

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 each	Sm Heart, Lg Heart, Bird, Wing
2 each	Sm Penny, Lg Penny
	Floss, Needle, & Instructions

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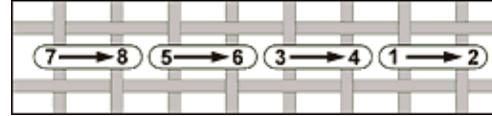
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Stitches Needed

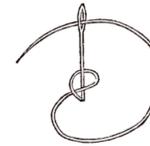
Backstitch

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.



French Knot

The French knot has the thread wrap around the needle 1 or more times before going back through the felt. I like to wrap the thread 3, 4, or 5 turns around the needle before going through the knot which makes a nice and thick knot.



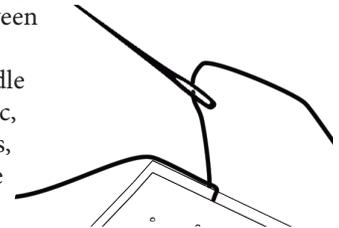
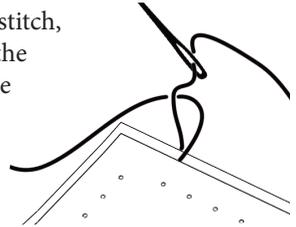
Blanket Stitch

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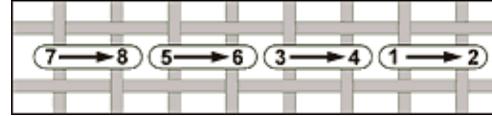
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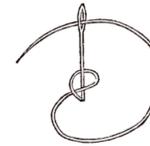
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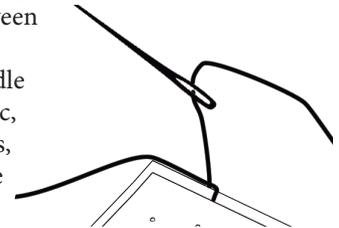
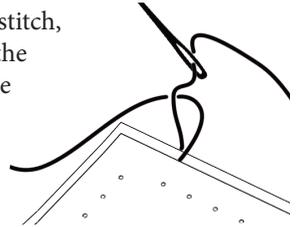
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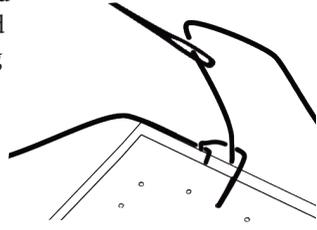
Pull the thread tight which will set the knot between the layers.

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.

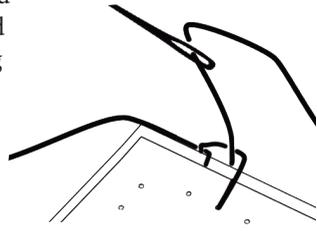
This kit comes with two different designs, either the bird/wing or a stack of hearts. Choose one. On one half of the front cover center the larger heart or bird and attach it with a blanket stitch.

Using a blanket stick, either attach the smaller heart to the larger heart, or the wing to the bird.

If the bird is used, several small stitches can be added to give it feet. A French knot can also give the bird an eye.

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Attach stacks of pennies on either side of the center motif using the blanket stitch. Stitch down the larger of the pennies first, and then attach the smaller penny atop those.

Assembly

Lay the decorated side face down and place the second outer cover on top. Center both inner pages on these covers and secure with pins.

Backstitch through all layers along the fold line which creates 4 inner pages.

Finishing

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

Feedback

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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:

kits@lumenaris.com

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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:

kits@lumenaris.com

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Full Size Needle Book Kit



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