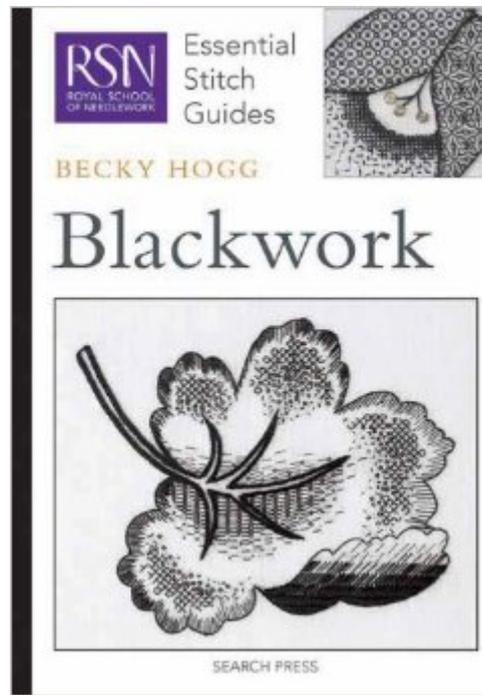


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# Blackwork (Essential Stitch Guides)



## Synopsis

The Royal School of Needlework teaches hand embroidery to the highest standard, developing techniques in new and innovative ways. This series of Essential Stitch Guides provides expert tuition on a variety of techniques. In this guide to blackwork, Graduate Apprentice and tutor, Becky Hogg, shows how to develop many different patterns from the basic blackwork stitches, using detailed instructions and beautiful examples of traditional and contemporary embroideries.

## Book Information

Series: Essential Stitch Guides

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Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (30 customer reviews)

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## Customer Reviews

The ONLY reason that I gave 4 stars was that I was hoping for more patterns. There are many stitches to practice an use, to make a perfect sampler, to have a great time with. This book shows how different stitches work in concert with one another. It is great in showing how to fade the stitch, and how it looks as shading. There are wonderful works of great stitchers in the back of the book as well as scattered al-through out. Again my only slight disappointment was wanting a pattern of follow. It's a great buy to work up to as well as practicing to become a master stitcher.

This is a beautiful book. The author does a wonderful job of presenting the history succinctly and then taking you right to the techniques. The photography is excellent and the projects presented show both traditional patterns and modern adaptations.

The book starts out great even before you open it. Spiral binding allows it to lay flat. The quality of

paper and photos are outstanding. The technique is explained well. The book also offers the reasons why certain stitches are used. You will not be in the dark at anytime. I plan to use the information in this book in other areas of my art.

I love this book. It has a great combination of history and modern techniques. It's instructional, but also inspirational. A lot of embroidery books have diagrams of stitching that are hard to follow. The diagrams in this book are very clear and helpful. The book has a good selection of blackwork stitches. Probably the best part of this book is the instruction given on shading and how to create depth and interest in your blackwork. It is definitely helpful if you are designing your own pattern!

I love to have this book on my shelf, both to loan out and for reference. It takes detailed work and breaks it down to very simple steps. The wire binding is as practical as the rest of the book is clear. I would recommend this book to any beginner or intermediate blackwork stitcher.

This book has a lot to recommend it. Opens flat with coil binding, many stitch diagrams and some examples. Some history. This author's approach is very traditional. I have an issue with the author's examples. She has no inkling of artistic techniques such as balance and perspective and composition. I get that it's stylized embroidery, but it can still be attractive and appealing. I had also hoped for some ideas about colored shading but there are none. Back to her examples, I was also surprised to see the connecting threads between stitched areas strung across the back of the sheer material she used. It's a decent book, and a good addition to my library, but now I have three blackwork books and not a one is complete; I'm still looking.

I was hoping, coming from the Royal School of Needlework, that this book would be more of a tutorial, explaining how to attack and execute different stitches. It is not, in my opinion, a beginner book. The book illustrates a multitude of patterns, but does not decompose the pattern enough for you to be able to replicate without trial and error. Interestingly, it diagrams basic embroidery stitches (running, double running) but doesn't really explain how these stitches are used in the various patterns. Reverse sides of stitches are not shown in the illustrations, so it is unclear whether all the listed stitches result in reversible work or not. Additionally, the majority of demonstration stitches are worked in a very heavy thread, resulting in less observable detail in the 'actual' version of the stitch diagram. Was hoping for something to learn from, but this book is not it.

An outstanding book. It is very comprehensive with excellent illustrations and guides for executions of this type of needlework. These types of books are hard to find and I appreciate 's carrying these that someone on a limited budget, such as myself, can purchase. Top quality goods.....in beautiful condition as books go. A real treasure. Nancy Morse

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