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Designing with stitches

And so

NDS

BULLETIN 10B

to Embroider

<http://www.knitting-and.com>



THE ATTRACTIVE embroideries illustrated in this bulletin are worked upon plain fabrics in gay, clear colours. The tray cloth and tea-cosy would make a useful present for Mother or they could be used in school when serving tea for a special visitor. The small bag with its jewel-like motifs can be used as a handbag, or it will hold your sewing, and the embroidery is easy to design and work.

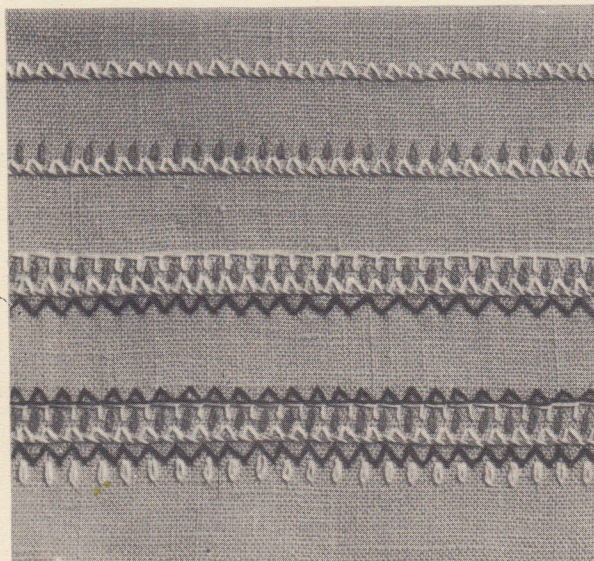
You do not have to be able to draw very skilfully in order to create the borders and motifs with which these articles are decorated. Similar designs are shown clearly in the samplers illustrated and you will see that the effectiveness of the designs depends upon the choice of simple stitches and the way in which these are grouped together. For these embroideries we have not varied the thickness or texture of the working thread very much but have used mainly three strands of stranded cotton. Study the illustrations and you will see how a decorative border can be built up gradually by adding one line of stitching to another until the border is of the desired width. A border

of this kind is used to join together two differently coloured fabrics to make the tray cloth and tea-cosy. Don't be tempted to use up an odd scrap of fabric that doesn't match when making a pad for the cosy. It is much more satisfactory to choose just the right fabric for the purpose and to make it beautiful even though it will not be seen all the time. We show you how to make one that is both simple and gay.

The geometrical motif sampler shows an eight point star worked in Straight Stitch as the centre of a number of simple and more elaborate designs. The small bag is decorated with some of these motifs and you will be able to think of other ways in which they can be used. Embroidery stitches have also inspired the flower sampler and you can see the way in which each flower has grown from a small central motif. It is important to let the stitches suggest the shape and arrangement of the petals. Remember that you are creating an embroidered flower and not trying to imitate a real one.

Bulletin 11B will show ways in which cut paper motifs can suggest embroidery designs

