



A Needleart Tip by Linda Kay

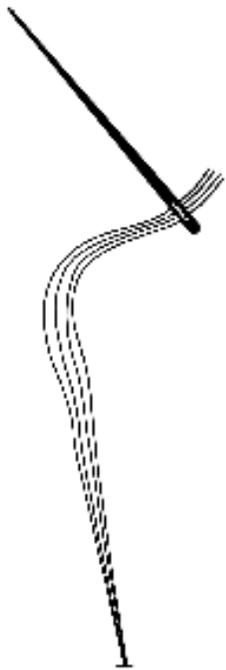
©1995 Linda Kay Reinmiller

Laying Strands

Multiple strands should be layed [*placed side-by-side as opposed to twisted or crossed*] to increase the sheen of the fiber. Laying fibers is easiest with a laying tool. -- a wooden or metal tool with a long, thin, pointed shaft used to smooth multiple strands of fiber before pulling them through the fabric.

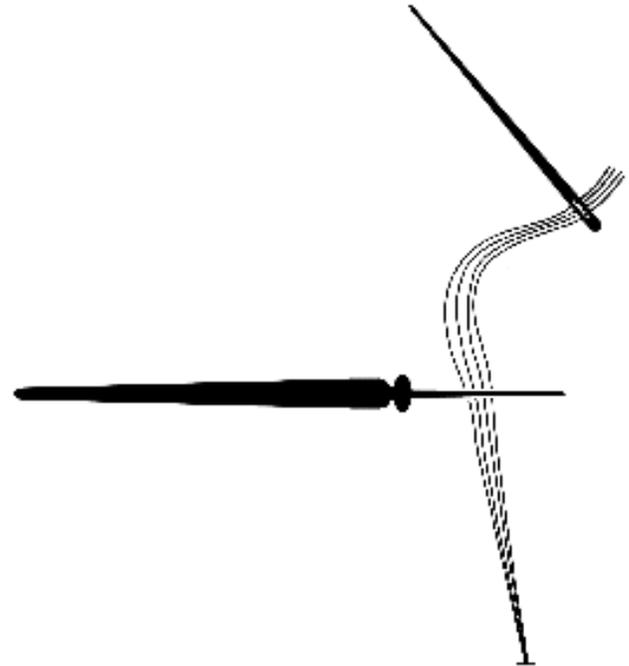
Laying fibers is a two-handed job so working on a frame is easier than in-hand. Enter the fabric [*bring the needle through the abric from the back to the front*].

Diagram One



Still holding the needle in your right {*left*} hand and keeping the fibers gently taut, lay the fibers on the fabric away from your stitching direction. If stitching toward yourself, lay the fibers away from yourself, etc.

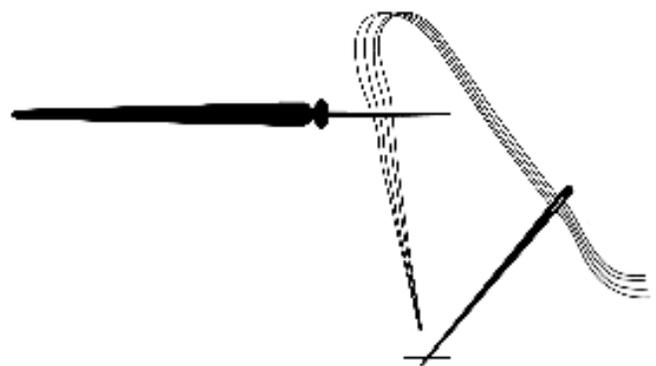
Diagram Two



With the laying tool in your left {*right*} hand,

lay the shaft across the strands of fibers, about 2 inches from where they exit the fabric so they lie side-by-side under the shaft against the fabric.

Diagram Three



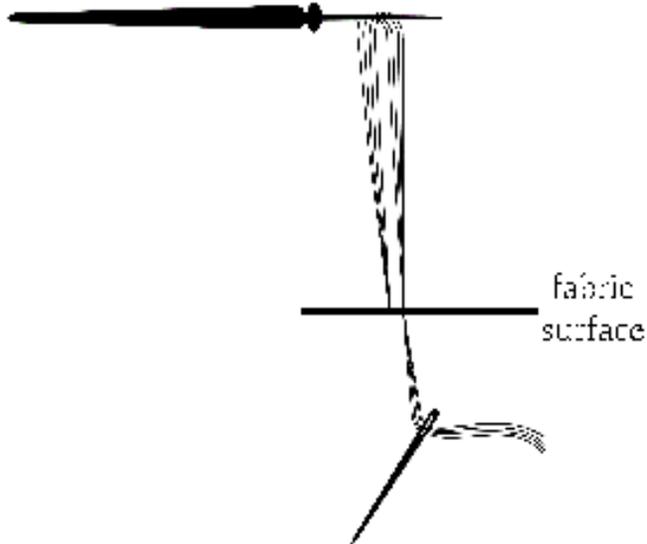
Exit the fabric [*take the needle through the fabric from the front to the back*], keeping the laying tool against the fabric to hold the strands flat.



A Needleart Tip by Linda Kay

Laying Strands

Diagram Four



As you pull the fibers through the fabric to complete the stitch, the laying tool should follow the strands down toward the surface of the fabric, keeping them taut, until the strands lie flat on the fabric.

Gently slide the tool out and you're finished.

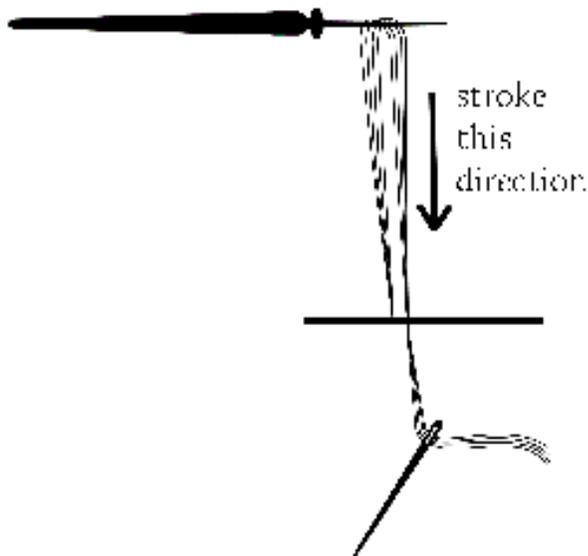
[Words in these brackets, bold, and italicized are definitions.]

{Words in these brackets and italicized are left-handed directions.}

When the strands of fibers become taut against the laying tool, raise it away from the fabric so it is directly above the stitch, keeping the fibers taut and still lying side-by-side over the shaft.

Permission is granted to reprint this in EGA or ANG guild newsletters. Proper credit must be given and a copy of the newsletter should be sent to me.

Diagram Five



If some strands are twisted or crossed gently stroke the fibers away from the entrance point and toward the exit point. Two or three strokes are usually enough.