

SENIOR TEXTILE ARTIST BADGE

Badge Purpose: When you've earned this badge, you'll have learned the basics of a textile art—and you'll have two fantastic projects to show for it.

| Activity | Materials Needed |
|--|---|
| Pioneering Artists + Inspiration <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Get inspired by other textile artists and create designs for an embroidered badge. | <input type="checkbox"/> Phone or computer with internet access <input type="checkbox"/> Paper <input type="checkbox"/> Writing and coloring utensils |
| Stitch Fix <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gather your embroidery tools and practice basic stitches. | <input type="checkbox"/> Fabric (2 6" x 6" pieces) <input type="checkbox"/> Felt (2 2" x 2" pieces) <input type="checkbox"/> 4" embroidery hoop <input type="checkbox"/> Embroidery floss <input type="checkbox"/> Scissors <input type="checkbox"/> Pencil <input type="checkbox"/> Water soluble marker <input type="checkbox"/> Embroidery needle <input type="checkbox"/> 1" bar pin back (optional) <input type="checkbox"/> Pins (optional) <input type="checkbox"/> Fray check (optional) <input type="checkbox"/> Phone or computer with internet access |
| You've Earned This! <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Embroider your badges, one for yourself, and one to give away. | <input type="checkbox"/> Sketches from Activity #1 <input type="checkbox"/> Embroidery tools from Activity #2 |

Activity #1: Pioneering Artists + Inspiration

Badge Connection: Step 1 – Choose your textile art

Materials Needed: Phone or computer with internet access; paper; writing and coloring utensils

- When you think about art in museums, what comes to your mind? For most people, they'll think of: paintings (watercolor, oil), photography (color, black and white), and sculptures (marble, bronze). But artists also create works with textiles—using anything from fabric to yarn to wool to innovate designs. Get inspired by contemporary textile artists!
- If you can, visit an art gallery or museum in your area that has a textile exhibit. These pieces are definitely worth seeing in person—you can't get that same tactile quality online. If you can't find somewhere to visit though, see the interesting works that artists are creating:
 - 10 Pioneering Artists, from Sheila Hicks to Nick Cave, bit.ly/10textileartists
 - 10 Contemporary Embroidery Artists, bit.ly/10contemporaryartists
 - Textile Artists: 10 to Watch, bit.ly/tentowatch
- To earn this badge, you'll be making badges! You'll create one for yourself, then create another to give to a friend or family member.



4. Think about a quality or skill that you have or learned that makes you feel proud. Then, sketch out some designs that reflect this quality or skill (it doesn't have to be literal; it can be an abstract design—after all, it's a badge celebrating you, so make it as personal as you want!).
5. For the badge you'll be gifting, think of your recipient—what quality or skill do they have that you admire? Sketch out some designs that reflect this quality or skill.

Activity #2: Stitch Fix

Badge Connection: Step 2 – Find your tools and materials and Step 3 – Learn the basics

Materials Needed: See list below for embroidery tools; phone or computer with internet access

1. First, gather the tools you'll need to create your badges:
 - Fabric (2 6" x 6" pieces)
 - Felt (2 2" x 2" pieces)
 - 4" embroidery hoop
 - Embroidery floss
 - Scissors
 - Pencil
 - Water soluble marker
 - Embroidery needle
 - 1" bar pin back (optional)
 - Pins (optional)
 - Fray check (optional)
2. For more info on these tools, check out: 5 Essential Supplies for Hand Embroidery, bit.ly/handembroiderytools.
3. Then, practice the basic embroidery stitches before you work on your badges. Here are some tutorials you can use, or search YouTube and Google for more resources:
 - Embroidery basics video: bit.ly/learnembroiderybasics
 - Embroidery stitches: bit.ly/10embroiderystitches
4. Once you've practiced the stitches and feel comfortable doing them, move onto the next step.

Activity #3: You've Earned This!

Badge Connection: Step 4 – Make something for everyday use and Step 5 – Create a gift or item for a special occasion

Materials Needed: Sketches from Activity #1 and embroidery tools from Activity #2

1. Using the ideas you generated in Activity #1, decide on the design for each of your badges. Trace two concentric circles onto a piece of paper. The outer circle will be the edge of your badge; in the inner circle, draw your design in pencil.
2. Now, transfer the image from the paper onto your fabric. Lay the fabric over the paper (you might have to use a window or a lightbox if you can't see the paper through the fabric), then use a water soluble marker to trace the design.
3. Secure the fabric with your design to a 4" embroidery hoop. Cut off a length of embroidery floss, then start stitching your design. To start, tie a knot at the end of your embroidery floss. Start on the underside of the fabric and pull the floss up through the fabric to make a small stitch. Continue stitching until your design is complete.
4. Then, stitch the entire border.
5. Afterwards, finish the back of the badge. Cut a piece of felt the same size as the outer circle of the badge. If you're using pinbacks, stitch them onto the felt.
6. Then, cut out the embroidered fabric, line it up with your felt circle, and stitch the two circles together. If your fabric is prone to fraying, use Fray Check on the edges.



7. After your embroidered badge is complete, use water to remove any visible pen marks from your initial design.

Source: blog.etsy.com/en/how-tuesday-make-a-merit-badge

