



Handicraft

For our handicraft lesson, Lara has created a fun "Snowflake Embroidery" project.

Let your students choose their favorite colors and pattern (or create their own), and sew these quick and easy pieces. These would make lovely gifts to give to others as well!

"I've filled him with the Spirit of God, giving him skill and know-how and expertise in every kind of craft to create designs ... he's an all-around craftsman."

~ Exodus 31:3-5

Handicraft Lesson



Snowflake Embroidery

You will need:

- Embroidery floss
- Embroidery needle
- Cotton or linen fabric, napkins, or handkerchiefs (at least 6x6 inch fabric squares for 3 inch hoop)
- Embroidery hoops: 3 inch hoops for plain snowflakes, 6 inch hoop for "Let it Snow" design
- Scissors
- Fabric/tacky glue (optional)
- Water soluble pen, transfer paper or pencil

Please Note: If you or your student are unfamiliar with embroidering, please refer to this stitch guide before you begin: [DMC Beginner Embroidery Stitches](#)

How to transfer embroidery patterns

For lightweight and light colored fabric, use a water soluble embroidery transfer pen. For this method, tape the printed pattern onto a window or lightbox then tape the fabric over the pattern. The design should show through the fabric. You can then trace the pattern directly onto the fabric. Pencil may also be used, but does not come out of the fabric as easily.

When marking on darker colored or heavy fabric, I like to use white wax-less transfer paper to trace the design. Working on a hard surface, place a square of transfer paper (inky side towards the fabric) between your printed pattern and the fabric. Using a ball point pen, trace over the design on the pattern, pressing down hard to ensure the markings are visible on your fabric.

For more detailed patterns like the "LET it SNOW" pattern, you can also use printable transfer paper. It dissolves in water after you've embroidered your design.

Directions:

For the snowflakes, allow your child to choose the pattern they wish to stitch, then transfer the design onto their fabric using , a water soluble pen, transfer paper, or lightly with pencil. (Pencil is more difficult to wash out.)

Using their preferred color choice of embroidery thread, thread the needle, using 2-3 strands of thread for a more delicate look, or all 6 strands for a heavier look. We recommend allowing them to backstitch the design until they are ready to use more intricate stitches.

For the "LET it SNOW" design, the outside border is single french knots, the snowflakes are back-stitched, and the letters are a back stitch or split stitch depending on your preference.

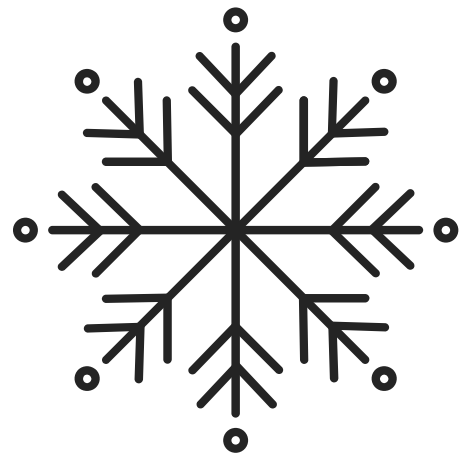
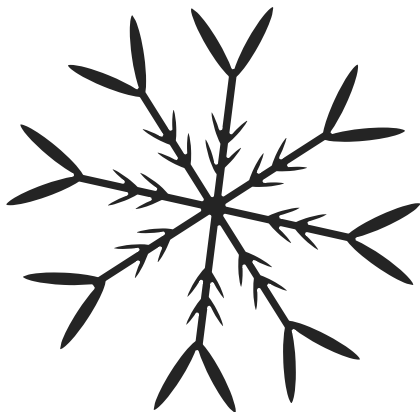
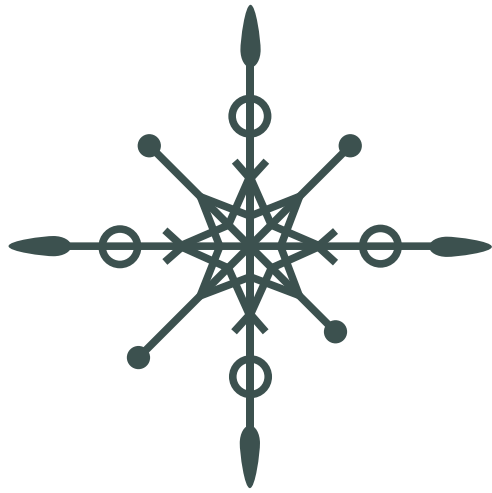
Backing a hoop to use for decor:

After you have finished stitching, ensure your design is taut in the frame and positioned where you want it. Trim the fabric leaving about 1cm thickness or enough to fold around the inside of the hoop without it touching your design.

Using a fabric/tacky glue, apply a layer around the inside edge of your hoop. Try to keep the glue to the top edge of the hoop furthest away from your design to avoid any glue touching the back of your design.

Neatly fold the fabric over the hoop to secure to the inside. Press down firmly until the glue takes hold, about a minute. Apply additional glue if required to secure loose fabric flaps. Leave to dry





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