 Place the inner hoop on a flat surface.



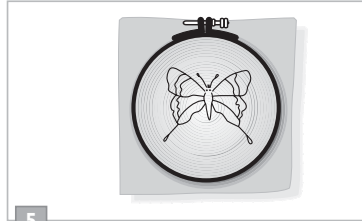
2 Lay the fabric over it making sure the design is centered.



3 Place the outer hoop on top of the fabric so that it fits over the inner hoop. Tighten the screw until firm.



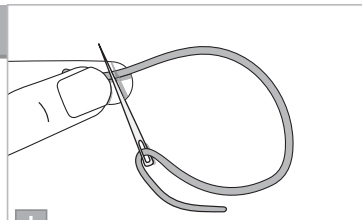
4 Hold the hoop firmly with your left hand, and pull the fabric as shown, with your right hand, to make it taut. Work your way around the hoop, pulling the fabric on all sides so that it is taut and even.



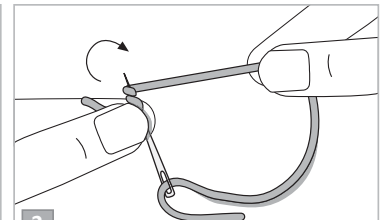
5 Re-tighten the hoop with a screw driver. You are now ready to begin embroidering the design.

Beginning your thread

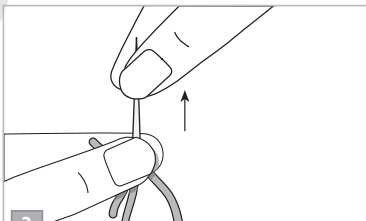
Before you can begin stitching, you need to anchor your thread at the back to prevent your stitches from unraveling.



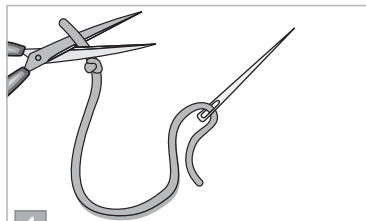
1 Thread the needle and hold the end of the longer tail between your left thumb and index finger. Place the needle on top of the thread on your finger as illustrated.



2 Holding the needle and thread between your left thumb and index finger and using your right hand wrap the looped thread around the needle twice.



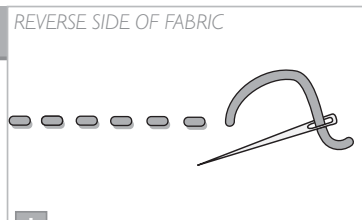
3 Still holding the wraps in place between your left thumb and index finger, begin easing the needle through the wraps by pulling the sharp end of the needle up with your right hand.



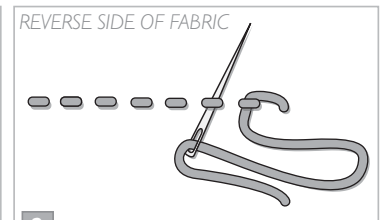
4 Cut off the tail so you have a neat knot at the end of your thread. Now you can bring the needle through the fabric to begin stitching without it slipping through.

Ending off your thread

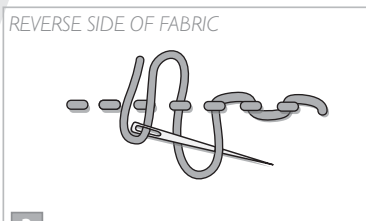
Once you have completed a stitch, you need to anchor your thread at the back to prevent your stitches from unraveling. This is done by carefully weaving the needle through the back of your stitching.



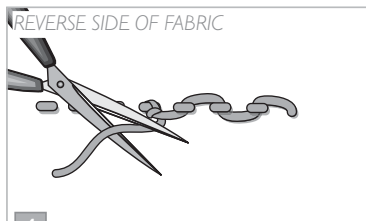
1 Once you have completed your last stitch, bring the thread through to the back of the fabric.



