

# Flower Basket Stitch Sampler





## TIPS & TRICKS

### EMBROIDERY HOOP

One side of the inner hoop reads **THIS SIDE UP**. Keep this hoop face up and place the fabric over top. Press outer hoop down over fabric and under the lip of inner hoop. Carefully pull the fabric taut without distorting the pattern. Tighten the nut.

### CUTTING FLOSS

You don't want to use too much or too little thread. Use floss at about 14"-18" in length. The longer your floss is, the more easily it will tangle. At the same time, you don't want your floss to be too short or else you will constantly have to re-thread your needle. A quick and easy way to measure an ideal length of thread is to pinch the end of the thread between your thumb and index finger, extend your arm and measure to the crease of your elbow.

### SEPARATING FLOSS

Most embroidery flosses, DMC included, are comprised of 6 easily separable strands that allow for various thicknesses of stitches by using a different number of strands. To separate the floss into individual strands, pull the number of strands you need until they are separate from the rest and smooth them out with your thumb and forefinger before threading them onto your needle.

### THREADING THE NEEDLE

Before threading your needle make a knot on one end of your thread. Leave a 3" to 4" tail hanging as you work on the embroidery.



### STARTING A STITCH

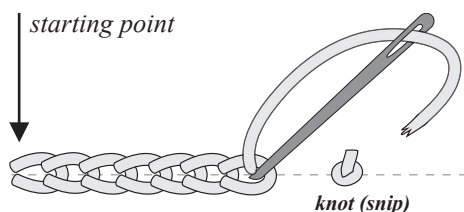
The back of an embroidery is just as important as the front! A back side filled with knots and tangled threads makes it very difficult to produce neat and

beautiful stitches. For this reason, I recommend starting and stopping stitches without leaving knots. There are several ways to achieve this:

#### Waste Knot

The Waste Knot works best when you are stitching a line and there are no previous stitches on which to anchor your thread.

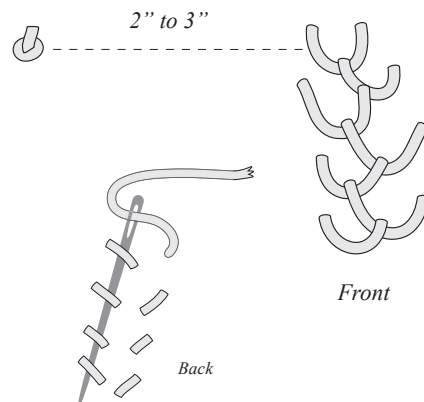
To begin, take the needle from the front to the back about 1" from your starting point, leaving a knot on the front side of your fabric. Take the needle through the start-



ing point and stitch towards the knot, ensuring that each stitch helps to secure the thread on the back. Snip the knot with scissors just before reaching it.

#### Away Knot

The Away Knot is a good choice when you are stitching detached stitches and there are no previous stitches on which to anchor your thread. To begin, take the needle a few inches from the starting point, leaving a knot on the front side of your fabric. When you finish stitching with your thread snip the knot. Turn over your hoop and re-thread the needle with the loose piece of thread, weaving it through stitches until it is securely in place.

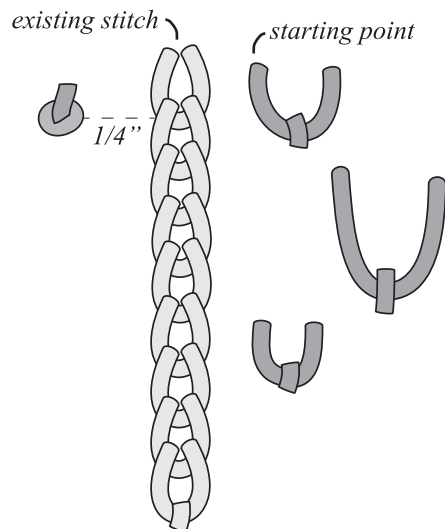


#### Anchor Stitch

If you are stitching over an area that will be filled (i.e. with Satin Stitch) you can make a Straight Stitch, then a perpendicular stitch into it, securing it in place (in the shape of a 'T').

