

Darning Technique 4 Seed and square

This technique combines the basic square and the seed stitch so it is possible to repair the hole and reinforce the material. Change colour every few rows to create a plaid design.

<<When to use>>
When there's a hole and the material around it is worn



Threads used:
Sashiko thread in navy blue, brown and red

Before



After



Sewing the warp



1 Place the material on the darning mushroom. Start with a seed stitch on the lower right of the worn area.

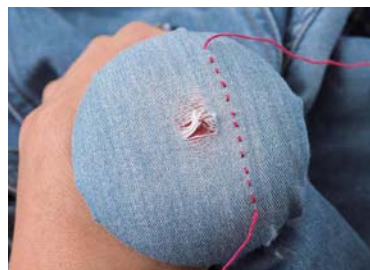


2 First take a stitch and pull the thread. Leave 10cm (4in) tail at the end.



3 Sew one seed stitch, go back 1–2mm ($\frac{3}{16}$ in– $\frac{3}{4}$ in), see p15.

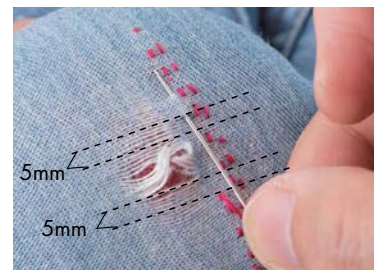
Changing the thread colour



4 Sew one seed stitch row.



5 From the first row, take a stitch to the left and do a second row of seed stitch.



6 On the third row stop the seed stitch 5mm ($\frac{1}{4}$ in) before the hole. Skip over and start sewing 5mm ($\frac{1}{4}$ in) on the other side.



7 Pull the thread and continue to seed stitch. Repeat this until the hole is covered.



8 When the thread runs out change colour. If you change every three or four rows, you'll create a plaid pattern.

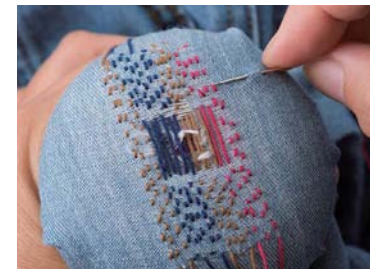


9 Now the hole is completely hidden by the vertical threads.

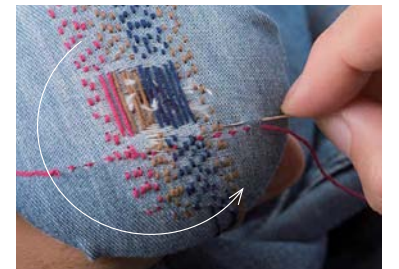
Sewing the weft



10 Continue the seed stitch vertically and reinforce the worn parts.



11 The horizontal thread starts from the upper right, slightly away from the square to reinforce the fabric.



12 Once the left edge is sewn, rotate the darning mushroom 180 degrees and sew the second row.



13 When it comes to the square part, weave through the vertical threads and sew seed stitches to the left.



14 Once the horizontal weft is finished it will create a tartan cross.



15 Continue the seed stitch several times to reinforce the worn area. Finally tidy the thread (see p15) and steam lightly.