

Supplies

Thread
Fabric

Tools

Needle

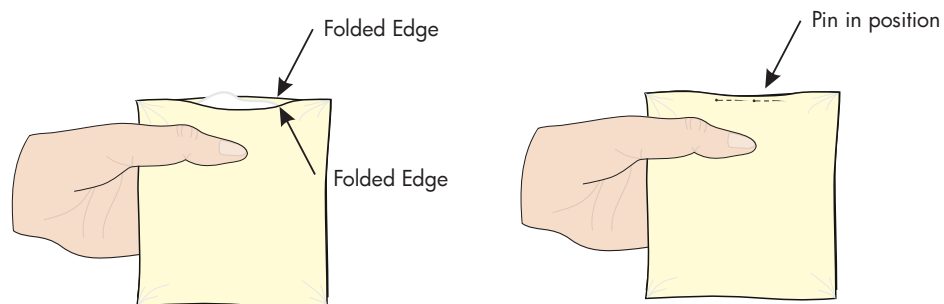
Ladder stitch is a useful stitch for sewing pieces of fabric together. We use it a lot for sewing gaps closed on softies or stuffed fabric items, but you can also use it to join fabric hexagons and sewing the binding down on the back of a quilt, and it is commonly used in beading.

Before You Start

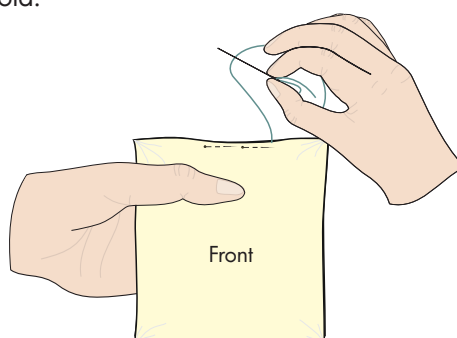
- Have a threaded needle in the starting position on the fabric. Instructions for starting a thread can be found at imaginemakebelieve.com.
- If you are using more than one thread, use them all at the same time using the instructions below.
- When sewing, have the needle in the hand that you normally write or draw with and hold the fabric with your other hand.
- When doing ladder stitch - if you are right handed, stitch towards the left of the fabric as you sew. If you are left handed, stitch towards the right of the fabric as you sew.

Instructions

1. Pin the two pieces of fabric into position (where they need to be), making sure that the folded edges are lined up (are matching) and all raw (not sewn) edges are tucked in.



2. Have the needle at the starting position, at the beginning of the section you want to sew, by coming up through the front side of the fabric through the fold.

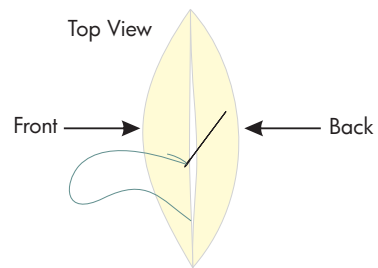
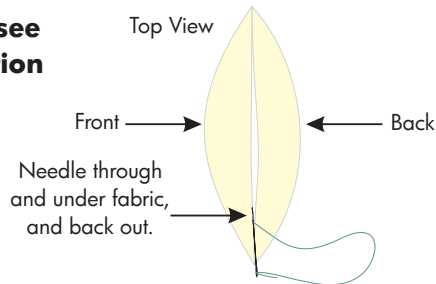


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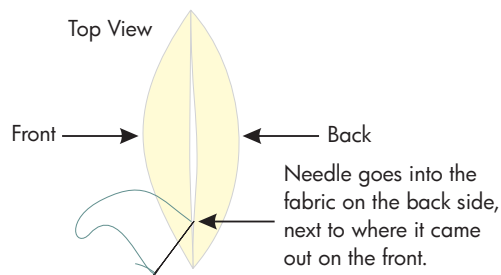
- On the front side, take the needle and thread through the fold and under the fabric for 3 or 4 mm (1/8 or 3/16 inch) and come back out through the fabric, pulling the needle and thread through.

Zoom in to see needle position



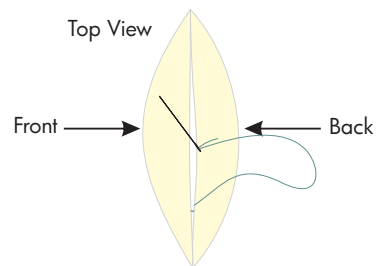
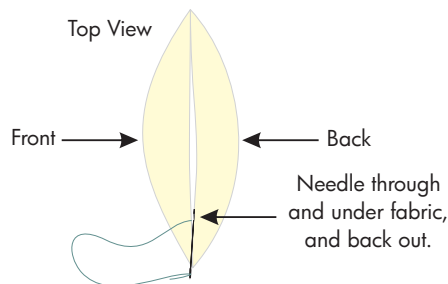
- Put the needle into the fabric on the back side, next to where the thread and needle came out on the front side.

Zoom in to see needle position



- Take the needle and thread through the fold and do a stitch as in step 3.

Zoom in to see needle position



- Repeat steps 3 to 5, pulling the thread tight as you go, until you have finished sewing the fabric together. [End off the thread](http://www.imagemakebelieve.com) with a knot and hide the ends.

Zoom in to see needle position

