

# Stitched Napkin Rings



Design based on Yubinuki, Japanese Stitched Thimbles

# Materials you will need, for one napkin ring

Toilet paper roll, or two strips of cardstock, 1.5" x 8"

Lined paper

Plain paper

Scissors

Pencil

Tape

Fabric for the inside of the ring, bias cut is best, but one strip that measures 4" x 9".

Sewing needles - for thread, and chenille for floss

Sewing thread, any colour

Embroidery floss, one skein per colour.

Wool yarn for padding

## Make the base

Cut two pieces from your toilet paper roll. Make sure they are the same height. You can choose the height, but for the first one, let's use 2".

Cut a slit in one section of the roll, then fit it inside the other one. This gives a sturdy base to work with.

If you are using cardstock, or something else (cereal boxes would work), take one strip, and roll it around itself until it is the size that you want, then tape it to secure. Roll the other strip **INSIDE** the taped one for added strength.

## Place the lining fabric in the base

Cut a strip of fabric that is approximately 2.5 times the height of the base, and at least 1" longer than needed to go around the base. Bias cut fabric is best for this.

Roll it into a circle, with the **WRONG** side out.

Insert it into the base, and adjust it so it is the same size as the inside of the base. There should be equal amounts of fabric on either side of the base.



## Fold the fabric over to the outside of the base

Carefully fold the liner fabric over, towards the outside of the base. As you do this, tuck under the raw end that is on the inner side of the base.



## Secure the liner fabric with stitches

Using the sewing thread and needle, sew a large whipstitch or herringbone stitch all the way around the base, to secure the liner fabric.

Keep stitches away from the outer  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the base.

This does not need to be terribly neat, it will be hidden in the finished ring.



# Make your stitch guide paper

Cut a strip of plain paper that is \*not quite\* the height of the base, and a little longer than it needs to be to wrap around the base.

Wrap it around the base, and mark where it overlaps itself.



# Prepare the divisions on lined paper

Mark every second line on the lined paper with a pencil or pen.

Count the number of divisions that you want on your ring. The example shown is 7 sections. If you use an even number of sections, you will get a different design.

Mark the START and END line clearly.

8 Sections



7 Sections



# Marking the sections

To mark the sections, put the line that you marked (where the guide paper overlapped) on the START line of the lined paper.

Angle the guide paper until the corner of the it touches the END line.

Carefully mark each place where the heavy lines touch the edge of the guide paper.

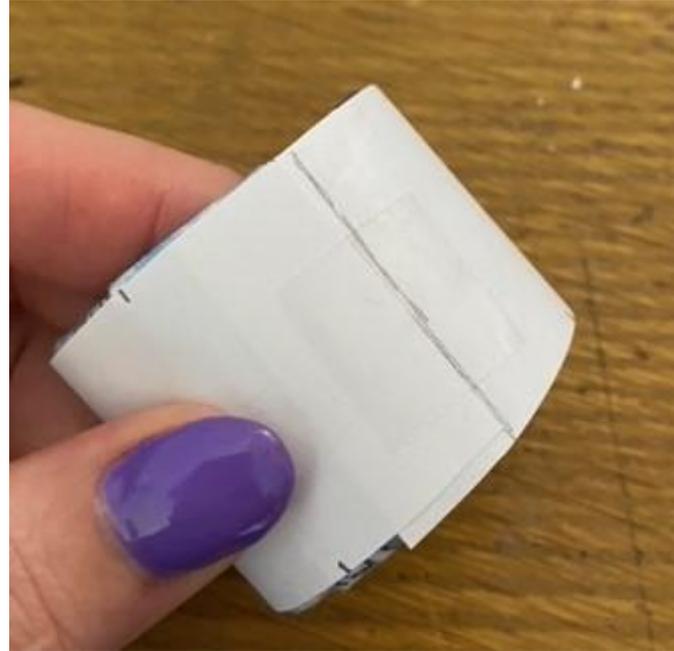
Turn the guide paper around, and mark the other side the same way.



# Place the guide paper

Wrap the guide paper around the base, and check that the guide marks are visible.

Tape the guide paper in place.



# Add the filling to the base

Wrap the yarn around the base.

This does not need to be tightly, or neatly wrapped.

Wrap it until there is a small amount of padding on the base, being sure that you can still see the marks on the guide paper.

Tuck the yarn end under another strand, no knots required here.



# Start Stitching

Take a couple of small stitches within the padding to anchor the floss.

The first stitch should be taken exactly at one of the guide marks, from the INSIDE of the ring OUT, catching a small amount of the lining fabric.



# Ensure proper placement of the yarn

The yarn should be placed on the “Forward” side the needle on each stitch. This will create a neat line of knots along the edge of the ring.

In this photo, I am working around the ring to the right.



# Continue stitching the first round

Stitch around the ring, being sure of the yarn placement for each stitch. You will be stitching one side, then the other, with the yarn at approximately a 45 degree angle.

Shown is the end of the first round of a 7 section ring.



# Continue stitching

Continue stitching around the ring, alternating sides, and going in the same direction.

TIP: If you need to stop stitching, place your needle in the direction and placement of the next stitch, to avoid confusion.



## Begin the next round

Once you stitch all the way around the ring once, you are ready to start the second round.

Be sure to place the next stitch as **CLOSE AS POSSIBLE** to the previous stitch, which maintaining the correct yarn placement.

This will give you a nice even finish.



# Ending a yarn

When you get to the end of your yarn, or are ready to change colours, take a couple of small stitches in the padding, and clip the end of the old yarn close to the padding.

TIP: It can help if you place a pin where the next stitch should be.



# Starting a new yarn

When starting a new yarn, slip the needle under some of the padding, and bring it up between the last stitch completed, and the stitch it is next to.

This will help the new yarn lay in the correct position, and make the join almost invisible.



# Change colours as you like!

Feel free to experiment with colours. Try a variegated yarn, or different values of a single colour, maybe a high contrast divider colour?

Your imagination is the only limit you have!

Make a whole set the same, or make “fraternal twins”, or just play with colours and sections.

