

Embroidery Stitch Sampler



kiriki {embroidery}

Cozy Knits



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

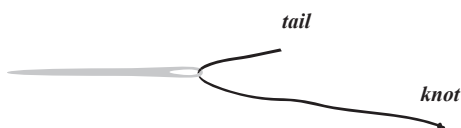
You don't want to use too much or too little thread. Use floss at about 14"-18" in length. The longer your floss is, the more easily it will tangle. At the same time, you don't want your floss to be too short or else you will constantly have to re-thread your needle. A quick and easy way to measure an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

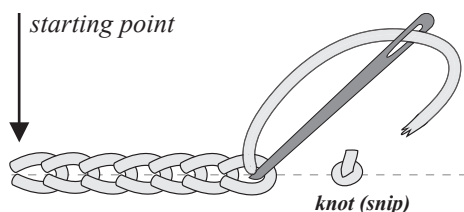
The back of an embroidery is just as important as the front! A back side filled with knots and tangled threads makes it very difficult to produce neat and

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.

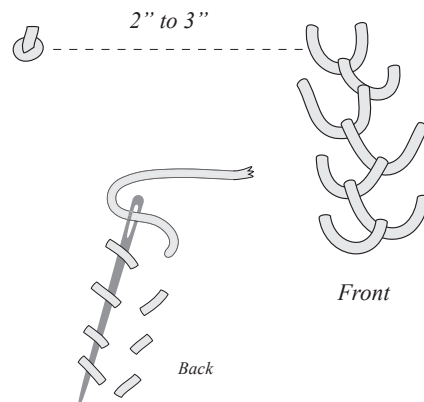
To begin, take the needle from the front to the back about 1" from your starting point, leaving a knot on the front side of your fabric. Take the needle through the start-



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.

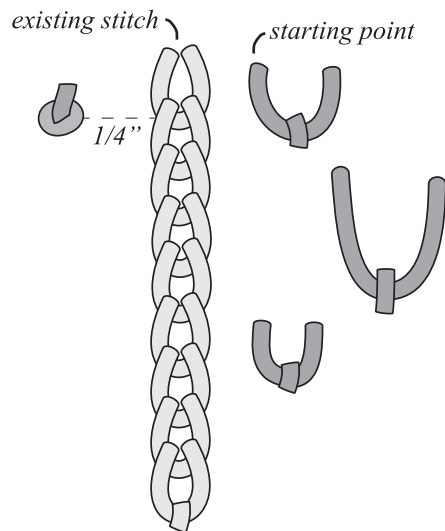


Anchor Stitch

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.



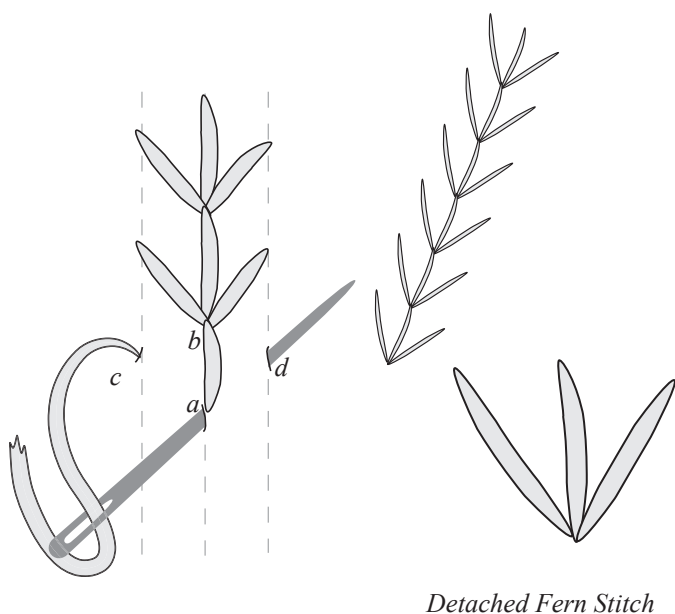
ENDING A THREAD

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.

