



For this embroidery project, you will need:

An 8-inch embroidery hoop - I like to use wooden hoops with a screw fastener

Grey fabric - preferably a medium weight cotton

Embroidery needles – ideally size 6 or 7

Embroidery thread - for this project, I used DMC BLANC (white) and E168 (silver)

Pattern transfer method - for dark fabrics, I like to use adhesive, water soluble paper or Burda's dressmaker's carbon paper in white or yellow

Felt (to cover the messy back of the piece)

Scissors

If you want to do this project on a different colour fabric, or using different colour threads, feel free!

Instructions

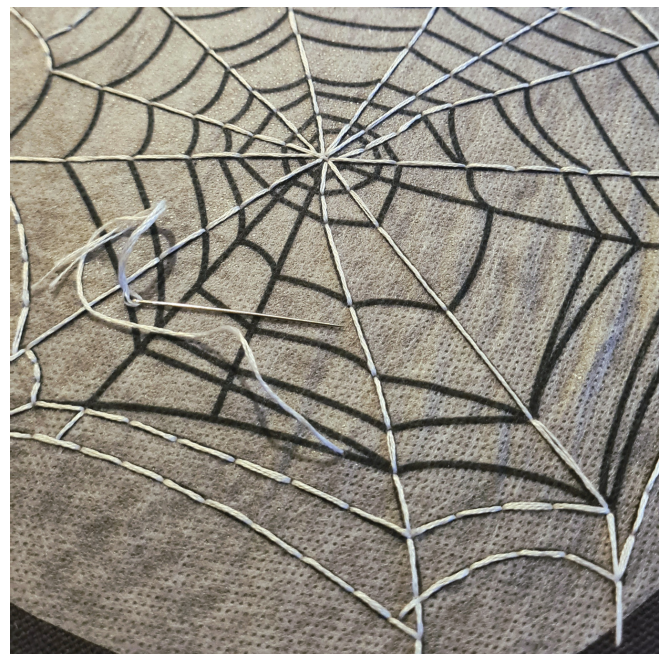
1. Transfer your pattern (on page 4) onto the fabric: in these pictures, I used adhesive, water soluble paper.

If using adhesive, water soluble paper: print your pattern (note: if printing at home using Sulky paper, change the paper size to 'Letter' rather than 'A4'). Cut the transfer down to fit into the 8 inch hoop; then stick it onto the middle of your fabric, making sure it's totally smoothed down.

If using carbon paper: Take your fabric, carbon paper, and stencil, and layer them on a hard, flat, surface. Make sure that the fabric is on the bottom, then the carbon paper (waxy coating side down), then the stencil on top, placed right in the middle of the fabric. Using a biro or ballpoint pen, draw firmly over the stencil shapes. Once the carbon paper and stencil is taken away, you should be left with the stencil outline on your fabric.

2. If you want to back your piece with felt once it's finished, take your piece of felt and use a pen to draw around the inside of your embroidery hoop. Cut this out, so you're left with a felt circle roughly the size of your inner hoop. Set this aside for the end of the project.

3. Take your hoop, and separate the outer hoop from the inner. Position your fabric on top of the inner hoop, so that your spider web design is right in the middle. Then re-position the outer hoop to secure the fabric in place. Once you're happy with the positioning, pull the edges of the fabric tight, so that it's taut across the hoop. It will help to re-tighten your hoop and fabric as you go - you want the fabric as tight as a drum for easier stitching!



4. Cut a length of your white thread - perhaps 50cm to 80cm - and separate out 3 strands (each piece of thread contains six smaller strands). Then, use Back Stitch (on page 5) to start creating your design! It doesn't matter where you start on the web - just choose a place and start to work your way around. For this project, I used fairly long Back Stitches (around 2cm long) - and didn't worry too much about keeping them all identical or tidy!

Once you've finished, share your work with us!

Use #paraffle or tag @paraffle_embroidery in your picture, or find us on Facebook at Paraffle Embroidery.



Instructions, cont.

5. Once you've stitched over all of the design with white Back Stitch, it's time to add the enhancements!

The silver thread adds some shine and helps your web look a little more 3-dimensional. You want to loosely drape silver thread around the web, quite randomly.

Separate out 1 strand of silver thread, and bring it up at one of the web's corners, around the edge of the design. Experiment with loosely draping the thread over the different parts of the web, until you know where you'd like it to lie - you can freestyle with this a bit! Pass the thread underneath one of your white back stitches, to pin it lightly in place (and to stop it from flying around too much!), then go back down at another corner of the web.

