

Mounting

Certificate & Diploma Courses



Mounting your Embroidery

You have invested a lot of time and effort stitching your Embroidery, before handing it in for assessment it needs to be mounted.

This will:

- Prolong the life of your embroidery.
- Protect your embroidery from environmental damage.
- Remove any creases or overstretched areas in the fabric.
- Display your work in an attractive manner.

You will need:

- Embroidery to be mounted
- Pencil
- Acid free Mount Board
- Set Square
- Measuring Ruler
- Safety ruler
- Retractable blade
- Base Fabric (Calico)
- Curved needle
- Fabric Scissors
- Pins (Glass headed)
- Sateen
- Cutting mat
- Conservation Glue



Before removing from the Slate Frame

Whilst your embroidery is still taut on the Slate Frame it is a good opportunity to decide and measure the size you would like the finished article to be. Take a look at other finished pieces and see how others have chosen to mount and frame their embroidery pieces.

There are two initial options to think about:

- | | |
|-----------------------|--|
| Traditional option - | Would you like to mount your embroidery behind a mount Card or slip window? (This means mounting your piece slightly larger than the area to be seen). |
| Contemporary option - | Would you like your embroidery mounted in front of Mount card? (This means mounting your piece the size you would like to see) |



Traditional option



Contemporary option

Step 1

Having made your decision on which way you would like to display your embroidery. Mask the edges of your embroidery with 4 pieces of paper and adjust them until you are happy with the composition. Include the extra allowance if you are opting for the traditional framing.

Step 2

Measure the distance between the sheets of paper, make a note of the measurement and mark the corners with pins. Measure the distance between the pins and mark the centre of each side with a pin, you can now remove the corner pins, they are not vital.



Cutting the Card

Step 3

Use a Ruler, Set square and a mechanical pencil to accurately mark out the measurements on Museum Grade A Mount board.

TIP: If the corners or edges of the mount board have been damaged, cut a new straight edge and calculate the measurements from the clean crisp edge to improve accuracy.



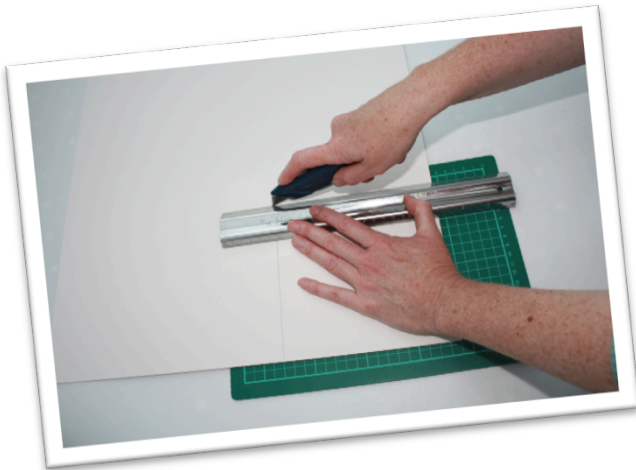
Step 4

Place the Mount Board over a cutting mat and a safety ruler on the pencil line.

Apply pressure to the safety ruler to keep it from moving. Use a sharp retractable knife to score the mount board using the safety ruler to guide you in a straight line.

Keep the retractable knife upright at a right angle to the board and repeatedly score the card until you cut through it.

TIP: If using 2mm card you will need to cut a second identical piece of card and glue them together. If using 4mm you will only need one piece of card.



Preparing the Card

Step 5

Cut a piece of Calico 10cm longer and wider than your mount board. i.e. this will be 5cm bigger all around your mount board.



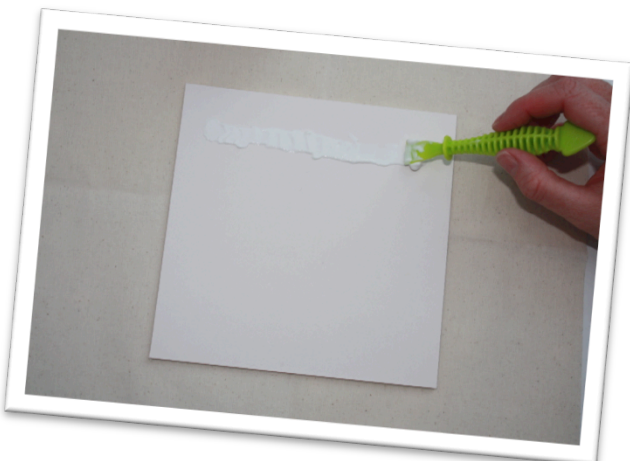
Step 6

Place the Mount board face down in the centre of the Calico on a worktable so that you are viewing it landscape.

