



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.

Use about an arm length (hand to elbow) of thread at a time.

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 GUIDE

This pattern uses two different stitches, which are indicated by shapes. The shapes shown below are displayed on the pattern. Each shape uses a different stitch.

- = The Stem Stitch
- = The French Knot

Stitch the Stem Stitch part of the pattern first. Then stitch the French Knots on top of and around the Stem Stitches. To fill out the tree, add more French Knots than are indicated on the pattern. Use your creativity!

COLOR GUIDE

The guide below shows what color thread to use and where. Feel free to get creative and mix up the colors however you like!

Light Pink Thread:
Black dots for French Knots

Dark Pink Thread:
White dots for French Knots

Brown Thread:
Brown lines for Stem Stitches

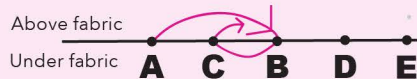


STITCHING INSTRUCTIONS

THE STEM STITCH

The needle goes up through A and down through B. Don't pull the thread all the way through yet - leave a little slack. The needle goes up through C, and then pull the thread all the way through, tight enough to remove the slack. Then put the needle down through D and up through B, down through E, up through D, and continue with that stitching pattern.

How it starts:

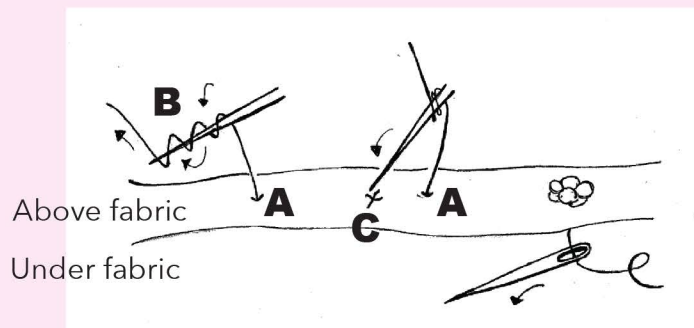


How the stitch continues:



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.



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



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