

Decorative Techniques

French knots

French Knots are very versatile. They can be used with other embroidery, either singly or in multiple numbers to form a design.

1. Place a small knot in the end of the fabric.
2. Bring the needle through to the surface of the fabric.
3. The thread is wound in an anti clockwise direction around the needle 3 to 5 times (depending on the desired effect).
4. The needle is then pushed through to the back of the fabric very close to where it came to the front of the fabric.
5. Repeat for the number of knots required.



Braiding

Braiding has many uses – decorative, used as ties, sewn to the surface of decoration to give a 3-D effect or hang from the work.

The type of thread or yarn will depend on the end use. Strips of fabric can be twisted and used to give an interesting effect to braiding. The number of yarns used will also vary depending on the end use. Beads can be inserted into the braids for added effect.

1. Choose the colour and type of yarn require. The length require will depend on the technique used, the thickness of the yarn and the method of braiding use. Experiment to get the right amount for your design.
2. Tie or stitch strongly together the yarns to be used.
3. For 'straight' braiding follow steps 1 to 4, for 'square knot' braiding follow steps 'a' to 'd'
4. To end stitch, knot or bind.