#### Knot & Weave

Once there are stitches to which you can secure a new thread, you can commence a new stitch with a far shorter version of the Away Knot, placed 1/4" inch away from the anchoring stitches and close to your starting point. Weave into the back of these stitches and snip the knot away once the thread is secure. Begin your new stitch.



#### ENDING A THREAD

When you are getting close to the end of your thread leave enough so that it is easy to secure by weaving through several stitches on the back side of the embroidery. If you are halfway through a stitch do not attempt to tie on a new thread and continue stitching. Treat it as a finished stitch and commence anew with a new thread using one of the methods described in the previous section.

## USE 2 STRANDS FOR PRACTICE STITCHES

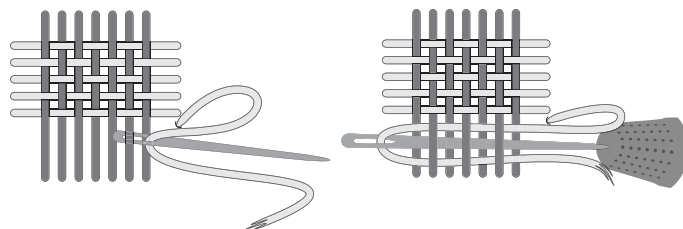
### Needleweaving

Needleweaving is a detached fill that, like weaving on a loom, lays vertical (warp) and horizontal (weft) threads in an under-over sequence.

Begin by making a series of vertical straight stitches, coming through the fabric at the top and bottom of the shape you're filling. Leave at least a floss width between stitches (as opposed to satin stitch where the stitches are up next to one another)

Stitch to the shortest distance (see correct/incorrect diagrams on the left). Once the warp is complete, start the weft stitches. Pierce through the fabric where you want to lay the stitch, then use the blunt end of the needle (to not catch fabric) and bring the floss under/over the warp, and pierce back through the fabric at the edge of the shape you are filling.

Each weft stitch should go under/over in the opposite sequence as the previous one - this is what creates the weave.



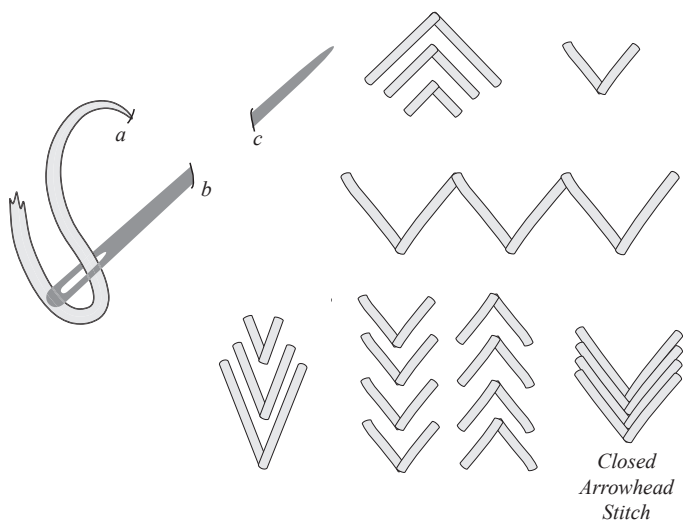
#### Tips:

1) A thimble is recommended to help with pushing the needle along through the stitches. Alternately, use a tapestry needle, which has a blunt tip.

2) On tight weaves, it may become challenging to weave the final weft stitch close to where the warp goes through the fabric. While the fabric is quite strong and can sustain a fair amount of pressure, don't force the floss too much or the fabric may tear. Instead, you can make small straight stitches, imitating the weaving pattern, to cover any fabric showing through.

