

Design and Technology Knowledge Organiser

Year Five and Six A Cushion

Types of Stitching

- Running stitch: Quickly joints two fabrics along a line
- Overstitch: Loops over the edge of the fabric preventing fraying.
- Blanket-stitch: Ornamental stitch effective on decorative work.
- Back stitch: Stronger than a running stitch and good for seams.

Design Brief

World War Two was arguably the largest and most consequential event in the history of the world. Lives, communities and countries were changed forever after the six-year conflict. Whilst soldiers fought all over the world, from the trenches of Northern France to the skies of Southeast Asia, communities at home supported the war effort and created countless messages of hope. Peace, love and harmony were hugely important. Your challenge is to utilise a variety of different textile techniques to create a decorative cushion emblazoned with a message of hope.

Sewing Machines

The correct method for joining fabrics is dependent on the type of fabric being used, and the loads and stresses that will act upon the join. An overlock machine is good for professional looking products as it binds the seam inside the join. Sewing machines are required to add fasteners such as zips.



Using Technology

Sections of fabric can be wasted effectively using a laser cutter. A pattern can be created using CAD software such as 2D Design and used to control the laser cutter. Identical patterns can be created very quickly using this method with a high level of accuracy.

The Homefront

To fill the gap and help build supplies for the war, many women went to work. They took on tough physical labour jobs that previously had been done mostly by men. Women who went to work in factories were nicknamed Rosie the Riveter. They played a major role in keeping the factories running smoothly and producing much needed planes, tanks, and other arms for the war.

When the war began in September 1939 the government knew that large cities would be the target for German bombs and that casualties would be high. Evacuation was introduced to move school children, teachers, mothers with children under the age of five and disabled people out of the cities to the countryside where there was little risk of bombing raids.

The Home Guard or Local Defence Volunteers (LDV) was formed in 1940 when there was a real risk that Hitler might invade Britain. The men that served in the Home Guard were all volunteers and were mostly those that were too old (over the age of 40) or too young