

# The Desert Scape

HAND EMBROIDERY KIT



**Ibis  
en  
Route**

**featuring**

**HAND EMBROIDERY &  
HAND SEWING TECHNIQUES**

# MESSAGE FROM THE **Artist**

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Embroidery drew me in with its **meditative stitches** as a way to ease my mind. From the colors, to the stitches, across the endless fabric choices - embroidery became a catalyst for my creativity. No longer was my sense of adventure limited to a single sheet in my sketchbook.

Within each piece of embroidery is a chance to lose track of time and explore a **new world**. A world stitched with scenic mountain ranges or desolate sand dunes, glimmering river beds or textured foliage. The options are endless as long as you're willing to take that **next step**, turn a new page in your sketchbook, pick up the needle once more.

My hope for you is that my embroidery ignites something in you, too.



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# In Your Kit

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**8 SKEINS OF FLOSS**

**6" EMBROIDERY  
HOOP**

**YOU WILL  
ALSO NEED**

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- RULER
- SCISSORS
- PEN TO  
TRANSFER PATTERN

**SUPPLIES TO MAKE  
2 TASSELS**

**6" WOODEN DOWEL**

**WALL HANGING  
TEMPLATE**

**2 READY-TO-TRACE  
PATTERN PRINT OUTS**

**2 CANVAS PIECES**

**IT'S THE  
LITTLE THINGS:**

- (10) QUILTERS PINS
- (1) SIZE 5 NEEDLE
- (1) CHENILLE NEEDLE
- (1) 24" BLACK PERLE  
COTTON THREAD
- (1) 24" COTTON CORD

# How It Works

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This embroidery kit strives to **minimize waste** by providing all resources digitally. Through this **pdf booklet** you have access to learning materials that will ensure you have all the support you may need as you stitch your wall hanging.

Just starting out or still a bit new to embroidery? Review the **Essential Beginner's Guide** for guidance on how to transfer your pattern, techniques for threading your needle, starting your first stitch, and more.

You're not in it alone! This embroidery kit includes a pre-recorded **Stitch Along**. Never miss a stitch with footage at each step of the way. Watch it as many times as you need, whenever you may need it.

Click here to watch the **Stitch Along**.



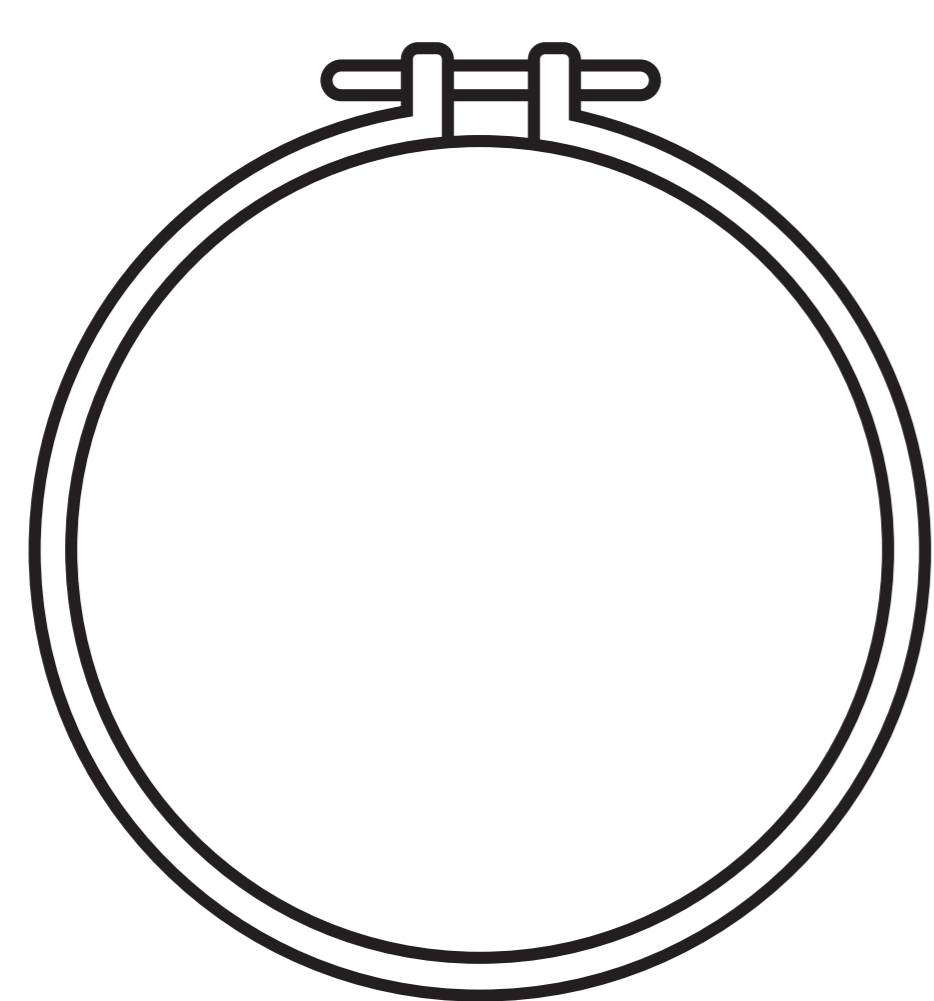
Unsure on how to do a specific stitch? Explore the **Stitch Library**, which takes a deep dive on each stitch with **written instructions, video tutorials, and helpful tips**.

# The Game Plan

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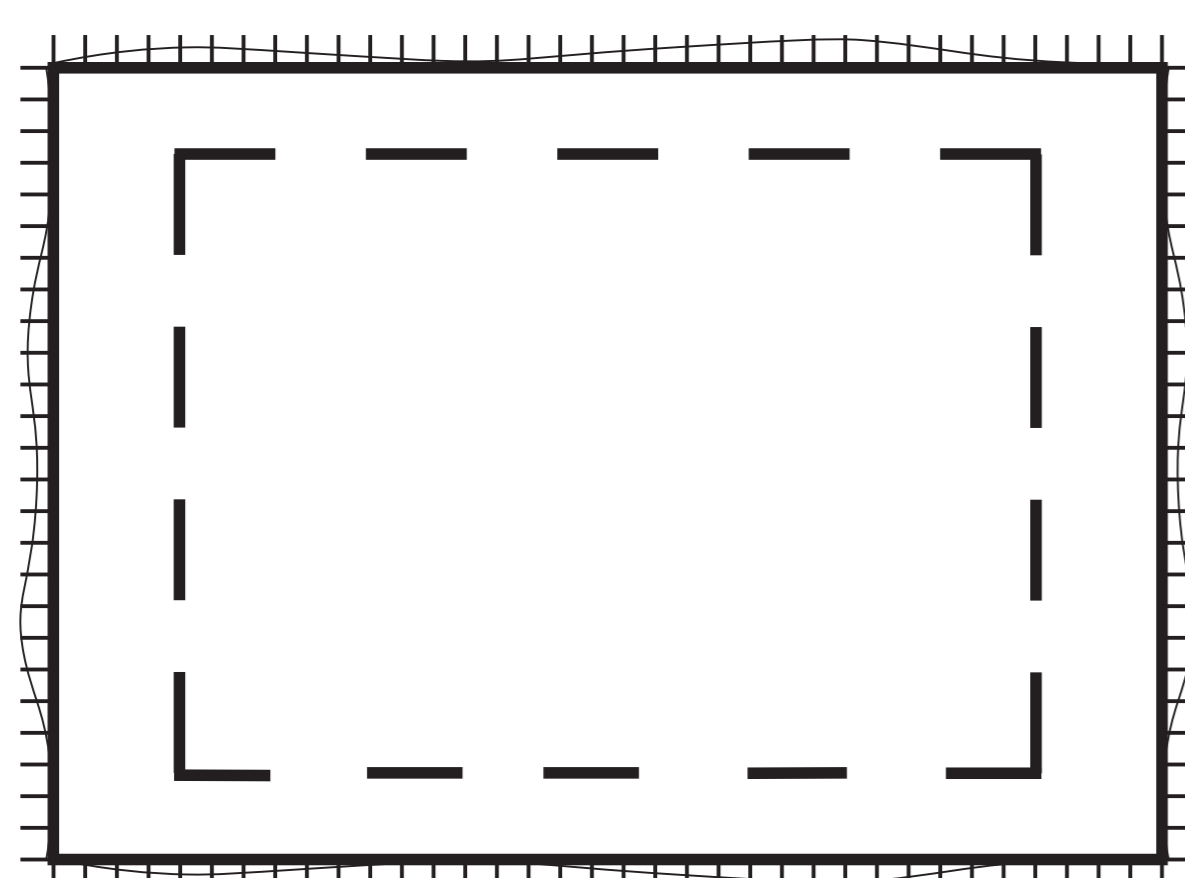
The **Desert Scape** pattern features a relentless desert sun beaming over desert flora in an assortment of embroidery stitches, all on a 5" x 7" hand-stitched wall hanging. You will explore **traditional embroidery** stitches with an unconventional twist, all the while developing your creative intuition.

