

Youth Embroiderers
News Spring 2020



Hi to all enthusiastic youth stitchers!!

I do the "prettifying" of our newsletter during my lunch hour at work because my computer has more interesting fonts and clipart. However, just like school for most of you, my work has closed for a few weeks because of nature's newest virus.

Because I have to do our newsletter at home, it may not be as pretty but it does have some new ideas for you to try. The bonus of having to stay at home is having lots more time for embroidery and many of your other hobbies.

The big design is in a technique called Vagonite. It uses very simple stitches -
- just split stitch or chain stitch to outline the shapes and
- needleweaving to fill it in.

It was designed by Jewel Cousins of the St. John's Guild of Embroiderers and she included lots of photographs and outlines for you to play with. I've included fabrics and two colours of DMC floss to start you off.

There are instructions for several stitches that may be new to you, with fabrics and threads to test them out. It may also be fun to try them using some wool or string or sewing thread or whatever else you can find in your house (you can even try plastic gimp or fishing line. Have fun with it all.

Some of our members have been very creative and busy. I've received many photos and some answers to riddles. If I've missed any, I'll include them next time.

Jewel Cousins also gave some new puzzles. Sure hope you get the answers

Send your photos, answers, ideas and jokes to me youth@eac-acb.ca

Elizabeth Fewer

Here's some photos of Vagonite done by Jewel Cousins, designer of this newsletter's project. You can get some ideas for doing your own using her outlines or pick your own outlines from a colouring book, online or drawn from your imagination.

If you want to make the outline bigger, enlarge it on a photocopier. Try not to make it smaller for Vagonite because it will be too small for the filling stitches.

And if you want to use those outlines to stitch in a different style, please do!! Have fun! Follow the pattern or make your own path.



Everyone is being reminded about the importance of washing your hands and talking a lot about viruses and germs and all that stuff.

Since embroidering requires clean hands to keep your stitching clean, you are already ahead.

SO Here's a challenge for you all.

Design your own virus or bacteria and embroider it. Make it silly or serious, pretty or kind of gross!

Give it spots or stripes or dangly bits or beady black button eyes. Add some painted spots. Or even do a whole bunch of different ones.

It's yours so it's sure to be unique.



Thank you, Janel of Oceanside Stitchers, for all photos and riddle answers

AND it was exciting to hear you won a ribbon in your local fair! Congratulations!!!



In Janel's own words:

"First, my guild, the Oceanside Youth Stitchers, made these very cool embroidered boxes using Perle cotton and canvas. On my box is bargello and patterns I made up or found in my leader's collection. I entered my box in our local fair in August and won best in show! I was very excited.

I also just received your latest newsletter (Winter 2019 edition) and have already finished some of your projects. The mitten I put my own twist on, but the tree I didn't change. I really like your projects!... there are some answers to your riddles and puzzles.

What does Frosty like to put on his ice burgers?

Ice-pickles! (icicles)

Why are Christmas trees bad at embroidery?

They have too many needles!

How does Frosty get to school?

On his b-ice-icle

What do sheep say to the shepherds at Christmas?

We wish ewe a Merry Christmas!"

Some stitching tips for you

Thread the needle" - rather, "needle the thread".

That means the hand you are holding the thread in stays still and you bring the needle to the thread. Keep the end of the thread neatly cut and only have a very, very short bit sticking out from between your thumb and forefinger... only a couple millimetres.

The job of the needle

The job of the needle is to open a hole in the fabric so that the thread passes through without getting damaged. Try some of these needle tips if you are having some of the problems.

Select your needle to match your thread. If you pick the right needle, you can stitch on nearly any material.

If your thread keeps fraying and breaking, try a slightly bigger needle.

If your thread is always twisting, try a needle one size larger.

If you are using a ribbon style thread, a well opened hole will help it lay flatter.

If your thread keeps coming out of the needle, use a smaller needle.

If the hole made by your needle is really visible after you make your stitch, the needle may be too big. Try a smaller one.

Did you riddle out these answers ?

I love riddles! It's fun that some of my answers were different from Janel's but all work for the riddle!
Mine were:

What does Frosty like to put on his ice burgers? Chilly Sauce

Why are Christmas trees bad at embroidery? Because they always drop their needles

How does Frosty get to school? On his Ice-cycle

What do sheep say to the shepherds at Christmas? Seasons Bleatings!

