

Crewel Embroidery Instructions

Design: "Motley Mums" (Version 1, 2, 3, & 4)



What you'll need:

9" x 9" Linen (Version 1: Sky Blue plain weave; Version 2: Natural plain weave; Version 3: Oyster White twill, Version 4: Red plain weave), No. 24 Chenille Needle, Scissors, Pencil, 6" Embroidery Hoop, Appleton Crewel Wool (Version 1: 445, 483, 623, 862 - 1 skein each; Version 2: 481, 483, 623, 864, 989 - 1 skein each; Version 3: 445, 481, 503, 995 - 1 skein each, Version 4: 481, 989 - 1 skein each)

Instructions:

Tracing – Tape the design onto a light table or a window with sunlight coming through. Center and tape your linen fabric over the design and with a pencil trace the design onto the fabric.

Hooping (Fig. 1) – Lay the inner hoop on a flat surface. Center your fabric on top of inner hoop with design facing up. With the outer hoop adjusted so that it is just bigger than the inner hoop, place it over the fabric and press down around the inner hoop until the fabric is evenly caught between the two hoops. Adjust fabric as necessary and tighten the screw on the outer hoop until the fabric is taut like a drum. You will want to stop and retighten your fabric occasionally, because it will naturally loosen as you work.

Threading (Fig. 2) – Take the thread in your dominant hand while holding the needle in your other hand. Make a one-inch loop at one end of the thread. Lasso it around the needle and tug thread away from the needle to make a crease. Slide the needle out and pinch thread between your thumb and forefinger about 1/8 inch from the fold. Guide the folded tip of the thread through the eye of the needle.

Stitching – Make a small knot at the end of the thread. Use one of the four **Color & Stitch Diagrams** to find the matching colors and stitches for you're the design. Refer to the list of Embroidery Stitches below for instructions on how to make each stitch.

Ending (Fig. 3) – To end a thread, do not knot it. Instead, pull it through several existing stitches on the underside of your work, without going through to the front. Do this two or three times. Trim the excess and begin with a new thread in the same way you just ended by pulling it through several existing stitches on the underside of your work. The linen fabric is much sturdier than the wool thread, so if your thread wears too thin or starts to break, end it and begin again with a fresh one. Once you have created enough stitches, use this ending technique in place of the knotting technique outlined above.

Fig. 1

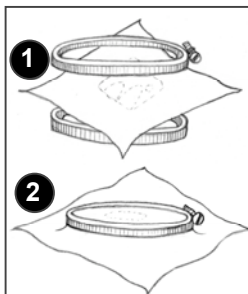


Fig. 2

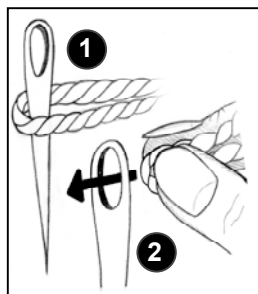
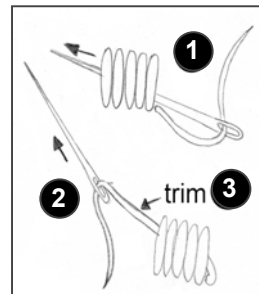


Fig. 3



Crewel Embroidery Stitches:

Straight Stitch (Fig. 4) – The simplest of stitches. Drive the threaded needle from the back through the front of your fabric at A. Then insert the needle into the fabric front at B and push through. Easy!

Split Stitch (Fig. 5) – First, make a single **Straight Stitch**. Then, come up through the middle of your **Straight Stitch** at A. Next, go down at B and come up at C, again “splitting” the stitch. Go down at D and so on. Take care to make shorter stitches around tight corners.

Satin Stitch (Fig. 6) – Satin Stitch is a combination of the **Straight Stitch** and the **Split Stitch**. First, outline the area to be Satin Stitched using **Split Stitch**. Second, beginning at the widest part of the shape you are to fill, make **Straight Stitches** one after the other, very close together. This is a classic embroidery stitch that requires practice to master.

French Knot (Fig. 7) – Drive your thread through to the front of your fabric. Wrap the thread around the needle twice. Insert the needle very near to where it came up. While pulling the thread taut with your opposite hand, SLOWLY push the needle down through the fabric. A knot will form on the surface. Presto! You are finished.