### Arrowhead Stitch

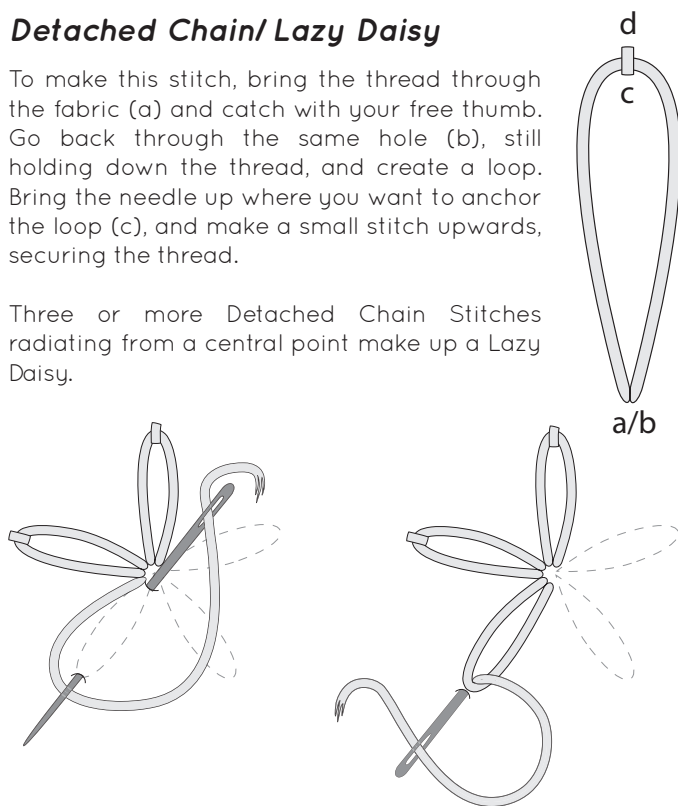
The Arrowhead Stitch is a simple stitch resembling a "V". To begin, make a straight stitch from (a) to (b). Come out through (c) and re-insert your needle at (b). A horizontal row of Arrowhead Stitches created a zig-zag pattern. Stack stitches close together vertically for a Closed Arrowhead Stitch.



### Detached Chain/ Lazy Daisy

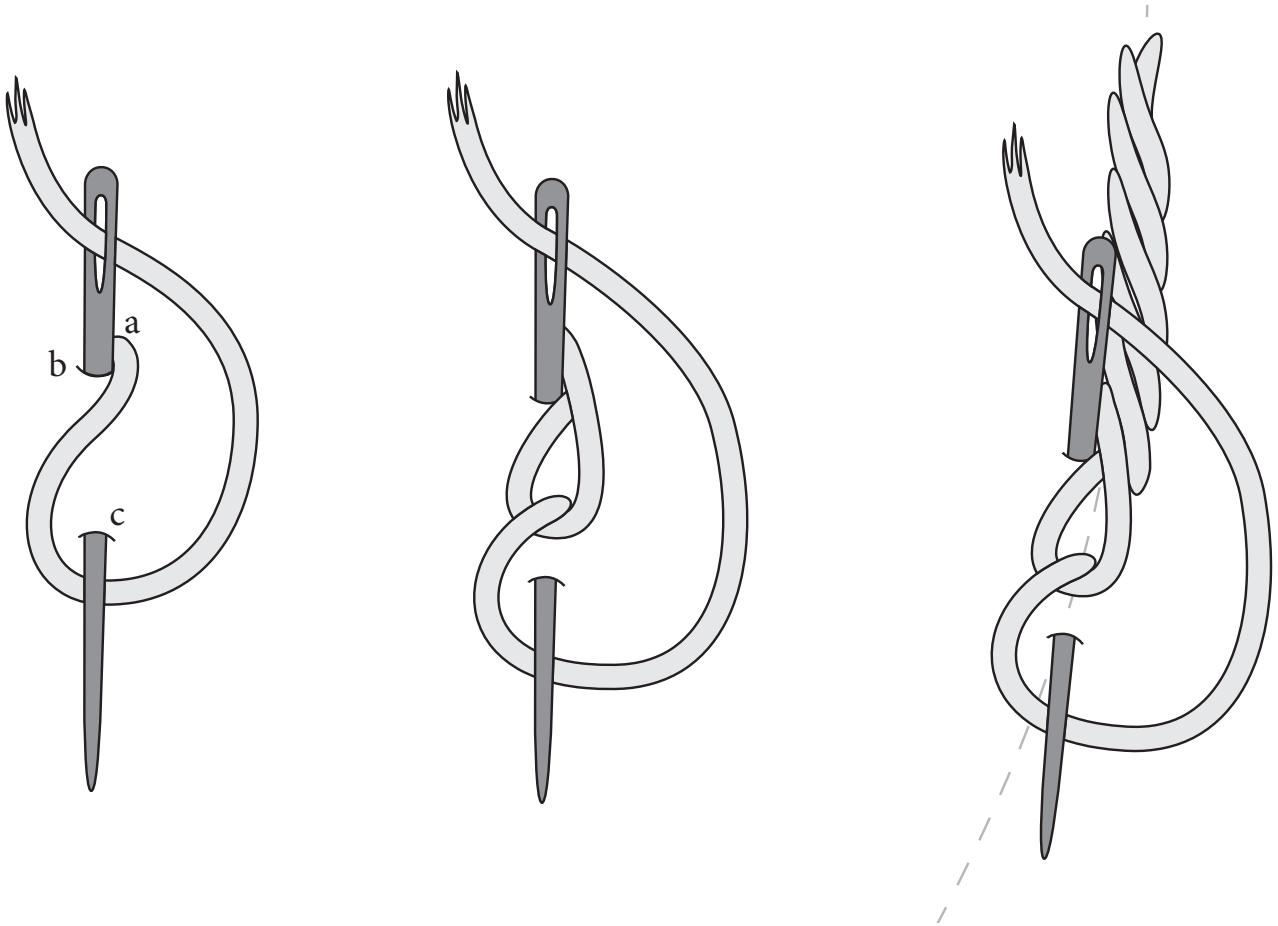
To make this stitch, bring the thread through the fabric (a) and catch with your free thumb. Go back through the same hole (b), still holding down the thread, and create a loop. Bring the needle up where you want to anchor the loop (c), and make a small stitch upwards, securing the thread.

