

Semco **Smocking Instruction Book**

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**BULGARIAN
SMOCKING**

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FAGOTING

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EMBROIDERY**



SMOCKING

Smocking is a form of embroidery which is always in demand because of its simplicity and beauty, and the opportunity it affords for originality of design. Its popularity is no longer confined to children's garments, and we show attractive ways of trimming dresses and lingerie with this stitch. Semco smocking transfers are obtainable for all types of plain and fancy designs, both as loose transfers, and in packets containing patterns of blouses and children's frocks (see page 20). The following pages show all the stitches used in smocking, and various combinations of these stitches in beautiful and effective designs.

SMOCKING METHOD

If deep close pleats are desired, allow three times the finished length when stamping the transfer. That is, if the smocking is to be three inches, stamp nine inches of material. Take a plain smocking transfer in the size required, and stamp in the following manner. Lay the material to be stamped on a slightly padded surface, with the **wrong** side uppermost. Pin the transfer carefully in position and stamp with a quick downward stamp of the iron (never press slowly and heavily). The iron should just reach sizzling point for silk. For cotton or other materials, use a hotter iron.

The material should then be gathered on the wrong side, commencing at the right hand side with a double stitch to hold the knot. If gathering threads of a contrasting color are used, they can be more easily seen as a guide for the embroidery. Use a separate gathering thread for each row of dots, being careful to take up only as much material as is covered by the dot. The gathering threads should then be drawn up to the required fullness and held in place. This should be done carefully as the beauty and evenness of the finished work depends upon the evenness of the foundation. The best method of securing the drawn up gathering threads is to wind each thread across and round a pin as shown in Fig. 1. The right side upon which the smocking stitches are worked, now presents a succession of folds.

Semco Stranded Cotton is ideal for working the smocking, and Semco Rayon Embroidery thread for a silk finish.

When the embroidery is completed, the gathering threads should be loosened and the work pressed in the following manner. Place a moderately wet piece of muslin over an edge of a hot iron. Then pull the wrong side of the embroidery over the edge as you would in steaming velvet. Remove gathering threads and press again lightly.

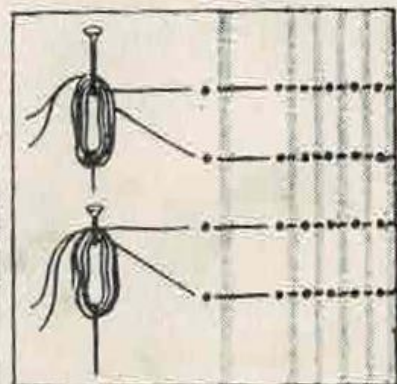
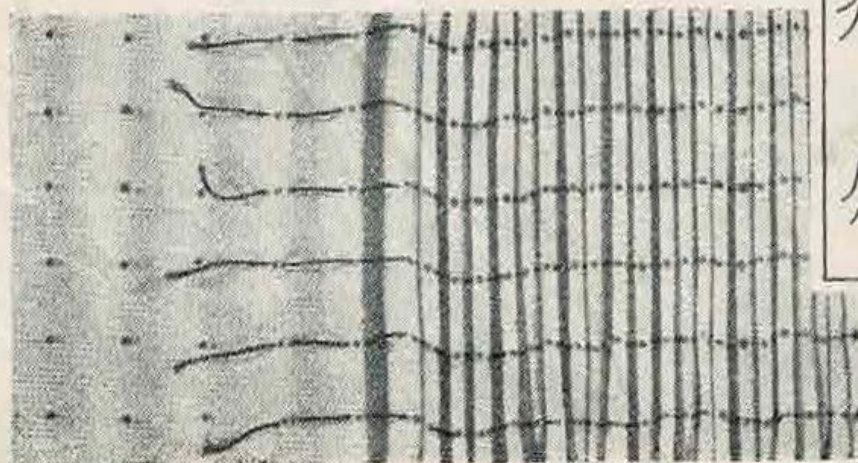


FIG 1
SHOWING METHOD
OF GATHERING.

SMOCKING STITCHES

Always in commencing the embroidery, tie a large firm knot in the thread and pass the needle up through the first pleat from the back of work to the right side. Take a small stitch in the top of pleat to prevent the knot from pulling through. The first stitch of the smocking pattern will cover this. When fastening off the thread at the end of each row, bring the needle through to the wrong side of work and finish with two back stitches in the fold between first and second pleats. These stitches should be covered from the right side by the line of smocking. To ensure evenness in the embroidery, always gather an extra row at the top and bottom of the pattern you are working. If the pattern requires 10 rows, gather 12.

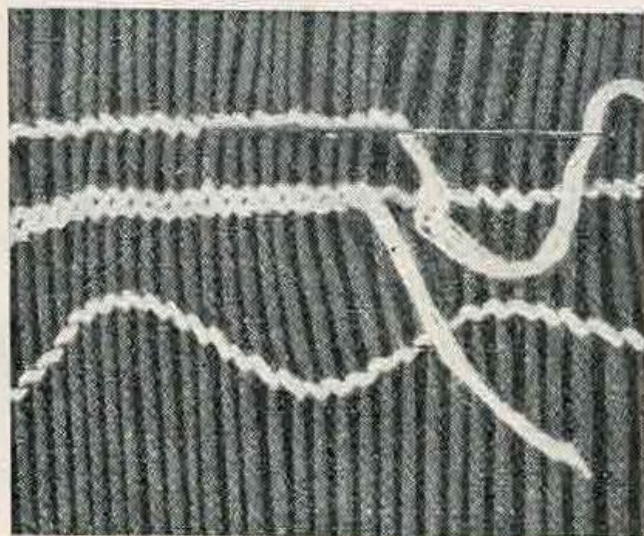


FIG. 2. OUTLINE STITCH.

CURVED OUTLINE

To form the outline stitch into a wave, work from a gathering thread four outline stitches diagonally up to the line above, then curving very slightly, three stitches are worked above the line. Work four stitches down again to the first line, then three stitches in a curve just below the line. Repeat.

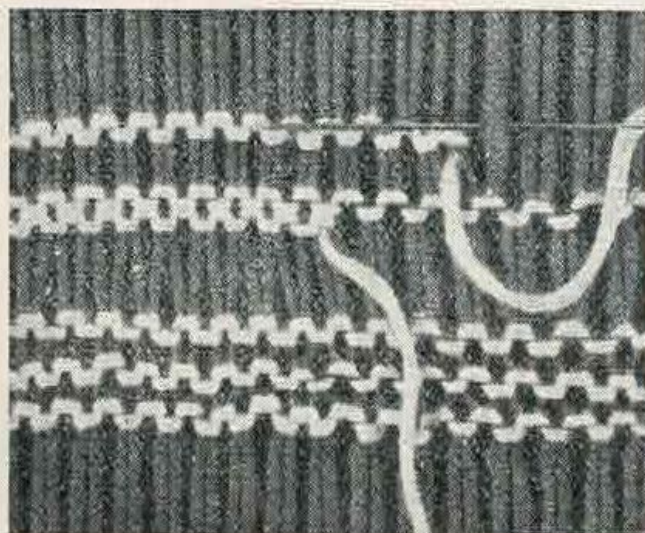


FIG. 3. CABLE STITCH.

OUTLINE STITCH

Work from left to right. Secure the thread firmly on the wrong side of the work. Bring the thread up in the first pleat on the right side of the material, and take one stitch from right to left on top of each pleat, keeping the thread **below** the needle, and each stitch directly over the gathering thread. For double outline stitch work a second row close to the first, keeping the thread **above** the needle instead of **below**.

CABLE STITCH

This is worked from left to right and is very similar to outline stitch. Beginning at the first pleat, take a back stitch in each pleat, with the thread **above** the needle for one stitch and **below** for the next, worked alternately. For double cable work a second row close to the first, reversing the order of the thread above or below the needle. As the first row begins with the thread above the needle, the second should begin with the thread below the needle. The three lower rows show the effect of single cable worked in several rows.

SMOCKING STITCHES

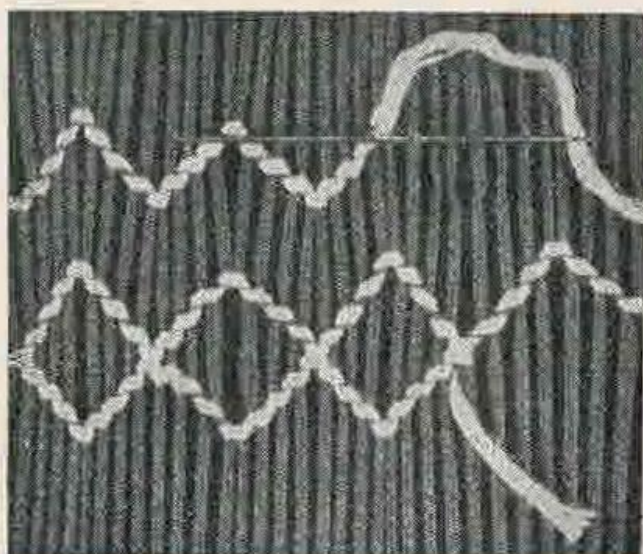


FIG. 4. WAVE STITCH.

the needle, take one stitch in the next pleat on a level with the last stitch (Fig. 4). With the thread still **above** the needle, work two stitches down to the line below. Then with the thread **below** the needle take one stitch next to the last stitch on the line, and work to the line above. Continue in this way to the end of row, always keeping the thread **above** the needle when working down the wave and **below** the needle when working up the wave.

More stitches can be used to make deeper waves, or the waves may be used to form diamonds (Fig. 4).

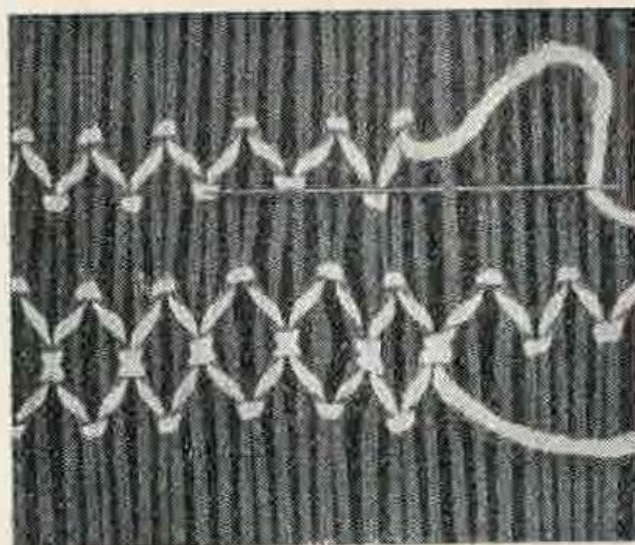


FIG. 5. ONE STEP WAVE AND DIAMOND STITCH.

ONE STEP WAVE AND DIAMOND STITCH

Work from **left to right**. Bring the needle through to the right side **above** the gathering thread at the first pleat, then take a stitch through the second pleat beside the first with the thread **above** the needle. Next pass down to the gathering thread below and take a stitch in the third pleat with the thread **above** the needle (Fig. 5) and another stitch in the fourth pleat beside the third, with the thread

below the needle. Then pass up to the row above and take a stitch in the fifth pleat with the thread **below** the needle and so on.

To form the diamonds, another row of one step wave is worked as shown in Fig.

SMOCKING STITCHES

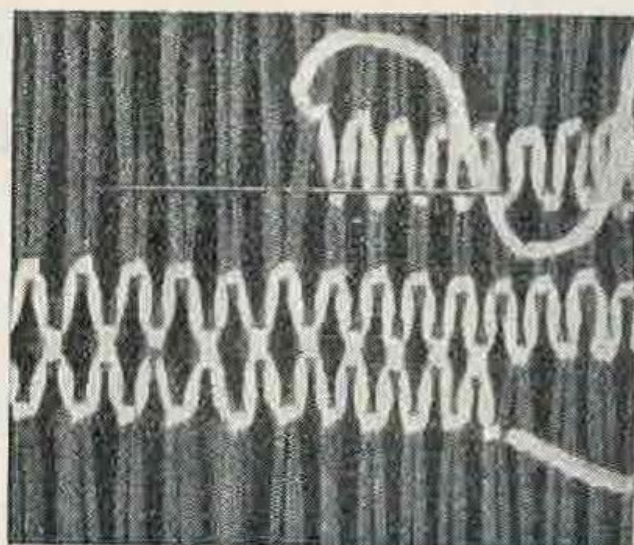


FIG. 6. VANDYKE STITCH.

