



Card-Stitched Bookmarks

by Eileen Gilliland

Use a variety of materials in your stash to create a bookmark—perfect for gift-giving.

>>>DESIGN SIZE: 6" x 2¼" <<<

Materials/Supplies

- Two pieces of cardstock, 6" x 2¼"
- Decorative paper, cut into three 1" x 1" squares
- Thin embroidery specialty threads
- About 12" of novelty knitting yarn
- Tapestry needle size 26 or 28
- Paper pricking tool
- Dense foam or corrugated cardboard pricking surface (to protect table)
- Glue stick or double-sided tape
- Scotch tape
- ⅛" hole punch

Optional Materials

- ⅛" eyelets, eyelet setting tool, and small hammer

Inspiration for my embroidery often comes from materials not strictly intended for use in stitching. This project makes use of the eye-popping range of decorative scrapbooking papers and novelty yarns that are easy to find. The basic design is quick to finish and very adaptable. It is a project best made in multiples as it can be lots of fun to explore many variations in different combinations of papers, threads, yarns and stitch patterns. Batches of bookmarks can be given to local literacy programs, book groups, school classrooms, public libraries, or any place readers gather!

About the Materials

The size of the bookmark and the size of the paper squares is flexible. Craft stores may sell packs of pre-cut cardstock bookmarks in neutral colors. Special paper pricking tools are available, but you can also use an awl, a needle tool with a long, sharp point, or a sharp needle screwed into the handle of a crafter's knife. Whatever pricking tool you use, the hole it makes should be fairly small, just big enough for a size 26 tapestry needle to pass through. Use a paper trimmer or square craft-punch to make quick work of cutting out the squares.

This is a great time to dig into your stash of shiny threads that have a reputation for being difficult such as metallic floss, blending filament, and all varieties of thin rayon threads, including floss and threads for Brazilian or machine embroidery. Size 12 pearl cotton and flower threads are also suitable. You can have fun searching for free paper to cut



EE2049A
Fog

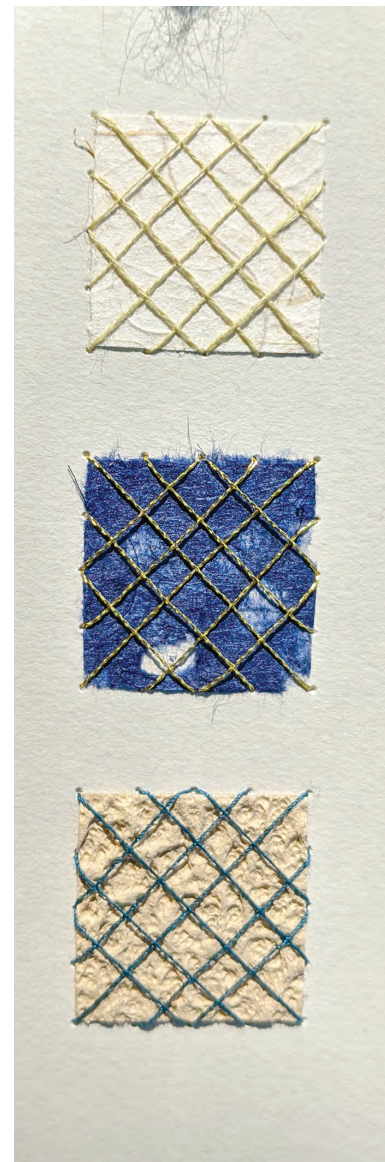


EE2049B
Shade



EE2049C
Rain Cloud

Pattern 1



Pattern 2

up for the project.

Consider using paint-chip samples from the hardware store, blue and white security envelope linings, old music or book pages, and old road maps.

Instructions

LAYOUT THE BOOKMARK

On a table, set one piece of cardstock so it is vertically oriented. Evenly space three squares of decorative paper in a vertical column down the center of the card stock. Adhere the squares to the cardstock using a glue stick or double-stick tape.

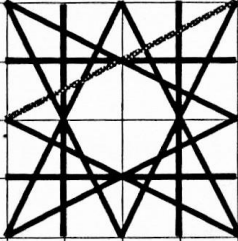
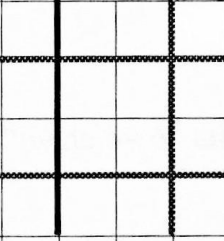
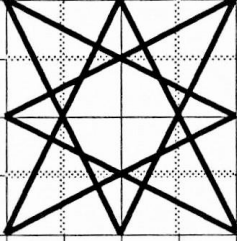
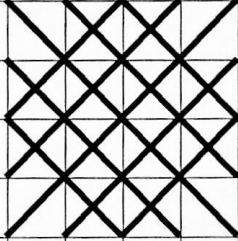
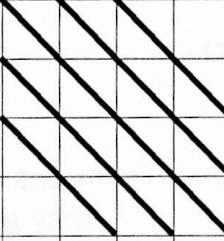
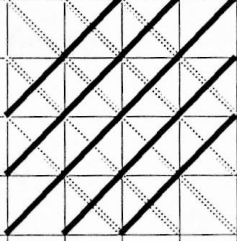
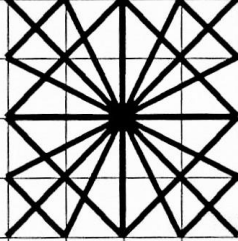
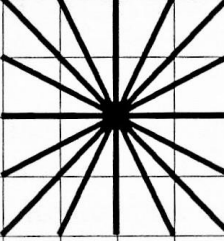
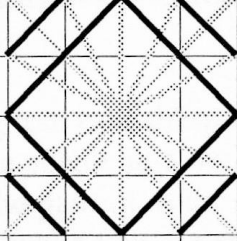
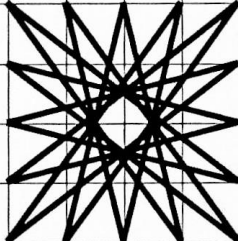
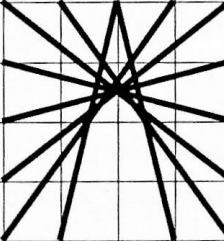
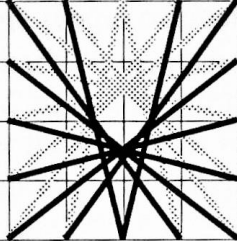
CREATE HOLES

