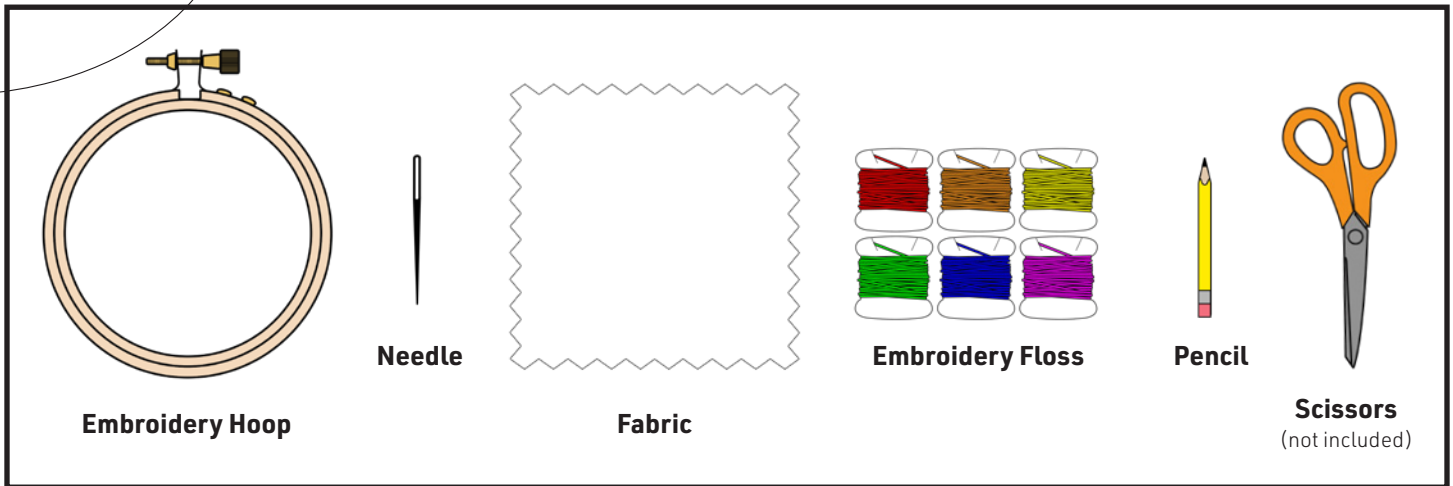


PATCH DESIGN



Amplify your voice by creating your own activist patch!

Step 1: Identify your social justice cause

Use the questions (page 2) to identify which social justice issue is the most important to you. If you are working with others, take turns interviewing each other.

Step 2: Brainstorm your concept

Use the mind map template (page 3) to brainstorm your design. Mind maps use words, colors and images to convey meaning.

Step 3: Research

Before you start sketching, explore the ways design is present in your life. Explore your home and/or neighborhood. What symbols do you notice? Where are they located? What do they represent? Are they positive, negative, or neutral? How do they make you feel? Why are symbols important?

Step 4: Sketch your design

Now it is time to put your ideas together. Begin by considering which symbols and words best represent your message, then experiment with the Elements of Art (page 4) and Principles of Design (page 5) to create an effective design. Use the patch template (page 6) to create sketches.

Step 5: Practice embroidering

Now that you have sketched your design, use the stitch practice template (page 7), sewing guide (pages 8 - 10), and instructions (page 11) to determine which stitches you want to use for your design.

Step 6: Embroider your patch

Now that you have practiced embroidering, select your favorite design and follow the instructions (page 11) to embroider your patch.

Step 6: Share your message

Glossary

Activist art sends a message or makes a statement

Associate is to connect someone or something in your mind with someone or something else

Concept is a plan or intention

Elements of art are the building blocks used by artists to create a work of art

Embroider is to decorate fabric by sewing patterns on it with thread

Principles of design are the ways that artists use the elements of art in a work of art

Represent is to show or describe something or someone

Social Justice is the view that everyone deserves equal economic, political, and social rights and opportunities

Social justice issues include: animal rights, climate change, freedom of speech, human rights (access to healthcare, housing, education, etc.), immigration, LGBTQIA rights, women's rights, prisoner's rights, racial justice, religious liberty, voting rights and more

Symbol is a sign, shape, or object that is used to represent something else. Symbols often take the form of words, visual images, or gestures that are used to convey ideas and beliefs

QUESTIONS

What aspects of your identity are most important to you?

What aspects of your identity are visible to others and which are less visible?

Are there any differences between how you see yourself and how others see you? How so?

What communities are you a member of / do you identify with?

What is an issue in the world that matters to you?

