

Bonus Stitch Guide

LEARN EVEN MORE STITCHES & USE THEM TO SEW A STUNNING ABSTRACT SAMPLER

10
NEW STITCH
TUTORIALS
+ SAMPLER!



TUTORIALS BY CLARE ALBANS

INSIDE • STEP-BY-STEP TUTORIALS • SAMPLER PATTERN • EXPERT TIPS & TRICKS





Practise makes perfect

PUT YOUR NEW SKILLS TO THE TEST
WITH A GEOMETRIC SAMPLER THAT
SHOWCASES 20 BEAUTIFUL STITCHES

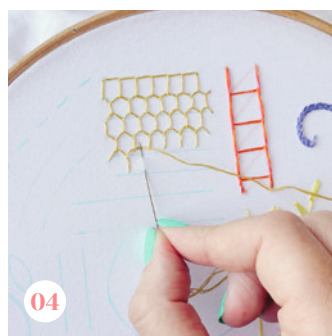
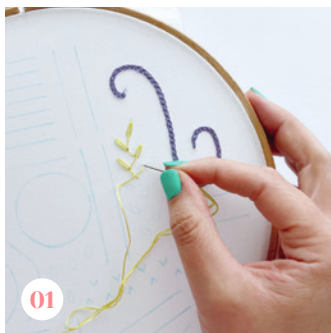
MATERIALS

- Cotton fabric: 30x30cm, white
- DMC Stranded cotton:
1 skein each of 30 (purple),
32 (dark purple), 350 (light
red), 581 (green), 722
(orange), 834 (gold), 3808
(dark teal), 3811 (light
blue), 3819 (light green),
3822 (light gold)
- Embroidery hoop: 20cm,
23cm diameter
- Basic embroidery kit



SCAN ME...

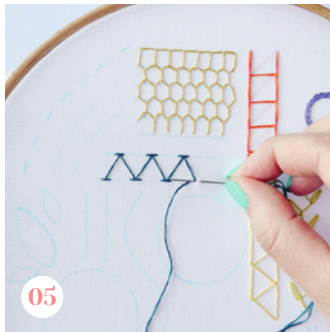
...to download the geometric sampler template, or visit www.gathered.how/love-embroidery-downloads



- 01 Transfer the design from the template onto the fabric using an erasable fabric pen and a light source. Then, mount your stitching into the larger hoop. Begin by using Braided Chain Stitch in purple to work the backwards 's' shape. Then, use light green to add the line of Chained Feather Stitch. Refer to the embroidery guide on p60 for stitch placement throughout.
- 02 Next, add the Interlacing Band Stitch, working the two parallel lines in dark teal before using light blue to lace the stitches.

STITCHES USED

Braided Chain Stitch,
Buttonhole Stitch,
Cable Chain Stitch,
Chained Feather Stitch,
Chevron Stitch, Closed
Feather Stitch, Crossed
Sloping Blanket Stitch,
Honeycomb Filling Stitch,
Interlacing Band Stitch,
Laced Edging Stitch, Laced
Running Stitch, Ladder
Stitch, Raised Chevron
Stitch, Raised Herringbone
Stitch, Rosette Chain
Stitch, Sinhalese Stitch,
Sorbello Stitch, Square
Chain Stitch, Tulip Stitch,
Whipped Blanket Stitch



03 The next stitch is Sinhalese Stitch. Start by adding the two long straight stitches in light red, and then add the second part of the stitch in orange. Now stitch the Closed Feather Stitch directly underneath in light gold.

04 Next work the block of Honeycomb Filling Stitch in gold.

05 Use dark teal to add the line of Chevron Stitch. Then use green to add Buttonhole Stitch around the circle directly underneath – leaving the centre of the circle unstitched.

06 Using light red, stitch the vertical line of Ladder Stitch. Work the other circle on the design using Whipped Blanket Stitch in dark purple for the base stitch and orange to whip it.

07 Add the wavy line of Cable Chain Stitch using light blue. Then stitch a row of Raised Chevron Stitch, using dark purple for the V shapes and light red stitches on top.