**Hand embroidery** and **hand sewing** techniques combine to create a one of a kind wall hanging in just **four** steps:



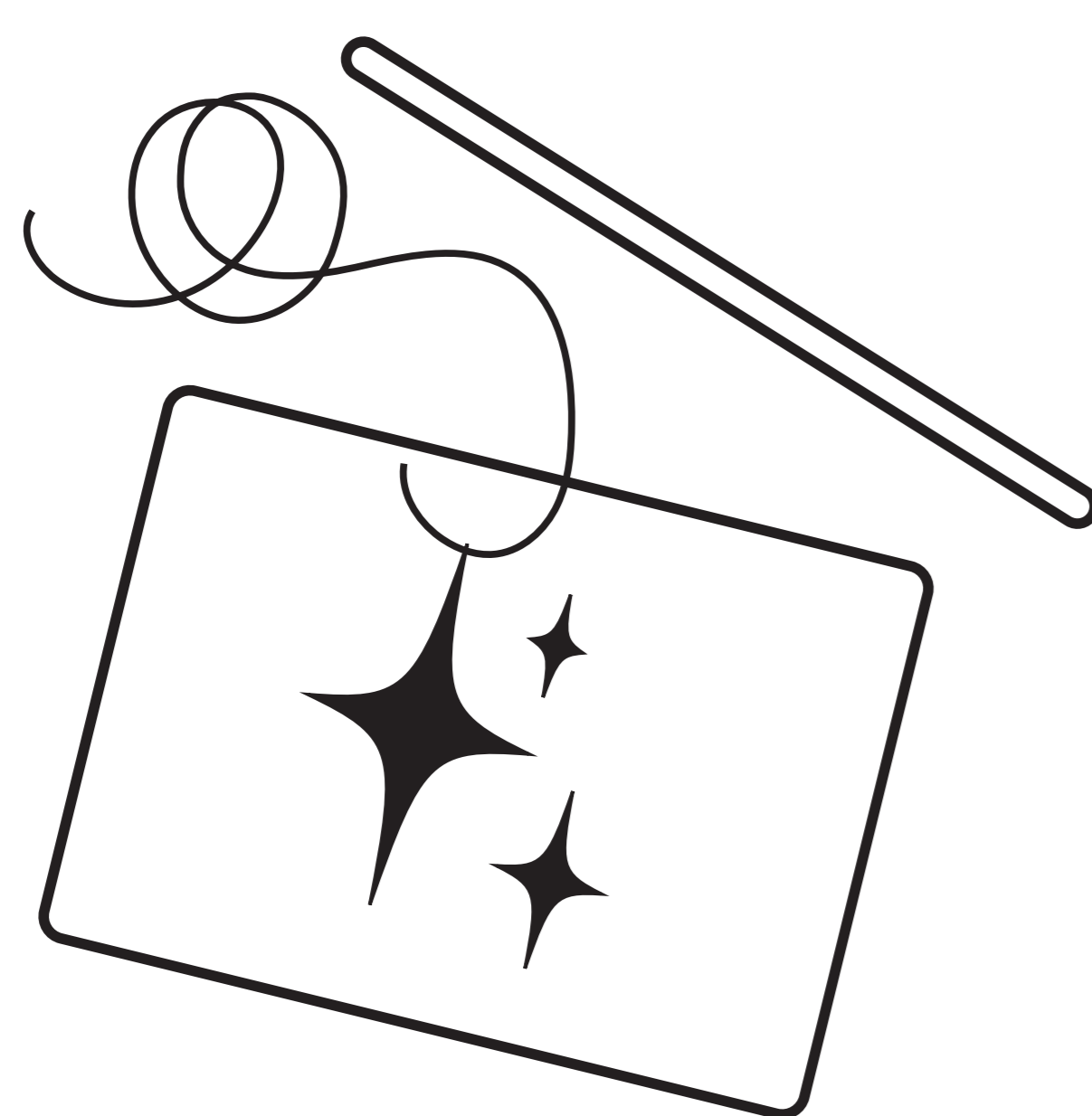
## **Embroider the Pattern**

Use over 10 embroidery stitches to create your mountainous landscape.



