

# JOB ROLE – HAND EMBROIDERER

Sector – Apparel, Made-Ups and Home Furnishing  
(Qualification Pack Code: AMH/Q 1001)



PSS Central Institute of Vocational Education Shyamla  
Hills, Bhopal – 462 013, Madhya Pradesh, India

# **UNIT 2: TOOLS, MATERIALS AND STITCHES FOR HAND EMBROIDERY**

## **Session 2: Embroidery Stitches**

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# Session Objectives

The students will be able to:

- Describe general tips for hand embroidery
- Demonstrate various types of flat stitches
- Prepare samples of different types of flat stitches

# Introduction

The skill of the hand embroiderer lies in the right selection of the design, embroidery stitches, threads, and colours which would result in a product of beauty and grace. The stitches are used to form the outlines and/or to fill the surface of the embroidery pattern on the fabric. Flat stitches are group or type of simple embroidery stitches in which stitches are made without looping the thread. They are also called straight stitches.

# General Tips for Embroidery

- wash the fabric to be embroidered and remove its starch
- iron it well and trace the design on the fabric
- firmly fix the traced fabric in the frame or hoop



# General Tips for Embroidery

- design part should be centre of hoop or frame
- collect all tools and materials required for embroidery work
- thread the needle with required strands

# General Tips for Embroidery

- tie the end of thread by a very small knot
- pull the thread on the upper side of the fabric
- hands and working area should be clean



# Embroidery Stitches

Hand embroidery stitches are divided into the following categories:

➤ flat stitches 

➤ loop stitches 

# Flat Stitches

- these stitches are very simple and used for outlining and filling the motifs
- types of filling stitches are:

**1. Running**

**2. Back**

**3. Split**

**4. Stem**

**5. Cross**

**6. Herringbone**

**7. Couching**

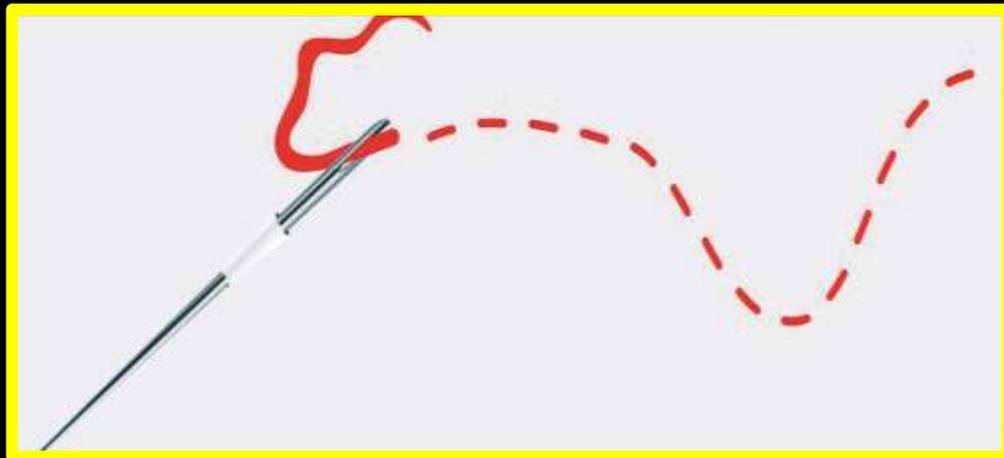
**8. Satin**

**9. Long and short**

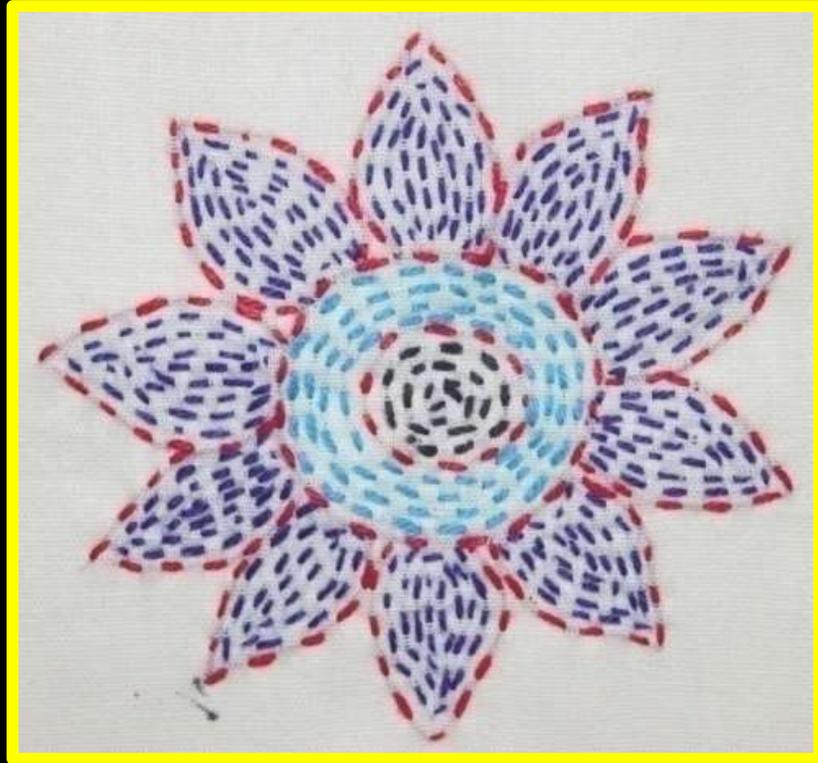
**10. Fishbone**

# Running Stitch

- it is made by small evenly placed stitches by passing the needle above and below
- the stitches equidistantly (one up and one down)
- make a loop (backside) and pull the thread from the loop to end the stitch

