

# WNG MAKING

IDENTITY PATCHES | DRAWING ON FABRIC

## Identity Patches | Drawing on Fabric



Throughout history people have worn patches to protest, express, and declare solidarity. Though small in size and often simple in design, a patch can make a powerful statement. Learn to make your own hand drawn patch, then wear it with pride!



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## Get inspired

Google Arts & Culture: *Button Up, Badges and Patches in Countercultural Fashion*

## What you need

- Makers (fabric, permanent, or washable)
- Fabric
- Needle and thread or safety pins
- Cardboard
- Binder clips (optional)

## Develop your idea

What factors shape your identity?

Which aspects of your identity are most important to you?

What do you want people to know about your identity?

## Instructions

**Step 1:** Sketch your patch design.

**Step 2:** Find fabrics for your patch.

*Tip: Repurpose old or unwanted clothes.*

**Step 3:** Cut your fabric to the size you would like your patch.

*Tip: Place cardboard under your fabric so you do not get marker on the table. If your fabric is stretchy secure it to cardboard using binder clips to make it easier to draw on.*

**Step 4:** Sketch your design onto the patch using a light-colored maker.

**Step 5:** Color your design. Trace over your sketch with a darker marker then fill in with color.

**Step 6:** Cut the patch into the shape of your design or keep it how it is.

**Step 7:** Attach your patch to a garment, bag, or hat. Use a needle and thread to sew it on or secure it with safety pins.

*Tip: If you would like to sew your patch but are new to sewing, use the guide on page 3.*

**Step 8:** Wear your patch into the world, then take a picture and share it on your favorite social media platform – don't forget to

## Terms

**Activist** is a person who works to achieve political or social change

**Badge** is a small piece of plastic, cloth, or metal that signifies that someone belongs to an organization, supports something, has achieved something, etc.

**Counter culture** is the culture and lifestyle of those who reject or oppose the dominant values and behavior of society

**Factor** is a fact or situation that influences a result

**Identity** is the qualities, characteristics, or beliefs that make a person who they are

**Patch** is a small piece of material attached to another

**Represent** is to show or describe something or someone

**Repurpose** is to use something for a different purpose than it was originally intended

**Solidarity** is a feeling of unity based on respect, support, equality, common values, diversity, community, etc.

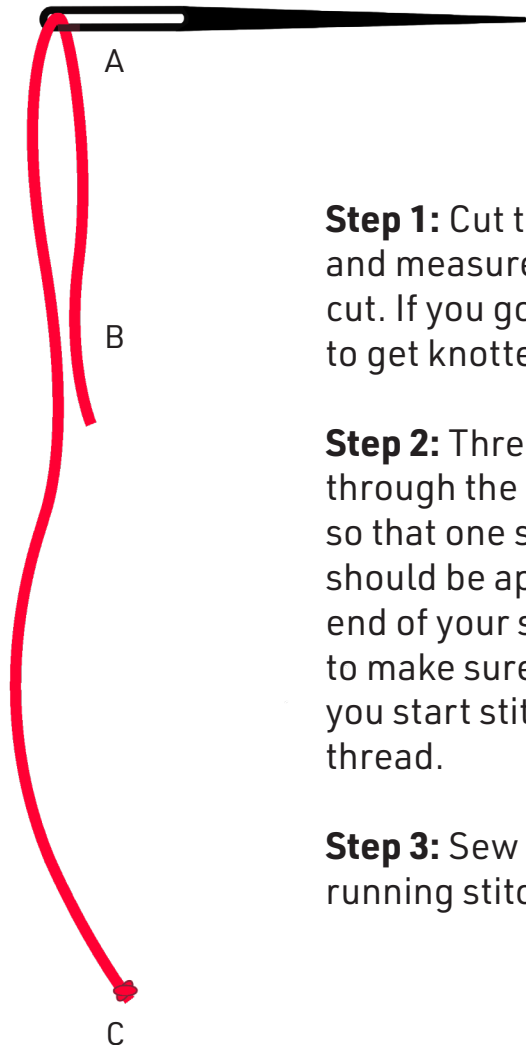
**Stereotype** is an overly simple, unfair, and untrue belief about a group of people

**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

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## Sewing Guide

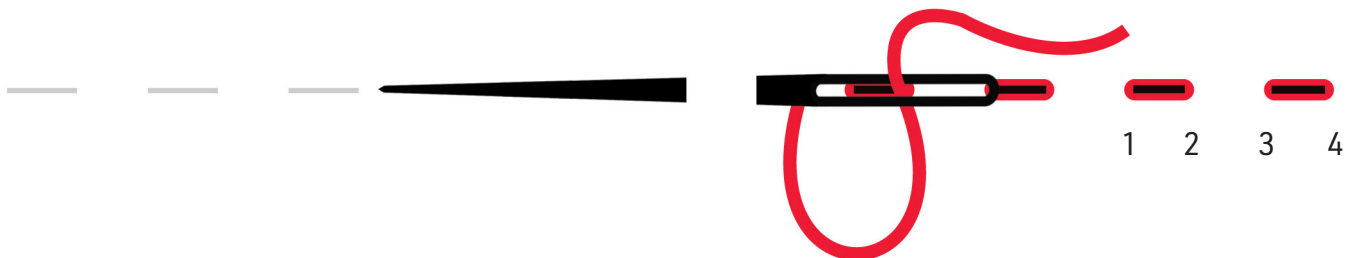
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**Step 1:** Cut the thread. Hold the thread between your fingers and measure to your elbow (approximately 18 inches), then cut. If you go much longer than this, the thread is more likely to get knotted when you sew.

**Step 2:** Thread the needle. Pinch your thread and push through the eye of the needle (A). 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.

**Step 3:** Sew your patch onto a bag, garment, or hat using a running stitch (see instructions below).



### Sewing a running stitch

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