08 Add a row of Square Chain Stitch using six strands of gold. Use dark teal to stitch the diagonal line of Crossed Sloping Blanket Stitch.

NOTES

Unless otherwise stated use three strands of thread throughout.



09 Stitch a vertical line of Sorbello Stitch, using six strands of orange worked next to each other in a continuous line. Add some individual Sorbello Stitches to the side.

10 Now, work the Rosette Chain Stitch using six strands of light purple. Then work the line of Laced Running Stitch, using dark teal for the base stitch and light green for the lacing.

11 Next, add Laced Edging Stitch using green for the base stitch and light gold for the lacing. Work the Tulip Stitches in purple.

12 Finally, add the leaves in Raised Close Herringbone Stitch using six strands or light green and green. Remove any visible pen lines using the appropriate method. Then mount your stitching in the smaller hoop. Trim the excess fabric from around the outside of the hoop leaving a 3cm border. Work a line of running stitch along the border and pull the thread gently to gather it at the back of the hoop. Secure the gathered fabric in place using a simple knot to finish. 🧶



Embroidery guide

1 SINHALESE STITCH

Light red, orange, 3 strands

2 BRAIDED CHAIN STITCH

Purple, 3 strands

3 CLOSED FEATHER STITCH

Light gold, 3 strands

4 CHAINED FEATHER STITCH

Light green, 3 strands

5 INTERLACING BAND STITCH

Dark teal, light blue, 3 strands

6 RAISED CHEVRON STITCH

