

No.1 for trends

# Cross Stitcher

IDEAS • STYLE • INSPIRATION

47

BRIGHT NEW  
PROJECTS

*Purrfect*  
**Summer!**



**HANDMADE  
WEDDING**

# MAKE of the month

It's time to make the coolest  
sunnies case for your holidays, complete  
with snug felt lining. It's easy!



CrossStitcher © Jane Prutton

Designed by: Jane Prutton

Design size: 16.5x9cm

Stitch time: 9 hours

CrossStitcher	DMC	Anchor
Cross stitch in two strands		
~ Yellow	746	275
0 Light grey	762	234
■ Dark blue	799	145
♥ Red	3328	1024
★ Dark grey	3787	1041
× Green	3819	278
3 Orange	3854	313
Cross stitch in one strand		
♡ Yellow	746	275
★ Light blue	3325	129
2 Green	3819	278
Backstitch in one strand		
— Dk grey	3787	1041
all details		
French knots in one strand		
● Dk grey	3787	1041
lettering		

## Make a... sunglasses case

### Step 1

**STITCH** the design on 28HPI white evenweave, measuring 20x14cm.

### Step 2

**PLACE** a piece of felt right sides together over the stitching and stitch together along the top edge. Fold the white felt to the back of the evenweave.

### Step 3

**LAY** felt backing right sides together on top of the evenweave and stitch together, down the side, along the bottom and up the other side. Make sure you stitch along the edge of the stitched design.

### Step 4

**TRIM** the seams and turn the case right sides out and press to finish.



*Wind your thread round your needle  
just once to work the tiny French knots*

## NEXT MONTH

**STITCH A CUPCAKE CARD**  
Serve up the tastiest sweet treat  
with our cute cupcake card - You  
can even add a mini doily!



ISSUE 295  
AUGUST 2015

**On sale**  
24 July

# Amber

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*Amber transforms lives by offering a fresh start to unemployed, homeless young people seeking direction in life.*

*Amber builds confidence, motivation and self-belief.*

*Amber works*



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WorldMags.net  
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# Welcome

Stitching gifts to make everyone smile



## MARRIAGE IS FINDING THAT SPECIAL SOMEONE TO ANNOY FOR THE REST OF YOUR LIFE

Hurray for a fun wedding saying! Don't get me wrong, I'm all for a bit of romance and have even been known to stitch a wedding sampler with a sentimental saying. It's just the whole wedding thing can get a bit much and a helping of humour is called for.

With this in mind, we have some really fun gifts to make for the happy couple. Our Mr & Mrs mugs will raise a smile (yes, that is heart-shaped toast you can see in the picture on page 8). They're a great extra to wrap up and give on the day if you've already plumped for something on an online wedding list. Talking of plumping, how about the ultimate in pillows? They cleverly mark out sleeping territory to the best advantage. Designed to be worked on a low-count fabric, the lovely chunky stitches will fly onto your fabric.

No wedding to attend? Just host a summer party instead! Our Chinese lantern accessories will make for a really glam summer evening.

Happy summer stitching!

Jenny

JENNY DIXON  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

### Flip those flops!

Don't miss the chance to give your footwear a cross stitch makeover! In your next issue, 24 July.



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[twitter.com/XStitchmagazine](https://twitter.com/XStitchmagazine)



[www.crossstitchermag.com](http://www.crossstitchermag.com)



Raise a (heart-shaped) toast to the newly-weds!

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THE SAVVY  
STITCHER  
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## THE SavvyStitcher

*Try something new every issue*

### **73 Perfect pom-poms**

Add a tactile touch to your stitching as we take a retro classic and give it a new twist with yummy ideas for pom-pom makes!





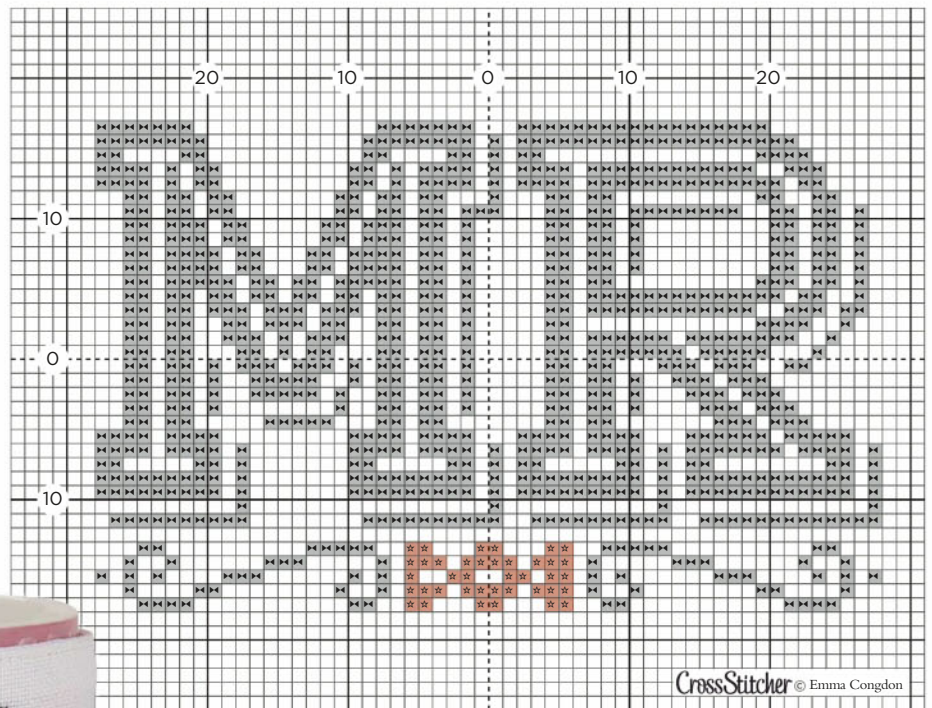


# BREW FOR TWO



One lump or two? For a novel wedding gift idea, try our cute personalised mugs for couples

