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Starting to stitch

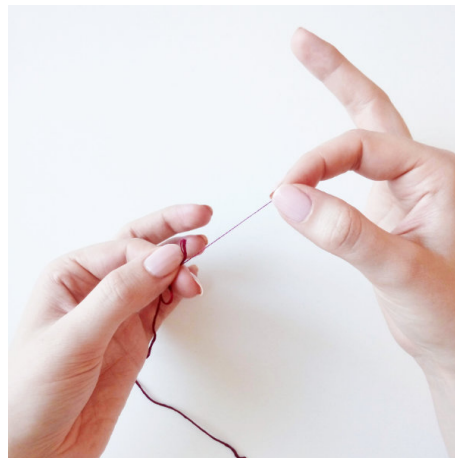
Cut the thread

Most threads, like DMC, have two paper information tabs wrapped around them, one longer than the other. Pull the end of the thread that sticks out from the longer one and hold the rest of the thread, otherwise, it'll get tangled. Pull a thread roughly the length of your forearm (from fingertips to elbow) and cut it. When a thread is too short you'll have to start a new one very often, and a thread that is too long might get damaged.



Divide the thread

Most embroidery threads can be separated into six much smaller strands of floss. In this pattern, we'll be using one to three strands. First, we need to separate them from the thread. Hold one strand and pull the rest of the thread gently. Repeat the process until you've separated the desired numbers of strands.



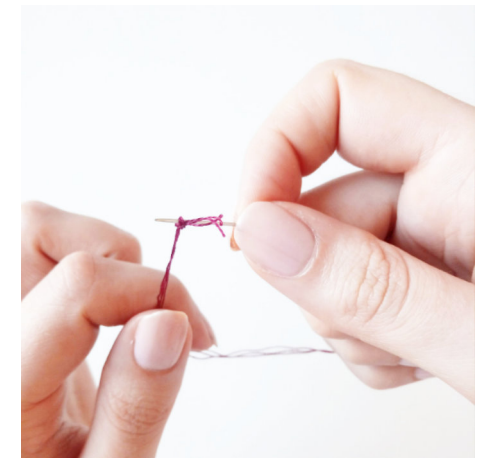
Thread the needle

The easiest way to do it is to lick the thread, run it through your thumb and index finger to flatten it and then thread the needle. If you don't like the idea of licking the thread there are lots of needle threaders that work just as good.



Knot the thread

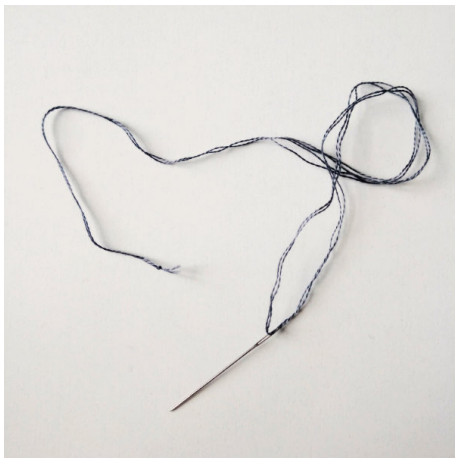
I knot the end of my thread before I start and when the thread finishes. Some people don't use knots, but it works fine for me. To get the knot really close to the fabric and secure the stitch I make a loop with the thread and then put the needle inside of it and use it to slide the knot as close to the fabric as possible. When you're using two or more strands, knot the thread once, when you're using one strand, knot it twice.



Step-by-step – Pants

Step 1

We'll begin by embroidering the back leg. Cut the DMC 317 thread at a forearm length, separate 2 strands and make a knot at the end. Start by bringing the needle up from behind your hoop, in the top right corner of the outline.



Step 2

Insert the needle at the bottom right corner of the pant, in the direction shown in the stitch guide. Make sure the stitches are very tight so that the stitch stays in place.

Tip

If you notice the strands twisting let the needle and thread hang from the hoop, it'll untwist itself and you can continue embroidering.



Step 3

Continue embroidering by bringing the needle at the top of the outline and bringing it back at the bottom, always keeping the same direction, this way the satin stitch will be neat. If the thread finishes when you're embroidering just knot it very tightly at the back of the embroidery, using the needle to bring the knot as close to the fabric as possible. Then take 2 new strands, knot them and continue embroidering.



Step 4

Once the back pant is finished take 2 strands of DMC 414, make a knot and fill the area the same way you've done the previous part. Start at the top right corner and follow the direction shown in the stitch guide.

Tip

If you've made a mistake it's easy to undo it. Unthread the needle and use it to lift the last stitch, until the thread is released from the fabric.