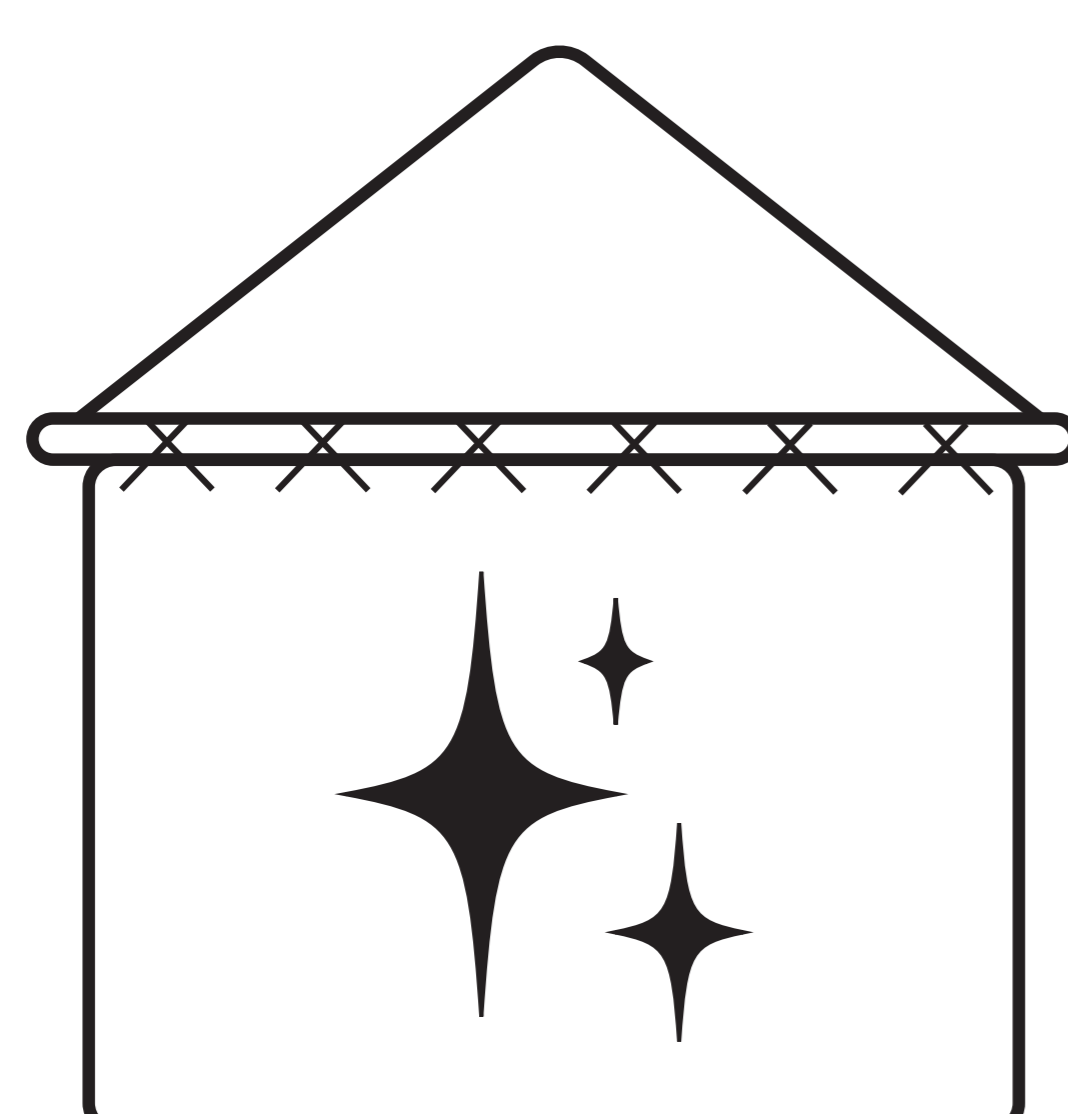
## **Hand Sew the Outline**

Have no fear - if you can embroider, you can hand sew.



## **Add the Dowel and Tassels**

A few overcast stitches and you're one step away from complete.



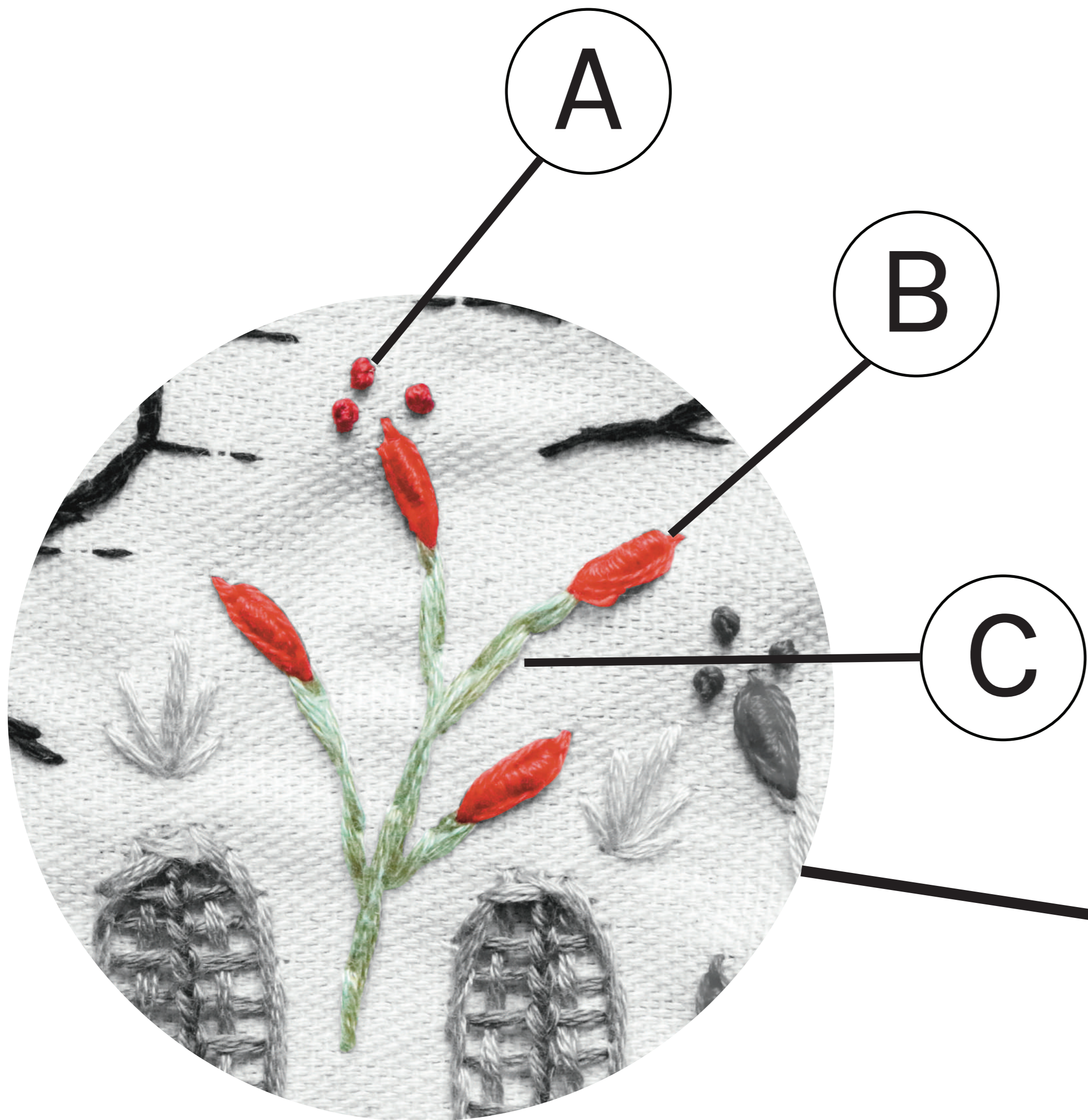
## **Admire Your Work of Art**

A vital step, really. You should be proud of yourself!



