

Mounting and Lacing

An Embroidery

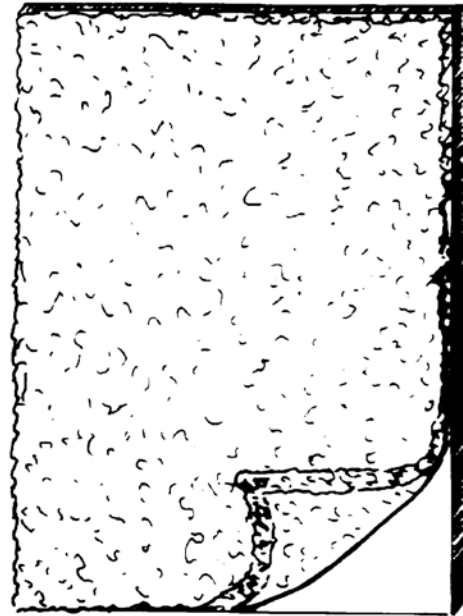
When it is desirable to have a rigid mounting for embroidery, it is necessary to attach it in some way to a very stiff card or board. The traditional and proven method is to lace the work across the back of the board. A work so mounted could be mounted in a frame, or combined with another matte board for display purposes.

Smaller samples may be mounted in this fashion, as may wall hangings, and book or box covers. The larger the piece to be mounted, the more rigid will the mounting board/frame need to be. If the mounting medium is not sufficiently stiff it could warp under lacing tensions. Use a fabric lining over the back, attaching it with slip stitch it along the edges.

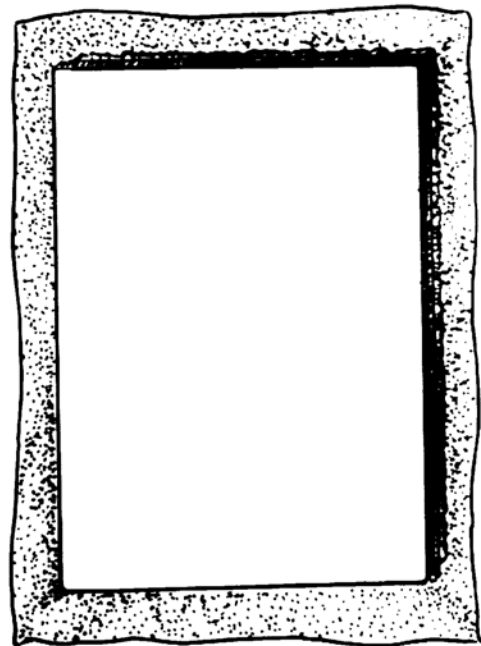
Hint: The embroidered piece should be limited to minimal finishing along the edges. If fraying is a problem, work a wide zigzag along the edges to secure it. Do not turn edges under, Any of these finishing styles could add too much bulk for mounting and lacing.

Step 1 - Find or cut a mounting board (matt board) to a size that will allow the work an 8 cm (3 in) margin around all sides of the embroidered area. Trim the excess fabric to be ½ to 5/8" larger than the selected mounting board. Cut a piece of thin, soft, batting to the exact size of the mounting board (or use iron-on batting). Apply this directly to the mounting board.

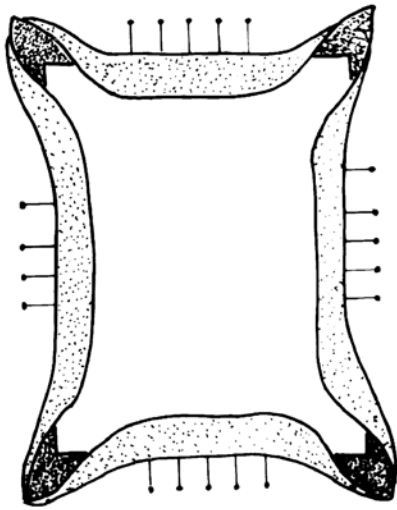
Step 2 - Place the embroidered fabric on a table, right side down. Lay the mounting board, batting side down, over the work. The back side of the work and the mounting board will now be facing up.



Step 1

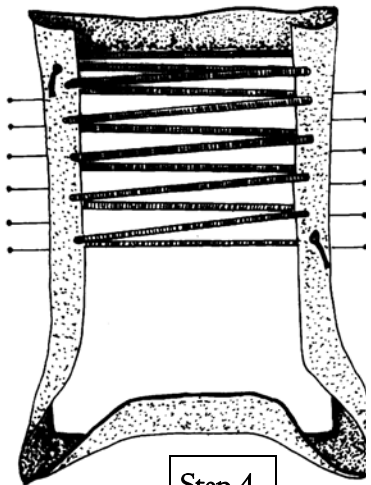


Step 2

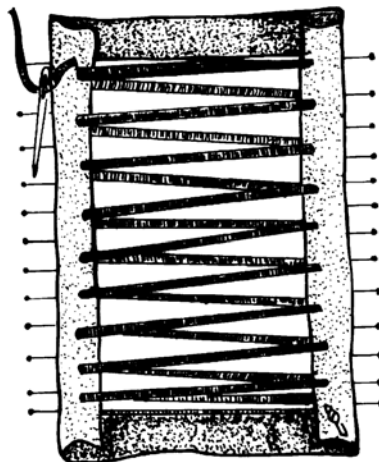


Step 3

Step 3 - Wrap opposite edges of the embroidered work over the back of the mounting board. It can be handy to have some pins, or craft type clothes pins to temporarily hold the fabric evenly and snugly in place while preparing to do the lacing. Use many at close intervals.



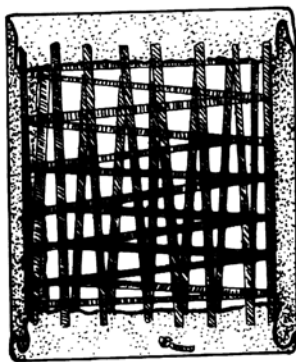
Step 4



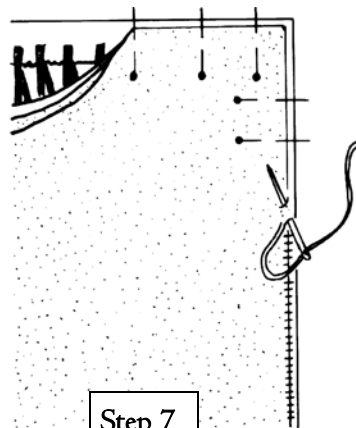
Step 5

Step 4 - Use a #12 Pearl Button Cotton (Perl ), or linen thread, with a sharp needle. Begin at the center of one side and stitch across to the opposite side. Take the stitches over and under the fabric and try to angle the needle in the direction of the stitch. Secure the thread with a few back stitches.

Step 5- After stitching the first half, go back to the starting point and stitch the other end to completely lace up the fabric. Try to apply consistent tension on the stitches in order avoid stress points along the work. Too much tension could warp the mounting board.



Step 6



Step 7

Step 6 - Wrap the unlaced ends of the work over the back of the mounting board. Pin and hold in place as before. Begin lacing from the center and proceed as for the previous sides. Occasionally, weave the crossing threads through the previously applied ones. Corners may require the removal of some fabric in order to have them lie flat. It is good practice to lace up to the corner before removing excess fabric. A few slip stitches in the corners can also help to keep them neat and secure.

Step 7 - Place a lining fabric over the back of the laced work and turn the edges under. Pin this in place leaving a small margin along the edges. Attach the lining fabric using slip stitch and a quilter's needle. Use dressmaker's thread or thread of equivalent strength.