



embroidery kit

INSTRUCTIONS

This kit includes:

- hoop
- needle & thread
- fabric with original pattern
- step-by-step instructions

What you'll need:

- scissors
- a sparkling beverage
- a few hours
- a little patience

PREP YOUR CLOTH & HOOP



Before you start, iron the cloth with the steam set to **off** to remove wrinkles. It's okay to iron over the design.

Loosen the screw at the top of the wooden embroidery hoop and separate the two hoops. Lay the smaller hoop on a table, then lay the piece of fabric over the smaller hoop, making sure the design is in the center of the hoop. Lay the larger hoop over the fabric and small hoop, then push the larger hoop down, sandwiching the fabric between the two hoops. Tighten the screw and pull the fabric taut. Keep tightening the screw until it feels tight, but not too tight. If you tap on the fabric it should sound like a drum.

Embroidery floss has multiple strands of thread. Using less strands gives you more detail. Your kit includes 6-strand embroidery floss, but you will only need 3 strands at a time for this project. Separate the floss so you end up with two 3-strand pieces. You'll have extra floss at the end of this project. Make something else with it!

Make a knot at one end of the floss and thread the needle with the other end. Moisten the end of the thread (with water, your mouth, or something like chap stick) to make it easier to thread the needle. After you have thread the needle, make sure the end **with the knot is long** and the **end without the knot is hanging** about 4 inches.

PREP YOUR THREAD & NEEDLE



STITCHING



Always start your stitches from the **back of the fabric**, and pull the thread all the way through the fabric until you feel the knot act as an anchor.

When you are stitching and start to notice you only have about 5 or 6 inches of thread left on your needle, it's time to change your thread. First, knot or tie the thread you are currently using in the back of the fabric. If you don't, the embroidery will unravel. Then snip off any extra thread so it doesn't tangle. Then thread your needle with a new piece of thread.

STITCH & COLOR GUIDE

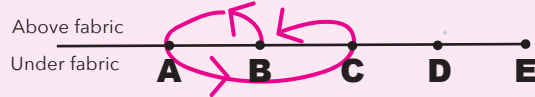
This pattern is a "choose your own adventure" type of embroidery kit. It's based on three stitches, the Back Stitch, Chain Stitch, and French Knotts (shown on your pattern as thick dots) and includes one variation: the Whipped Back Stitch. You get to decide which stitch you want to use for each line on the pattern **and** which colors you want to use. Alternate between all – **or** use one stitch for the whole thing **or** consider something in between or totally different. It's up to you!

STITCHING INSTRUCTIONS

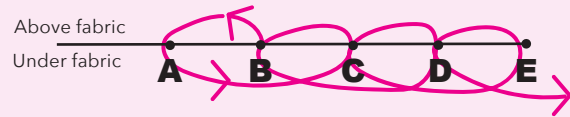
THE BACK STITCH

The back stitch is one of the most common stitches in embroidery. **It creates a solid line.** From the back of the fabric, the needle goes up through B and down through A. Up through C and down through B. Up through D and down through C. Up through E and down through D. Each stitch hops "back" one before moving forward. Hence the name "back stitch".

How it starts:



How the stitch continues:



THE WHIPPED BACK STITCH

First, make a row of back stitches using the instructions above. Then pick out a new color and thread your needle (or use the same color if you want a monochromatic look). From the back of the fabric, bring the needle up through A. **Do not put the needle back into the fabric.** The rest of this stitch will be entirely above fabric until the end. Then slide the needle under the stitch made by A and B over the fabric. Then slide the needle under the stitch made by B and C. Then slide the needle under the stitch made by C and D. And so on. When you have reached the end of the back stitch put the needle back into the fabric and tie off the thread.



THE EASY CHAIN STITCH

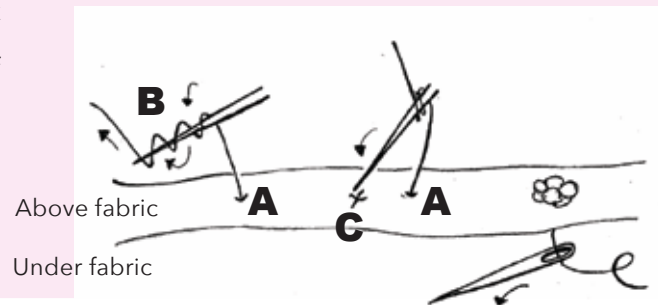
This creates a **chain made of chain links, which can be used to create thicker solid lines.** From the back of the fabric, the needle goes up through A and down through B to create a very tiny straight stitch. The needle then goes up through C. **Do not put the needle back into the fabric.** The rest of this part of the stitch will be entirely above fabric. Slip the needle through the stitch created by A & B. Then put the needle back into the fabric through the same C hole. Then bring the needle up through D, then above the fabric, slip the needle under the loop created by C, and down through the same D hole. Keep going like this until you get to the end of the line in the pattern.



(This one can be tricky. Check out the tutorial on my website www.theothercat.co/tutorials)

THE FRENCH KNOT

This creates a cute little raised knot. From the back of the fabric, the needle goes up through A (be sure to pull the thread all the way through first before moving on). Then wrap the thread around the needle 6 times (shown as B), then slip the needle back into the fabric at C, which is right next to A. **Slowly** pull the thread down all the way, looking out for and fixing tangles. Moving too fast will cause the thread to tangle.



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