I'm tall when I'm young and I'm short when I'm old. What am I? A candle

What does Frosty eat for lunch? Icebergers

What does Frosty take when he gets sick? A chill pill

Where does Santa stay when he's on holiday? A a ho-ho-hotel

What does Mrs. Claus sing to Santa on his birthday? Freeze a Jolly Good Fellow!

And the answer to the Christmas List puzzle is - LIGHTS

Janel wasn't the only person to send me photos!! Here's some more!!!



A scissor fob and scissors from Aubrey, Starfish Stitchers. Those are special scissors.



“HI “

A button design from Josie, Starfish Stitchers. Josie is one of our newest members. She only joined in February.



This card is from Rebekah, Starfish Stitchers. I think some one special is getting this one.



Annie Rose, Starfish Stitchers, sent in this photo of her 3-D bird. This was a group project at her guild and I hope I get to see more of the flock.



These are from Amber, International member. She played with some of the designs in the last newsletter and did a great job.

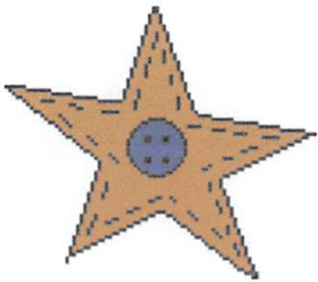




And another three finished stitching projects from Jane of Thread Whisperers:

A tree from the last newsletter, a dress for her doll (lucky doll) and a yo-yo Christmas tree.

Keep watch for the fall newsletter - her aunt (and guild leader) shared the pattern so you all will have a chance to try it.



Every one of you youth stitchers is a star so here's a few stars you might want to interpret as embroidery (or draw your own). Try one on your jeans, shorts, backpack, etc. so everyone will know you are a star stitcher!!



COLOURS

Find the 21 colours hidden in the puzzle. The remaining 6 letters spell a shade of purple.

A	Q	U	A	I	S	H	C	U	F
U	H	B	R	O	W	N	R	E	D
R	C	E	V	I	Y	E	E	O	B
C	A	G	L	K	E	E	V	E	E
E	E	N	C	L	L	R	L	T	I
U	P	A	P	A	L	G	I	A	G
L	L	R	I	R	O	H	S	N	E
B	U	O	N	O	W	D	L	O	G
P	M	T	K	C	O	P	P	E	R

MARCH MADNESS

In these fun facts about March month, only find those words that are UNDERLINED.

The remaining 5 letters spell a colour associated with a major March holiday.

S	M	A	R	S	L	G
H	R	E	R	P	I	E
A	H	R	E	R	D	X
M	T	A	T	I	O	T
R	N	E	N	N	F	H
O	O	Y	I	G	F	I
C	M	U	W	N	A	R
K	Q	W	A	R	D	D
E	L	A	N	R	E	V

March is the THIRD MONTH of the YEAR but is it WINTER or SPRING? It was named for the Roman god of WAR, MARS. The official flower is a DAFFODIL but a SHAMROCK is also popular. The VERNAL EQUINOX signals the beginning of spring.

St. John's Guild Of Embroiderers

January 2020 Program - Vagonite Embroidery

Vagonite embroidery is a form of Brazilian embroidery that is much like Swedish weaving and pattern darning. Vagonite is a popular and stunning form of thread art and is done by hand. The thread is only present on the front side of the cloth with no stitching visible at the back. It is quite similar to Swedish huck embroidery on Monk's cloth or Aida cloth, which was quite popular in the 1920s in America. Variations of this embroidery also exist in Portugal.

It uses two main stitches – running and split stitches. The running stitch fills in the shape and the split stitch is used for all the outlining. Other stitches such as French knots, chain stitch or bullion knots can be used for the flower centers. It is done on even weave fabric and is great on aida cloth. In fact linen or other uneven weaves really does showcase the simplicity of this style of embroidery.