What does this issue look like?

Where do you see this issue?

Why does this issue matter to you?

How does it affect you or others around you?

What changes would you like to see?

Fill in the prompts

I BELIEVE IN

Freedom of _____

Freedom from _____

Freedom for _____

Freedom to _____

I WILL FIGHT FOR

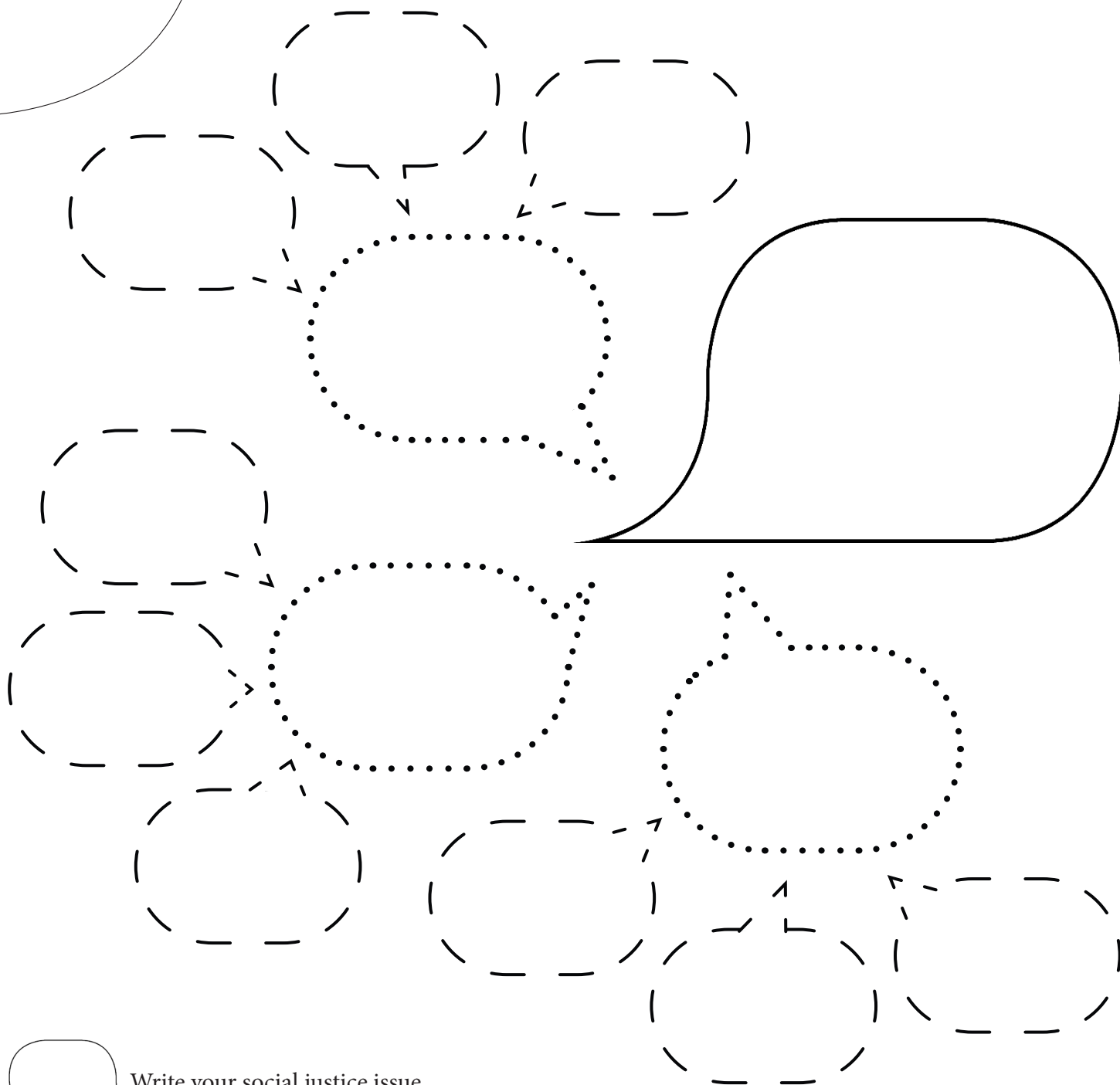
Freedom of _____

Freedom from _____

Freedom for _____

Freedom to _____

MIND MAP



Write your social justice issue



Write the words or phrases that you associate with your social justice



Write or draw the symbols that represent the word or phrase