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
Cross stitch in two strands			
▶	413	236	1713
★	666	046	0210



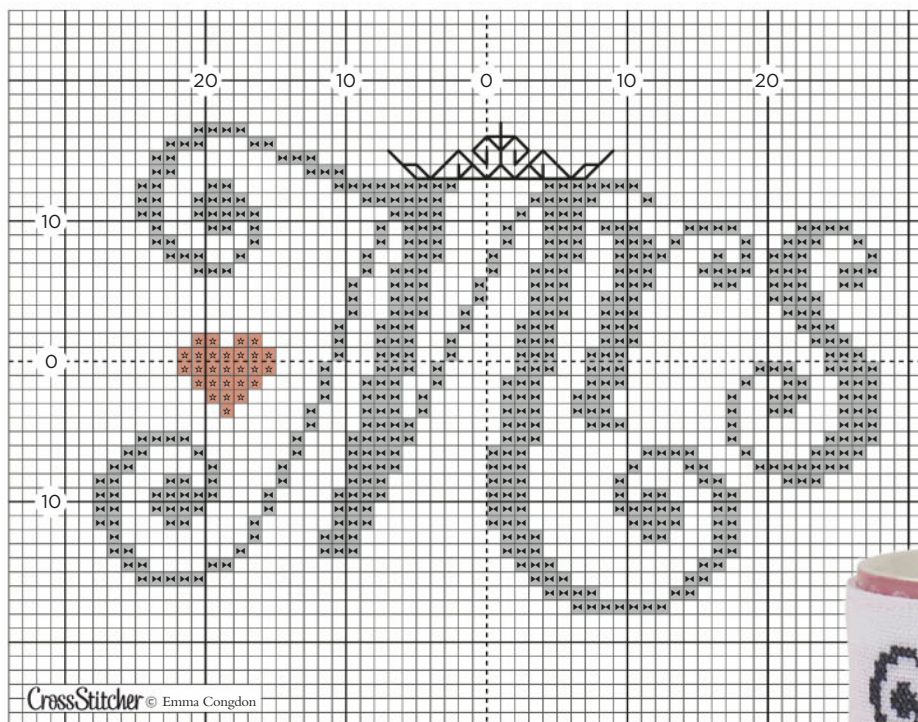
CrossStitcher © Emma Congdon



## Materials

- 28 count white evenweave, 40x30cm
- White cotton backing fabric, 10x27cm
- White cord
- White button

For stockist details see page 84



	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
<b>Cross stitch in two strands</b>			
	413	236	1713
	666	046	0210
<b>Backstitch in one strand</b>			
	Kreinik VF braid 001 tiara		



Designed by: Emma Congdon  
 Design size: 6x10cm Stitch time: 3 hours each

## Make a... mug cosy

### Step 1

**TRIM** your stitching to the same size as the backing fabric with the design placed 3cm from the right or left-hand edge and centrally widthways. Place your backing fabric on top, right sides together, and sew along the top, bottom and side nearest the cross stitched design.

### Step 2

**TURN** right sides out. Press under the raw edges of the remaining side and fold the cord in half to make a loop to fit over your button. Tuck the ends into the unstitched side then top stitch down to secure.

### Step 3

**STITCH** the button on the other edge. Wrap the cosy round your mug and loop the cord round the button to hold in place.

*Personalise your mug cosies by stitching the couple's names and wedding date on the cosy using a simple backstitch alphabet*

**Aida swatch**  
 If you prefer stitching on aida use a 14 count white aida instead



# Outthere

Every month we showcase the latest high street trends, new ideas and inspiring personalities for today's stylish cross stitcher



## Garden party

Makers need space to do their favourite things – and where better than at the end of the garden? Sally Coulthard's new book *Shed Decor* is inspiring us to turf out the flowerpots and turn those unloved wooden huts into a stitching nook. The book features ideas to copy and others we can enjoy dreaming about, such as this old barn in Wisconsin. Interior designer Richard McGeehan added whitewashed floors and filled it with artworks and vintage finds – shed envy, anyone? *Shed Decor* by Sally Coulthard is published by Jacqui Small [www.jacquismallpub.com](http://www.jacquismallpub.com)



## BREW BEAUTY

**FOR THE PERFECT CUPPA** during a stitching session, try this haberdashery-themed cup and saucer for your afternoon tea. The Quirky Cup Collective paint each design by hand, inspired by everything from flamingos to sunflowers to fruit, and each mug or cup is different. [www.thequirkycupcollective.bigcartel.com](http://www.thequirkycupcollective.bigcartel.com)



### Sunny side up

Summer holidays are around the corner, and these ice cream and flip flop sunglasses cases make fab beach accessories. Try our ice cream bookmark on page 52, for lots more cool fun, whatever the weather. [www.notonthehighstreet.com/cherishhandmade](http://www.notonthehighstreet.com/cherishhandmade)



## UP IN THE SKY

**IF YOU** love our kite brooch on page 41, then we think you'll like this lovely print! Maker Jane who used to be a graphic designer loves being inspired by vintage children's books and geometric shapes. [www.etsy.com/shop/littleteawagon](http://www.etsy.com/shop/littleteawagon)



## BASKET BALL

**WE'RE ALWAYS** looking for pretty storage for our sewing stash. These zesty baskets are all handwoven by female artisans in Kenya and Ghana and each comes with a thank you note from the lady who made it. That's what we call woven with love! [www.thebasketroom.com](http://www.thebasketroom.com)

## LOVE HEARTS

**THE GRAPHIC** heart print on these gift tags reminds us of our favourite stitch. Contemporary, but with a quirky vintage touch, the tags come with their own black and white baker's twine ties. We think they'd make a fab finishing touch to any wedding gift. [www.rosehipcards.co.uk](http://www.rosehipcards.co.uk)



## In bloom

**LOOK CLOSELY** at this hand-embroidered cushion from Also Home to see tiny bumblebees and ladybirds! Made by artisans in India, the Mary cushion is inspired by an embroidery stitched by Also Home founder, Anna Smith's grandmother. Try the look with our dandelion tote bag on page 46. [www.alsohome.com](http://www.alsohome.com)



## COSY COUPLE

**FORGET THE** department store saucepan sets – we think handmade wedding gifts are the best! Try our stitched pillows on page 54 or mug cosies on page 8. No time? Why not pick up this pair of lovely stitched egg cosies which can be personalised with the names of the happy couple, too!