Three or more Detached Chain Stitches radiating from a central point make up a Lazy Daisy.



## Rope Stitch

The Rope Stitch is a combination of a Twisted Chain Stitch and Satin Stitch. Begin by making a Twisted Chain Stitch: come out of the fabric at (a) and re-emerge just below and to the left at (b). Pierce through the fabric one stitch length away at (c), leaving the working thread under the needle. Make the next stitch in the same manner: begin just to the left of the previous stitch and lay the stitch parallel like you would a Satin Stitch. Make sure you are laying the stitches close enough together so that the “chain” acts as padding but is not visible underneath. Increase the stitch length as you go around curves.



## Rambler Rose Stitch

### STEP 1

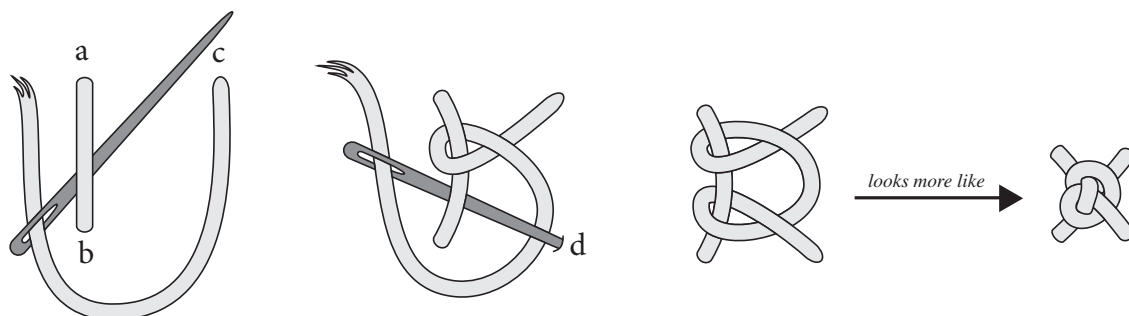
In the first step, you will be making a sort of square knot with four legs that will serve as the center of the rose to build off of in Step 3.

Begin by making a vertical stitch from (a) to (b) (the four dots on the pattern are the positions for a, b, c, d). Bring the needle out at (c) and go through the vertical stitch, wrapping it. Next, go back through the vertical stitch, this time coming out through the working thread so you get a loop, and insert at (d).

