

KIT

You will need

- A 20x20" deep edge canvas
- A 3m Electro-Luminescent wire
- AA batteries x 2
- White general purpose thread
- An embroidery needle
- An awl
- 3m of twine or non-stretch string
- Masking tape or washi tape
- A pencil and rubber
- Scissors
- 10cm x self adhesive Velcro



Very lightly draw your design on the canvas in pencil



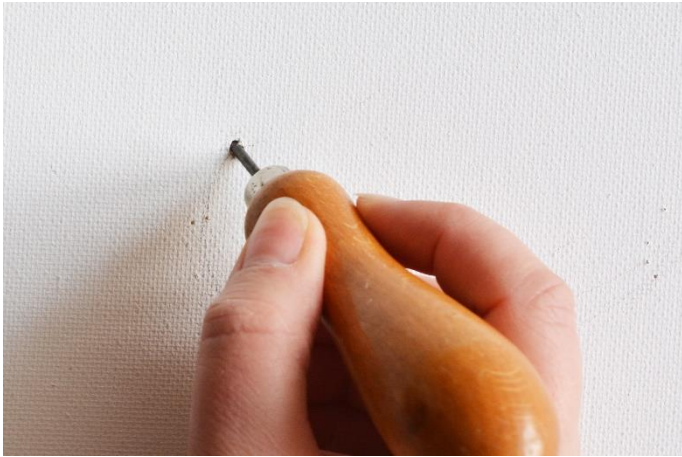
Take your twine and tape it along the lines of your design, to make sure that your 3m EL wire is long enough to go all the way around it. Use washi or masking tape that can be easily removed



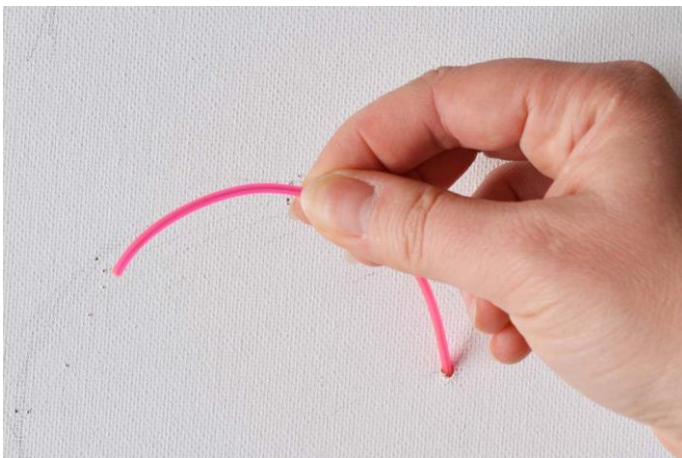
Always test your EL wire before you make anything with it – it's very annoying to test it after all your hard work and it not work. All the EL wires I our workshop have been tested but there's no harm testing again just in case.



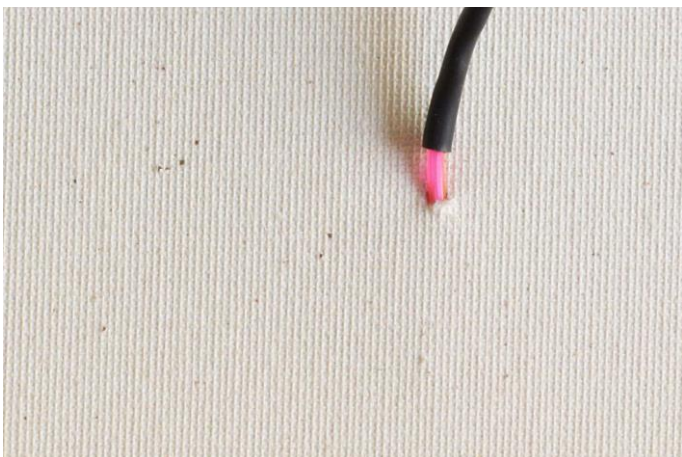
Turn off your EL wire and take out the batteries. Then snip the lumpy bobble off the end



Use an awl to push a hole gently through the canvas at the start of your design,



Put the EL wire from back to front through the hole in the canvas



Pull the coloured section of the EL wire all the way through so as much as possible is at the front of the canvas.



Thread up your needle with white thread. It's best to double the thread up and tie the two ends together. Then push the needle from back through the front of the canvas next to your EL wire, and then back down on the other side of the EL wire, securing it in place



Tie a firm knot in the thread on the back of the canvas. This secures the wire and stops the thread pulling through the canvas



Lay your wire along your design and make small stitches on the front to secure it in. The tighter the curve, the more little stitches you'll need. This technique of stitching a rope or cord to a surface is called "couching" and it has been used as a decorative stitch for centuries.



To move to the next work, use the awl to punch another hole in the canvas (in this case at the end of the "S" and then make another hole where you want the wire to come back out (on the loop of the T). This is about how you do the crosses and dots on your letters or shapes

MAKE A NEON-STYLE ARTWORK



By Sonia Bownes
Brought to you by London Craft Club

