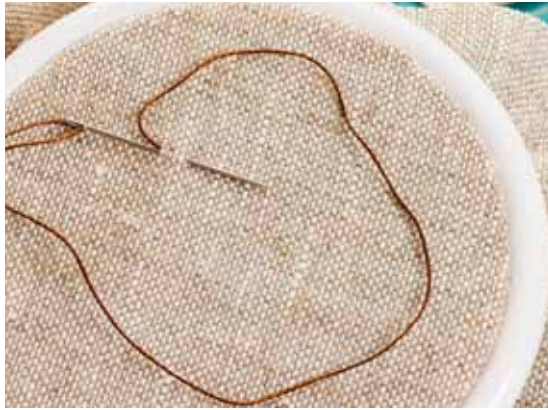


# Buttonhole stitch

LEFT-HANDED



**1** Bring the needle up where the looped edge will be, go in right beside it and come up the length of the stitch away. Form a clockwise loop with the working thread as shown.



**2** Pull the needle through, keeping it over the thread loop, and a twisted loop will form at the starting point. This loop is what sets the stitch apart from blanket stitch.



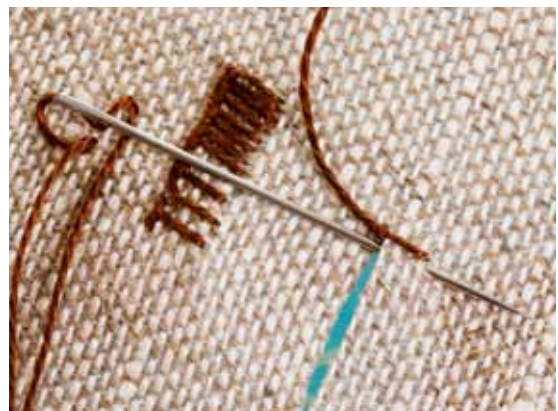
**3** Pull the thread all the way through so that the stitch sits snugly on the fabric and the loop tightens around it, but without distorting the fabric.



**4** Insert the needle at the edge beside the first loop and repeat Step 1, ensuring you have the clockwise loop of thread in place as before.



**5** Worked close together, this is the stitch used for buttonholes and the edgings of whitework as it's durable. Spaced apart, it is more decorative.



**6** This example shows the stitch starting on a cut edge instead of the middle of a piece of fabric. Slide the needle under the fabric at the edge and come up as before.





**7** Several stitches on a cut edge, showing the ridged effect that forms. It can be worked tiny or in larger scale with various types of thread and is a very versatile stitch.