Try Your Hand at Hardanger – Session 2 – Buttonhole and Eyelet

**Buttonhole**

The buttonhole edge is usually worked around a border of satin stitch blocks, but can also be used alone. It is similar to the satin stitch blocks, using the larger thread, with each stitch covering four threads of the fabric. The difference is the needle will now go straight with the fabric and will be brought through the loop to produce a ridge (14a).

After completing the five stitches that correspond with the five stitches of the satin stitch block, form the rounded corner with three diagonal stitches (14b) Placement for diagonal stitches is shown below. To make it easier to see stitch placement, the diagram is shown as satin stitches, but you should stitch them as buttonhole stitches. The 5 stitches right to left are:

1) straight up 4 threads to make the last stitch of the previous pillow
2) up 4 threads again, but left 2,
3) up 3 threads and left 3 threads
4) left 4 threads but up 2, and finally
5) straight left 4 threads to make the first stitch of the next pillow.

After completing the next five buttonhole stitches corresponding to the satin stitch block, pivot the needle and come up in the same corner hole again (14d) forming the second type of corner. When the entire project is complete, you may cut it out behind the ridge of the buttonhole stitch. Be careful to not cut any of the buttonhole threads.

**Eyelets**

Securing the thinner thread on the wrong side of the fabric, bring it up in the center hole where the eyelet will be worked. Then work around each hole of the square, each time returning to the center hole (15a). Each stitch is pulled to the outside, forming a larger center hole (15b).

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With the thicker thread, do a Buttonhole stitch around the entire outside edge of the diamond you had made with the pillows. Then with the thinner thread, do an eyelet inside the center diamond and inside each of the areas created with the buttonhole stitches.