PRACTICE STITCHES: USE 2 STRANDS OF FLOSS

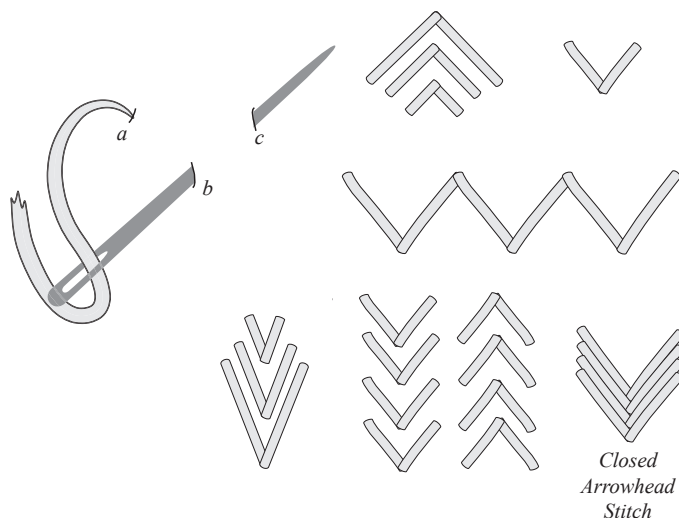
Fern Stitch

The Fern Stitch is a simple stitch comprised of three straight stitches that radiate from a central point. To begin, make a straight stitch from bottom (a) to top (b). Exit to the left (c) and re-insert your needle at (a). Exit to the right (d) and re-insert your needle at (a). Repeat until your line is complete or move to the next location if you are making a series of Detached Fern Stitches



Arrowhead Stitch

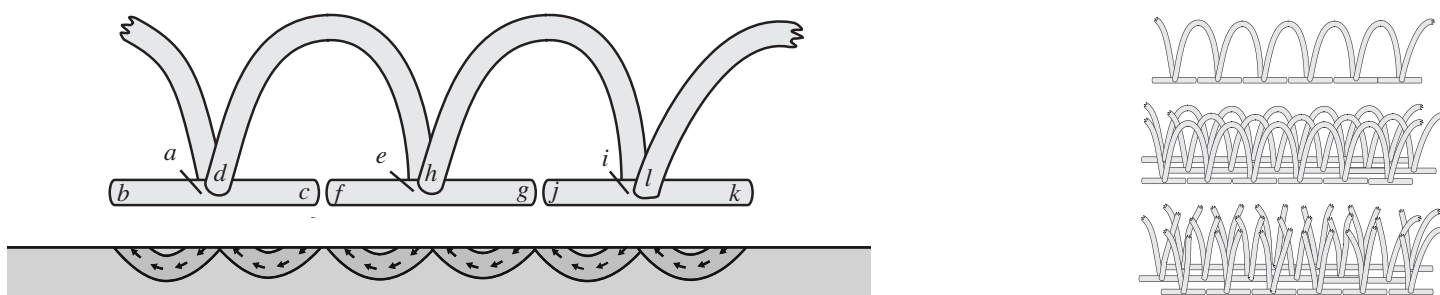
The Arrowhead Stitch is a simple stitch resembling a "V". To begin, make a straight stitch from (a) to (b). Come out through (c) and re-insert your needle at (b). A horizontal row of Arrowhead Stitches created a zig-zag pattern. Stack stitches close together vertically for a Closed Arrowhead Stitch.



Turkey Work

Turkey Work allows you to make a fluffy pile on the surface of your design. This is achieved by creating a series of loops that are locked in by a series of straight stitches. Try to keep the length between stitches to about 1/8".

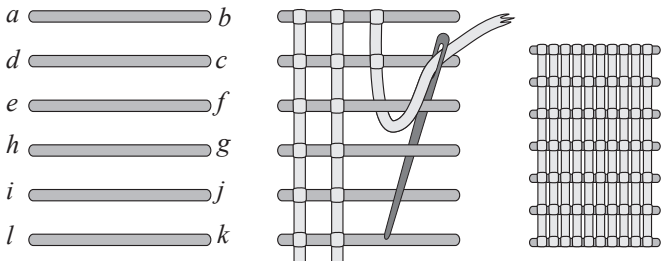
To begin, DO NOT knot the end of your embroidery floss. Rather, go into your fabric at (a), leaving a small piece of the tail end (slightly longer than you want your pile). Emerge half a stitch length back at (b) and go into (c). Come up at (d), splitting through the straight stitch. Go into (e), leaving a loop (slightly longer than you want your pile), and lock the loop in by making a straight stitch from (f) to (g). Continue in this fashion until you finish your row. Finish a row by coming up through the last straight stitch. Stagger parallel rows of Turkey Work stitches until the area you want is filled. At this point snip all the loops, trim to your desired length and use your needle or a closed pair of embroidery scissors to fluff out the pile.