# Color Guide

(#) = # of strands

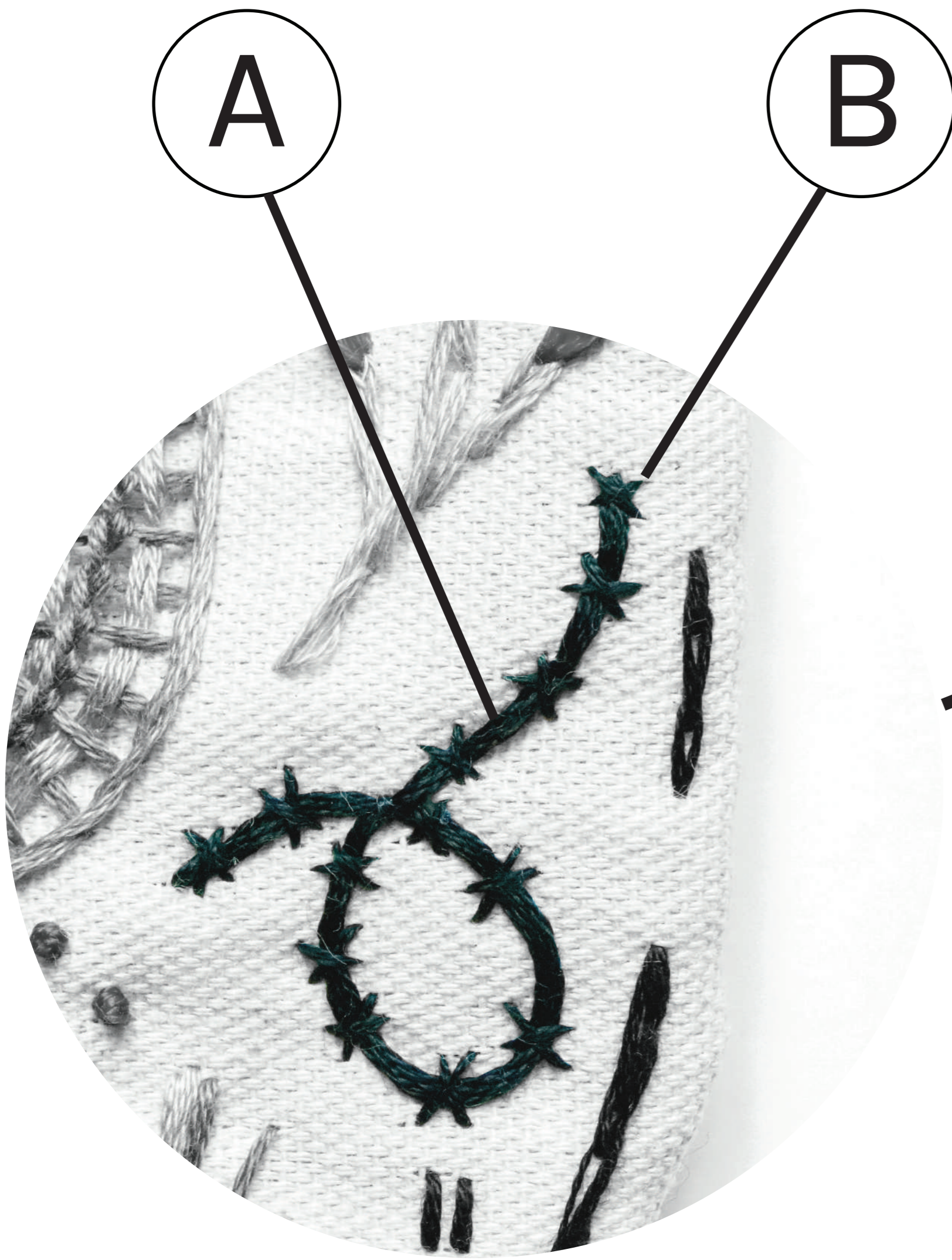


**Ocotillo**

A | 817 (4)

B | 816 (4)

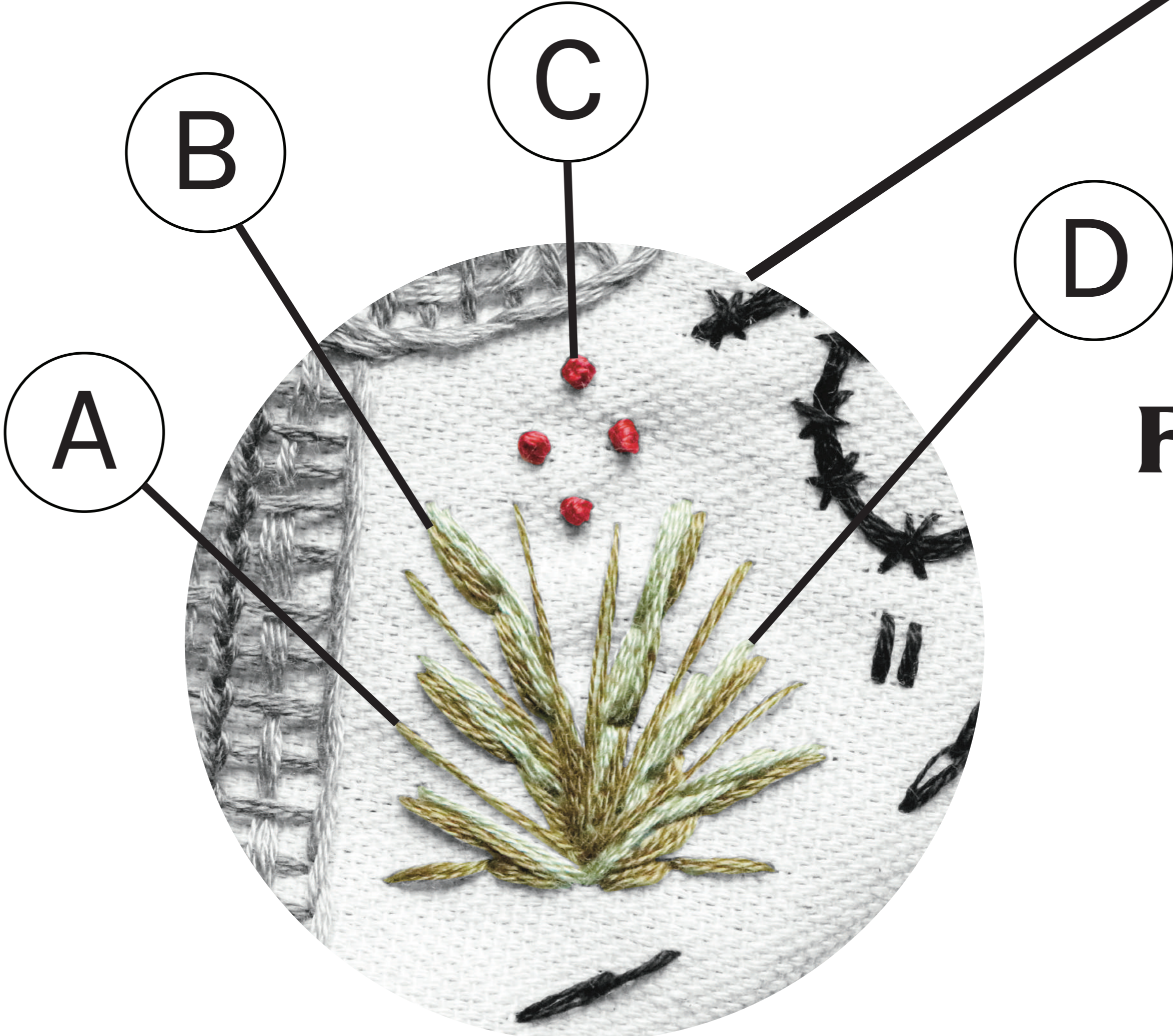
C | 524 (2) + 3032 (2)



**Barbed Wire**

A | 310 (4)

B | 310 (2)



**Feather Grass**

A | 610 (2)

B | 610 (4)

C | 817 (4)

D | 524 (4)





