



4-H Member Project Guides

NEEDLEWORK

Needlepoint





Purpose

To have fun while learning how to use a tapestry needle and yarn/thread to create stitches on open weave mesh fabric (canvas) through the needle art of needlepoint.

Contents

4-H Needlework—Beginner Needlepoint

Get to the Point 3

4-H Needlework—Intermediate Needlepoint

A Stitch at a Time..... 5

4-H Needlework—Advanced Needlepoint

Patient Stitching Block by Block..... 7



4-H Needlework—Beginner Needlepoint Member Project Guide

Get to the Point

Needlepoint can be a fun and creative activity. It takes a bit more finger and hand dexterity than some of the other needlework activities. Thus, the needlepoint project work begins at the Beginner Level. And like the other projects, it's important to learn some of the basics first. So let's get started!

DO

Learn new skills.

You will learn to:

- Thread a needle
- Make “tent” stitches (basketweave and continental; slant stitches upward from left to right)
- Begin and end a length of yarn/pearl cotton
- Use two or more colors of yarn/pearl cotton
- Apply an appropriate finish (backing, frame, etc.) for a completed project

APPLY

Use the skills listed above to practice what you have learned and complete a project.

What you will do:

- Practice the skills—learn by doing**

Make one or more of the suggested Practice/Service Projects. Consider giving some of these as gifts to friends and family. Practice Projects include a bookmark or key chain.

Practice/Service Projects cannot be exhibited in 4-H Needlework Department at the Kentucky State Fair.

- Needlepoint and exhibit a final project**

Create an item that is a 5-by-5-inches square (minimum), that uses tent stitches, and that has two or more colors. Suggested items: pincushion (pattern available in 4-H Needlework Notebook) and purchased kit for eye-glass case, cell phone case, change/coin purse, or cosmetic case (must meet project guidelines).



Keep a record of what you have stitched

Ask your parent or leader to help you fill out the 4-H Needlework Record. Check off the skills you have attempted and those you have mastered. Store the record in a pocket folder or three-ring notebook to review before you begin next year's needlepoint project.

What you will need:

(Always select the best possible materials with which to work.)

- No. 10 mesh canvas
- Tapestry needle—size 18
- 3-ply Persian wool yarn or pearl cotton thread
- Basic needlepoint supplies, including: thimble, scissors, ruler, tape measure, ultra-fine point waterproof marker (white or gray), masking tape, hand sewing needle, tweezers (for ripping)
- Bag or box large enough to organize and carry project supplies
- Blocking board or plywood
- Rustproof tacks
- Hammer
- Finishing supplies as needed (may include backing fabric, filler, frame, etc.)

SHARE

Show others what you have learned.

What you can do:

- Participate in your club, county, district, and/or state Demonstration Contest
- Exhibit at your county Fair, Festival and/or Rally Day and the Kentucky State Fair (4-H Project Card required)

Source: Coetta Combs, Kentucky Certified Master Clothing Volunteer

Jennifer B. Klee, County Agent for Family & Consumer Sciences

Clutter Control

Equipment and supplies have a tendency to get lost. Here are some suggestions to help keep everything safe and in good condition:

- Use a 1-gallon bag with a zip top for your needlepoint project (put your name on it)
- Use a small container to hold your basic small equipment
- Use a cloth or sturdy bag with handles to carry all supplies
- Use a pocket folder or three-ring binder to store handouts and patterns



4-H Needlework—Intermediate Needlepoint Member Project Guide

A Stitch at a Time

Needlepoint is a fun and creative activity. Now that you have learned the basic stitches, you are ready to explore and try some pattern stitches.

DO

Learn new skills and refine old ones.

Skills and techniques you may learn:

- Designing and/or transferring pattern to canvas
- Creating pattern stitches
- Creating simple curves
- Determining appropriate finishing technique
- Sizing the belt (if belt project option is chosen)

APPLY

Using the skills listed above, practice what you have learned as you complete a project.

What you will do:

Practice the skills and techniques—learn by doing

Make one or more of the suggested Practice/Service Projects. Consider giving some of these as gifts to friends and family. Practice Projects include a bookmark or key chain.

Practice/Service Projects will not be accepted in 4-H Needlework at the Kentucky State Fair.

Needlepoint and exhibit a final project

Using three or more colors, make one of the following items:

- Personalized (name or initials) belt
- A 9-by-9-inch (minimum) sampler using at least four pattern stitches, one of which may be a tent stitch. Item can be framed as a picture or finished as a pillow.
- A 6-by-6-inch (minimum) patterned pin cushion
- Purchased kit that meets project guidelines

Ask your leader or county agent for a copy of the needlepoint patterns.