[charlottemacey.co.uk](http://charlottemacey.co.uk)



## TREND SPOTTING

with writer and crafter  
**Katie Allen**



## COMING UP ROSES

**LOVE OUR** vintage-style rose clock project on page 33? Team it with these gorgeous floral favourites.



### WHO

This rosy tapestry cushion from Lulu & Nat is stitched by hand in 100% wool.  
[www.luluandnat.com](http://www.luluandnat.com)

### WHAT

Start a budding romance with these fine bone china jugs, each one hand-decorated in Stoke.

[www.sophieallport.com](http://www.sophieallport.com)



### HOW

Keep pencils tidy in this unique rose fabric and hand-beaded case.

[www.etsy.com/shop/handmadephilosophy](http://www.etsy.com/shop/handmadephilosophy)



## Hedge Fund

### ICONIC WILDFLOWER

the dandelion is the inspiration for our projects on page 46 – so while you're stitching them, why not enjoy a herbal tea from one of these lovely wildflower mugs? Alison Bick works from her studio overlooking the River Gannel in Newquay and her designs are inspired by the Cornish countryside. The individually hand-printed mugs are made in Cornwall too. We can almost hear the seagulls...

[www.alisonbick.co.uk](http://www.alisonbick.co.uk)



## THREE OF THE BEST *Kitty collection*

Inspired by our cat cushions project on page 16 we've searched high and low on Etsy for these three purrfect pretties.



### CLAIRE HARTIGAN

There's nothing shabby about this tabby – laser-cut from acrylic it can be used as super-cute keyring or necklace.



### LITTLE WREN

Show off your fancy for all felines (and stitching too!) with this adorable cross stitched pin from Little Wren.



### MY PIPSQUEAK

Get your paws on this cute cat notebook cover, hand-sewn and drawn and inspired by maker Vicky's rescue kitty Stella.

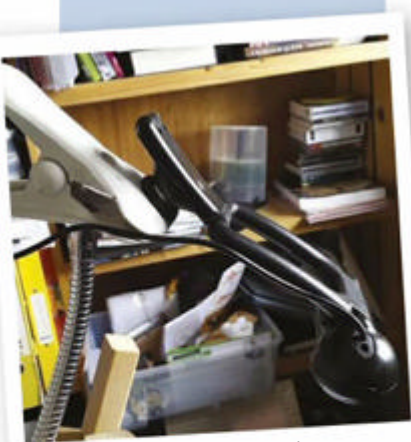
Photograph: Cat Lane



## Inside the mind of

# MR X STITCH

Our manbroiderer enjoys combining DIY with creativity to make the ultimate stitching stand



now i just need to add a MOBILE PHONE HOLDER!



EVERYTHING IS AWESOME WITH A LEGO MAN TO HELP ME!

Find me online:

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**H**ello dear readers, how are you? This month I'm chuffed that I've done something kinda groovy - I've hacked my embroidery stand to make it into a workstation that's fit for my multi-media purposes. Allow me to explain...

I've had an embroidery stand for at least five or six years now. It's a floor standing one with a clamp at the top that can hold round hoops or scroll hoops. It's for freeing up both hands for some seriously speedy stitching. Combine it with the John James Twin Point Quick Stitch Needles and you can get a proper pace up, all from the comfort of your own sofa. I like my stand; it's adjustable and most of the time it serves me well,

I like to take photos of my stitching and have a cunning plan where I need a webcam to be able to see my work. So I fixed a magnet to a flexible clamp and then fixed magnets to an old smartphone and to a webcam. 24 hours later, the Sugru had cooked and my magnets were in place, giving me a system where I could easily swap cameras and be able to take shots of my work.

But that was just the start! It's a little known fact that the hands of Lego people are the right size to hold cables, so I fixed a Scottish Lego man to the end of my stand, and Jock is now tasked with holding onto webcam cables as the need arises. I also wanted better lighting for my stand, so another magnet on the

“My stand has all the gizmos I need and most of them can be added or removed really easily”

however I've always felt that it could be improved and thanks to a great product called Sugru, I've managed to take the stand to the next level.

Sugru is brilliant - it's known as mouldable glue and is a silicone putty that cures overnight to become very adhesive as well as heatproof, waterproof and coldproof. You can use it for all kinds of fixes, sticking things together and repairing all manner of items. Recently they've produced a magnet kit that comes with four strong magnets for sticking to things and then each other. With Sugru, you can put the magnets wherever you want, and so I did.

stand and one on my flexible LED lights, and hey presto, detachable lighting! As Sugru bonds to all kinds of surfaces, so I was also able to fix a plush pack of chewing gum to my stand, acting as a pin cushion, as well as a thread sorter so that I can easily reach the floss I need while I'm working. I'm still tinkering with the stand, but I'm really pleased with the results. My stand has all the gizmos I need and most of them can be added or removed easily. I'd recommend this idea to any of you that are regular stand users. Why wait for a product that fully suits your needs, when you can make it the way you want it, right now?

MariesCrossStitch.co.uk  
Tel: 01376 777017

# Summer SALE Now On

Save up to **50%**  
on  
**Cross Stitch**  
Hurry, stocks are limited,  
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## APERTURE CARDS

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**recycle**  
The possibilities are endless.

