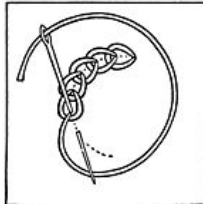


Australian Quaker Tapestry

Newsletter - November 2007



**Chain
Stitch**



Chain Stitch

Chain stitch is a sewing and embroidery technique in which a series of looped stitches form a chain-like pattern. Chain stitch is an ancient craft - examples of surviving Chinese chain stitch embroidery worked in silk thread have been dated to the Warring States period (5th-3rd century BC). Handmade chain stitch embroidery does not require that the needle pass through more than one layer of fabric.

For this reason the stitch is an effective surface embellishment near seams on finished fabric. Because chain stitches can form flowing, curved lines, they are used in many surface embroidery styles that mimic "drawing" in thread.

Articles and drawing (above) from http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chain_stitch

Central Committee

Frances Love
Cathy Davies
Garry Duncan
Barbara Huntington

All enquires to:
tapestry@quakers.org.au

Photographic illustrations from the Quaker Tapestry workshop film by Bridget Guest

Hand Embroidery

Chain stitch and its variations are fundamental to embroidery traditions of many cultures, including Kashmiri *numdahs*, Iranian Resht work, Central Asian *suzani*, Hungarian Kalotaszeg "written embroidery" Jacobean embroidery, and crewelwork.

Australian Quaker Tapestry Project Group Contacts

- Meetings for Stitching and Design

Blue Mountains (Lawson, NSW)
Contact Barbara Sinclair for details.

Canberra (ACT)
Contact Catherine Dabron

Brisbane (Queensland)
Contact Jude Pembleton for details.

Melbourne (Victoria)
Contact Tessa Spratt

Newcastle (Mayfield, NSW)
Contact Annie Frizell

Sydney (Waitara, NSW)
Contact Cathy Davies

Website: www.freewebs.com/australianquakertapestry