Paste a line of glue on the back of the mount board about 2.5cm (1in) from the top edge and the ends of the mount board.

TIP:

Avoid getting glue within an inch of the edge of the board, as it can be hard work on the fingers when trying to sew through dried glue.



Step 7

Fold the 5cm of Calico above the mount board onto the line of glue. Bring it down in the centre first and apply a little pressure as you work toward the ends.

TIP: If you stand up you can pull the calico towards you and push the board away from you using your thigh.



Step 8

Turn the Mount board and Calico around so that the glued area is closest to you. Repeat steps 6 & 7, this time you need to pull the calico as tight as possible.

TIP: If you do not achieve taught calico covering the board your embroidery could sag. To test it, before the glue dries, turn over the board and run your nail over the calico from one side to another to see if you could get it tighter.



Step 9

Using a sharp pair of fabric scissors cut away the corners of the fabric otherwise when we fold the sides it would be very bulky. Try to leave 5mm excess of calico hanging over the corners of the Mount board.



Step 10

Place the Mount board and Calico face down on the worktable so that you are viewing it portrait. Paste a line of glue on the back of the mount board about 2.5cm (1in) from the top edge and the sides of the mount board.

TIP: Remember to avoid getting glue within an inch of the edge of the board, as it can be hard work on the fingers when trying to sew through dried glue.



Step 11

Fold the 5cm of Calico above the mount board onto the line of glue, tucking in the 5mm excess at the corners as you do so. Bring it down in the centre first and apply a little pressure as you work toward the sides.

TIP: If you stand up you can pull the calico towards you and push the board away from you using your thigh.



Step 12

Turn the Mount board and Calico around so that the latest glued area is closest to you. Repeat steps 10 & 11, this time you need to pull the calico as tight as possible.

TIP: If you do not achieve taught calico covering the board your embroidery could sag. To test it, before the glue dries, turn over the board and run your nail over the calico from one side to another to see if you can pull it any tighter.

Positioning your Embroidery

Step 13

Measure each edge of your Calico covered Mount board and mark the centre with a sharp pencil.

Break down your Slate Frame and remove your embroidery from it. Take care to leave the marker pins in position



Step 14

Lay the Calico covered Mount board on your worktable face up.

Your should have four remaining pins in your embroidery that mark the centre of each side, Lay your embroidery face up over the covered mount board so that the pin markers match up with the pencil line marks on the covered mount board. Push the pins through the pencil mark and into the edge of the mount board.

TIP: A layer of bumph between the calico and embroidery will absorb any lumps on the back of the embroidery such as Goldwork and Stumpwork.



Step 15

Starting in the centre and working outward, work along one edge of the board, lining up the fabric grain with the card and holding it in place with pins

TIP: Look closely at the fabric to ascertain which direction the fabric grain is more obvious, and start working along that edge.



Step 16

Repeat step 15 on the opposite side and again on the two remaining sides.

At this stage pins should be positioned at regular 2cm intervals.



Step 17

Stand back away from your work and review the position of the embroidery on the board.

If you are not happy, now is the time to tweak it into a more favorable position.

If you are happy with the general position on the board return to the first edge you put pins in, remove the pins one at a time and pull the fabric tighter over the mount board before replacing each pin. (Remember to start in the centre and work out).



Step 18

Repeat step 17 on the opposite side and again on the two remaining sides.

Work around all four edges once more, removing the pins one at a time and pulling the fabric tighter over the mount board before replacing each pin.

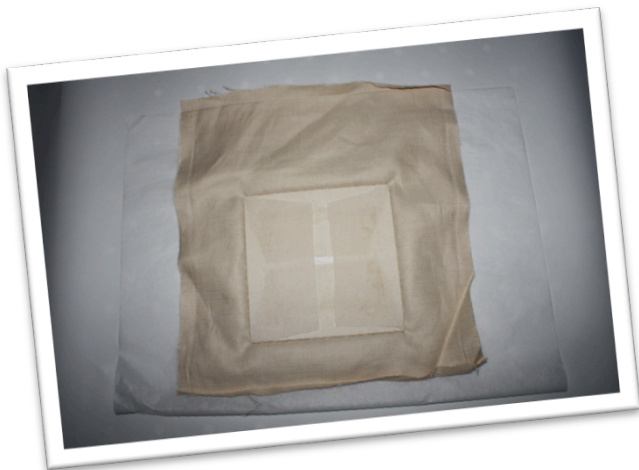
At this stage, you can increase the number of pins. Pins should be positioned at regular 1cm intervals. If you have used bumph to absorb any lumps cut away any excess on the back now.



