

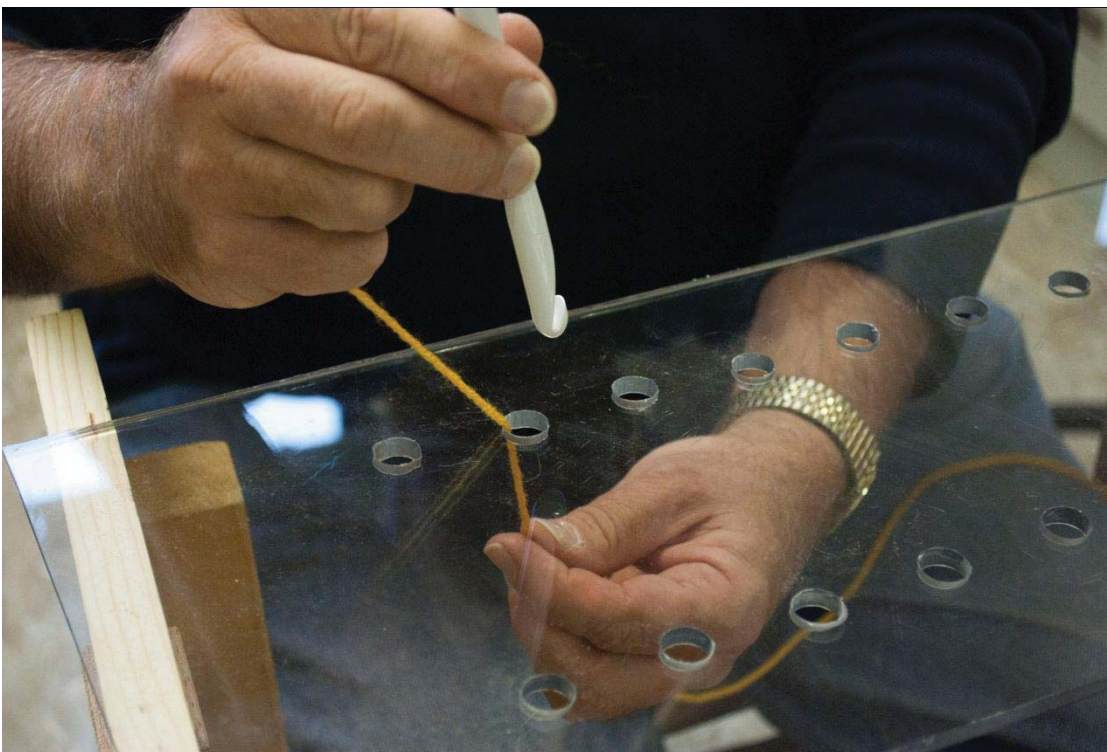
Tambour Tutorial by Robert Haven

In these photographs that show each step for tambour embroidery, Robert Haven used a large hook, yarn, and a Plexiglass “fabric” to illustrate this technique.

Photographs by Jamie Snodgrass



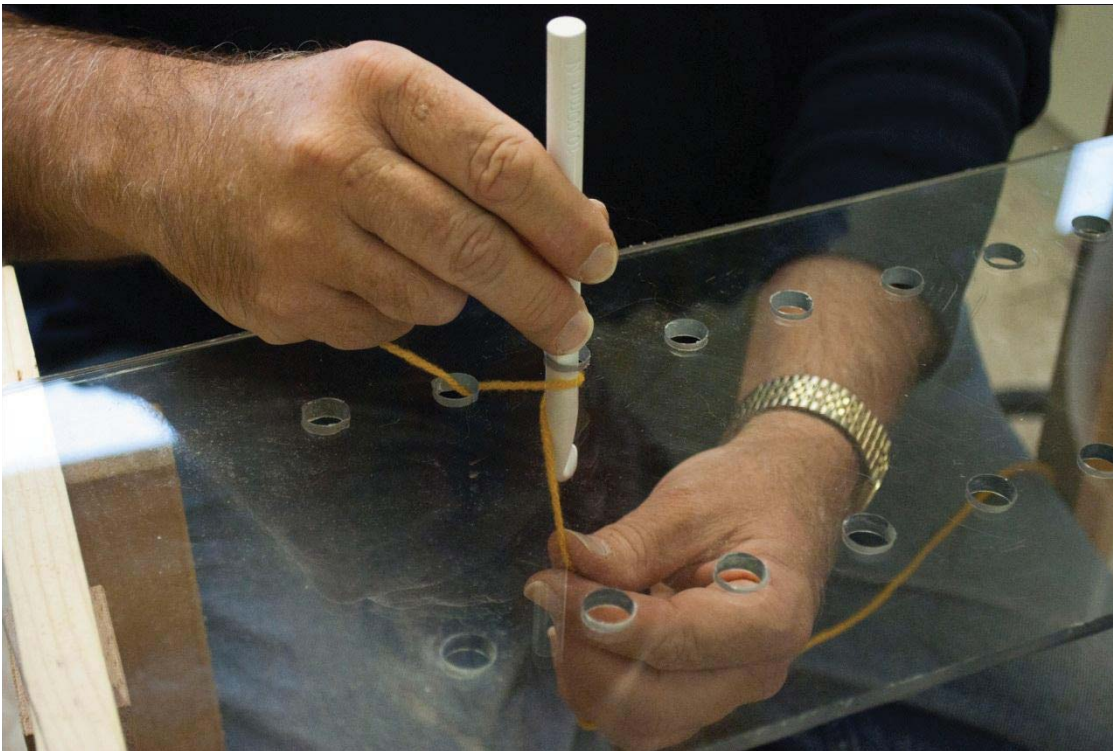
Step 1. Plunge the needle through the fabric, and pick up a loop of thread from the left hand held under the frame.



