

Introduction

Penny rugs were borne out of the traditions of the early 1800's where people had to make do with what little they had.

From bits of wool scraps and felted wool scraps, they crafted functional items for their homes that reflected their creativity and ingenuity. A penny rug was used as a table mat most often, but could also be used as other decorative items for the home as well as the sewing basket.

Originally, the mats that were made to protect table tops were covered with stacks of "pennies". The pennies were circular pieces of wool that were cut using the coins of the day as templates. Coins were different sizes than our modern currency.

In particular, the US penny was about 1¼" which is much larger than our current coin. The stacks of graduated size pennies were placed side by side on early mats. Both the edges of the pennies and the outer edge of the mat were stitched with a blanket stitch.

As time went by, the designs included appliqué work also. The inspiration for these designs often came from other familiar sources. This would include folk art of the person's ethnic community.

May you find inspiration in these patterns to bring your own unique brand of style into your home.

Care Instructions: All of the wool felt in our kits is a blend of 20-35% wool. Dry cleaning is recommended for cleaning. To press wool felt, use a steam iron on high.

Kit Contents

Qty	Item
2	Outer Covers
2	Inner Pages
1	Flag Star Field and Body or 2 Flag Star Fields and 2 Bodies or Shield Star Field and Body
	Floss, Needle, & Instructions

Stitches Needed

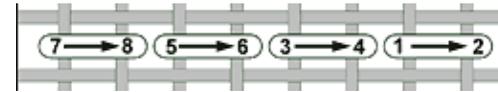
Chain Stitch

Insert needle from rear side into the front. Then reinsert it as shown a short distance away with the loop under the needle. Pull tight to form the first link and repeat.



Backstitch

The backstitch is made by sewing up through 1 down through 2. Then up through 3, down through 4, up through 5, down through 6, etc. Each stitch is about 1/8" long.



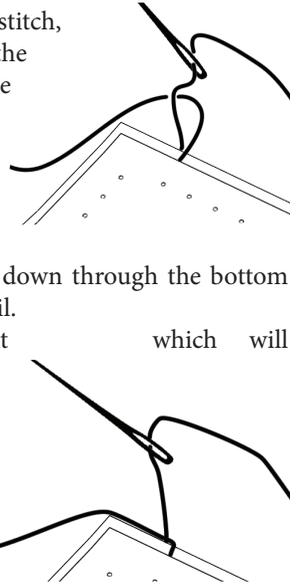
Blanket Stitch

To make a blanket stitch, thread a needle with the floss and knot one of the two ends of thread.

The starter stitch begins between the two layers of wool felt. The needle is inserted between two layers, then down through the bottom layer and up over the tail.

Pull the thread tight which will set the knot between the layers.

Insert the needle down into the fabric, through both layers, and up inside the loop. Then, pull tight.



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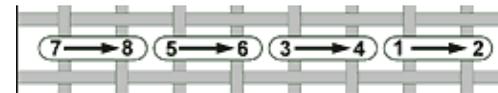
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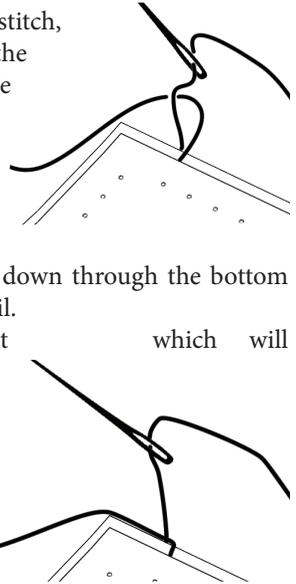
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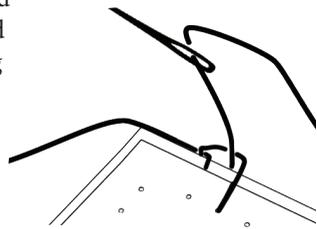
Pull the thread tight which will set the knot between the layers.

Insert the needle down into the fabric, through both layers, and up inside the loop. Then, pull tight.



Repeat this along the edge of the fabric until you have completed the edging.

The stitching should be evenly spaced and have the loop along the seam between the two piece.



Instructions

Design Side

With a pin or chalk, mark the fold line of the outer cover of the needle book. Looking at the picture, the needle book is 5" wide. Make sure you fold it in the right direction.

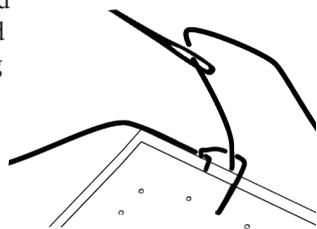
On one half of the front cover locate the flag or shield bodies and attach with a blanket stitch. Use the box cover as your reference.

Using a blanket stick, attach the star field over the flag body.

Use a French Knot to make the stars or use 4 to 8 straight stitches to make stars in the form of an

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Use a French Knot to make the stars or use 4 to 8 straight stitches to make stars in the form of an

“X” or an asteris. Use a chain stitch to make the red stripes. Use a chain stitch to make the flag poles and backstitch to make the tassles.

Assembly

Lay the decorated side face down and place the outer cover on top. Center the inner pages on the outer cover and secure all with pins.

Backstitch through all layers along the fold line.

Finishing

Blanket stitch the outer edge of the cover to secure the two layers together, then fold and press.

Feedback

We are always looking for ways to improve our products including these instructions.

Our company’s focus is on providing Products that are “Fun with a Purpose” to help young people grow in the world around them and your ideas are always welcome.

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If you have ideas, suggestions, corrections, questions, photos of a completed project, critiques, or reviews on these instructions or the kit that you would like to share with us, you can send an email to:

kits@lumenaris.com

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If you have ideas, suggestions, corrections, questions, photos of a completed project, critiques, or reviews on these instructions or the kit that you would like to share with us, you can send an email to:

kits@lumenaris.com

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Flag/Shield Needle Book



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