

## 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.

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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.

Quilt block patterns were the most common source of design elements. Each quilter made their wool work to reflect unique skills and tastes. It was fashioned as a useful and functional items that decorated the home. Functional items included needle books (to store your needles with thread), scissors sheaths (to protect your scissors), and candle mats (to protect your tables from wax which bonds to a shellac finish).

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.

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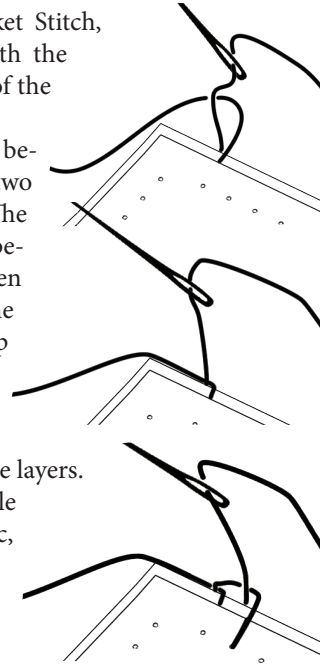
## Blanket Stitch

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,



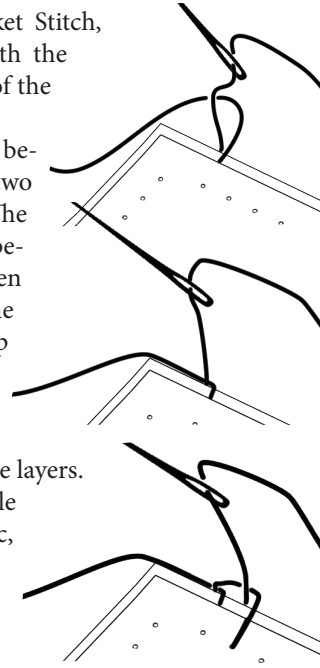
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through both layers, and up inside the loop. Then, pull tight.

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 - Top

Using a Blanket Stitch attach the large heart to the 4" black penny. Then attach the medium heart to the large heart. And finally attach the small heart to the medium heart.

### Design Side - Sides

Blanket Stitch the top to the long edge of the side strip. When you have worked your way all around, the ends of the side strip will overlap. Continue your Blanket Stitch down the end of the overlapped side strip.

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## ***Design Side - Flowers***

Attach the leaves and heart petals to make the flower arrangement. Each petal is attached with three stitches arranged in a “bird’s foot print” shape. Make sure you go through the leaves to anchor them down at the same time.

## ***Assembly***

Insert stuffing and Blanket Stitch the bottom penny to the sides. As an alternative to stuffing, you can use ground walnut shells or other similar material to provide more heft to the pin cushion.

## ***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.

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: [sales@lumenaris.com](mailto:sales@lumenaris.com)

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# Pin Cushion Kit

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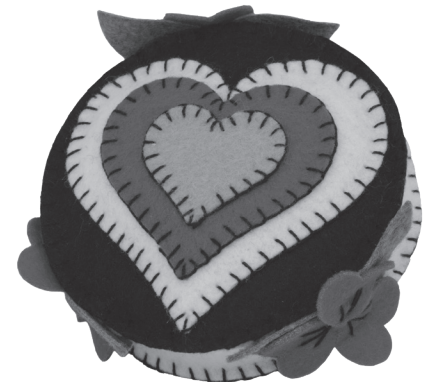
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# Pin Cushion Kit

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