



CRAFT CORRAL:

🔪 Annie Oakley Paper Plate Embroidery 🔪



1984 Cowgirl Honoree Annie Oakley was an American sharpshooter known internationally for her talent. She became a star in the male-dominated sport, and her name has become legendary throughout the world. She became the star of the Buffalo Bill Wild West Show, and performed tricks such as shooting glass balls out the air, shooting over her shoulder holding a mirror, and more.



While Annie was the star of the show, she dressed plainly, wearing simple, modest outfits instead of flashy costumes. For the clothes she did wear, she embroidered, or needleworked, in her tent between performances. Her needlework skill is seen in the belt above, which she started in 1891. While we may not be sharpshooters like Annie, we can practice needlework like her with our own paper plate embroidered boot!

MATERIALS:

- Boot template
- Embroidery thread or yarn
- Larger needle or children's plastic sewing needle
- Paper plate
- Thumb tack, sharp pencil, or seam ripper (to poke holes with)



INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Print out the boot template and cut out the boot, leaving one inch of white space around it.



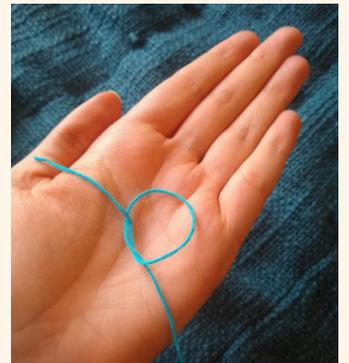
2. Using a pen, thumb tack, or other sharp object, punch through the paper and plate around the black outline. Put something soft behind the paper plate, like a tea towel, to keep from scratching the surface underneath.



3. Create evenly spaced holes around the outline, leaving around 1/2 inch between each hole.



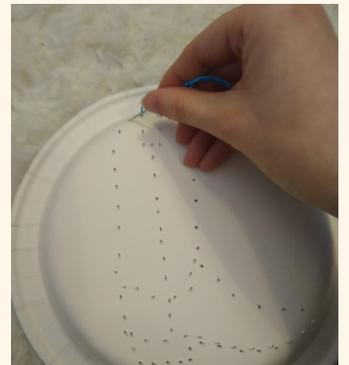
4. Measure out 2-3 feet of yarn. Thread the needle with yarn, and tie one end of the string with a knot large enough to not pull through the holes.



5. To begin the backstitch, pull your needle through the top hole on the right side of the paper plate. This will serve as the "back" of the piece.



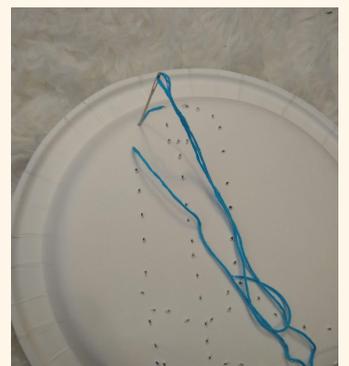
6. Once the thread is pulled through, put the needle through the next hole and pull the thread through to the back of the piece.



7. Put the thread into the next hole going down the side of the boot.



8. Pull the thread through to the front of the piece. Instead of continuing the needle down, put the needle back into the previous hole and pull through.



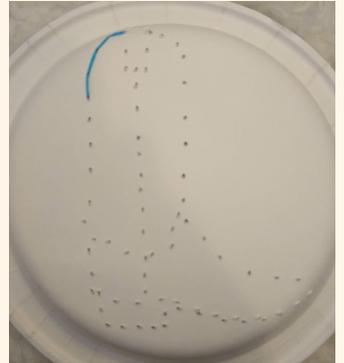


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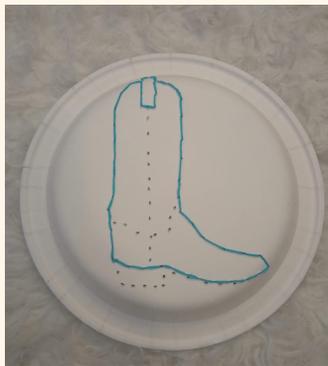
9. At the back of the piece, push the needle through the next hole.



10. At the front of the piece, bring your needle back down through the hole of the last stitch you made.



11. Continue backstitching until the entire boot outline is finished. Tie off the string with a knot. Leave any areas you want a different color blank.



12. To switch colors, simply repeat step four with a different color. To make the heel an accent color, start at the edge of the bottom of the boot.



13. Backstitch the heel, and tie off your string when done with a knot.



13. To backstitch the stitching in an accent color, repeat the steps of threading your needle and backstitch. When finished, tie any loose ends with a knot.



15. Your boot is complete! You can poke holes to design your boot with anything you like! Stars, flowers, hearts- make it your own! Post a picture online and tag us with #cowgirlmuseum so we can see your creations.

