



Give a tiny taste of hand embroidery to everyone on your list. Once you've made one felt cookie, you won't want to stop.

Felt ornaments

Cheerful “cookies” satisfy your appetite for fun

These charming decorations last for generations and are good for any holiday you choose. Hang them on your door, run them down a banister, or dangle them wherever you want. You can make them on the go and in your lap, so they are perfect take-with-you projects for waiting in the doctor’s office, watching TV, or relaxing with a cup of tea. A few simple embroidery stitches are all you need to create almost any image you like.

Judith Neukam is Threads’ editor-at-large.

SUPPLIES

- Colored felt pieces
- Embroidery floss
- Stuffing material

Optional

- Ribbons
- Hatpin or doll-making needle

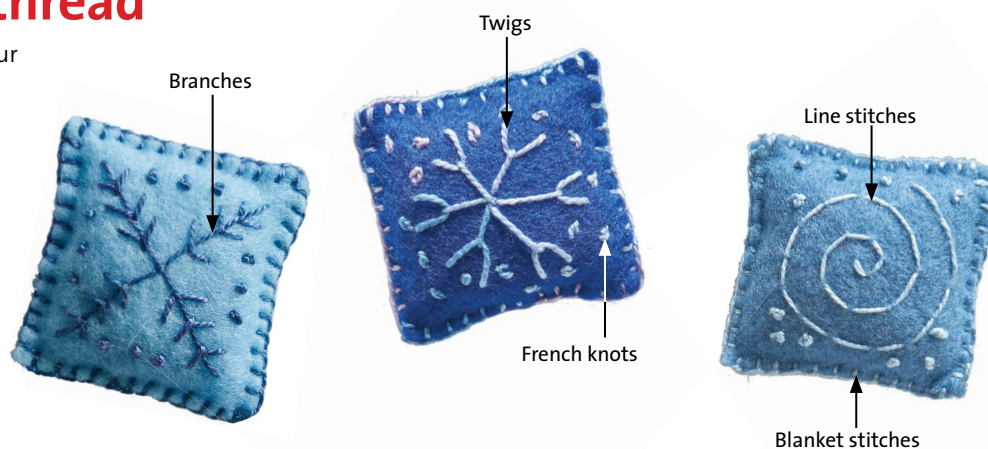
Start with a shape

Simple cookie-cutter shapes are ideal. We used squares, hearts, circles, and stars. Cut two identical felt shapes for each ornament. Decide on a color scheme for the felt background and embroidery stitches. It could be suggested by a holiday, the motif you’re stitching, your home’s décor, the season, or just what you like.



Embellish with thread

Choose various stitches, or invent your own, and use them in combinations on each ornament. We used basic embroidery stitches and grouped a few. Embroider the face side of the cookie first. Sew a batch of cookies for a harmonious grouping. These cookies are shown stitched and stuffed. You’ll embroider, then blanket-stitch around the edge and stuff them before they look like those shown.



Join a front to a back

Stack an embroidered side with a plain side of the same shape, wrong sides together, and sew a blanket stitch around the edge, leaving enough of the seam open so you can stuff the ornament.

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Have fun linking the felt ornaments with ribbon ties or sewing them together into new shapes. Create a garland of ornaments to decorate your home, office, or wrapped gifts.

Stuff the cookies

Pad the felt pieces to give them dimension and make better ornaments. Depending on what you stuff the shapes with, they can serve different purposes.

Stuff one with lavender instead of polyester fiber for use as a sachet. Use ground walnut shells to make pin-sharpening pincushions.

Tuck the filler deep inside, then finish sewing around the edge with the blanket stitch. Slide a long hatpin or doll-making needle between the felt layers to distribute any soft, fluffy filler evenly.