ELEMENTS OF ART

LINE
SHAPE
FORM
TEXTURE
SPACE
COLOR
VALUE

PRINCIPLES OF DESIGN

BALANCE

MOVEMENT

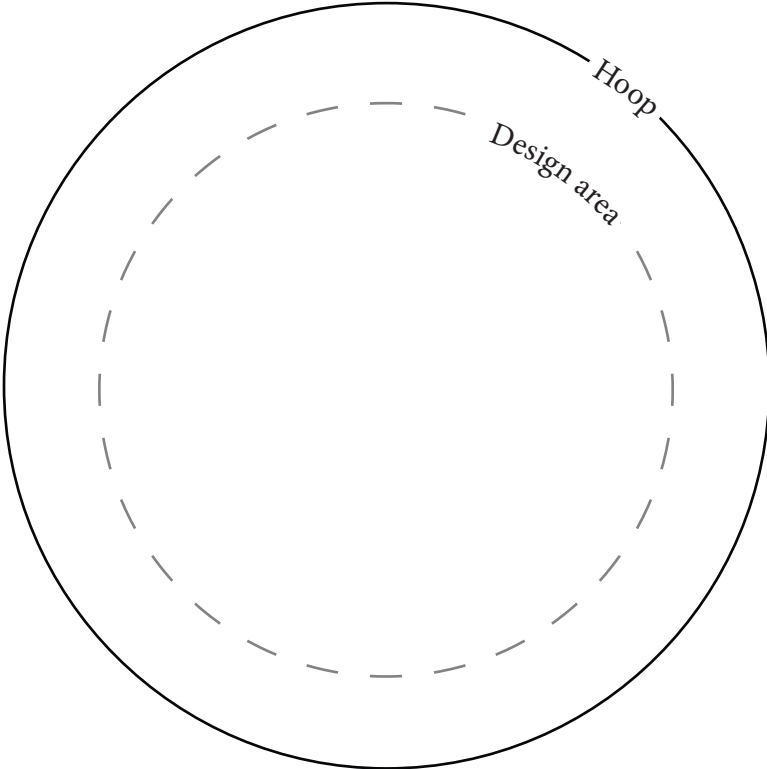
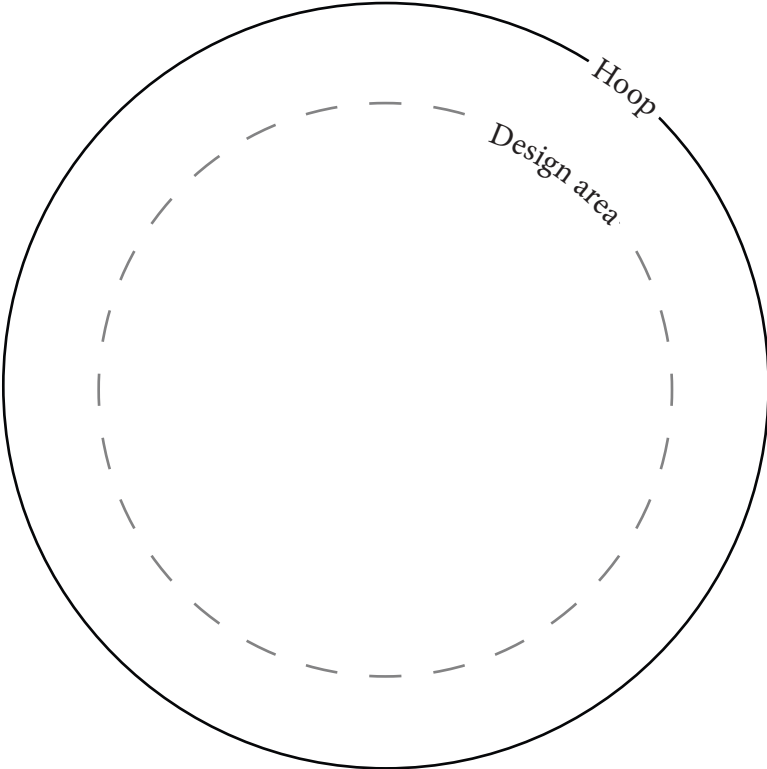
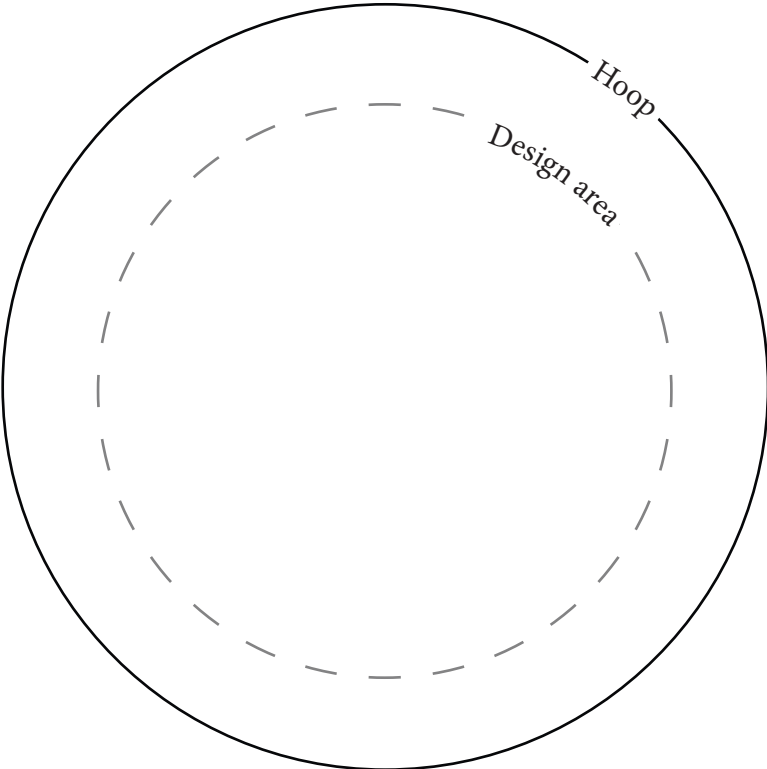
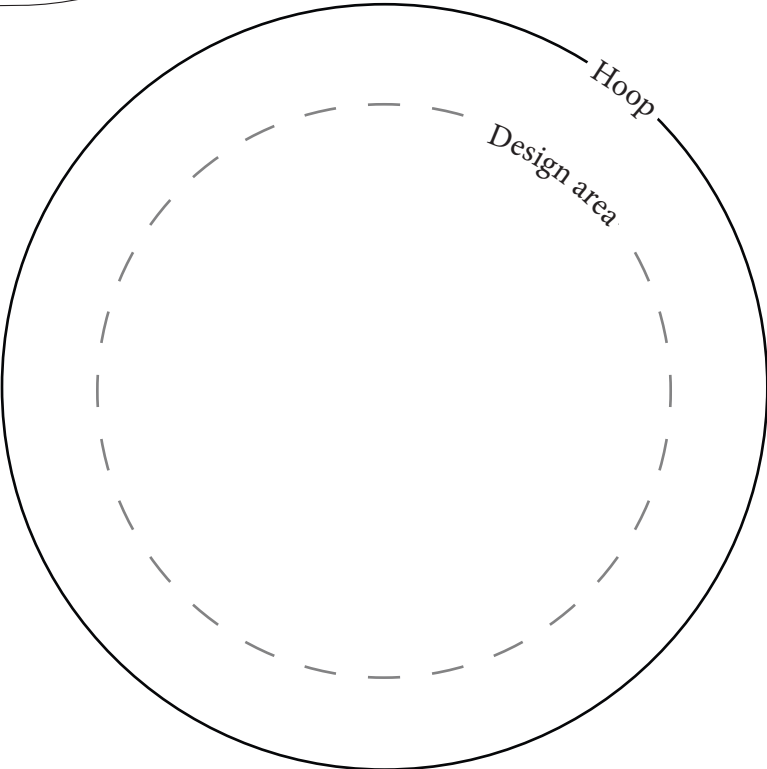
CONTRAST