Fig. 4

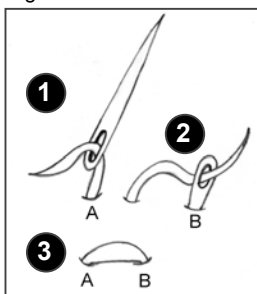


Fig. 5

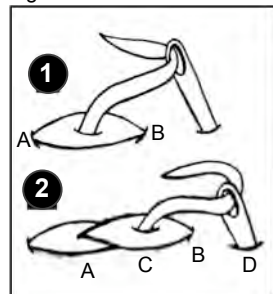


Fig. 6

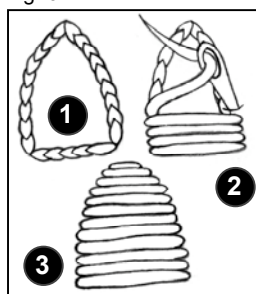
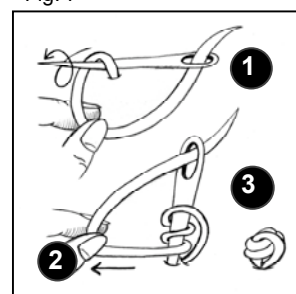
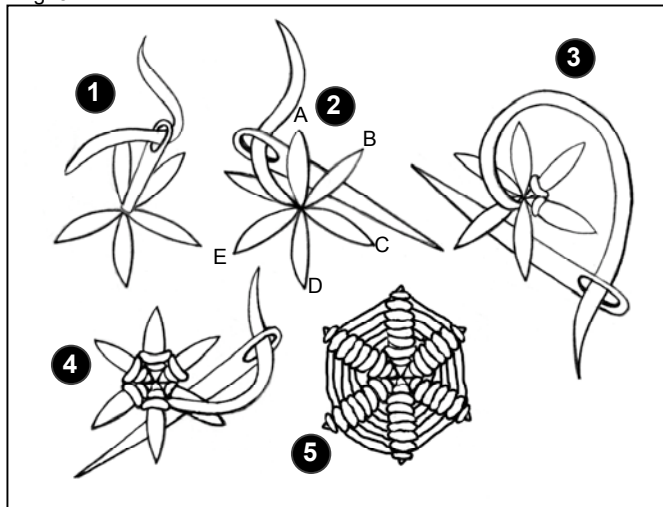


Fig. 7



Circular Spider's Web Stitch (Fig. 8) – Starting from the center and working out, use **Straight Stitch** to make "spokes" that will form the structure of the web. Then slide the needle under two of the spokes (A & B) near the center of the web. Pull your thread taut. Again slide the needle under two more spokes (B & C). Pull your thread taut and toward the center of the web. Continue by sliding the needle under C & D and then under D & E, and so on, filling the web from the center out. Your web is finished when the spokes are no longer visible.

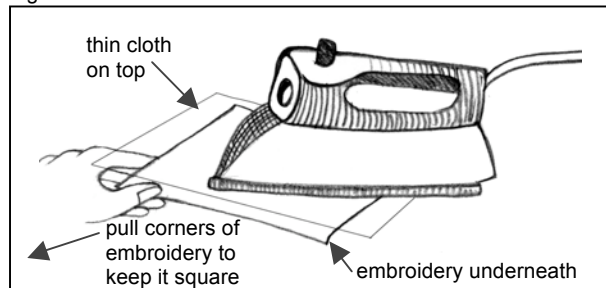
Fig. 8



Finishing:

