

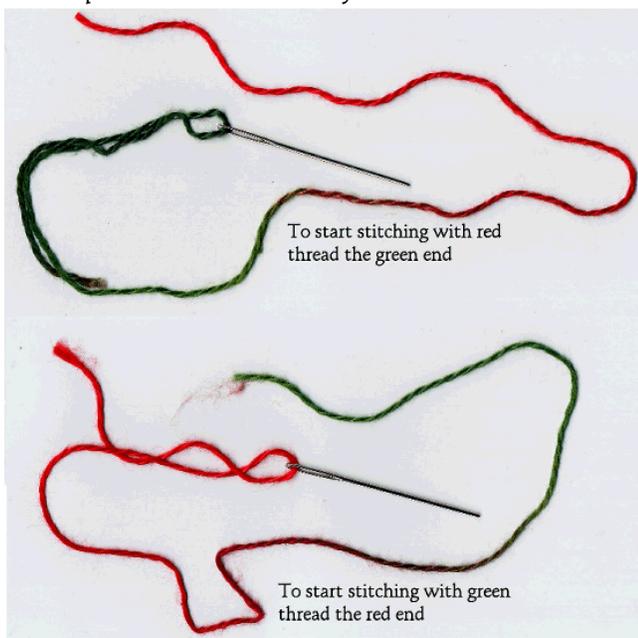


# Overdyed Threads

Overdyed is a term applied to any number of hand-dyed or painted fibers. In a generic sense, it refers to a fiber that has several colors along its length that are not just variations of the same color (i.e. not variegated). This process provides varying colors in a single strand of fiber.

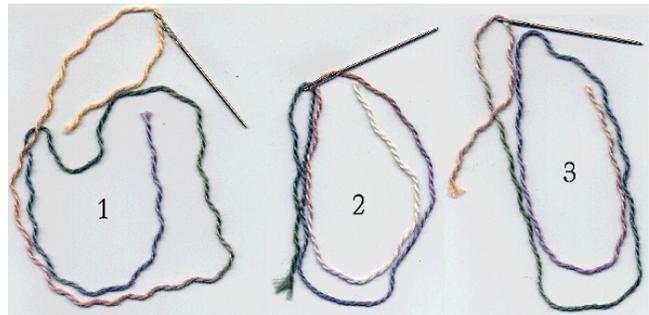


Overdyed fibers are used the same as other fibers of the same weight. However, beginning and ending these fibers takes a little more thought than a single-color fiber. First, choose which color on the strand you want to begin stitching with and thread the opposite end into the needle. Also, how you sequence the strands as you stitch will depend on the effect you want to achieve.



## SUGGESTION ONE

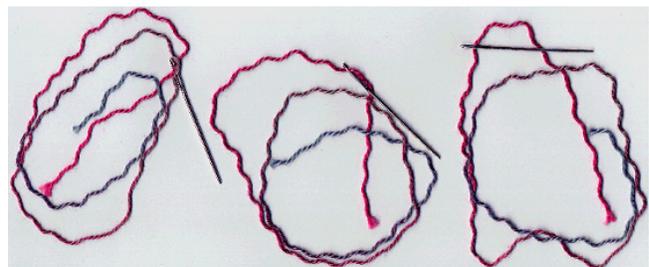
Use the strands in any order without regard to matching color. Color shading will begin and end abruptly where new strands are started, with no deliberate pattern — an eclectic look.



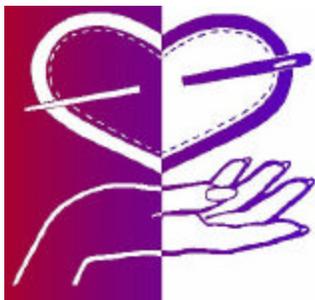
starts with lavender and ends with cream. Color would change abruptly with which starts with white and ends with green. would change the color abruptly to pink and would end with yellow.

## SUGGESTION TWO

Control the strands to give a pattern to the color change. Do this by laying the strands side-by-side until the desired color pattern is achieved. The color will shade gradually then change abruptly where a new strand is joined, but the change will be deliberate — a more controlled look.



Each strand starts with teal and ends with fuschia. There will be an abrupt color change from fuschia to teal each time a new strand is started, but the change

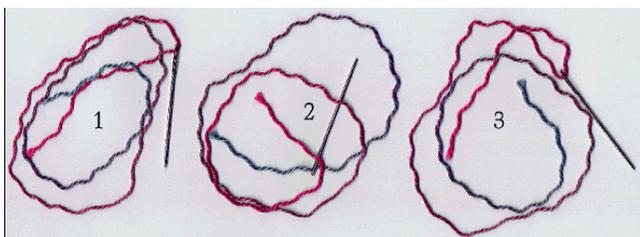


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will be consistent throughout the stitching.

## SUGGESTION THREE

Match the color beginning a new strand to the color the previous strand ended with. This is done by reversing each subsequent strand of fiber when you begin stitching with it. The color shading will be subtle and gradual — a more subdued, elegant look.

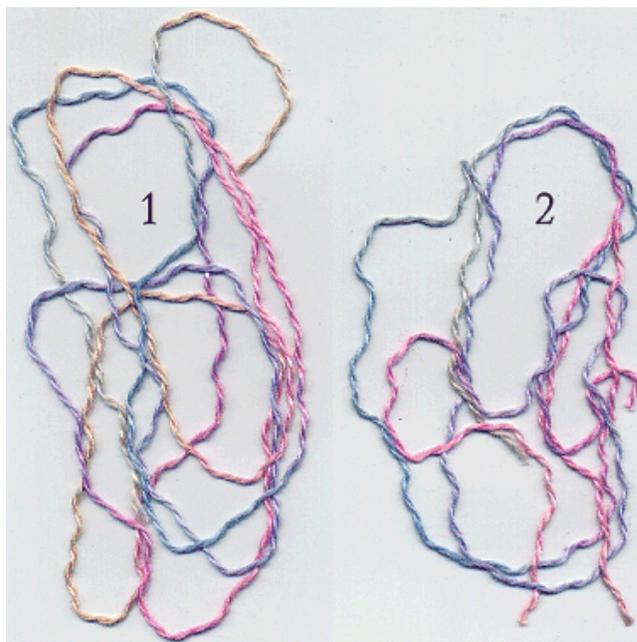


begins with fuschia and ends with teal. will follow smoothly because it begins with teal and ends with fuschia. continues the sequence by beginning with fuschia and ending with teal.

This would apply as well even if the strands weren't all fuschia and teal. For example — You could have begin with fuschia and end with teal. might begin with teal but end with purple. could begin with purple and end with cream. But the sequence would still be smooth without abrupt color changes.

## SUGGESTION FOUR

It is also possible to control which colors on the overdyed strand are used. For example — If the strand of fiber has both pink and blue, and you prefer blue, choose strands with more blue than pink; or cut the pink sections out of the strands and stitch with the remainder.



is the whole thread with all the colors — pink, lavender, blue, and cream.

is the same thread with the cream removed. One drawback is the strands will be shorter and you will have to begin and end more frequently. This strand is now in three pieces.