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-no sewing needed

-easy to stitch

-TOP QUALITY CANVAS BAGS  
WITHOUT AIDA PANEL

-FRESH, COLOURFUL DESIGNS

-easy to follow chart  
and instructions

-ALL KITS SUPPLIED WITH  
DMC THREADS

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margaret  
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## StitchKits



Contemporary British Cross Stitch Kits

By Ruth Caig



[www.stitchkitslondon.co.uk](http://www.stitchkitslondon.co.uk)

[www.etsy.com/shop/stitchkits](http://www.etsy.com/shop/stitchkits)



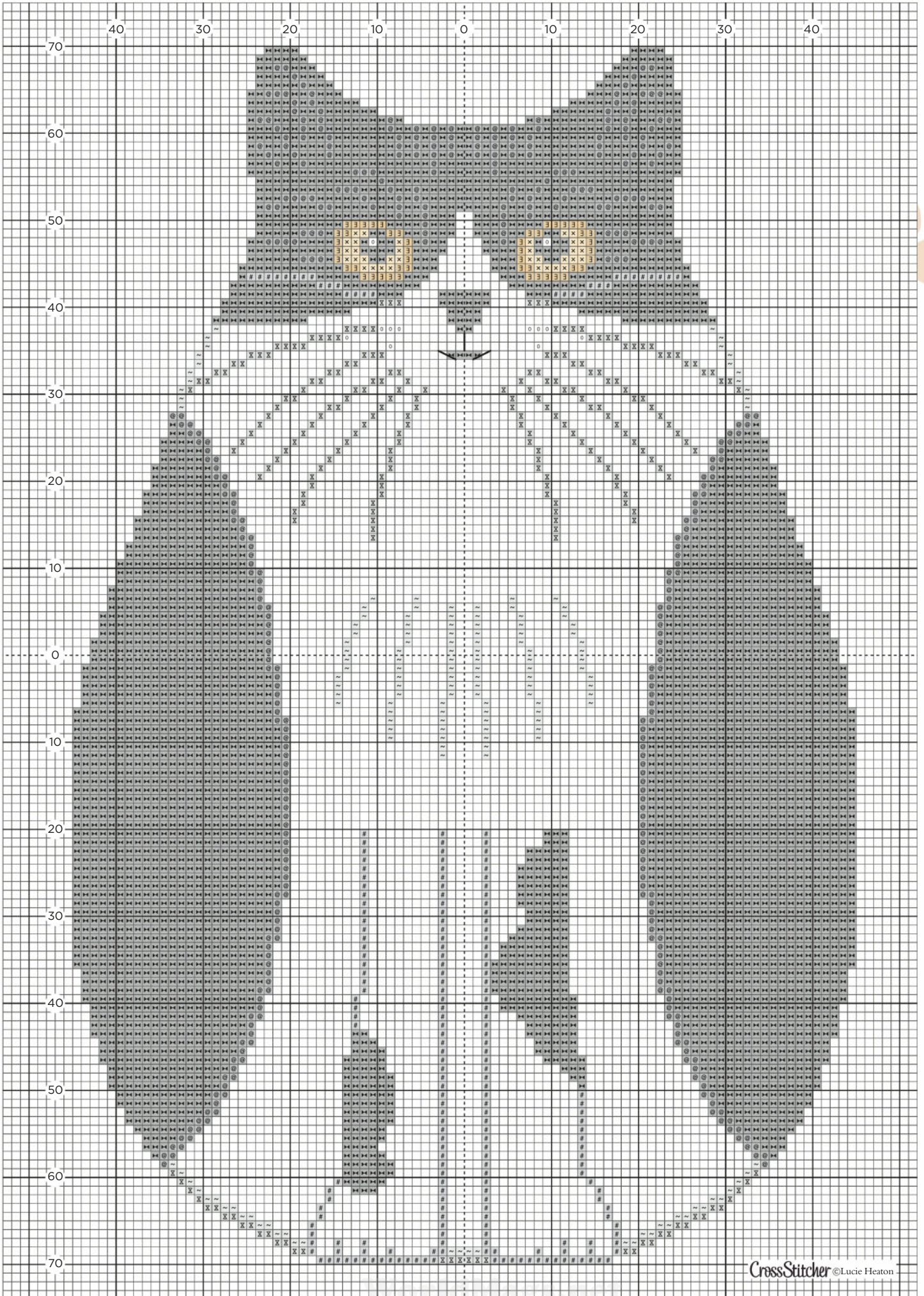


# CREATURE COMFORTS

Join our cosy club! Our purrfect  
pair of cushions are simply  
the cat's whiskers