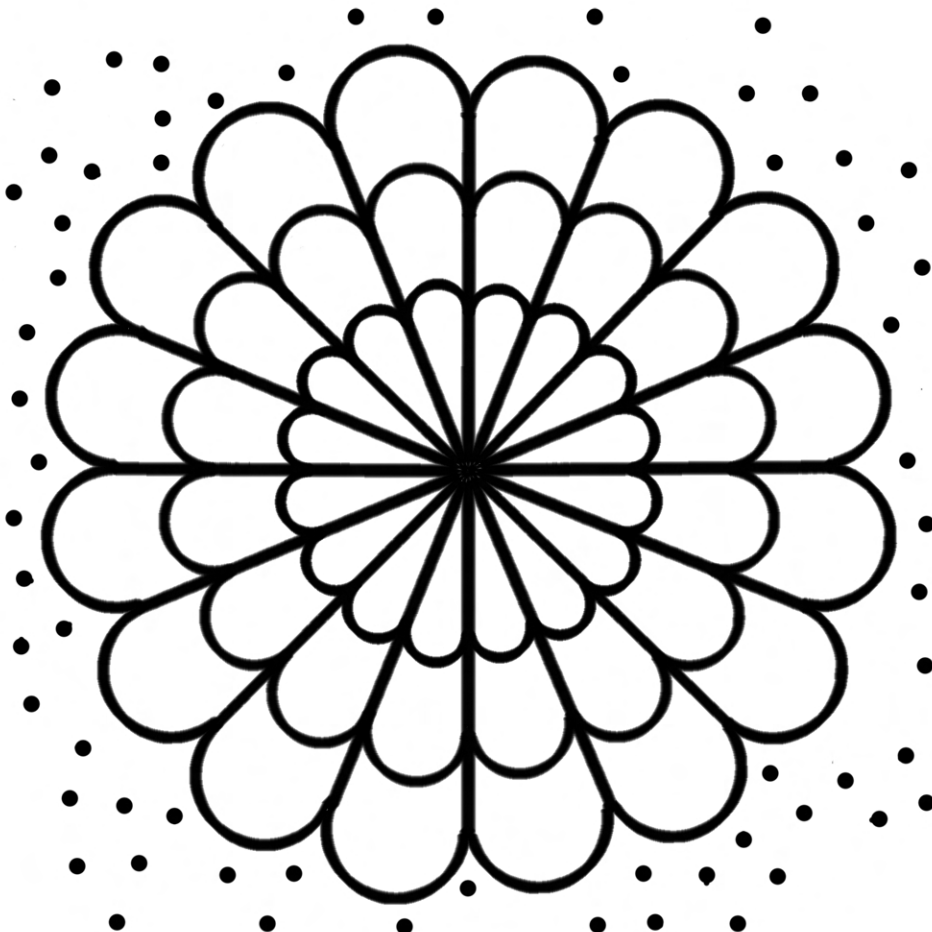
Stretching & Pressing (Fig. 9) – Lay your finished crewelwork on an ironing board face down. Mist lightly with water from a spray bottle. Cover with a thin piece of fabric. Using a warm iron, firmly press down on your embroidery pulling the fabric at the corners as needed to keep it square. Work quickly so as not to scorch your work. Flip the fabric and press firmly on the underside.

