

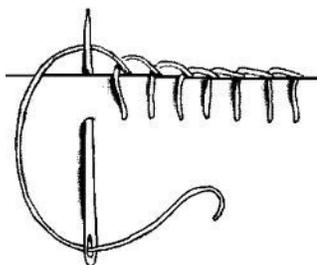
# AIDA Ribband / Banding Comparison



## TIP

**To prevent fraying of the top and bottom edges of the banding, the cut piece should be finished before use.**

**Use ordinary sewing thread and embroider the edge from one or two rows in, at every cross stitch hole, using a loose blanket stitch, as below.**



On the left is a comparison of the old cross-stitch Ribband (bottom) which was manufactured in the US, and is no longer available at retail or wholesale sellers.

“Aida Banding” is manufactured in Europe and imported into North America.

The banding was purchased by Angie from DoveStitch, a US importer based in Ware, MA, in March 2013.



As can be seen in the images, the banding (top two samples) is slightly wider than the Ribband, but not consistently so. The “cream” (middle) is slightly narrower than the “antique white” (top), but still wider than the Ribband. All three samples claim to be 2” wide. The difference in width between the antique white banding and the Ribband is less than 1/4 inch.

The width isn’t the only difference (which is probably due to a metric measurement, rather than imperial, used in the European “banding”).

The original Ribband was 16 count (stitches per inch), 26 stitches across. The banding claims to be 16 count, but has 27 stitches across. However, the stitches at each end of the width are narrower than the others.

**When embroidering on banding, it is recommended that only one of the narrow stitches be used in patterns offered by Angie, which are designed for 26 stitches across. The empty edge stitch is not noticeable in the finished embroidery because the work will adjust. Leave 5 or 6 rows blank at top and bottom, for finishing and turning under.**

Another difference is the “feel”. The Ribband was quite stiff, making it easy to work, and holds its shape. The banding is very loosely woven, soft and floppy, with a silky sheen and feel, but also distorts. It frays easily.

Ribband was 100% polyester. The composition of the banding is not stated by sellers, but is likely 100% acrylic/polyester.

The image below compares the width and look of antique white banding to white Ribband.

