

YORKSHIRE BUTTONS

1: Cut a circle out of strong cardboard or plastic, about 1.5" to 2" (3.5 to 5cm) is all right to start with. To get an even circle use a compass, or something of the right diameter to draw around. Cut 12 V shaped notches evenly around the edge, making sure they are deep enough to hold your thread. Number your notches from 1-12 like a clock face, and make a small hole in the centre of your disc (*figure 1*).

2: Thread a blunt needle with about 2.5 - 3yds of yarn. Bring the yarn through the centre hole leaving about 0.5" (1cm) at the back.

3: Take the thread around the circle in figure-of-eight movements, i.e. from the centre to notch 1, round the back and out again at 12, down to 6, round the back and out at 7, continue in this manner until each pair of notches has a loop between them at the back (*figure 2*). The order is not important, but you must work in a figure-of-eight and end with twelve loops on the back. The following table gives a complete order for working, to get you started:-

1 → 12
6 → 7
1 → 2
8 → 9
3 → 4
10 → 11
5 → 6
12 → 11
5 → 4
10 → 9
3 → 2
8 → 7

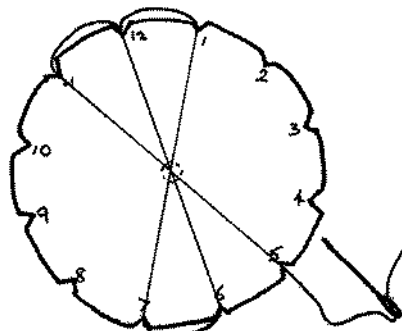


FIG 1.

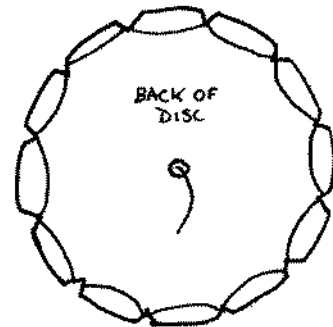


FIG 2.

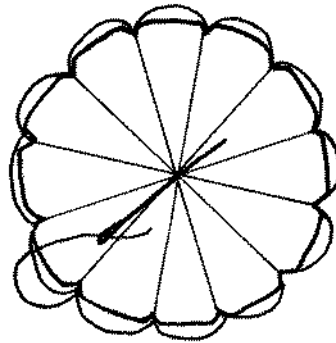


FIG 3.

4: When the circle is complete take the needle under the centre threads, and bring it up near the centre ready to start the weaving (*figure 3*).

5: With the needle and the rest of the yarn start working in a spiral out from the centre, going back over one thread take the needle behind two threads, then bring it out again and take another back stitch over one thread, continue in this way to the very edge of the disc, or as near as possible. This gives a ridged effect, with 12 ridges.

6: Carefully thread the needle through the loops on the back of the card one at a time, lifting them off as you go. Fill the button with a bead or a little stuffing and draw up the loops tightly. Finally make a few stitches at the back to secure and leave any remaining yarn to sew the button on your garment.