2 Pass the needle between the stitching and fabric. Take care not to pierce the fabric.



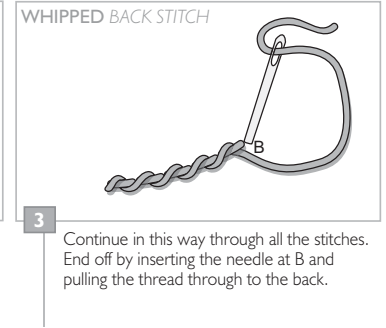
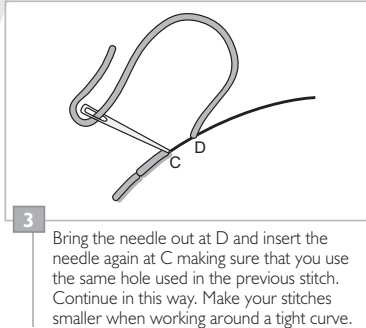
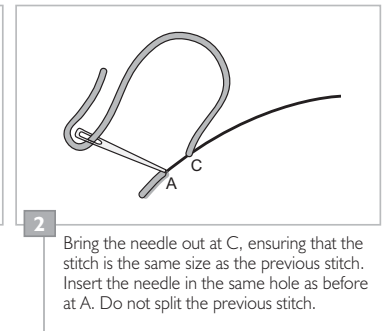
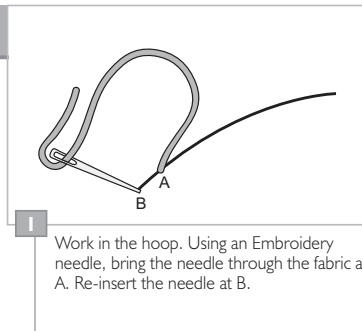
3 You can also pass your needle through the loops a few times making knots to ensure that the threads are really secure.



4 Once your stitching is secure, cut away the extra thread for a neat finish.

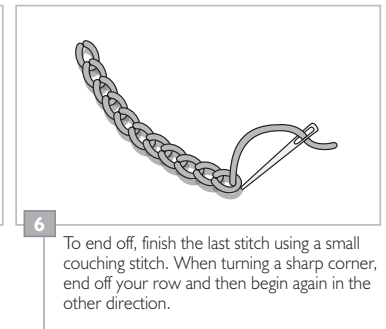
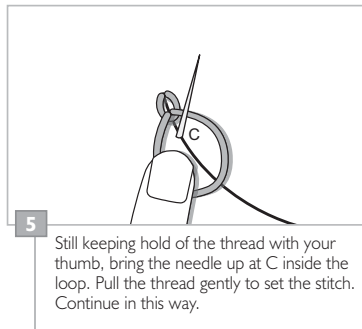
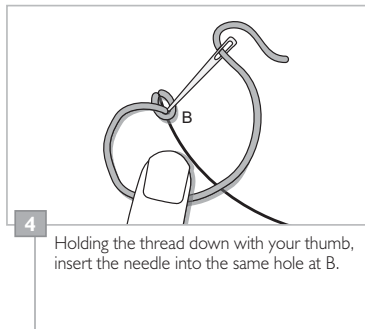
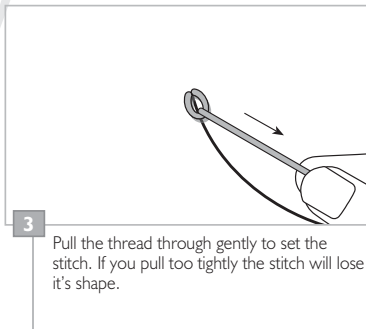
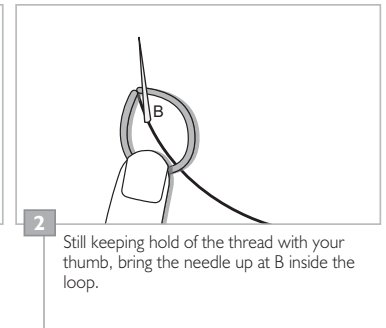
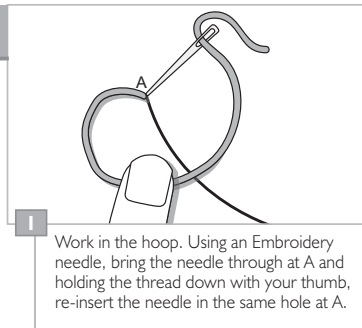
Back stitch and whipped back stitch

Back Stitch follows curves easily and is good for fine outlining. It can be whipped using the same color for a thicker, textured effect or a different color for a decorative appearance.



