

## Advanced Embroidery – Learn Experimental Stitches!

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### Supplies:

- Various colors of Embroidery Floss
- Woven fabric (linen, cotton broad cloth, etc)
- Embroidery hoops
- Printout of image you wish to transfer
- Graphite Transfer Paper (available in white, gray or other colors)
- Ballpoint pens or soft leaded pencils
- Tape
- Scissors

### Tips:

-Make sure you choose an image that is high contrast- it is much easier to simplify it into lines, shapes and textures when it is bold and bright.

-When tracing, use a ballpoint pen or soft leaded pencil. Other drawing tools may rip the paper and mark your fabric in an unwanted way. Tape your paper down so it won't shift.

-Choose a background fabric that complements your image either formally (color, pattern) or conceptually. For instance- if you are doing a portrait of your aunt who loves animals, maybe choose a fabric that has a cat pattern. Make sure the pattern of your fabric is not too bold and will take away from your drawing in thread.

-Look at the different textures in the source image and choose stitches to depict it accordingly. Be creative!

-Plan your color scheme. You do not need to use every color found in your source image. Challenge yourself to use restraint and choose only a few colors. This will keep your final product neat and concise.

-In beginning embroidery, students used three strands of embroidery floss to complete their stitches. As a more advanced embroiderer, try using a various amount of strands to create different thicknesses in your lines.

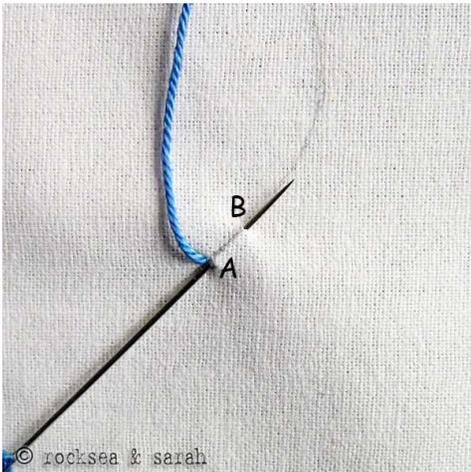
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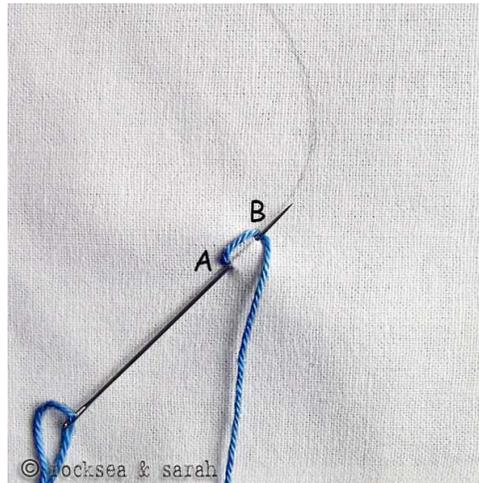
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## CHAIN STITCH



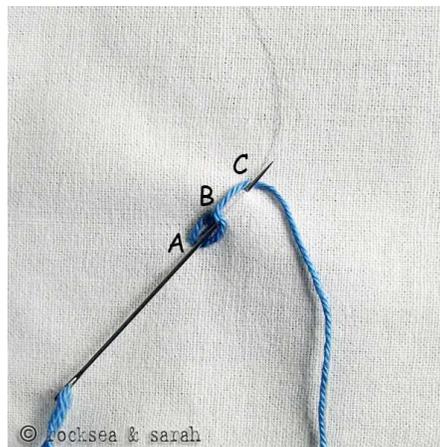
Step 1: Bring the thread out through A. Pierce the needle back in A & bring it out through the point B. Don't pull the needle out completely.



Step 2: Take the thread around the needle from left to right to form a loop.



Step 3: Pull out the needle to tighten the loop and you will create the first part of the chain.



Step 4: Pierce the needle in through B (now inside the loop) and bring it out on C (outside of the loop).



Step 5: Continue taking the thread around the back of the needle from left to right to form a loop & pull out the needle to get the next loop of the chain.

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### WHIPPED SPIDER WEB



Step 1: Make straight stitches with a common center as shown. Bring the needle through the center and go under the first straight stitch.

Note that if you are leaving a gap in the center, you need to bring the needle out from the inner point of one of the straight stitches.



Step 2: Whip around the straight stitch, as shown. Do not pluck the fabric underneath. Move to the next straight stitch and whip around it.



Step 3: Continue this process by going around, each time, whipping the straight stitch before moving to the next.



Step 4: The whipped spider web should look like this.

## TURKEY WORK



**Step 1:** To begin, do not knot the thread ending as we would normally. Put the needle in through A. Leave a length of thread. Now, bring out the needle through B, in through C and again out through A. The point A lies in the middle of B-C.



**Step 2:** Now, take the needle in through D and out through C. The point C lies in the middle of A-D. Make sure you do not pull the thread looping between A-D is pulled through completely, but left as a loop.



**Step 3:** Now, continue this process, each time leaving a loop of thread. Try to keep all the loops of the same length.



**Step 4:** A finished row of this stitch would look like this.

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**Step 5:** You can bring out a different effect by cutting these loops in the middle leaving the threads to hang open. The closer the stitches, the denser it will look.

You can create a mini shag rug by doing rows of closely stitched turkey rug knots to cover a space. Trim when finished.