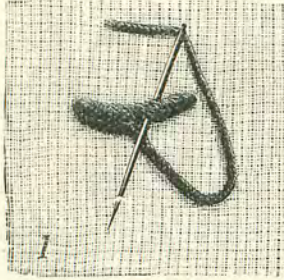




## EYELET-HOLES, BUTTON-HOLES, AND LOOPS.

*Button-Stitch Loops.*—Fig. 1 shows you how button-stitch loops are made. These are often put upon bodices, blouses, the wristbands of sleeves, fastenings of collars, etc.



These loops must always be made on double material. Mark the place very accurately where you wish to place your loop, and then thread your needle and push it through the folds of the stuff, so that the beginning may not be seen.

Make your bar by taking your thread four or five times across the space allotted for the loop, and then bringing out your needle at the left-hand side, work your button-hole stitches upon the strands very evenly and firmly, working from left to right. Then when completed, push your needle through at the end of the bar, and finish off at the back.

It will be understood that the button-hole work over the bar is made over the strands of silk or cotton alone, and that the needle does not pass through the material.

*A Button-hole.*—It is very strange how great a difficulty making button-holes presents to some people, who otherwise are fairly skilful with their needles. One often sees some article, in which no fault can be found with any of the details excepting the button-hole. In some cases the edges are so uneven that it is extremely ugly, in others it pulls away from the material it is worked upon, and in many instances it never does to look at the wrong side of it. Now if any of my readers wish to learn how to make good strong button-holes, it will be quite easy for them to do so if they will but follow these instructions, though I must warn them that perfection only comes from practice.

If you are going to make several button-holes in a row, they must each be precisely the same size.

Rounded button-holes are usually placed upon calico work, and sometimes one end



only is rounded, the other barred. Dress-button-holes nearly always have a bar across the outer end, and sometimes a bar is placed at each end.

Cut your button-holes with button-hole scissors if you have them, and remember that you must always make button-holes upon double materials. If you require to put a button-hole upon a single material, then you must cut a small piece of stuff, and fell it down very neatly on the back of the place where the button-hole is to go.

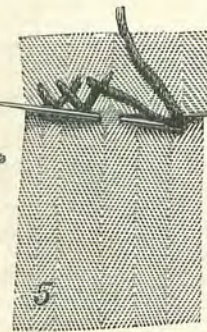
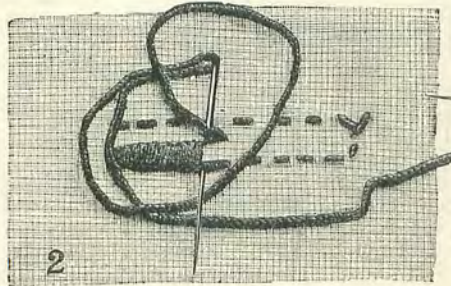
For the size of the button-hole you must be guided by the diameter of the button. Place the button on the stuff, and then put a pin at opposite sides of the button. Take off the button, and then make a pencil mark across.

Look at Fig. 2.

When the pencil mark has been made, then make a line of running stitches just at the distance above the line you see in the illustration.

Next double your material together in the place you intend your button-hole to be. Make a very tiny snip in the doubled stuff, and then open it out again and cut to the button-hole left and right, making quite sure to cut by the thread.

Next bring your needle up to the left-hand corner of the slit, and holding your cotton down to the left press it against the stuff with



the third finger of your left hand. Put your needle behind the slit and bring the point out just below the line of running. Leave your needle in this position—look at example—and then with your right hand take the double cotton coming from the needle's eye and pass it from left to right under the point of your needle. Draw through firmly, letting the cotton be free as you do so. This makes the pretty little twist, or knot, which adds such finish to the button-hole.

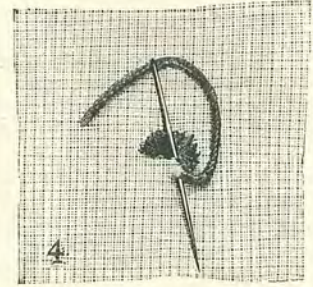
When you want to make turned ends, finish both sides of your button-hole, and then place some strands of cotton across the end and make your button-hole stitch on them, or through them and the stuff as you please. As you will notice in Fig. 3, the edge of the button-holing is away from the button-hole itself.

Use thicker cotton for making button-holes than that which you employ for making the article. It is well to measure off a length, which will enable you to make the button-hole without taking a fresh needleful.

*Eyelet-holes.*—Eyelet-holes are much used on baby-linen, for the fastening of blouses, bodices, etc., as well as for lacing purposes and the ends of slots for narrow ribbon or

tape. They are extremely neat, and less observable than hooks, and stronger than button-stitch eyes.

Always work an eyelet-hole upon double material. A stiletto, which is found in most



workboxes, is the best thing to pierce the hole with, but if you do not possess one, the point of your scissors must answer instead. Be careful, however, not to make your hole too large. In very fine materials, such as cambric, etc., the very smallest hole will be quite enough for you to work on.

You will understand that, though a hole is made by scissors or stiletto, you do not cut out any of the stuff.

Use coarse cotton or silk, in proportion to what you work the rest of the article with, and overcast your eyelet-hole all round, working from right to left.

Look at the illustration, and you cannot go wrong. If you wish to button-hole your eyelet-hole, then make the edge of the button-hole work on to the stuff in a circle round the hole. This leaves the actual hole quite smooth and clear.

Fasten your eyelet-hole off securely at the back.

*Ends of Waistbands.*—These should always be fastened off neatly. Look at Figs. 5 and 6, and you will see two ways, both equally good, for doing this.

Fig. 5 is done herring-bone fashion, and Fig. 6 is only back-stitching.

For the purposes of illustration the needle has been left in as you see it, and this way of working will answer well for tape or any soft material. For actual waistband webbing, the thickness is so great that the needle has to be pricked in and out.