Checklist

- Is the Fabric positioned on the grain?
- Is the embroidery positioned as you like it?
- Have any creases in the fabric been removed?
- Are there any baggy areas of the fabric that could be pulled out?

Applying your Embroidery



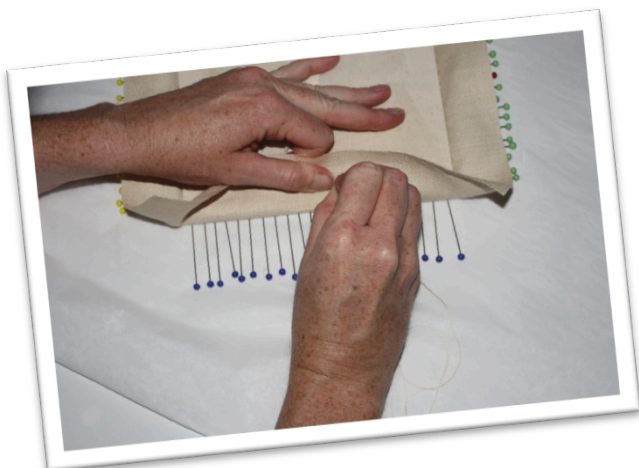
Step 20

Pull the embroidered fabric tightly against the Mount board and hold in place through the Calico with a Herringbone stitch.

The Herringbone stitch should travel in a straight line and be consistent in depth. (1.5cm). Also try to keep all stitching at least 5mm away from the edge.

If you are right handed, work from the centre to the right, Remember the Curved needle will be pointing toward the left.

However if you are left handed, you may find it easier to travel to the left. Remember the Curved needle will be pointing toward the right.



Step 19

Cover your work area with a clean sheet of acid free tissue. If you are mounting embroidery with any raised work on it, make yourself a bubble wrap window. Turn the Embroidery and Mount board face down onto the worktable. Trim the surrounding fabric down to 5cm all the way around the card. Thread a curved needle with some buttonhole thread and tie a knot in the end.

Fold the outer edge of the embroidered fabric onto the back of the mount board. Cast on in the centre of one of the long sides at least 1cm from the edge by taking the curved needle through the fabric and gripping the Calico underneath.



Step 22

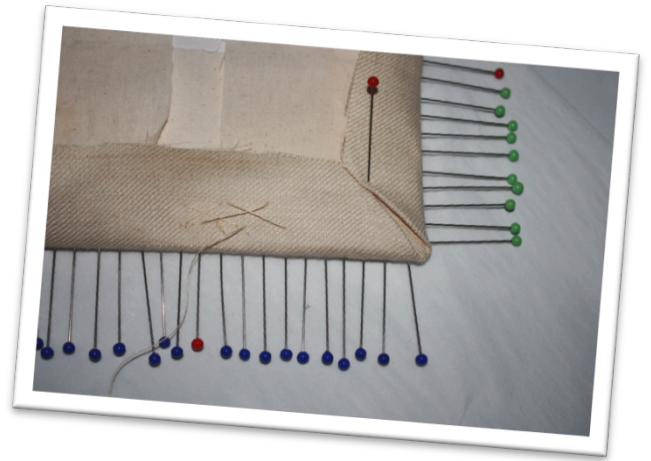
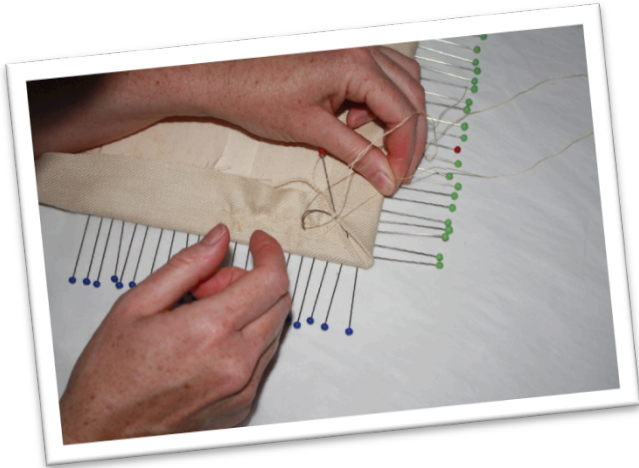
It is vital that you keep pulling the embroidery fabric tight against the Mount board before applying it into position with the Herringbone stitch. If not the work will sag once the pins are removed.

