WORK APRON

(An extra project.)

This apron may be made of dimity, figured lawn, cross-barred muslin or flaxon. Use No. 70 thread and No. 8 needle.

To determine the amount of material needed, measure the length you wish the apron. You will need twice this measurement. It is well to get the material one yard wide as it cuts to a better advantage.

Secure a piece of paper the length you wish the Apron and 23 inches wide.

Fold the paper on the length. The width will now be 11½ inches wide.

Measure down 5 inches on the folded edge of the paper and locate a point A. (Fig. 45.)

Measure down 2½ inches on the open edge and locate point B.

Connect AB with a downward curve.

Locate a point C 6½ inches to the left of point A.

Locate point D 15 inches below point B.

Locate point E 3 inches below D.

Place point F at the lower right hand corner of the paper.

Place point G 7½ inches to the left of point F.

Beginning at C draw a slightly curved line to D to E to G to F.

Cut out pattern along the lines AC DEGF.

Divide the pattern into two equal parts by cutting on line AF.

One section will serve as the back of the Apron and the other for the front or pocket section.

Place three X's along the line AF to indicate the fold and the length of the goods.

On the pocket section locate a point K 2½ inches to the left of A.

Draw a line 8½ inches long parallel to the line AF.

Name the line KN.

From point C locate a point L 1½ inches to the right of C.

From L draw a line 9 inches long and parallel to CD.

Fig. 45.
Section of Draft for work apron pattern—the back.
Fig. 46.
Section of Draft for work apron pattern—
the front.

Name the line LM.
Connect the lines LM and KN with a curved line.
Cut on the lines KNML. (Fig. 46.)
Cut a rectangle 3 inches wide and 18 inches long for the band; and one 4 inches wide and 26 inches long for the ties.
Cut out the material according to the pattern, being careful to place the edge AF on the length and fold of the cloth.
The edge KNML forms the opening for the pockets.
Hem with a very narrow hem or face the edge KNML.

Why is it necessary to make the hem narrow?
Thread a No. 7 needle with a good marking cotton of about No. 25 or two strands of a six-ply cotton. You may use a colored cotton if you are sure it will wash.

To thread the crewel needle pinch the end of the cotton between the first finger and thumb of the left hand. Hold the needle in the right hand and press the eye of the needle over the end of the thread between the fingers of the left hand. The thread will enter the eye of the needle easily. (Fig. 47.)

Fig. 47.
Threading Crewel Needle.

Beginning at point L featherstitch half way around the pocket.
Beginning at point K featherstitch half way around the pocket.

FEATHERSTITCHING

The featherstitch is a decorative stitch used on aprons, dresses, underwear, infant’s clothes and household linens.

Before starting the featherstitch we will review the chain stitch we learned in the Protection Cloth project. See page 21.
The thread is fastened by bringing it thru from the underside of the material and taking a small stitch. Hold the thread to the left and in position with the left thumb.

Insert the needle at exactly the same place where the thread comes out, and take a medium stitch bringing the needle out over the loop thus formed.

To make the next stitch hold the thread in position with the left thumb as before and insert the needle into the loop, taking up a stitch and bringing the needle out over the thread, thus making another loop.

Continue in this way keeping the stitches of equal length and not too loose.

After you have tried the chain stitch hold the thread in position with the left thumb as before, but instead of inserting the needle into the loop, insert it at the right about 1/8 inch away and bring the needle out over the thread as before. Continue making the stitch to the right in the form of an open chain until you can get a fairly good stitch; then take the open chain to the left and when you can do that well, begin to alternate the stitch making first a stitch to the right and then to the left. (Fig. 48.)

This is called the single feather or briar stitch.

To make the double featherstitch, take two stitches to the right then two to the left. (Fig. 48.)

The individuality of the stitch depends on the worker. With a little practice, it can be made very artistic.

Place the front side of the pocket to the wrong side of the back of the Apron.

Baste around the edge of the Apron.

Stitch the two pieces together. Remove the basting. If the seam is too wide trim slightly. Turn the pocket right side out.

Cresce on the line of stitching just made, baste along the crease and across the top to hold the back of the Apron and the pocket in place.

Featherstitch the outside edge of the Apron.

Hold the Apron up to you and decide whether or not a little fullness would add to the gracefulness of the hang of the Apron.
Fig. 50.
Apron Suggestions.
If you decide that you need the fullness, put in two rows of gathering stitches.

Draw up both threads at the same time and fasten at the side of the Apron on a pin in the form of a figure eight. (Fig. 49.)

The gathers can be adjusted by pinching them at the top with the left hand, while with the right hand they can be moved along on the gathering thread.

Remove the pin and adjust the gathers to the required fullness.

Locate the center of the Apron and the center of the belt.

Pin the center of the belt to the center of the Apron, laying the raw edge of the belt even with the raw edge of the Apron, and putting the belt to the wrong side of the Apron.

Baste the band to the belt.

Stitch and remove the bastings. Trim off the ravelings of the seam.

Turn down the band to the wrong side of the Apron and turn under one-fourth of an inch. Baste the folded edge to the Apron on the line of stitching.

NOTE—The band on the back of the Apron must not extend below the edge of the band on the right side. Be sure that the belt is creased perfectly straight.

Turn in the raw edges at each end of the band and hem the band in place.

Finish the ties with a one-eighth inch hem on the long sides and a two inch hem on the ends.

Plait the end of the tie to fit the end of the band and insert into the open ends of the band and fasten securely with small backstitches.