**PATTERNPATTERNPATTERN
PATTERNPATTERNPATTERN**

PROPORTION

EMPHASIS

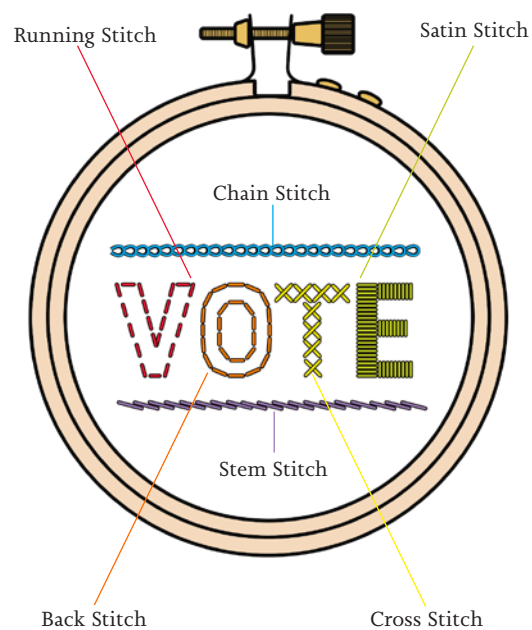
PATCH TEMPLATE



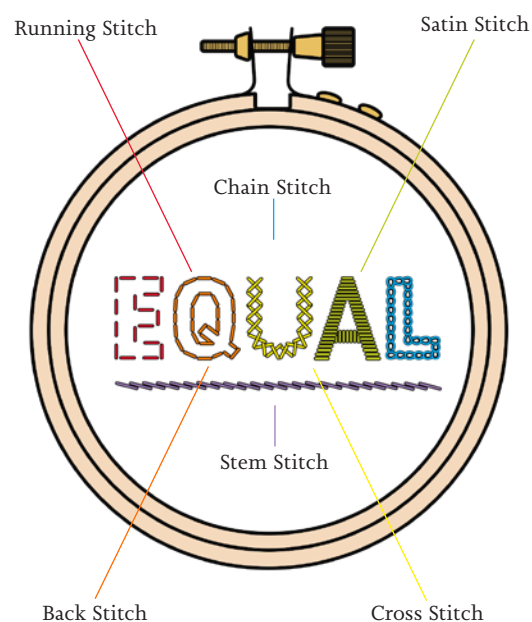
STITCH PRACTICE

Choose a template (left) and trace onto your fabric, then practice the stitches as directed (right)

VOTE

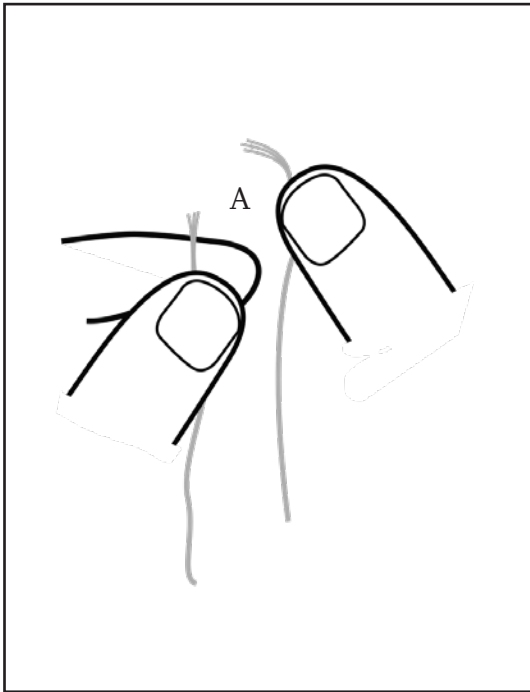


EQUAL



SEWING GUIDE

Preparing Your Thread

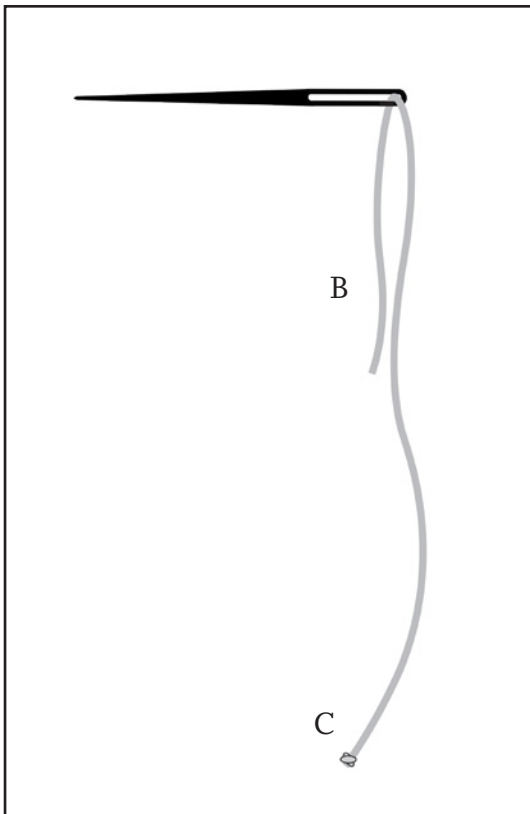


Step 1: Cut the thread

Hold the thread between your fingers and measure to your elbow (approximately 18 inches), then cut. If you go much longer than this, the thread is more likely to get knotted when you stitch.

Step 2: Separate the floss

Embroidery thread (floss) is made up of six individual strands, lightly twisted together, that can be separated to change the thickness of your lines. We recommend working with 2-3 strands. To separate out a strand, hold the floss with one hand and pinch the end of one strand with the other. Gently and slowly pull the strand up and out until it is separated from the remaining strands. Only pull one strand at a time. Pulling multiple strands may cause the floss to knot.



