How to Sew a Whip Stitch

Learn to sew a whip stitch.

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INTRODUCTION

A whip stitch is an easy way to sew two pieces of fabric together. You can use this stitch whether the edges of the two pieces of material line up or not. If they do line up, the stitch will loop around the outside edge of the material.

TOOLS:
- Utility Scissors (1)
- Needle (1)

PARTS:
- Spool of Thread (1)

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Step 1 — How to Sew a Whip Stitch

- Align the two pieces of material you will be stitching together.

- [Thread your needle](#) and tie a knot in the end of the thread.
  - ⓘ We'll use a bright-colored thread for better contrast, but you may want to select a thread that matches the color of your fabric.

- Drive the needle into the bottom layer of material from the back side.

Step 2

- Pull the needle through the bottom layer of material.

- Pull the thread taut.

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Step 3

- Drive the needle down through the top and bottom layers of fabric, close to where the needle came up.

- ⓘ The distance between where the needle comes up and goes down will be your stitch length. The smaller the stitch length, the more stitches required—and the stronger the seam.

- Pull the thread taut on the backside of the bottom material.

Step 4

- Continue bringing the needle up and down through both layers of fabric, as in steps 2 and 3 of this guide, working your way around the material.

- (i) If you are using this stitch as a repair where a stitch already exists, be sure to overlap the existing stitching by several stitches to help prevent it from unraveling.

Step 5

- For the final stitch, come up from the back of the bottom material once again.

- Draw the needle between the two layers of material through the stitch closest to where the needle came up.

Step 6

- Slowly start to pull the thread taut. As you pull, you will see a loop form.

- Draw the needle through the loop.

- Pull the thread taut, forming a knot.

- Repeat the process of driving the needle up from behind, drawing it through the stitch, and pulling it through the loop as described in steps 5 and 6 of this guide one more time.

Step 7

- Ensure that the stitches are tight.

- Cut any remaining thread, and admire your handiwork.

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