

# FLY STITCH

LEFT-HANDED



**1** Bring the thread to the front at the top right point of the stitch. (You might find it easier to do the stitch with the fabric in your hand to start with, not in a hoop.)



**2** Insert the needle at the top left point of the stitch and come back up at the base of the V, keeping the thread under the point of the needle.



**3** Pull the thread through so the V shape is formed.



**4** Insert the needle below the base of the stitch and pull it through to the back. In this case, the tack stitch is about the same length as the other two 'arms'.



**5** A typical fly stitch looks like a letter Y.



**6** You can also make a fly stitch that resembles a V. Do steps 1-3 as before (above left) but insert the needle just under the thread instead of making a line at the base.





**7** Pull the thread through to the back to complete the stitch.



**8** Another variation is to make an extra long stitch at the base, creating the effect of a stalk and leaves (top left).



**9** For a flower bud, make a detached chain (lazy daisy) stitch. To start the fly stitch, bring the needle up at the right side of the bud about half or two-thirds of the way up.



**10** Pull the thread through, then go down on the left side and come up at the base of the chain with the thread under the needle.



**11** Pull the thread through to form the stitch around the bud to resemble leaves. (A shorter fly stitch can depict the calyx of a rosebud.)



**12** Make a fairly long tack stitch at the base to form the stalk of the flower bud.