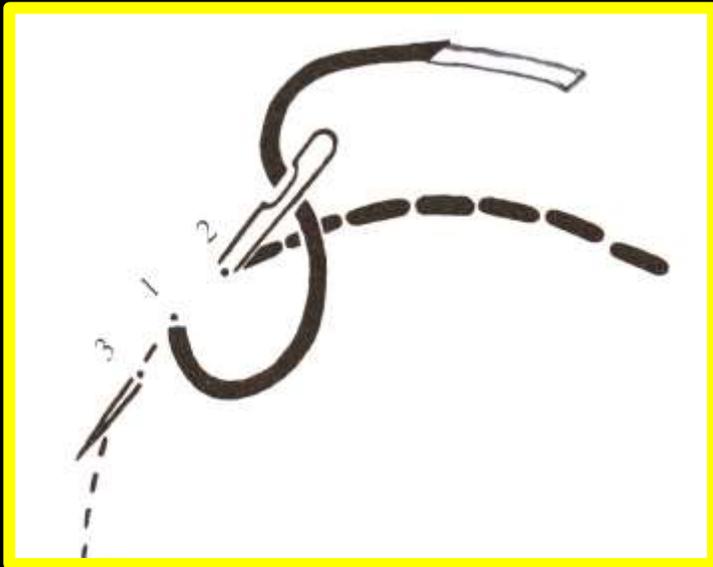


# Running Stitch Design Plate

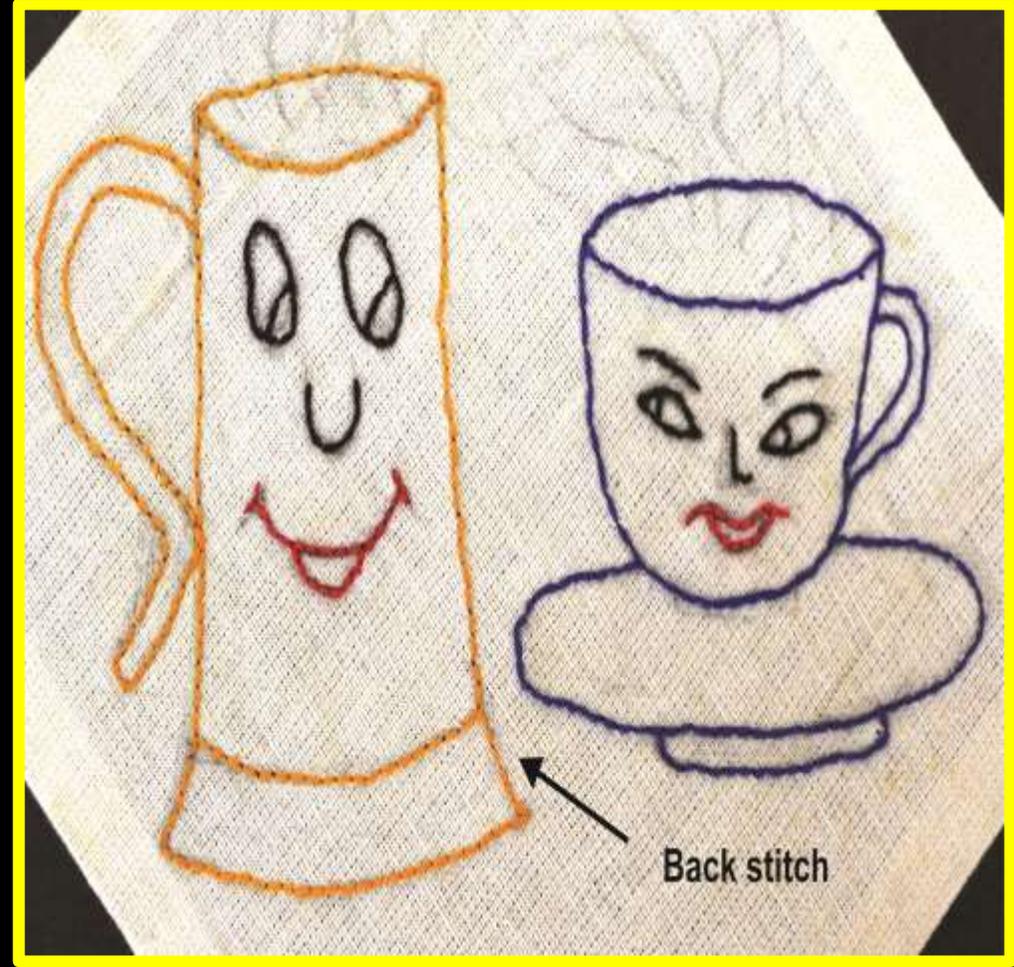


# Back Stitch

- it is done by taking the needle a step backward before taking a step forward along the stitch line
- it is a flat and uniform stitch and is used for outlining the motifs



