

DIRECT DEBIT FORM (for UK donors only)



Please also complete the form overleaf
Instruction to your bank or building society to pay by Direct Debit



Please fill in the whole form and send it to: **The Royal School of Needlework, Apartment 12a, Hampton Court Palace, Surrey, UK, KT8 9AU**

Name and full postal address of your Bank or Building Society

To: The Manager

Bank/Building Society

Address

Postcode:

Name(s) of account holder(s):

Bank/building society account number:

Branch Sort Code:

Service User Number: **404796**

Instruction to your Bank or Building Society

Please pay the Royal School of Needlework Direct Debits from the account detailed in this Instruction subject to the safeguards assured by the Direct Debit Guarantee. I understand that this instruction may remain with the Royal School of Needlework and, if so, details will be passed electronically to my bank/building society.

Signature(s):

Date



500 STITCHES APPEAL

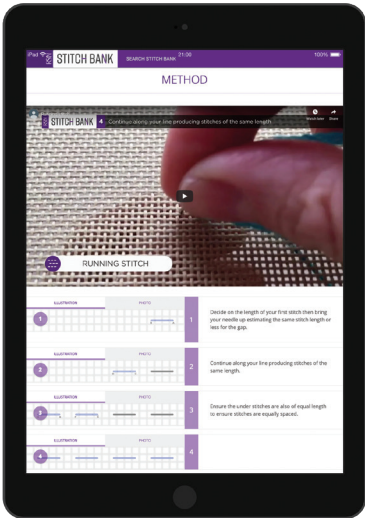
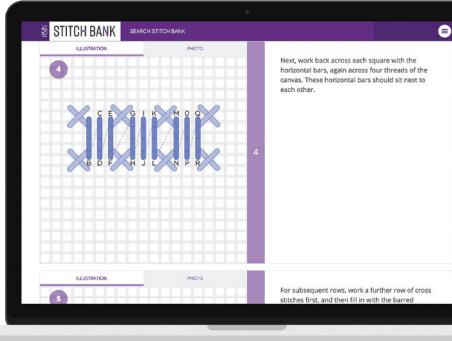
We need your urgent support to continue developing the RSN Stitch Bank into the largest collection of stitches in the world. For each entry we need to

- Film and edit a video demonstrating the making of the stitches.
- Create step by step text, illustrations and photos of the stitch's construction.
- Research a short history of the stitch and its use.
- Create an icon to help identify a stitch at a glance.
- Classify the stitch according to the taxonomy we are developing for the project.
- Select items from the RSN Collection which show this stitch in use and photograph the piece as a whole and of the stitch close up.

Please help us by sponsoring a stitch and preserving it for the future. If you donate £135 or more your name will be added as a stitch sponsor.

You can either fill in the detachable form and return it to us at The Royal School of Needlework, Apartment 12a, Hampton Court Palace, Surrey, KT8 9AU or donate online at royal-needlework.org.uk/rsnstitchbank/

If you're a US taxpayer you can make a tax deductible gift by following the link at royal-needlework.org.uk/rsnstitchbank/



ADOPT A STITCH TO PRESERVE IT FOR THE FUTURE



The RSN Stitch Bank aims to become the biggest repository of stitch in the world

This is how you can contribute



Royal School of Needlework
Apartment 12a, Hampton Court Palace, Surrey, UK, KT8 9AU
Tel. +44 (0)20 3166 6932
royal-needlework.org.uk
The RSN is a registered charity no. 312774



INTRODUCING THE RSN STITCH BANK

WHY WE NEED THE RSN STITCH BANK

The idea of the RSN Stitch Bank is to digitally conserve and preserve every stitch in the world. It might seem odd to consider losing stitches but textiles are as vulnerable as nature. Every year we lose historic textiles through wear, age, and the more aggressive routes of war, neglect and destruction.

We know that stitches from history have been lost because they fall out of use. Then, when an older embroidered piece is discovered, curators and museum staff cannot recognise the stitches. Textiles and the knowledge of stitches throughout the world continue to be threatened by wars and other disturbances, as well as changes in manufacturing processes. The time has come to compile a world directory of stitch – the RSN Stitch Bank.

This project goes to the heart of the Royal School of Needlework's core purpose. We were established in 1872 to keep the techniques of hand embroidery alive, and implicitly, all their stitches.

WHO IS IT FOR?

