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EC58-418 Decorative Stitches for Little Girls' Dresses

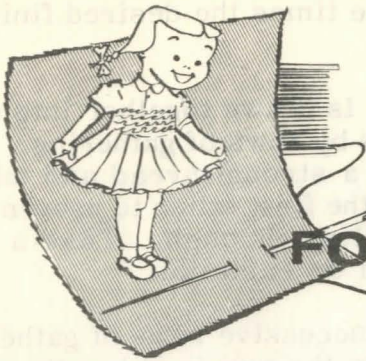
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Decorative Stitches FOR LITTLE GIRLS' DRESSES

BY GERDA PETERSEN, Extension Clothing Specialist

A decorative stitch can change a child's dress from an ordinary garment to one of distinction and beauty.

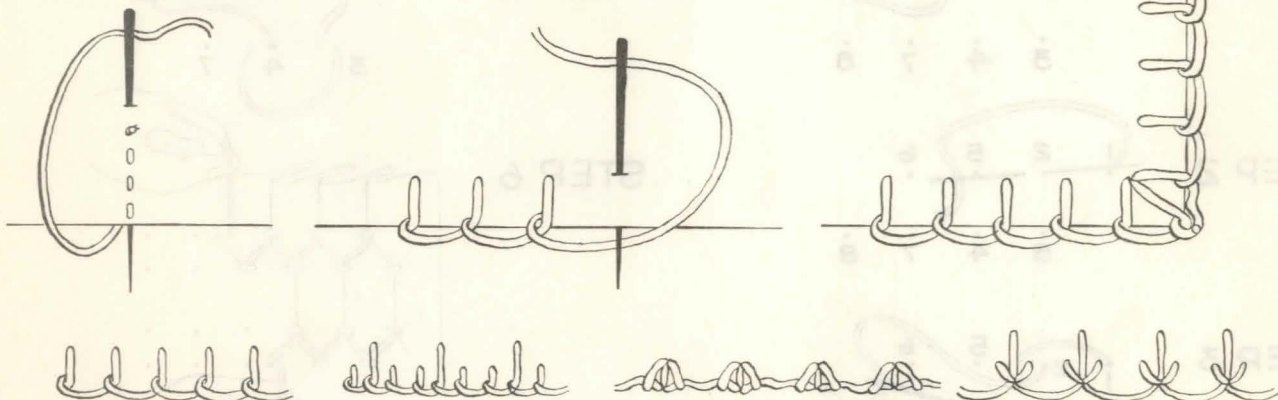
Decorative stitches also furnish an excellent opportunity to express individuality.

Decorative stitches should add to the effectiveness of a design. They should follow the shape of the design. They should

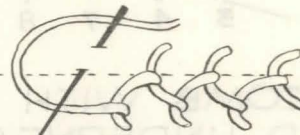
be short enough and made of a thread that is fine enough so they appear to be a part of the cloth itself. They should not be loose or raised above the surface. Decorative trim should be easy to launder and wear well.

The following simple embroidery stitches may be used to add interest to a collar or yoke.

Blanket Stitch and Variations.....

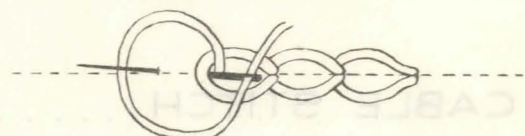


Feather Stitch.....



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Chain Stitch



SMOCKING

Smocking is an interesting way of holding fullness in place on a dress. Much of the beauty of the finished work depends upon the care with which the material is prepared for smocking. Checked or dotted materials are easily prepared because of the regularity of their design. For plain materials, transfer patterns may be used or regular rows of dots may be marked on the wrong side with pencil or chalk and a ruler.

The rows of dots are about $\frac{1}{4}$ " apart and directly under each other. Fabric

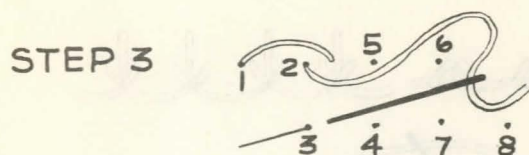
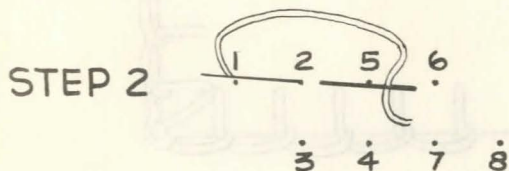
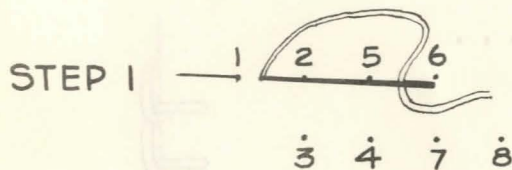
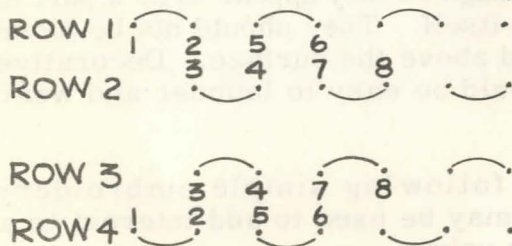
should be three times the desired finished width.

The fabric is drawn together into ever pleats or tucks by rows of gathering. For gathering use a strong thread and take a back stitch on the first stitch to prevent the knot from pulling through. Take a tiny running stitch on each dot.

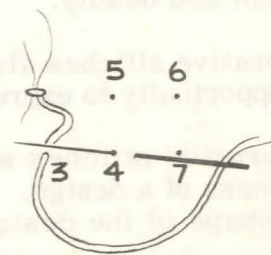
When the successive rows of gathering are drawn up to the required length, each thread is fastened by winding it on a pin.

Various embroidery stitches may be used to work out a simple design.

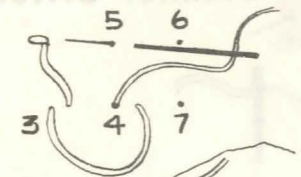
HONEYCOMB SMOCKING



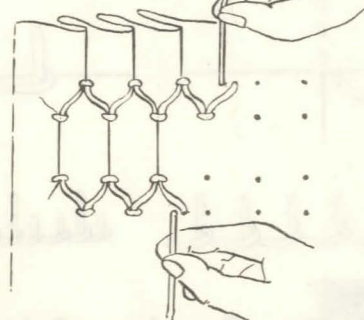
STEP 4



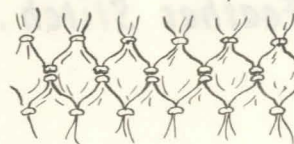
STEP 5



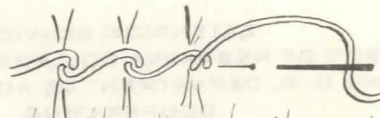
STEP 6



HONEYCOMB WITH STITCHES
CARRIED UNDERNEATH.....



OUTLINE STITCH.....



CABLE STITCH.....