Step 3: Thread the needle

Pinch your three strands together and push through the eye of the needle. Pull the thread through so that one side is longer than the other. The shorter side should be approximately 3-5 inches long (B). Knot the long end of your strands (C). You may need a double or triple knot to make sure that your thread will not pull out the back when you start stitching. Once the knot is tied, trim off the excess thread.

Tips:

When threading a needle, hold the thread between your thumb and index fingers. Pinch down on the thread between your fingers until you can barely see the tip of the thread between your fingertips. With your other hand holding the needle, bring the thread and needle eye together.

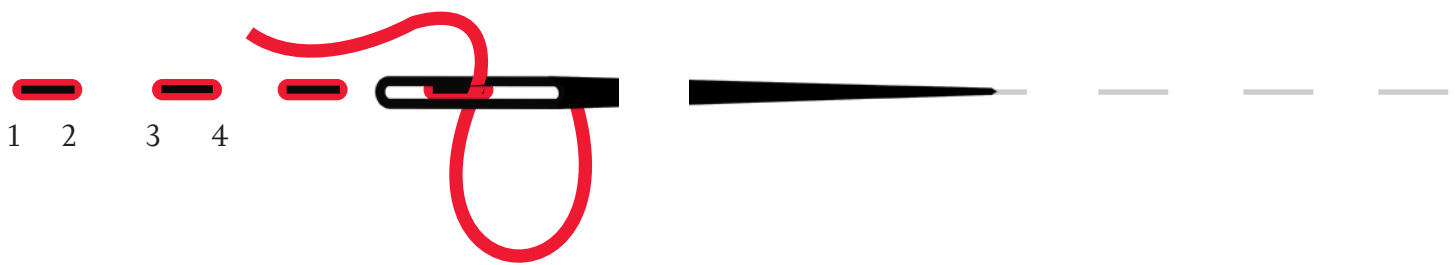
When sewing, you can keep the thread from twisting up by letting your needle and thread dangle freely towards the floor now and then. The thread will untwist itself while it's hanging there.

