

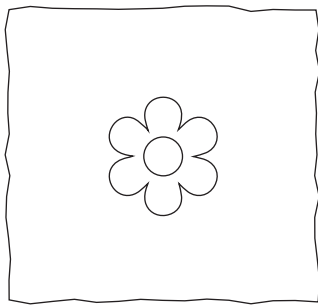
Punch needle embroidery is a type of rug hooking which is also referred to as 'painting with thread'. Punch needling is easy to learn and works up quickly. Perfect for creating wall hangings, rugs and soft furnishings. Working from the back of the piece, the punch needle creates loops of yarn as you stitch.

This set contains both regular and fine needles. The regular needle can be used with chunky and bulky yarns as well as strips of fabric. The fine needle is used with tapestry yarns up to aran weight yarns. You can also use multiple strands of finer yarns to make the required thickness.

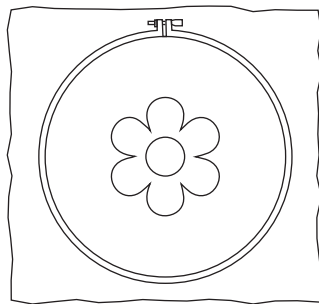
The best base fabric to use with a punch needle is weaver's cloth or monk's cloth. However you can also use Hessian, denim or even an Aida cloth with a higher count than 18.

The Milward punch needle sets are available in size 9 and size 10. The size 9 needles will make a 9mm (3/8 inch) loop and the size 10 needles will make a 6mm (1/4 inch) loop.

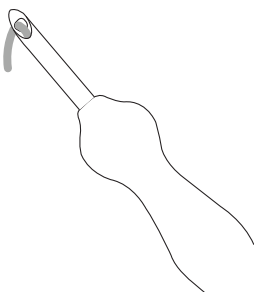
## How to use the Milward Punch Needle



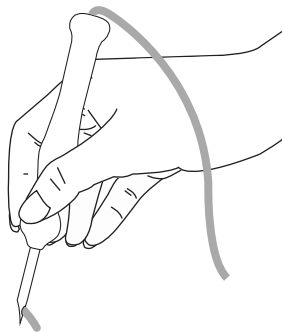
1. Take your chosen design and cut a piece of fabric with at least 10cm allowance around all sides. Use a fabric pen or pencil to transfer the design. As you will be working on the back of the piece remember to use a mirror image of text or any design that is directional.



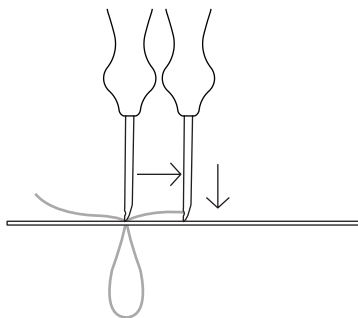
2. Use an embroidery hoop or frame to stretch the fabric tightly ready to work on.



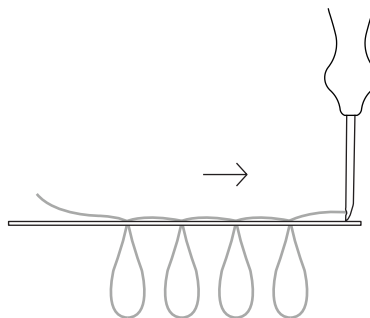
4. Pull the threader and yarn up through the punch needle. Remove the threader and thread the yarn through the eye of the needle leaving only around 2-3cm left sticking out of the eye.



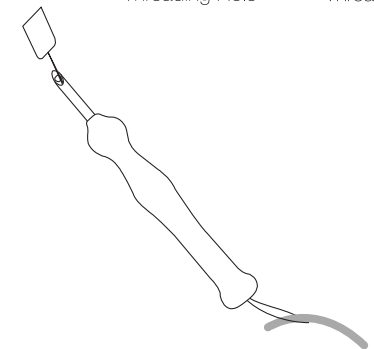
5. Hold the punch needle in the same way you would hold a pen. The front of the needle should always be facing the direction you are punching in. To begin with, it may be easier to turn the hoop or frame you are working in.



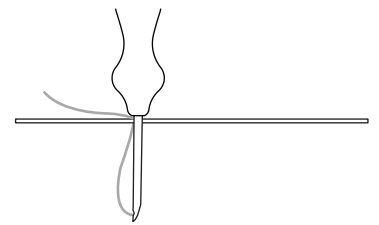
7. Gently lift the needle out of the fabric, ensuring that the tip of the needle stays as close to the fabric as possible. If you lift the needle out too far it will shorten the loop on the front and create unwanted loops on the reverse. Move the needle over to create a new stitch.



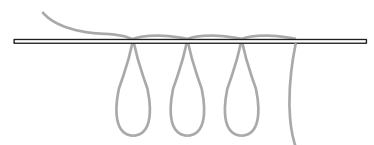
8. Continue in this way to complete your design. Remember to keep the front of the needle facing the direction you are stitching.



3. To thread the needle, take the threader and pass down through the needle and out through the grip. Pass the yarn through the threader.



6. To punch effectively, push the needle all the way through the fabric until the grip touches the fabric. This helps the stitches stay an even size and shape.



9. When you are ready to finish a section, push the needle into the fabric, hold onto the loop it creates and gently pull the needle out. Cut the yarn and pull the end through to the front. Continue with the next section until your design is complete. Once finished trim the loose ends and remove your piece for the frame.

## Anatomy of a Punch Needle

