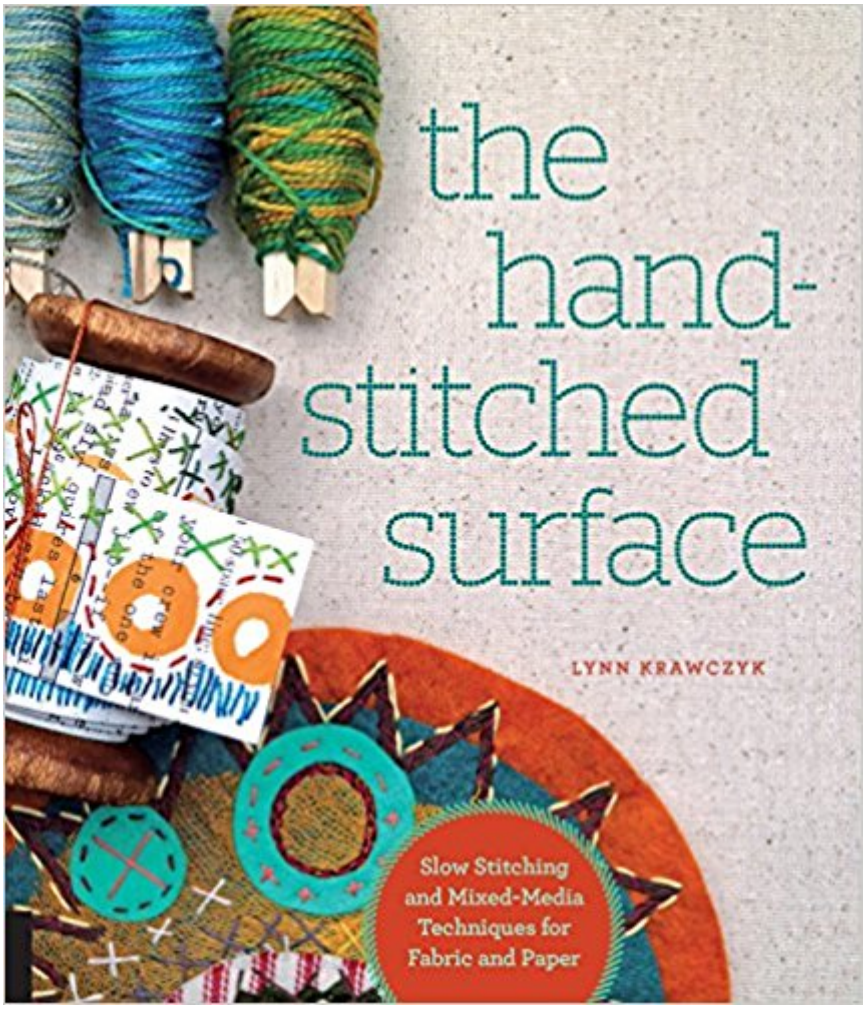
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The Hand-Stitched Surface: Slow Stitching And Mixed-Media Techniques For Fabric And Paper



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Synopsis

Written by noted surface designer Lynn Krawczyk, The Hand-Stitched Surface offers inspiring techniques and beautiful projects for creating richly layered mixed-media surfaces on paper and fabric to encourage stitchers to slow down and savor their handiwork. Following an overview of tools and supplies, the section on stitching essentials covers a range of basic stitches and how they can be modified: mixing thread weights for textural effects; unique ways to create patterns for hand stitching; exploring color; and tips and tricks for improvisational stitching. The fifteen keepsake-quality projects are perfect for those seeking to disconnect from technology and embrace a quiet, meditative approach to handwork and creating art.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"delightful new book" - Susan Niner Janes, The Papercraft Post

