

DECONSTRUCTED – RECONSTRUCTED STUFFED ANIMAL

Materials: Stuffed animals, different fabrics, thread, basic needle, embroidery needles, embroidery floss, pins

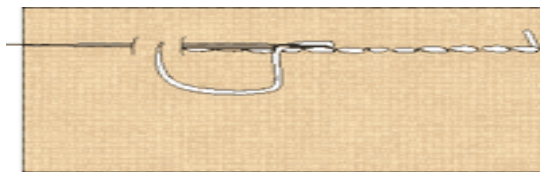
A. Deconstruct a Stuffed Animals (save the stuffing you will need it) and use the stuffed animal fabric to create an entirely different form based on a geometric form/hard-edged object. This new form should be in complete contrast to the original stuffed animal form. For example, stuffed animal + pliers= ? Once you have decided on what geometric/hard-edged object you are interested in exploring, consider changing the proportion of this object and as well as abstracting it slightly. Look closely at the elements that make up the form and think about how you could alter their relationships- creating an entirely new form. Augment the stuffed animal material with other fabrics to create variety and contrast. The embroidery floss will help further create texture and contrast.

B. Objectives

- Create a form that is formally interesting—exhibits a sense of dominance, repetition, and variety. You should also consider color, texture and pattern. The form should also have elements of your man-made object.
- Craftsmanship is essential—sewing should be even and consistent and could also become more than simply a way to build the form. You could use the sewing techniques to create texture and emphasis.
- Be playful!!!!

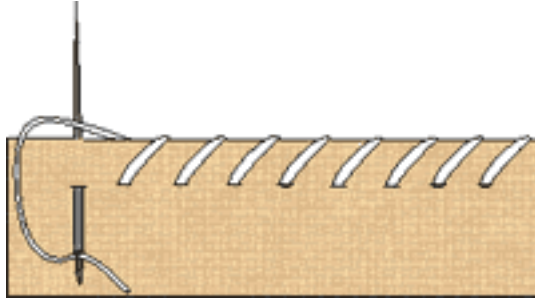
C. Practice Different Hand Stitching Techniques

Backstitch is the strongest hand stitch and is used to imitate machine stitches.



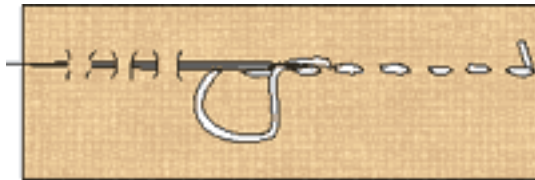
- Work backstitch from right to left.
- Begin with a couple of stitches worked on the spot, and then take a stitch and a space.
- Take the needle back over the space and bring it out the same distance in front of the thread.
- Continue to the end of the seam.
- Fasten off with a couple of stitches on the spot.

Oversewing, or overcasting, is a way to neaten a raw edge to prevent heavyweight fabrics from fraying. Relate the length of the stitch to the fabric and how badly it will fray.



- Begin with a few backstitches.
- Make diagonal stitches over the raw edge, spacing them equally and make them all the same length. Be careful not to pull the stitches too tight.

Running Stitch is used for seams and for gathering.



- Fasten the thread with a few backstitches and work small stitches by passing the needle in and out of the fabric. Keep the stitches and spaces as even as possible.

"You can discover more about a person in an hour of play than in a year of conversation." Plato