

## 8<sup>th</sup> c Bayeaux work

There is very little information about Anglo-Saxon or Norman purses. Levick postulates that drawstring pouches were probably used to hold small items, but not seen (and thus not depicted) because they were attached to the trouser belt beneath the tunic flap. Regia Angolorum has a reference to drawstring pouches used by monks. There is also a single example of a purse stiffened with an ivory ring, recently excavated at Lechlade in the Upper Thames Valley.

Priest-Dorman notes that the chief techniques employed in Anglo-Saxon pieces were split stitch, stem or outline stitch, and couching, but that there were more usually associated with display rather than personal adornment.

For the purpose of this exercise – trying to create a LOG pouch that is not out of keeping with this time – I have opted for a simple drawstring pouch, with wool embroidery on wool. The design is based on the images found on the Bayeux embroidery. Although this was clearly never used as a garment, it is one of the few contemporary design sources available and did contain a running deer. The star is adapted from the image of Halley's comet.



Marginal deer from *Bayeux Tapestry*  
Wool on linen ground (*Wilson p8*)

### **Materials:**

- Fine red wool for pouch
- Natural fine woven linen for lining (or use calico)
- Appletons crewel wool or equivalent in medium yellow, off-white (star), and black (outlines)

### **Notes:**

This must be worked in a hoop or frame. Mistress Acacia has an excellent article on Bayeux stitch, available on the WCoB website.

### **Finishing:**

No tassels, simple draw cords, short cords for hanging (lucet cord would be ideal). The holes for the draw cords may need strengthening with embroidered eyelets to avoid wear on the wool.

**8thc Anglo-Saxon design:**

