

M CREATIVE J

Botanical Fiber Art

Fabric Landscapes



Kit Materials:

Embroidery hoop	Embroidery needle	Sewing pins
Cotton fabrics	DMC embroidery thread	Transfer pen

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Prep before stitching:

Thread: I rarely use all 6 stands of thread when I stitch, because it is very bulky. Instead I separate my embroidery thread out, one strand at a time. To do this, cut your thread to one arm's length for stitching (~18-24 inches), next pinch the thread between your fingers and gently pull one piece out of the bunch at a time. Pull straight up, not apart. Pulling more than one thread can cause the thread to tangle.

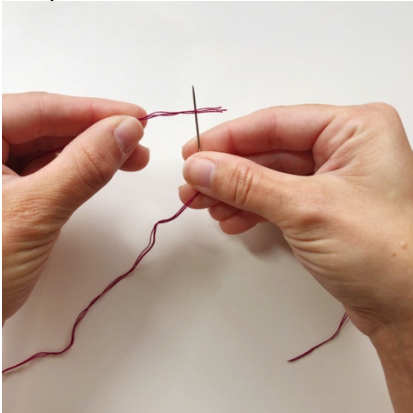
Threading the Needle:

To thread your needle, wet the ends of the two strands of embroidery thread and gently glide through the needle's eye. Once threaded, leave one portion of the thread longer than the other.

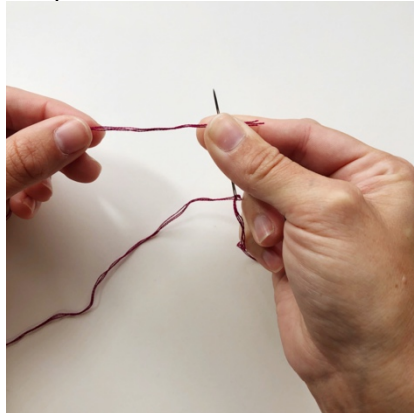
Knotting the Thread:

The easiest way I have found to knot my thread is with a quilters knot. To do this, hold your needle point up in your dominant hand. Then take the longer end of your thread and cross the tail in front of your needle. Hold the long tail with your thumb that is holding the needle. Then wrap the top part of the loop around the needle 2-3 times. Next gently pull the wrapped thread tight and push it down, over the needle's eye and down the strand of thread until it knots at the end. Make sure both ends of your thread are not knotted together.

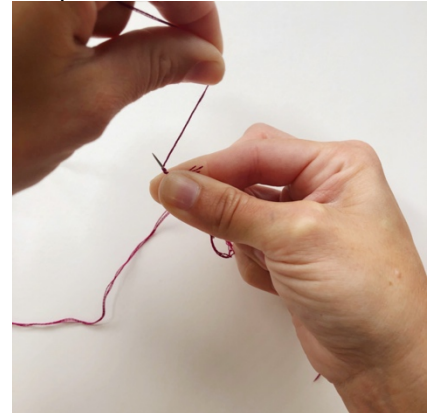
Step 1:



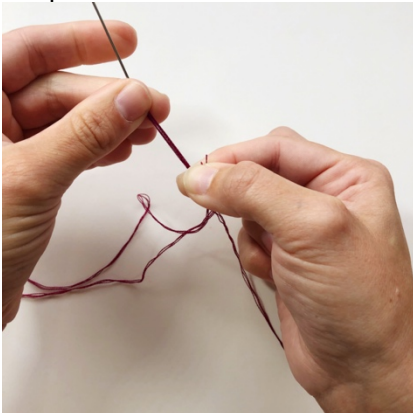
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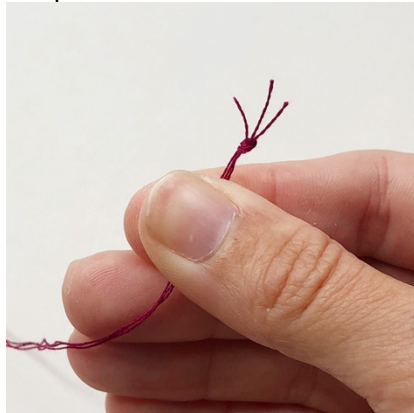
Step 3:



Step 4:



Step 5:



Stitches:

Step 1:

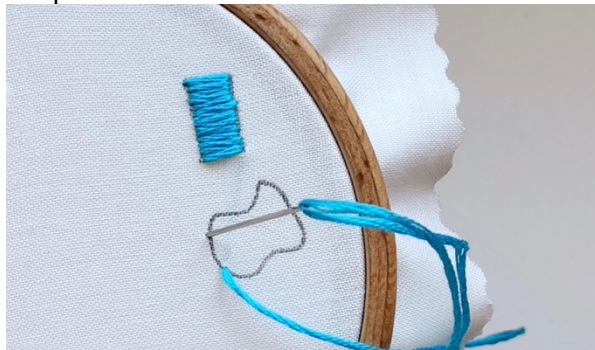


Step 2:

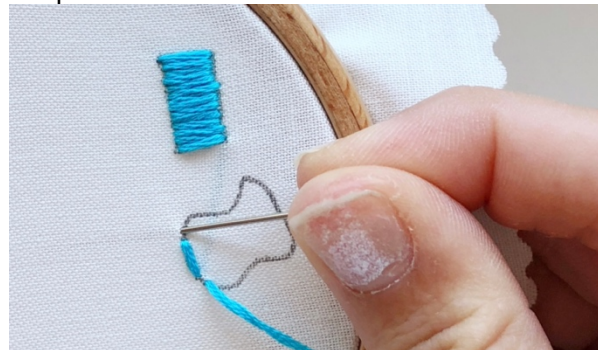


Running Stitch: Bring the needle up through the fabric from the back side for the fabric to the front at your starting point. Then weave the needle in and out of the fabric. Pull the needle and thread through the fabric to reveal a line with spaces in between each stitch. Repeat until you've finished the section.

Step 1:



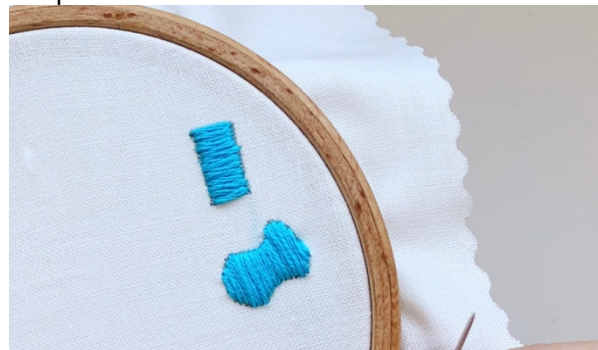
Step 2:



Step 3:

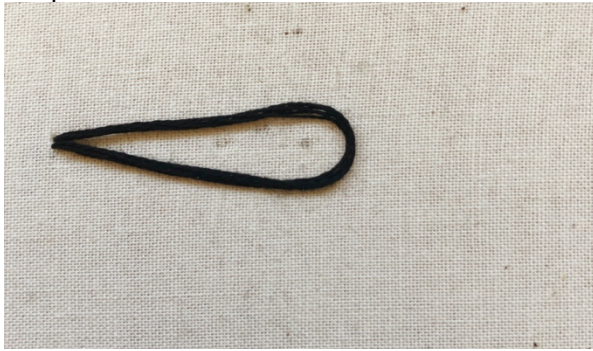


Step 4:

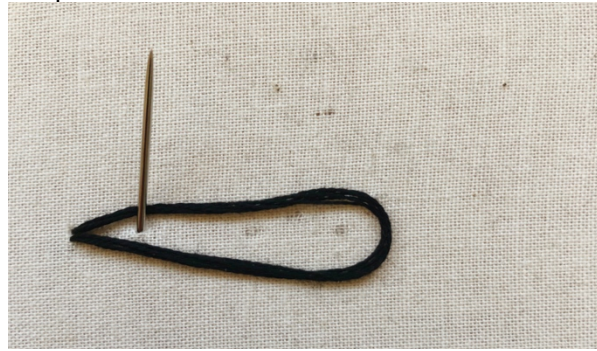


Satin Stitch: Bring the needle up from the back of the fabric to the front. Then down to the opposite side of the section, creating a long straight stitch. Bring the needle back up through the fabric right next to the start of your last stitch and repeat, continuing to fill in the space. Stitches should be close together, like they're hugging to avoid gaps and evenly fill the area.

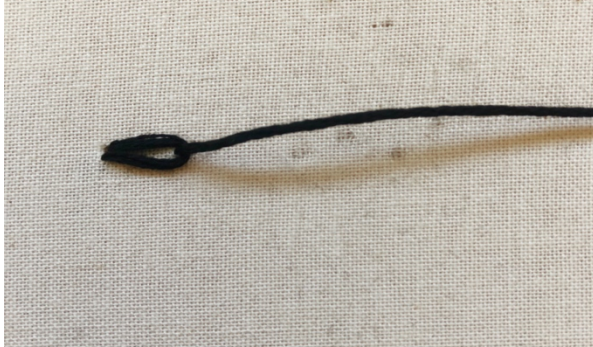
Step 1:



Step 2:



Step 3:



Step 4:



Step 5:



Step 6:



