



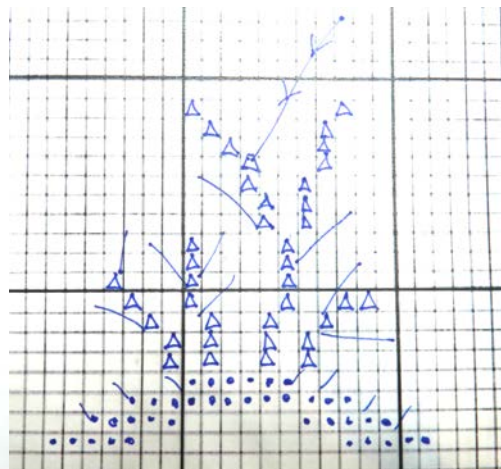
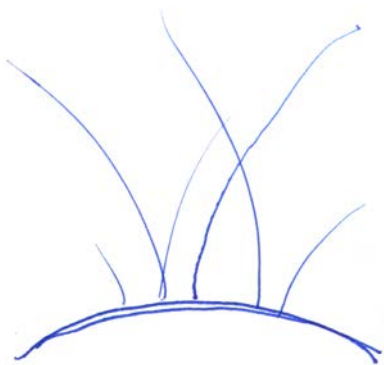
Picture of Finished Project: Left Counted Cross Stitch; Right Surface Embroidery

This little project was created just for the EGA Stitch-a-long FB group so you can bring your buttons to bloom! This project can be used as a pin cushion, a jar cover, or, as shown as a pinwheel. Enjoy!

Supply List

ITEM	DESCRIPTION
Needles:	Tapestry Size 26 (for cross stitch); Embroidery needle (for surface embroidery) and Embroidery Needle for sewing on buttons and beads.
Hoop:	4" or 6"
Ground Fabric:	6" square of 28-count Linen in light blue (or whatever you like) for counted thread or 6" square of fineweave cloth for surface embroidery
Thread:	Two greens for stems and grass Flower colors to match/contrast with buttons
Button Set:	Select 5 buttons from your button stash. Use either 2-hole or 4-hole buttons, any shape and size that is pleasing to you.
Bead Set:	If you like beads, add them!

Graph: Dot: Green 1, Triangle Green 2. Lines Green 3 or Lt Green



INSTRUCTIONS



1. First audition your colors of threads with your buttons. I wanted to embroidery a pair of jeans, but all my jeans were really well worn. When I buy some new pairs next year, I'll wash them about 5 times and then do some embroidery on them. If you are a saver of old jeans and turn them into purses, this type of embroidery would be perfect on them!
2. Each of these pinwheels fits on a 3.5" circle. I used a 3.5" circle because I own a 3.5" hole punch (scrapbooking use). Your circle can be bigger, smaller, or not a circle at all. Center the design on your fabric and trace the design onto the fabric (for the surface embroidery) or mark the center for the cross-stitch. **You may want to wait to sketch in stems until after Step 3.**
3. Audition your buttons on the circle. See the stems drawn in the above photo on the right? Once you are happy with the way the buttons are placed, take a picture with your phone or camera. You can refer back to it when you start stitching. No phone/camera? Just jot down placement. It really easy to forget which button balanced with the others. I had 2 multi-color buttons, so I used these (one in each pinkeep) as the basis for finding/matching/contrasting other buttons. I used a heart-shaped button in one design; a flower shaped button in the other. Don't forget to check out the BACKS of your buttons. Sometimes they have a better look than the front. And you can layer buttons—put a smaller button on top of the bigger button, just be sure you can sew thru both buttons to attach them to the ground fabric.
4. Modify your drawn stem lines to match your button placement. Different heights tend to lead to a better circular design.
5. Stitch the ground and stems first—in cross stitch or stem stitch. You can color blend the 2 greens to get 3 greens: Green 1: 2 strands of first green. Green 2: 2 strands of second green. Green 3: 1 strand each of Green 1 and Green 2 blended together. By using the blended technique, any greens you choose (well, practically) will work well together.
6. Place your large buttons first and stitch them down with matching or contrasting threads. Use a variety of stitches. **See the next page.**

Complete your stitching



I used a combination of straight stitch, French knots, lazy daisy (detached chain). I added stitches along the side of buttons, on top of buttons, at the bottom of the buttons. I even added a flower charm bead on the cross-stitch design.

Keep stitching your piece until you feel happy with it!

Finishing your project



Materials Needed To Make a Pinwheel:

You will need needle and thread (probably white sewing thread).

Completed Embroidery

Backing Fabric

Comic Board (Acid Free Board of any sort)

Batting

3 ½" circle punch or form

1. Draw a rough 4 1/2" circle around the embroidery
2. Baste two rows of gathering stitches at the 3 ¾ " line and 4" line. Use doubled thread or thicker thread (think #12 Pearl Cotton or Quilting Thread).
3. Repeat for backing fabric of pinwheel
4. You are going to create 2 sides of the pinwheel first.
5. Side 1:
 - a. Completed Embroidery with two basting rows around (as described in 2., above).
 - b. Batting cut to finished size of pin keep
 - c. Comic board cut to finished size of pinkeep
 - d. Create a sandwich of a., b., c. and pull up on both ends of each basting threads, so you will have four threads in your hand when you are pulling. The other hand is holding tight to the center of the 3 pieces in your first side. The basting threads will follow the curve of the comic board. Smooth the fabric over the curves and pull tight. When you are happy, knot the 4 threads together. Trim the excess fabric close to the basting lines BUT DO NOT CUT the basting threads.
 - e. Apply a **light** line of glue (Alene' Tacky glue is good) along the wrong side of the fabric side between the fabric and the comic board. Hold edges down as you apply the glue. Clip (clothes pins/quilt clips) all layers together. Let dry. You should have a nice circle ready for use later. .
6. Side 2:
 - a. Backing Fabric with two basting rows around (as described in 3., above).
 - b. Batting cut to finished size of pin keep
 - c. Comic board cut to finished size of pinkeep
 - d. Create a sandwich of a., b., c. and pull up on both ends of each basting threads, so you will have four threads in your hand when you are pulling. The other hand is holding tight to the center of the 3 pieces in your first side. The basting threads will follow the curve of the comic board. Smooth the fabric over the curves and pull tight. When you are happy, knot the 4 threads together. Trim the excess fabric close to the basting lines BUT DO NOT CUT the basting threads.
 - e. Apply a **light** line of glue (Alene' Tacky glue is good) along the wrong side of the fabric side between the fabric and the comic board. Hold edges down as you apply the glue. Clip (clothes pins/quilt clips) all layers together. Let dry. You should have a nice circle ready for use in the next step.
7. Create your pinkeep:
 - a. Embroidery side (Step 5)
 - b. Backing fabric side (Step 6)
 - c. Clip (clothes pins/quilt clips) the two **wrong** sides together.
 - d. DECISION: Do you want to add a hanger for your pinkeep? If so, add a looped cord or ribbon with the knotted end inside the sandwich.
 - e. Using a ladder stitch, stitch the 2 sides together. You want to stitch tight, but you still need to be able to stick your pins into it, so test it!
8. You are finished! Put in your decorative pins.