

Chapter 1 : Stitching Cow: Perfect Hand Quilting Without Pain

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If you did not find the exact coloured thread, choose a darker coloured thread rather than a lighter one. The lighter colour will stand out and look very conspicuous. Ensure that the needle you are using is an appropriate one for the fabric. Checkout the 14 different needles available for hand sewing. More than that and you will find yourself in thread tangles. Knot at the end of the thread, catching the two ends of the threads. How to sew by hand Do not under any circumstance, while sewing, pull the thread and the fabric too tight. An even tension is necessary for good looking stitches At the end of the stitch make sure to make two or three back stitches to strongly anchor the thread. This will perfectly match the fabric and make the hand stitches invisible. That thin metal contraption is a saving grace for all those who think that the worst thing about sewing is threading the needle. Get one soon and go about sewing. For that a knot is needed. I make a ring on my forefinger with the end of the thread and twist it with my thumb and then pull. A knot is magically formed at the end of the thread. This is anchored at the wrong side of the fabric before beginning stitching. An alternative way is to make a slip knot at the end of the thread. After running the needle through the fabric once, pull the needle through the knot to tighten the thread. Another way is to slip the needle into the fabric to create a loop, and then slip the needle through the loop. Pull the loop tight, and repeat to make a second knot to strongly anchor the thread. Obviously finer fabrics call for fine needles and Choose thick needles for thick heavy fabrics. But even then smaller is better to sew with, so find the smallest of the biggest and strongest , if you get what I mean. I bought a small hand sewing needle kit and it had almost all the hand sewing needles I wanted. They come handy when sewing with faux leather straps in bags etc. Running stitch This is a very simple stitch. It is used to join fabric in the seams. It is made up of a straight line of stitches of equal length. Also used in embroidery as an outlining and filling stitch. Checkout the 9 variations of running stitches you can use to decorate your clothes. Kantha embroidery and Sashiko embroidery uses running stitch as the basic stitch. Basting stitch This is very much like a running stitch but the difference is that it consists of very long stitches. This stitch is usually used as an alternative to pinning. Also used to gather fabric. The three types of ways Basting stitches are used are Even basting: Long stitches are taken on one side and short stitches on the other side. Obviously this basting is done diagonally. Used to hold many layers of fabric together. Especially used to hold interfacing and lining to the main fabric. Whip stitch A stitch used usually to hem. The thread goes over and over the fabric edge to enclose it. Checkout other stitches used for hemming. Overcast stitch This is similar to whip stitch and is usually used on the raw edge of the fabric. It is used to finish edges to neaten them and to prevent unraveling of threads in the raw edge. The stitch involves short diagonal stitches made over the raw edge of the fabric. They are of the same length and regular spacing is maintained throughout. If this stitch crosses to form an x it is called double overcasting. Now place the needle point in the back. This will create a stitch which will enclose the edge. Make sure that all the stitches are the same distance apart. Checkout more details on this stitch in the article on How to stitch an overcast stitch A double overcast stitch is done by finishing the single overcasting stitch as earlier and then without breaking the thread another line is one crossing each of the overcast stitches done. Refer the picture below. This stitch gives a very smooth finish to the edges. Catch stitch It is similar to a herringbone stitch. The needle catches a thread or two from the first fabric and then the thread crosses and needle goes to catch a thread or two from the second fabric. This is a very stretchy stitch and very suitable for sewing the hem where you need some stretch. Now place the thread under the needle point and pull the needle. Checkout the 11 variations of Blanket stitch you can use to embellish your clothes. A buttonhole stitch is a blanket stitch with a knot. It is made slightly differently. Check out the post on Buttonhole stitch for more details on how to do it. Blind hem or Slip stitch This is an invisible stitch used to hem. The needle is pulled through the fold of the hem, then comes out to catch one or two threads, then back into the folded hem. Then on to the next stitch ensuring that not much of the thread is shown outside. Now the knot will be enclosed in the fold. Bring out the needle and take one or two thread

from the main fabric Now come back to the hem and insert the needle into the fold , just left to the place where you have drawn a thread. Bring the needle out. Repeat the above steps again The slip stitch doesnot show the thread outside. Check out this more detailed post on slip stitch. Checkout the post on making a perfect blind hem by hand and by sewing machine 8. Vertical hem stitch or Couch stitch This stitch is very good option to sew a hem as it is almost invisible from the outside. How to do it –” Bring out the needle from behind the folded hem. Then needle comes out vertically and catches two threads in the garment, then emerge to the front for the next stitch. Only tiny dots where you catch the two threads will be seen in the face of the garment. Back Stitch This makes a very strong hand stitch. Pull the needle through the fabric, Take a stitch downwards, then go forward the same distance beyond the first stitch to bring the needle up again. Bring the needle down to the start of the first stitch. Continue in the same vein to get a long line of strong stitches. This stitch carries back only half the length of the first stitch. A Pick stitch is another variation of the back stitch. In this the needle goes back only one or two threads of the fabric. Check out the post on Pick stitch for more details. This is very handy to know when marking patterns accurately. They transfer pattern markings from tissue patterns to your fabric. The best stitch for marking fabrics Related posts.