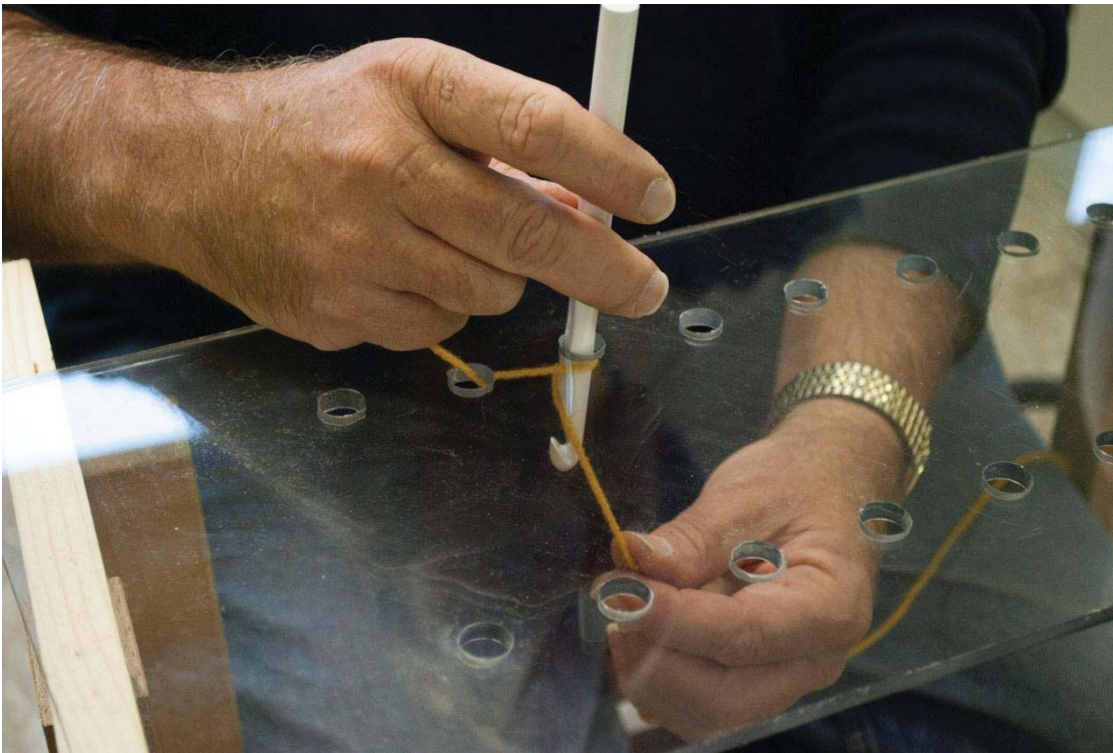
Step 2. Pull the thread tail to the surface and hold on to it with the right hand.



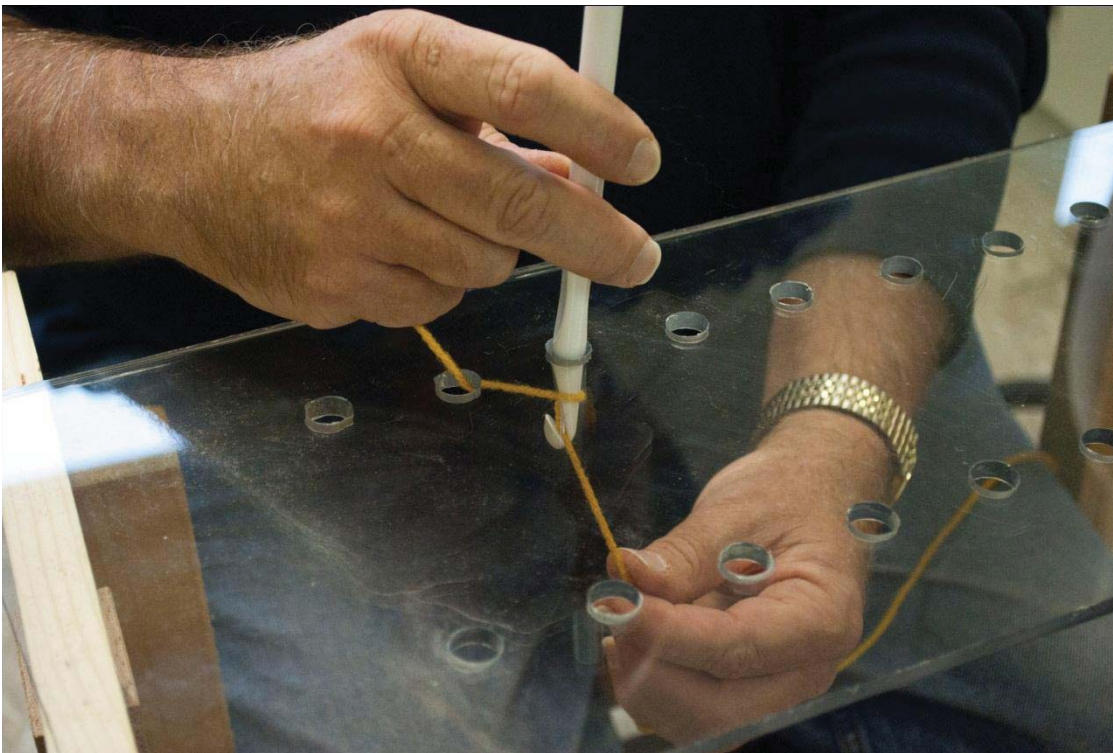
Step 3. *Plunge* the hook through the fabric at the beginning of the design, making sure the set screw is facing the direction of the stitching.



