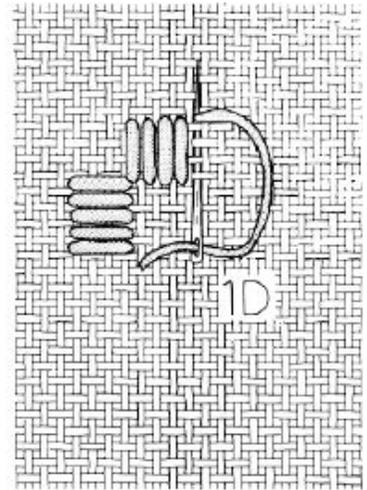
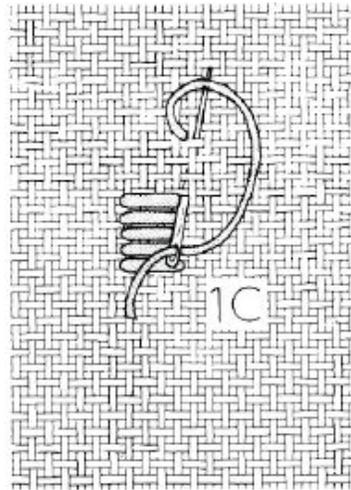
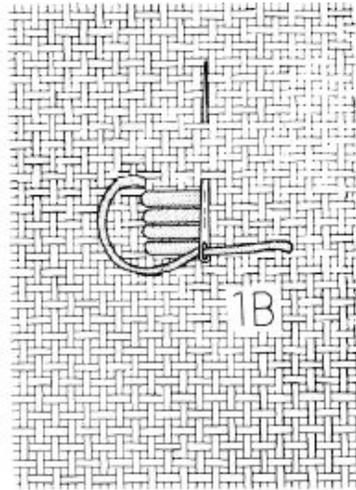
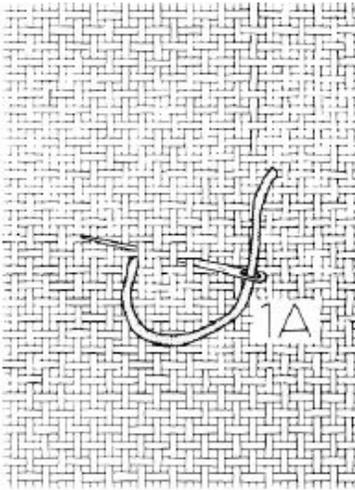


Try Your Hand at Hardanger – Session 1 - Pillows



Koster Blocks (Satin Stitch) (Pillow)

The satin stitch, is the basic foundation of Hardanger embroidery. It can form many different motifs, but its basic function is in the satin stitch block. Each block consists of five stitches and each of those stitches covers four threads of fabric.

Beginning with the first block (1a), notice that the needle will usually be working at an angle, but the stitch must always run straight with the threads of the fabric. On the fifth stitch of the first block, pivot in the corner hole (1 b) and bring the needle up four threads away. Then return to the corner hole (1c) and once again complete the satin stitches.

The second type of corner (1d) shows the needle coming up in the same hole before beginning block 3. Now pivot the needle to point to the left again, and repeat the steps starting at step 1a until the desired number of satin stitch blocks has been completed. Remember to check the work for any split threads or missed holes, that the stitches run straight with the threads of the fabric and that two stitches meet in every corner hole.

Starting a Project

Always do all foundation work (koster blocks, or variations of koster blocks) first. After that, do all button hole edging and eyelet stitches (covered in session 2). And finally, after all that is done, you can start doing the open work (covered in session 3).

Always start with the smallest, inner diamond. If the blocks don't line up exactly when you complete the diamond, you will have to take stitches out and redo it. When doing a second diamond row, check often that each pillow lines up exactly with the pillows of the inner diamond row.

Our First Project

Find the center of your fabric, go up six threads and over 2 to start the first pillow.

