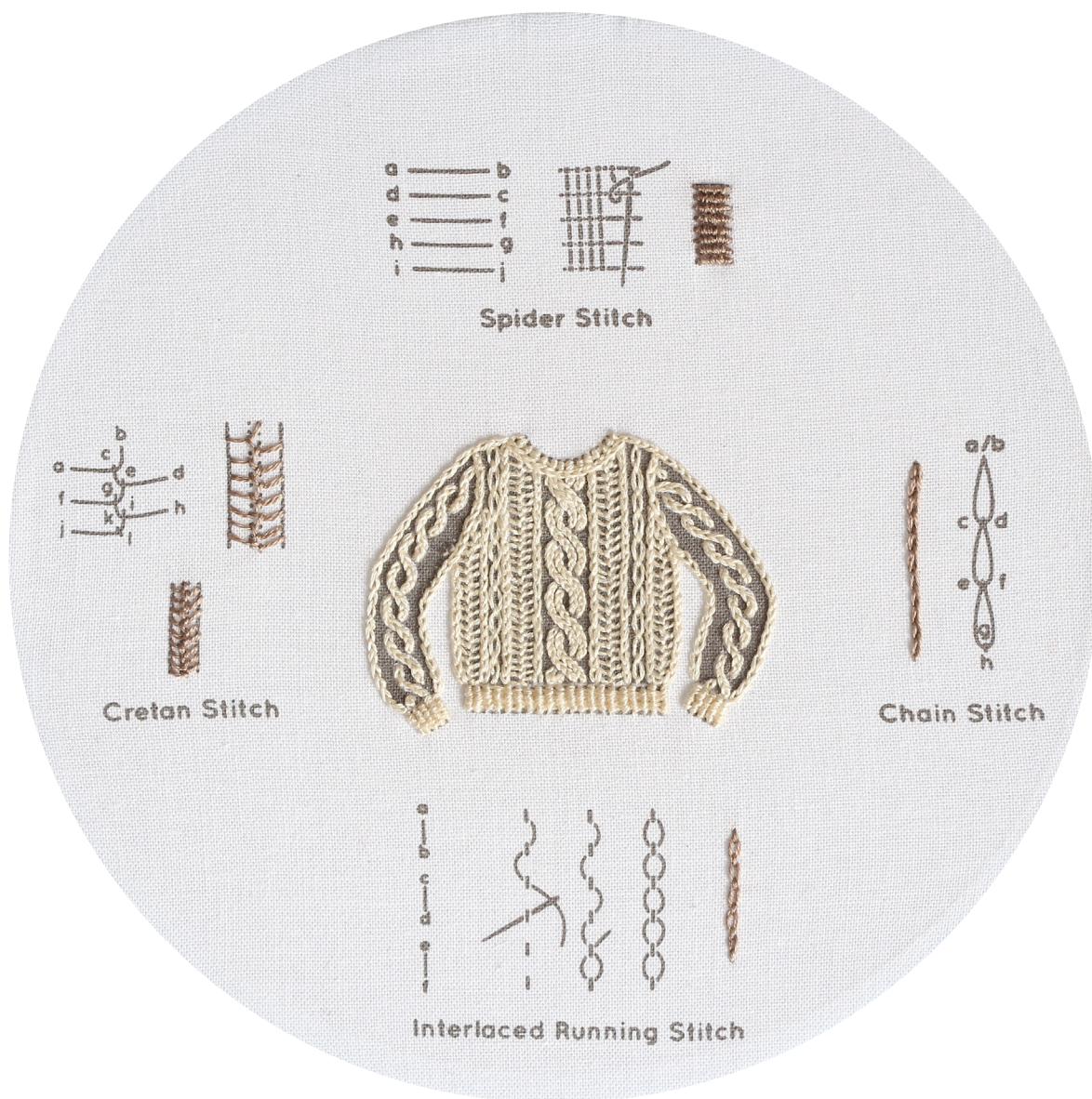


# Knit Sweater Stitch Sampler



## 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

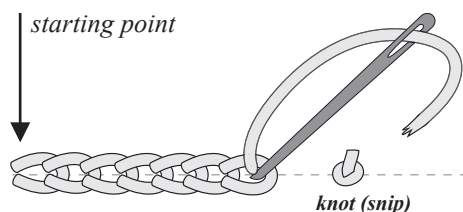
The back of an embroidery is just as important as the front! A back side filled with knots and tangled threads makes it very difficult to produce neat and

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.