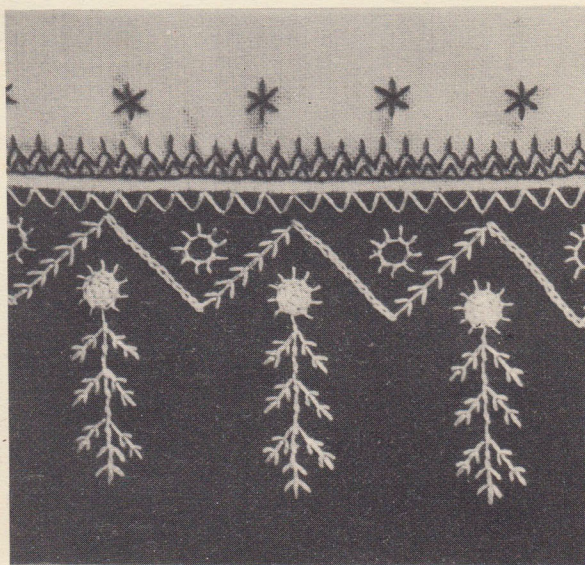
SIMPLE BORDERS SAMPLER



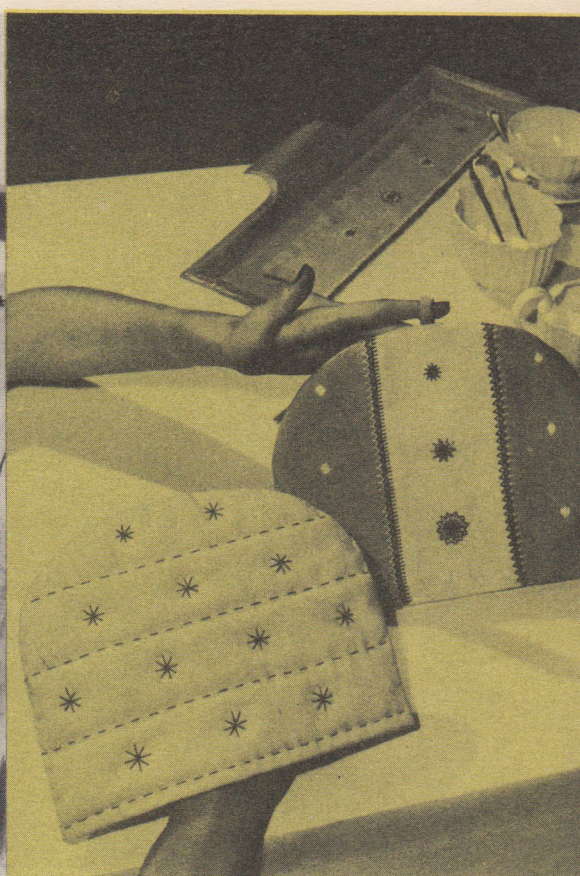
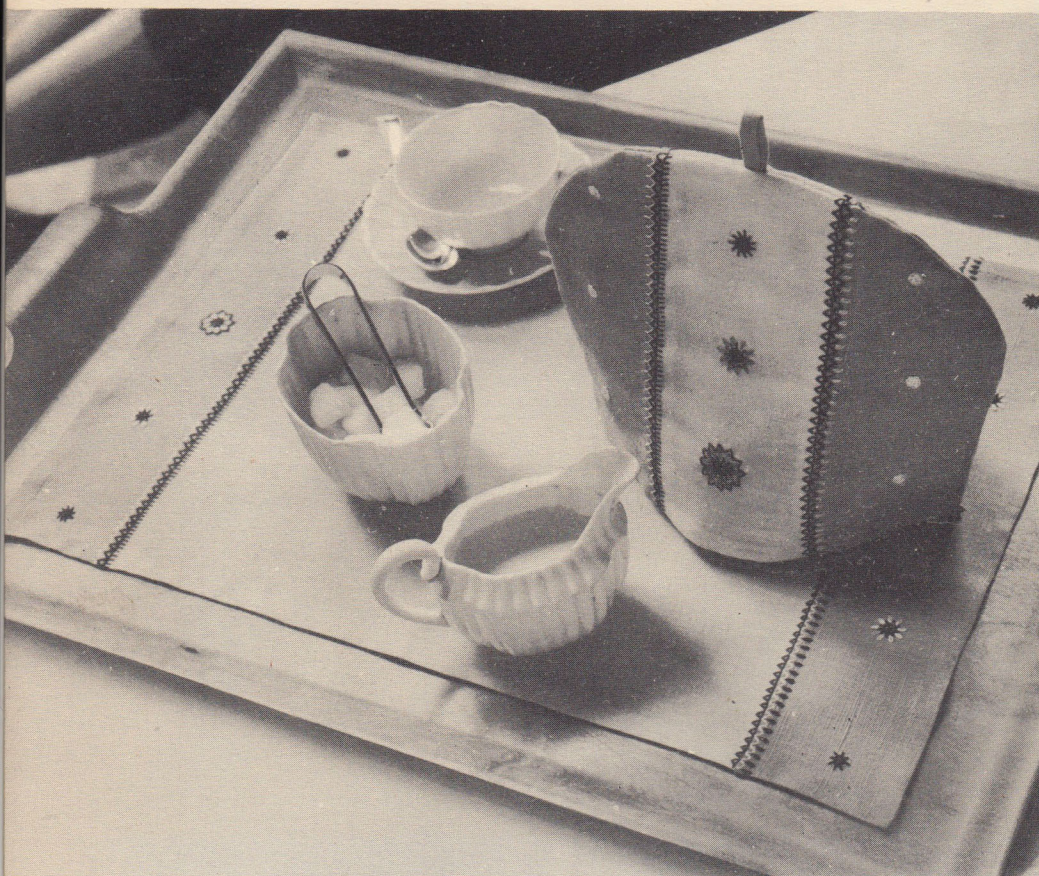
The borders illustrated are worked upon grey linen in black, white and red. Each one begins with a line of white Vandyke Buttonhole Stitch, the straight edge of which is whipped in red. The width of the border is gradually increased by adding Detached Chain Stitch, Buttonhole Stitch, Fly Stitch and finally another row of Vandyke Buttonhole Stitch and Detached Chain Stitch.