# Back Stitch Design Plate



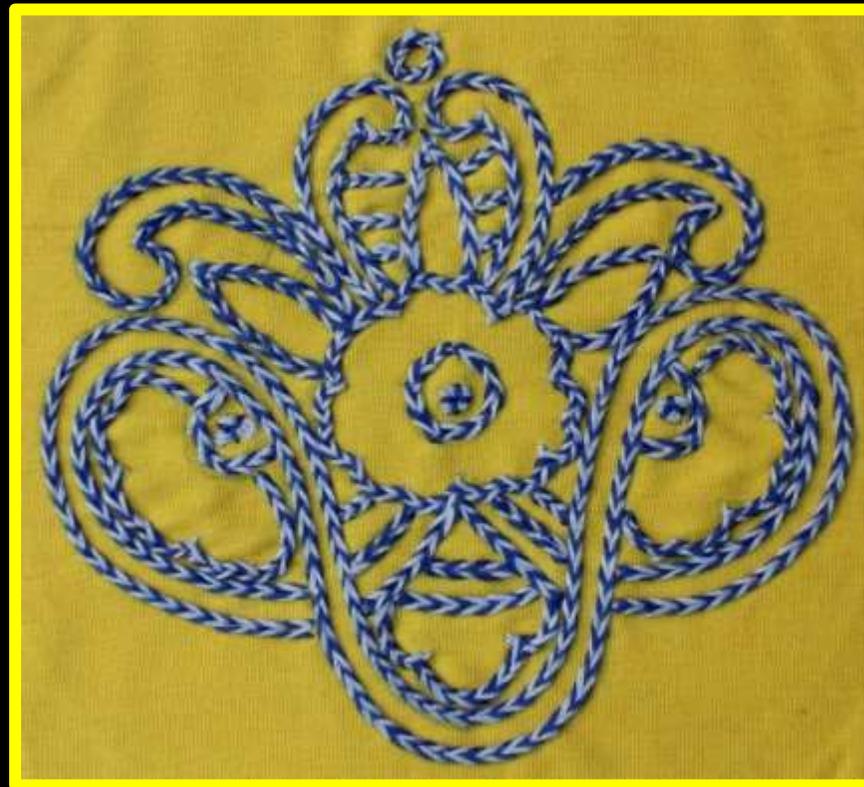
# Split Stitch

- it is used to give solid and textured outlines
- two strand thread is used for this stitch
- it's a variation of stem stitch



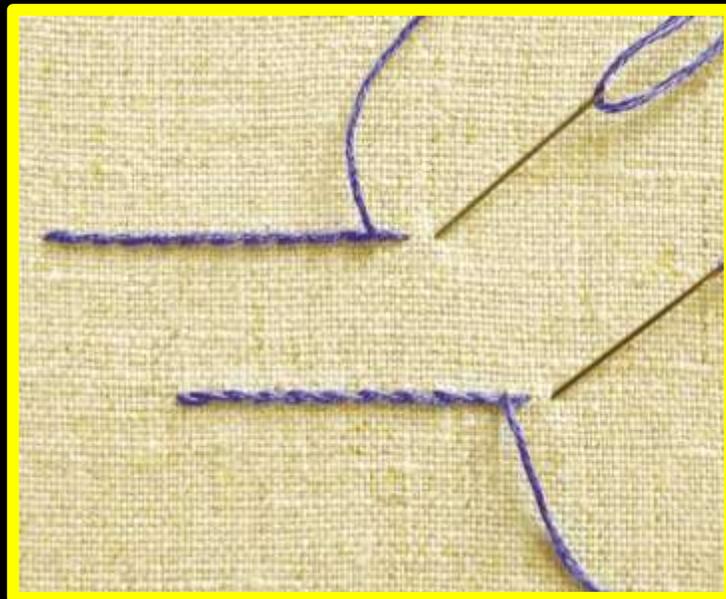
# Split Stitch

- it is made by bringing the thread upwards on the fabric and then taking a stitch in such a way that it splits the stitch



# Stem Stitch

- take a small stitch and take out the needle backwards half the way to the first stitch
- keep on taking such stitches by keeping the thread in one direction to form a stem stitch outline



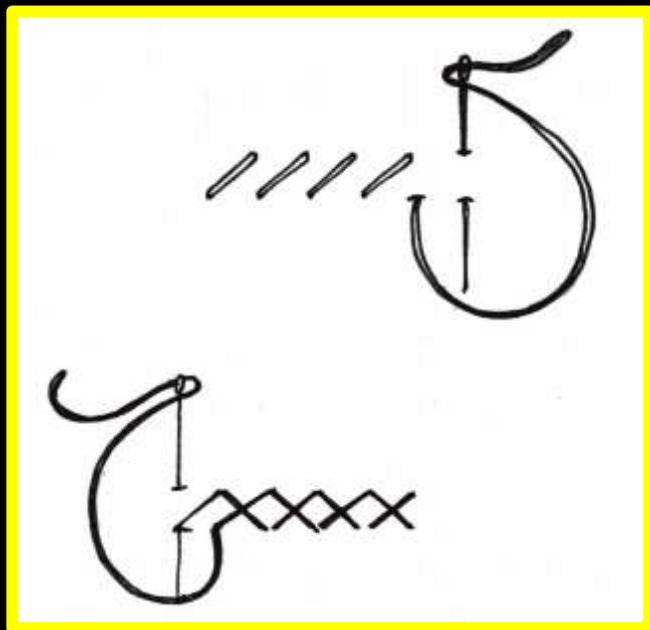
# Stem Stitch

- it is good for outlining flowers, stems and leaves
- it can also be used in combination with other stitches