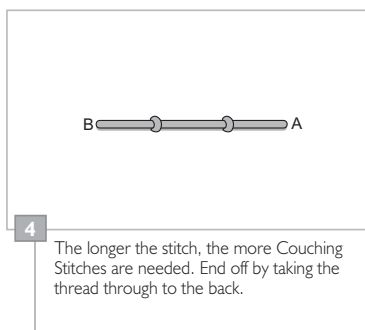
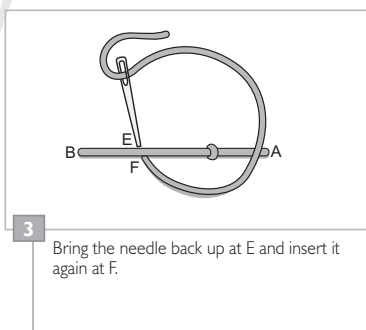
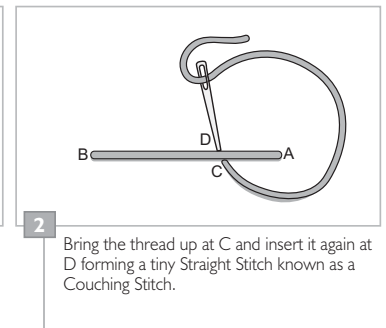
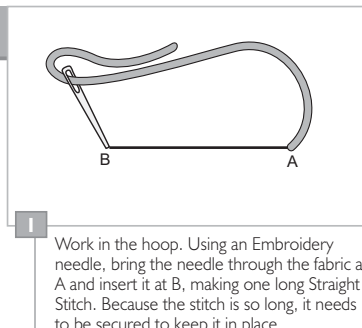
Chain stitch

Chain Stitch can be worked as a broad outlining stitch or closely together in rows as a filling stitch. It can be whipped for a thicker or more decorative effect.



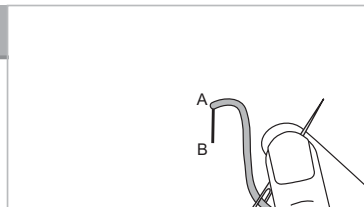
Couching stitch

Laying one or more threads on top of the fabric and catching them down with a small tying stitch is called Couching. Couching is excellent for outlining and the variations are endless.

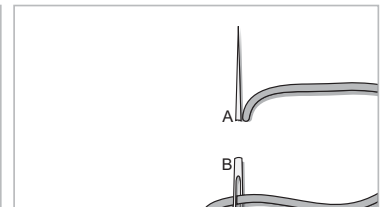


Bullion Knot and curved bullion knot

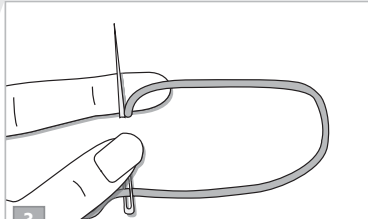
The Bullion Knot is a raised stitch that lies on top of the fabric. It can be used singly or in groups as in the Bullion Rose or Daisy.



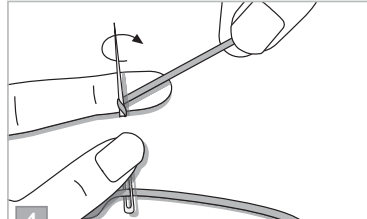
1 Work out of the hoop. Using a Straw needle, bring the needle through the fabric at A. The stitch will be positioned between A and B. Let your needle hang down so that the thread can untwist if necessary.



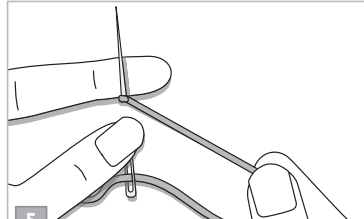
2 Insert the needle at B and bring it out again at A, taking care not to split the thread emerging at A. The distance between A and B is called the 'bite'. Position the loop of thread to the right of the needle.



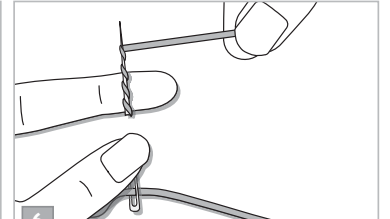
3 Raise the needle away from the fabric by pressing the blunt end down with your left thumb. Put your index finger behind the sharp end & your middle finger underneath the fabric at the blunt end.



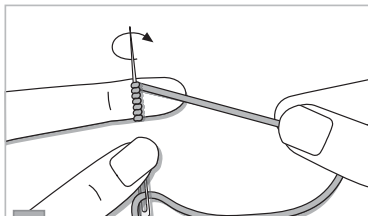
4 Wrap the thread around the needle once in a clockwise direction.



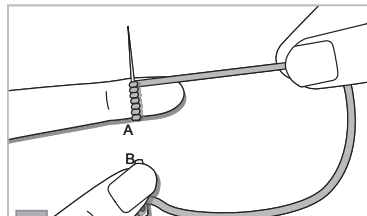
5 Pull the thread down firmly as illustrated to tighten the wrap around the needle and pull it down to the base. Do not make the wrap too tight as this will make it difficult to complete the stitch.



