

Redwork Embroidery

We recommend the Presencia Finca Perle Cotton size 12 or size 16, color 1906 for the Redwork embroidery or you can use the color of your choice . If you are using floss, use two strands.

Perle Cotton or Floss Requirements

(1) 5 gram ball of Presencia Perle cotton size 12 or size 16 or 1 skein of floss.

Fabric Requirements:

(1) fat quarter of background fabric for embroidery design, Or you can use a fat-eight (cut 9" x 11").

See the "General Instructions" page for transferring the embroidery design. The instructions offer a few tips and various stitch illustrations. For this design, you will only use the stem and back stitches. You are now ready to begin the lovely task of embroidering the Redwork. Enjoy! Once the design is stitched, trim each down to a 6½" square.

Quilt Fabric Requirements for Block

(1) 2" x width of fabric (WOF) Red fabric- Fabric A

(1) 2" x width of fabric (WOF) White Fabric - Fabric B

From Fabric A, cut the following:

" (2) 1-7/8" squares

" (4) 1½" x 6½" strips

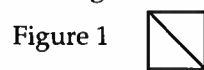
From Fabric B, cut the following:

" (2) 1-7/8" squares

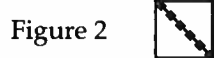
" (8) 1½" squares

Putting the Block Together

STEP 1: Place one (1) 1-7/8" square of Fabric A and one (1-7/8" square of Fabric B right sides together and draw a line from corner to corner on the diagonal of Fabric B. See Figure 1:



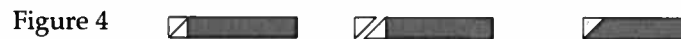
STEP 2: Stitch ¼" seam on both sides of the drawn line. See Figure 2:



STEP 3: Cut apart on the drawn line creating two (2) half-square triangle blocks that are 1½" x 1½". Press toward the dark fabric. See Figure 3: Repeat with the remaining 1-7/8" squares to make four (4).



STEP 4: Place one (1) 1½" square of Fabric B onto the end of one (1) 1½" x 6½" strip. Draw a line from corner to corner on the diagonal. Stitch directly on that line and trim away ¼" from sewn line. Press toward the dark fabric. See Figure 4:

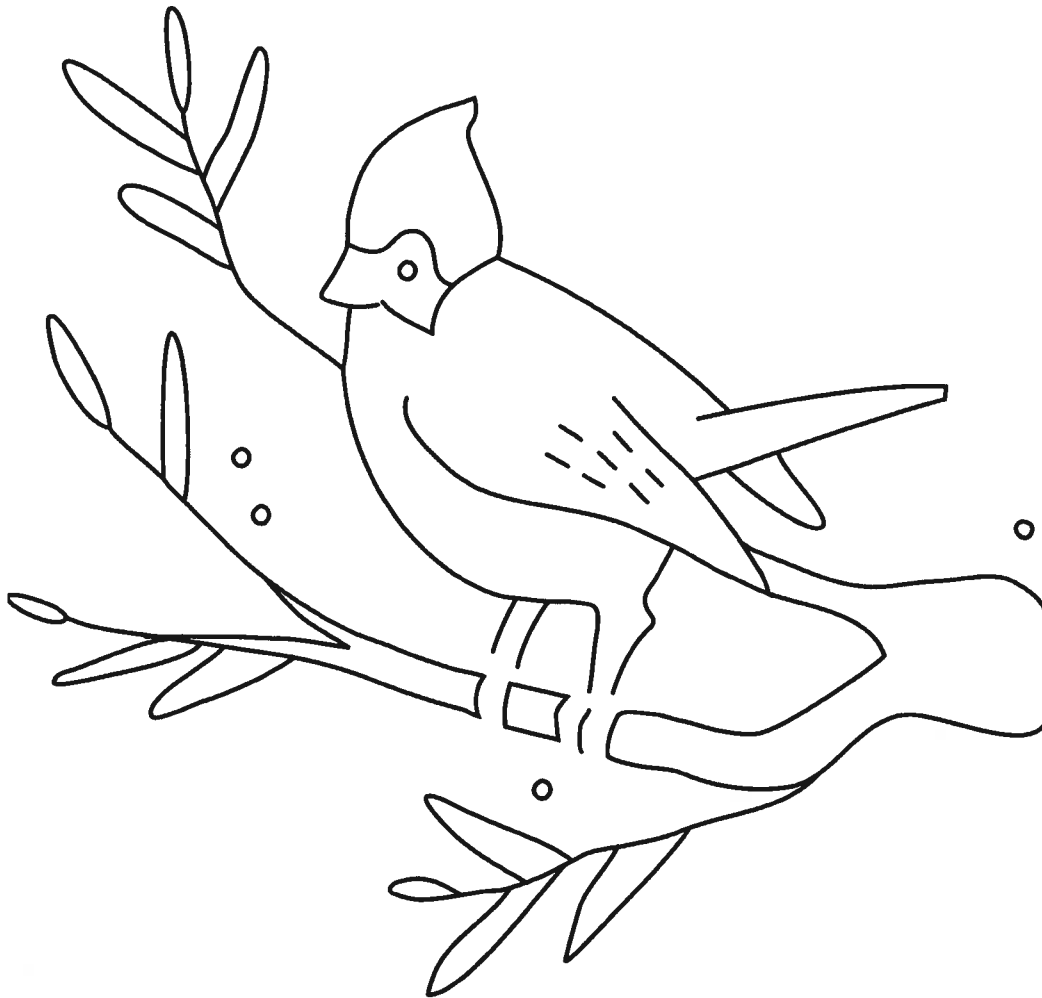


STEP 5: Place one (1) 1½" square of Fabric B onto the other end of one (1) 1½" x 6½" strip. Draw a line from corner to corner on the diagonal. Stitch directly on that line and trim away ¼" from sewn line. Press toward the dark fabric. See Figure 5: Repeat with remaining pieces to make four (4) units.