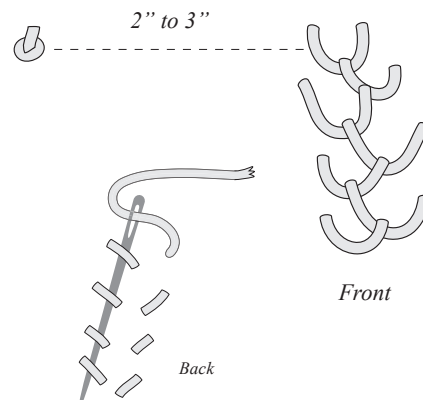
To begin, take the needle from the front to the back about 1" from your starting point, leaving a knot on the front side of your fabric. Take the needle through the start-



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.

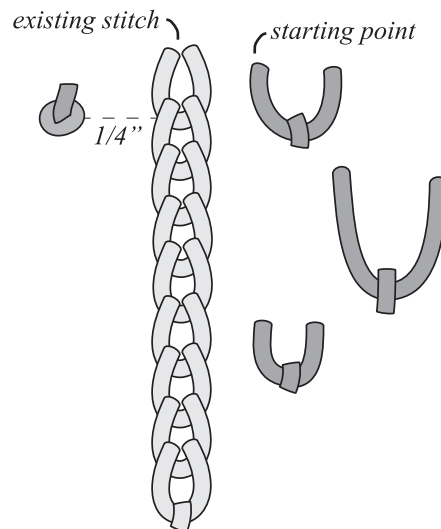


#### Anchor Stitch

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.



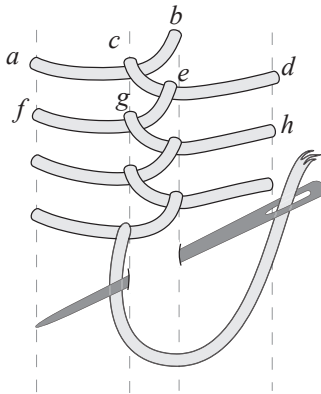
#### ENDING A THREAD

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 DMC 07 FOR THE PRACTICE STITCHES

### Cretan Stitch

The Cretan Stitch creates a plaited line down the center of a shape. The stitch can be imagined along 4 parallel lines, with the two central lines set closer together. Bring the needle out on the first line at (a). Catch the thread with your thumb and insert the needle slightly higher at (b), on the 3rd line. Keeping some slack in the working thread and catch on the 2nd line at (c). Keep the working thread below the needle, pull through and insert the needle to the 4th line at (d). Repeat the process all the way down the line.



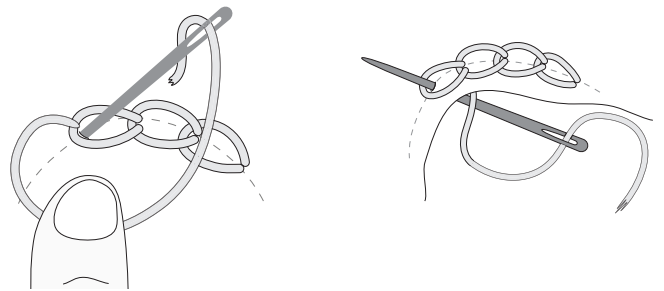
### Chain Stitch

The Chain Stitch is great for lines and curves. It's very versatile, creating not only detailed outlines, but dense fills that have a beautiful texture.

To make this stitch, bring the thread through the fabric and hold down with your left thumb. Go back through the same hole, still holding down the thread, and bring the needle back through a short distance away (1/8" or less). Once the needle is through the loop you can remove your thumb and give a light tug to tighten up the chain. Repeat.

Shorten the distance between chain "links" when going around curves for an even smoother line.