TWO-COLOUR SAMPLER



A simple arrangement of stitches is used to join blue and white fabrics attractively in this sampler. The stitches are Chain Stitch, Buttonhole Stitch, Straight Stitch, Fly Stitch, Coral Stitch and Vandyke Buttonhole Stitch. You could use this idea for the hem of curtains or of an apron.



The tray cloth and tea-cosy are made from grey and white linen embroidered in navy blue, white, grey and red. White cotton fabric is used for the tea-cosy pad which is embroidered in red.

TRAY CLOTH. This is made from one piece of white linen measuring 15 in. x 14½ in. and two strips of grey linen measuring 14½ in. x 4 in. Join the grey strips to the white with a simple seam. Press open and finish the raw edges with overcasting. Work bands of embroidery along the seam lines as shown in the illustration. On one side the stitches used are Buttonhole Stitch and two rows of Fly Stitch whilst on the other side Vandyke Buttonhole Stitch, Fly Stitch and Detached Chain Stitch are used. Five spot motifs are worked at each end of the tray cloth. Chain Stitch worked in a close spiral surrounded by Buttonhole Stitches makes the two outer ones. The next pair are enlarged by adding Detached Chain Stitches between the spokes of the Buttonhole ring. The centre spot is made still larger by adding a ring of Fly Stitches. When the embroidery is complete turn a ½ in. fold along the wrong side and baste. Baste ½ in.

wide linen tape on the wrong side ½ in. from the fold to cover the raw edges of the fabric. Slip stitch along both edges of tape and press.

TEA-COSY. Make pattern from diagram—1 square = 1 in. Cut out two shapes in paper. Keep a whole one for the cosy pad. Cut the other into three along the dotted lines shown on the diagram. Cut two centre sections in white and four outer sections in grey linen. Leave ½ in. turnings right round each section. Join grey side pieces to white centre panels with simple seams as for the tray cloth. Work a similar line of embroidery along the seam lines. The three spot motifs on the centre panel are worked as described for the tray cloth. The smaller spots on the grey side sections are worked in Chain Stitch. A piece of grey fabric 2½ in. x 1 in. is used to make the loop for the top of the cosy. With right sides together fold lengthwise and stitch ½ in. from the edge. Turn to right side and press. With right sides together join the two halves of the cosy with a plain seam inserting the loop in the centre of the seam. Trim seam to ¼ in. and overcast. Turn to right side and press.

Finish the edge with linen tape as for the tray cloth.

