

Different Types of Embroidery Techniques and Styles Explained

Basic Embroidery Techniques

- Cross-stitch: ideal for beginners, counted thread technique.
- Running stitch: simplest stitch for outlines and borders.
- Satin stitch: smooth surface fill for shapes and motifs.
- Backstitch: adds detail and outlines designs.

Intermediate & Decorative Styles

- Chain stitch: creates textured lines and curves.
- French knots: add raised, decorative dots.
- Blanket stitch: edges and appliqué finishing.
- Stem stitch: smooth, curved lines for floral patterns.

Advanced & Artistic Styles

- Crewel embroidery: wool threads on linen, textured designs.
- Blackwork: geometric, counted patterns in dark thread.
- Goldwork: metallic threads for luxury designs.
- Whitework: delicate, tone-on-tone embroidery on white fabric.

Cultural Styles

- Sashiko (Japan): running stitches for repair and decoration.
- Kantha (India): layered quilting style with simple stitches.
- Mexican Otomi: bold, colorful animal and plant motifs.
- European Folk: regional floral and geometric traditions.

Care & Practice Tips

- Choose the right fabric and hoop tension for each style.
- Match needle and thread thickness to technique.
- Practice on swatches before final projects.
- Store finished work flat and protect from light and moisture.