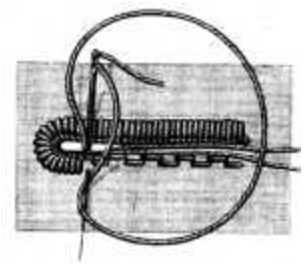
Widow Maker's Crafternoon

EPISODE 129 · CRAFT GUIDE

Button-Holes in Dress-Materials

One end fans out like rays, the other holds a straight bar.



From Encyclopedia of Needlework (de Dillmont, 1886) · public domain

"Round end rays, bar end straight, pull the strand to set it right."

1. **Mark and Cut**
   Mark out the button-hole and cut the slit.

2. **Guard Against Fraying**
   If your material frays easily, wet the slit with liquid gum as soon as you cut it, then lay a strand of strong thread along the edge to stitch over.

3. **Shape the Round End**
   Work one end of the button-hole round, with your stitches diverging like rays from the centre.

4. **Straighten the Edges**
   Once you have worked the second side, thread the needle with the loose strand and pull it slightly to straighten the edges.

5. **Close the Bar End**
   Fasten off, then close the other end of the button-hole with a straight bar of stitches across.