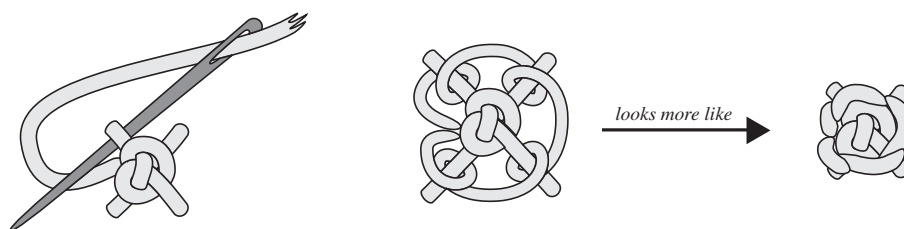
### STEP 2

In this step, you will come out between two of the legs and wrap around each leg of the square knot before re-entering the fabric at the starting point. This can be a complete stitch all by itself for creating small rosettes.

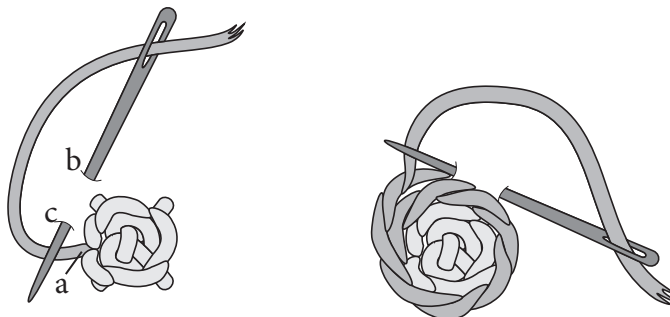
### STEP 1



### STEP 2



### STEP 3



### STEP 3

If you know the Stem Stitch, this step should come fairly easily to you, since you are making a spiraling Stem Stitch around the center of the rose.

Note: you may switch floss colours at this point, depending on the design.

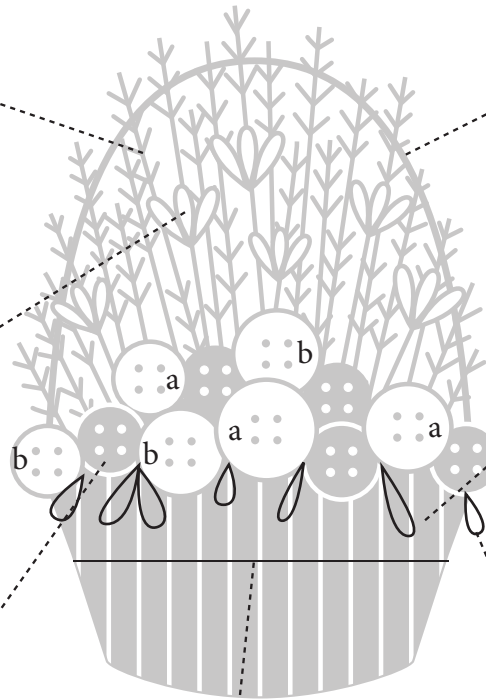
To begin, come out at your starting point (a). Bring the needle out a stitch length's away (b), keeping the working thread below the needle. Come out halfway between (a) and (b) at (c). Fill out the rose repeating this sequence. As the rose grows, slightly increase the stitch length to keep approximately the same number of "petals" in each round.

## NOW PUT IT ALL TOGETHER!

**LAVENDER**  
**Stems:**  
 Straight Stitch/ DMC 992/2  
**Petals:**  
 Arrowhead Stitch/ DMC 52/3  
 \*stitch some under and some over the HANDLE\*

**TULIPS**  
**Stems:**  
 Straight Stitch/DMC 992/2  
**Petals:**  
 Lazy Daisy Stitch/DMC 972/2

**ROSES**  
 Rambler Rose Stitch/2  
 a: DMC 894 b: DMC 718  
 (dark with white dots)  
 Rosette: DMC 972  
 Petals: DMC 798