Chapter 2 : Quiltville's Quips & Snips!!: Questions on fans

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Friday, May 28, Questions on fans The pic you see above was a photo I sent to the Quiltville page on facebook, sitting there on the plane, quilting away, waiting to take off from St Louis to Atlanta, and then from Atlanta home. I quilted the whole way, and am making huge progress on Dreamsicles! I started hand quilting fans when I lived in Idaho, oh The first one I did was a block swap through interquilt, and the blocks I got were called "wind blown square. I still have it somewhere, and i know I quilted this at least 12 years ago? Where does the time go? That first batch of quilts with fans, either in the border, or over the whole surface of the quilt, I used stencils. I tried lots of ways to mark them, from blue marker, to purple marker, to schoolhouse chalk I also once went so far as to take a strip cut from a sheet of plastic canvas grid Mark the holes that I wanted to use to measure my arcs with a sharpie marker It worked really well, but again I was still marking. If you have to lay something out to mark it Being able to quilt without marking is my method of choice! And I gave up. I think the thing about free handing fans is that we forget to think about the whole surface of the quilt But you have to keep going! One of the first things I figured out was that I was trying to make my fans too big with too many arcs to them. I limit mine at 5. In fact, 5 arcs gives me the perfect number to keep them moving continuously. I start my quilting in the bottom right corner, working right to left because I am right handed. Lefties would probably do better working left to right from the bottom left corner. But my quilt is very loose in the hoop. When I quilt, I am not holding the hoop in any way I have one hand on the underside of the quilt, feeling for the needle, and my right hand on the top doing the stitching. The hoop just rests in my lap and keeps me from having to grab and hold the quilt flat so I can stitch. Some prefer to go completely hoopless, so try it both ways. I baste my quilts by longarm with a huge stitch in a meander pattern. I remove the basting threads in each area as I quilt. If you look at the corner of the pic above I also thought it might help if I drew this with pencil on paper. You can draw it on paper too so you can get the feel of how things work, and how the fans just run off the edge in the direction you are going The arrows show you the direction I am stitching. I travel my needle up through the layers so I can start the next fan in the same way I think this one can only be sharpened by whittling Here we are working toward that next corner.. Sometimes I need to add another little line as if it were the "top arc" of the one that ran off the edge, just to fill in the space. Then head down the third side When I reach the middle, the fans are going to end where they end Can you see the pattern with the red thread? Quilting with contrasting thread is so fun. I mean, who wants to put in all this work if the quilting is not going to show? Get out a piece of paper and just start drawing. You can make them as close together or as far apart as you like, again there are no rules I like to think of fans as one of the "earliest" pantographs out there Quilts that were quilted this way tended to last a bit longer I think Quipped by Bonnie K Hunter at 8:

Perfect hand quilting without pain is possible. Like all good recipes hand quilting needs the right ingredients. Just like making a cake if you don't get the ingredients right then the result you get will vary.

Thursday, February 10, Hand quilting tutorial I love hand quilting. It takes longer, but gives a lovely handmade look, and its much more sociable than noisy machine quilting. Its a matter of practicing and not insisting on perfection straight away. My tools include Perle Cotton no. I tried using one for my first quilt, but I just found it a pain to keep moving it around. So now I just rest the quilt on my lap or sometimes tuck my feet up on the couch and drape the fabric over my knees and grip the fabric with my left hand. Start by threading the needle with a length of cotton. Tie a single knot in the end you may need a double knot if using a thinner thread. Insert the needle about an inch away from where you want to start quilting, going through the top layer and batting but not the backing fabric! I scratch the little hole it leaves to make it disappear. To make your first stitch decide on your stitch length and hold the needle perpendicular at a right angle to the fabric, so the needle goes straight through not at an angle. You will feel it prick your finger on your left hand at the back of the quilt for me its my middle finger that I keep extended underneath the quilt. I like to travel the needle along a little at the back so it makes pretty stitches on the back as well as the front but I think I need to work on making these shorter as sometimes the stitches on the back are bigger than on the front. Rock the needle back with your thimble middle finger and put your thumb just in front of where the needle is to come out so that the needle comes straight through the layers. Push your needle to the desired stitch length and then rock the needle up again so it is at a right angle to the fabric. Make your next stitch in the same manner, trying to keep your stitch length even. When you have made a few stitches, push the needle through with your thimble Now repeat that lots and lots of times! In the pictured example I was completing a square design, so I brought the needle up very close to the hole through which I started. This way, it will make a square on the back as well as the front of the quilt, and you wont be able to tell where you started and finished quilting. Make a knot that sits right on top of your quilt. Now, insert your needle into the same hole that you just came out of, travel through the batting but not backing fabric and emerge about an inch away. Pull the thread so the knot is pulled into and lodges in the batting. Massage the fabric so the hole disappears. A cushion or a baby quilt might be a good place to start. There are many different ways to hand quilt, and hopefully by sharing what I do, you can find what works best for you and develop your own technique. Please feel free to ask a question, or to share a tip.