## **Landscape**

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### **Canyon**

3 strands

### **Ridge Line**

2 strands

### **Sky**

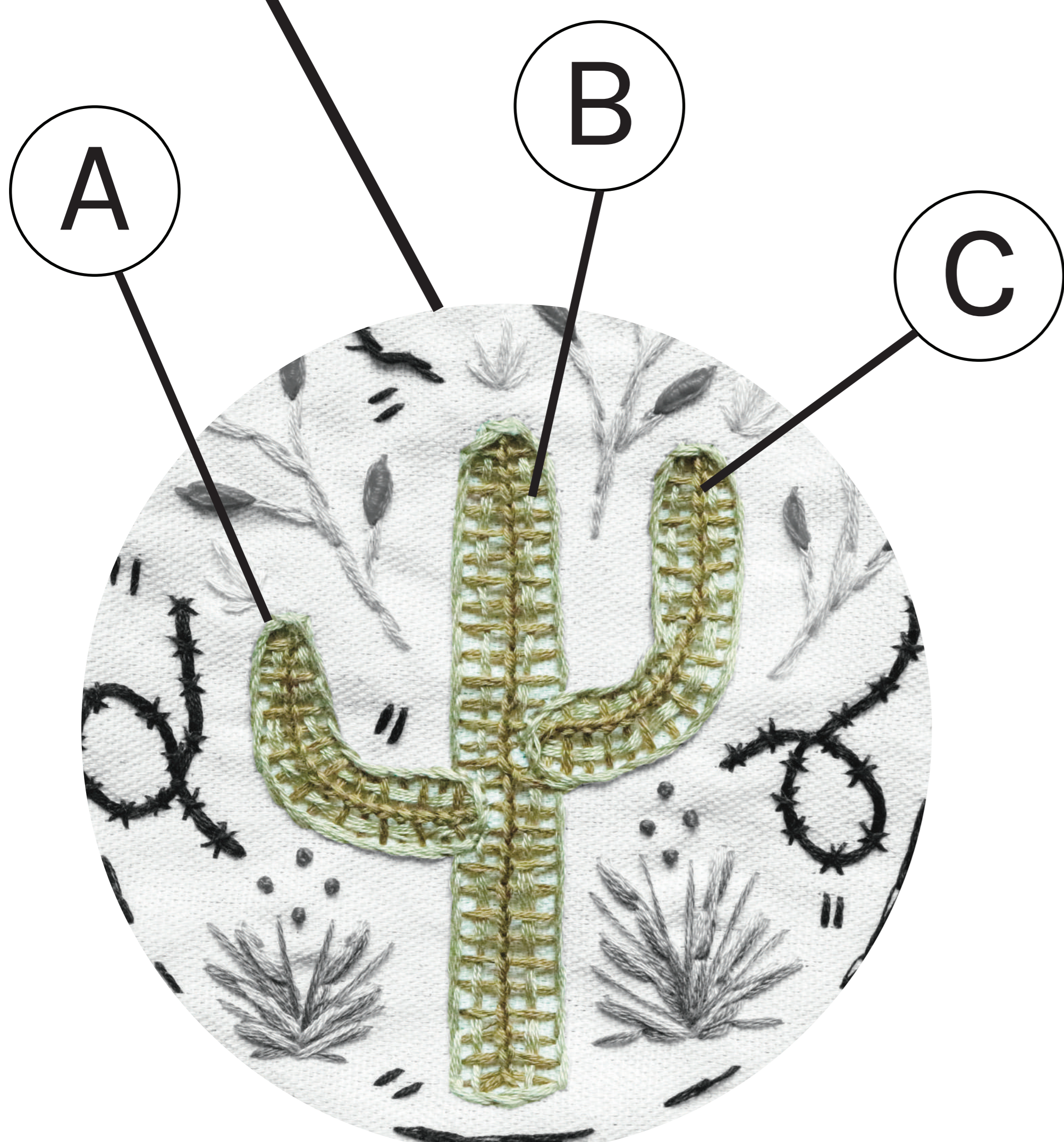
2 strands

### **Border**

4 strands

### **Seeds**

4 strands



### **Cactus**

A | 3032 (4)

B | 3032 (2)

C | 610 (4)



# Stitch by Stitch

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Take your pick as to which canvas piece you want to embroider on and transfer the pattern using the provided pattern print out. Hoop your fabric and you're ready to begin!

CACTUS



## **Cactus Stem**

The cactus stem will be stitched with the **vandyke stitch**. Space out each row of stitches and be sure to keep each the line parallel as you stitch along the length of the cactus stem and arms.

## **Cactus Spines**

The spines will be stitched with a **weaving** technique on both sides of the **vandyke stitch** that forms the cactus stem. From the top of each cactus section, weave the thread over and under each stitch until the end of the section is reached.

## **Cactus Outline**

The outline will be stitched with the **stem stitch**. Stitch around each section of the cactus until the cactus is fully outlined.

## **Cactus Bloom**

The cactus blooms will be stitched with the **ray stitch**.

## FEATHER GRASS



### **Background Leaves**

The background leaves will be stitched with a combination of the **straight** and **backstitch**. Stitch along the bottom side of each line. Feel free to make the stitches as long or as short as you'd like.

### **Foreground Leaves**

The foreground leaves will be stitched with the **cable stitch**. Begin at the top most leaves, slightly overlapping the background leaves. As you stitch down the plant, overlap the previous background and foreground leaves to add depth to your plant.

### **Stray Leaves**

The leaves will be stitched with the **straight stitch**. Add a straight stitch within the gaps of each leaf.

### **Blooms**

The flower buds will be stitched with the **colonial stitch**.

## BARBED WIRE



### **Barbed Wire**

The barbed wire will be stitched with a **couching** technique using two separate strands, one with 6 strands and one with 2 strands. With 6 strands, take the needle up through the start of the line and down through the end of the line. With 2 strands, anchor the lain thread with X's.



## OCOTILLO



### **Stem**

The stem will be stitched with the **cable stitch**. To get a more textured stem, opt for longer stitches along the stem and branches.

### **Flowers**

The flowers will be stitched with the **bullion knot** and fastened with the **detached chain stitch**. For a little flare, feel free to lengthen the anchor stitch of the **detached chain stitch** to give the illusion of a pointed top.

### **Flower Buds**

The flower buds will be stitched with the **colonial stitch**.

### **Canyon**

The canyon outline will be stitched with the **stem stitch**. To give the appearance of corners without having stop and start the stitch, try taking your needle down through the vertices.

## LANDSCAPE



## LANDSCAPE



### **Ridge Line**

The ridges will be stitched with a combination of **straight** and **running stitches**. Feel free to take creative liberty with where and how many ridges you place within your canyon.

### **Sky**

The sky will be stitched with the **running stitch**. The pattern uses an alternating pattern of short and long stitches to produce a pattern.

## ACCENTS



### **Border**

The border will be stitched with a combination of **split stitch** and the **straight stitch**. The border of the wall hanging is varied, so feel free to mix and match the stitches as you see fit.

### **Seeds**

The seeds will be stitched with the **seed stitch** in pairs.