Repeat! I tried to vary the size and placement of the wispy silver threads, to help it look a little more natural.



6. Finally, you just need to finish off! If you used transfer paper, wash it off with some lukewarm water (you can use the blunt end of a needle to make sure it's all removed), and leave it to dry. Trim the spare fabric around the edge of your hoop, so only a couple of centimetres are left. Using some spare thread, do a Running Stitch around your hoop, about a centimetre from the edge of the spare fabric. Once you've stitched a full circle, pull the thread tight at both ends, to gather the spare fabric at the back of the hoop. Tie the thread tightly in place. If you don't want to back it with felt, you can finish your piece like this! If you do choose to felt-back your piece, take your felt circle and use Whip Stitch to attach your felt circle to the fabric at the back of your hoop. Done!

Thank you!

I hope you enjoy this free pattern - if you want to add a spooky spider friend to your web, my Spider needle painting PDF is available on the Paraffle website.

As always, if you have any questions or suggestions, please do get in touch - I'm happy to help!

Sammy
x

Website



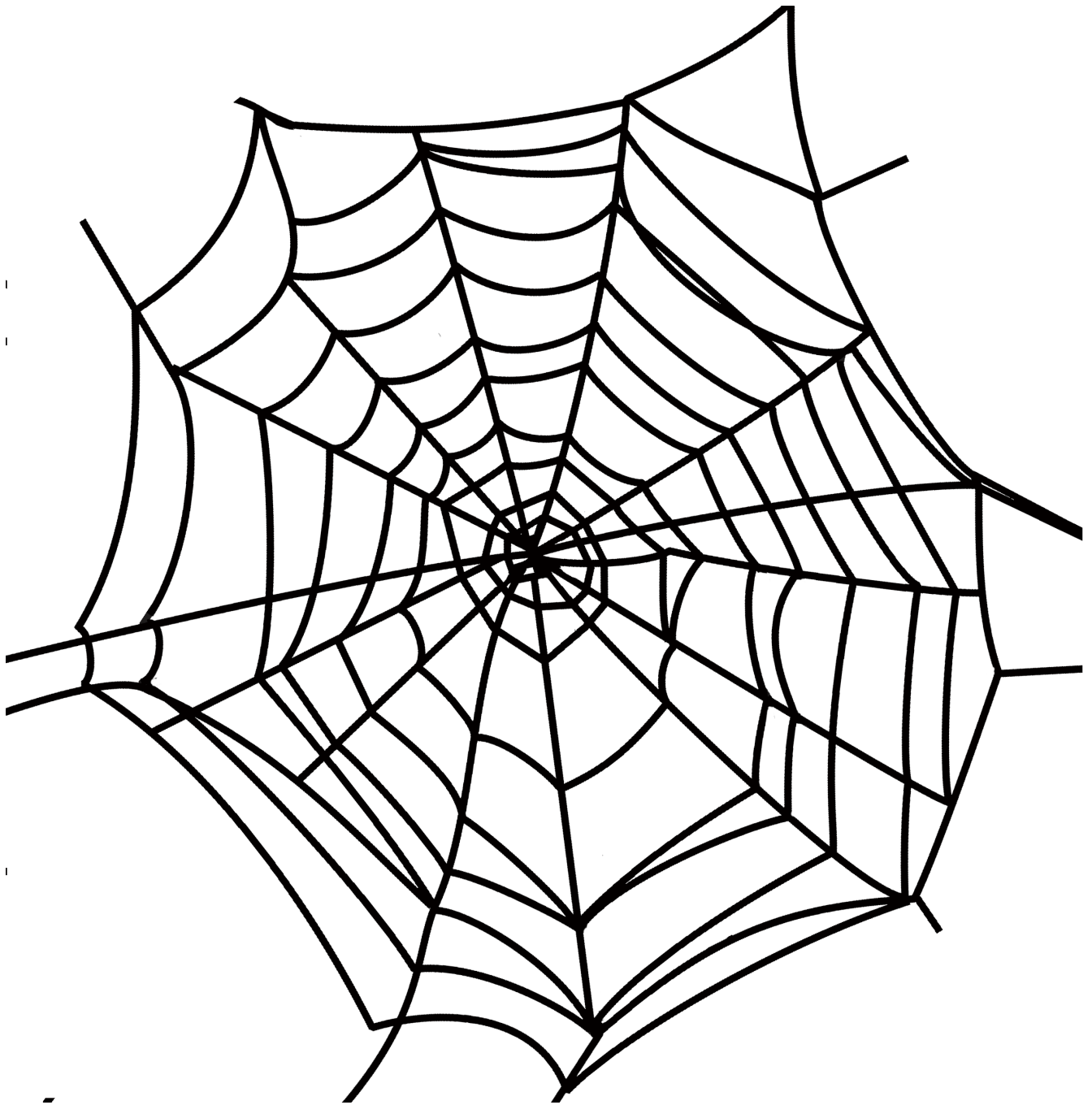
Handy step-by-step videos - can be found on the Paraffle website - scan the QR code, or visit our 'Embroidery Stitches Guide' blog:
www.paraffle-embroidery.com/blogs/embroidery-stitching-full-guide/