**BASKET HANDLE**  
 Rope Stitch/DMC 105/3  
 \*you should be able to stitch the full handle with a single length of floss. Continue the gradient when you run out of the first length of floss. The longer (knotted) end will be the piece of floss that gets stitched first\*

**BASKET**  
 Needleweaving/DMC 105/  
 warp=1 / weft=3  
 \* Stitch the warp first with 1 strand of floss on the vertical lines, then weave the weft stitches with 3 strands, not leaving any spaces\*

**LEAVES**  
 \*unmarked on pattern\*  
 Lazy Daisy Stitch/DMC 992/2

*start the weft stitches here and work upwards or downwards first.  
 Be mindful of the gradient  
 (though baskets often have starkly contrasting colours of reeds running through them)*

EMBROIDER THESE ELEMENTS IN THE FOLLOWING ORDER:

- 1) BASKET (start weaving in the middle)
- 2) BASKET HANDLE
- 3) STEMS (LAVENDER & TULIPS)
- 4) LAVENDER
- 5) TULIPS
- 6) ROSES (DARK WITH WHITE DOTS)
- 7) ROSES (WHITE WITH DARK DOTS)
- 8) LEAVES

Note: 105 and 52 are from DMC's Variegated line of flosses, which are dyed as a colour gradient. Parts of your designs may look lighter or darker than the sample photo depending on the lengths of floss you received in your floss bundle.

**COLOURS:**

**Key for Stitch Diagram:**

Chain Stitch/DMC 732/1  
 type of stitch      colour      # of strands to use

**Brown (gradient):** DMC 105  
**Yellow:** DMC 972  
**Pink:** DMC 894  
**Fuscia:** DMC 718  
**Purple (gradient):** DMC 52  
**Green:** DMC 992  
**Blue:** DMC 798

# Sampler Club Bonus Print!

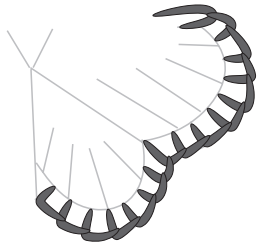
If you are part of the [Sampler Club](#) you will have received this screen printed pattern along with the Flower Basket sampler.

Any stitches not found on this instruction guide can be found in the [Stitch Library](#)

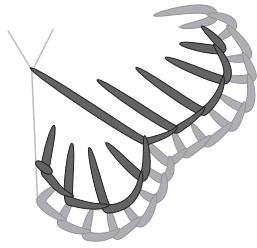
The numbers below represent the number of black strands of floss to use with each butterfly. Use the guide on the following page to see which stitches to use and in what order, for each style of butterfly



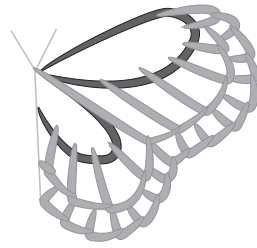
Bonus Floss: DMC 720 = Darker Orange / DMC 722 = Lighter Orange / DMC 310 = Black



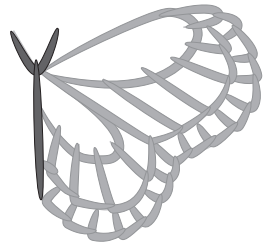
Buttonhole Stitch



Buttonhole Stitch



Weave through



Fly Stitch

TIP: if any sections of the buttonhole stitch needs help staying in place, you can tack it down with a small stitch to hold in place

Next, fill in the segments with a single-strand Satin Stitch.

Upper wing: DMC 720 (darker orange)

Lower wing: DMC 722 (lighter orange)

Leave the blank spaces in outer buttonhole stitch as the white of the fabric



Fly Stitch



Buttonhole Stitch



Fly Stitch

Next, fill in the segments with a single-strand Satin Stitch.

Upper wing: DMC 720 (darker orange)

Lower wing: DMC 722 (lighter orange)



Fly Stitch



Fly Stitch



Fly Stitch

Next, fill in the segments with a single-strand Satin Stitch.

Upper wing: DMC 720 (darker orange)

Lower wing: DMC 722 (lighter orange)

