

BACKSTITCH

LEFT-HANDED



1 Bring the needle to the front of the work one stitch length to the right of the start of the line.



2 Insert the needle at the start of the line, one stitch length to the left of where the thread emerged.



3 Pull the thread through to complete the first stitch, then bring the needle up one stitch length to the right of the previous stitch.



4 Insert the needle in the same hole as the start of the previous stitch.



5 Continue in the same way along the line. Each stitch should share holes with the previous and subsequent stitches and be about the same length.



6 The reverse side of the stitch should resemble stem stitch. As each stitch is worked behind where you start, there is a double line of thread on the back.



7 To turn a corner, bring the needle up one stitch length from the corner and insert it in the same hole as the last stitch before the corner.



8 Backstitch can be worked along any sort of line – straight, angled or curved.



9 The smaller the stitches, the smoother the curves can be, especially if they are tight curves.



10 Backstitch can be worked in parallel rows, straight or curved, to fill an area or to make a wider line. It's best to stagger the stitches in a brick fashion for a unified effect.