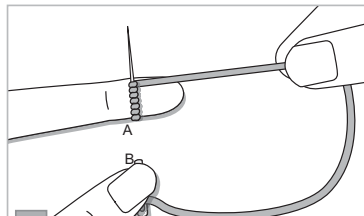
6 **INCORRECT!!** DO NOT wrap the needle up as illustrated here. This will lead to an uneven texture or loops appearing in the final stitch.



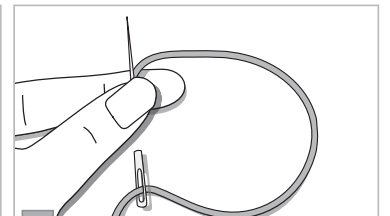
7 Repeat steps 4 and 5, working more wraps onto the needle. Keep the tension even but not too tight. Pack the wraps down evenly as you wrap and keep them in place with your left index finger.



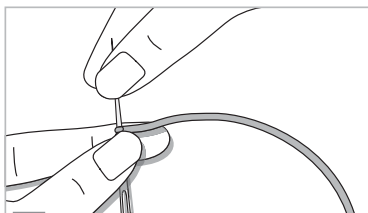
8 Keep the thread taut so that the wraps don't unravel. Don't pull the thread tightly however as this will make the wraps too tight and disrupt the even tension.



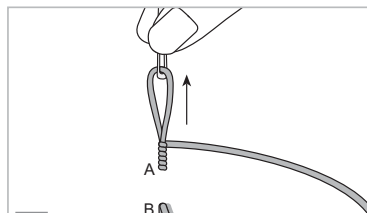
9 Compare the length of the compact wraps on the needle with the distance between A and B (i.e. The length of the stitch). These two lengths must be equal. Work more wraps if necessary.



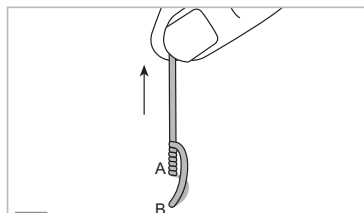
10 Once the length of the wraps on the needle is equal to the distance between A and B, move your thumb up and pinch the wraps between your thumb and index finger, to prevent the wraps from unraveling.



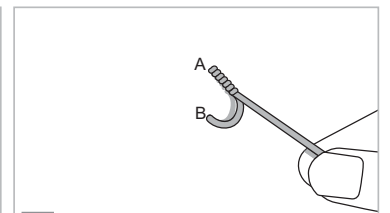
11 Still holding the wraps in place between your left thumb and index finger, begin easing the needle through the fabric and the wraps by pulling the sharp end of the needle up with your right hand.



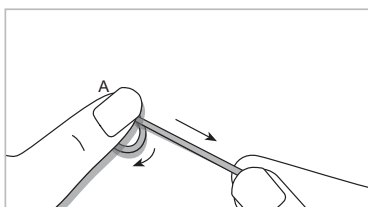
12 Still pinching the wraps with your left hand (not shown), pull the needle & thread up through them. If the needle won't pull through, the tension is too tight. Twist the needle in the opposite direction to the wraps to loosen them.



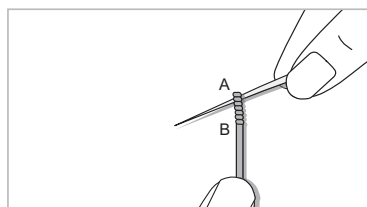
13 Pull the thread all the way through as illustrated ensuring that the wraps stay in position.



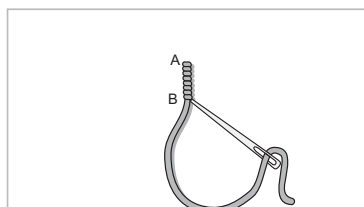
14 Pull the thread gently as illustrated to bring the knot over. Do this very gently so that the wraps remain in place.



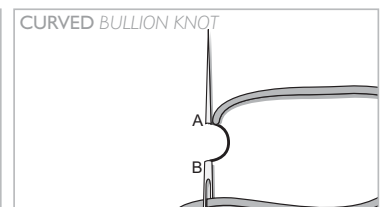
15 Press your left thumb down on the wraps to keep them in place and tug the thread as illustrated to shorten the thread emerging from B and position the knot in the right place.