Here is a wonderful picture and below is an excellent youtube video that has no words but it is very useful.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DiVivge4n7Y&app=desktop>

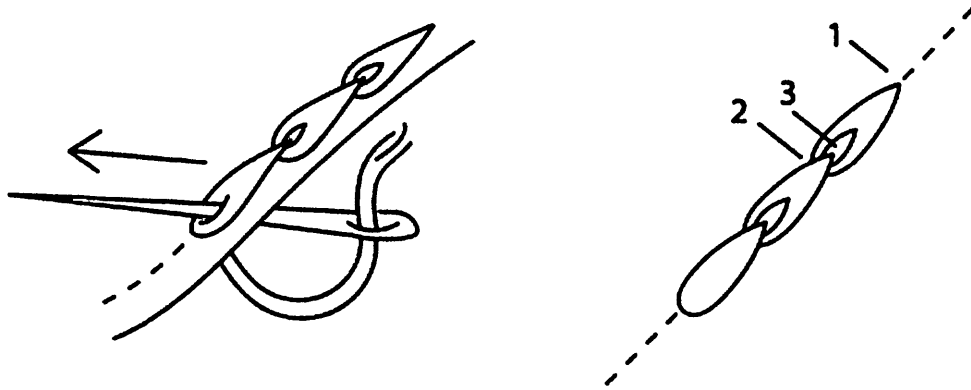
Kit Contents: Aida cloth with traced design and floss.

All of your stitches are done with three strands of floss so please strip and stroke your three strands before starting.

The running stitch is done over one thread intersection and should stay within the outlines. It is usually done vertically but try some horizontally and even diagonally. I found that doing the leaves diagonally produced some interesting patterns and movement in the design.

All the outlining and other accent stitches are done with the split stitch. Otherwise I used French knots, chain stitches and bullion knots to fill in the flower centres to add some texture.

SPLIT STITCH



© 2012 - 2011 Sewing.com

"1" is where your needle comes up through the fabric, "2" is where it goes down again.

Super easy! Make a small stitch (1-2) about the length of a (long) grain of rice. Good. Next, bring your needle up through the center of that stitch you just made (3). Come down again like you did with your first stitch, and repeat. Continue with every stitch that follows (coming up through the last one you made). That's it! You will need to work with a divisible floss so you can split them with your needle as you work. Looks impressive (like a tiny chain stitch), but is super simple! (This is also the very first stitch I learned, and the one I use the most). Want to see what it looks like stitched?

Although traditional wagonite is mostly floral, try it in any design. I have tried a Christmas bell with holly. I usually search for shapes on Google and find that colouring books have good simple outlines.

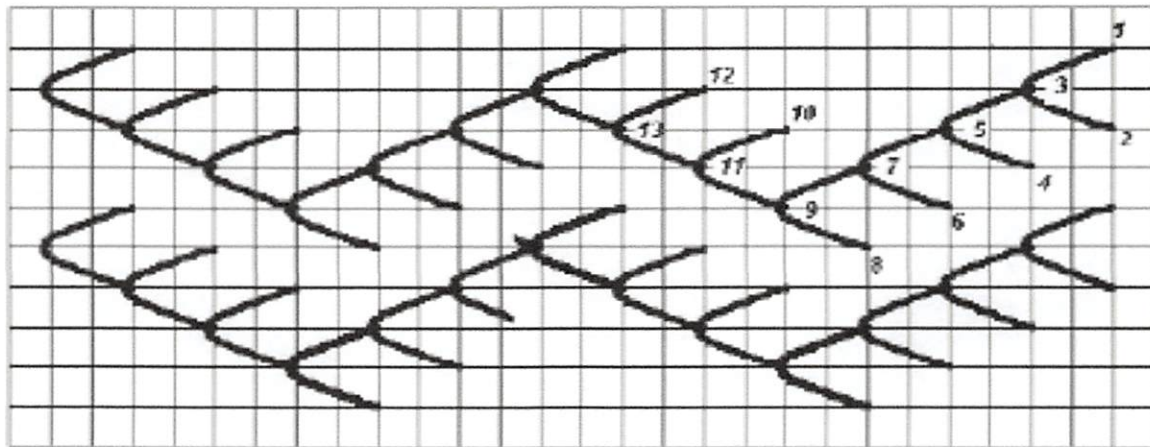
Call me with any questions Jewel 739-1660.

Here's three stitches for you to experiment with. They are all similar but different. They make great flower stems, bugs, feather textures and more. Use your imaginations and have fun!!

TRY A NEW STITCH

Feather Stitch

Give the feather stitch a try and see how you like it! Maybe try it on your purse? This stitch can be used vertically, even though it only shows horizontally in the diagram.