VANDYKE STITCH

This is one of the few stitches worked from right to left. Bring the needle through to the right side in the second pleat above the gathering thread, and take the first and second pleats together with a stitch. Then come down to the second gathering thread and take the second and third pleats together and take another stitch over in the same place as in Fig. 6. Then up to the first gathering thread

taking the third and fourth pleats together in the same way, and so on. This stitch looks particularly attractive if worked in rows, leaving a space between each row.

For double vandyke start on the third gathering thread and work up to, and down from the second gathering thread.

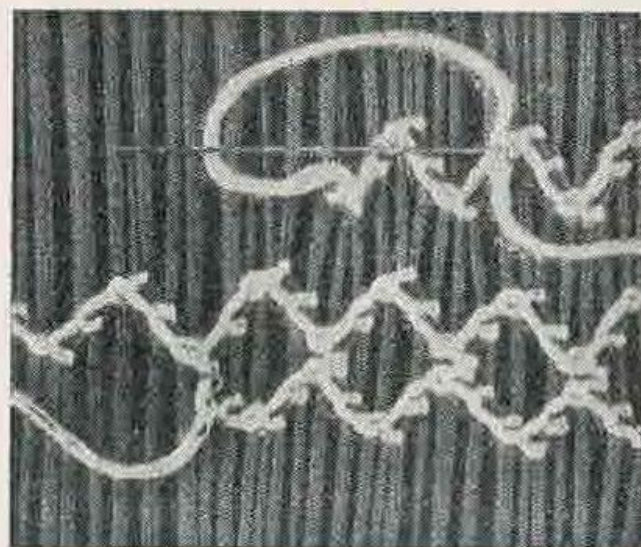


FIG. 7. FEATHER STITCH.

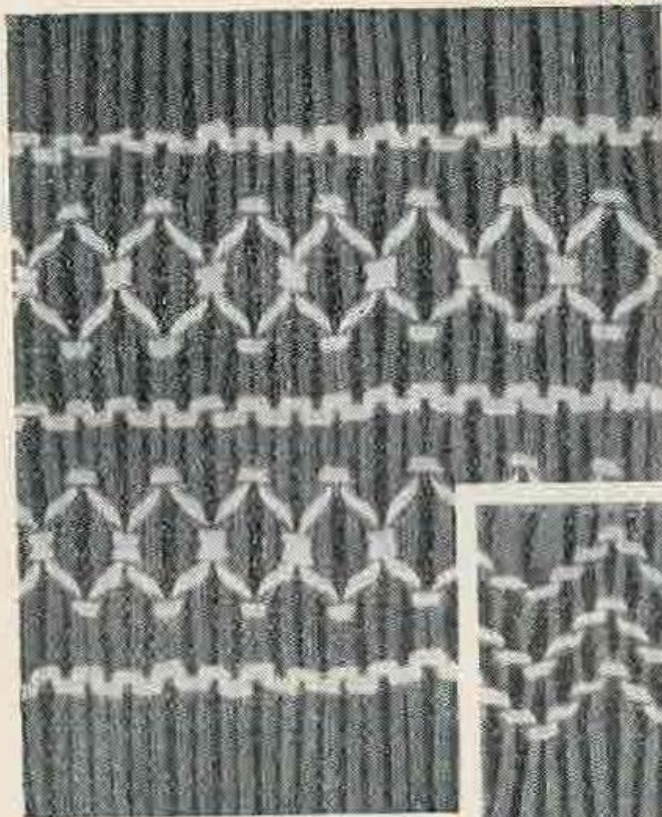
FEATHER STITCH

This is worked from right to left, or alternatively from top to bottom of the work. Secure thread at first gathering row on right hand side of work. Turn work so that you are working towards you across the pleats. Always keep the thread before the needle as in ordinary feather stitch. Take first and second pleats together, then halfway between the two gathering rows, take the second and third

pleats together. Next take the third and fourth pleats together just above the second gathering row. With the thread still before the needle, take the fourth and fifth pleats together, back halfway between the two gathering rows, and the fifth and sixth pleats together on the first gathering row. Repeat to end of row.

For feathered diamond begin working on the third gathering row and work up to the second. (Fig. 7.)

SMOCKING PATTERNS



PATTERN No. 1.

PATTERN No. 2

This shows two patterns which can be repeated in any number of rows to fill in a whole yoke or bodice front. Attractive color combinations can be used in many different ways, either in several colors or two colors alternating.

TOP PATTERN. 3 rows of wave stitch worked between 4 gathering rows. Miss one gathering row and repeat.

BOTTOM PATTERN. Rows 1, 2—Wave stitch up and down, connected by any length of cable desired. Rows 2, 3—repeat first row with wave stitch in reverse. For repeat of pattern, work diamonds in each succeeding row, below centre of double cable in previous row.



PATTERN No. 2.

SMOCKING PATTERNS

PATTERN No. 3

This pattern is worked on 15 rows of gathering. Rows 1, 2, 3—Single Cable. Rows 4, 5—Wave Stitch (three stitches up and three down). Rows 5, 6—Repeat Wave Stitch. Rows 6, 7—Wave Stitch in reverse. Rows 7, 8—Repeat Wave Stitch in reverse. Rows 9, 10, 11—Single Cable. Rows 12, 13—Wave Stitch. Rows 13, 14—Wave Stitch. Rows 14, 15—Wave Stitch.

If a narrower band is desired, perhaps for a matching sleeve, leave out one row of Cable and one row of Wave Stitch above and below the Wave diamond.



PATTERN No. 3.



PATTERN No. 4.

PATTERN No. 4

This pattern is worked on 12 rows of gathering.

Row 1—Cable. Work a 2nd row of Cable directly below first. Row 3—Outline. Rows 4, 5, 6, 7—3 rows of Diamond Stitch. Row 8—Outline. Row 10—Cable.

Work a 2nd row of Cable directly above 1st. Work Wave Stitch from row 12 to halfway between 10 and 11—4 stitches up and 4 down. The pattern can be deepened by working extra rows of Wave Stitch at bottom.

SMOCKING PATTERNS



PATTERN No. 5

This pattern is worked on 16 rows of gathering. Row 1—Outline. Row 2—Single Cable. Row 3—Outline. Halfway between Rows 4 and 5—Curved Outline. (Work 2 stitches just below Row 4, 2 stitches between, and 2 stitches just above Row 5.) Halfway between Rows 6 and 7—Repeat

PATTERN No. 5.

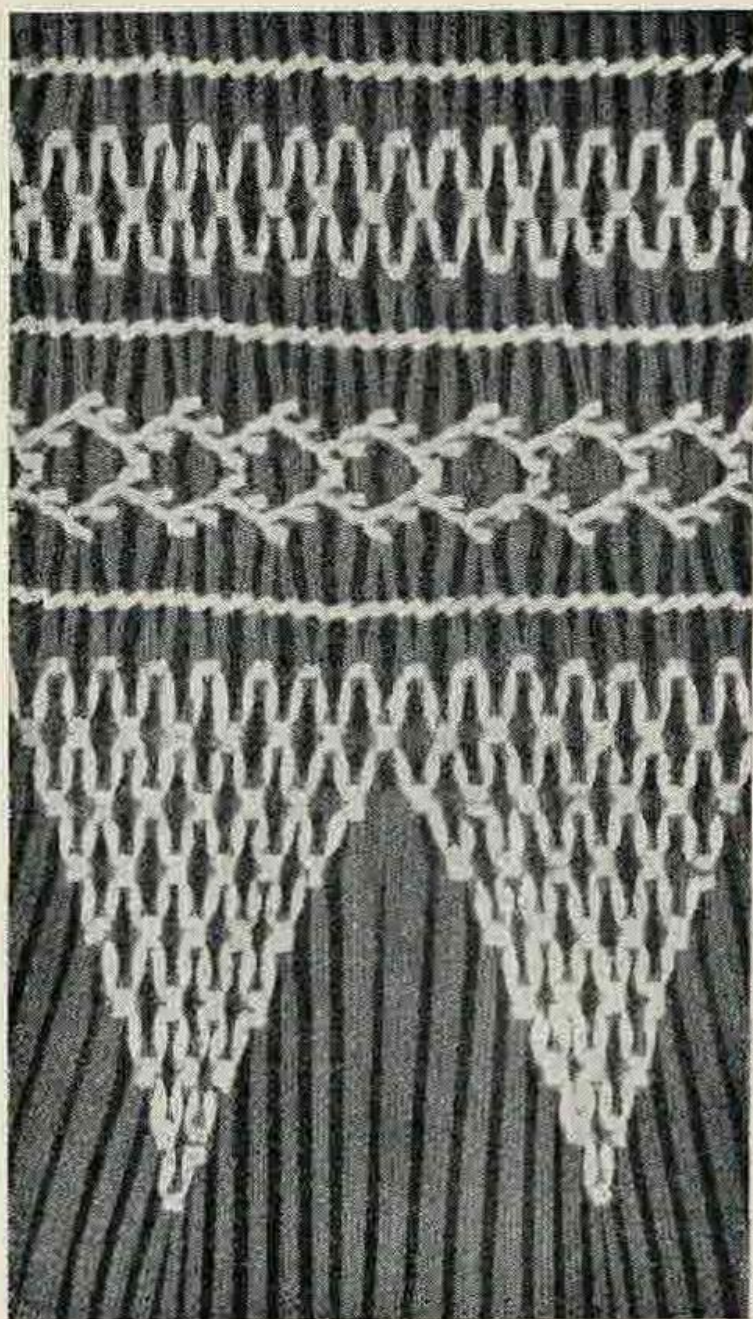
Curved outline. Dots—Work between rows of Curved Outline, catching 2 pleats together and missing 2 alternately.

Row 8—Outline. Row 9—Single Cable. Row 10—Outline. Rows 11, 12, 13—Diamond Stitch. Rows 14, 15, 16—Decrease Diamond Stitches to form points. For a deeper band, work a row of Featherstitch in place of the Single Cable between the bands of straight Outline, and increase the depth of Diamond point.



PATTERN No. 6.

SMOCKING PATTERNS



PATTERN No. 7.

PATTERN No. 6

This pattern is worked on 18 rows of gathering. Row 1—Outline. Row 2—Double Outline. Row 3—Outline. Row 6—Four Step Wave up to half way between Rows 4 and 5. Row 7—Four Step Wave up to between Rows 5 and 6. Row 8—Four Step Wave up to between Rows 6 and 7. Miss Row 9. Row 10—Repeat 3 rows of Wave ending on Row 12. Miss Row 13. Row 14—Repeat 1 row wave. Repeat Wave, working down to Row 16 to form diamonds. Row 18—Complete diamonds and work a small diamond in the centre of each.

SMOCKING PATTERNS

To make a more elaborate pattern, work Rows 1 and 2 in Double Outline and fill in an extra row of Wave Stitch above and below the centre row in each band.

PATTERN No. 7

This pattern is worked on 18 rows of gathering. **Row 1**—Outline. **Rows 2, 3, 4**—2 rows of Vandyke Stitch forming diamonds. **Row 5**—Outline. **Rows 6, 7, 8**—2 rows of Feather Stitch forming diamonds. **Row 9**—Outline. **Rows 10, 11, 12**—2 rows Vandyke Stitch forming a row of diamonds straight across. **Rows 12, 13**—Work a row of Vandyke Stitch missing one point in every 6. For the remaining rows, decrease the number of points on either side until the pattern is complete.

For a more elaborate pattern, work double outline instead of single outline, and add two more rows of Feather Stitch.

PATTERN No. 8

This pattern is worked on 17 rows of gathering.

Row 1.—Outline.

Row 4—Outline. Work 2 rows of Cable and Diamond Stitch between Rows 1 and 4.