# CREATURE COMFORTS





Designed by: Lucie Heaton Design size: 35x23cm each Stitch time: 20 hours each

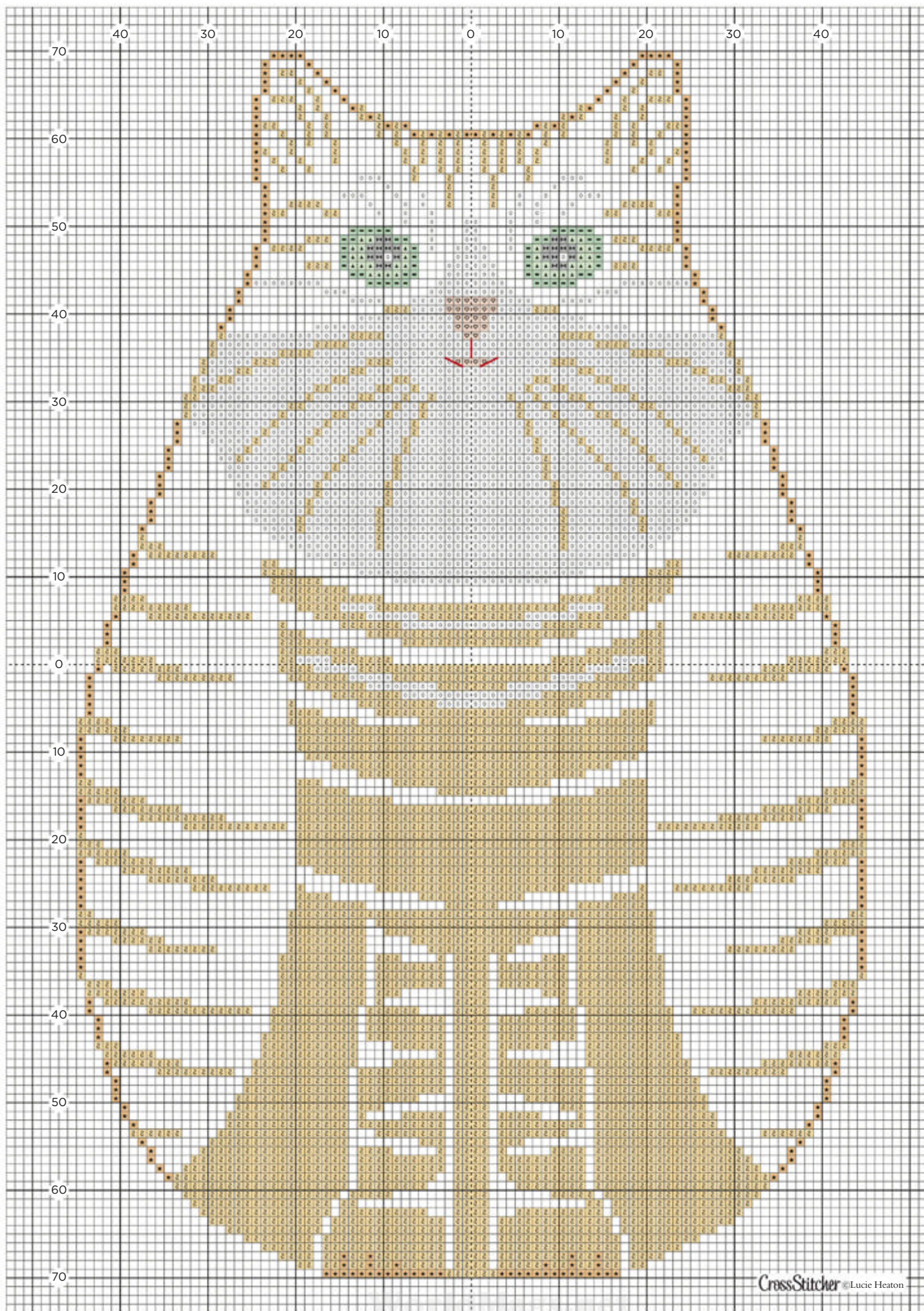
	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
Cross stitch in four strands			
0	White	002	2402 (2)
#	318	399	1801
@	414	235	1714
X	415	398	1802
★	720	326	0309
2	722	323	0307 (5)
~	762	234	1804
■	912	209	1213
▲	954	203	1211

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
Cross stitch in four strands			
◀	3799	236	1713 (5)
♥	3824	008	2503
×	3854	313	2301
☒	3853	1003	0311
Backstitch in two strands			
—	3824	313	2301
			mouth
—	3799	236	1713
			mouth

(2) indicates more than one skein required

*Keep the four strands together while you are stitching by running them through your wet fingers before you thread your needle*

# CREATURE COMFORTS



## Make a... shaped cushion

### Step 1

**PLACE** tracing paper over your stitching and draw a shape about 1cm away from the edge of the stitching. Keep the edges rounded and curving gently.

### Step 2

**CUT** out the shape and draw round it on the back of your evenweave. Pin the cushion back and front right sides together.

### Step 3

**STITCH** together along the drawn line, leaving a gap along the bottom straight edge for turning. Trim the seams then turn right sides out and press.

### Step 4

**STUFF** your cushion firmly then sew up the gap to finish.

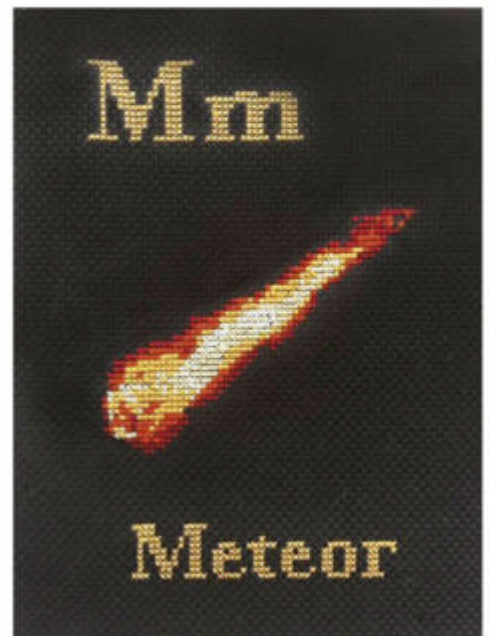


## Materials

### For each cushion

- 20 count white evenweave, 55x45cm
- White cotton backing fabric, 40x28cm
- Soft toy stuffing

For stockist details see page 84



Space race: Rebecca's aiming to create a full set of alphabet flash card patterns, with five designed so far!

*An interview with...*

# Rebecca Greco

Rebecca Greco is on a mission to combine craft with science and keep cross stitch contemporary! She told us about her stitching inspirations

Interview by **Katie Allen**

**L**ove reading stitching blogs? Then you will certainly have heard of Hugs Are Fun and blogger Rebecca Greco. Her gorgeous designs have been seen in magazines and books around the world, while she continues to chat craft and offer tutorials and advice on her blog. We caught up with Rebecca to talk art, astronauts and pushing the cross stitch boundaries...

**We love Hugs Are Fun - what inspired you to start it?**

I was selling cross stitch patterns and the blog was a place to show off progress and finished pieces. Since then, I've started doing tutorials and sharing free patterns. While I still sell patterns, I'm usually too busy with other things! 'Hugs Are Fun' is a song in the US children's show *Yo Gabba*



*Gabba.* I'm sure my sleep-deprived mummy brain played a part in me choosing it as a name for the blog!