Lynn Krawczyk is a mixed-media surface design artist who focuses on pattern and color. Her work features painting, drawing, and hand stitching on both fabric and paper. Lynn has written nearly 50 magazine articles for such publications as Quilting Arts Magazine, Cloth Paper Scissors, Uppercase, Fiber Art Now, and Sew Somerset, andis the author of Intentional Printing: Simple Techniques for Inspired Fabric Art (Interweave, 2014). She also has a collection of floss with thread manufacturer Aurifil, Inked by Lynn Krawczyk, as well as three instructional DVD workshops with Quilting Arts/F&W Media: Print, Design, Compose; Color Theory Made Easy; and Thermofax Screen Printing Essentials. Lynn teaches surface design workshops at various venues throughout

the U.S. See more of work her on her website, smudgeddesignstudio.com

I’m a relatively elementary stitcher. I’ve done a little bit here and there, mostly just as embellishment for other kinds of creating. I’ve always wanted to dive into it a little deeper, but other books on the subject, frankly, made me a little overwhelmed and I always left it for a time when I could devote more energy to understanding how to do all the things.Enter Krawczyk’s book. The section on stitches was clear and has a wide enough variety that I don’t think I’ll ever get bored (and can refer back to it if I get confused), but is enough of a knowledge base that if I want to try some more complicated surface stitches, I’ll feel more confident having mastered these. I love her style in the projects presented, as well -- I’m looking forward to making some boho coasters and maybe even some covered buttons if I’m feeling adventurous. (I have a coat that needs some new ones; I think I just talked myself into it.)If you’re a very advanced stitcher, I can see how this may feel a little basic, but for someone like me, who’s dabbled but never gone deep, it’s the perfect book to give you the stuff you need to know to explore embroidery without feeling like you’ve got to be an expert right away. Of course, after practicing all the info Krawczyk gives you, you’ll probably *be* more of an expert than before. Call that a bonus score. :)

too simple

Sometimes we need to look beyond the surface to see real beauty. I found this to be true with this book. I have been stitching for close to 60 years. My grandmother taught me to embroider as soon as I could hold a needle because, being a Southern woman, she felt that ’ladies should know how to do handwork’. The basic skills taught in this book are not new to me. What is new is the reminder that even with the simplest of stitches, we can achieve great texture and interest to the surface of our piece. Slowing down and stitching is both meditative and rewarding and I think that is the biggest lesson I took away from this book.

So often I find books on techniques new to me that are geared toward people who already understand the technique. This one is the notable exception. Ms. Krawczyk does an excellent job teaching a new and somewhat complex technique. While I agree that the language is simple and geared toward the beginner, that should not be construed as a bad thing. The best writing and teaching are done in clear, cogent, simple explanations, devoid of techinque-driven jargon. Well Done, Lynn!

The Hand-stitched Surface is a perfect resource for those who want to learn new techniques or refresh old stitches long forgotten. I love how Lynn Krawczyk modifies and combines stitches with new ideas. The book is easy to follow with beautiful examples. There are also templates included...BONUS! This book is exactly what I was looking for!

This book is a great intro to the art of soothing, introspective surface design. I really appreciated the beginning chapter on hand-stitching essentials. While I'm an avid quilter, the refresher course in choosing one's fiber, tools and other materials was very useful - as was the primer on stitching techniques that followed. I haven't made a fly stitch or a french knot in about 20 years, so the how-to reminders was helpful. I loved that Lynn gave instructions on stitching on paper and on fabric. Sometimes you just want a little something to take with you - whether you're putting it in an art journal, a mixed media piece or even making a label for a quilt. This is just the book to help that process along.The projects are very approachable, as is the writing style of the book. Creating your own patterns and using improv stitching allows one to grow as they work their way through the chapters. I am very excited to try embellishing photos with stitching. And, I'm looking forward to putting my own spin on some stamped and stitched runner projects.This is exactly the kind of book I like to sit down with for a few hours with a cup of tea and of course, chocolate, making my way through it and either visualizing or jotting down ideas of what else I would do, based on the ideas presented. It's one of those books that is like a friend - and I see myself returning to it often. hank you for writing this and sharing your gifts with the rest of us.

Often I have found that I very well have learned something incorrectly and then been frustrated trying to unlearn or figure out what I have been doing wrong. This book by Lynn Krawczyk is definitely a beginner book BUT it's also a fantastic resource and reference book for those of us who have been creating art for quite a while. It can help both new and seasoned artists look at methods anew. Lots of fantastic close up step by step photos which definitely help everyone!I appreciate the book and look forward to the next!

Loved the book. Well thought out, methodical techniques allowed me to work through my work successfully the first time. Already looking forward to Lynn's next book.

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