# Cross Stitch

- the design formed by two small crossing arms
- take single diagonal stitch first in one direction
- then in another direction to cross the first stitch



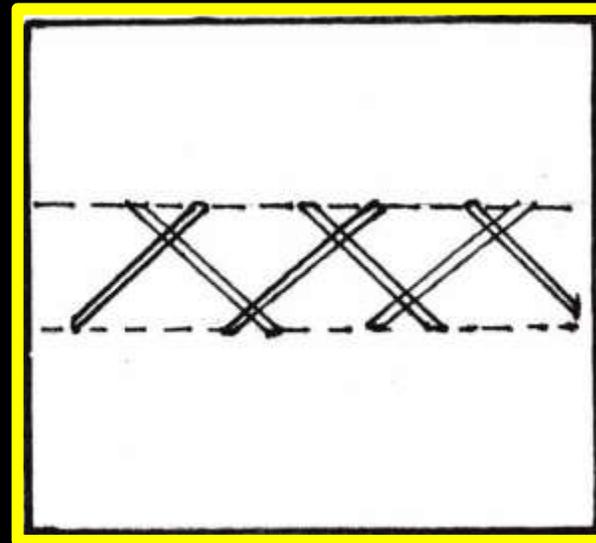
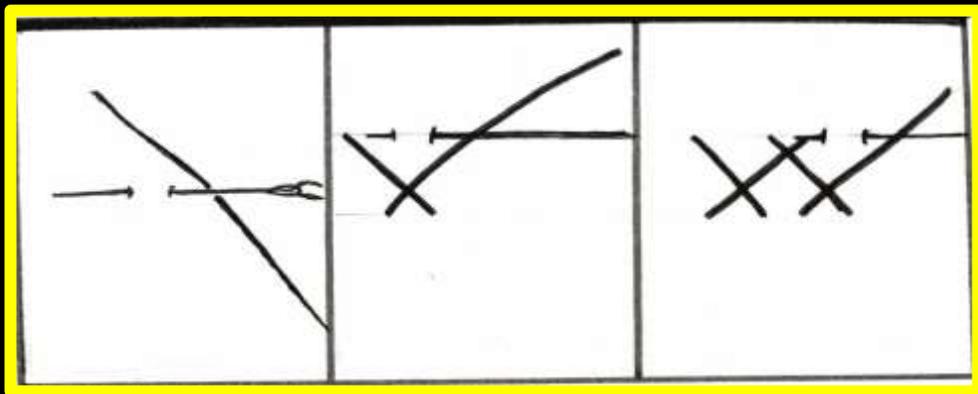
# Cross Stitch

- it is done on geometrical, floral and animal motifs



# Herringbone Stitch

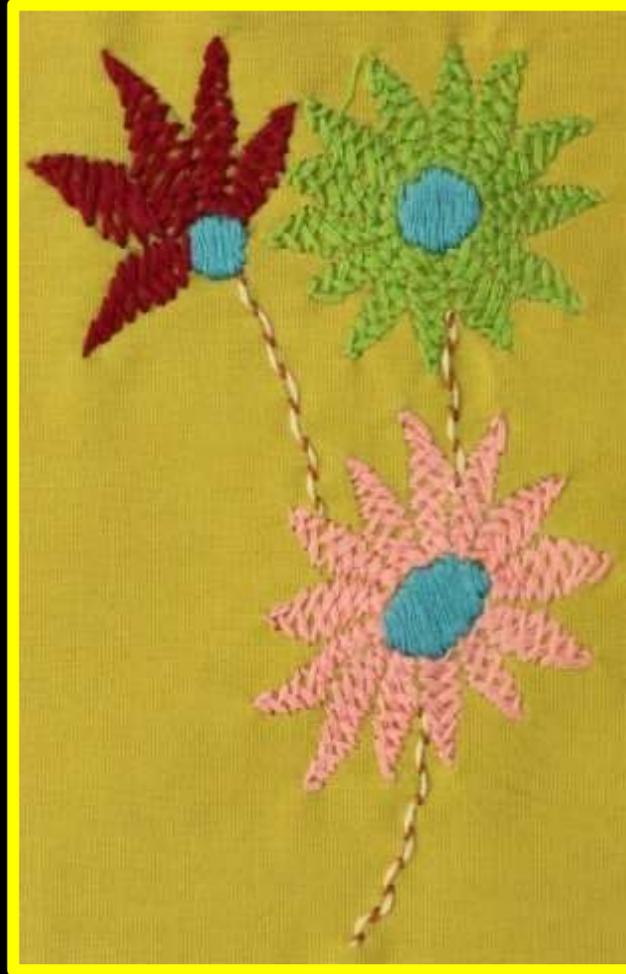
- it is the variation of cross stitch, it is done in double lines
- take a stitch in opposite line and bring the needle again on the first line creating cross in a slant