Fig. 9

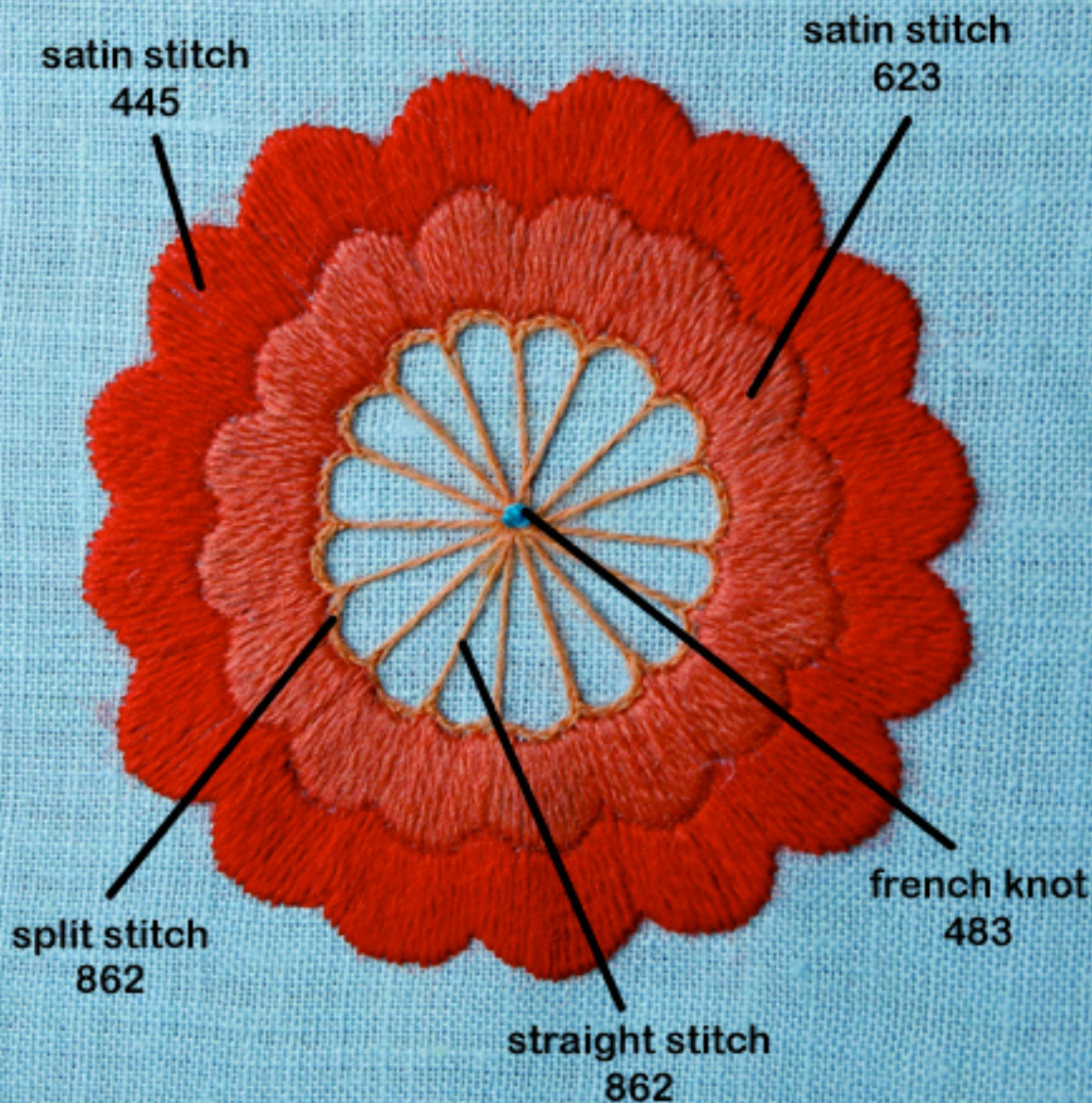


It's a crewel world...

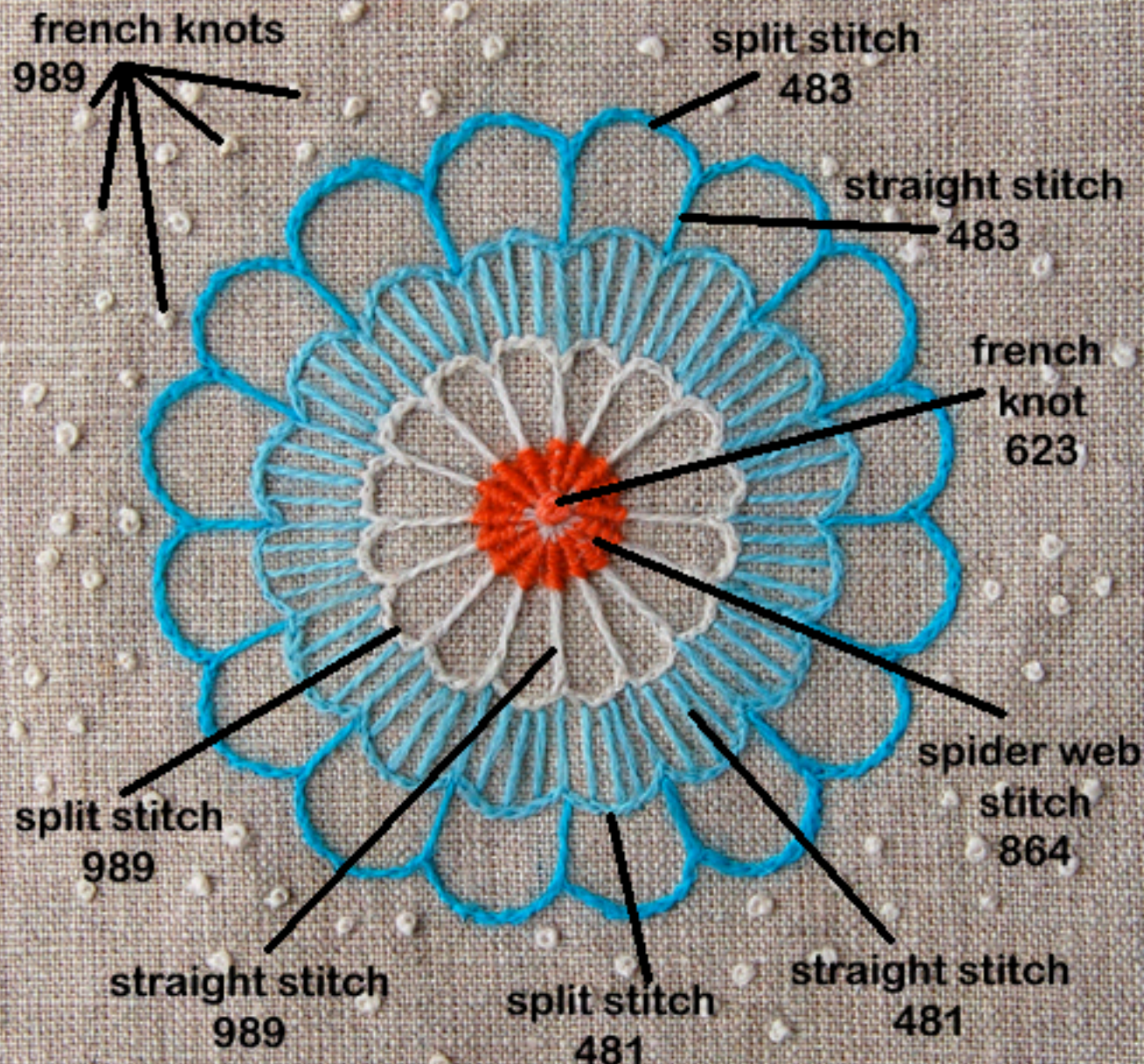
For more crewel kits, crewel ideas
and crewel supplies,
visit www.woolandhoop.com