**Have you always liked making?**

I always loved arts and crafts but I didn't start cross stitching or

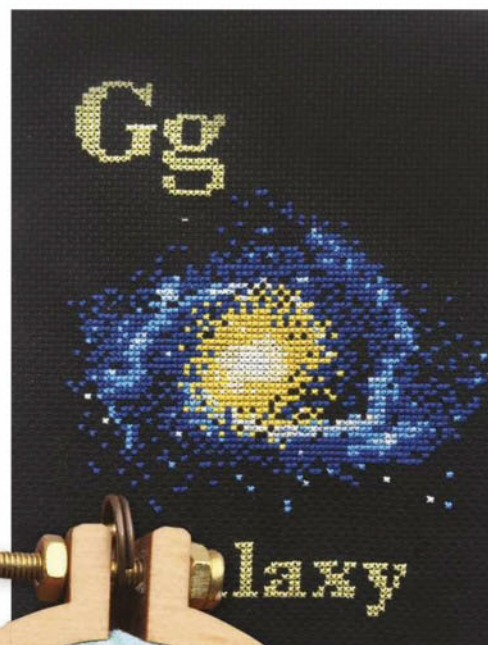
needlework until after college, where I studied illustration. After college I worked in graphic design and then I continued to freelance after my daughters were born.

**What do you particularly like about cross stitch?**

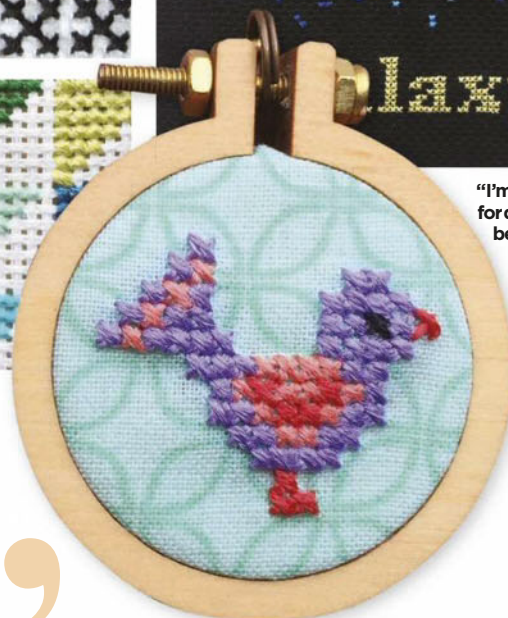
I love how easily accessible it is. The materials are quite cheap and it doesn't take much to get started, plus it's portable. I also love the repetition - I can work on it while watching TV or listening to a podcast. I'm pushing for cross stitch to be considered a modern craft. So many people think of it as a craft their grandma or mom did but I really do think it has so many unique and fun possibilities!

**Are there any artists who inspire you?**

Disney's *Mary Blair* is my all-time favourite artist. I bought my daughters



"I'm always looking for designs that can be translated into cross stitch," says Rebecca



“ I’m constantly inspired by patterns or designs that I see, especially geometric patterns ”

all of the books she illustrated and ‘It’s A Small World’ is my favourite ride at Disneyland. Satsuma Street’s cross stitch patterns remind me a lot of Mary Blair’s work – she has such a great eye for colour. Mollie Johanson from Wild Olive is a huge inspiration too, she has such a distinct style.

I am constantly inspired by patterns or designs that I see, especially geometric patterns.

#### What do you think has been your most popular project?

My space cross stitches have received a lot of attention, I think it’s because they are a new twist on cross stitching. The patterns aren’t overly complicated but still have a lot of detail. Plus I think people really like seeing science and crafts combined since they are usually very separate!

My French knot colour wheel (find it online at [hugsarefun.com/french-knot-color-wheel/](http://hugsarefun.com/french-knot-color-wheel/)) has also been really popular. French knots are something lots of stitchers struggle

with, so I think people appreciate the time and effort that went into it.

#### Any advice for new stitchers?

I would say, start small! Starting out with a smaller project allows you to get a feel for the craft while also getting the thrill that comes from finishing a piece. Also, I’d advise they invest in some tapestry needles! They aren’t as sharp as sewing needles so you can save your fingers a lot of pain!

#### Are there any products you’re loving at the moment?

I am really enjoying working with Sulky Petites thread. It comes on a spool and it doesn’t need to be separated. It’s really great to stitch with. Thread Heaven is a thread conditioner that I really love using – it makes the thread smooth and less likely to tangle or knot.

I’ve recently become obsessed with water-soluble canvas. It opens up a whole realm of possibilities rather than just stitching on normal aida or linen.

#### Describe a day in the life of Hugs Are Fun!

Most of my day involves caring for my girls. While my younger daughter naps the older one usually draws or crafts while I write a blog post or do some stitching. I always keep a project in my bag in case I have a chance to sneak in some stitching while waiting at an activity or class.

The bulk of my work time is after they go to bed, I try to finish any blogging and then I usually watch a show while I stitch. I’ve made my way through a lot of TV shows!

#### Is there anything you would love to make?

I have a never-ending to-do list, but finishing the space cross stitch alphabet is high on the list. I also have ideas for different science-themed cross stitches. I have been wanting to make a quilt this year and I am hoping to find a way to combine cross stitch into it.

[hugsarefun.com](http://hugsarefun.com)

