

# FUNKY FURNISHINGS! KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER

## Overview

### Sewing Techniques

Textiles are flexible materials woven from fibres

-Textiles are used to make clothing, sheets, towels, linen, carpets, rugs and a wide variety of other products.

-Sewing involves the joining of different textile fabrics using a needle and thread.

-Sewers can use a range of different sewing styles to produce strong joins.

-Some stitches also create an attractive-looking seam (a line of stitching joining fabrics together). Thinking about the way a product looks is called 'aesthetics', and is highly important in textiles.



## Cushions



-Cushion cases are designed to protect the material inside them – Therefore they need to be soft and durable.  
-Fabrics of different kinds are used for cushion cases- cotton/ woolen fabrics are often used as they offer a soft feeling for comfort.

-The pictured product has used a backstitch for joining fabrics together. This is a particularly strong stitch, that will keep fabrics together securely.

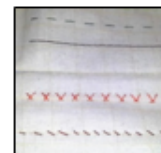
## Designing

Designers of textile products need to think about the purpose (what does it do?) and the user (who will use it?)

**Fabrics** -Different fabrics have different properties (characteristics) which make them good for different purposes. For example, some are soft and provide a cushion (e.g. felt) whilst others can be thin and lightweight (e.g. silk, cotton). This can make them easier to join/ decorate with.



**Joining** – There are lots of different stitches that you could use to join the fabrics together (see below). Some are easier and quicker, (e.g. running stitch) some are more secure and do not show the seam as obviously (e.g. backstitch), some help to improve certain fabrics (e.g. overstitch) and some are more aesthetically pleasing (e.g. blanket stitch).



As a part of the design process, you should be able to sketch and annotate different ideas. You should also be able to plan the main stages of making, using either a checklist, a storyboard, or a flowchart.



## Key Vocabulary

- Textiles
- Sew/ Stitch
- Thread
- Needle
- Appliqué
- Seam
- Aesthetics
- Running Stitch
- Back Stitch
- Over Sew Stitch
- Blanket Stitch

## Making & Evaluating

### Making

-Here is a guide to the different stitches that you may use to join fabrics together:

**Running Stitch** – This is the simplest stitch. It creates a dotted line effect. Remember to leave a space from the previous stitch.



**Back Stitch** – Similar to the running stitch, except that the thread doubles back so that there is no visible spacing between stitches. It is a very strong and secure stitch.



**Over Sew Stitch** – The over sew stitch is a good way to neaten the raw edge of fabrics. It involves sewing over the edge of the fabrics.



### Evaluating

-How does your textile look? Would your user like it? Why or why not? How could you improve the way it looks?

-Are your attached fabrics secure? How did you achieve this? Which type of stitch did you use? How could fabrics be joined more securely?



-Which materials did you choose? Why? Does your product perform its purpose well? Why or why not?

