

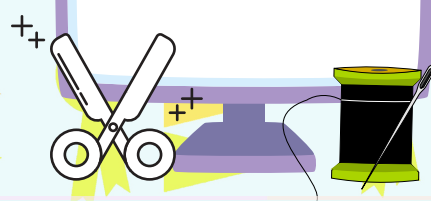


THE FABRIC OF PROTEST

Get Ready

September 2020

Online



A monthly textile workshop by People's History Museum (PHM). Learn new techniques and discuss the issues that matter to you.

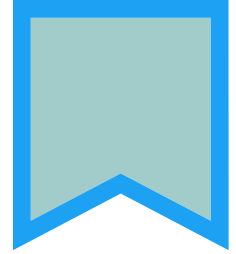
This resource is designed to help you get ready for the workshop, to provide inspiration and ideas for creativity online and at home.

Recommended for 11+

(under 18s must have an accompanying adult present during session)

#fabricofprotest

phm.org.uk



This month we are taking inspiration from two of the banners in the [2020-2021 Banner Exhibition](#) on display at the museum.



- Amalgamated Society of Woodworkers (ASW), Chatham District banner, 1899
- Amalgamated Society of Engineers (ASE), Machinists, Millwrights, Smiths and Pattern Makers, Manchester Branch banner, around 1910

© People's History Museum

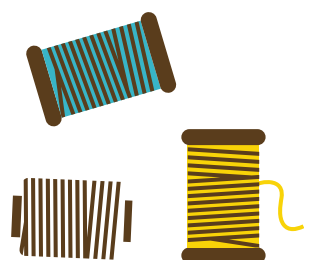
Both of these banners highlight the links between migration and employment, particularly demonstrating the connections between the textile trade and migration in Britain in the 19th and 20th centuries

In this month's session we will look at the Industrial Revolution, how international trade brought different people and communities to Manchester and how they contributed to its textile industry, making it an international city.

This resource highlights some of the ideas and techniques that will be explored during the online Zoom session, to help you prepare and think about your creation.

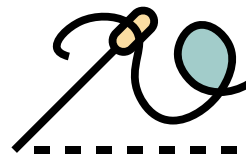


On a fabric patch you will weave symbols of industry, using the threads as a way of representing the different people who have contributed to the textile industry in Manchester.



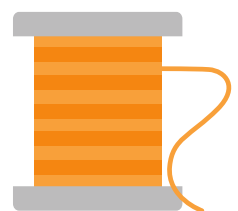


Materials



Gather some materials from around your home.
Here are some suggestions:

- Fabrics: one piece of fabric 20cm x 20cm
- Threads: embroidery thread
- Sewing needle & pins
- Fabric scissors
- Fork: for helping to weave
- Pencil or marker and ruler: for drawing





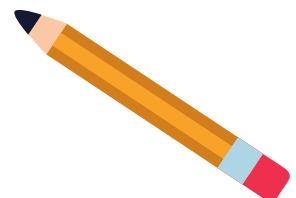
What does migration, industry and textiles represent to you?



If you have time before the session you could consider:

- How you might represent the symbols of industry in Manchester or other cities - this could be from the present day or from the time of the Industrial Revolution.
- Think about what Manchester as a city at the heart of the Industrial Revolution means to you today and meant to people during 19th and 20th centuries.
- Perhaps you, or your family or friends have connections to migrating for work - you may want to consider how you could represent this in your creation.
- Think about words you might want to add to your piece - something that talks of the connections of the people who have contributed to the creation of Manchester.

You may want to start sketching out some of these ideas if that helps you develop your thoughts.



Starting off

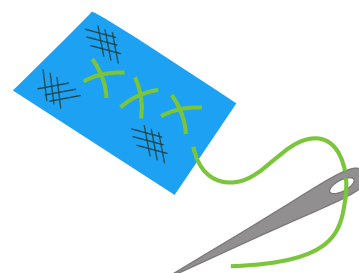


Gather your materials as listed on page 3. This will include cutting out your square for your fabric patch or marking it out to cut later.

If you have thought of symbols of industry you would like to include, you can draw or trace these onto the fabric in pencil or pen.



If you wish to start stitching ahead of the session, you can stitch lines of threads to be your 'warp' thread across or down the outline of your symbols - whichever is narrowest.

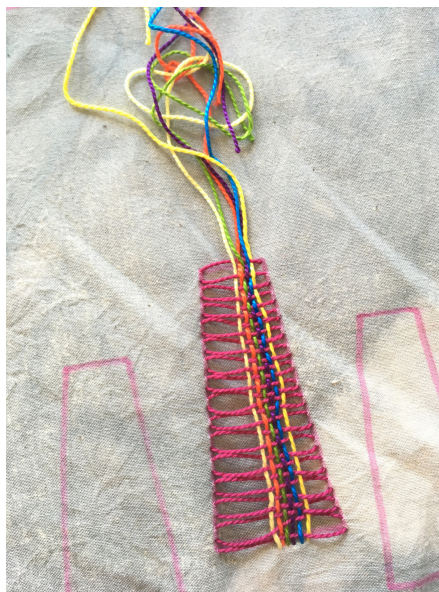


What we'll be weaving

During the session we will demonstrate how to weave your coloured threads under and over warp threads to create the weave.



Your next line or 'weft' will go over and under, the opposite way to the previous line, to create strength in the weave.



You can use a fork to push these lines together - this will get easier the more lines you create!

Stitching your words

We will show you how you can use decorative stitches to stitch words onto your fabric patch. You may want to use some of your loose threads from the weave to do this.

We will also show you how you can couch down some of the loose threads from your weave, securing them with little stitches here and there to represent a mingle of cultures and experiences.



Join us on Zoom to get creative

All you need to do now is book onto the online Zoom session via [Eventbrite](#), bring a cuppa and join artist Helen Mather for an hour of stitching, chatting and sharing inspired by the ideas in this resource.

This month we'll be online on
Saturday 19 September,
2.00pm - 3.00pm.



Share what you have created!

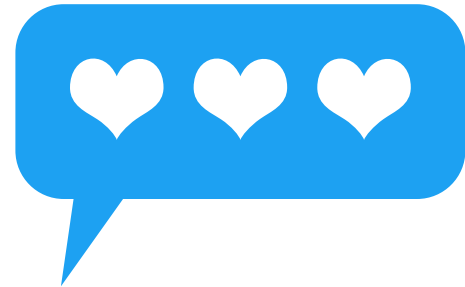
We would love to see what you have created!

We plan to bring together photos of participants' creations to make a digital patchwork banner.

If you use social media, please share photos of your creations using #fabricofprotest.



Or if you prefer you can email a photo of your creation to learning@phm.org.uk.



@PHMMcr



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Find out more

Sign up to the [PHM blog](#) and read writer Emily Oldfield's [review of PHM's 2020-2021 Banner Exhibition](#). Emily is the Editor of Haunt Manchester, seeking to celebrate alternative angles of the region.

