



## How to finish with a picot border Mouse Tooth



Finishing an project with a picot/mouse tooth is particularly suitable if you do not have much fabric left around your embroidery to frame it (you only need about 2 inch of fabric for this double edge), or as a finishing edge for, for example, a doily or needle book. This technique offers you a sturdy and non-frayable hem.

It is a time-consuming job, but fun to do. This way you could finish your fabric first before you start cross stitching your work on it, so there is no need to twist or overlock your cloth!

### *Method:*



To start, pull a thread around your work where the outside of your embroidery will be, on all 4 sides of your embroidery, about 1 inch from the edge of your stitching.



Place the thread in the colour of your fabric into an embroidery needle, making sure the thread (not a single split thread) is firm enough to pull on properly (the example uses a different thread colour for clarity).



Make a few basting stitches to attach to the seam that will be at the bottom.



Now make backstitches over 4 threads over the pulled out thread. Pull these backstitches firmly, these will later form the picot edge.



Tie off is done on the wrong side by pulling the thread through the embroidered stitches. Attaching a new thread is done again with a few basting stitches in the hem as discussed above.





When you have finished the backstitches all the way around, we will start pulling threads again. Pull out the 5th and 10th threads all around, inside the backstitch area!



Fold the hem to the wrong side and iron it to get it nice and tight. Cut the 4 corners diagonally from the 1st pulled out thread.



Now make backstitches in the 1st pulled out thread over 4 threads and then make an overhand stitch between the picots, always pulling the thread tight, creating a kind of squares with the embroidery thread. There are diagonal stitches visible on the back.



In the corners you have to work through several layers, it is best to stab up and down to secure all layers.





Now cut off a piece of the hem all around, leaving approx. 8 threads from the stitching.



Embroidering the next edge is easier, the stitches are the same, you just don't have to make picots.



To tie off or start a new thread, insert the thread into the resulting tunnels.



Complete your picot/mouse teeth edge by turning it over to the wrong side and cutting the remaining fabric as close to the edge as possible.



Have fun!