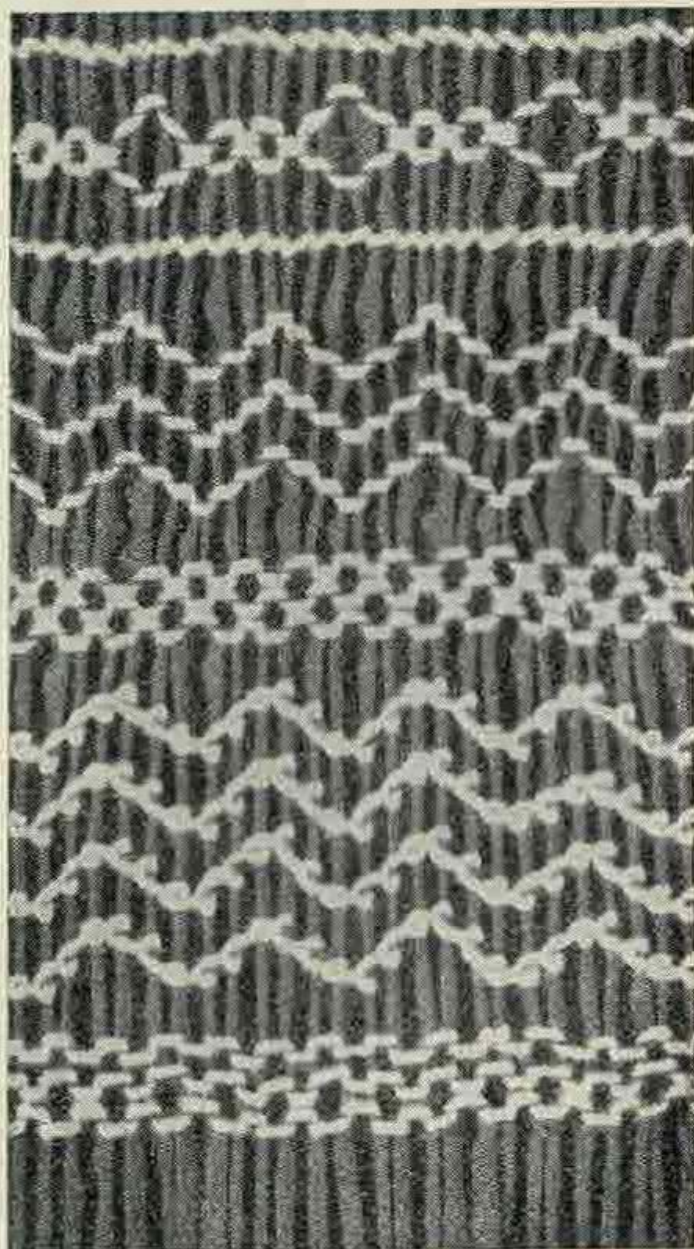
Rows 5, 6, 7, 8—3 rows of Three Step Wave.

Rows 9, 10—3 rows Cable worked closely.

Rows 11, 12, 13, 14, 15—4 rows Feather Stitch.

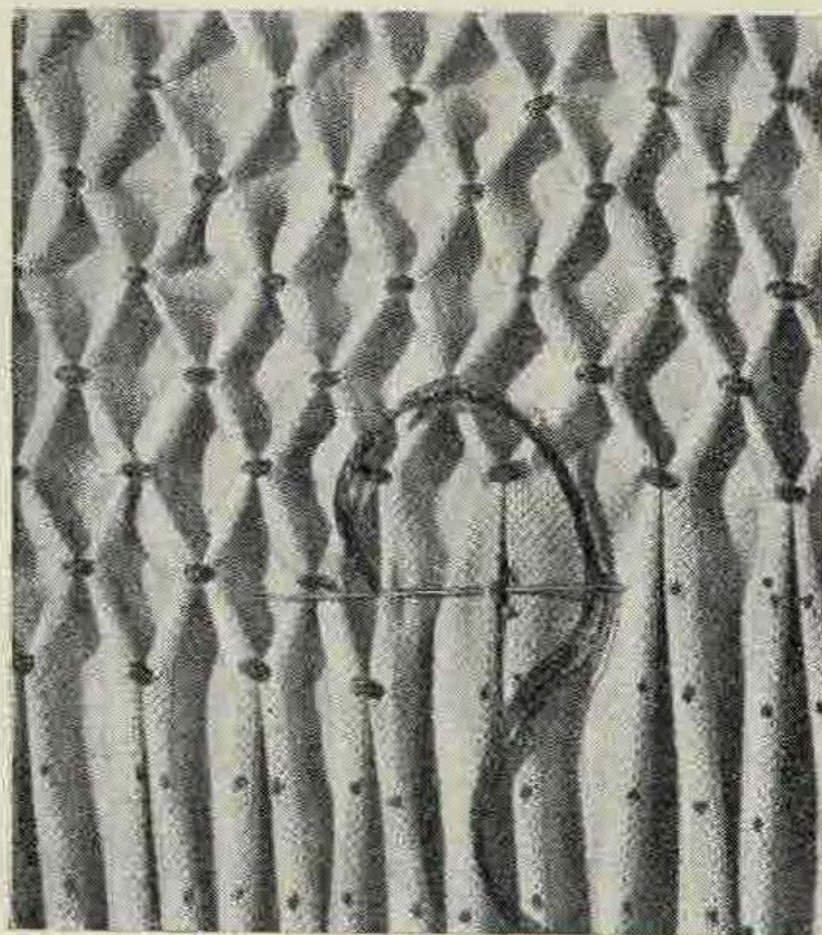
Rows 16, 17—3 rows Cable worked closely.

For a deeper band, work extra rows of Wave Stitch, or Feather Stitch, or increase the rows of both. The rows of cable can also be increased.



PATTERN No. 8.

HONEYCOMB SMOCKING



This is the only smocking stitch which can be satisfactorily worked without first gathering the material. Stamp the smocking on the **right** side of the material if the gathering is to be omitted. Figs. 2 and 3 show two of the many excellent patterns of fancy honeycomb obtainable in the Semco Transfer range. If, however, you wish to design your own pattern, the transfer should be stamped on the wrong side and gathered in the usual way, so that the dots not worked will not show on the right side. Less material can be allowed for honeycomb than for any other smocking stitch. If worked on a transfer based on a square, it will draw the material up to half the length.

The stitch itself is worked from **left to right**. Bring needle to the right side of the material at first dot on top line and catch first and second dots together. Take a second stitch over the same place, drawing the needle through to the wrong side; next bring the needle through to the right side on the second dot on second line, and catch second and third dots together. Take a second stitch in the same place, drawing the needle through to the wrong side; next bring needle through to right side at the third dot on the first line, and catch third and fourth dots together take a stitch in the same place, drawing needle through to the wrong side, and so on across.

FANCY HONEYCOMB SMOCKING

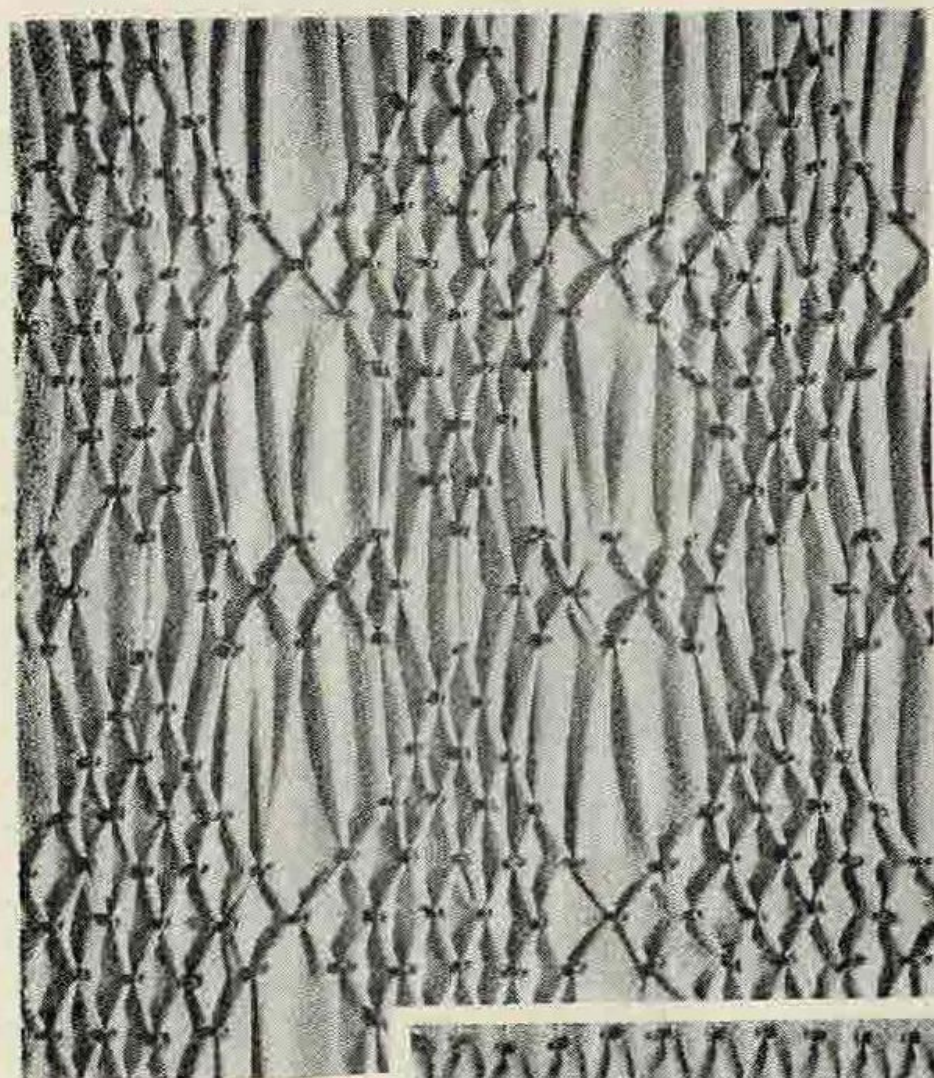


FIG. 2.

SEMCO DESIGN No. 245F

We have been accustomed to thinking of honeycomb smocking in terms of plain filled in bands, but the patterns pictured here show the unusual and attractive effect of fancy honeycomb. The effect is obtained by leaving out some of the stitches, and the remaining stitches form the pattern. It is particularly suitable for embroidering on frocks and lingerie for adults, and looks

very luxurious on wools and velvet, as well as the finer silks and satins. Fig. 3 shows a fascinating little border worked in shallow honeycomb smocking. Fig. 2 is an example of the deep honeycomb smocking in a band design which looks very smart and flattering worked round the waist of a frock. This design is also obtainable in shallow honeycomb. Other designs include motifs for the centre of waists and bodices, and a plain transfer for deep honeycomb. All of the Semco Honeycomb Transfers have directions printed on the transfers. See pages 15 and 16 for smocking ideas.