**You are now finished with your embroidery!**



# ASSEMBLING THE Wall Hanging

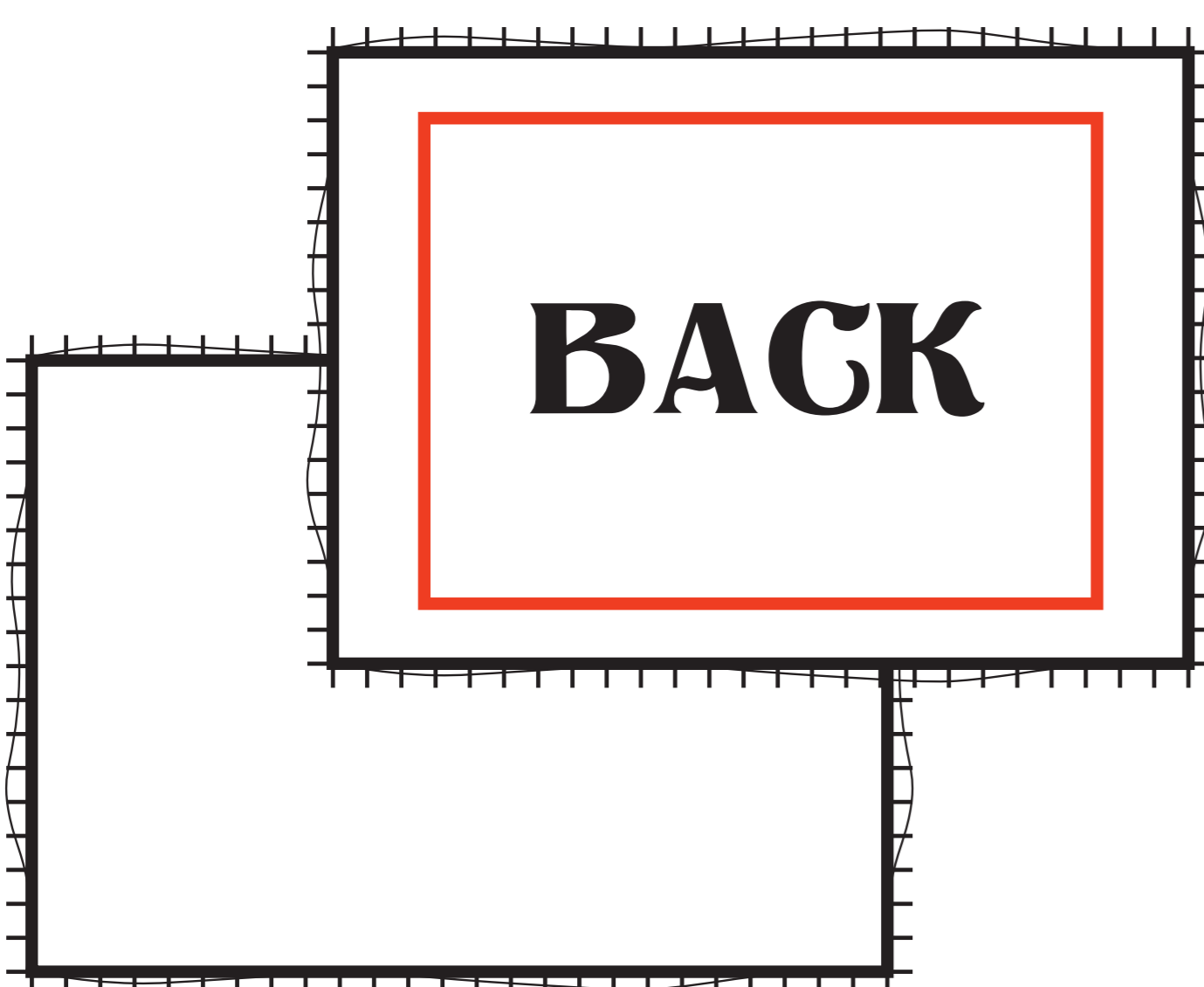


Unhoop your fabric! It's time to transform your embroidery piece and sew it into a wall hanging. Don't worry! The two art forms - hand embroidery and hand sewing - have a lot of cross over with their techniques.



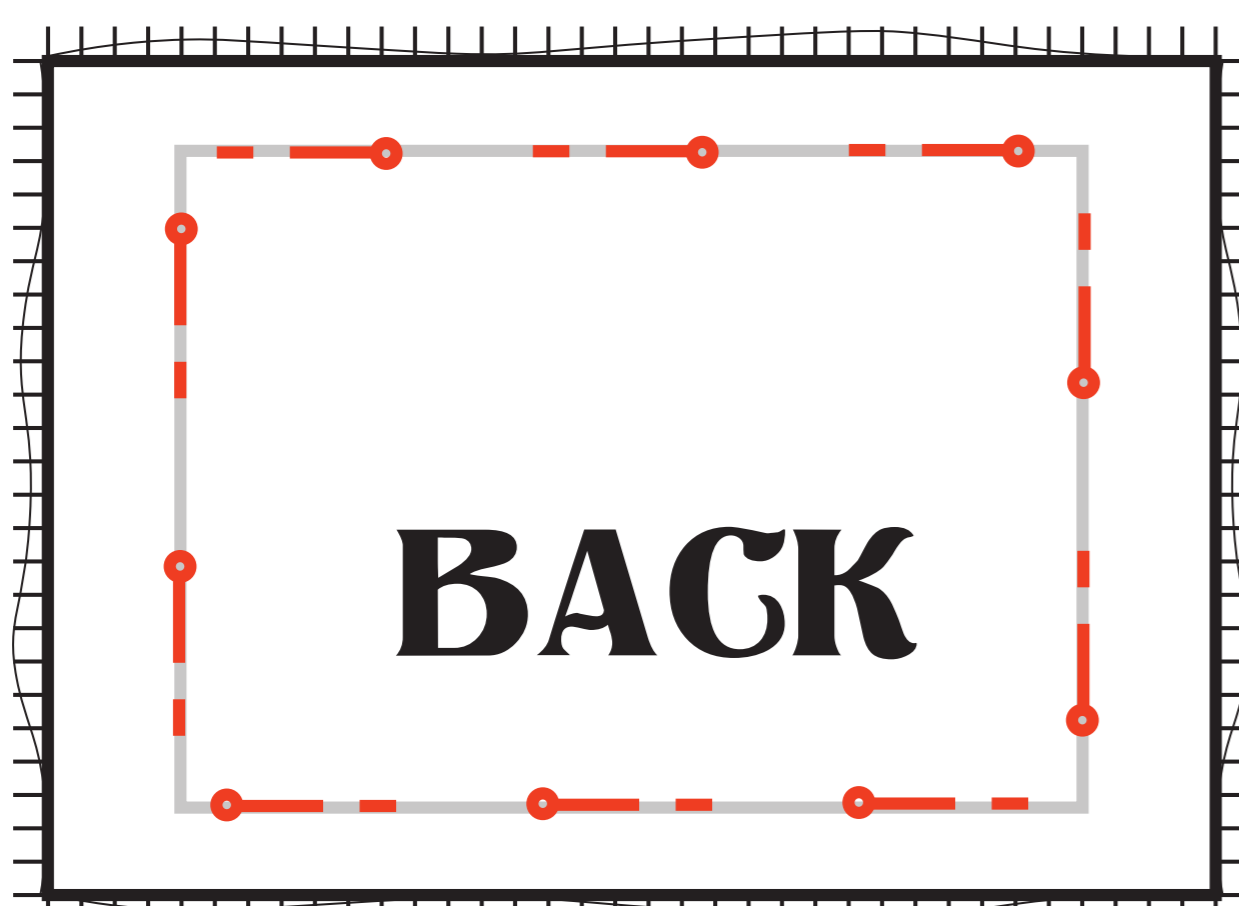
## Trace Outline

Using the provided template, trace the shape on the back of your embroidery. Be sure to center it based on the embroidery and not the fabric.