Spider Stitch

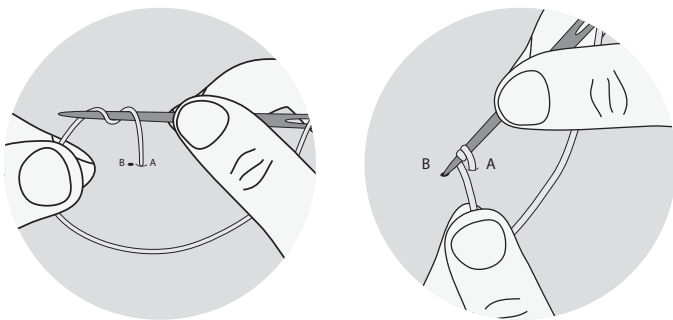
Begin by making a series of straight stitches perpendicular to the longer length of your shape. Switch colours if you prefer, and emerge from the top corner. **Switch to a (blunt) tapestry needle, or use the eye of your needle for the next steps.**

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.



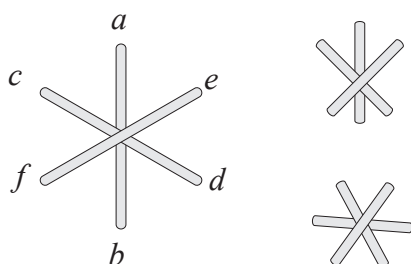
French Knot

Bring the thread out where you want to place your knot. With your left thumb and index finger pull the thread firmly to the left. Wrap the thread around the needle twice, and angle the needle close to where the thread first emerged (but not in the exact place or it will pull through) slightly piercing through the fabric. Give the thread a tug, tightening up the coil. Slide the coil down towards the fabric and, keeping the tension, pull the needle through to the back, leaving a small knot on the surface. You can make single knots or clusters of knots by placing them close together.



Ermine Stitch

Very simply, 3 straight stitches that cross over one another.



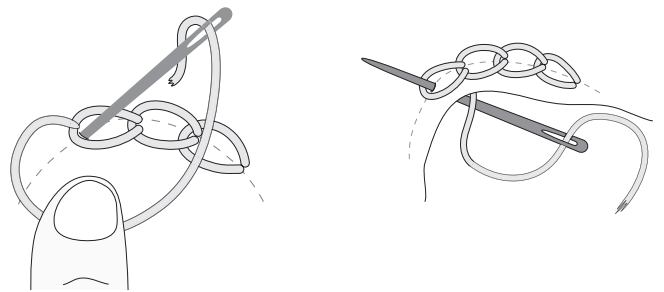
Chain Stitch

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.

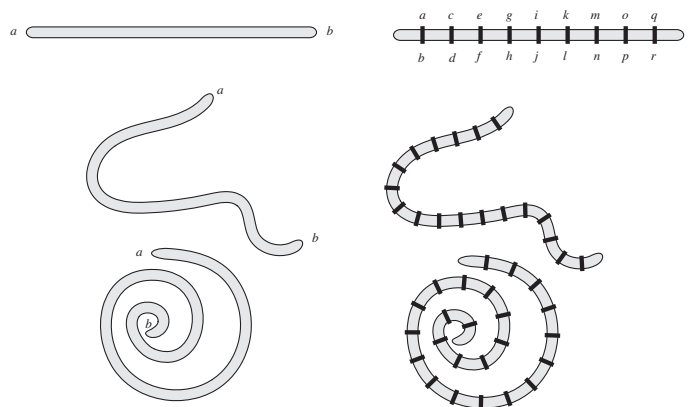
To make a Lazy Daisy (a.k.a. Detached Chain Stitch), simply follow the directions for Chain Stitch, but instead of repeating each step to form a chain, anchor each "link" with a single stitch.



Couching

Couching is a method of securing long or curved lengths of embroidery floss by making a series of perpendicular straight stitches that tack your floss onto the fabric.

Begin by making your primary stitch, simply from (a) to (b). Using either the same colour floss or a different colour, make small, evenly spaced stitches over the primary stitch. Your floss should now be secure. If you want to shape or curve the floss, enter the fabric through the starting point and leave the floss loose as you shape it along the line and secure it with the couching stitches, before going through your end point.



NOW PUT IT ALL TOGETHER!