Dark purple, light red, 3 strands

7 LACED EDGING STITCH

Green, light gold, 3 strands

8 CROSSED SLOPING BLANKET STITCH

Dark teal, 3 strands

9 SORBELLO STITCH

Orange, 6 strands

10 TULIP STITCH

Purple, 3 strands

11 SQUARE CHAIN STITCH

Gold, 6 strands

12 WHIPPED BLANKET STITCH

Dark purple, orange, 3 strands

13 CABLE CHAIN STITCH

Light blue, 3 strands

14 BUTTONHOLE STITCH

Green, 3 strands

15 RAISED CLOSE HERRINGBONE STITCH

Light green, green, 6 strands

16 LADDER STITCH

Light red, 3 strands

17 LACED RUNNING STITCH

Dark teal, light green, 3 strands

18 ROSETTE CHAIN STITCH

Light purple, 6 strands

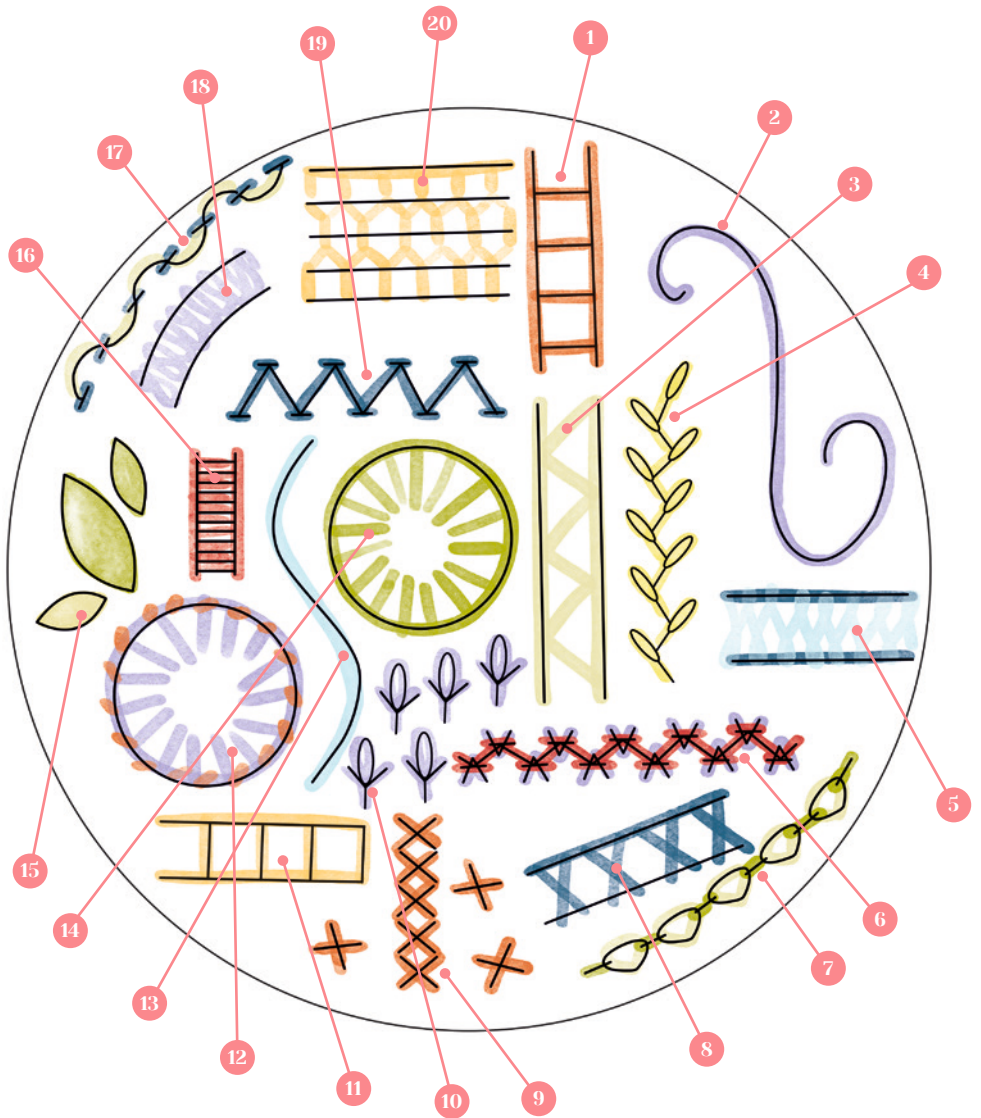
19 CHEVRON STITCH

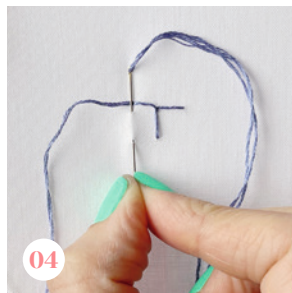
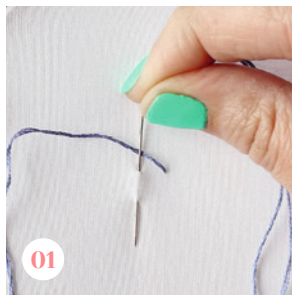
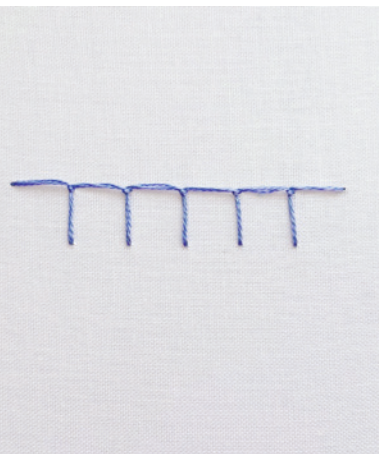
Dark teal, 3 strands

20 HONEYCOMB FILLING STITCH

Gold, 3 strands







Buttonhole Stitch

NOTE

🔴 This stitch is often mistaken for Blanket Stitch due to its similar appearance but is worked using a different method.

01 Bring the needle up through the fabric and – moving your working thread to the left – use the sewing method to create a vertical stitch downwards. The sewing method is where you go in through the fabric and back out again in one action, working the stitch without pulling the needle clean through the fabric.

02 Pull the needle through with the working thread

under the needle and then pull the thread upwards towards the last entry point of the needle to create a small knot.