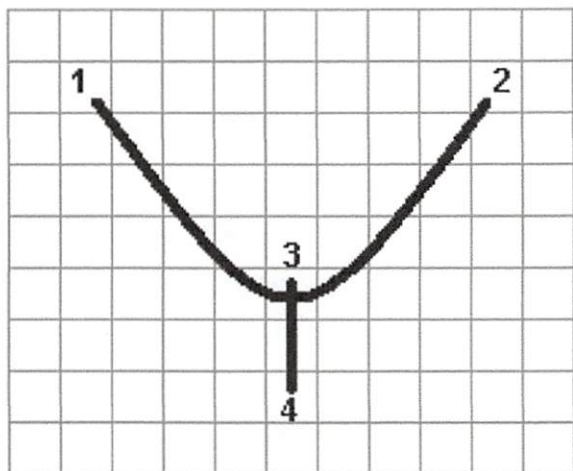


Diagrams & Directions © Carol Storie
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TRY A NEW STITCH

Fly Stitch



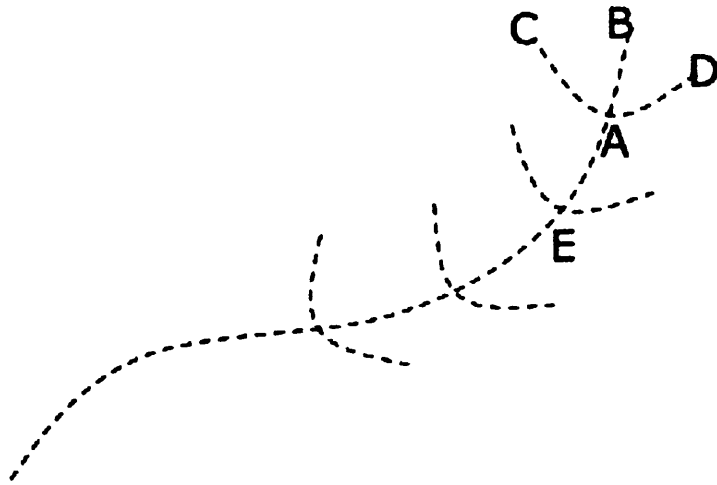
Here's a great stitch that can be used for counted work or for surface stitchery

See "Mug Rug" under the Tackle A Project at www.eac.ca under the Youth section to use the fly stitch to make a mug rug or an ornament!

TRY A NEW STITCH

Fern Stitch

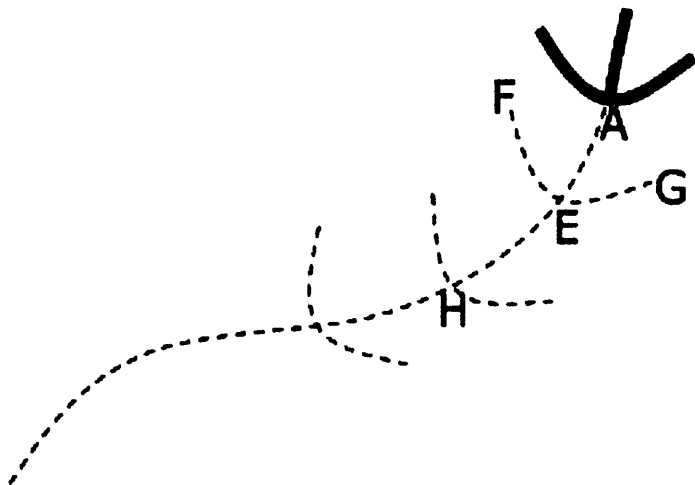
This stitch is a Straight Stitch form and is often used to work ferns and other plants. The Fern stitch consists of three straight stitches of equal length coming from the same central point



Bring the needle up at A and go down at B.

Bring the needle up at C and go down at A.

Bring the needle up at D and go down at A.



Bring the needle up at E and go down at A.

Bring the needle up at F and go down at E.

Bring the needle up at G and go down at E.

Bring the needle up at H and continue until the shape is filled in.

This joke's on you !!!

**Did you hear the story about the cat who swallowed a
ball of yarn?
She had mittens!!**

**I would tell you a joke about a needle in a haystack, but
I don't think you'd see the point !!**

**Someone keeps stealing people's knitting needles.
Police think he is following a pattern !**



Tracing patterns onto your fabric.

