

Sewing teaching material

Author: Karina Thompson

Thank you agreeing to help us!

Today we will try out different ways to stitch out the electromyography sensor. We have 5 different ways of sewing the sensors. We will be using conductive thread made out of stainless-steel to do this.

You might find some techniques harder or easier. We would like to know which task you found tricky and which task worked best for you.

Materials Needed:

- A piece of stabiliser
- Stainless steel conductive thread, and non-conductive thread
- A needle Darnier 1/5
- An embroidery hoop
- Haberdashery snap fasteners

The 5 techniques presented are

1. Running stitch
2. Float stitch
3. Darning
4. Couching (single line)
5. Couching (double line)

Basic top tips

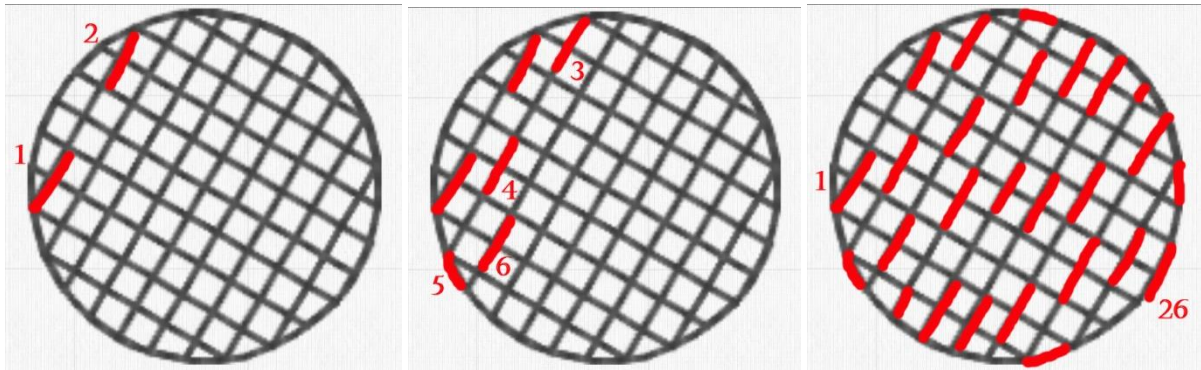
- 1) First thread your needle with about 30cm of conductive thread.
- 2) Make a knot at the end of your thread. Pull the needle through the fabric where you need to start so the knot is on the back.
- 3) When finished, go over the same stitch three times to keep it secure. You could also bring the thread through to the back of the fabric and secure with a knot.



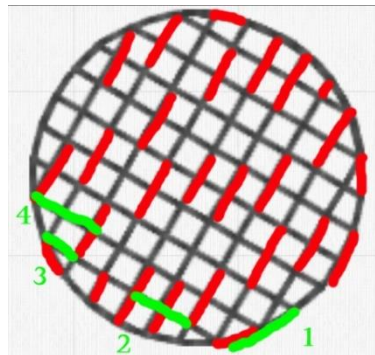
After sewing, each sensor will need a snap fastener stitched to the back of it. If you have enough thread you can carry on and stitch it with that. Alternatively you could stitch it with a new piece of conductive thread. Make sure you put a couple of stitches through each hole of the snap fastener.

1: Running stitch each stitch 2 boxes long

Make each stitch 2 boxes long. Use a stitch to go around a corner like number 5. Work your way across the circle.

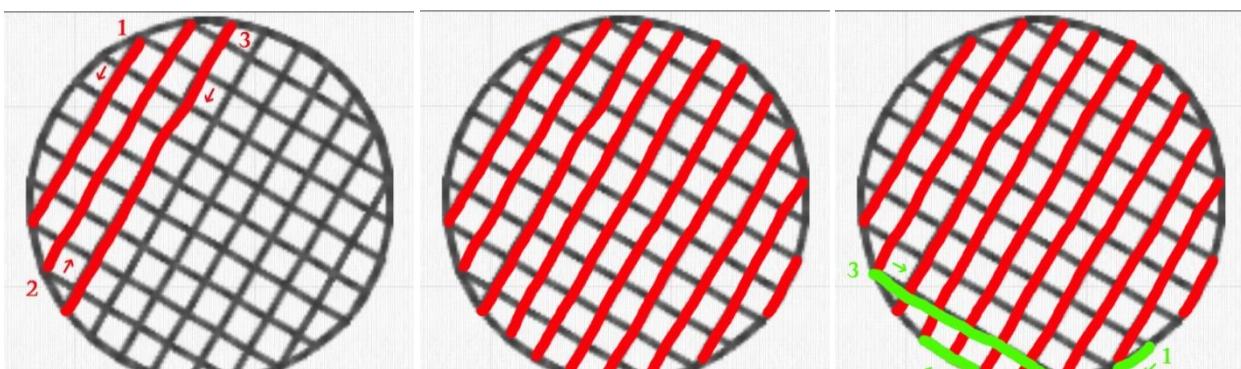


When you have done all the lines one way come back the other way. We have used green to show what your stitches might look like but remember your thread will all be one colour.



