

TAKE & MAKE KIT

Paper Embroidery

TIME: 30 minutes to 1 hour

ADULT SUPERVISION ADVISED

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What's in this kit?

Explore hand sewn embroidery designs in up to three different styles. Practice planning and decision making for art and design.

You will learn:

- Sewing
- Design

Let's Get Started!

Materials

Paper or paper plates
Embroidery floss

Tools

Needles
Pencil
Scissors
Hole puncher/toothpick/
bamboo skewer

Did you know?

In 18th Century America, children in elementary school would practice the alphabet by embroidering letters and doing needlework.

Style 1

Step 1 - Make paper shapes

Take some heavy paper like cardstock and cut out different shapes like squares, circles and triangles.

Step 2 - Punch sewing posts

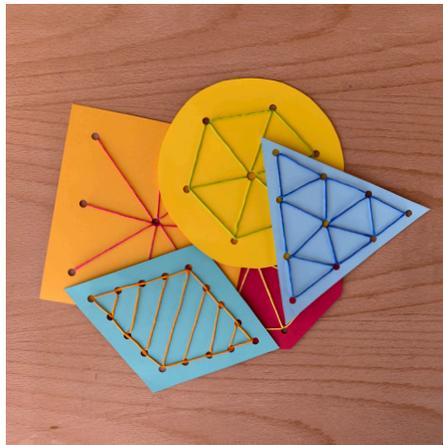
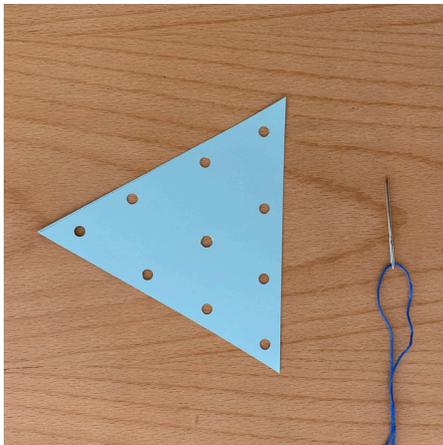
Use a hole puncher or alternative tool to punch holes around the edges of the paper. The holes should be at least half an inch from the edge of the paper. If using an alternative method like a toothpick or bamboo skewer, lay the paper on a soft surface like a bath towel and carefully pierce the paper.

Step 3 - Prepare needle

Select your embroidery floss and thread it through the needle.

Step 4 - Sew your paper embroidery designs

With your threaded needle, begin at any point and push your needle through the hole. You can tie a knot here to secure or tie the loose ends of thread together at the very end. You will end up with different designs depending on where you take your needle. Don't be afraid to experiment or undo anything you don't like. When you're all finished, tie a knot with any loose ends so nothing becomes undone.



Style 2

Step 1 - Cut out shape

Take a paper plate, we recommend an uncoated paper plate, and draw a shape that you will then cut out with a pair of scissors.

Step 2 - Punch sewing posts

Use a hole puncher or alternative to punch holes around the shape you cut out.

Step 3 - Sew your design

Select various colors of embroidery floss. With one color at a time, sew through random holes. Select a different color and repeat process until you are happy with how many layers you've created.



Style 3

Your Design Here

Step 1 - Plan

Use scrap paper to sketch out your ideas. Play around with different colors and pick out your favorite combinations. Keep in mind that everything in your drawing will be hand stitched. We recommend color blocking shapes and pre-planning special details. In the end, do what works best for you!

Step 2 - Draw

When you are happy with your planning, draw your final design on a paper plate. We drew a mountain range with some sun rays.

Step 3 - Prepare needle

Select your embroidery floss and thread it through the needle.

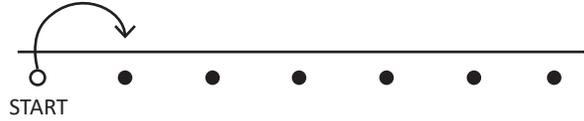
Step 4 - Sew your design

We used a backstitch and a modified satin stitch to sew over the lines we drew. Follow the next page for stitching instructions.

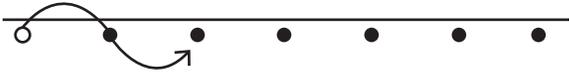


Backstitch

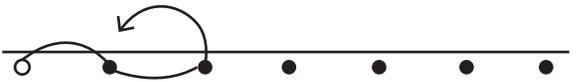
1



2



3



4

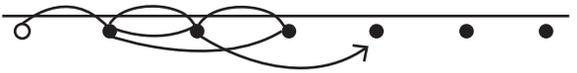


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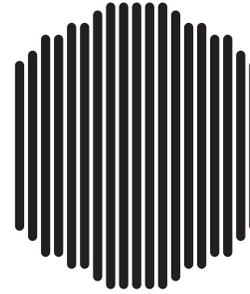


6

Repeat for desired length and then secure with knot.

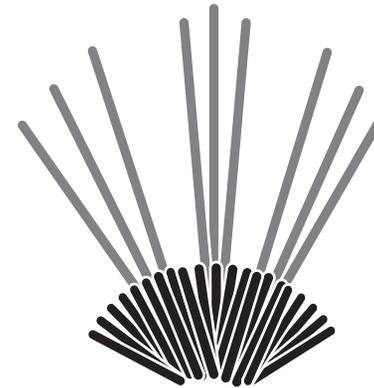


Satin Stitch



Normally a satin stitch helps fill up space with tight, straight stitches next to one another.

We modified the stitch to fan out on one end and extended some stitches farther out for the sun's rays.



Your stitching will look different depending on your design.

Go Beyond

If you're feeling overwhelmed by designs like Style 3, start simple! Practice satin stitches with simple shapes like squares and triangles. Once you're comfortable, move on to more complex designs.

Can you think of more ways to enhance your embroidery? You can embellish your design with beads, buttons, sequins and more fun things. Use the space below to plan your next piece and make a list of the materials you will need to create something that is uniquely "you."

Materials Ideas

Go Beyond

Embroidery is a popular choice for custom clothing and gifts. Can you think of clothing brands that use embroidery in their designs? What unique designs can you create for yourself?

Design Ideas

HANG OUT,
MESS
AROUND,
GEEK OUT.



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