

# Getting Crafty: 1,2,3 Sew With Me!

Are you ready to get stitching! Today we'll learn how to do a basic sewing stitch and make an easy project! Once you get the hang of it you're sure to have fun!

## You'll Need:

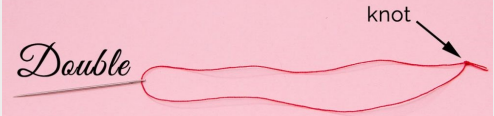
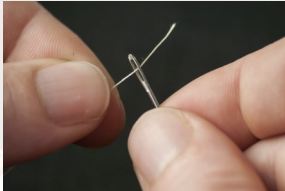
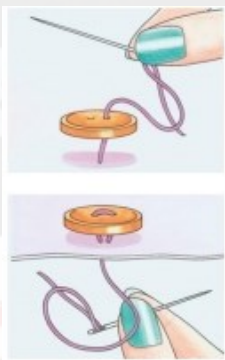
- ◆ Felt
- ◆ Thread
- ◆ Needle

- ◆ Buttons/Beads

## From Your House:

- ◆ Scissors
- ◆ Marker

## Instructions:

1. Today we're making easy felt bookmarks! You can make one for yourself or for one to give to a friend. Start by thinking about what shape you want your bookmark to be. A rectangle is easiest but you could also do a heart, ice cream cone, or any shape you can think of! If you want a bookmark that can go on the corner of your page do a triangle.
2. Draw your shape on your felt. Cut it out. Trace around your cut shape on the felt and cut that shape out. You'll need two *exactly matching shapes*.
3. Next, we'll thread our needles. Cut a section of string just as long as your arm. Take your needle. Find the eye of your needle (that's the skinny little opening on the fat end). You need to put one end of the string through that eye. Once it's through, pull it so that it matches the other end. Tie a knot.
4. Decide which shape will be the top or front of your bookmark. If you want to sew on any beads or buttons now is the time to do it! Decide where you want your bead or button to go. Poke your needle up from the bottom of the felt. Stick the bead or button hole onto your needle. Poke your needle back into the felt *right beside* where you poked it out. Pull it slowly until all the thread is through and your button/bead is on. Repeat for all your buttons and beads. When you're finished make sure your needle is on the **back** side of your felt and tie a knot. Make sure it's a big knot and won't slip through! Cut your string.



## Instructions:

5. Now we're ready to sew our pieces together. Place your front piece on top of your back piece. Make sure your needle has a new long piece of string on it and there's a knot in the end.

6. We're going to use a stitch called a "running stitch" to sew our pieces together today. This is the easiest stitch! Hold your felt pieces together with one hand. Using your other hand poke your needle up from the back of the bookmark through to the front. Pull the thread all the way through (it's good to do this slow so it doesn't get tangled). Move it over just a little bit and poke it down through both layers to the back. Repeat! Sew along the edges of your shape until you get back to where you began. Make sure your needle is in the back of your bookmark. Tie a knot (a big one) and cut it off!

If you want your bookmark to sit on the edge of a page, use a triangle shape and only sew two sides like the picture below.