03 Move the working thread to the left and create the second stitch in the same way, using the sewing method.

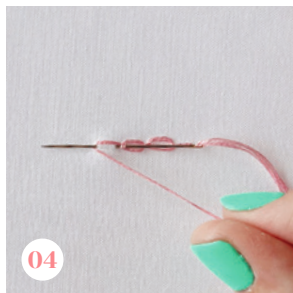
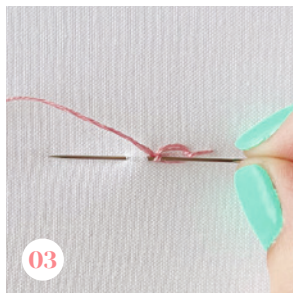
04 As you pull the needle through, move it to the top left corner again to create the next knot. Repeat the process as required.



Cable Chain Stitch

NOTE

The sewing method is where you go in through the fabric and back out again in one smooth action, working the stitch without pulling the needle clean through the fabric.

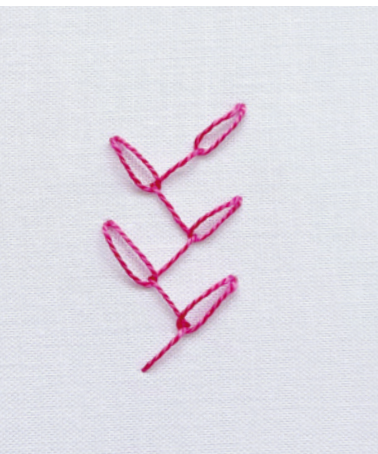


01 Bring the needle up through the fabric and wrap the thread around it once. Move a short distance along the line to be stitched and then use the sewing method (see notes) to push your needle through the fabric and create the desired stitch length.

02 Wrap the working thread under the needle and pull through gently to create the Chain Stitch.

03 Wrap the working thread around the needle again, before using the sewing method to push the needle through the fabric to create a second stitch the same size. Wrap the working thread under the needle and gently pull through.

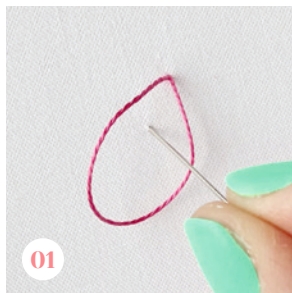
04 Continue in the same way along the line to be stitched, keeping each link of the chain the same size for a neat finish.



Chained Feather Stitch

NOTE

Also known as Feathered Chain Stitch.



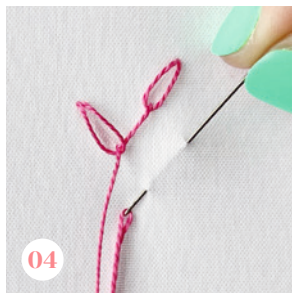
01



02



03



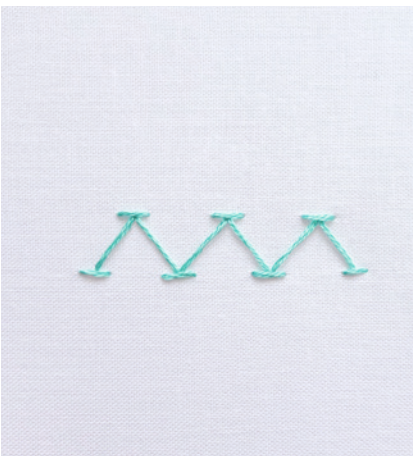
04

01 Bring the needle up through the fabric and go back through, right next to where you came up, leaving a loop of thread on the surface. Come back up through the fabric – bringing the needle through the loop, pulling gently.

02 Moving down, go through the fabric to make a long tail on the loop – coming back up diagonally to the left, parallel to the bottom of the first loop.

03 Make another loop like the first by pushing the needle back through, right next to where you came up. Bring the needle back up through the loop at the bottom of the tail of the first.