TEA-COSY PAD **Cutting Directions.** For the tea-cosy pad you will require two pieces of white cotton fabric 17 in. x 11 in. Fold each piece in half and place cosy pattern with straight edge to fold. Cut out leaving ½ in. turnings. Repeat for the other piece. Cut for each side a thickness of wadding without turnings.

Sewing Directions: Diagram 1. Lay wadding upon fabric. The shaded part of the diagram represents wadding. Turn in edges of fabric all round and baste.

Diagram 2. Fold fabric in half, enclosing wadding. Slip stitch edges together and remove basting stitches.

Work four rows of large Running Stitches and four rows of stars in Straight Stitch as shown in the illustration. Take the stitches right through all the layers of fabric and wadding. Make sure that your stitches are the same on back and front of the work. This completes half of cosy pad. Repeat for other half.

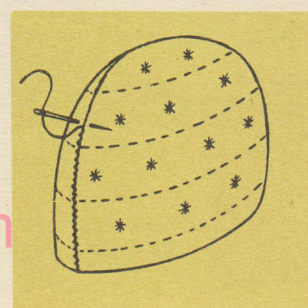
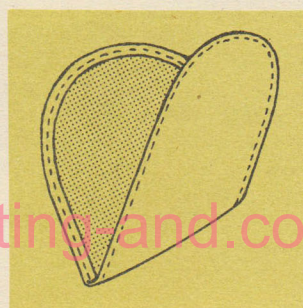
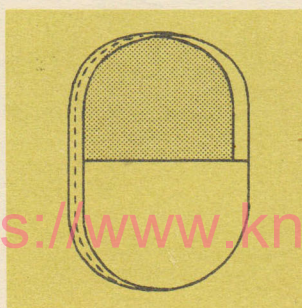
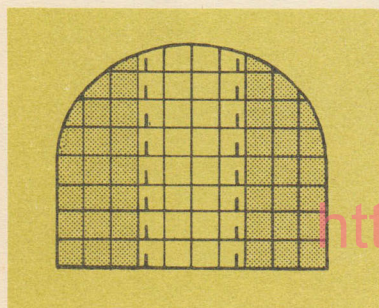
Diagram 3. Whip the two halves of the pad together.

TEA-COSY DIAGRAM

COSY PAD DIAGRAM 1

COSY PAD DIAGRAM 2

COSY PAD DIAGRAM 3

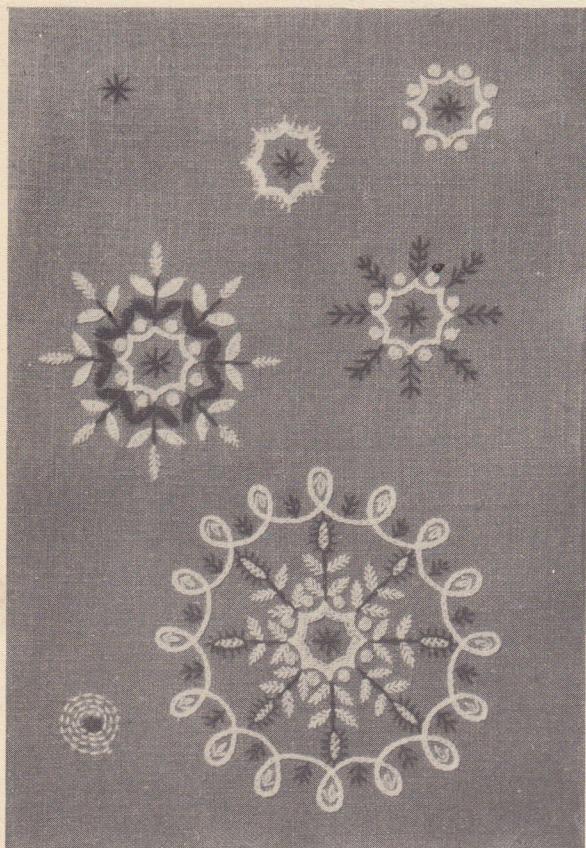


GEOMETRICAL MOTIFS

The motifs are worked in dark navy blue, white and yellow on bright red linen. This sampler shows the way in which a very simple arrangement of stitches can become a rich, jewel-like decoration. The stitches used are Straight Stitch, Chain Stitch, Coral Stitch, Fly Stitch, Buttonhole Stitch, Running Stitch and Detached Chain Stitch.