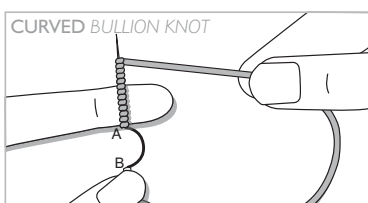
16 To ensure that all the wraps are even, manipulate them with a needle.



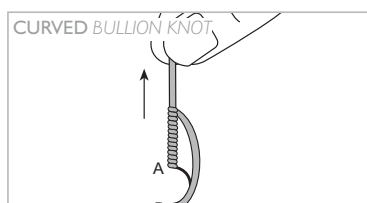
17 Anchor the stitch by taking the needle through to the back at B.



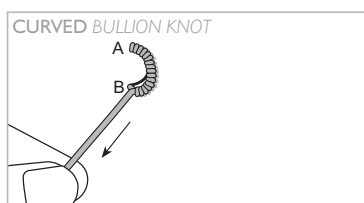
1 Curved Bullion Knots are made in the same way, but more wraps are needed to accommodate the curve. Insert the needle at B and bring it out again at A. The stitch will be positioned between A and B.



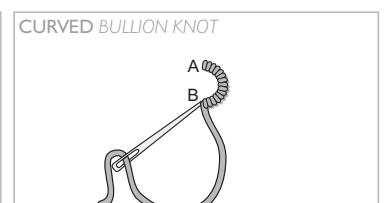
2 Wrap the thread around the needle until the length of the wraps on the needle is equal to the distance between A and B plus extra wraps for the curve. (± 18 wraps for the lion's claw)



3 Grip the wraps and pull the needle upwards. Pull the thread all the way through as illustrated ensuring that the wraps stay in position.



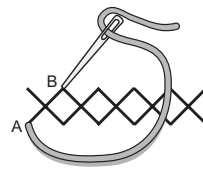
4 Press your thumb down over the stitch (thumb not shown here) and pull the thread as illustrated to position the stitch. Tug the thread gently until the stitch sits correctly.



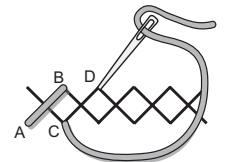
5 Take the needle through to the back at B to end off. Make small couching stitches over the Curved Bullion Knot to keep it in place.

Cross stitch

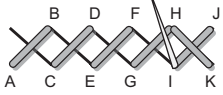
Cross Stitch can be regular or irregular in shape. It can be used individually, in lines or together as a filling. Use guidelines to ensure that the regular form are all the same size.



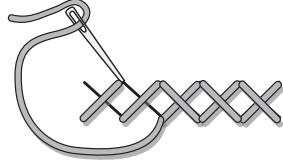
1 Work in the hoop. Using an Embroidery needle, bring the thread through the fabric at A. Insert the needle again at B (above and to the right of A), forming a diagonal stitch.



2 Bring the needle up at C, directly beneath B and in line with A and insert it at D. Continue in this way completing the row.

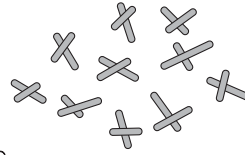


3 Now work back in the other direction. Bring the needle up at K and insert it at H. Then bring the needle up at I and insert it at F.



4 Continue in this way until you have completed the row.

RANDOM CROSS STITCH



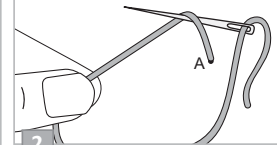
5 Random Cross Stitch can be scattered as an informal filling.

French knot

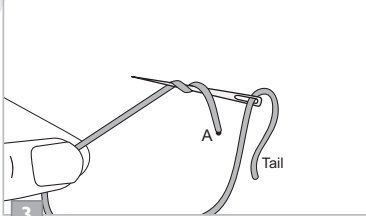
French Knots can be used singly, in sequence to create lines or outlines or together as a filling stitch. The size of the knot can be increased by increasing the number of wraps.



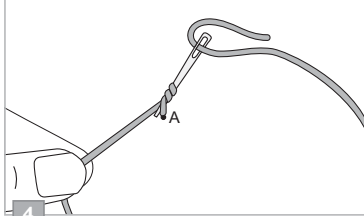
1 Work in the hoop. Using a Straw or Embroidery needle, bring the thread through the fabric at A, the point where the French Knot must be, usually indicated by a dot.