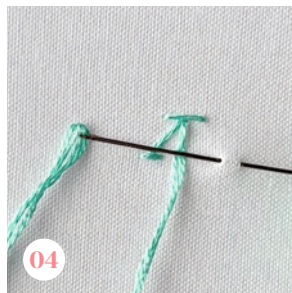
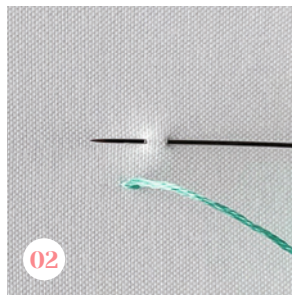
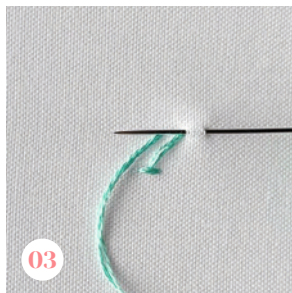
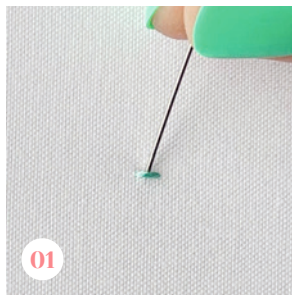
04 Repeat steps 2 and 3 so that you alternate loops on each side, joining them at the base of the long tail each time. Finish with a long tail and tie at the back.



Chevron Stitch

NOTE

• The sewing method is where you go in through the fabric and back out again in one smooth action, working the stitch without pulling the needle clean through the fabric.



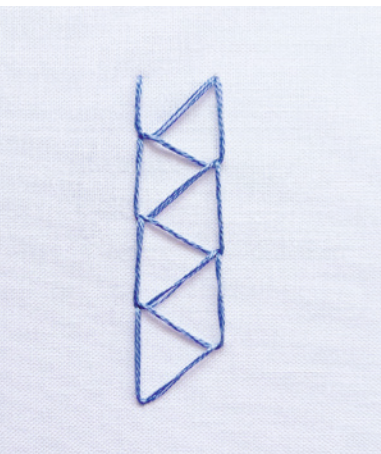
01 Begin by coming up and then going down to form a short, horizontal Straight Stitch. Bring the needle back up through the fabric just above the centre of the stitch you just made, being careful not to pierce the stitch.

02 Move diagonally up and to the right, and then insert the needle and use the sewing method (see notes) to simultaneously create the

diagonal stitch and bring the needle to the left.

03 Move to the right of this stitch, and use the sewing method again to come out at the top of the diagonal stitch. Move the needle down as you pull through.

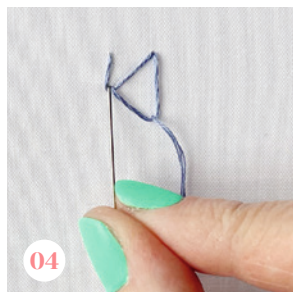
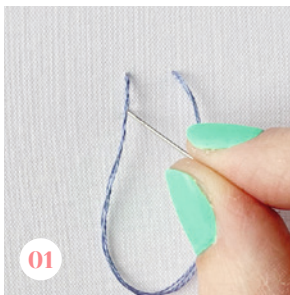
04 Repeat this process in the mirror image and to the right. Keep alternating this process until you reach the end of the line to be stitched.



Closed Feather Stitch

NOTE

• This stitch is also known as Double Chain Stitch.



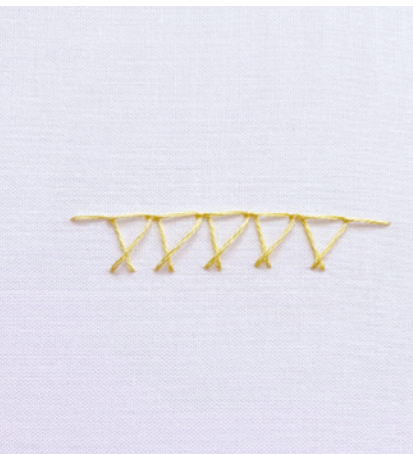
01 Bring the needle up through the fabric, and make a generously-sized horizontal stitch, leaving a loop of the working thread on the surface. Come up on the left, inside the loop – a stitch length away and directly below where you started.