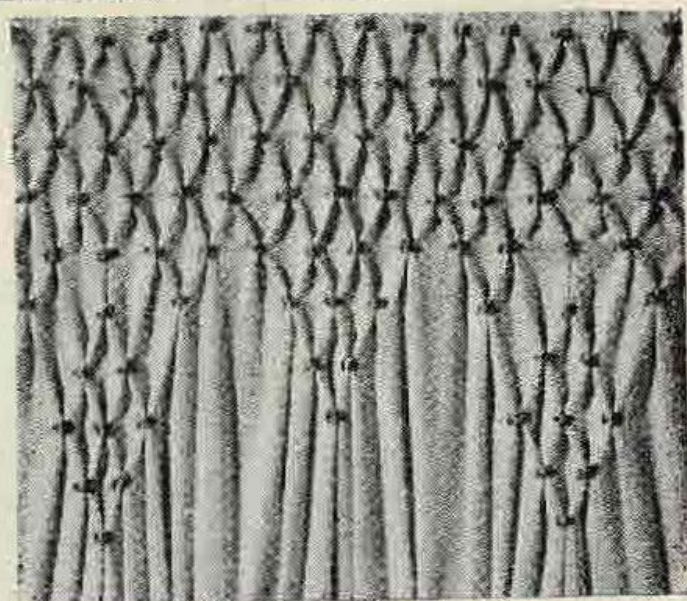
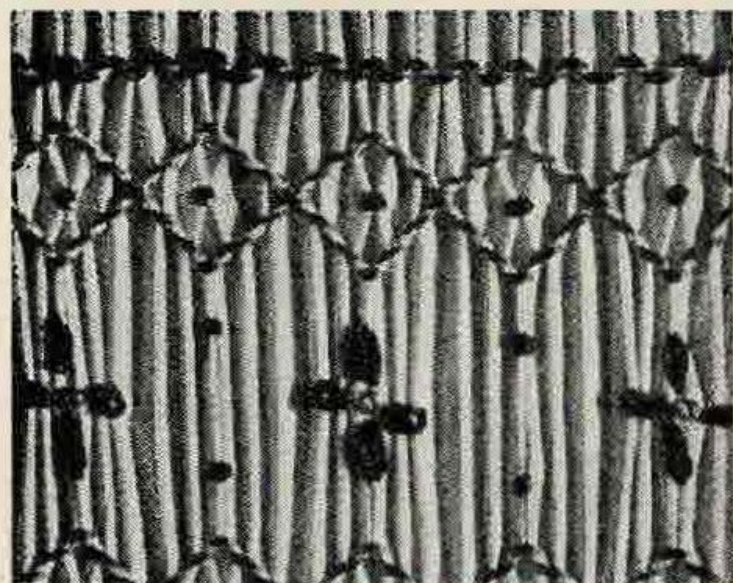
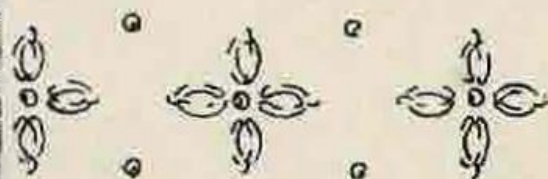
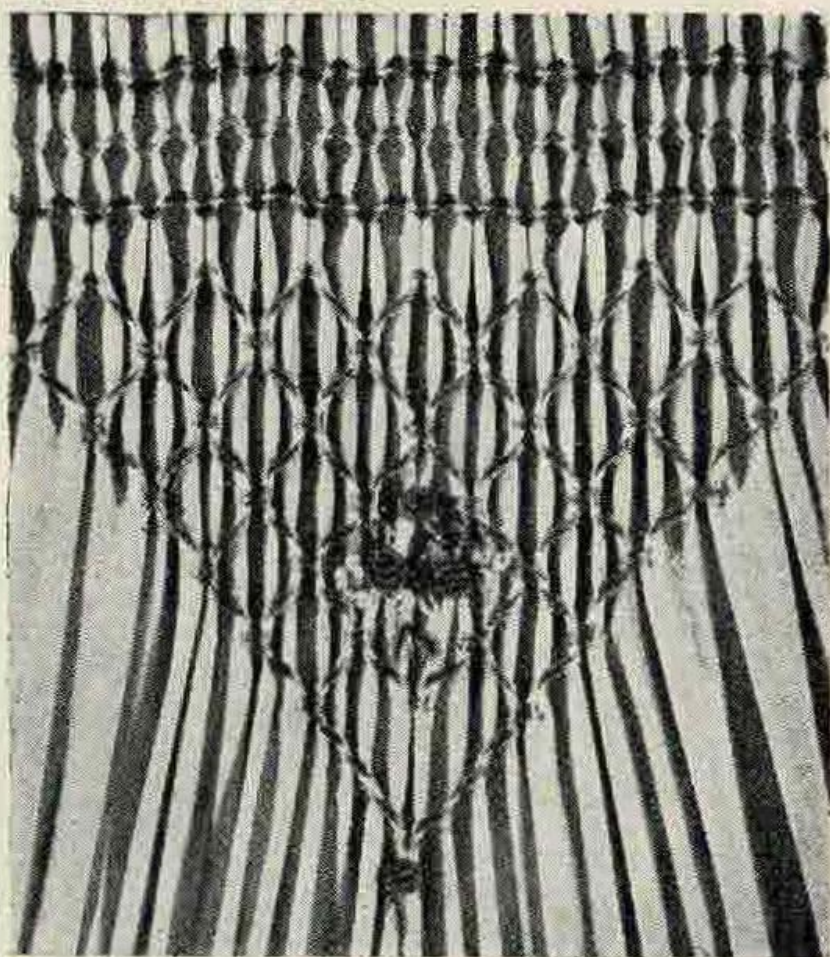


FIG 3. SEMCO DESIGN No. 242F

FLOWER SMOCKING



This is ordinary smocking combined with some of the embroidery stitches shown on the following pages. It is very sweet and dainty worked on baby dresses. Just smock some simple stitches in the usual way and add the flowers and dots as you please. Use lazy daisy stitches, fibrone roses, or French knots.



EMBROIDERY STITCHES

LAZY DAISY

The needle is brought up to the right side of the material at the centre end of the petal, and a buttonhole stitch the length of the petal is taken. A short stitch catches the buttonhole stitch down to the material at the point of the petal.



FIG. 1.

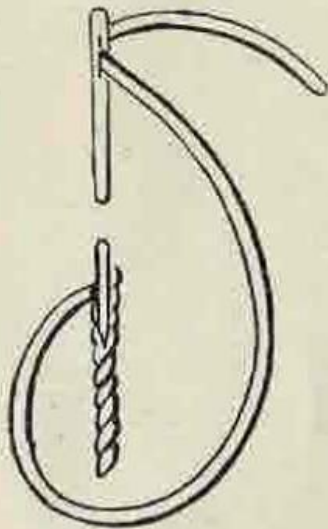


FIG. 2.

STEM STITCH OR OUTLINING

Bring the thread up at end of stem or line. Take a small upright stitch, bringing the needle out again at the beginning of thread Fig. 2. Continue to work along the line with straight upright stitches of even length, always bringing the needle back and up at the end of the last stitch. The wrong side should look like back-stitch. This stitch, if closely worked in lines with one strand, makes a most effective filling in stitch.

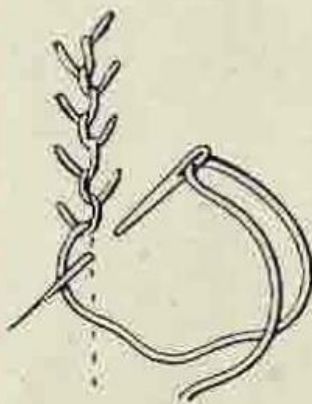


FIG. 3.

FEATHER STITCH

This stitch looks delightful as a trim for children's frocks or baby wear. Bring the thread to the right side on the line to be followed. Hold the thread down with the left thumb and take a slanting stitch from the right hand side back to the line Fig. 3. Take the next stitch on the left side, inserting the needle opposite the end of the last stitch (see Fig. 4) and taking a slanting stitch back to the line, each stitch coming just a little lower than the previous stitch.

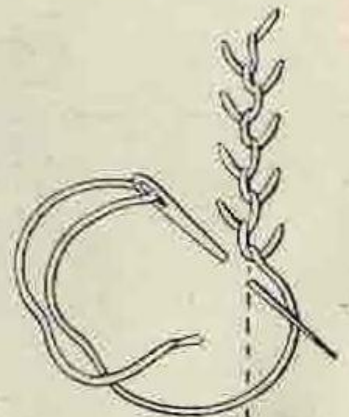


FIG. 4.

EMBROIDERY STITCHES

FRENCH KNOTS

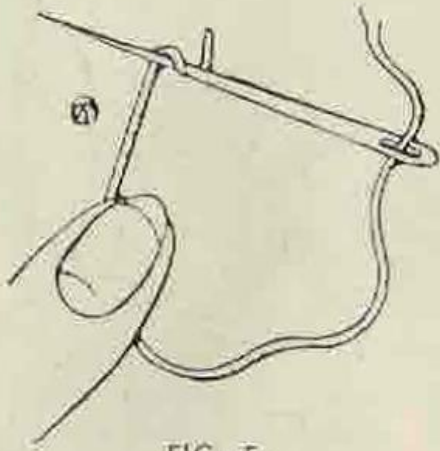


FIG. 5.

thread is twisted round needle twice and the needle inserted and drawn through as in single French knot, using two strands of Stranded Cotton or one strand of Pearl Cotton.

Bring thread up to right side of material and hold under left thumb. Twist thread round needle (see Fig. 5) and insert needle into almost the same place (see Fig. 6), still holding thread under thumb until all thread is drawn through. In double French knot the

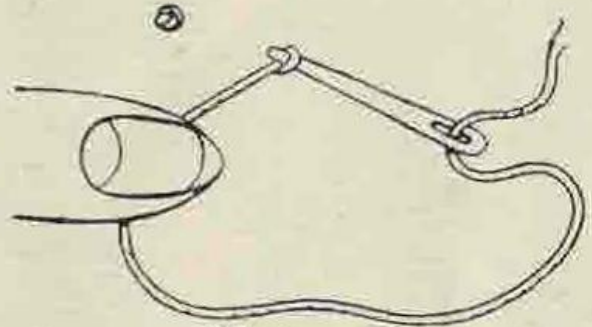


FIG. 6.

CHAIN STITCH

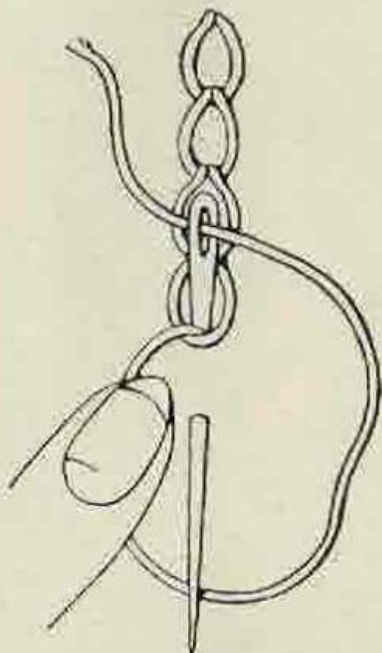


FIG. 7.

This stitch is used for outlining, padding and often as a filling stitch. Bring the thread up from the under side of material, on the line to be followed; hold the thread down with the thumb, and insert the needle in the same hole where the thread began; the thumb thus holds the thread in a loop; take a stitch downward, bring the needle up on the stamped line and inside the loop, and draw through; always insert the needle inside the loop where the last thread comes out—to ensure good work the stitches must be kept of an even length (see Fig. 7).

FIBRONE ROSE

Using two or three strands of Semco Stranded Cotton, commence by making a satin stitch centre well raised. Build round this with stitches, loose at first so that they lie close to the top of centre, then gradually make them tighter and tighter until the last stitches are close to the material. With each stitch, bring the needle back halfway to starting point of last stitch.

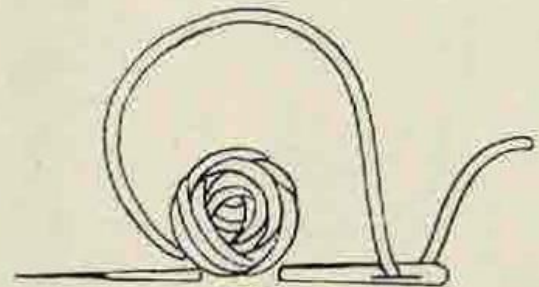


FIG. 8.



USE SMOCKING IN PLACE OF GATHERING ON YOUR DRESS PATTERN.

Smocking controls the fullness in a very clever way on this afternoon frock of wool jersey. Cut full length and worn with a more elaborate belt, this style is lovely for a dinner frock or house coat.

Fancy Smocking makes this simple frock interesting and smart. Leave ruffles at the smocking edges and band the pockets for neatness. Use plain or printed silk, linen, or fine woollen material.

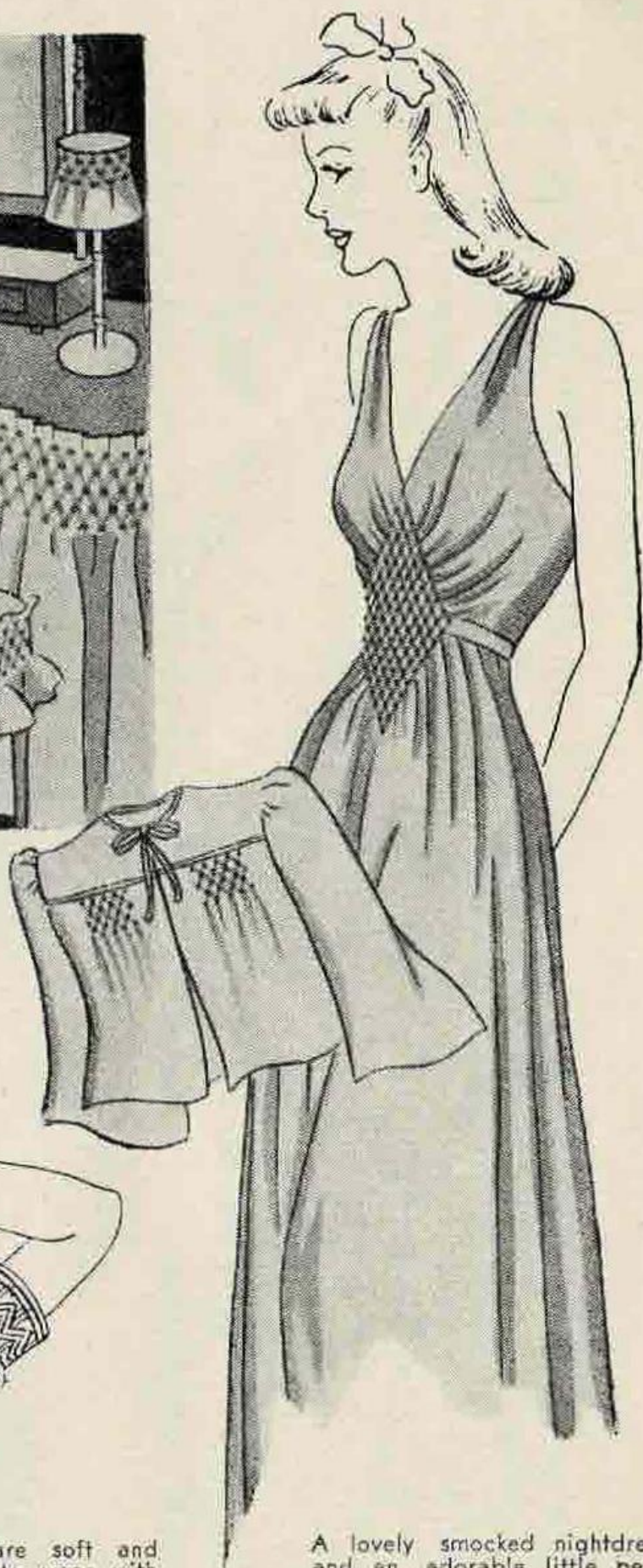
A gay little dirndl style with smocking at the waist and sleeves and cross-stitch embroidery on the yoke. Try it with beaded smocking—thread the bead on the needle before taking the second honeycomb stitch.