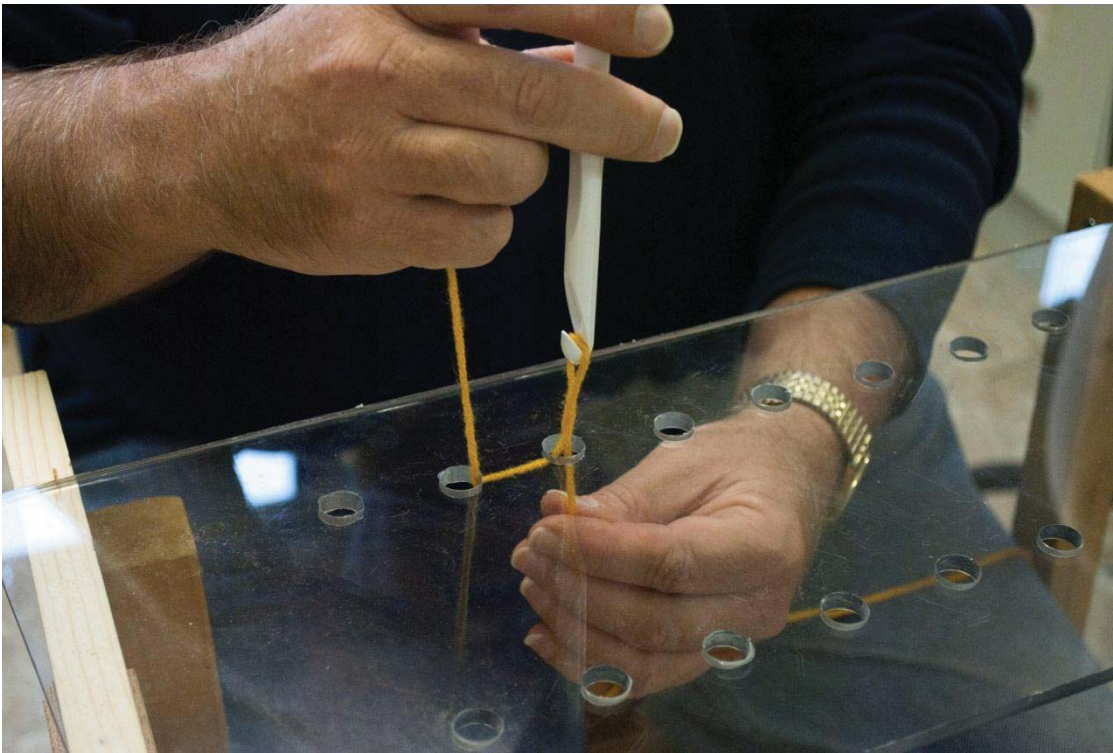
Step 4. *Wrap* the thread around the needle, spiraling downward slightly.



Step 5. *Turn* the hook 180 degrees in the *same* direction you wrapped the thread.



Step 6. *Snap* the thread into the hook. You will feel and hear it snap.



Step 7. *Lift* the hook and thread through the surface, keeping the needle straight up and down like a sewing machine.



Step 8. At this point in the process, the hook is facing the opposite direction to the line of stitching and you are perfectly positioned to make a stitch going opposite the line of stitching. At the beginning of a line this would be a TINY backstitch. *Plunge* the hook through the fabric, making sure the set screw is facing the direction of the stitching.



Step 9. *Wrap* the thread around the needle, spiraling downward slightly.



Step 10. *Turn* the hook 180 degrees in the *same* direction you wrapped the thread.



Step 11. *Lift* the hook and thread through the surface, keeping the needle straight up and down like a sewing machine.



Step 12. Now stitch in the working direction. You can let go of the thread tail.

Advance forward and repeat the *plunge, wrap, turn, snap, lift* sequence.