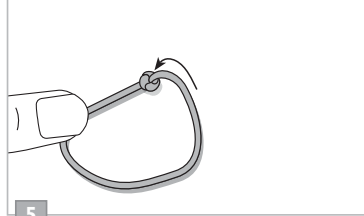
2 Hold the thread firmly between your left thumb and index finger, and bring the thread over and around the needle as illustrated, ensuring that the needle points away from the fabric.



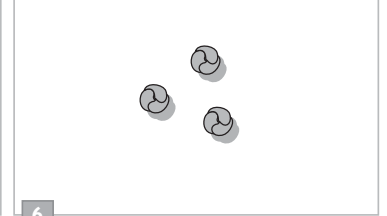
3 Wrap the thread around the needle again. (For a larger knot, use 3 or 4 wraps.) Don't let the tail of the thread get too long as it will get caught in the knot.



4 Pull the thread to tighten the wraps around the needle and turn the point of the needle towards the fabric. Insert the needle close to the point from where the thread emerges.



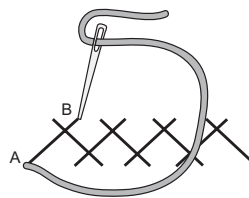
5 Keeping the thread taut by pressing it down on the fabric with your left thumb, pull the thread almost all the way through. Release your thumb, and pull the rest of the thread through to finish the knot.



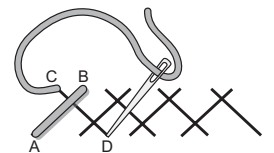
6 Three completed knots.

Herringbone stitch

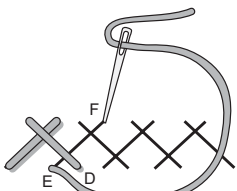
Herringbone Stitch can be used as an edging or border stitch in single or double rows. It can be laced with contrasting threads for a decorative effect.



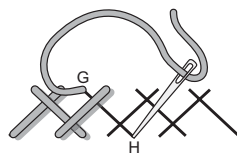
1 Work in the hoop. Work from left to right. Using an Embroidery needle, bring the thread through the fabric at A. Re-insert the needle at B.



2 Bring the needle out at C and insert it again at D.



3 Bring the needle up at E and insert it again at F.



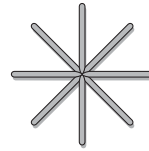
4 Bring the needle out at G and insert it again at H. Continue in this way from step 1.



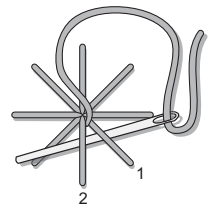
5 The completed effect.

Ribbed spiders web

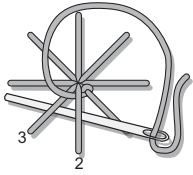
The Ribbed Spider's Web is worked on a Straight Stitch Star foundation with spokes of an even length.



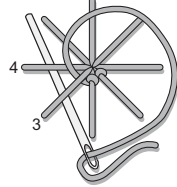
1 Work in the hoop. Begin by making a Straight Stitch Star.



2 Using a Tapestry needle and a 1m length of thread, bring the needle up close to the center, between 2 of the spokes. Pass the needle beneath spokes 1 and 2 without piercing the fabric.



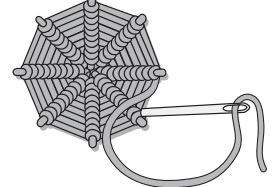
3 Pull the thread through and pass the needle under spokes 2 and 3 so that the thread wraps around spoke 2. Push the weaving towards the center as you work to keep it compact.



4 Bring the thread through and weave the needle under spokes 3 and 4 so that the thread wraps around spoke 3.



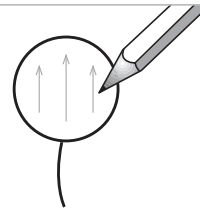
5 Continue in this way moving around the web until all the spokes are covered with wraps.



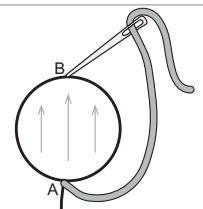
6 Once the web is complete, insert the needle close to one of the spokes and take the thread through to the back to end off.

Satin stitch

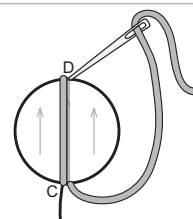
Satin Stitch is a filling stitch for solid areas. The stitches can't be too long.