Use the pricking tool to poke holes into the cardstock around the edges of each square. Prick only the cardstock; do not prick the decorative paper. Poke the holes in the following sequence:

- 1 Make a hole in each corner of the four squares.
- 2 For each side, make a hole at the midpoint between each corner of each square.
- 3 For each side, make a hole halfway between the holes at the corner and midpoint.

You should end up with five holes on each side of the squares.

PATTERNS FOR CARD-STITCHED BOOKMARKS

<p>Pattern 1</p> 	<p>Step 1</p> 	<p>Step 2</p> 
<p>Pattern 2</p> 	<p>Step 1</p> 	<p>Step 2</p> 
<p>Pattern 3</p> 	<p>Step 1</p> 	<p>Step 2</p> 
<p>Pattern 4</p> 	<p>Step 1</p>  <p>12 13 16 2 3 6 9 7 8 10 5 11 4 1 15 14</p>	<p>Step 2</p>  <p>17 etc.</p> <p>Turn step 1 upside down</p>

STITCH THE BOOKMARK

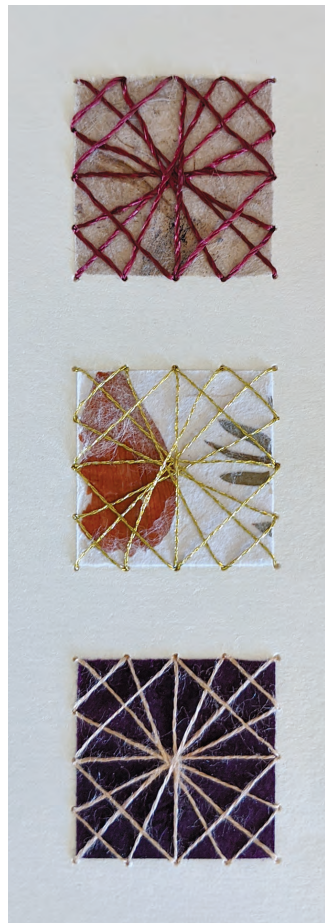
Thread the tapestry needle with a long length of thread, at least thirty inches. Secure the end of the thread to the back of the bookmark using scotch tape, making sure no hole is covered with tape. Stitch through the pricked holes using one of the patterns shown in Patterns for Card-Stitched Bookmarks on page 18 and in the Alternative Pattern Variations below, or make up your own. Your stitches will go over the square of decorative paper. End the thread by securing it to the back with scotch tape. Repeat for the other two squares.

FINISH THE BOOKMARK

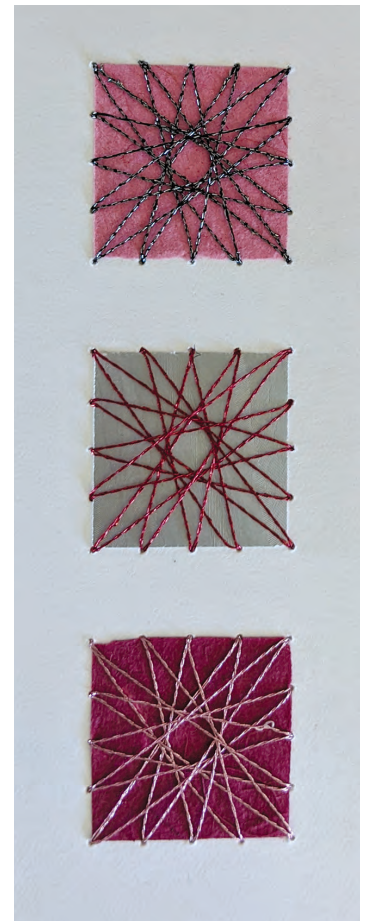
Adhere the second piece of cardstock to the back of the first using the glue stick or double-stick tape, and cover the back of the stitching. Punch a 1/8" hole through the top center of the bookmark, and install an eyelet, if desired. Thread the knitting yarn through the hole, and tie it at the top of the bookmark. Trim ends.

These bookmarks are great fun to make in multiples. The sampler below shows different pricking patterns you may be interested to try. ■

EILEEN GILLILAND has been program chair of Lehigh Valley Chapter for many years and enjoys the challenge of developing projects that are accessible to embroiderers at all skill and income levels. Her interests also include mineral collecting, reading, crocheting, and attending to a large collection of needlework and craft books.



Pattern 3



Pattern 4

PATTERNS AND THEIR VARIATIONS

