

Making a Victorian Sampler (Textiles)

We are learning to design and sew a Victorian sampler

A Victorian sampler is a 'sample' of the different stitches a girl could do and demonstrates her skill.

Girls would practise different stitches, sewing on buttons, hemming, gathering, eyelet holes, pleats, patching and other sewing skills.



What have we already learnt?

Children have had experience of joining two pieces of fabric together in different ways and of practising a range of stitches. They have developed an understanding that different stitches are used for different purposes.

Vocabulary	Definition
sampler	a decorative piece of needlework typically having letters or verses embroidered on it in various stitches
binca	an open weave fabric
embroider	the art or process of forming decorative designs with hand or machine needlework
pattern	a drawing you can transfer to fabric
satin stitch	a series of flat stitches that are used to completely cover a section of the background fabric
cross stitch	a stitch in which pairs of diagonal stitches of the same length cross each other in the middle to form an X
back stitch	a stitch sewn one stitch length backward on the front side and two stitch lengths forward on the reverse side to form a solid line of stitching on both sides

Sewing was taught to girls and considered an important subject as girls were expected to make clothes for their families during the Victorian era, therefore it was an important skill for domestic service.