SEWING GUIDE

Basic Embroidery Stitches

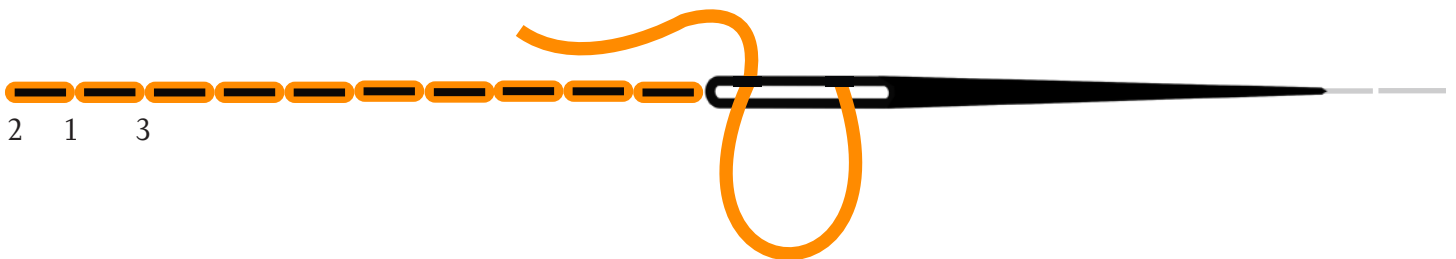
RUNNING STITCH

Bring your needle up at 1, down at 2, up at 3, down at 4



BACK STITCH

Bring your needle up at 1, down at 2, up at 3, down at 1



CROSS STITCH

Bring your needle up at 1, down at 2, up at 3, down at 4

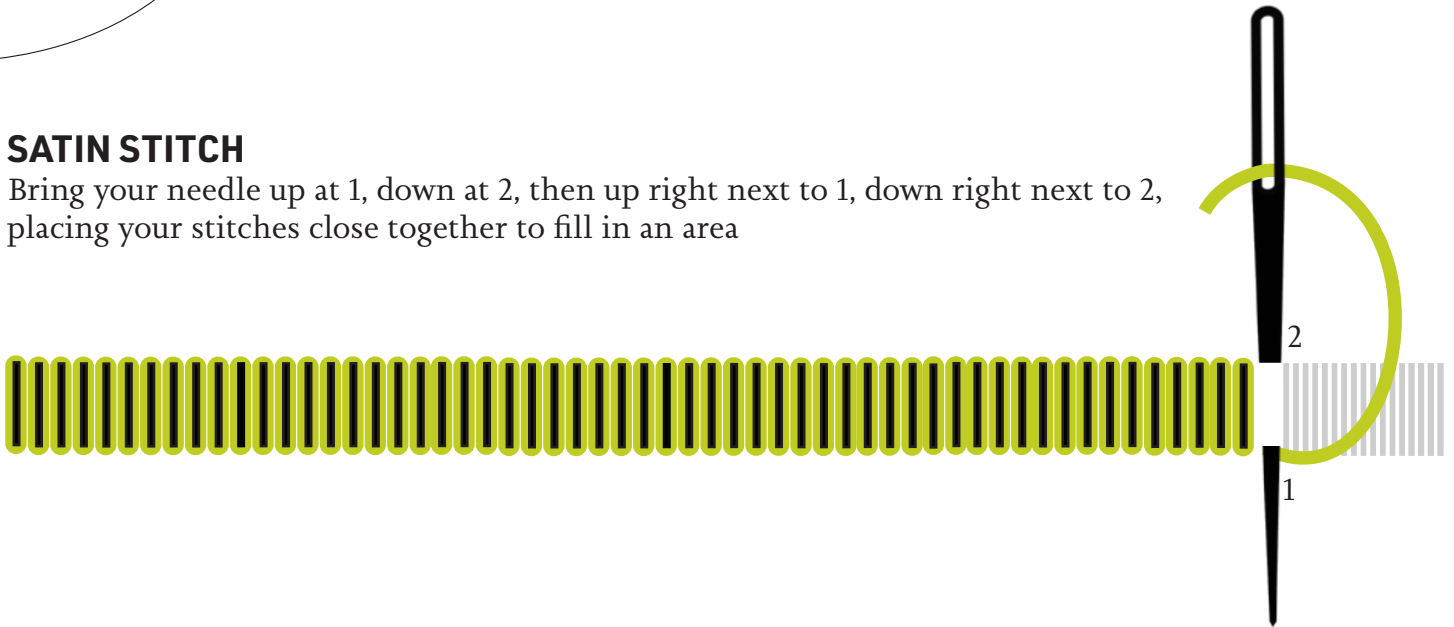


SEWING GUIDE

Basic Embroidery Stitches

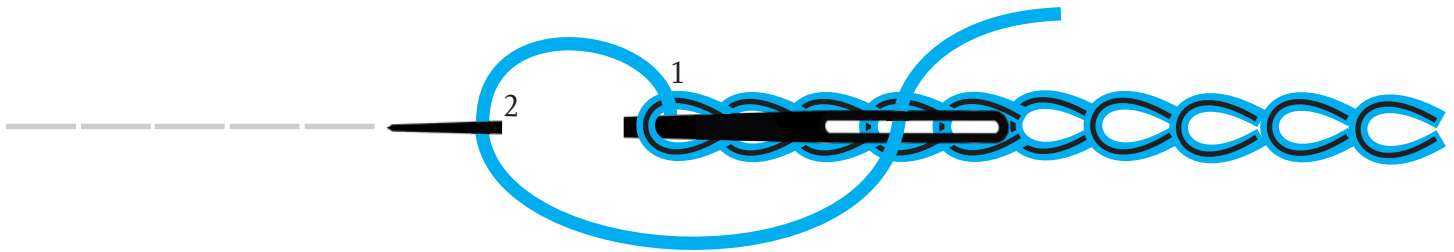
SATIN STITCH

Bring your needle up at 1, down at 2, then up right next to 1, down right next to 2, placing your stitches close together to fill in an area



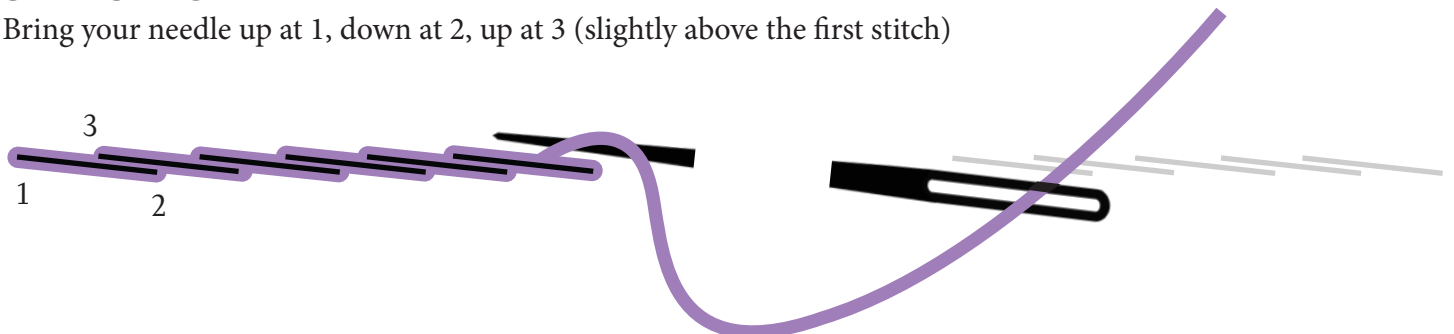
CHAIN STITCH

Working from top to bottom, bring your needle up at 1, re-insert it back into that same hole—forming a loop, bring your needle up at 2 and pull the thread to tighten the loop