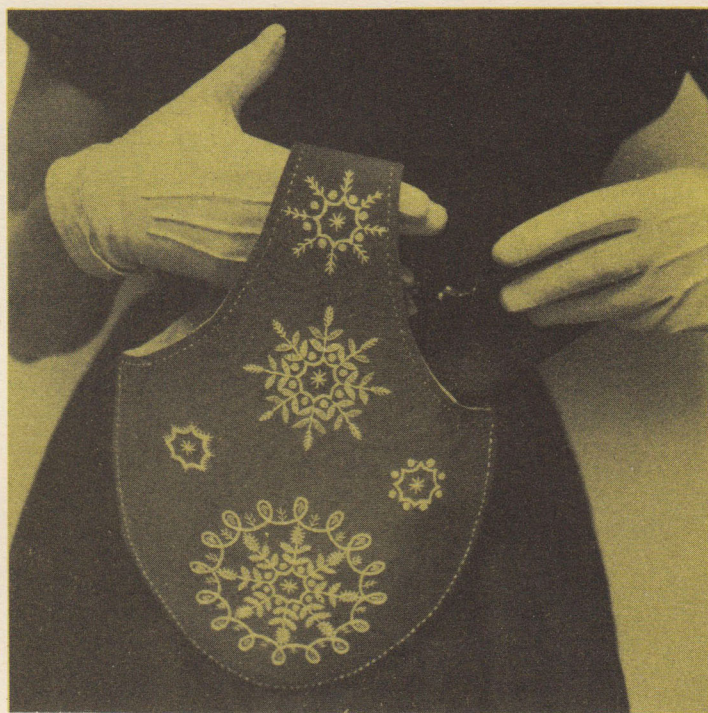
FLOWER MOTIFS

Flower shapes are worked in deep red, white and pale green on a pink linen ground. Like the geometrical motifs the flowers all begin with a simple arrangement of stitches which suggest stamens and petals. Stems and leaves complete the embroidered flowers. The stitches used are Chain Stitch, Coral Stitch, Fly Stitch, Buttonhole Stitch, Vandyke Buttonhole Stitch, Rosette Stitch and Straight Stitch. These flowers could also be used to decorate a bag.



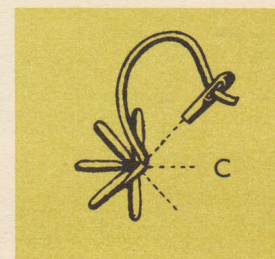
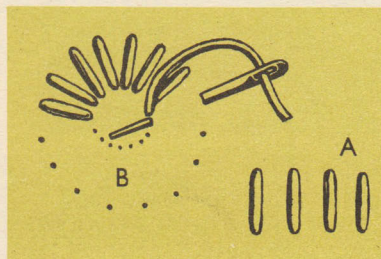
Above : Geometrical Motif Sampler.

Below : Flower Motif Sampler.



A SMALL BAG

The bag is made from deep blue cotton fabric lined with a fine, pale yellow cotton. The geometrical motifs which are also shown in the sampler are here arranged to form a pleasant pattern on the bag. The embroidery is worked in white and yellow and a line of white Running Stitches is worked $\frac{1}{4}$ in. from the edges.



STRAIGHT STITCH

This stitch is very simple to work from the diagrams. Diagram A shows a line of spaced Straight Stitches whilst in diagram B the stitches radiate from the centre of a motif. In diagram C eight Straight Stitches are worked into the same central point to form a star.