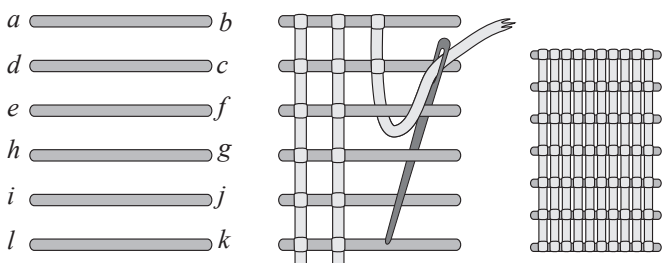
To make a Lazy Daisy (a.k.a. Detached Chain Stitch), simply follow the directions for Chain Stitch, but instead of repeating each step to form a chain, anchor each "link" with a single stitch.



### Spider Stitch

Begin by making a series of straight stitches perpendicular to the longer length of your shape. Switch colours if you prefer, and emerge from the top corner. **Switch to a (blunt) tapestry needle, or use the eye of your needle for the next steps.**

Wrap around the first straight stitch and go back underneath it as well as the next stitch. You should now have a wrapped stitch and a straight line connecting the two. Continue in the manner up and down the series of stitches, repeating the process until the shape is filled in. You can use your fingers or the needle to gently push the wraps so that they sit neatly against the previous row of stitches.