# Herringbone Stitch

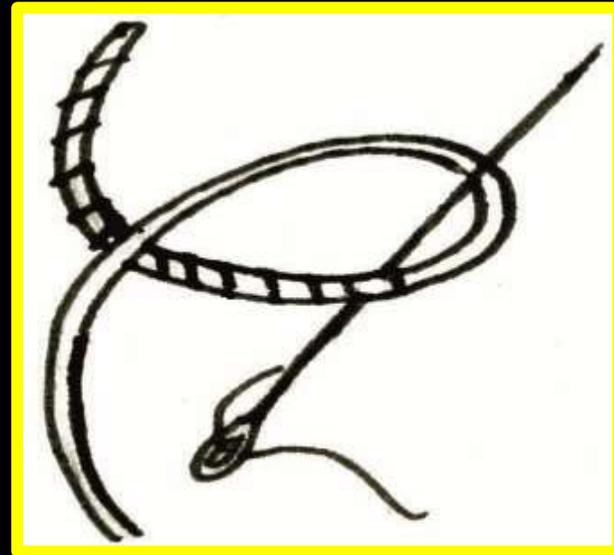
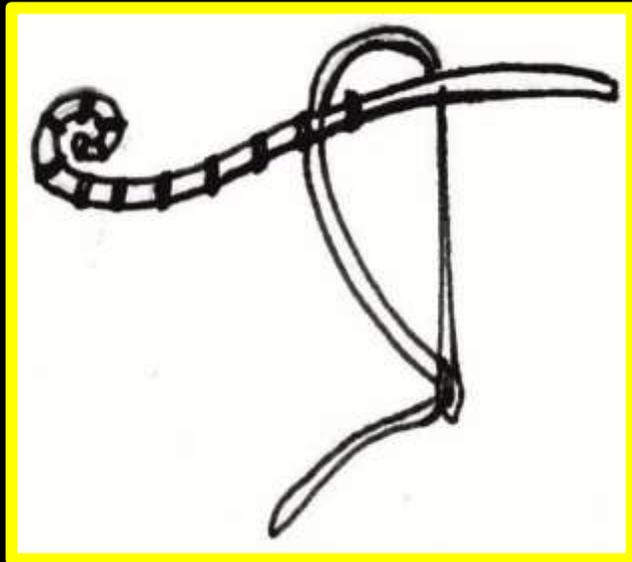
- this stitch is mainly used to embroider saree borders, kurties, blouses, furnishing items and Kids wear