02 Pull to catch the loop and create a triangle shape. Push the needle back through on the right-hand side of the

first stitch, in exactly the same hole and leaving a loop of the working thread.

03 Bring the needle back up through the loop on the right-hand side, at a point which in turn creates another triangle shape.

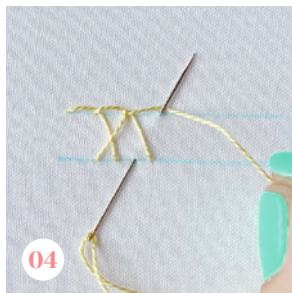
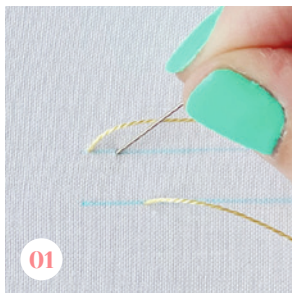
04 Insert the needle back through the fabric at the bottom of the original triangle and repeat the same process until complete.



Crossed Sloping Blanket Stitch

NOTES

- This stitch is worked between two parallel lines which have been drawn using an erasable pen.
- The sewing method is where you go in through the fabric and then back out in one smooth action.



01 Bring the needle up through the end of the top line and insert it back through diagonally to the right on the bottom line. Come up to the right of where you originally came up to catch the loop of working thread.

02 On the bottom line, use the sewing method (see Notes) to move the needle through to the left of the first stitch, up to the right of the

first stitch on the top line. Pull through with the working thread under the needle

03 Then repeat on the right of this along the bottom line. The needle should come out to the right of the second stitch on the top line. Pull gently through to catch the working thread.

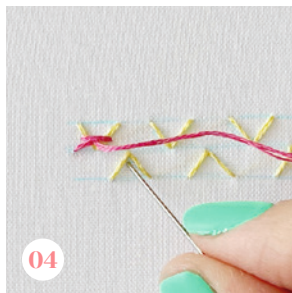
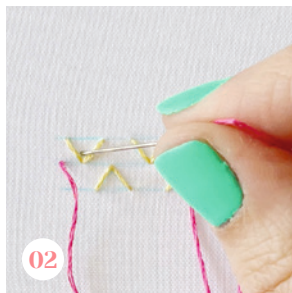
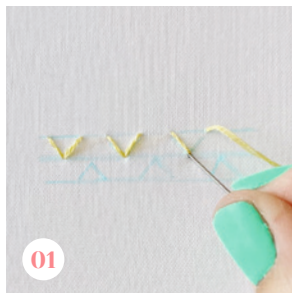
04 Repeat this process, working from the bottom line to the top each time.



Raised Chevron Stitch

NOTES

- Draw three equally spaced, parallel horizontal lines onto the fabric using an erasable pen.
- We've worked this stitch in two colours but you can use just one if you prefer.



01 Stitch a series of 'v' shapes between the 1st and 2nd line, and then work some upside down 'v' shapes between the 2nd and 3rd (as shown).

02 In a contrasting colour, bring the needle up through the end of the 2nd line. Insert the needle down through the centre of the first 'v' shape.

03 Bring your needle up horizontally to the left. Take it over the first 'v' shape

and insert down the other side of the 'v', leaving a loop. Bring your needle back up through the centre of the first 'v' shape, pulling the needle and the working thread downwards to create the stitch.

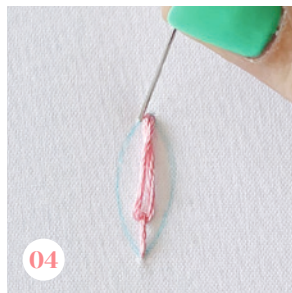
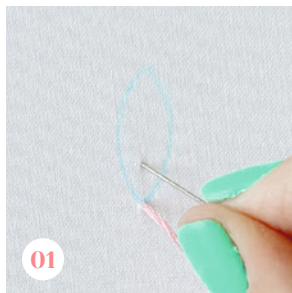
04 Take your needle down through the centre of the next upside down 'v' shape and repeat steps 2-3. Continue in this way until you reach the end of the line to be stitched.