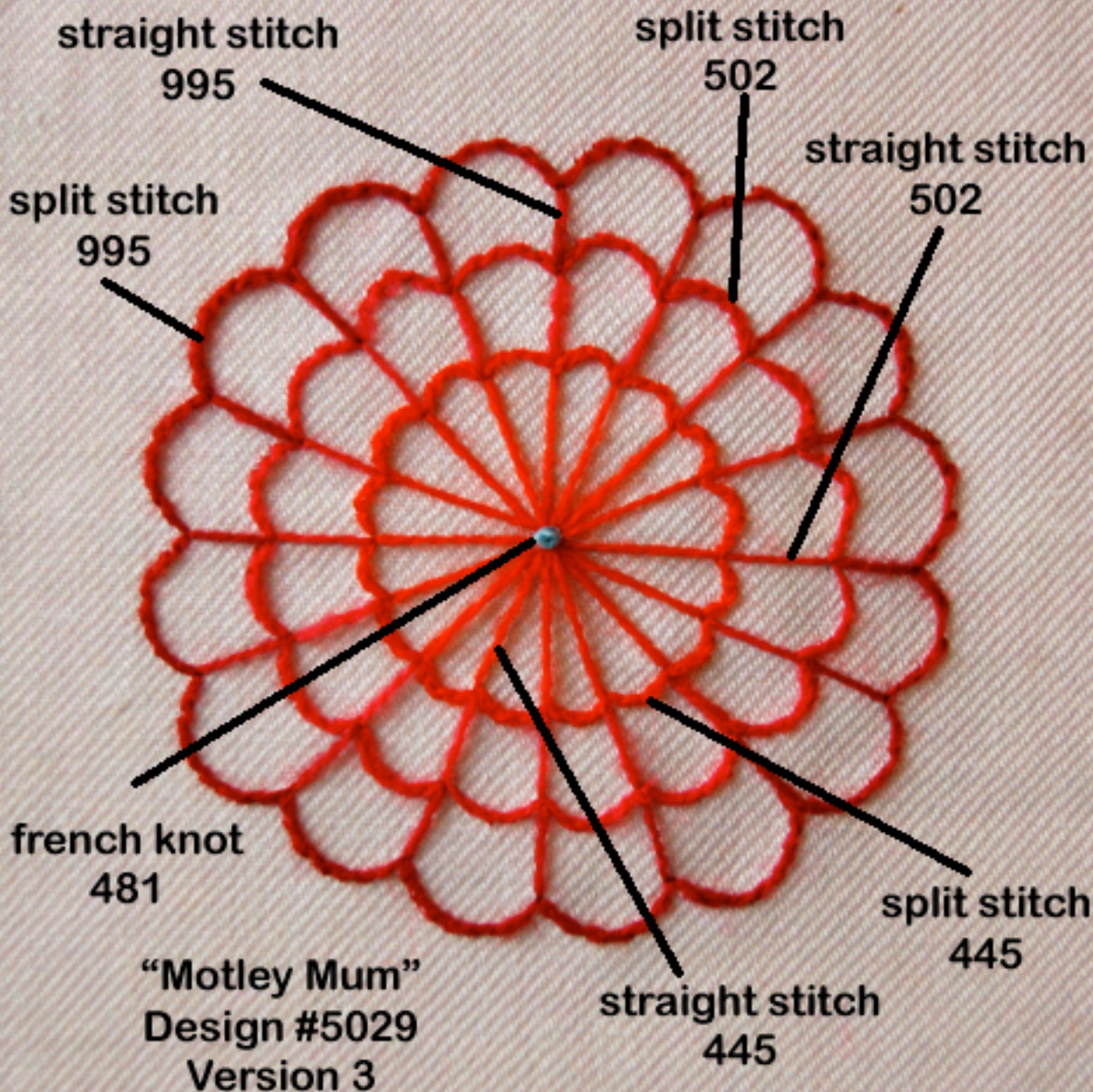


"Motley Mum," Design # 5029, Version 1



“Motley Mum,” Design # 5029, Version 2





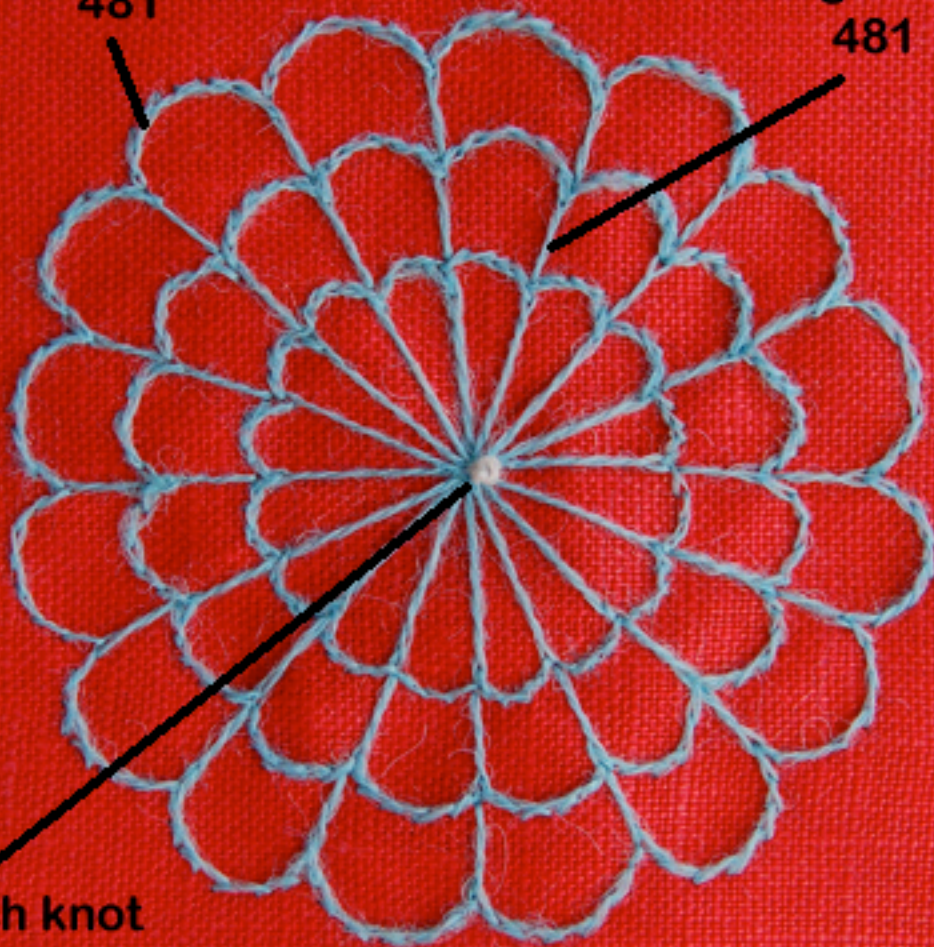
“Motley Mum,” Design # 5029, Version 4

split stitch

481

straight stitch

481



french knot

989