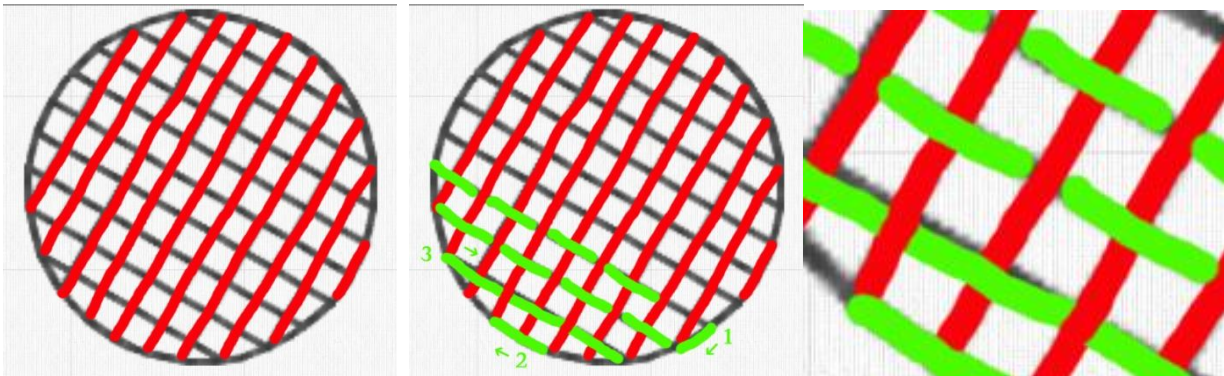
2: Float stitch

This is similar to the running stitch except each stitch is the length of the sensor. Work your way across in one direction and then come back the other way. You might find you need to do some small stitches on the edge to get to the best place to start. The stitches should just sit on top of each other.



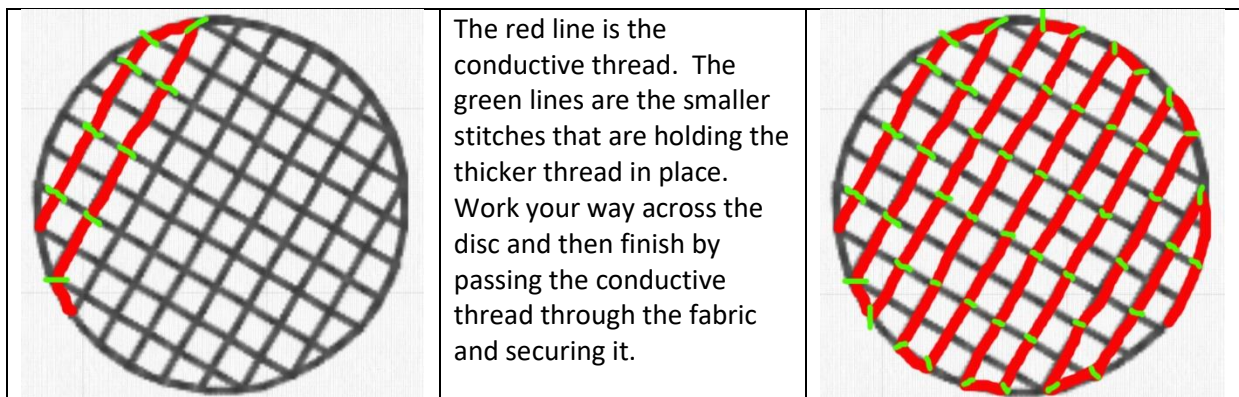
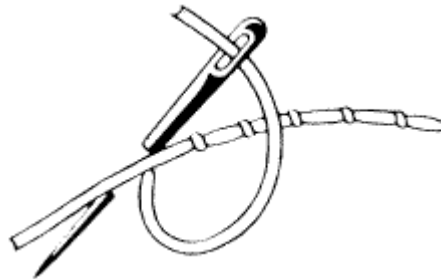
3: Darning

This is nearly exactly the same as the float stitches. Work your way across the sensor with long stitches as before. When you come back the other way weave your needle in an out of the long float stitch (not the fabric, just under and over the thread).



4: Couching (the single line)

Couching is where you stitch a thicker conductive thread down with separate little stitches of non-conductive thread. After you pass the conductive thread through the fabric it doesn't go back through the fabric until you finish. You will need to thread a needle with your conductive thread and a second needle with a non-conductive thread.



5 : Couching (the double line)

This starts exactly the same as in 4. When you reach the other side work your way back so all printed lines are covered.