Raised Closed Herringbone Stitch

NOTE

Draw a leaf shape on the fabric using an erasable pen to help guide your stitches.



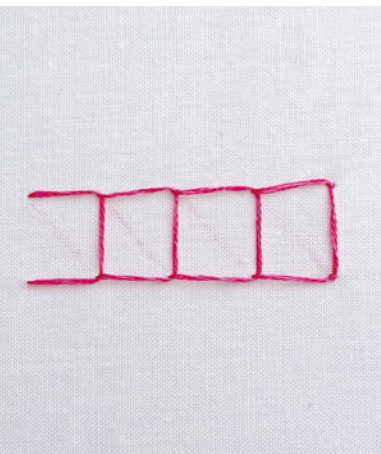
01 Begin by coming up at the bottom point of the leaf and then going down a little way up to form a medium length vertical stitch.

02 Bring the needle back up through the fabric at the other tip, then thread it underneath the vertical stitch, without piercing the thread or the fabric.

03 Insert the needle back through the fabric to the

right of the stitch at the top so that the stitch crosses over itself.

04 Come back up through the fabric at the top on the left, parallel to where your previous stitch ended. Repeat along the shape as you move downwards, following the leaf shape and switching the side of the leaf you come up on with each stitch – until the whole area is covered.

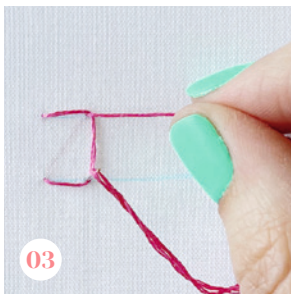
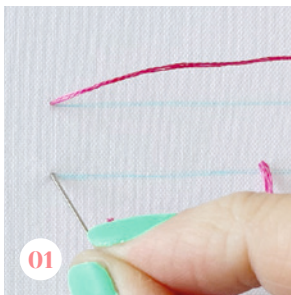


Square Chain Stitch

NOTES

● This is also known as Open Chain Stitch and Roman Chain Stitch.

● Draw two parallel, horizontal lines on the fabric using an erasable pen to guide your stitches.



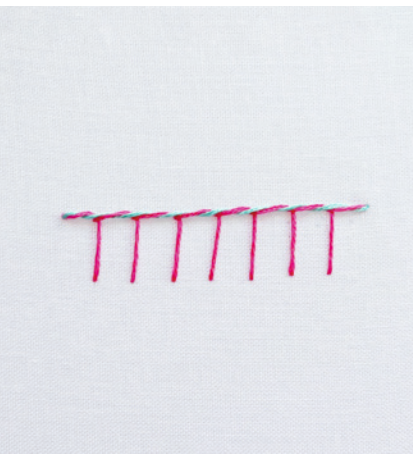
01 Bring the needle up through the end of the top line and then take it down through the end of the bottom line. Leave a generous loop of working thread on the surface.

02 Bring the needle back up a little further along the top line, making sure you come up through the loop formed in the previous step. Don't pull completely through the fabric – you want the loop formed in

step 1 to remain fairly open.


03 Insert the needle back through the fabric on the bottom line inside the loop, parallel to the point where you just came back up. Gently pull the working thread to tighten the first square link.

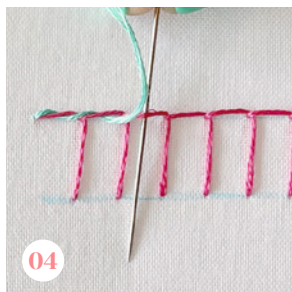
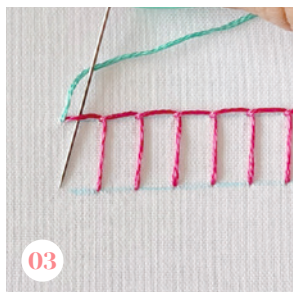
04 Repeat along the line to be stitched. On the final stitch, use small Anchor Stitches on the top and bottom lines to secure in place.