SNOWFLAKES (MEDIUM)

Cross Stitch + Arrowhead Stitch/DMC 3325/2
make an X and top with arrowhead stitches

THRUMMED MITTENS

Main: Chain Stitch Fill/DMC 504/2

follow the direction of the outlines down the mitten to the cuffs. Fill in the spaces with more Chain Stitch until none of the fabric is showing

String: DMC 19/3 w/Couching DMC/352/1

Cuffs: Spider Stitch/DMC 504/2

Thrums: Straight Stitches/all colours/2

SNOWFLAKES (X-SMALL)

French Knots/DMC 3325/2

SNOWFLAKES (SMALL)

Ermine Star Stitch/DMC 3325/2

SOCK

Chevrons: Arrowhead/DMC 3325/2

Zig Zags: Arrowhead/DMC 504/2

Toe/Heel: Chain Stitch Fill/DMC 352/2

Outline: Chain Stitch/DMC 352/2

Cuff: Spider Stitch/DMC 352/2

SNOWFLAKES (LARGE)

Fern Stitch/DMC 3325/2

make 4 fern stitches that join in the center

TOQUE

Main (Bottom): Chain Stitch Fill/DMC 3727/2

Main (Top): Chain Stitch Fill/DMC 353/2

Stitch the bottom colour first, from the zig zag line to the cuff. Follow the direction of the outlines and fill in the spaces with more Chain Stitch until none of the fabric is showing through

Cuff: Spider Stitch/DMC 3727/2

Pompom: Turkey Work/DMC 19/3

Make 3-4 rows of Turkey work, ~1/4" loops - you only need a few stitches in each row to create a full effect



NOTE: Sorry, i decided the TOQUE needed to have a zig zag after the pattern was already on the screen! (it's cuter that way, right?)

You can use the template on the next page to trace the zig zags onto the hat, or approximate it by eye.

Also on the next page is a nifty trick for seamlessly changing colours when you chain stitch

Key for Stitch Diagram:

Chain Stitch/DMC 732/1

type of stitch

colour

of strands to use

EMBROIDER THESE ELEMENTS IN THE FOLLOWING ORDER:

MITTENS

- 1) Thumbs
- 2) Outlines & Main
- 3) String
- 4) Cuffs
- 5) Thrums

Hat

- 1) Outlines and Fill (bottom colour)
- 2) Outlines and Fill (lower colour)
- 3) Band
- 4) Pompom

PINE BRANCH

SOCKS

- 1) Chevrons & Zig Zags
- 2) Heel & Toe
- 3) Outlines

Colours used on the sample are noted, but use any colours in your floss stash

COLOURS:

Green: DMC 504

Mauve: DMC 3727

Yellow: DMC 19

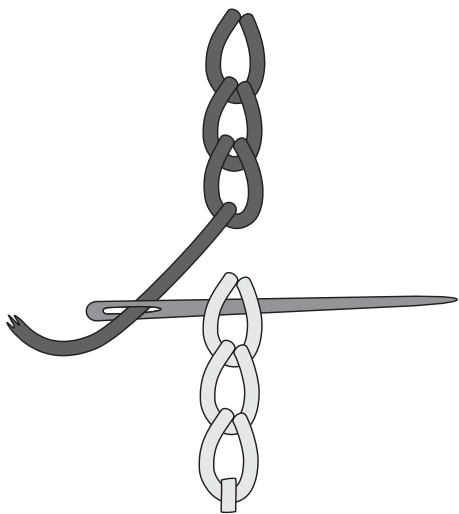
Light Pink: DMC 353

Bright Pink: DMC 352

Blue: DMC 3325

Switching colours on Chain Stitch

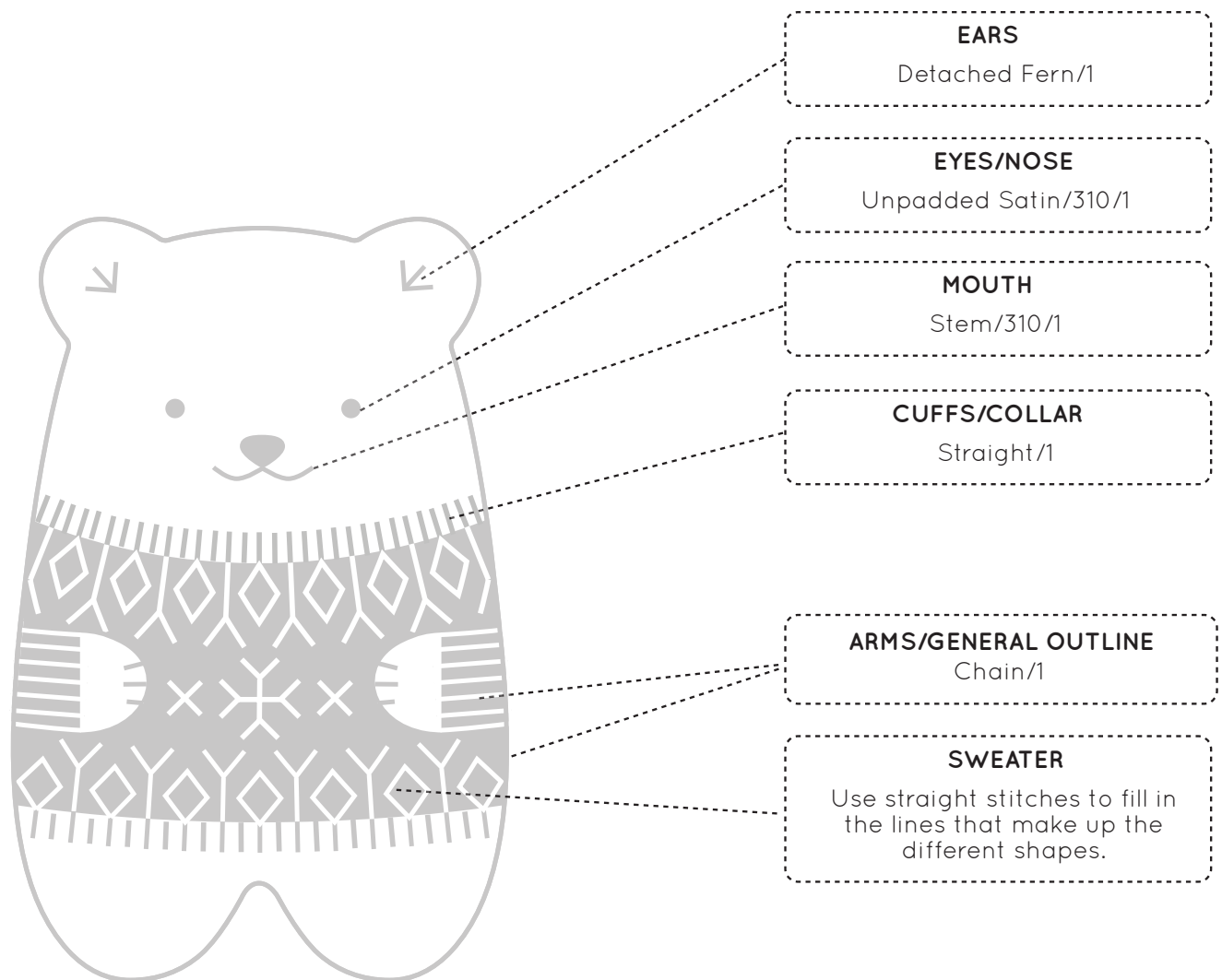
Once you finish embroidering the lower part of the TOQUE (from the zig zag line to the cuff), start the new colour from the top of the TOQUE. Once you are a stitch length away from the existing chain stitch, weave through the top link and go back into the last chain to finish the stitch.



use this template to trace the zig zag line onto the hat

Bonus Pattern!

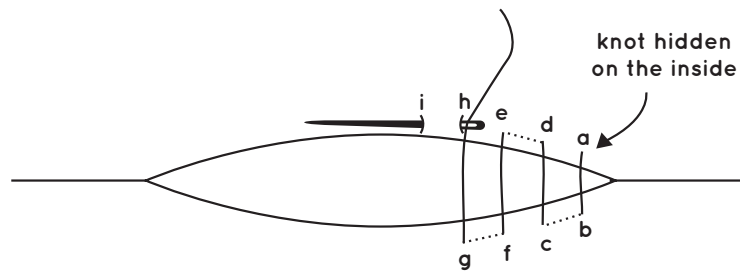
Any stitches not found on this instruction guide can be found in the [Stitch Library](#)



PUT THE DOLL TOGETHER (IMAGES ARE FROM A PREVIOUS PATTERN)



- 1) After you finish embroidering the bear, place the printed side of the backing to the embroidered side. Put the pieces back into the hoop before stitching, or else use pins to hold together so the pieces don't move around once lined up.
- 2) Use a backstitch to sew along the pattern, using the General Outline as your guide.
- 3) Cut around the shape, clipping between the ears and legs and notching all around.
- 4) Use a sturdy straw and something thinner (like a paintbrush handle) to help turn the doll right-side out
- 5) Stuff the doll. Sew closed using a ladder stitch.



Ladder Stitch

