## Embroidering Letters

### Backstitching

To start the backstitch, come up underneath the fabric and pull the needle and floss through. Make your first stitch, then bring the needle back up underneath the fabric a full stitch length, leaving a space between the needle and the previous stitch. Lots of stitchers recommend using a length the same as a grain of rice.

Then, as the name suggests, you bring the needle back and pass through at the end of the previous stitch to create a full line.

Pull the needle through and move forward in the same way until you stitch the whole letter. Using shorter stitches around the curves helps keep the letter shape.

### Stem Stitch

To start, bring the floss up though the fabric from the underside for one stitch.

Bring the needle back up just to the side of the stitch you just made.

Keep going in this same motion until you finish the letter. This is a prime stitch for the curves of the letters, since you can move the floss over a bit to help create those shapes.

### Split Stitch

Just like the stem stitch, the split stitch adds texture and dimension to the word or letters you're stitching, and it works for cursive or print.

It's similar to the stem stitch, but instead of coming up underneath the side of the stitch, the needle's pushed through the center of the previous stitch, literally splitting the floss.

### Running Stitch

The running stitch looks like a dashed line. It can be worked completely on the surface or using one stitch at a time — totally up to you.

To start, bring the floss and needle up through the fabric, then bring the needle in and out catching a bit of the fabric with each stitch.

Pull the needle through, and you'll see your dashed line.

Continue on until you complete the letter and word.