Whipped Blanket Stitch

NOTE

 You may find it helpful to draw two parallel lines on the fabric using an erasable fabric pen.



01 Bring the needle up on your first line and then down on the second – further along and leaving a loop. Come up again on the first line, catching the loop to form a right angle. Repeat to form a row of standard Blanket Stitch.

02 Thread a needle with a contrasting colour thread. Come up through the fabric on the top line at the beginning of the first stitch.

03 Move the needle upwards, then thread it downwards – underneath the horizontal line of the first Blanket Stitch – without piercing the thread or fabric.

04 Repeat along the line, working from the same side each time to wrap the thread around the top of the Blanket Stitch. At the end of the line, insert the needle back through the fabric.

YOUR BASIC EMBROIDERY KIT

- Fabric
- Thread
- Needles
- Scissors
- Embroidery hoop
- Transfer pens/pencils



Recommended materials

THREAD

STRANDED COTTON

This is a divisible, six-strand thread. Using one strand alone produces a thin line, while using all six strands together produces a much bolder line. It's available in more than 500 shades, in cotton, silk and rayon. Check the label to find out if the thread is colourfast.

NEEDLE

CREWEL/EMBROIDERY

This is the most commonly used needle for embroidery. It's a medium-length, sharp-pointed needle with a long eye.

DESIGN TRANSFER

TRANSFER PENS AND PENCILS

These are either permanent or temporary – erasable by using air, heat or water.

LIGHTBOX

This is like an illuminated tablet and is worth the investment for easy pattern tracing.

WATER-SOLUBLE STABILISER

This lightweight, slightly perforated paper stays on the fabric as you embroider. Once you've finished stitching, simply rinse it in water along with the fabric and it will dissolve.

Recommended techniques

HOW TO TRANSFER

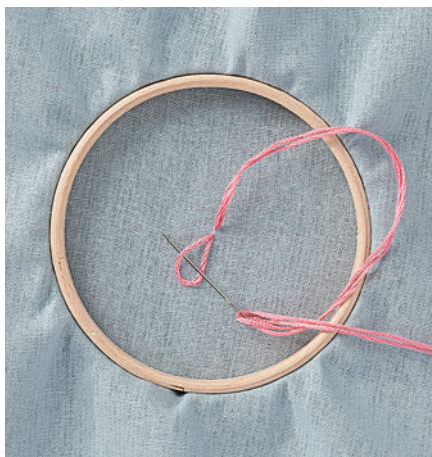
TRACING

Place a light-coloured, fine fabric over a design and trace it using a transfer pen or pencil. For thicker or darker fabrics, a light source such as a window or lightbox makes this easier.

HOW TO STITCH

CUTTING THE THREAD

Find the cut end of the skein and gently pull. Cut each length of thread to approximately 30-40cm. To separate strands, hold the end between your thumb and forefinger. Pull one



strand gently upwards. For multiple strands, separate them individually, then recombine.

STARTING A THREAD

To make a waste knot, tie a knot in the end of the thread and pull both the needle and thread through the fabric, from front to back, near to where you'll be working. Work stitches over the end of the thread, then cut off the knot when you reach it.

FINISHING A THREAD


Weave the thread under the back of the stitches you just worked to secure it in place and cut off loose ends as you go so they don't get caught in any stitching and cause knots or tangles in your work.


FINISHING


When you've finished stitching, gently wash your work in lukewarm water and a little mild detergent. Rinse well, adding a drop of white vinegar to the final rinse to restore the sheen of the thread. Roll the fabric in a clean towel to absorb excess water. Place a towel on an ironing board, put your embroidery face down on it with a clean cloth on top, and press until dry. 🧺



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Editor Nikki Morgan

Art Editor Matilda Smith

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