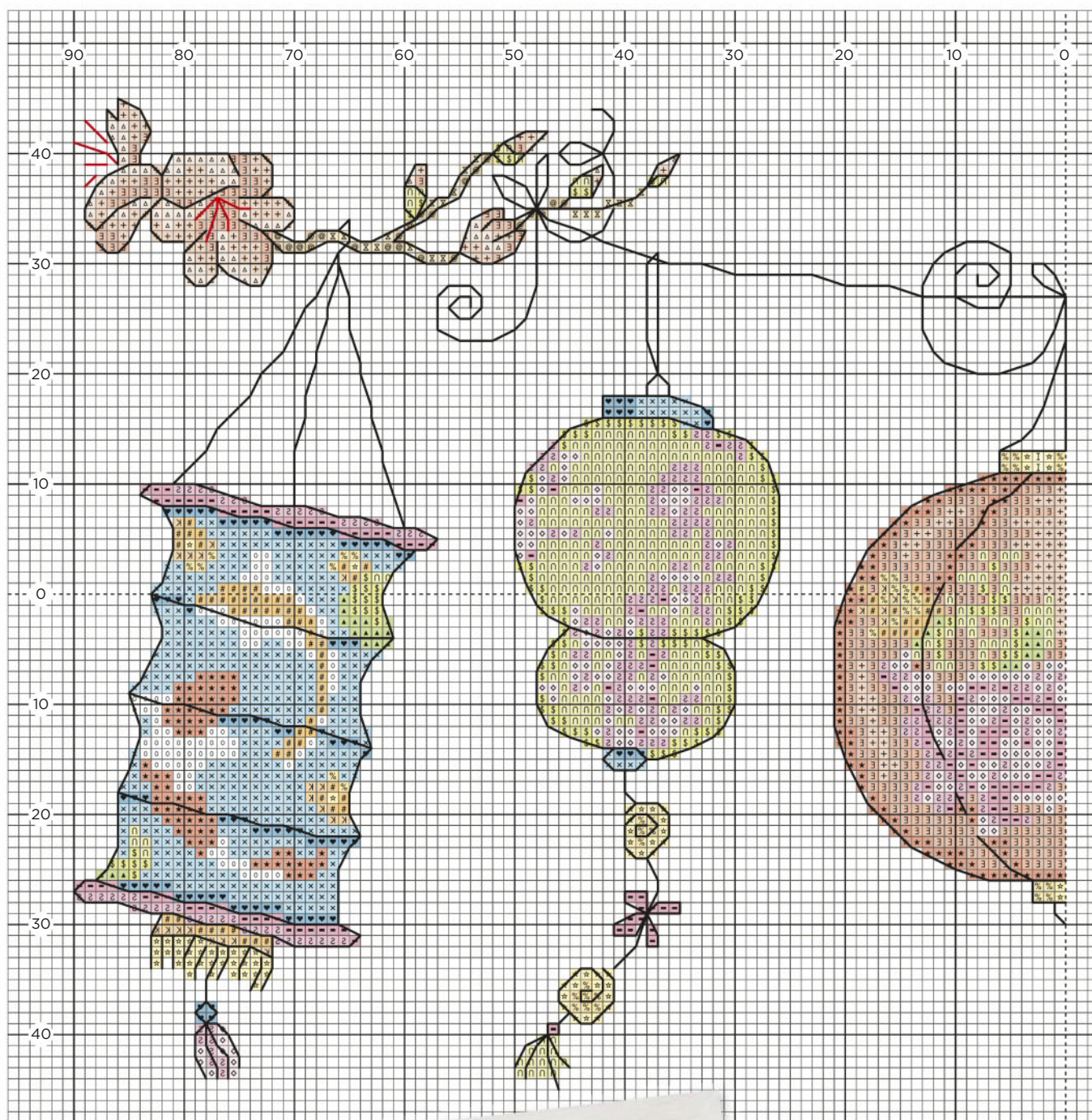


# FESTIVAL OF LIGHT

Let the celebrations begin!  
Take your pick from our parade  
of Chinese paper lanterns to  
get the party started...