A new idea for a charming bedroom. Smock the drop on the Bedspread to match. Even the valance and the tie-backs for the window draperies can be smocked. Work pink dotted Swiss Muslin with blue, or blue Chintz with rose.



Smocked collars and cuffs are soft and flattering. Smartest in white—to wear with print or plain frocks. Wear them on your woollen jumpers too. Use fine Pique or Organdie, gather a straight strip of material to the shape required, and smock in the usual way.



A lovely smocked nightdress and an adorable little bed jacket. The nightdress style makes a charming evening frock in printed silk, or velvet for luxury. Honeycomb smocking looks best on these.

SMOCKING PATTERN No. 1 WITH DETAILED INSTRUCTIONS

Remember, each stitch a pleat. Cotton below needle when working upwards. Keep cotton up when working the level stitch on top of diamonds and wave stitches. Cotton above needle when working downwards. Keep cotton down for level lower stitch on diamond and wave. This pattern requires 13 rows of gathering.

1st Row: Outline stitch.

2nd Row: Begin halfway between No. 1 and No. 2 gathering lines and work single cable row.

3rd Row: Begin on 2nd gathering line; work single cable row.

4th Row: Begin on 4th gathering line. Do a wave by taking four stitches up to No. 3 gathering line, one stitch on same level, then four down to 4th gathering line one stitch on the same level. Repeat.

5th Row: Begin halfway between 4th and 5th gathering lines and repeat 4th row.

6th Row: Begin on 5th gathering row and repeat 4th row.

7th Row: Begin on 6th gathering row and repeat 4th row.

8th Row: Begin on 6th gathering row and work downwards, repeating previous rows.

9th Row: Begin on 5th pleat on 7th gathering line, take one stitch on level (with cotton above needle), working downwards for four stitches then one stitch on level, then four stitches upwards, another stitch on level and a diamond is formed. Repeat on third diamond.

For the Smaller Inserted Diamonds—

Take 2nd pleat in diamond with the 3rd pleat, make a level stitch, then, going up half the height of diamond, take 3rd pleat; another level stitch on to 4th pleat, next stitch down to gathering line or level of 1st stitch, then a level stitch; turn your work around (halfway down large diamond) back on to the two centre pleats with a level stitch, then to where you started your small diamond. Finish carefully.

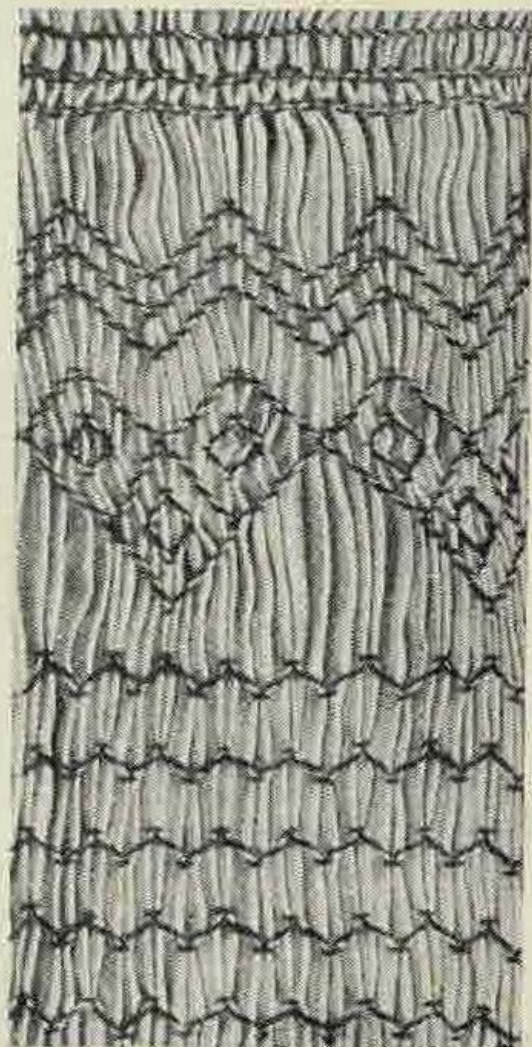
10th Row: Begin on 9th gathering row and work halfway between 8th and 9th gathering lines, a stitch being taken from 1st pleat up to halfway on the 2nd pleat; next stitch on level, then down to gathering line, 5th stitch being on level with 4th. Repeat.

11th Row: Begin on 10th gathering row and work halfway between 9th and 10th gathering lines as last row.

12th Row: Begin on 11th gathering line. Repeat last row.

13th Row: Begin on 12th gathering line. Repeat last row.

14th Row: Begin on 13th gathering line. Repeat last row.



SMOCKING PATTERN No. 2

WITH DETAILED INSTRUCTIONS

This pattern requires 11 rows of gathering.

1st Row is outline stitch.

2nd Row: Beginning on 2nd gathering line, bring needle up, on 1st pleat, take a stitch (with cotton below needle) on 2nd pleat halfway between 1st and 2nd gathering lines, take 3rd pleat with cotton above needle on level with last stitch, take 4th pleat (with cotton above needle) on 2nd gathering line, keeping cotton below needle, take 5th pleat on level with last stitch. Repeat.

3rd Row: Begin on 5th gathering line. Three outline stitches on three pleats along the gathering line. With cotton below the needle, take 4th pleat halfway between 5th and 4th gathering line, 5th pleat on 4th line, 6th pleat halfway between 4th and 3rd, 6th pleat on 4th line of gathering, 6 outline stitches on 4th line of gathering, then with cotton above needle work four stitches down to 5th gathering line (each stitch a pleat), 3 outline stitches. Repeat.

4th Row: Begin just below last row. Four outline stitches, then follow last row, doing four outline stitches at top pattern and five on 5th gathering line.

5th Row: Begin third of the way between 5th and 6th gathering lines. Do three outline stitches and merely work as previous row, only downwards to form lower half of diamond.

6th Row is same as No. 3, working close to 5th row, keeping stitches level.

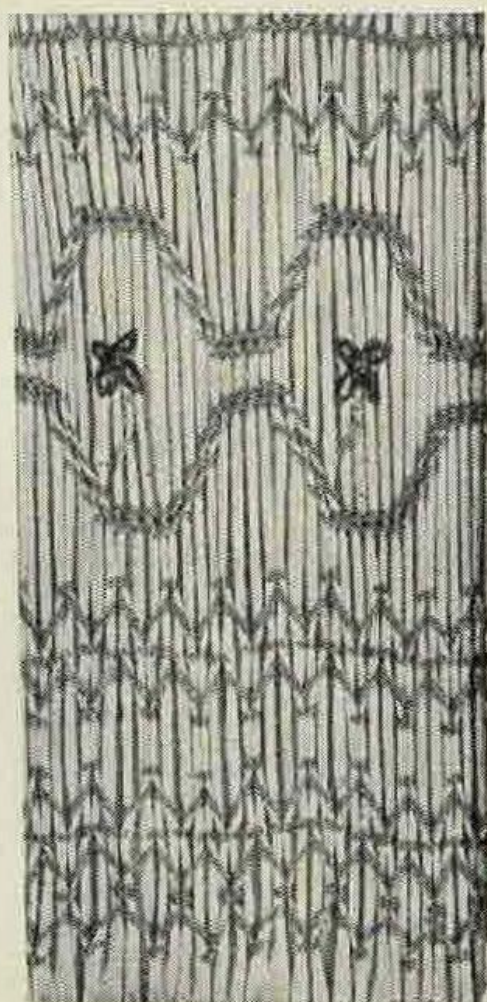
7th Row: Begin on 8th gathering row, working downwards to halfway between 8th and 9th gathering line, repeating 2nd row.

8th row: Begin halfway between 8th and 9th gathering row and repeat 7th row.

9th Row: Begin on 10th gathering row, work upwards halfway between 9th and 10th, repeating the 7th row.

10th Row: Begin halfway between 10th and 11th, work upwards, repeating 7th row.

11th Row: Begin on halfway 10th and 11th gathering line, work downwards the same as previous rows, thus completing the last row as diamond.

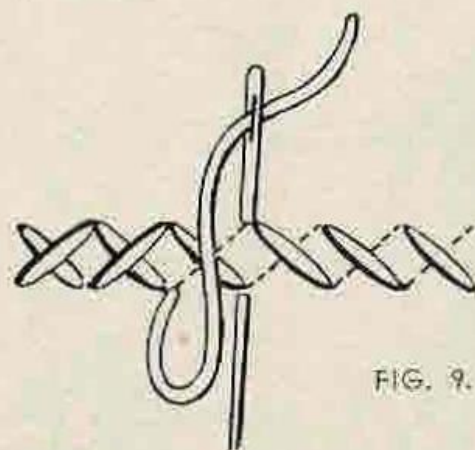


PEASANT BLOUSES AND CHILDREN'S SMOCKED FROCKS

The illustration shows how charming embroidery looks on a smocked blouse. This is one of the three attractive Semco designs for embroidered blouses. The packets contain transfers for the embroidery, and the pattern for cutting together with leaflet instructions. Children's Smocked Frock packets are also obtainable in various styles. Cross stitch also looks delightful combined with smocking, and separate transfers are obtainable of designs suitable for frocks and blouses.



SEMCO SMOCKED BLOUSE



CROSS STITCH

To give a uniform and pleasing effect, all top stitches should lie in the same direction. It will be found easier (where possible) to make the stitches in one direction entirely across the row, then go back, putting in the top stitches

rather than completing each cross separately. Where single crosses are of different colors, those of course must be completed one at a time. In lines care must be taken that all crosses meet as in Fig. 9.

BULGARIAN SMOCKING

This is really a very simple form of embroidered gathering. Instead of pulling out the preliminary gathering threads as in ordinary smocking, the rows of gathers are worked in strong embroidery thread and left in, and the pattern worked over them in simple outline stitch. It is very firm and does not stretch like ordinary smocking. Used in place of machine gathering, it gives a beautiful and unusual finish to frocks, either on the bodice or at the waist. Attractive collars and cuffs can be worked in this stitch, and are very easily laundered and pressed. Gathered pockets look fashionable and interesting. Almost any material is suitable except very heavy woollens. Silk, linen, cotton or light weight woollens can be used.

For the embroidery itself, use Semco Stranded Cotton in six strands, or wool may be used on woollen material. Angora wool looks lovely embroidered on light woollen material. The same thread should be used, both for the gathers and the surface embroidery.

Figures five, six and seven show the finished effect of three designs, together with the working details. The designs can of course be varied, or made wider or narrower, according to the number of gathering rows worked. If the smocking is to be worked on a straight piece of material, use a plain smocking transfer, and stamp on the wrong side of the material. A transfer with the dots a quarter of an inch apart is a good average size for silks, and three-eighths of an inch for heavy linen or wool.

When running in the gathering threads, the stitches and the space between them should be of equal length. Alternate the stitches and spaces in rows, the stitches of one row corresponding to the spaces of the next. (Fig. 1.) If smocking on a curve, mark the spacing for the stitches on the wrong side of the material. The length of the stitches must be adjusted to fit the curve, those of each succeeding row being a little longer than those of the previous row. The gathering threads should then be drawn up to the required fullness, and held in place. Care must be

taken to have each gathering thread exactly the same tension.