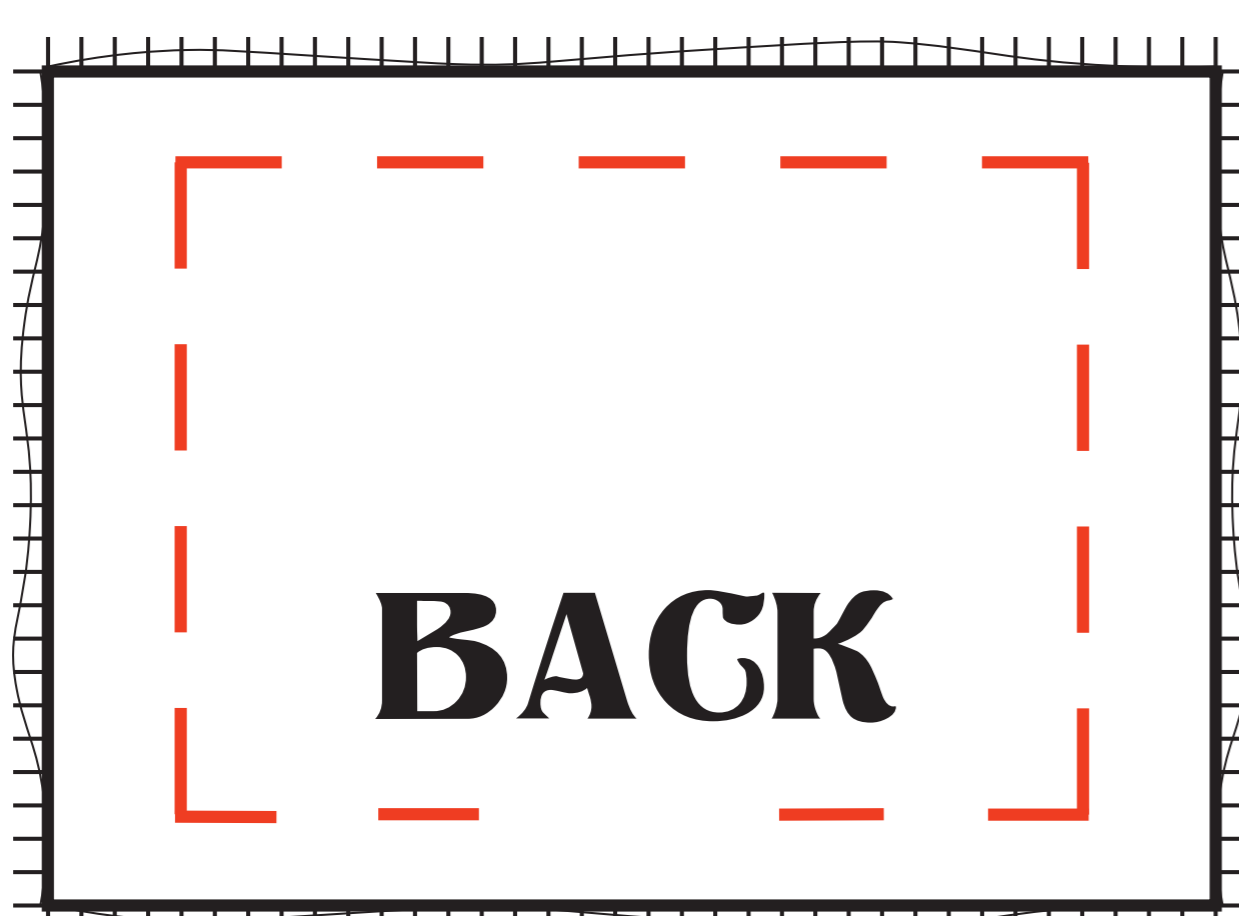
## Align the Fabric Pieces

Place your embroidery face down on top of the unused canvas fabric.



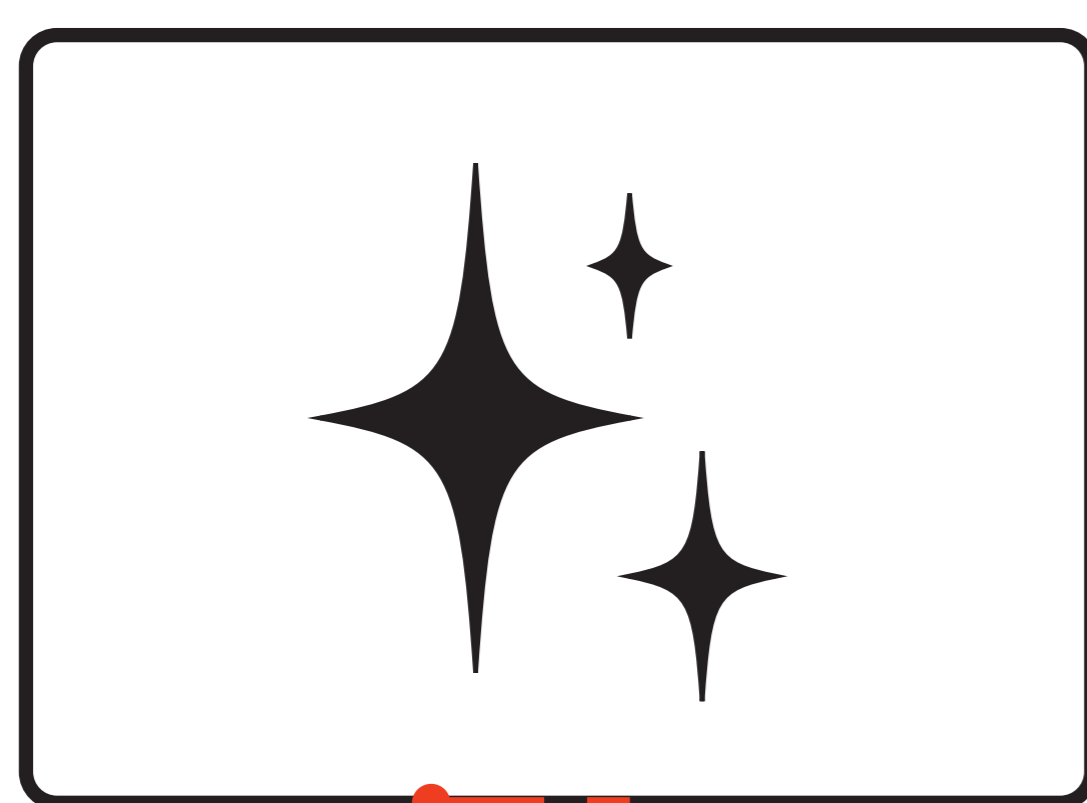
## Pin the Fabric

Using the provided quilters pins, pin along the edges of the drawn outline.



## Sew Along the Outline

Using 4 strands of DMC Ecu, backstitch along the outline. Leave a 2"-3" gap along the bottom of the outline. Once complete, cut along the edges, leaving a 1/4" seam.



## Pin the Gap

Flip the fabric right-side out and pin the gap along the bottom of the fabric. Close the gap using the invisible stitch.



## Adding the Tassels

Tassels bring texture and movement, accenting the vivid colors of the flowers and plants in your embroidered wall hanging. Using the provided **skein of thread** and **four cut strings**, you can create 2 tassels to tie onto your wooden dowel.



[Click here for video tutorial on creating tassels.](#)

1. Choose one end of the **looped skein of thread**. Find the center of the loops and use your finger to gently open the center. You can slide the plastic label further down on the skein if needed.
2. Take one **cut string** and pass it through the middle of the loop. Tie the string tight around the top of the loop, knotting the string two to three times.
3. Repeat Steps 1 and 2 for the opposite end of the **looped skein of thread**.
4. Remove the plastic labels from the **looped skein of thread**.
5. About 2 centimeters from the top, take a new **cut string** and tie it tightly around the **looped skein of thread**.
6. Tightly wrap around the **looped skein of thread** three to four times. Knot the string two times and trim excess thread.
7. Repeat Step 5 and 6 for the opposite end of the **looped skein of thread**.
8. Cut straight across the skein 2 inches from banded thread at the top and 2 inches from the banded thread at the bottom.
9. Gently comb out your tassels and trim the bottoms to make them even, if desired.
10. Tie your tassels onto the ends of your wooden dowel.

### And You're Done!

Admire your work of art and flaunt it!



# Stitch Library

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## BACKSTITCH

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1. Bring your needle up through the fabric at the start of your line.
2. Take your needle down one stitch length forward.
3. Bring it up through the fabric one stitch length forward from your previous stitch.
4. Position your needle at the end of your previous stitch and take it down through the fabric.