Ensure each Herringbone stitch sits close to the previous, this will ensure that all the fabric is held in place.

Step 23

Before you get too close to a corner with your Herringbone stitch we need create a neatly folded corner.

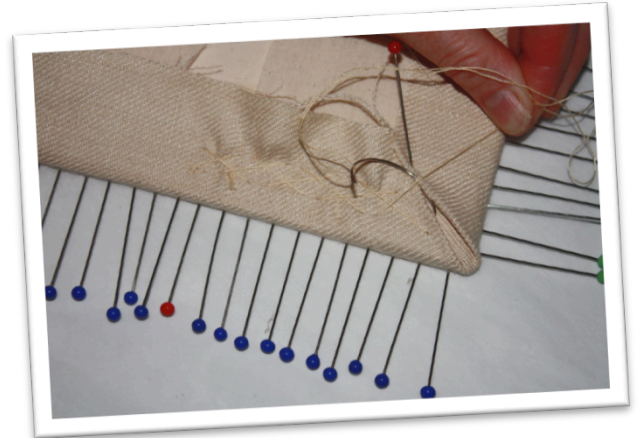
Fold the point of the Fabric onto the Mount board squarely.



Step 24

Continue to stitch a Herringbone Stitch as far a comfortably possible into the corner remembering to pull the fabric against the Mount board.

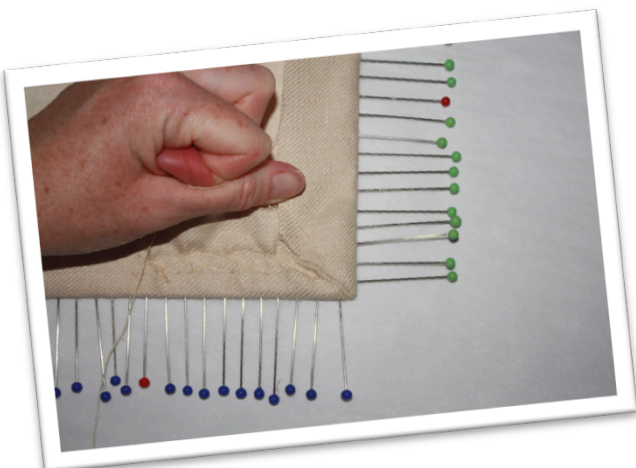
Go back to the beginning of the Herringbone and pull up any slack on the buttonhole thread.



Step 25

Lay the buttonhole thread at 45 degrees across the corner and take the needle in and out through the crease on the far side. Work a slip toward the corner alternating through the two creases

TIP: If you take your curved needle into the crease just behind where the buttonhole is laying your stitches will not be visible once the thread is pulled tight.



Step 26

Aim to bring your needle out at the very tip of the corner on the far side crease. Pull the thread tight, away from the point of the corner and watch the slipstitch disappear.

Take the needle back into the point of the corner of the near side crease and bring it up in a position ready to start the Herringbone stitch on the next side. Pull the thread through and it should disappear leaving a nice crisp corner without any stitches visible. Continue to work a Herringbone stitch along each side until you approach the next corner and then repeat steps 23 to 26.

Applying the backing

Step 27

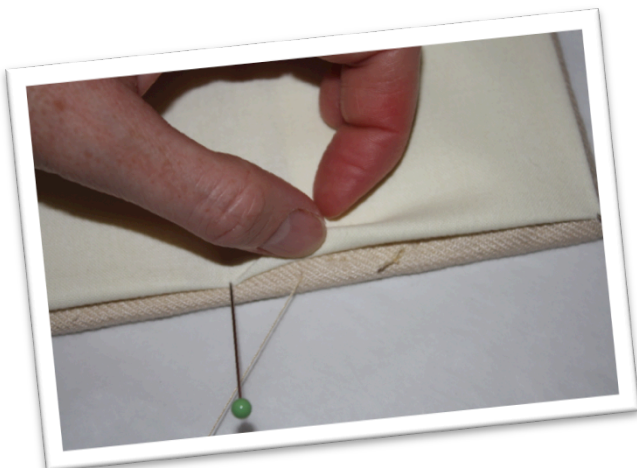
Remove pins and cut away excess layers. Cut out a piece of sateen almost double the measurement of the Mount board and iron out any creases. Lay face up over the back of your mounted embroidery and fold under the longest sides, hold in place with as few pins as possible. The Sateen fold should be straight and lie parallel with the edge of the board. You may leave a recess of up to 5mm but there should be no Herringbone stitching visible.