Keep a record of what you have stitched

Ask your parent or leader to help you fill out the 4-H Needlework Record. Check off the skills you have attempted and those you have learned. Store the record in a pocket folder or three-ring notebook to review before you begin next year's needlepoint project.



What you will need:

- No. 14 mesh interlock or mono canvas
- 3-ply Persian wool yarn or pearl cotton in colors suitable to individual taste
- Tapestry needle—No. 18 for Persian yarn or No. 22 for pearl cotton
- Basic needlepoint supplies, including: thimble, scissors, ruler, tape measure, ultra-fine point waterproof marker (white or gray), masking tape, hand sewing needle, tweezers
- Bag or box large enough to organize and carry project supplies
- Finishing supplies as needed, including backing fabric, filler, frame
- Blocking board or piece of plywood
- Rustproof tacks
- Hammer

SHARE

Show others what you have learned.

What you can do:

- Participate in your club, county, district, and/or state Demonstration Contest
- Exhibit at your county Fair, Festival, and/or Rally Day (4-H Project card required)

Clutter Control

Equipment and supplies have a tendency to get lost. Here are some suggestions to help keep everything safe and in good condition:

- Use a 1-gallon bag with a zip top for your needlepoint project (put your name on it)
- Use a small container to hold your basic small equipment
- Use a cloth or sturdy bag with handles to carry all supplies
- Use a pocket folder or three-ring binder to store handouts and patterns

Source: Coetta Combs, Kentucky Certified Master Clothing Volunteer

Jennifer Klee, County Agent for Family & Consumer Sciences



4-H Needlework—Advanced Needlepoint Member Project Guide

Patient Stitching Block by Block

Needlepoint is a fun and creative activity. At the previous level, you learned to follow a design on canvas, make one or more pattern stitches, and use a finishing technique to complete your project. Now you have the opportunity to use a new type of canvas or traditional needlepoint canvas and try more pattern stitches. Have fun!

DO

Learn new skills and refine old ones.

Skills and techniques that can be learned include:

- Using No. 14 mesh canvas
- Transferring pattern onto canvas or creating design and transferring it to canvas
- Stitching additional pattern stitches

APPLY

Use the skills you may have already learned as well as the skills listed above to practice and complete a project.

What you will do:

Practice the skills and techniques—learn by doing

Make one or more of the suggested Practice/Service Projects. Consider giving some of these as gifts to friends or family. Practice Projects include a

bookmark or a key chain that require the advanced skills and techniques listed at left.

Practice/Service Projects will not be accepted in 4-H Needlework at the Kentucky State Fair.

Stitch and exhibit an item

Create one of the following using three or more colors and pattern stitches: a 12-by-12-inch (minimum) 4-H design or a design of your choice with tent stitch and one or more pattern stitches (ask your leader or county agent for a copy of the 4-H design pattern); a sampler using a minimum of six stitches; or purchased kit meeting the project guidelines.

Project must be finished into a pillow, framed item, foot stool or chair seat, stocking, bell pull, or other item of choice.

Keep a record of what you have stitched

If necessary, ask your parent or leader to help you fill out the 4-H Needlework Record. Check off the skills you



have attempted and those you have mastered. Store the record in a pocket folder or three-ring notebook to review before you begin other needlepoint projects.

What you will need:

- No. 14 to No. 16 traditional canvas (size determined by project)
- Tapestry or Persian wool yarn, pearl cotton, silk, metallic and/or other specialty threads
- Tracing paper and or graph paper
- Tapestry needle—No. 18 to No. 20
- Basic needlepoint supplies, including: thimble, scissors, ruler, tape measure, ultra-fine point waterproof marker (white or gray), masking tape, hand sewing needle, tweezers
- Bag large enough to organize and carry project supplies
- Blocking board or plywood
- Rustproof tacks
- Hammer
- Finishing supplies as needed (may include backing fabric, such as velvet and cording for pillow, bell pull, stocking, framing supplies, or a stool or chair frame)

SHARE

Show others what you have learned.

What you can do:

- Participate in club, county, district, and/or state Demonstration Contest
- Exhibit in your county Fair, Festival, and/or Rally Day and the Kentucky State Fair (4-H Project Card required)
- Investigate participating in county Fashion Revue

Clutter Control

Equipment and supplies have a tendency to get lost. Here are some suggestions to help keep everything safe and in good condition:

- Use a pencil box, eye glass case, travel toothbrush holder to hold small items such as hooks, T-pins, yarn needles, tape measure, pencil, and notepad (put your name on it)
- Use zip top plastic bags to hold your needlepoint samples
- Use a cloth or sturdy bag with handles to carry all supplies and materials
- Use a pocket folder or three-ring binder to store handouts and patterns

Source: Coetta Combs, Kentucky Certified Master Clothing Volunteer

Jennifer Klee, County Agent for Family & Consumer Sciences