



Punch Needle

Designed and made by Béatrice Airaud Création
Measurements: 3 1/8" x 3 1/2" (8 x 9 cm)

Materials:

Fabric for punch needle (Weaver's cloth, 60% polyester and 40% cotton fabric): one 8" x 8" (20 x 20 cm) square

Embroidery hoop 4 3/4" to 5 1/2" (12 to 14 cm) in diameter

Special needle for punch needle and its needle threader

Variety of embroidery floss: variegated, solid, etc., according to the pattern or as desired

Small embroidery scissors

Double-sided fusible web: one 4" x 4" (10 x 10 cm) square

Backing: one 4" x 4" (10 x 10 cm) square

Wire segment 4" (10 cm) long

Raffia bow

Assembly (refer to the video):

- Transfer the design onto the punch-needle fabric square, using a light source. We will follow these lines, thus working on the wrong side of the project; this is why the completed piece will be reversed in relation to the design.
- Thread the special needle with the embroidery floss of your choice, using the needle threader as shown in the video. Set the needle-holder at 1, so that the needle extends by 3/8" (1 cm).
- Leaving a short thread tail of a few millimetres, choose the area to embroider and begin with the outer edge of this area. The needle eye must face in the direction that you are embroidering so that the floss can slide freely through the needle.
- Fill in the area that you have chosen with regular stitches, working toward the centre. When you have finished with a length of floss, cut it, leaving a short tail that will not get in your way. Keep the needle close to the fabric surface so that the stitches are not pulled out. Embroider the entire design, following the same instructions.

- For the bows on the gifts, I set the needle-holder at 7, so that the needle extends by $\frac{3}{4}$ " (2 cm). Thus the loops will be taller.
- Then I work some white French knot stitches to simulate snow.
- Cut away the excess backing fabric, leaving about $\frac{3}{8}$ " (1 cm) all around the motif.
- Apply the fusible web to the back of the project. Turn the four sides of the punch needle to the back. Conceal the wrong side with a lining.
- Add a short wire segment and a raffia bow, then our little project is ready to join the others.