Step 28

Fold under the remaining sides, and again hold in place with as few pins as possible.

Thread a curved needle with a length of buttonhole thread greater than the perimeter measurement and cast on to the mounted fabric just under the sateen edge.

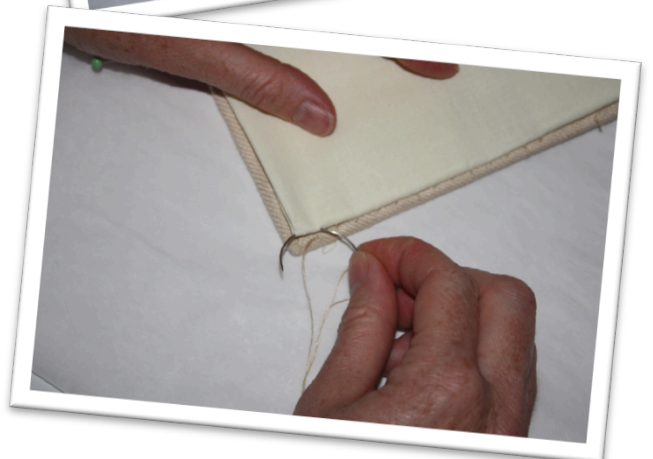


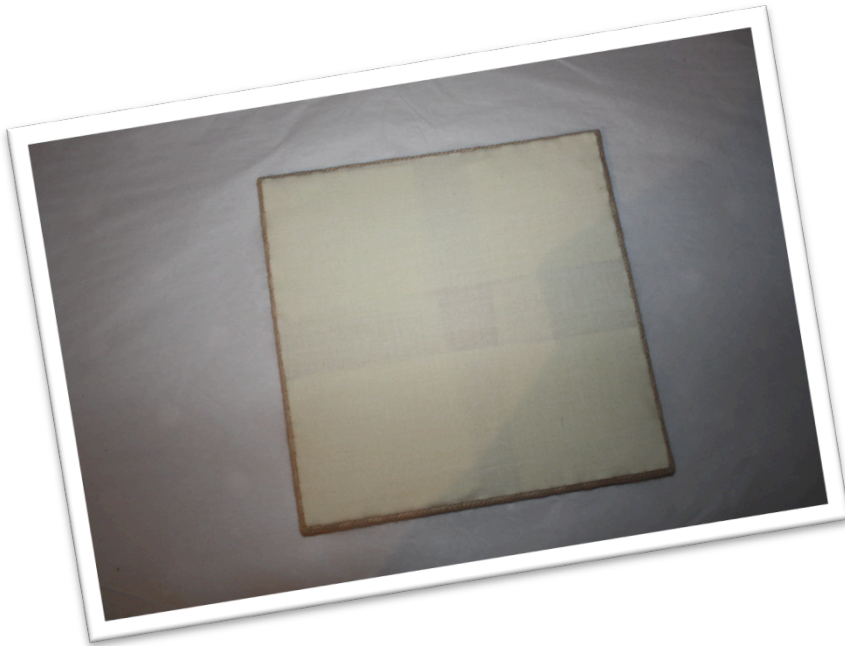
Step 29

Bring the needle out in the mounted fabric in line with the Sateen edge. Lay the Buttonhole thread over the Sateen at 90 degrees to the board edge. Take the needle through the crease just behind where the buttonhole lays. Produce a slipstitch by working around the edge alternating between the mounted fabric and the Sateen to apply them to one another.

TIP: Keep stitches equal in length to one another. Keep corners crisp by always bringing the needle out of the point of the fabric being applied and not the mounted fabric.

Finish off with two small holding stitches tucked under the sateen edge.





Final Checklist

You may want to double check these points as you will be assessed on the following:

- Is the Fabric positioned on the grain?
- Is the embroidery positioned as you like it?
- Have any creases in the fabric been removed?
- Are there any baggy areas of the fabric that could be pulled out?
- Are there any stitches showing?
- Is the Sateen straight and placed with an equal recess?