The RSN Stitch Bank is available online to all stitchers, tutors, curators, historians, researchers and students. Stitchers will be able to find a new stitch to use in a project and learn how to make it using videos, written instructions, illustrations and photographs for each stitch.

Researchers, curators, historians and students can use the site to learn about the use, structure and history of each stitch in a range of embroidery techniques and to identify a stitch on a textile.

RSN Tutors can use stitches from the RSN Stitch Bank as part of their teaching kits so that students working from home can check they are working the stitch correctly.

A CASE STUDY



The Syon Cope, image courtesy of the V&A

Underside couching was used specifically for works known today as *Opus Anglicanum* (English work) made for the church and royalty by embroiderers in the City of London. There remain some extant examples, as seen in a recent exhibition at the Victoria and Albert Museum, but the technique of underside couching is now extremely rare – all the courses taught around the time of the exhibition were taught by RSN Tutors.

Underside couching went out of fashion because it was more expensive than ordinary couching, by virtue of taking longer to work and requiring more gold thread. This was traded for the quicker, cheaper but less 'sparkly' surface couching.

It is important that underside couching, and other stitches in danger of being forgotten, are saved for the future and made available to as many people as possible. That is the role of the RSN Stitch Bank.

THE PROJECT SO FAR

The RSN Stitch Bank was launched on 24 September 2021 with the first 150 stitches to launch the RSN's 150th anniversary in 2022. This has been made possible thanks to our funders and many stitchers and supporters who have contributed.

THE EXPANSION OF THE PROJECT

Stitches are not just confined to one country, some stitches have been used around the world. Stitch has already been recognised as intangible cultural heritage in many countries by UNESCO so the RSN plans to raise further funds to work with curators, historians and stitchers across the world to add stitches and patterns to the RSN Stitch Bank to make it a truly international resource.

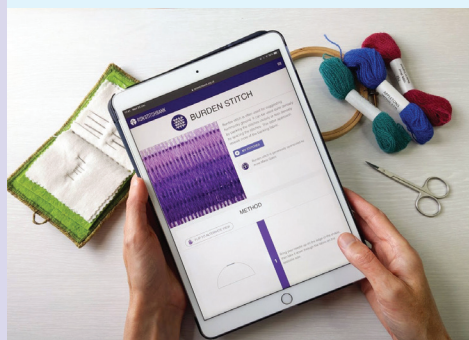
HOW YOU CAN HELP

You can adopt a stitch to help the work continue. Stitches can be adopted in your name, in memory or recognition of a loved one and can be adopted by Guilds, societies and groups. It costs between £135 and £228 for each stitch entry to be prepared. If you pay for a whole stitch (£135 and above) your name will be added to the Stitch record as its sponsor, but you can make a donation of any amount. Just complete the adjacent form or simply go to royal-needlework.org.uk/rsnstitchbank to find out more and make a payment. On receipt of your payment, your stitch will then be allocated and an e-certificate of sponsorship will be sent along with more information about the RSN Stitch Bank. Your support will bring history to life.



The RSN Stitch Bank has been made possible thanks to the support of the following:

Aurelius Charitable Trust, Charles Hayward Foundation, Eranda Rothschild Foundation, Golden Bottle Trust, Leche Trust, PF Charitable Trust, Peter Cadbury Charitable Trust, The Weinstock Fund, The Worshipful Company of Needlemakers and many individual donors.



See the RSN Stitch Bank for yourself at
rsnstitchbank.org



SUPPORT THE RSN STITCH BANK

Help the RSN to ensure no stitch is lost to future generations

Name: _____

Address: _____

I wish to give a donation of £..... each month for months and have **completed the direct debit form overleaf.**

OR

I wish to donate a one-off gift of £135 ☐ £228 ☐

OR the amount of my choice £

I wish to pay by Debit card / Visa / Mastercard (delete as appropriate)

Card no: _____

Expiry date: ____ / ____ Security no. ____

Signed

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Boost your donation by 25p of Gift Aid for every £1 you donate

In order to Gift Aid your donation you must **tick the box below.**

☐ I consent to the Royal School of Needlework claiming Gift Aid on all qualifying gifts of money made in the last four years and from the date of this declaration until I notify you otherwise.

I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in that tax year it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

Signature: Date:

Please notify the RSN if you: wish to cancel this declaration; change your name or home address; no longer pay sufficient tax on your income and/or capital gains.