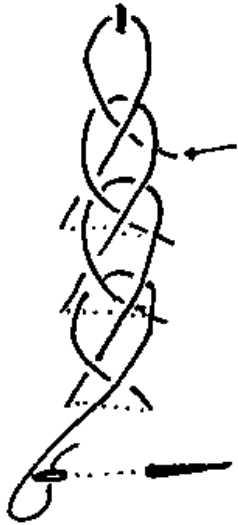


# Norse Seam Treatments

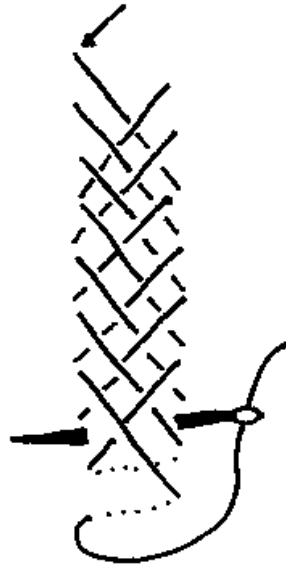


## Ösenstich:

This is a prevalent stitch in Norse embroidery. It can be worked in wire, wool, linen, silk, etc.

It is worked similar to a cross between a modern Vandyke stitch and open chain stitch.

In an Oseberg find, a ninth century garment's seams are oversewn in some sort of loop stitch with a thread used double.



## Mammen Herringbone:

This stitch was on the seams of a cushion, found in a 10th Century Mammen grave. It was worked in wool on wool fabric.

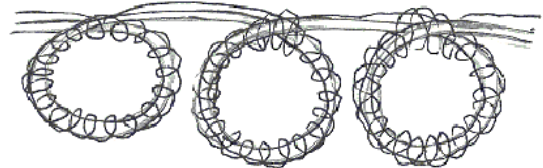


## Interlaced Vandyke:

This stitch was on a seam from a seventh-century pillow cover from the Sutton Hoo burial.



"Embroidery is evident on two-three fragments of the tabby material that once was red. It consists of quite small stitching executed in silk and wool, or exclusively in wool. It seems to have been placed on the edge of a seam or an applied silk- or wool fragment. The embroideries are done in differing techniques. It could be a stemstitch or backstitch, in some cases it's executed with several threads winding around each other." (1)



This style of embroidery was also found in the graves at Birka, on garment seams and appliqué seams.

The embroidery is worked in stem stitch and backstitch, in both silk and wool threads. One motif is a series of rings made with one thread, while a second thread wraps around the rings, adding texture as well as couching the first thread down. This style of embroidery was also found in the graves at Birka, on garment seams and appliqué seams.

## Other options:

Couching

Appliqué

Tablet Weaving

Resources:

Viking Embroidery Stitches and Motifs

<http://www.cs.vassar.edu/%7ecapriest/vikembroid.html>  
(pictures in left column are from this webpage)

Anglo-Saxon and Viking Works of the Needle: Some Artistic Currents in Cross-Cultural Exchange

<http://www.cs.vassar.edu/~capriest/asvembroid.html>

<http://aeg.atlantia.sca.org/tempore/pre-1000.htm>

List of Pre-1000 embroidery sources

(1)

[www.forest.gen.nz/Medieval/articles/Oseberg/dress/OSEBERG.HTM](http://www.forest.gen.nz/Medieval/articles/Oseberg/dress/OSEBERG.HTM)

Partial translation of Oseberg Dronningens grav  
1992, Arne Emil Christensen, Anne Stine Ingstad, Bjørn Myhre  
ISBN 82-516-1423-6