



Biscornu Tutorial

You will need:

- ▶ 2 stitched square designs, with a stitched border of exactly the same number of stitches on all 8 sides.
- ▶ some filling
- ▶ some matching beads (optional)

Step 1 : getting ready.



Iron your 2 stitched designs on the reverse.

With pins, mark the exact middle of each backstitched side. Repeat on the other square so that all 8 sides are marked.

Trim out the excess fabric leaving about 1cm (1/2 inch) all around the edge and cut off the tip of the corners.

Step 2 : putting it together.



Carefully fold back the fabric along all 8 edges.

Position one corner against a middle pin of the other square as shown on the left. Use the loop method* to start stitching, and whipstitch** your way

round the biscornu taking care not to skip stitches and not to catch the fabric with the needle. You may want to embellish your border with beads.

At this stage, if you're confident enough, you may decide to take the pins out. If you're new to assembling biscornus, you may want to keep them in a little longer as they'll help you check that corners are still in position as you stitch on (it can save you from unpleasant surprises at the end...)

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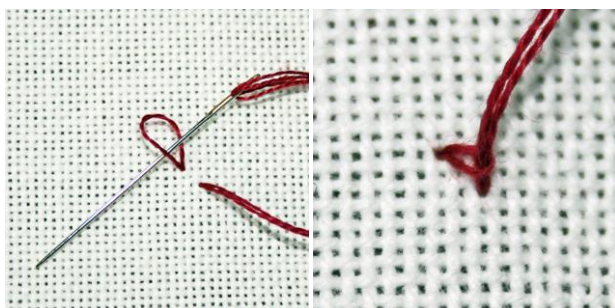
As you stitch on, your biscornu will start to take shape. Before you finish stitching it all around, put your filling in (polyester stuffing, dried flowers, or whatever else you want to put in it) and sew it up.

Step 3 : adding the finishing touches.



Choose a couple of large beads or buttons to match your biscornu and stitch them together (one on each side of the biscornu) pulling tight on the cotton as you do so to create a dip in the centre of the biscornu.

Technical tips:



* Loop Method:

Use this method when you need the start of a seam to be as "invisible" as possible.

Take a longer length of thread than usual, and double it up. Thread your needle so that the loop is at the bottom of your length of thread.

Start your first stitch, turn your fabric over so you're looking at the wrong side, and thread your needle through the loop to secure it. Pull to tighten (see the pictures above – note that the photos are showing the **wrong side** of the fabric).



** Whip Stitch:

You can use whip stitch to assemble 2 pieces of outlined fabric together. (The stitched pieces must have been outlined with backstitch prior to this.)

You can then stitch each pair of opposite backstitches together, as shown on the picture.

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If you enjoyed stitching this biscornu, you may like the following designs:



Poppy Biscornu



Apple Blossom Biscornu



Butterfly Biscornu



Peony Biscornu



Lavender Biscornu



Christmas Biscornu
(wreath version)

These designs, and many more, are available on

www.fabyreilly.com