Silk Mori® Milkpaint® Threads

Milkpaint threads are ideal for historical samplers, or to create an antiqued effect in any design.

Stitching Hints

We recommend that you prepare the ground material prior to stitching to protect the thread from "catching" on the rough edges of the fabric.

• For fabric, turn the edges under and secure with a running stitch using cotton thread.

• For canvas, cover the raw edges with masking tape or single fold bias tape.

To keep your stitching looking its best, take time to wash your hands before starting to stitch and use a non-greasy hand cream to soften cuticles and moisturize dry skin.

To maintain the beautiful sheen of silk threads while you are stitching:

• Work with only a 12" to 18" length of silk to keep the thread from tangling and fraying from repeated passes through the ground material.

• Use a "pale and stable" rather than a "hand sewing" method of working your stitches, which also keeps a thread from fraying.

• Use a needle whose eye easily accommodates the threads, but which does not distort the ground canvas. This opens the fabric so the thread can glide through easily, reducing thread abrasion as it does through the material.

Let your needle dangle every few stitches to let the thread relax and thus avoid knotting and tangling.

A laying tool such as a bodkin or trolley needle may help you lay strands parallel during stitching to obtain the greatest degree of uniform light reflection. You can also use your needle to lay strands neatly and evenly.

Maintain the twist of Silk Serica as you stitch by applying a slight reverse twist to your needle, or allowing your needle to dangle every one or two stitches and return to its natural twist. This will keep the silk from untwisting or becoming too tightly twisted during the stitching process.

7 Silk threads should be dry cleaned. We do not recommend that you wash silk work.

If you have any questions about using silk threads call us at 1-800-537-2166 or email us at kreinik@kreinik.com. We would love to hear from you!
**Kreinik Silk Mori®** is a premium 6-strand, 100% pure SPUN SILK with a delightful softness and creamy lustre. Available in skeins, it can be plied and used for a variety of stitches. Silk Mori® is easy to use and ideal for beginners in silk thread embroidery.

Open a skein of Silk Mori by removing the wrapper and loosening the slip knot holding the thread ends together. Separate the 6 strands before using and recombine the appropriate number of plies before threading the needle. To prevent any tangling:

1. Cut a length of Silk Mori about 15 inches.
2. Hold the end and pull out 1 strand. (Illus. A)
3. Straighten the thread after each strand has been pulled out. (Illus. B)
4. Lay all strands parallel to each other and thread your needle (for added lustre, keep strands parallel while stitching).
5. REMEMBER: Silk Threads have no grain or nap.

The outline below gives suggested usage for using Mori in tent or cross stitches. Decorative stitches may require extra strands for adequate coverage:

**NEEDLEPOINT AND CANVAS WORK:****

- 2 strands for 22-count canvas
- 6 strands for 14-count canvas
- 3 strands for 18-count canvas
- 1 strand for 40-count gauze

**CROSS STITCH:****

- 1 strand for 16- and 18-count fabrics
- 2 strands for 14-count canvas
- 2 strands for 22-count canvas
- 6 strands for 14-count canvas

For more advanced stitching techniques, a single strand of Silk Serica® may be separated into 3 plies. Take hold of the strand with both hands near the end and apply a slight counter twist to separate the 3 plies.

After separating the Silk Serica® into 3 plies you will notice the soft ripples produced by the natural twist of the silk. This rippling effect is reminiscent of antique samplers. When the silk is dampened, the ripples relax, leaving a flat area of very high sheen. Use a cosmetic sponge to dampen your silk because it is not as abrasive as other sponges.

**Kreinik Silk Serica®** is a 3-ply, 100% pure FILAMENT SILK with a magnificent, rich sheen. It is a versatile silk thread that can be used singly as a fine twisted silk, or it can be separated for use as a highly reflective flat silk for more advanced stitching techniques.

When using Kreinik Silk Serica® as a single strand, simply cut the appropriate length from the reel, thread your needle, and begin to stitch. It allows perfect coverage on 18-count canvas in tent or half cross stitch, and works beautifully as Kloster Blocks in Hardanger or as satin stitches in samplers. Use a non-greasy hand cream to keep the filament silk from snagging on dry skin.

Use Serica for:
- NEEDLEPOINT SAMPLERS
- CRAZY QUILTING
- CROCHET
- HARDANGER
- SURFACE WORK
- AND JAPANESE EMBROIDERY

**A Stitcher’s Guide to Silk Threads**

Want to learn more about using Kreinik Silk Threads? This digested-sized book features:

- needlework history
- stitching tips
- stitch library
- silk thread design to stitch
- stitch glossary

Visit our web site at www.kreinik.com to buy your silk threads and to download free projects using these silk threads.