

N this page will be found an illustration of special needlework, showing the various stitches in on use. The samples given of common use. stitches show the simpler forms which a writer in the *Grand Magazine* thus refers to as satin stitch, outline stitch, French knots, buttonhole stitch, chain

stitch, and loop stitch.

Buttonhole Stitch.—A specimen of this is shown in the illustration. For open fillings of leaves, flowers, and all kinds of spaces this stitch is most ser-

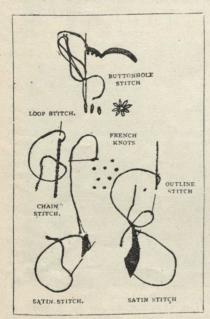
Chain Stitch is made by taking a stitch downwards, and before the needle is drawn out of the fabric the silk is brought round towards the worker, and

under the point of the needle.

Loop Stitch is commenced like chain stitch, then instead of continuing with a second stitch the thread is taken through to the back over the loop formed, and thus securing it.

HANDKERCHIEF making is fascinating work, and any girl who sews neatly may easily provide herself with a supply which will be a matter of pride to herself and of envy to her less industrious associates,

French or Irish linen of the finest quality should be used for any handker-chiefs destined to carry elaborate em-



broideries, and the greatest care should be exercised in the cutting of the squares. To draw a thread in the four directions is the only safe way, as otherwise the delicate material is apt to twist and become unmanageable.

When Armenian or any other very fine lace edging is used the handker-chief need not be hemstitched, although infinite care must be devoted to the hand hemming, as irregularly set stitches spoil the entire effect of the work.

Exceedingly narrow hemstitched borders are more than ever popular, and nearly always handkerchiefs so treated

nearly always handkerchiefs so treated have corners embroidered delicately with wreaths, clusters or semi-detached butterfly and flower designs. Sometimes only one corner is decorated with a rather large and elaborate spray pattern, or a medallion will enclose a small initial. Only when there is no other decoration should a monogram be employed.

Fancy lace stitches are blended with the embroidery patterns, as in the case of the lily pads, which show petals of fine netting, and the butterflies, with transparent wings.

THE ribbon work, of which we spoke in our September issue, has brought several inquiries, and for the benefit of those who wish to know

more, we quote the following: In mid-Victorian times e In mid-Victorian times every girl did ribbon work. Ribbon reticules, beribboned shawls, ribbon-trimmed sunshades were seen everywhere. But the pretty art went out with pretty art went out with the crinoline and has just come to light again.

Ribbon work, properly speaking, does not consist of articles formed of ribbon or trimmed with it. It means the fol-lowing of patterns and designs, usually flowers, but with any variety permissible, by means of the cutting and sewing of white or colored ribbons and the application of these to a fabric.

The chief beauty of ribbon work is in its color and its fineness. It is a worthy rival to embroidery when well and artistically done, and can give with ease an appearance of nature that with em-broidery would mean unusually skilled and laborious toil. The work is not, however, especially easy, as it needs the artist's eye and the craftsman's needle, but it is well worth the attention of any woman who loves pretty things. The method of working can best be

illustrated by a concrete example. Suppose that it is desired to adorn the flounce of a lingerie dress with a tracery of for-get-me-nots. For this you will need a bolt each of light blue and green baby ribbon and blue, green and yellow embroidery silk. First draw your pattern in pencil on the goods, indicating roughly the direction of the stems and the position of the blossoms.

Do the stem and leaves first, twisting the ribbon into very narrow tubing, for the stem, sewing it firmly to the fabric with green thread and then forming each leaf of about one-sixteenth of an inch of the green ribbon, puffed slightly and fastened with a stitch at each end. Each petal of the flower is cut the same size as the leaf, since it is puffed higher, and is fastened by two or puned higher, and is fastened by two or three stitches more to the dress goods. In the center of each blossom place a yellow French knot for the pistils; the petals, of course, are stitched in blue. This is one way of procedure; the other, better adapted for heavier goods, is not to cut the ribbon, but to run it under the material, using it as if it were a thick embroidery silk worked with control of the con

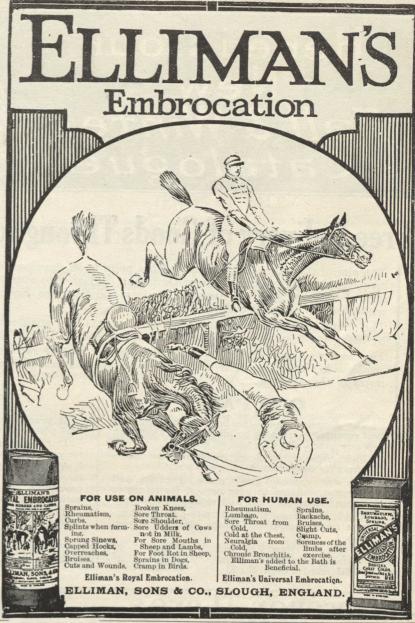
a thick embroidery silk, worked with an over-and-over stitch effect wherever visible above the fabric. This is the method used with large flowers, such as roses and pansies. Sometimes the leaves are worked in this method, the stems in heavy twilled embroidery silk,

stems in heavy twilled embroidery silk, and the flowers are simply quilled and puffed ribbon about an inch and a half wide. This is very striking in borders to lampshades and screens.

The color is really the all-important thing. On a white-trained evening dress, what more gorgeously beautiful than mauve orchids or little orange-yellow chrysanthemums?

'HE amount of "stitchery" now lavished on pillows of all sorts and styles is surprising. Therefore,

styles is surprising. Therefore, the following advice may be of interest:
Such atrocities are perpetrated in the way of embroidered pillows that it is well to go slowly in selecting the ma-terials and designs and above all the colors, for our taste is more or less vitiated in this direction by the constant display of frightful combination of col-ors to which our eyes become accus-One may place no dependance whatever in Dame Fashion either, because many of the designs and combinations of color which become fashionable for embroidered pillows are wholly unbeautiful and will ruin all claims to harmonious furnishing which any room may possess. One must take into consideration not only the single pillow which one is making but the others with which it is to be used as well, and also the general coloring of the room. Of course, when class or school colors are being used there is more latitude of color combination permissible than when only the coloring is being considered for its beauty alone, but even with these arbitrary colors to deal with one may if one will take the trouble make an artistic success of what would otherwise be an unbearable jumble of inhar-monious colors and designs. You will find if you investigate the matter that the designing of a pillow is not too unimportant a matter for great decorators to take into their consideration, and that many artists of merit have bent their minds to the humble task of designing embroideries for such purposes.





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