

Braid Stitch



To stitch this interesting-looking stitch, you may find it easier to use an erasable pen and draw four parallel lines.

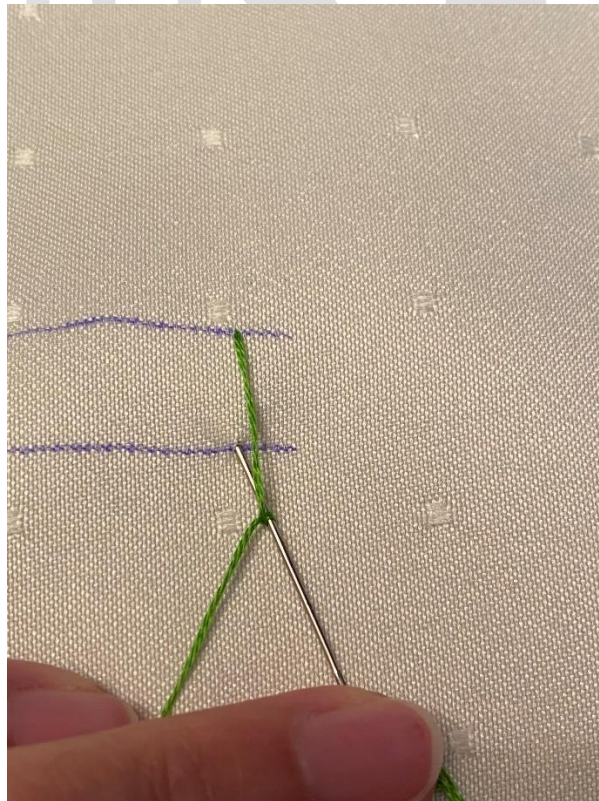
To start the stitch, come up to the right of the top line.

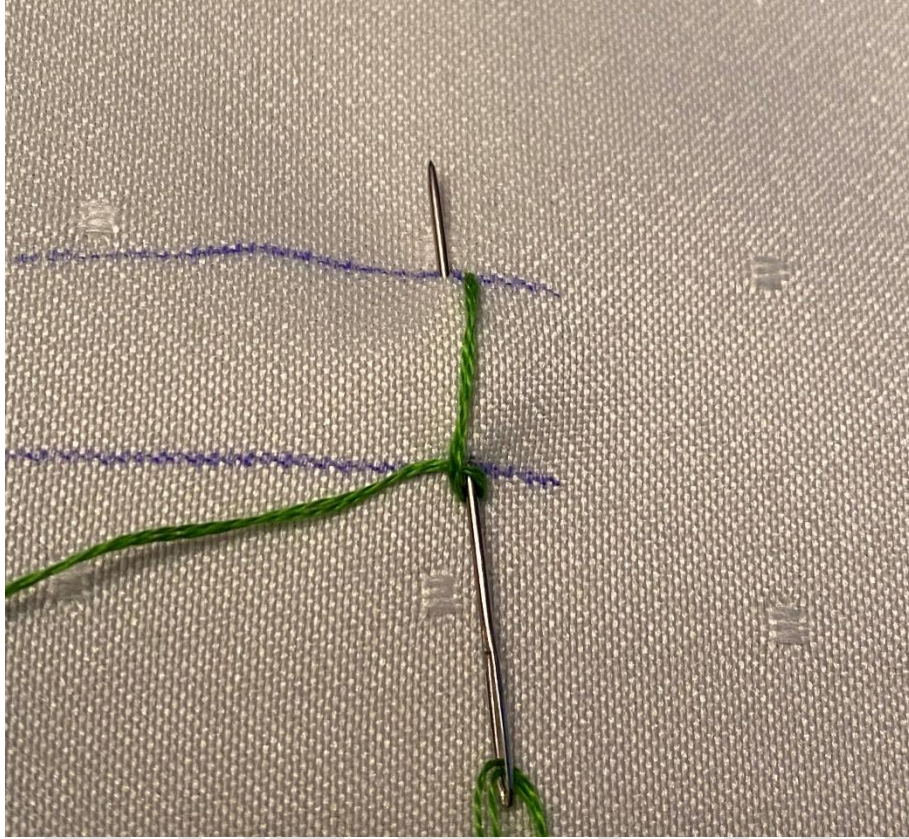




(Excuse the change in pictures – on reflection, the original pictures didn't have enough detail).
For right handers, hold the thread in your left hand, and the needle in the right – and wrap the thread around the needle – over, under, over, keeping tension. (For lefties, reverse, but keep the 'over, under, over'.

Keeping the tension, push the needle through the fabric below where you came up.