# Herringbone Stitch Design Plate



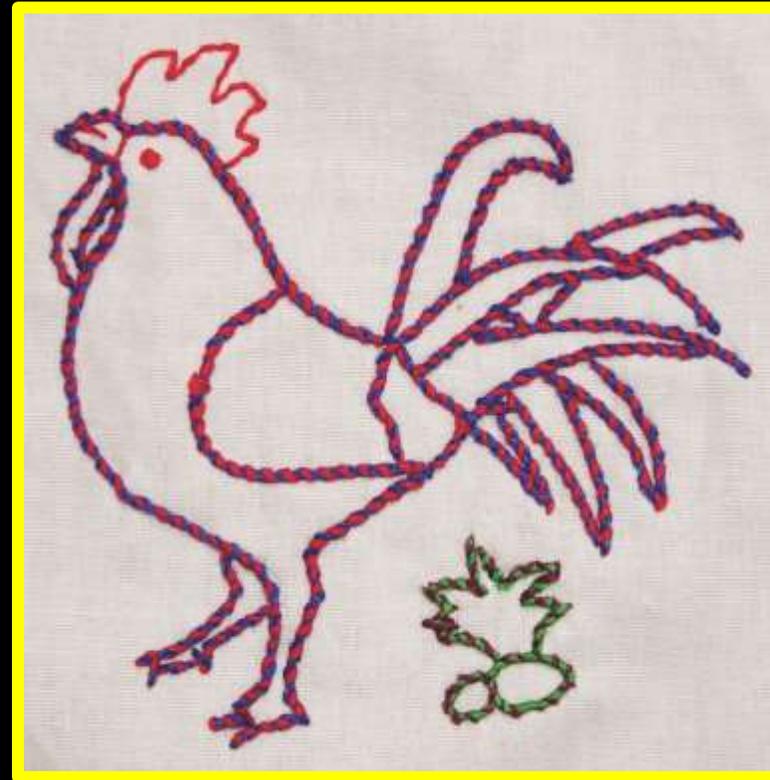
# Couching Stitch

- place one thread along the design outline
- then, a thick cord or six strands of thread are placed on the design line and a thread of contrast colour is used to stitch over the thick thread



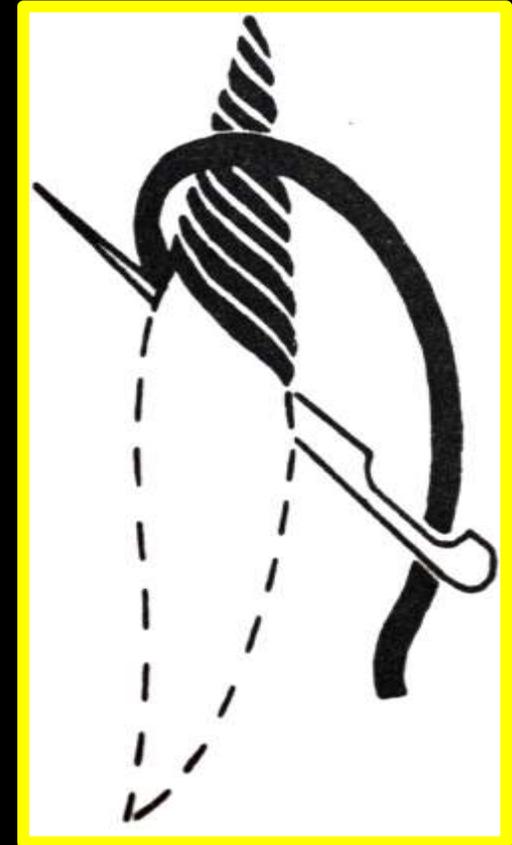
# Couching Stitch

- it helps in outlining in thick lines creating an interesting look



# Satin Stitch

- this is a filling stitch which appears same from front and back side
- insert the needle up from one side of design and put it down on the other side either taking a straight or a slant stitch



# Satin Stitch

- the stitches should be very close to each other



# Long and Short Stitch

- one stitch is taken long and one short
- design is filled in sections with shaded threads, like a leaf can be filled by filling from upper side



# Long and Short Stitch

- first taking one long and one short stitch and then from the other side with some other coloured thread