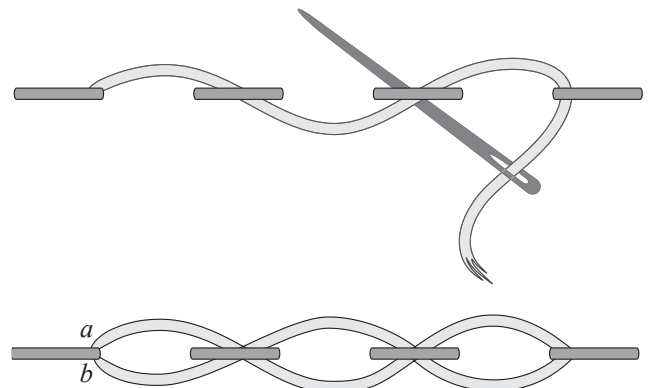


### Interlaced Running Stitch

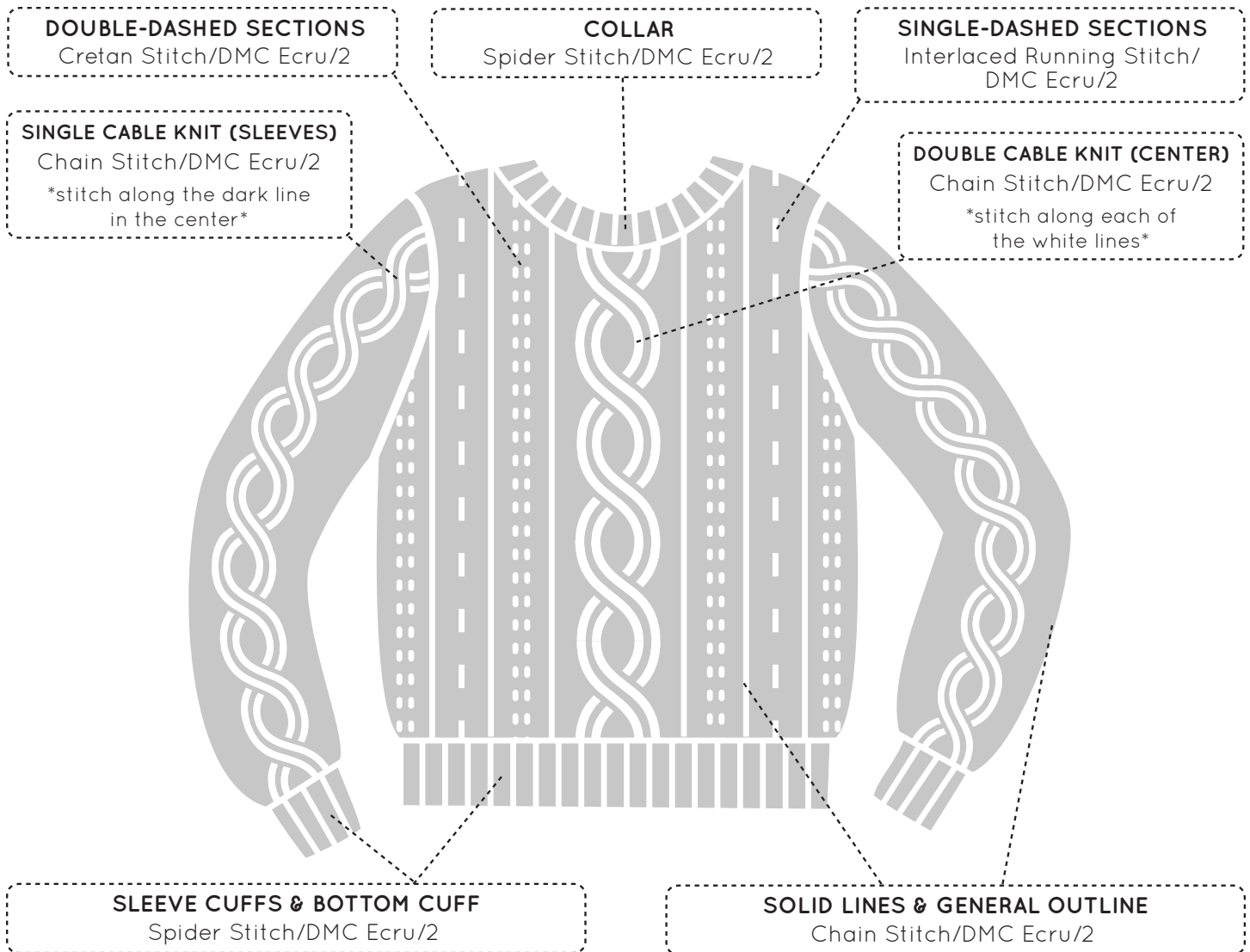
Begin by making a series of Running Stitches along your line.

With the same or a different colour floss, emerge from the end of the first stitch (a) and weave your needle through the series of Running Stitches without going back into the fabric until you reach the starting point (b).

a — b    c — d    e — f    g — h



## NOW PUT IT ALL TOGETHER!



### EMBROIDER THESE ELEMENTS IN THE FOLLOWING ORDER:

- 1) SINGLE-DASHED SECTIONS
- 2) DOUBLE-DASHED SECTIONS
- 3) CABLE KNITS
- 4) SOLID LINES
- 5) CUFFS & COLLAR
- 6) GENERAL OUTLINE