Have you ever taped an outline picture to a window so you could trace it to a clean sheet of paper? I have done it lots of times. The problem with windows is your arms get tired and your pen starts to wobble.

Artists and designers often use a tool called a light-box when they need to transfer designs onto paper or fabric. It's a metal and glass box with a light inside. Newer light boxes are thinner and have LED lights so the boxes aren't so big.

You tape your design onto the glass and place your fabric or paper on top. Then turn on the light and the design is then easy to trace.

But you don't need to buy a light box or use a window. Here's two ideas to try, maybe when you do the Vagonite.

1. Tape your design to be traced to a glass-top table and tape your fabric over it. Remember to centre your design on your fabric! Then place a flash light or small lamp under the table and turn it on. Voila!
2. Borrow a large clear baking dish from your parent's cupboard. Tape the design and fabric to the bottom of the baking dish. If you have a small enough flashlight, just put in under the baking dish. If not, lay a flashlight or small lamp on the table or floor so the light shines up from underneath the baking dish.



Riddle me this

Name three things that have eyes but cannot see.

What has hands but doesn't clap?

I have a thousand needles but I do not sew. What
am I?



is it time to renew?

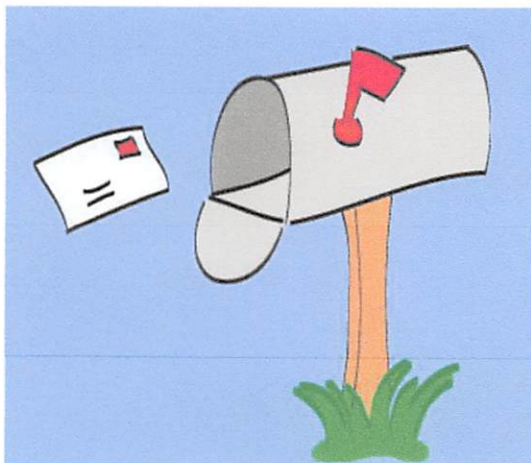
If this is your last issue, a notice will be on the front page of your newsletter.

Send in your renewal of \$15 to continue your National membership or....

Visit and join your local chapter to see what they've got on the go.

Please don't let your membership expire. Continue to receive the Youth Embroiderers' News, goodies, access to affordable correspondence courses, EAC exhibitions, Eleanor Thomas Youth Award, Leonida Leatherdale Library, prizes, PLUS much more – so...

See the last pages for the renewal form. If you want to use it to send in your cheque to the Youth Appointee or renew using a credit card on the EAC secure site www.eac-acb.ca



If you...

Answer a riddle,
Write a letter,
Send picture of
your embroidery

Solve a puzzle

Send an email

Send a drawing

Send anything!

I'll send you a
stitching surprise

Membership Renewal Form

\$15 in Canada (\$20 international)

Note: local chapters may have extra fees to cover supplies and related materials

Make cheque out to "EAC" and send with this form to:

Elizabeth Fewer
468 Newfoundland Drive
St. John's, NL A1V 2C5

EAC MEMBERSHIP EXPIRY DATES

If you would like to continue receiving the newsletter, goodies, access to affordable correspondence courses, EAC exhibitions, Eleanor Thomas Youth Bursary, prizes, PLUS much more—please don't let your membership expire.

Fees Received in:

June, July, August
September, October, November
December, January, February
March, April, May

Expiry Date:

August 1st
November 1st
February 1st
May 1st

Name _____

Address _____

Phone () _____

Birth date _____

(mm/dd/yyyy)

Chapter _____

YE

Number _____

or

YN

Number _____

My Name _____

Correspondence Courses Application Form

Date: _____

I wish to take a Youth Embroiderers' Correspondence Course (check box). See pictures on page 11, or visit the Youth Pages under www.eac.ca to see the descriptions.

- SURFACE STITCHERY
- RIBBON EMBROIDERY
- COUNTED CROSS STITCH
- HARDANGER STUDY ONE

Send this form and fee (\$5 for each course) by cheque or money order payable to EAC.

Mail to: Elizabeth Fewer
468 Newfoundland Drive
St. John's, NL A1V 2C5

Membership # _____

Address _____

Phone () _____

I understand that I have 4 months from the date of receipt of the course in which to complete it. I agree to complete the course to the best of my ability.

My Signature _____

Chapter Leader or Parent's Signature _____