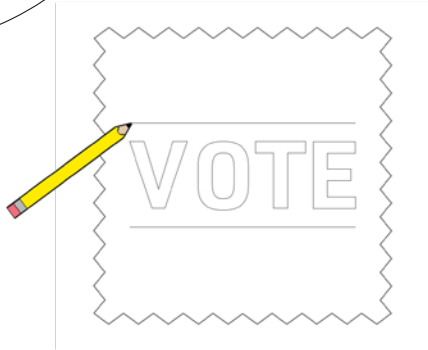


STEM STITCH

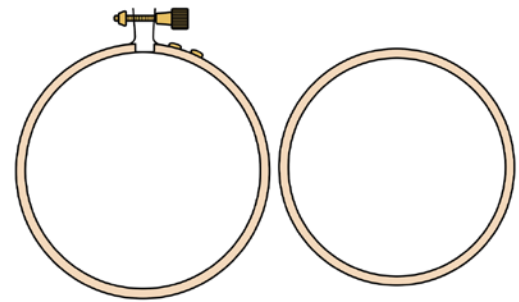
Bring your needle up at 1, down at 2, up at 3 (slightly above the first stitch)



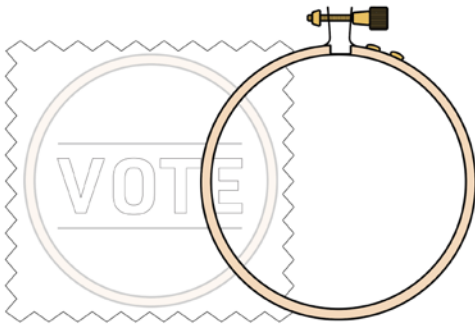
PATCH INSTRUCTIONS



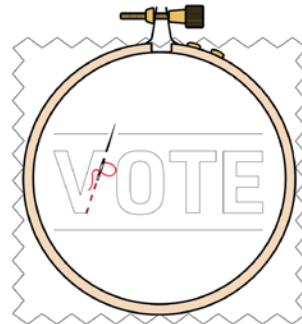
Step 1: Trace your design onto the fabric using a pencil or light colored marker



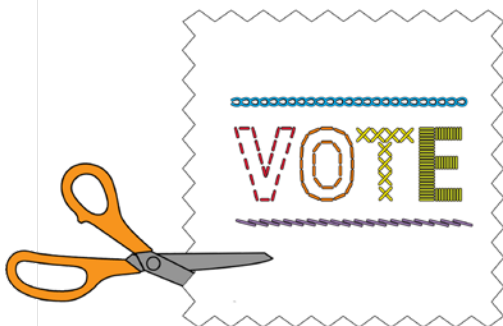
Step 2: Loosen the screw, then separate the inner and outer embroidery hoops



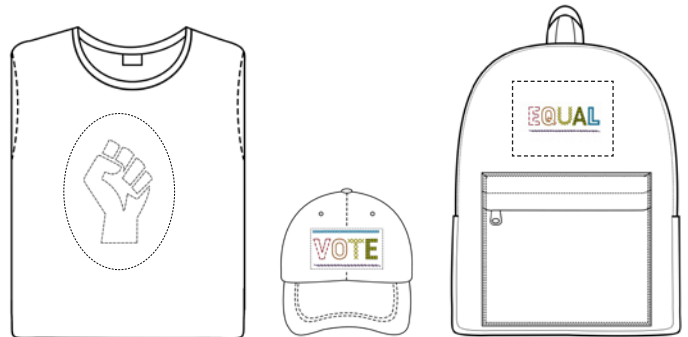
Step 3: Place your fabric on top of the inner hoop, then place the outer hoop around, and tighten the screw until the fabric is tight



Step 4: Thread your needle, then use the sewing guide to begin your embroidery



Step 5: Loosen the hoop to remove your design, then trim away excess fabric



Step 6: Sew your patch onto your bag, clothing, or hat and start spreading your message