Chapter 4 : Best Sewing Chairs | Heavenly Seatingâ,,ç

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Chapter 5 : Perfect Hand Quilting Without Pain by Liuxin Newman

Thimblelady's innovative quilting technique eliminates all physical pains! A teaching course of 10 exercises and trouble shooting enable you to master the technique in just hours! Plus Liuxin's secrets of making a perfect quilt from designing to finish.

Like all good recipes hand quilting needs the right ingredients. For years I was not sure of all the right things to do and although I enjoyed hand quilting, I was not happy with my stitch length or the pain I experienced after quilting for a long period of time. Even when my stitches were Okay on the front, when I looked at the back they were uneven and unsightly! But then I learned the secret Here are all the right ingredients for you. From reading my previous post you will have learned how to baste your quilt and have it all ready for hand quilting. Use a good quality quilting thread. It is much softer to work with, I love it. The spools above are Gutermann, a big benefit is that they come in lots of colour choices This is the brand I use now. A hand hint is to place a rubber band around the spool to stop it from unwinding. There is much debate about whether to use a quilting hoop or not. I find hoops very useful if quilting around shapes. The quilt can be turned in different directions easily, while stabilizing the quilt. If I am quilting a row I roll the quilt firmly and then quilt towards myself unrolling the quilt as I work. The quilt should be very loose in the hoop, NOT taut like a piece of fabric for embroidery. To get ready for hand quilting, place the hoop all the way over the quilt and then push down in the centre so that the hoop comes up flush with the sides You can see here how I have pushed the hoop right over the edge of the hoop underneath. Although it is not easy to see, there is a dip in the centre. If I picked the quilt up it would be floppy in the hoop. Always remove the hoop when not in use. There are a variety of ways to mark your quilting design onto your quilt. If you are using a pattern like a heart, scroll or flower you will need to trace this onto you quilt before basting. Use a sharp lead pencil or washable marker. Stencils can be purchased for this or you can trace a drawn pattern using a light box. Now for the big surprise I hear you all say. The secret to perfect hand quilting without pain is all in the thimble and your technique. You may have seen thimbles like these: These thimbles are good but not for hand quilting. These, on the other hand, are my secret tools of the trade. The silver thimble is for holding the needle. You will notice that it has deeper indents than a normal thimble. The other green thimble if for gripping the needle. These can be purchased from a newsagent or stationery supply shop. The silver thimble quilting thimble was designed by a very clever woman called Luixin Newman known as "The Thimble Lady" I attended one of her workshops years ago and learned her technique. It opened a whole new world of hand quilting to me. I can now hand quilt for hours without any pain and it is much quicker than any other technique I have tried. The great news is that she has a website if you would like to learn her amazing technique as well. She has some free videos that you may find useful. It reminded me of learning how to knit for the first time or perhaps like learning how to ride a bike. Here are a few photos of me hand quilting, hubby took them this morning. This step is very important, notice how upright my needle is. This ensures that the needle passes through all layers and is essential for perfect stitches on the back. Loading up my stitches, I can normally get stitches on at once. Because all the stitches are covering the small needle, the tip of the needle is grabbed with the rubber thimble. I would not be able to pick it up without it. The last ingredient I should mention is how to start and finish. I demonstrate this knot in my embroidery resource, [click here](#) for more details. Start from the front and pass the needle down and along, through the batting so that you catch a very small amount of backing fabric this is important. Come up where you would like to start and then tug the thread firmly so that the knot passes down underneath the fabric. This should be easy providing your knot is the correct size. Look carefully and you will see the tail of the thread and the knot before I tug it through. My needle has come up inside the corner which is a bit hard to see because they are both the same colour. Sorry, this is not the best graphic to show this. When finishing, take the thread to the back and form a loop, pass your needle through this, place your finger over the knot as it is formed. This will make your thread knot close to the fabric. Pass your needle back down into the batting and run it along and back up, tug the thread again so that the knot is underneath the fabric and embedded in the batting. There you have it, all my secret ingredients for perfect hand quilting without pain. Or visit my website

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Perfect Hand Quilting Without Pain now with a Bonus DVD is about healthy quilting. This book introduces a new thimble design, a new hand quilting technique, a new way of teaching/learning and a new challenge to many old hand quilting rules.

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Chapter 8 : 9 {EASY} hand stitches you should learn for perfect sewing. - Sew Guide

Liuxin Newman is the author of Perfect Hand Quilting Without Pain (avg rating, 12 ratings, 0 reviews, published), Perfect Hand Applique With Th.

Chapter 9 : 10% off Kwik Klip, the Friendly pin helper for Basting Quilts with Safety Pins

perfect gift) for women on the brink of thirty Perfect Hand Quilting Without Pain Liuxin Newman Hard-boiled detectives The Continental Op, Sam Spade, and Philip Marlowe elude gangsters and gunfire to solve the case and save the girl in these classic noir mysteries.