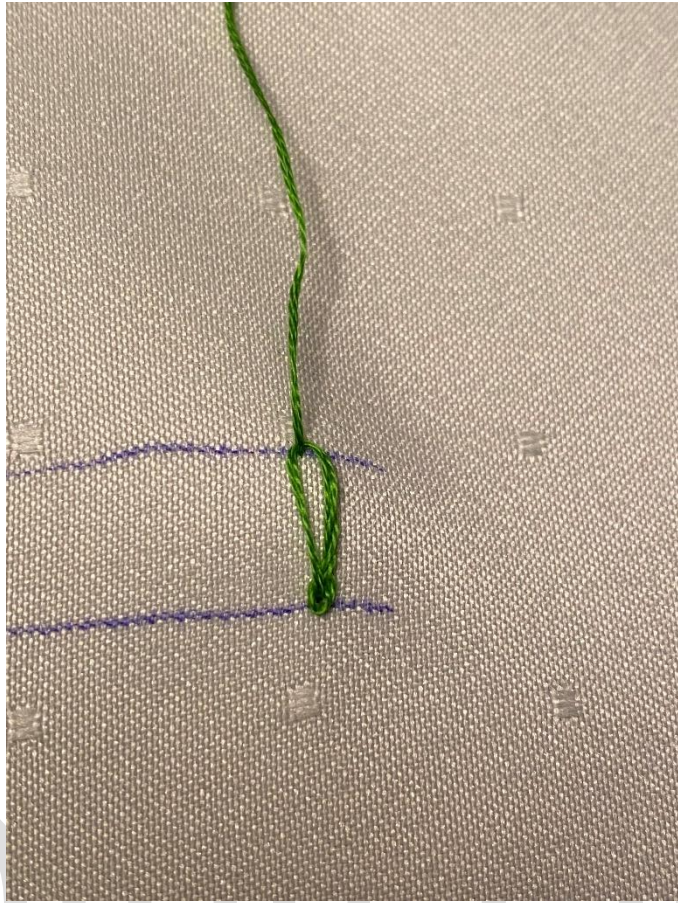




Come up just to the left of where you originally came up, along the line.

However, before you pull the needle through, you'll need to wrap the thread around the tip of the needle – take the thread over to the right, and then under the top of the needle to the left.

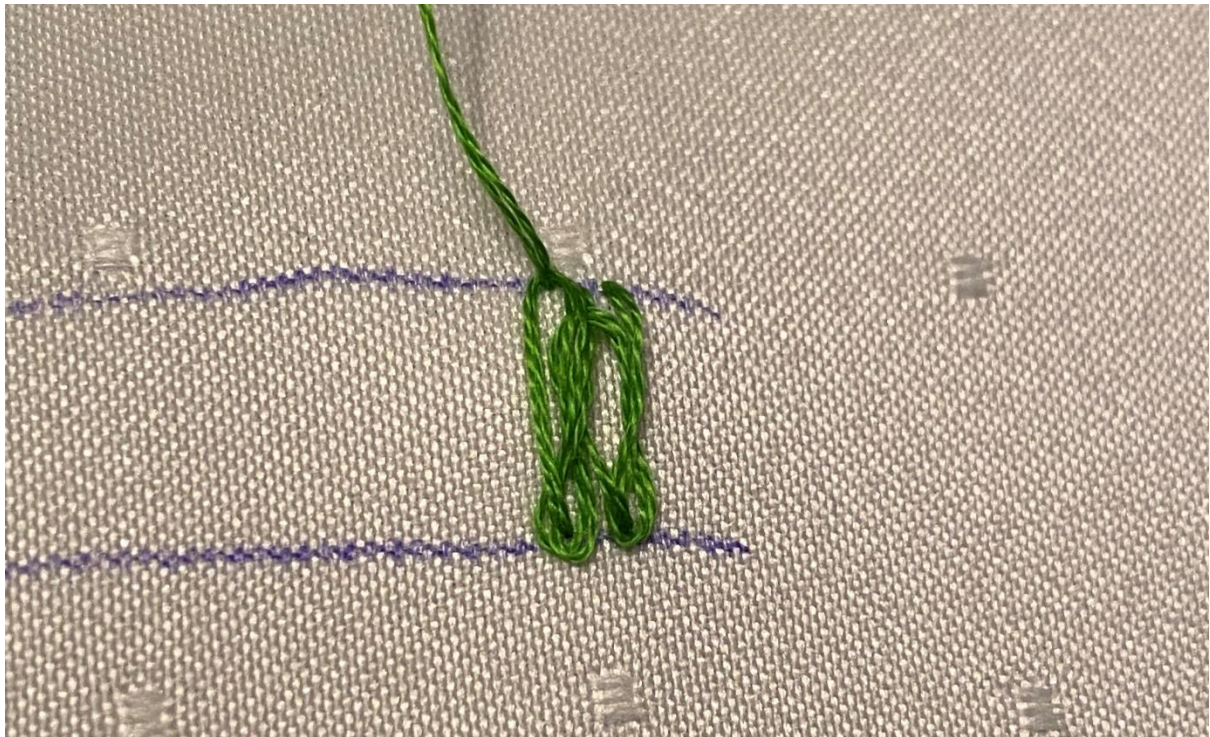




Then pull the needle through and complete the stitch.

To do the next stitch, repeat the steps, moving the stitch along to the left.





Continue along the lines for the 'braid' effect.

Repeat in the lower lines – you can play with different textures and threads, as well as with different sizes. The key is to keep the stitches as even and tidy as possible. This is easier with some threads than the others – but learn as you play.