Stencil

Use this stencil to trace or transfer the outline
on to your fabric.

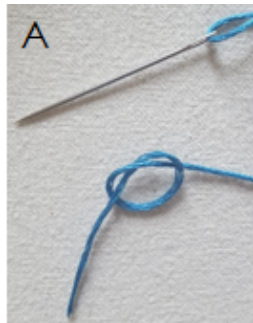
#parafflespider



Stitch Guide

Starting & Finishing

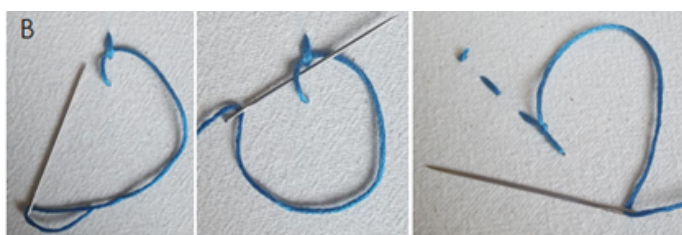
To start:



To start, thread your needle, then tie a knot close to the other end of the thread (see A).

Be sure to cut off the stray ends close to the knot, to avoid accidentally pulling them through during later stitching. Then, you're ready to start stitching!

To finish:

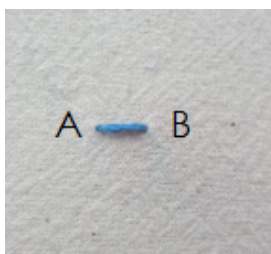


When you have about 10cm of thread left, it's time to tie off. To do this, use your needle and the back of your last stitch to tie a knot (see B). Check it's secure, then trim the spare ends of the thread.

Single Stitch & Running Stitch

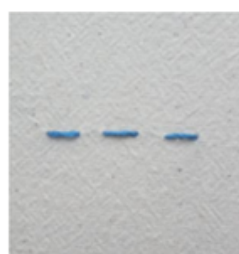
These are the easiest stitches of all, and a good skill to learn for almost any sewing project.

Single Stitch



All you need to do is take the thread up through A, then back through B.

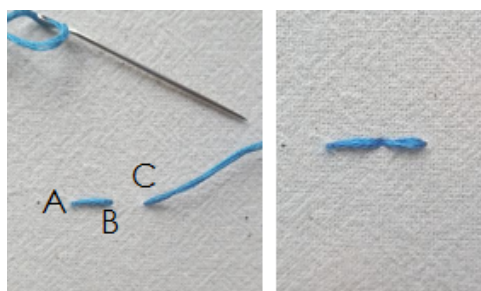
Running Stitch



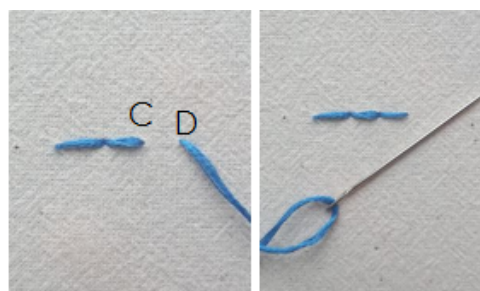
For this, simply repeat the single stitch in a line.

Back Stitch

Back stitch is my best friend in projects like this. It's the easiest way to create a continuous straight line and can be used to create any shape.



Start with a single stitch, coming up through A and back down at B. Next, bring your needle back up through C, and back down again through B. This will create your first two stitches.



Bring your needle back up at D, then down through C, to create the next stitch. Repeat.