

Feather stitch

LEFT-HANDED



1 Feather stitch is great for decorative borders and soft foliage effects. Begin by bringing the thread to the front at the start of the line at the right side of its final width.



2 Insert the needle level with and to the left of the entry point and come up again halfway between and below them with the thread under the needle.



3 Pull the thread through to form a U-shaped stitch. Keep the tension fairly soft so the stitches are curved rather than becoming tight V shapes.



4 Insert the needle level with the previous exit point and to its left again and come up halfway between and below them with the thread under the needle.



5 Pull the thread through to form the second U-shaped stitch. You can see that they are like connected or continuous fly stitches.



6 Insert the needle level with the previous exit point but to the right of it this time. Come up between and below them as before with the thread under the needle.



7 Pull the thread through to form the third stitch. Continue making stitches to the left and right alternately until the line is the desired length.



8 To finish the line (or change to a new thread), anchor the last stitch by inserting the needle in the same hole to form a tiny holding stitch over the loop.



9 The finished stitch develops a pleasing rhythm. Feather stitch can also be worked more formally on evenweave fabric where it has a less fluid appearance.