*This is the motion of the backstitch.*

To continue, bring your needle up through the fabric one stitch length forward, and take it down at the end of your previous stitch...



Click here for video tutorial on the **backstitch**.

## RUNNING STITCH

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1. Bring your needle up through the fabric at the start of your line.
2. One stitch length forward, take your needle down.
3. One stitch length forward, bring your needle up through the fabric.
4. Take it down one stitch length forward.

*This is the motion of the running stitch.*

To continue, repeat these steps...



Click here for video tutorial on the **running stitch**.



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## STEM STITCH

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1. Bring your needle up through the fabric at the start of your line.
2. Take your needle down one stitch length forward.
3. Pull the thread through until you have a small loop and position the loop to the right.
4. Bring your needle up through the middle of the first stitch and the previous stitch along your line.
5. Pull the thread through.
6. Take your needle down one stitch length forward.
7. Pull the thread through until you have a small loop and position the loop to the right.
8. Bring your needle up at the end of the previous stitch.
9. Pull the thread through.

*This is the motion of the stem stitch.*

To continue, take your needle down one stitch length forward...



Click here for video tutorial on the stem stitch.

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## SPLIT STITCH

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1. Bring your needle up through the fabric at the start of your line.
2. Take your needle down one stitch length forward.
3. Bring your needle up through the middle of the previous stitch, taking care to split the strands evenly on either side.
4. Take your needle down one stitch length forward.
5. Bring your needle up through the middle of the previous stitch, splitting the strands.

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## SPLIT STITCH

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*This is the motion of the stem stitch.*

To continue, take your needle down one stitch length forward...



Click here for video tutorial on the **split stitch**.

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## STRAIGHT STITCH

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1. Bring your needle up through the fabric at the start of your line.
2. Take your needle down one stitch length forward.

*That is all there is to it!*

To continue, bring your needle up through the fabric and take your needle back down...



Click here for video tutorial on the **straight stitch**.

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## CHAIN STITCH

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1. Bring your needle up through the fabric at the start of your line.
2. Take your needle down just next to your last stitch.
3. Partially pull the thread through until a loop remains.
4. Bring your needle up one stitch length forward through the loop.
5. Pull the needle until the loop snugly catches onto the thread.
6. Take your needle down right next to where you came up, making sure to be inside the loop.
7. Partially pull the thread through until a loop remains.
8. Bring your needle up on stitch length forward through the loop, pulling until the loop catches onto the thread.



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## CHAIN STITCH

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*This is the motion of the chain stitch.*

To continue, take your needle down just next to your previous stitch...



[Click here for video tutorial on the chain stitch.](#)

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## SEED STITCH

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The seed stitch is an assortment of straight stitches.

1. Bring your needle up through the fabric and place it one stitch length away.
2. At another spot, bring your needle up through your fabric and place it one stitch length away.

*This is the motion of the seed stitch.*

To continue, bring your needle up through the fabric wherever you'd like your next seed stitch...



[Click here for video tutorial on the seed stitch.](#)

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## RAY STITCH

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1. Starting with the longest line, bring your needle up through the fabric at the furthest point from the center.
2. Take your needle down at the center.
3. Moving towards the second row, bring your needle up at the furthest point of the left line.
4. Take your needle down at the center.
5. Repeat with the right side, stitching towards the center.
6. Repeat with the remaining rows.



[Click here for video tutorial on the ray stitch.](#)



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## VANDYKE STITCH

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1. Bring your needle up through the fabric slightly downward along the left line.
2. Imagine a middle point at the start of the two lines, take your needle down slightly to the right of that middle point.
3. Bring your needle up slightly to the left of that same middle point.
4. Take your needle down along the right line, parallel to the stitch along the left line. You should see an upside down “V”.
5. Bring your needle up along the left line.
6. Approaching from the right side and coming out from the left side, slide your needle under the two slanted lines and take your needle down along the right line, parallel to the stitch along the left line.

*This is the motion of the vandyke stitch.*

To continue, bring your needle up through the fabric along the left line.



Click here for video tutorial on the **vandyke stitch**.

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## BULLION KNOT

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1. Bring your needle up through the fabric at the top of the line.
2. Slide your needle through the end point and poke it out a bit over from the starting point. Do not pull the needle through.
3. Position the needle such that the majority of the needle is poking outwards.
4. Taking the thread that is coming out of the fabric, slightly angle the needle upward and wrap the thread around the needle. Be sure to keep your wraps taught so they don't unravel.
5. Continue to wrap until the wrapped thread is as long as the distance between the first and second stitch.

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## BULLION KNOT

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6. Pinch the wrapped thread against the surface of the fabric with one hand.
7. With your other hand, pull the needle through the wrapped thread and continue until the threads tightens against the surface of the fabric.
8. Take the needle down through the first stitch.

*This is the motion of the bullion knot.*



Click here for video tutorial on the **bullion knot**.

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## CABLE STITCH

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1. Bring your needle up through the fabric at the start of your line.
2. Take your needle down one stitch length forward. Pull through until you have a loop.
3. Holding the loop towards the right side, bring it up through the fabric halfway between the first and second stitch. Pull the thread through.
4. Take your needle down one stitch length forward. Pull through until you have a loop.
5. Holding the loop towards the left side, bring the needle up through the previous stitch. Pull the thread through.

*This is the motion of the cable stitch.*

To continue, bring your needle up through the fabric one stitch length forward, alternating the side on which you hold your loop...



Click here for video tutorial on the **cable stitch**.



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## COLONIAL KNOT

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1. Bring your needle up through the fabric.
2. Lightly pull up on the thread such that a hump is formed.
3. Position the needle through the hump such that the thread lays over the needle and the working thread is underneath the needle facing towards you.
4. Wrap the thread over the needle (away from you) and underneath the needle (towards you). The thread should form the number '8'
5. Pull the thread taught and position the tip of the needle just over from where you pulled the needle up in Step 1.
6. Sliding the needle down towards the surface of the fabric, push the needle through the fabric.
7. Pull the thread through to fasten the knot.

*This is the motion of the colonial knot.*



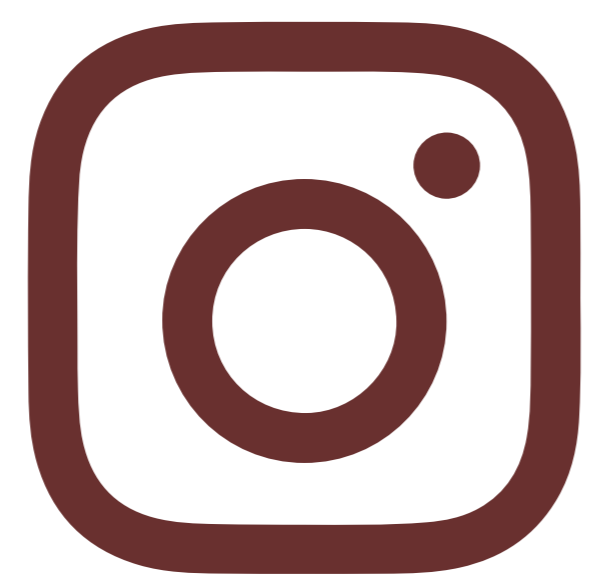
Click here for video tutorial on the colonial knot.

# Ibis en Route

Have any questions along the way? Have some rants? Have some raves?

**Let me know!**

Don't be afraid to reach out and share your progress and finished banner!



@ibisenroute  
ibisenroute.com

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