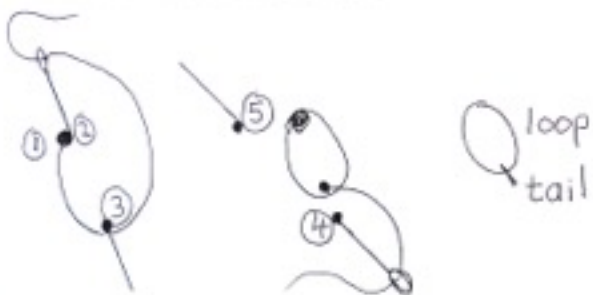


DETACHED CHAIN STITCH FLOWERS

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How to stitch detached chain



- ① Needle up through fabric.
- ② Needle down through same hole and ③ up through fabric to create loop.
- ④ Needle down to create tail and ⑤ up through fabric to top of next stitch.

Variations -

Short tail down



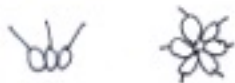
Long tail up



Side by side



Radiate



Random



Detached chain stitch, otherwise known as “Lazy Daisy”, is often used to create flower shapes in vintage style and modern embroideries. It is formed by creating a loop and a tail (see illustration steps 1 – 5 at right). Being right handed, I usually form the stitches from right to left or in a clockwise direction but left handed people would find it easier to form the stitches from left to right or in a counter-clockwise direction.

The stitch can be varied from long to short. The look of the stitch can also be varied by the number of strands of stranded cotton floss used. For small, short stitches, using 1 strand would give a thin, delicate loop, whereas using 6 strands would make the stitch bolder and fatter. The same applies to longer stitches.

The length of the tail can also vary from long to short (see illustration and stitch sample) as can the orientation – up/down, out/in.

The positioning and spacing of the stitches can also vary – they can be close together in horizontal, vertical or radiating lines or the stitches can be scattered randomly, close together or far apart. (see illustration and stitch sample)





The stitched sample "DETACHED CHAIN FLOWERS" illustrates ideas for using detached chain to create flowers and leaves. You can see the different effects of using 1 - 6 strands of stranded cotton floss to create the stitch at the top of the sample as well as a short and long tail.

The sample illustrates how you can vary the number of detached chain stitches to create a flower, as well as the orientation of the stitches, the length and position of the tails and the number of strands of floss used. Most of these flowers have 3 or 4 strands of floss.

The stems were created with laced running stitches. The running stitch (top right) was stitched with 1 strand but the lacing on all the other stems was done with 2 strands.

There are many more ways to create flowers by combining detached chain with other stitches. It is great fun creating flower shapes. The flowers do not have to be botanically accurate so have a go at creating your own new flower species!



PROJECT IDEA:

Hand Embroidered Brooch by Sheena Norquay

HAND EMBROIDERED



FLOWER MOTIF
Sheena J Norquay
© 14.7.2020

- 6 strands of cotton floss for petals and centre
- 3 strands for leaves

KEY

- ✓ straight stitches light green
- | straight stitch dark green
- ⊙ French knots cream
- ② 2 detached chain stitches
yellow, light blue,
dark blue, light pink,
dark pink, light
purple, dark purple