STEP 6: Put together with stitched design as show below. See Figure 6:

Figure 6



GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

Transferring the Design

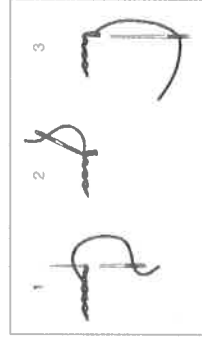
- ♥ Always cut the fabric larger than your finished block size. Embroidery stitches will sometimes shrink measurements if your stitch is too tight.
- ♥ Sometimes you can see the pattern through the muslin or similar light fabrics. If you cannot see through your fabric, then place your design on a light box and tape securely. Place the background fabric over the design and tape securely. If you do not have a light box, a sunny window or a light under a glass table will work as well.
- ♥ Lightly trace the design with a mechanical pencil or a Sakura Micron Pigma ink, size .01 or .05. For a thinner line, use a Sakura Pigma Pen .005 size. I prefer to use the same color pen closest to the color of my floss since the stitches will cover the line. If various colors is not an option, I recommend using a brown pen. A Sakura Pigma Pen is permanent ink. Do not make the traced line very thick.

Stitching the Design

- ♥ Even though red is the traditional color for Redwork embroidery, any other solid color may be used.
- ♥ I recommend you cut the floss or Perle cotton to an 18" length. Anything longer will begin to fray from being pulled through the fabric. Use sharp embroidery needles.
- ♥ I prefer to stitch without a hoop. Many friends prefer to stitch with a hoop. This is your choice. Since an embroidery hoop is inexpensive, I suggest you try it both ways to see which you prefer. I first began stitching with a hoop.

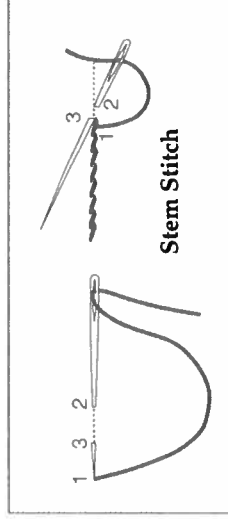
Things to remember

- ♥ Always bring the needle back through the same hole that you went down in on the previous stitch.
- ♥ Don't pull the threads too tight or your design will pucker.
- ♥ Keep stitches small for the best look.
- ♥ Do not carry your thread across the back from one part of the design to another. This will show through on the front.
- ♥ When going around a corner, it can be tricky to get a sharp edge with the stem stitch. I like to fudge a little and do a sort of buttonhole stitch, then continue on with the stem stitch. Sometimes I switch to an outline stitch and back to a stem stitch to make it a pointed corner.

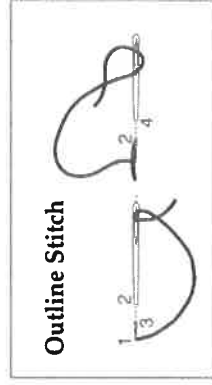


THE STITCHES

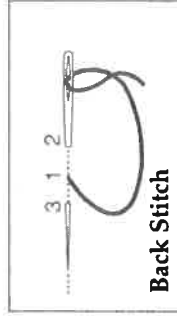
The main stitch used in Redwork designs is the stem stitch. However, the outline stitch is sometimes used. The difference between the stem and outline stitches is in the direction the thread is held. On occasion, other stitches are used thus, they are shown below.



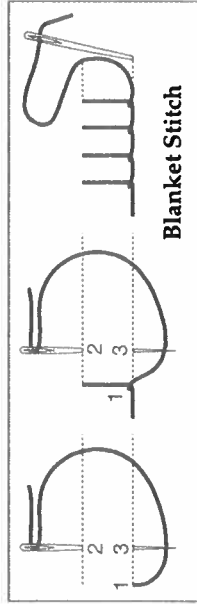
Stem Stitch



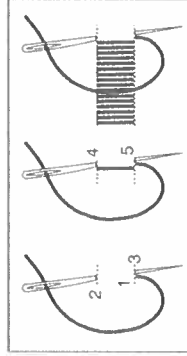
Outline Stitch



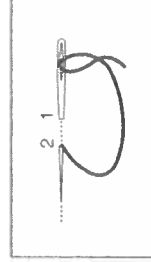
Back Stitch



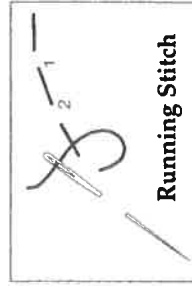
Blanket Stitch



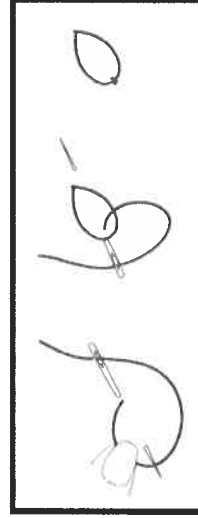
Satin Stitch



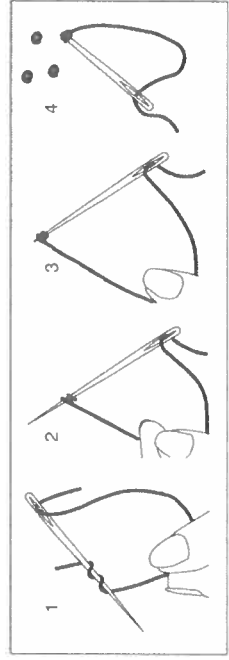
Straight Stitch



Running Stitch



Lazy Daisy Stitch



Chain Stitch

French Knot