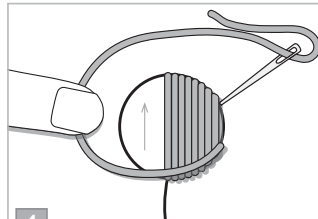
1 Look at the shape before you begin and pencil in directional lines. You will start your stitches in the middle and work towards the edge filling one half and then the other. This will help to keep your stitches straight.



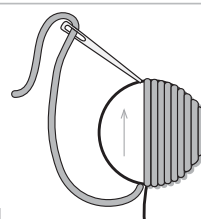
2 Work in the hoop. Using an Embroidery needle, bring the needle up at A and insert it again at B, making a Straight Stitch along the center of the shape.



3 Bring the needle up at C and insert it again at D. The stitches must be close enough together so that no fabric remains visible between them. Continue working closely positioned stitches to fill half the shape.

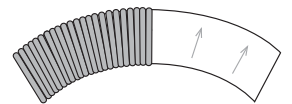


4 When you get to the last stitch, hold the thread out of your way with your thumb as illustrated to enable you to see what you are doing and create a neat edge to the shape.



5 Now bring the needle up on the other side of the shape and complete this side as you did the first.

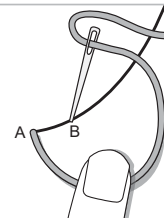
WORKING ON A CURVE



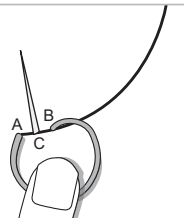
6 When working on a curve, make the stitches very close together on the shorter side using directional lines to help you keep the stitches straight.

Stem stitch

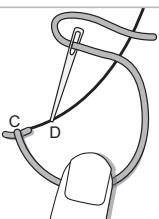
Stem Stitch is an outlining or filling stitch. It can be whipped in the same color for a thicker textured effect or in a different color thread for a more decorative appearance.



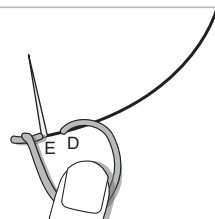
1 Using an Embroidery needle, bring the needle through the fabric at A and insert it again at B holding the thread with your thumb.



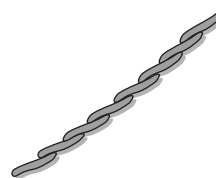
2 Bring the needle up at C, midway between A & B. Pull the thread through gently to set the stitch.



3 Insert the needle at D, holding the thread with your thumb.



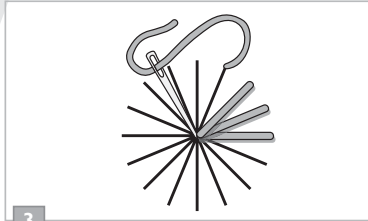
4 Bring the needle up at E, making sure that you don't split the previous stitch. Continue in this way, keeping the stitches an even size. End off as in Step 3. Make your stitches smaller when working around a tight curve.



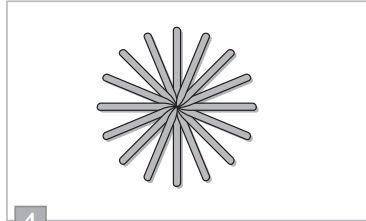
5 The completed effect.

Straight stitch

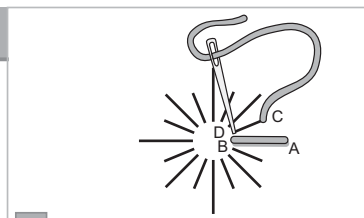
Straight Stitch is an extremely simple, versatile stitch. It can be combined with other stitches and has many applications and variations. A Straight Stitch Star is explained here.



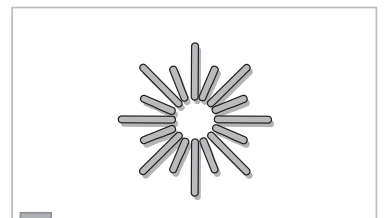
3 In a design where the stitches meet in the middle, insert the needle in the same hole in the center every time.



4 The completed effect.



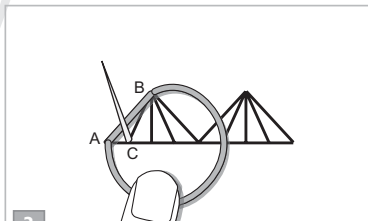
1 Work in the hoop. Using an Embroidery needle, bring the needle up at A and insert it again at B. This makes a Straight Stitch. Bring the needle up at C and insert it again at D, making another Straight Stitch.



