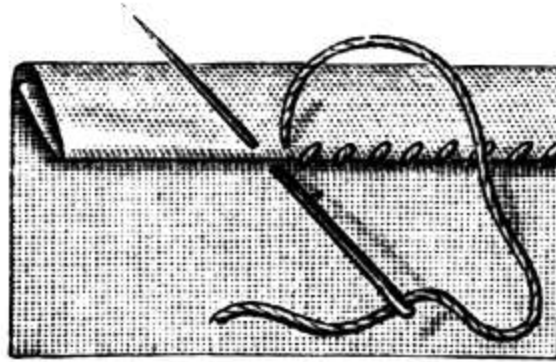


Hemming-Stitch

A hem's whole trick is hiding its own edge, and nobody ever notices the work.



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

"Two turns bury the edge, then slant your stitch toward you."

1

Soften and Cut

Cut your fabric along the line of the thread. If it's a stiff fabric like linen or calico, rub it in your hands first to soften it before you lay the hem.

2

First Turning

Turn down the raw edge about two millimeters, just enough to keep it from fraying, and carry this turning along the whole length of the hem.

3

Second Turning

Fold over the same width a second time, so the raw edge sits enclosed between the two layers of fabric.

4

Tack If Wide

Narrow hems can go straight to stitching, but wide hems should be tacked first. Woollen fabric won't hold a crease, so lay and tack it bit by bit instead.

5

Stitch the Hem

Hold your needle and thread at a slant toward you, insert it just below the edge of the hem, and bring it out two threads above. Keep the stitches two or three threads apart in a straight line down the hem.