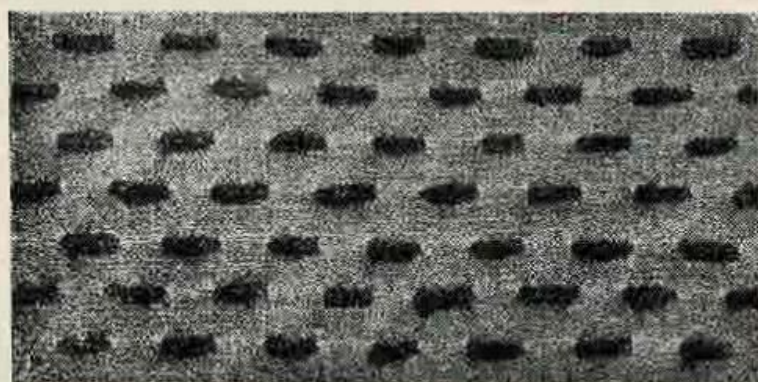


FIG. 1.

After all the gathers have been fastened off on the wrong side, bring the needle and thread to the right side of the material at left hand end of gathering rows, and begin

BULGARIAN SMOCKING

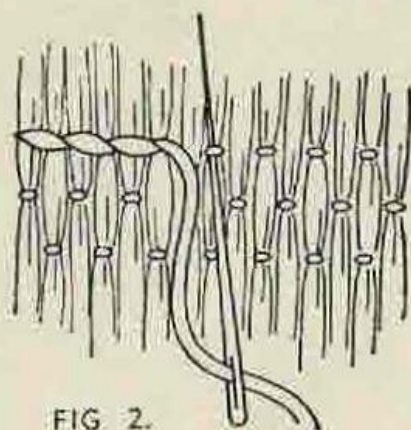


FIG. 2.

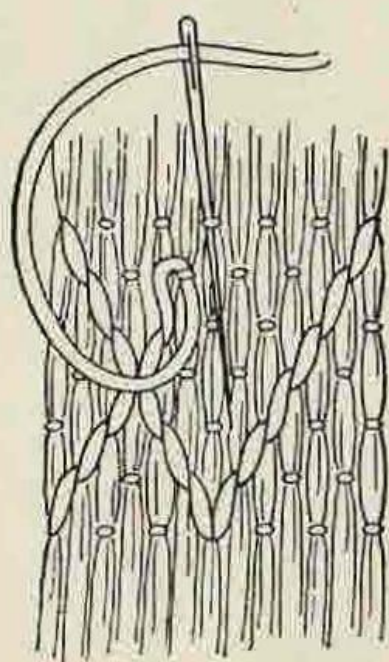


FIG. 4.
working the Zig-Zag
away from the body.
Fig. 4 shows the manner
of working towards the
body. When working
straight lines (Fig. 2),
hold the thread down
while passing the needle
upward under the
gathering thread.



FIG. 3.

to work the pattern. Use a blunt pointed
tapestry needle to avoid catching the material,
as the design is worked by passing the needle
and thread under the gathering thread only.
Figs. 2, 3 and 4 show how this is done. When
working the Zig-Zag lines, care must be taken
to hold the material
always in the same posi-
tion, without turning it,
and work the points of
the Zig-Zag to and away
from the body while the
thread is held well to the
left, under the thumb of
the left hand. Fig. 3
shows the position of the
needle and thread when

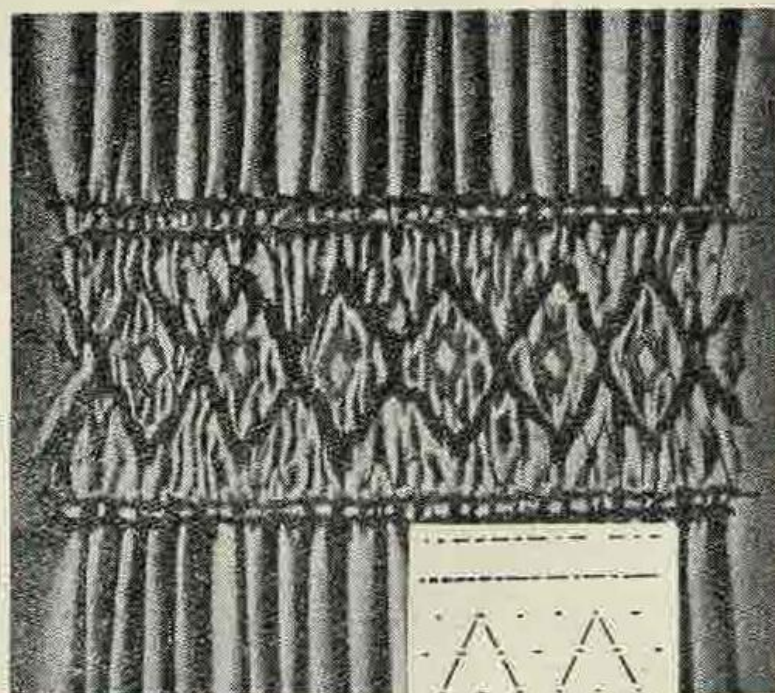


FIG. 5.

BULGARIAN SMOCKING

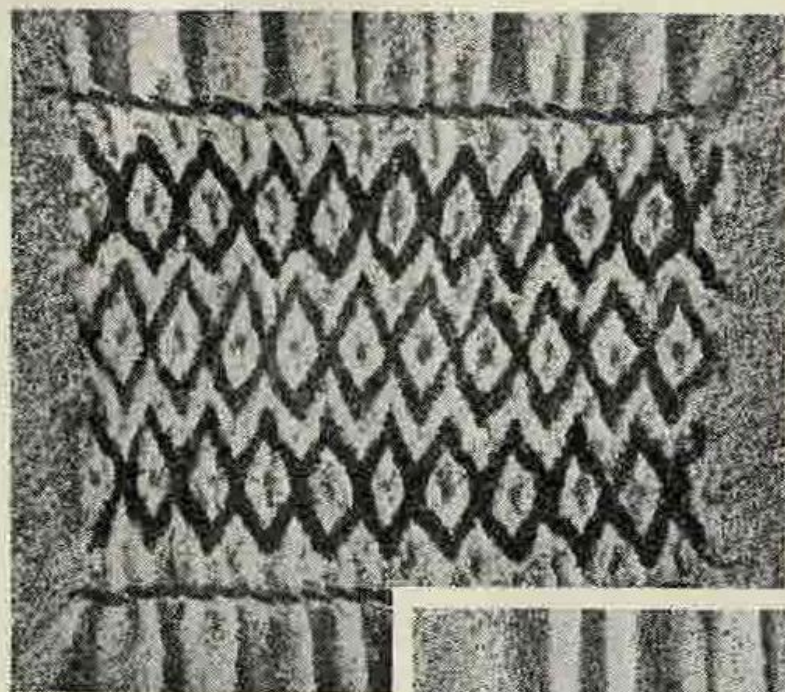


FIG. 6

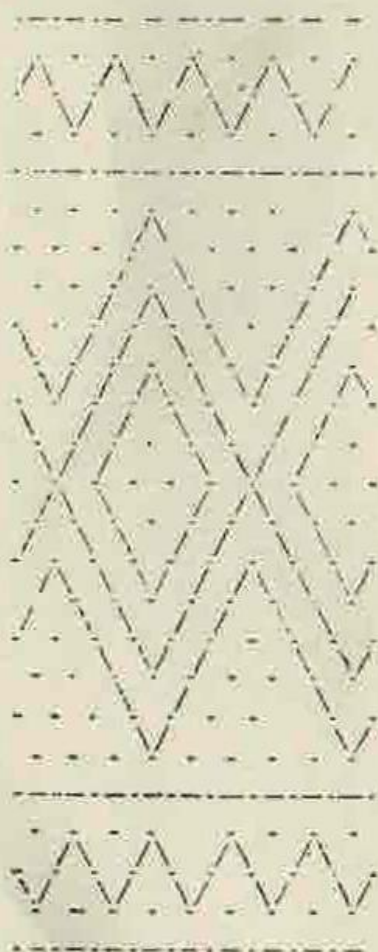
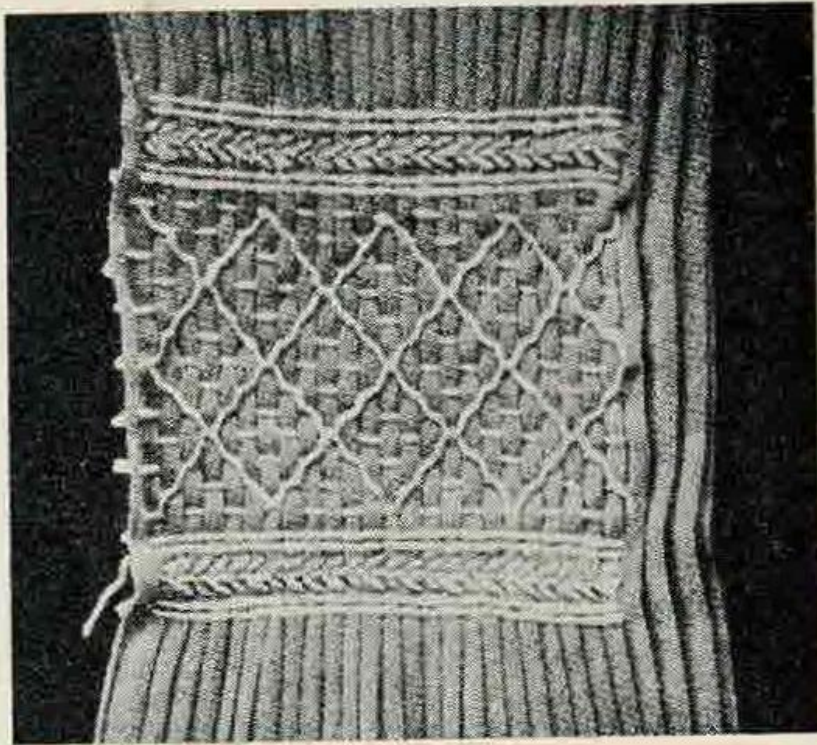


FIG. 7.

The patterns 5, 6 and 7, are pictured with worked details. Two colours are used in the embroidery of each of these patterns.

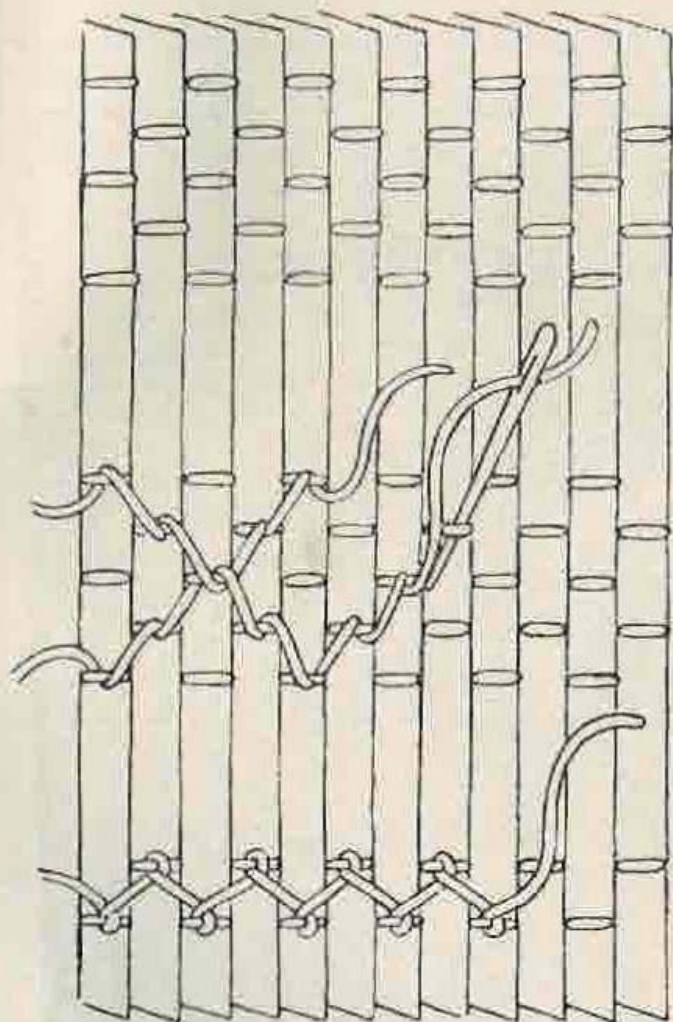
LAI D PLEATING



This method of putting in fullness by the decoration of flat pleats, deserves to be more widely known. It has certain advantages over smocking; the pleated material lies flatter, it is firmer, and particularly easy to launder and press. Worked in gay simple stitchery, this embroidery looks lovely on little frocks and rompers, either in silk or linen.