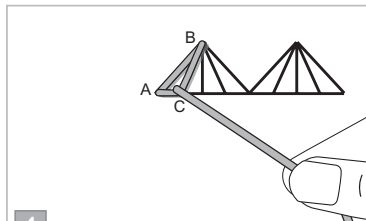
2 The completed effect of a Straight Stitch Star. To avoid hitting the starting knot, always start at the outer point of the stitch.

Triangular blanket stitch

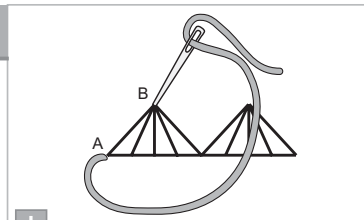
Triangular Blanket Stitch is a variation of Blanket Stitch and can be used as a filling or edging stitch.



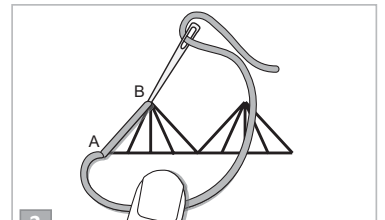
3 Keeping the thread down with your thumb, bring the needle up at C inside the loop.



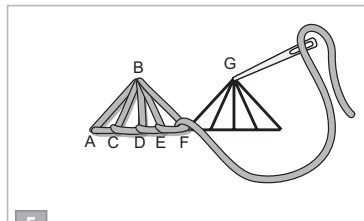
4 Pull the thread through gently to set the stitch. Repeat steps 2 to 4 to complete the triangle. Insert the needle in the same hole at B for each stitch.



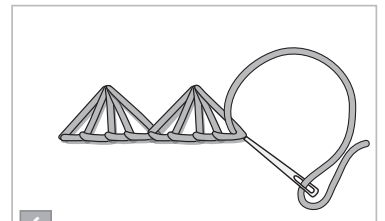
1 Work in the hoop. Using an Embroidery needle, begin by bringing the needle up at A and inserting it again at B. Each triangle begins with a Straight Stitch in this way.



2 Bring the needle out at A again and insert it at B, holding the thread down with your thumb.



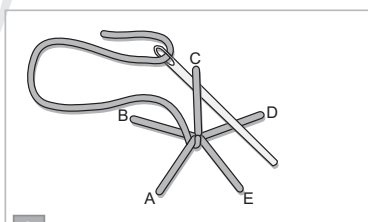
5 When completing more than one triangle, insert the needle at G, to make the first Straight Stitch of the next triangle. Then bring your needle up again in the same hole at F to continue with the second triangle.



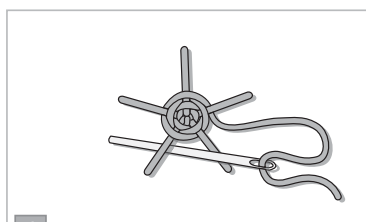
6 To end off, make a small couching stitch over the last stitch as shown and end off at the back. When working more than one row, work the stitches of the bottom row into the same holes as the top row.

Woven spiders web

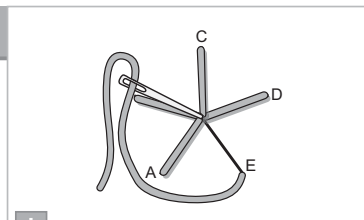
Woven Spider's Web creates a small, slightly raised circular shape which can be used as an accent stitch or a powdered filling.



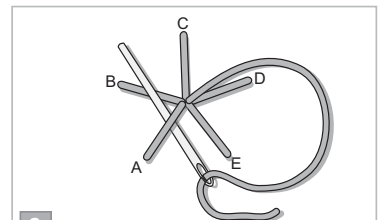
3 Now take the needle under the stitch at C and over the stitch at D.



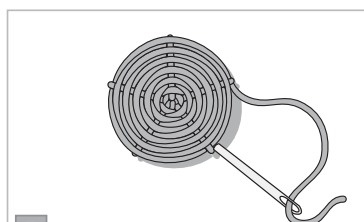
4 Continue in this way, weaving around and around pushing the weaving inwards with your needle.



1 Work in the hoop. Using an Embroidery needle, begin by working a Straight Stitch star. The star must have an uneven number of points. Insert the needle into the same hole in the center. End off at the back.



2 Using a Tapestry needle, bring the needle up in the center. Weave over and under the foundation stitches, passing the needle beneath every second stitch. Take the needle under the stitch at A and over the stitch at B.



5 Once all the foundation stitches are full, insert the needle in the same hole as one of the spokes and take it through to the back to end off.