

# Orderly stitching

# Cross Stitch FINISHING (OPTIONAL)

There are many ways to finish your cross stitch piece, and you can find plenty of tutorials online for different techniques. This is the method I prefer for a quick easy and professional look.

## Step 1: Washing & Preparing Your Cross Stitch (Optional)

If you feel your piece needs it, you can wash it before finishing.

- Fill a bowl with warm water and a gentle soap (such as baby shampoo).
- Gently swish your piece in the water—avoid scrubbing.
- Rinse with clean water and lay it flat on a towel to dry.
- Once mostly dry, iron on the reverse side using a low heat setting.

## Step 2: Preparing the Hoop & Fabric

- Take apart your embroidery hoop.
- Place the smaller inner hoop on a flat surface.
- Grab your cross stitch piece and your piece of backing fabric.
- Place them together with the raw (non-front) sides touching.



### Step 3: Hooping Your Fabric

- Carefully position both fabric layers over the inner hoop, centering the design as best as possible.
- Place the larger outer hoop over the top and gently pull the fabric layers taut as you tighten the screw.
- Use a screwdriver if needed to ensure the hoop is securely tightened.



### Step 4: Trimming the Excess Fabric

- Flip your hoop over so the back is facing up.
- Trim the backing fabric close to the hoop edge.
- Trim the cross stitch fabric, leaving a 1–2 cm overhang.



### Step 5: Securing the Back

- Take a leftover thread from your kit and do a running stitch around the excess fabric.
- Gently pull to gather the fabric towards the center.
- Knot the thread securely to hold it in place.



**Prefer a video?** Some helpful tutorials are available at the link below

[www.orderlystitching.co.nz/cross-stitch-basics](http://www.orderlystitching.co.nz/cross-stitch-basics)

or by scanning the QR code



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