Lingerie is fascinating trimmed in this way, and it may be used in place of gathering on either silk or woollen dresses. The size of the pleat or tuck varies from $\frac{1}{8}$ -inch to $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch according to the weight of the material used. An easy method of pleating the material is to stamp a plain smocking transfer of the size required, on the wrong side of the material, and fold the material on the dots. When the material has been folded into pleats, tack firmly and press. Now catch the pleats down with running stitches in rows, an even distance apart, working over one tuck and under the next. Alternate rows of stitches must go over the tucks the preceding row went under. When the rows of running stitches are complete, remove the tacking threads, as the tucks are now secure, and work over the running stitches or between the rows according to the pattern. The illustration and diagrams show the type of design that is suitable for embroidery.

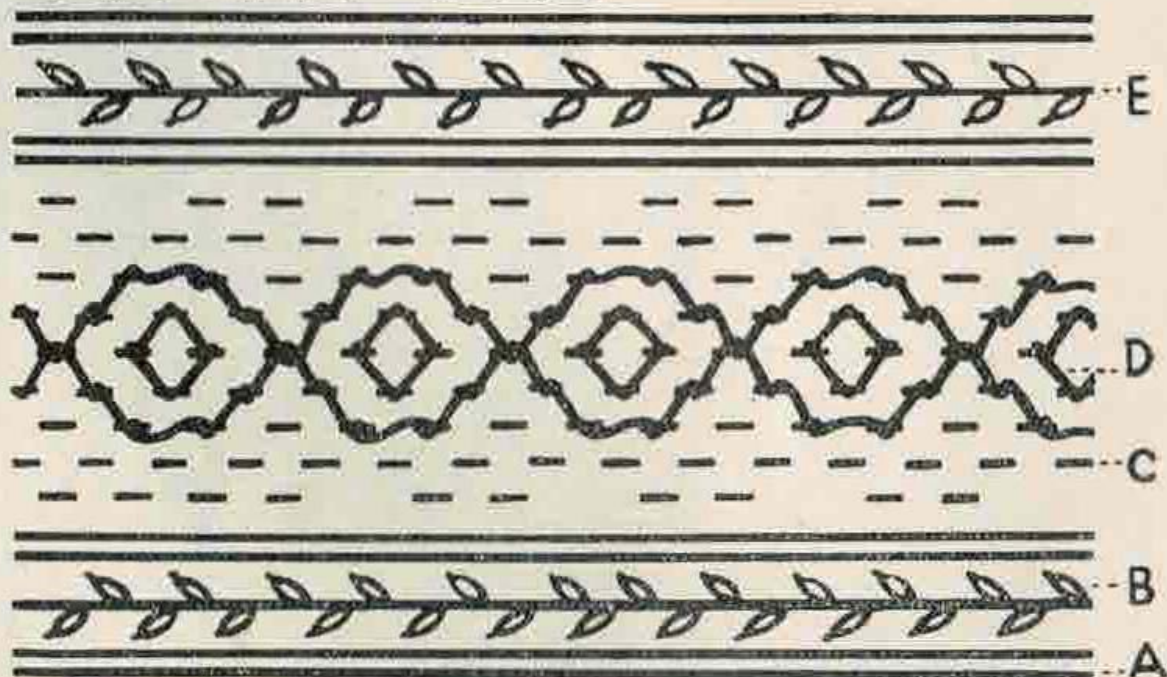
LAI D PLEATING



1. This shows the running stitches taken in rows across the pleats.

2. Showing how to work the trellis pattern over the running stitches.

3. A band design which may be used in place of the one shown at the top and bottom of the trellis pattern in the illustration.



This shows another variety of pattern. The straight lines A can be worked in back or chain stitches; B in lazy daisy stitch; C shows the running stitches; D shows the threads which are whipped over the running stitches; and E, the stem, can be worked in back stitch or chain stitch.

LINGERIE EMBROIDERY

Designs for every type of embroidery for lingerie are obtainable in the Semco Transfer Range; enchanting florals in tiny sprays, delicate applique and shadow embroidery designs, and smart monograms. These designs are practical and simple to embroider, and bring glamorous and flattering lingerie within the reach of the most inexperienced needlewoman.

MONOGRAMS AND INITIALS

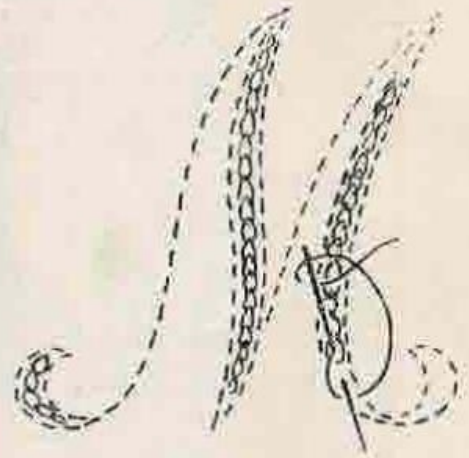
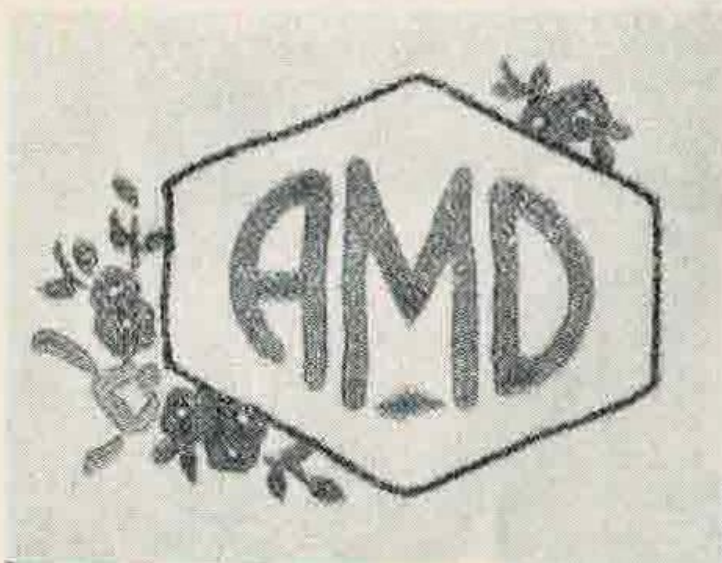


FIG. 1.

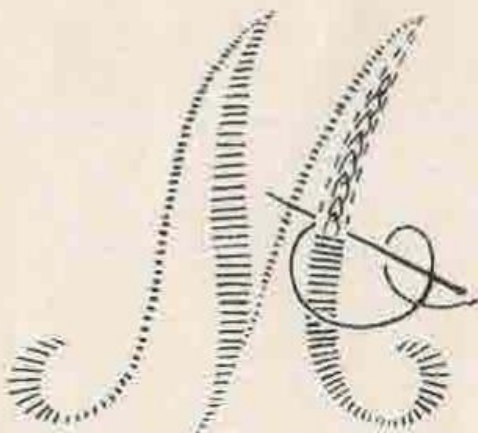
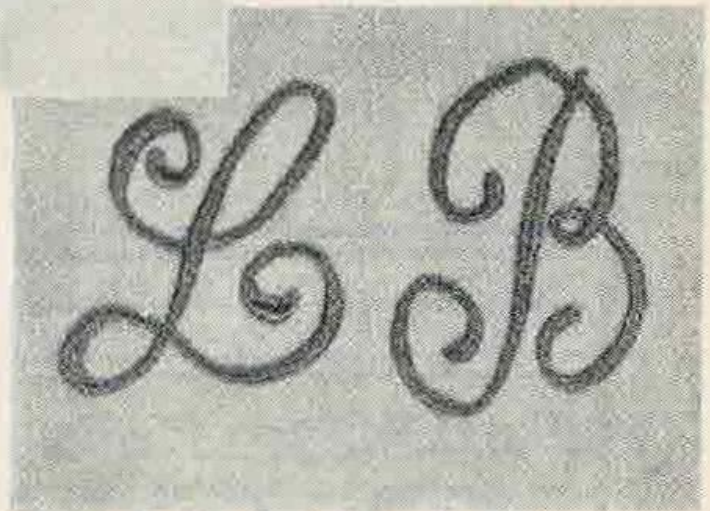


FIG. 2.

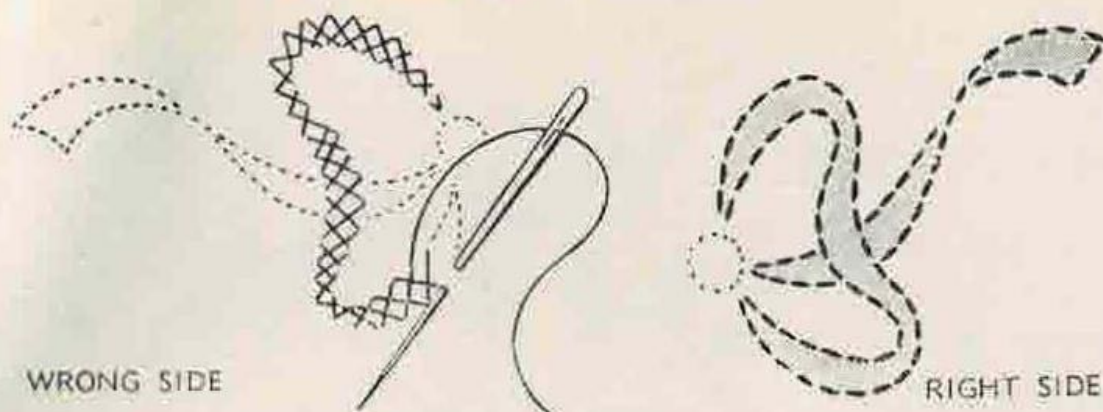


Simplicity and style in monograms, make the perfect finish to hand-made lingerie. You can buy your own monogram in two or three letters, or purchase the letters separately. Choose from classic and script styles for your tailored pyjamas and undies, delicate designs with floral motifs for fragile lingerie, or monograms in the modern style without capitals. There are larger sizes for house linens and styles for decorating your sports wear and dresses. Your Needlework Supplier will show you the full range of Semco Initial Transfers.

PADDING A MONOGRAM

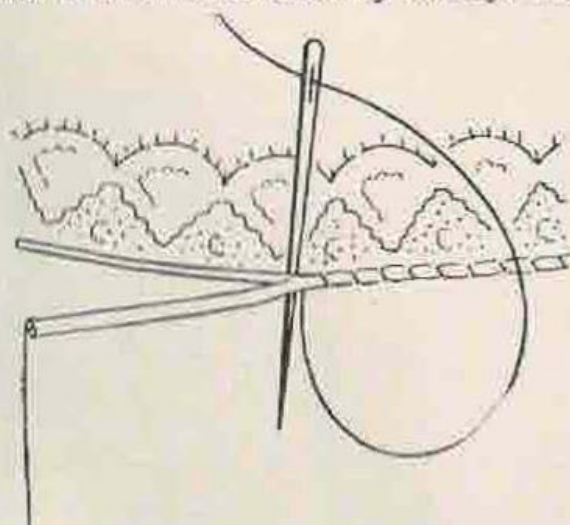
First outline the design with running stitches to give a firm edge to the monogram. Then pad the centre with chain-stitch (Fig. 1). Finally, cover the padding with satin stitch, worked straight across the letter, as shown in Fig. 2.

LINGERIE EMBROIDERY



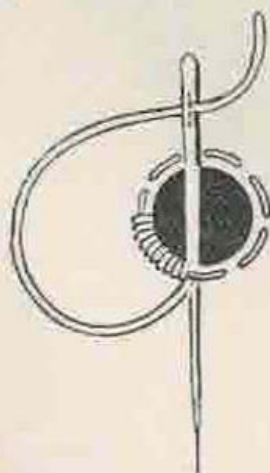
SHADOW EMBROIDERY

This stitch looks delightful on any transparent or semi-transparent material. It is worked from left to right on the wrong side, filling the space between two lines. Begin on the upper line at left. Put the needle about a quarter of an inch to the right, on the line below, and here make a back-stitch of one-eighth of an inch. Now go to the upper line and make a similar-sized back-stitch immediately over the one below. Come back to the lower line and make a back-stitch to the right of the last one. Continue in this way. For this embroidery the 'wrong' side of the work becomes the right side, making lines of back-stitches to outline the design, with the cross-stitches showing through the material on the right side.



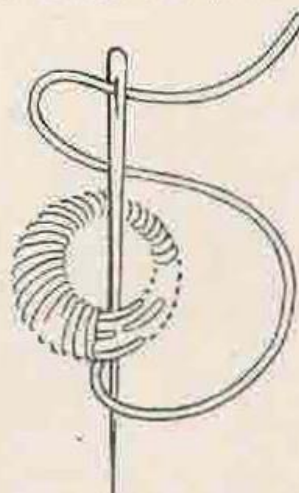
LACE WHIPPING

This is used for sewing on lace with a straight edge. The edge of the lace is "whipped"—or oversewn—on to the rolled edge of the material. This edge is rolled towards you between the thumb and first finger of the left hand as you proceed. The stitch should go over the roll, but the needle must not be taken through it. Press the finished work well to flatten the join.



