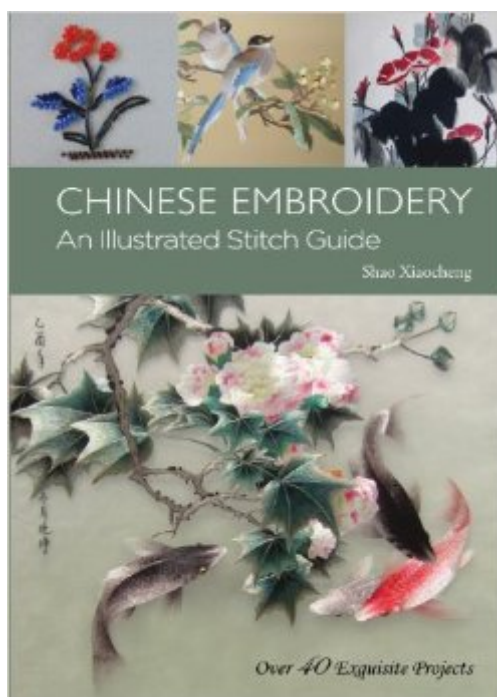


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# Chinese Embroidery: An Illustrated Stitch Guide



## Synopsis

Learn about the history and culture surrounding Chinese embroidery and learn to embroider yourself with this easy-to-follow and beautifully illustrated guide. Embroidery in China is a true art form, one that has been practiced for over 2,000 years. In *Chinese Embroidery*, you'll discover everything from the history of the art to the different schools in different ages and their styles to knowledge about selection, collection and preservation of embroidered articles. *Chinese Embroidery* contains over 200 full-color photos of works and step-by-step guides—all of which help to explain and analyze over twenty kinds of needlework and teach comprehensive application of these basic skills. When you reach the end of this book, you'll have learned about twenty different embroidered pieces for daily use and for display purposes. Learn about the pattern-oriented art and traditional culture of China at the same time as you master the embroidery craftsmanship unique to China. Stimulate your imagination and creativity as you experience the joy of embroidery with *Chinese Embroidery*.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 152 pages

Publisher: Shanghai Press; 1 edition (April 1, 2014)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1602200157

ISBN-13: 978-1602200159

Product Dimensions: 7.2 x 0.7 x 10.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.7 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (18 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #747,616 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #108 in [Books > Children's Books > Activities, Crafts & Games > Crafts & Hobbies > Needlecrafts & Textile Crafts](#) #121 in [Books > Children's Books > Activities, Crafts & Games > Crafts & Hobbies > Beadwork, Fashion & Jewelry](#) #429 in [Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Crafts & Hobbies > Needlecrafts & Textile Crafts > Embroidery](#)

## Customer Reviews

This is one instance in which I urge you to ignore the number of stars I give the book, because its value to you will depend on what you're looking for. After visiting the Metropolitan Museum of Art's current exhibit on Chinese embroidery, I decided to grab a book at the museum bookstore so I could delve deeper into the subject. I've been doing embroidery for about four years, after all (with

some amateurish stabs at it in high school), though most of my projects are kits in the Arts & Crafts school. Anyway, this book looked like a good candidate since it promised, "Over 2,000 years of rich and colorful Chinese embroidery to enjoy, learn, and master through exquisite photographs and step-by-step instructions." I flipped through the pages and figured that, at worst, it would be fun embroidery porn (not to mention a memento of the trip; I do like to have some kind of personal souvenir). When I got home, though, I looked at the book in more detail. There's a chapter on the history of Chinese embroidery; the requisite chapter on tools and materials; an in-depth chapter showing 20 kinds of stitches (I'll get back to this in a moment); a chapter with 19 "daily use" projects; and finally a chapter on "artistic embroidery projects," a.k.a. advanced stuff. "Ooooh!" I thought. "Maybe this is more practical than I thought!" The stitch introduction chapter has photos illustrating the process, accompanied by a little project using it. For example, the basic blanket stitch has four photos and their instructions ("1. Bring out the needle at A and bring out the whole thread. Insert the needle at B near A and then bring it out immediately at C with the thread pressed under the needle").

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