Chain Stitch: Start by bringing your needle up from the back of the fabric to the front at the point you would like the row of chain stitches to start. Next, hold your thread in direction you would like the chain to go and bring your needle back down through the fabric in the same spot you previously came up. This should make a loop of thread on the front of your fabric. From the back side of the fabric, space out a stitch's length (about 1/4 of an inch). Then bring your needle back up through the fabric. Your needle should be along the line you would like the chain row to be stitched and in between the loop of thread. Next, gently tug your thread so that the loop is flush with your fabric. This is now the first link in your chain stitch row. Now add more chains to the row. For the next chain, hold the thread in the direction you would like your row to go and then bring your needle back down through the fabric inside the previous chain link. Next, from underneath your fabric, space out a stitches length and bring the needle up through the fabric and the loop of thread along the path of the chain stitch row. This will be the second link in your chain stitch row. Continue adding chains to your row until it is the desired size. To end the chain stitch row, stitch

your last chain stitch. Then bring the needle back through the fabric on the outer edge of the last chain stitch. This will add a short straight stitch to keep your chain links securely in place.

Step 1:



Step 2:



Step 3:



Step 4:



Step 5:



Fly Stitch: Start by bringing your needle up through the fabric at the top corner of the V. Hold the thread in the direction of the bottom of the V and bring the needle back down through the fabric in the opposite top corner. Before pulling the thread taught against the fabric, bring the needle up at the bottom point of the V, making sure the needle is inside the thread held on the front of the fabric. Pull the thread taught so that it creates a V shape. make a short stitch on the other side of the V to hold it in place. This creates one fly stitch.

How to finish your design in the embroidery hoop:

I finish all my hoops with a closed back so that they can be hung like a picture frame. You don't need to do this, but it does make it easier to display your handmade artwork.

1. After trimming your fabric to about 1 inch from the edge of the hoop. Use 6 strands of thread to stitch a running stitch around the fabric so that it gathers the fabric tightly on the back side of your hoop.



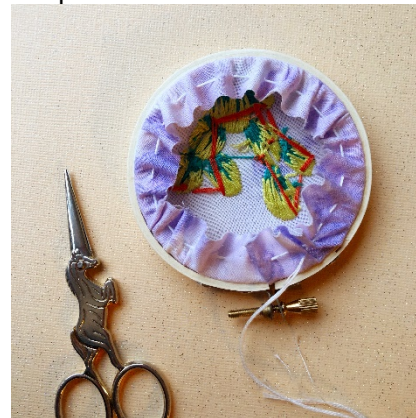
Step 1:



Step 2:



Step 3:



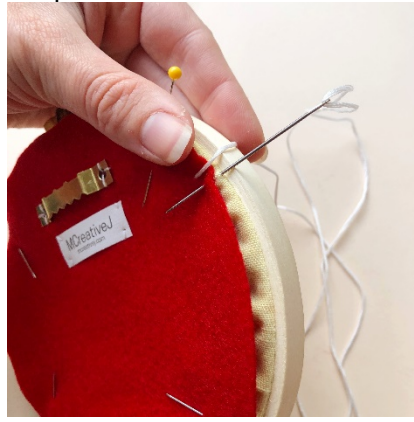
Running Stitch: The running stitch is one of the most basic stitches to create a straight line and will be used to close the back of your embroidery. It's similar to the backstitch, however, you don't fill in the gaps! To start, bring the needle up through the fabric from the back side for the fabric to the front at your starting point. Go back down through the fabric a short distance from the first point. Continue this until you go all the way around the back of the hoop. Tug gently to gather your fabric then and knot the thread.

2. Next, use a pen to trace your hoop on a piece of felt. Cut the felt to the size of your hoop.
3. Sew the sawtooth hook to the felt, about one inch from the top edge.
4. Whipstitch the felt to back of your hoop, keeping the sawtooth hook level at the top of the hoop.

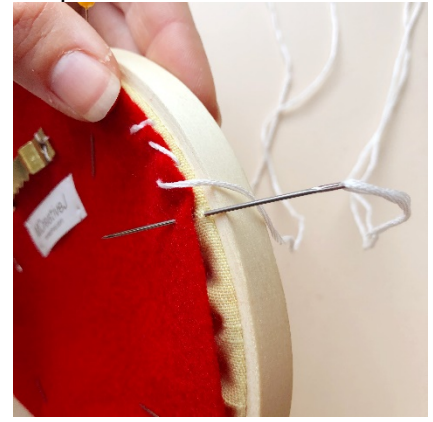
Step 1:



Step 2:



Step 3:



Whipstitch: This stitch is great for covering the edges of a fabric and will be used to attach your felt back to your hoop embroidery. Use 2 strands of any color thread for this stitch. Start by bringing your needle through the fabric on the back of your hoop and down through your felt back. Continue wrapping this stitch around your hoop by bringing your needle through your fabric then through your felt until you've gone all the way around your hoop. Knot your thread at the end.