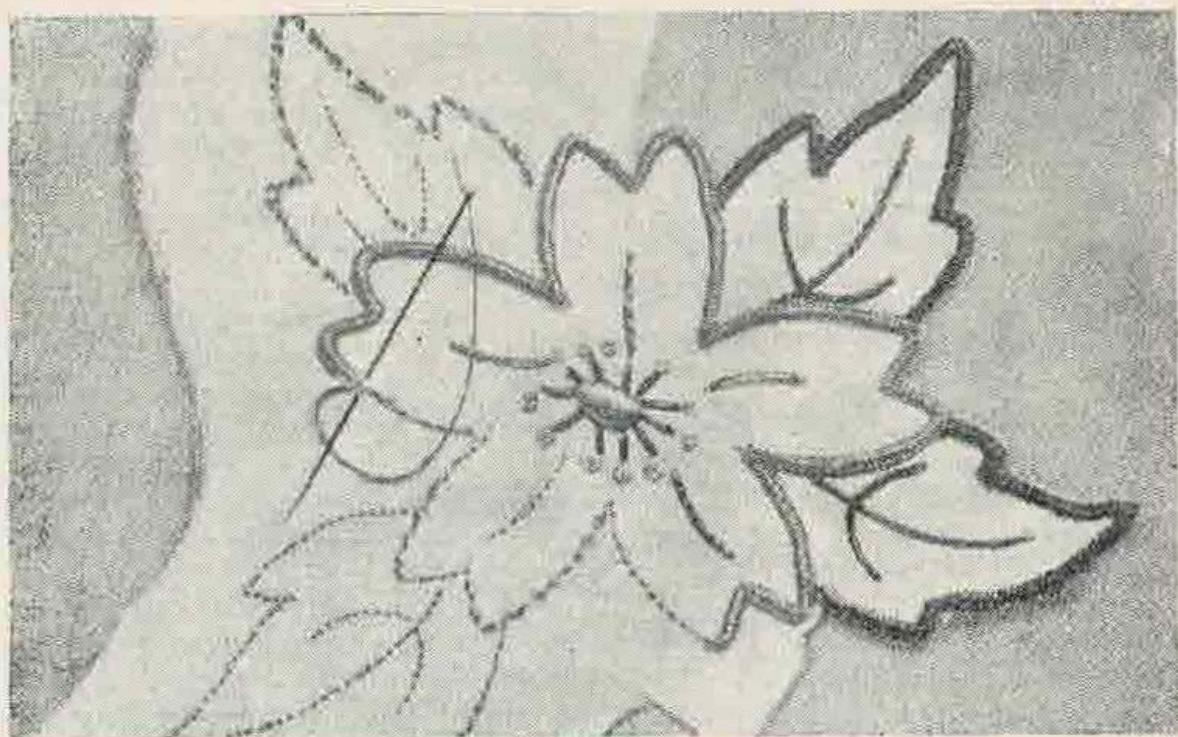
EYELET

First outline the circle or oval with small running stitches. For small round eyelets, use a stiletto to punch through the material, working it round until the cloth is pushed back to the run line. For the large eyelet, cut the material in a cross through the centre and then again through each of the four points of cloth, fold-



ing back the edges. Oval eyelets are cut lengthwise and across through the widest portion. Oversew the edges with small stitches close together, over the running stitches, working from left to right.

LINGERIE EMBROIDERY



APPLIQUE

Take two transfers of the design to be used. Stamp one transfer, intact, on to the foundation material, cut the other in as many patterns as you intend appliqueing colors on to the material and stamp each portion on its particular color, i.e., leaves on to green material, flowers on whichever color desired, and so on. Cut out the colored pieces leaving $\frac{3}{8}$ inch all round the outlines of the design, and tack them carefully on to the foundation material. Care should be taken to place the design on the background so that the grain of the applied material corresponds with the grain of the background material. This is important as the material is apt to wrinkle if the grain is not correctly placed. If only one color is being used for the applique, and the placing of the design is not difficult, it is not necessary to stamp the design on the foundation material also. When the material is tacked in position, outline the design with small running stitches, working through both materials. In whatever colored Semco Stranded Cotton desired, buttonhole over the running stitches around the edges of the design. Cut away the surplus material and finish with whatever stitchery is necessary to complete the design. If using stiff material that will not fray, the applique can be cut out a little outside the outlines of the design, and if carefully tacked, the running stitches can be omitted.

NET APPLIQUE

Stamp the design on the right side of the garment and tack the net securely on the wrong side. Outline the design with small running stitches and buttonhole over this, taking the stitches through both materials. Cut away surplus material leaving the net showing, and neaten off the net on the wrong side close to the buttonholing.

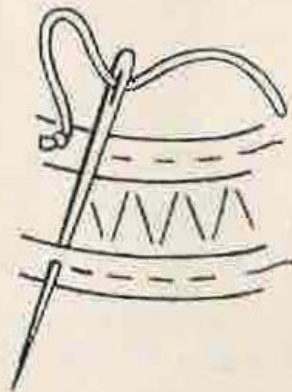
FAGOTING

Fagoting is very simple, but makes extremely effective collars and cuffs, as well as a beautiful finish to lingerie. Self color braid looks best for lingerie and is made by joining the two sides of a fine strip of material, turning it inside out and pressing flat. Peau-d'ange (angel skin) braid or folded bias tape is best for collars and cuffs. First tack the braid in the desired position on stiff brown paper, using small stitches to hold the work firmly in place.

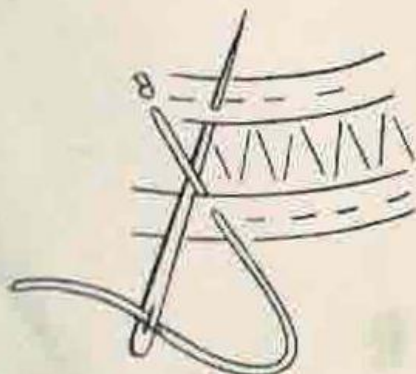
DIAGONAL FAGOTING

For the fagoting stitch use Semco Mercerised Crochet thread, size 60. Working from left to right, fasten the thread securely and bring the needle out on the front of the braid near the edge on the top row. Take a stitch in the lower row of braid, placing the needle underneath the edge and bringing it through to the front (Detail 1). As in Detail 2, pass the needle under the thread and take a stitch in the top row, where the needle is again placed under the edge of the braid and brought through to the front.

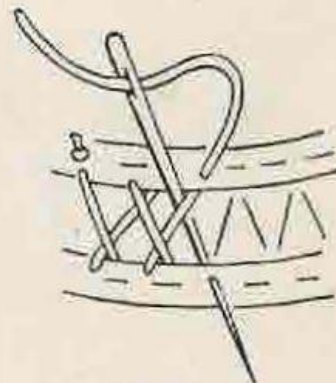
Continue as shown in Detail 3. The working side is the wrong side when finished.



DETAIL 1.



DETAIL 2.



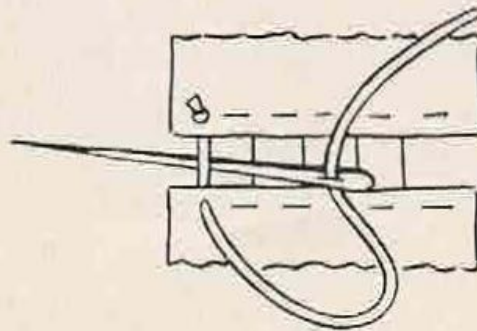
DETAIL 3.

FAGOTING

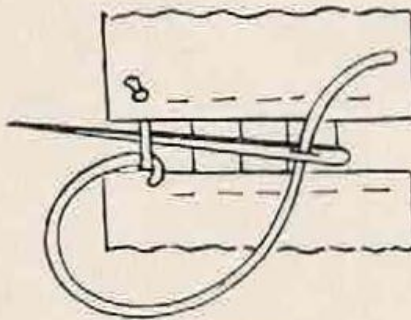
STRAIGHT FAGOTING

This stitch is very attractive for joining together sections of a garment, or as a finish to a straight edge. Details 4, 5, and 6 show the method of working. Details 7 and 8 show a simpler method of straight fagoting.

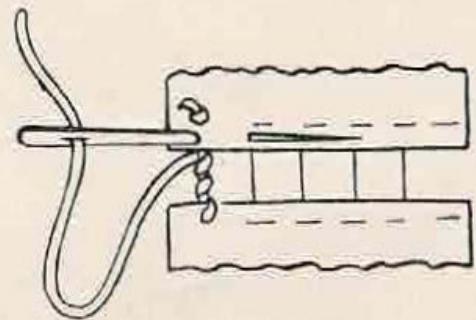
Semco Packets are obtainable of collar and cuff designs stamped on strong brown paper. Direction lines for the embroidery and double lines for the braid are marked on the design, and complete leaflet instructions are enclosed. These attractive sets are designed for all shapes in neck lines and some are for inserting in the frock.



DETAIL 4.

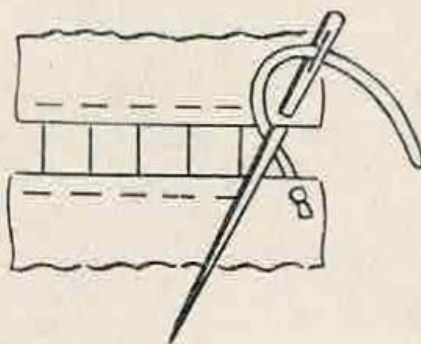


DETAIL 5.

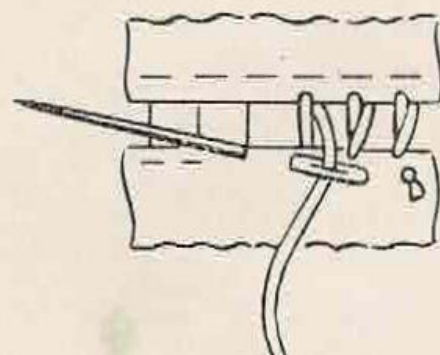


DETAIL 6.

A SIMPLE METHOD OF STRAIGHT FAGOTING

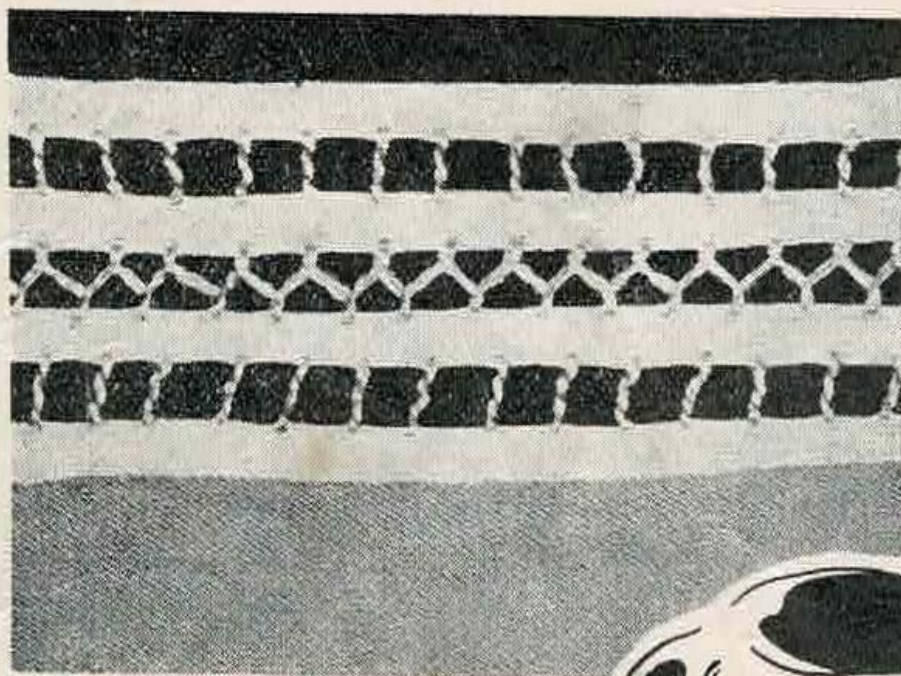


DETAIL 7.



DETAIL 8.

FAGOTING



Showing straight and diagonal fagoting in an edge suitable for trimming a silk nightdress or edging revers. White revers look very attractive if two rows of fagoting are worked one inch in from the outer edge.



This set takes $15\frac{1}{2}$ yards of Braid and a small ball of Semco Mercerised Crochet Thread, size 60.

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