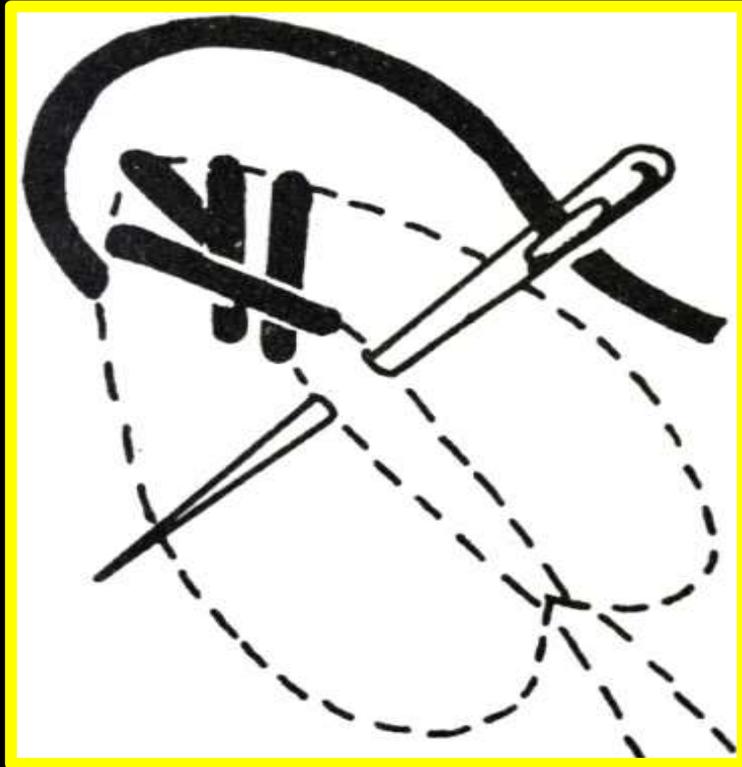


# Long and Short Stitch Design Plate



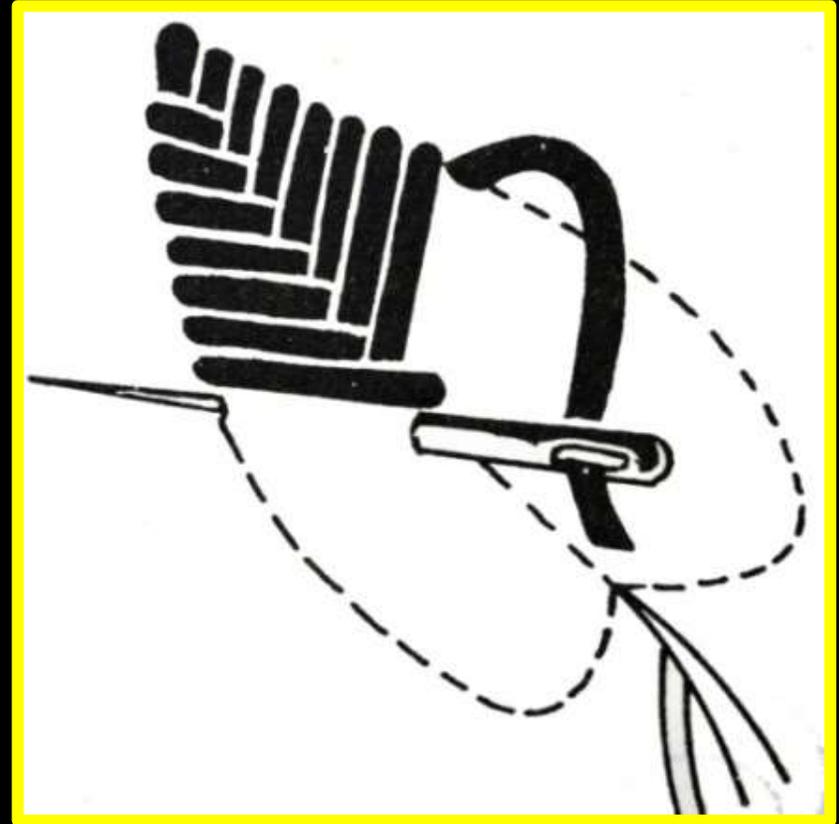
# Fishbone Stitch

- this stitch resembles the backbone of a fish
- it is good for filling leaves and feathers



# Fishbone Stitch

- the leaf is given a central imaginary line while doing this stitch
- then starting the stitch from one side the needle is brought at the center and taken out on the other side



# Fishbone Stitch

- then, one stitch on right and the other on left is worked out to complete the leaf motif



# Summary

In this session, you have learnt about the general tips for hand embroidery and various types of flat stitches.

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