

CHICKEN SCRATCH EMBROIDERY

This is done on gingham fabric.

The best size to start with is ¼" square check.

You will also need white and dark embroidery thread, the dark to be the same colour as the dark squares of the fabric.

Try to use an embroidery hoop as this keeps the work taut.

There are only 3 stitches to use

Double Cross Stitch

Straight Stitch

Woven Circle

Method for Woven Circle

Bring needle up from back of fabric in the same hole as one of the straight stitches, next to the white square.

Weave the needle underneath each of the straight stitches around the square, to form a circle. DO NOT pick up any of the fabric with your needle.

Repeat the circle without putting your needle through the fabric

Try not to pull the circle too tightly as you do not want to pucker the material.

Take the needle back through the same hole where you started.

Repeat this around all the other white squares within your design.

- 1 Mark out the outline of the pattern you are going to use with a pencil (mark in the white squares, this will not show when you have finished). Figure 1
- 2 Thread your needle with 2 strands of the dark thread and do a double cross stitch on the white squares for the outline. Figure 2
- 3 Next, using 2 strands of white, do double cross stitches on the dark squares within the outline, taking care not to stitch in the outline itself. See Figure 3 and Finished Design
- 4 Using white thread, do straight stitches across the fainter squares. See Finished design
- 5 Lastly, make the woven circles by weaving white thread through these straight stitches to outline the white squares Figure 4 and see detailed method above