### Key for Stitch Diagram:



### COLOURS:

**Cream:** DMC Ecrú

**Taupe:** DMC 07\*

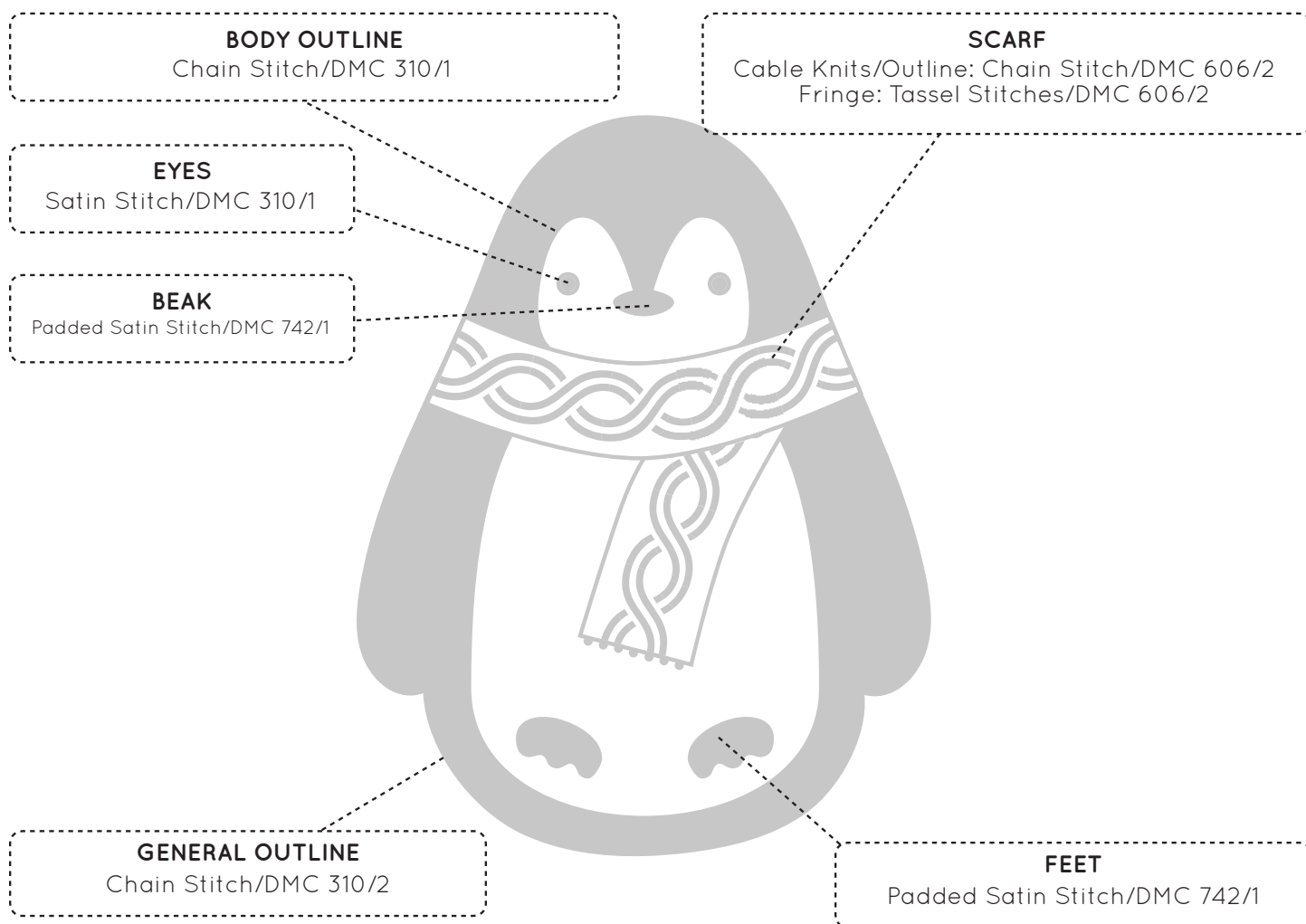
\*Only used in practice stitches



# Sampler Club Bonus Print!

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

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



Bonus Floss: DMC 606 = Red, DMC 310 = Black, DMC 742 = Yellow

## STEP TWO: SEWING & STUFFING

1. With the finished embroidery still in its hoop, carefully match the printed side of the backing piece of fabric to the finished embroidery (holding up to a light source works well).

If you are planning to turn it into an ornament, insert the ribbon at this point, with a loop sandwiched on the inside from the top of the head, and the loose ends sticking out the top.

The print on the backing piece is slightly larger than the embroidery pattern to allow for a small margin of error. Use pins or a basting stitch to secure pieces in place.

2. Leave the pieces on the hoop and begin to sew, using a small backstitch. Use the reverse side of the GENERAL OUTLINE Chain Stitch as your guide, sewing as close to it as possible without sewing through any of the Chain Stitches. Sew around the entire pattern, leaving a 0.75" gap on one side.

3. Remove from hoop. Cut around the pattern, leaving a 3/16" seam allowance. Using the tip of a small pair of embroidery scissors, carefully clip between the body and wings, making sure you don't cut too close to the backstitches.

4. Turn right-side out. Using a thin paintbrush handle, push and smooth fabric out along the seam.

5. Fluff out the stuffing as much as possible. Stuff the doll, pushing small pieces of stuffing up into the ears and legs first. Do not overstuff.

6. Sew closed using a ladder stitch.