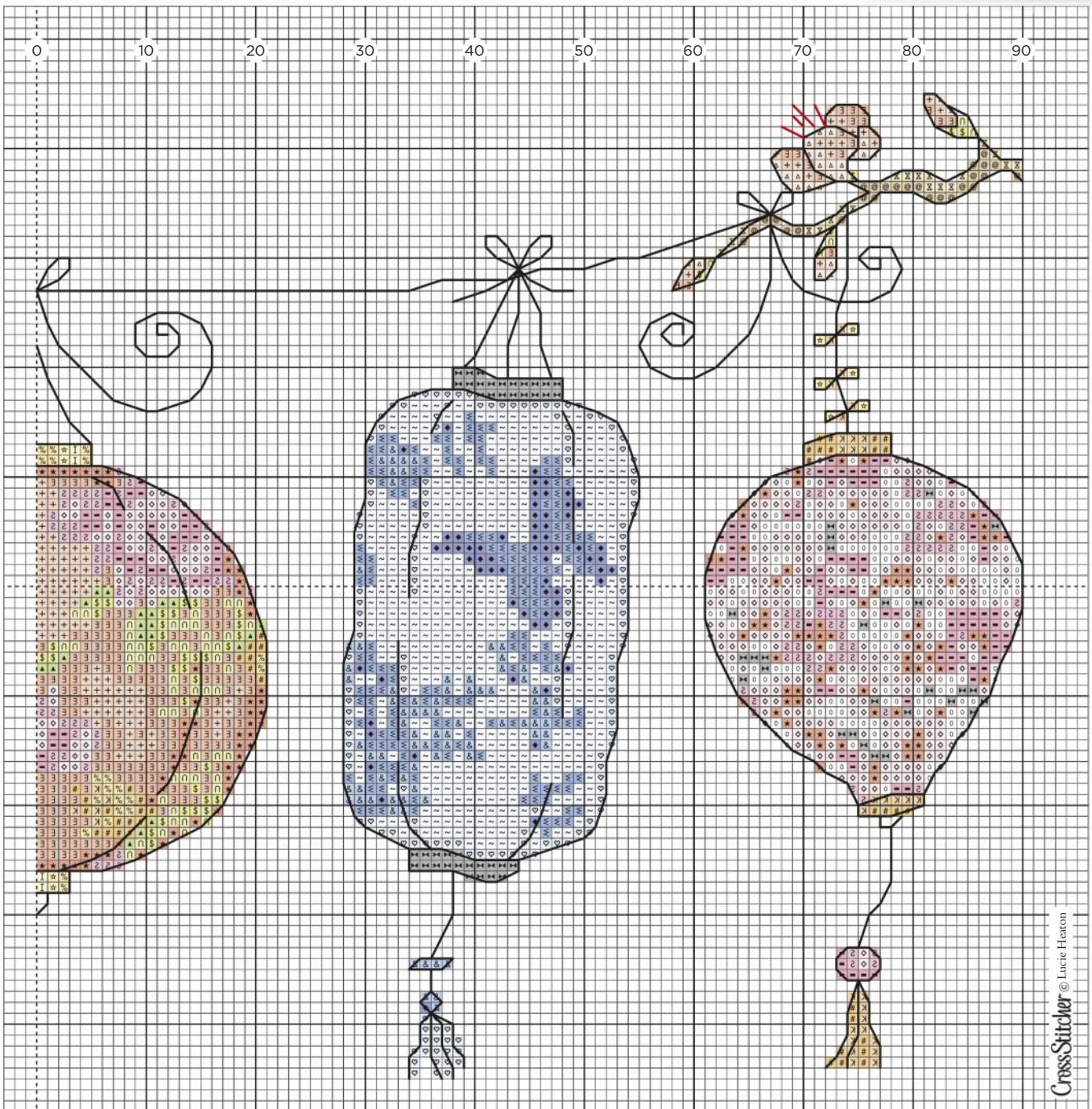






Designed by: Lucie Heaton

TURN TO  
PAGE 72  
TO LEARN  
HOW TO FRAME  
A PICTURE



CrossStitcher © Lucie Henton

DMC	Anchor	Madeira
<b>Cross stitch in two strands</b>		
0	White	002 2402
★	349	013 0212
☐	351	010 0214
+	352	009 0303
△	353	008 2605
@	436	363 2011
×	437	362 2012
∩	472	253 1414
■	602	057 0702
⊂	603	055 0701

DMC	Anchor	Madeira
<b>Cross stitch in two strands</b>		
◇	605	1094 0613
%	725	305 0108
☆	726	295 0109
I	727	293 0110
#	741	304 0203
λ	742	303 0114
◆	797	132 0912
∞	798	142 0911
&	799	145 0910
♡	800	144 0908

DMC	Anchor	Madeira
<b>Cross stitch in two strands</b>		
▲	906	256 1411
\$	907	255 1410
~	3756	1037 2504
⊠	3799	236 1713
♥	3844	410 1102
×	3846	1090 1103
<b>Backstitch in one strand</b>		
—	725	305 0108
		flowers
—	3799	236 1713
		all other details



## Materials

### Picture

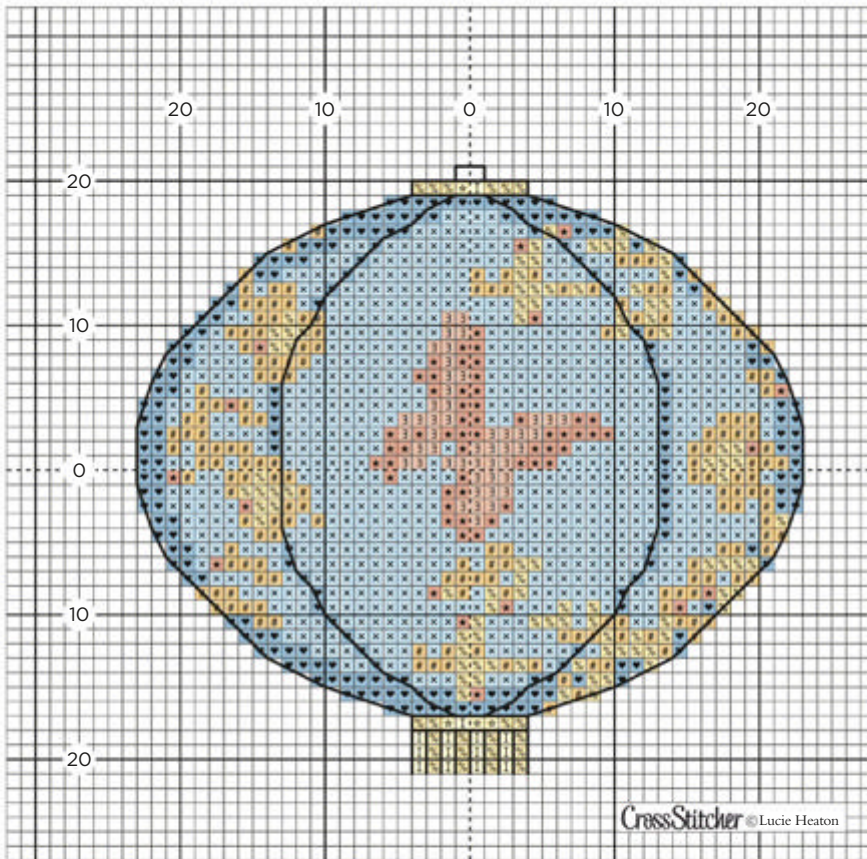
- 28 count white evenweave, 35x50cm
- Wooden frame
- Mount board

For stockist details see page 84

*Work the backstitch carefully to achieve the flowing lines - make sure you keep checking the chart as you stitch*

### Aida swatch

If you prefer stitching on aida use a 14 count white aida instead



### MAKE A TASSEL

Use stranded cotton to create a tassel to match your design. Wind it round a piece of card cut to the length of the tassel then tie it together at the top. Slip it off the card and trim the ends. Wrap a length of cotton near the top to bind the head.

## Make a... vase band

### Step 1

**MEASURE** the circumference of your vase. Cut a strip of backing fabric and your stitching 5cm longer than your measurement and 12cm tall. Place the two strips right sides together.

### Step 2

**SEW** along the two long edges and turn right sides out. Press the raw ends under and topstitch. Wrap round your vase, overlapping the ends and then oversew to secure.

## Materials

### Vase Band

- 28 count white evenweave, see instructions for sizing
- White cotton backing fabric, see instructions for sizing
- Yellow stranded cotton for tassel

For stockist details see page 84





*Use very sharp scissors to trim your plastic canvas for a neat finish*

## Materials

### Glass Charm

- 14 count plastic canvas, 10x10cm
- Grey cord
- Yellow stranded cotton for tassel

For stockist details see page 84

## Make a... glass charm

### Step 1

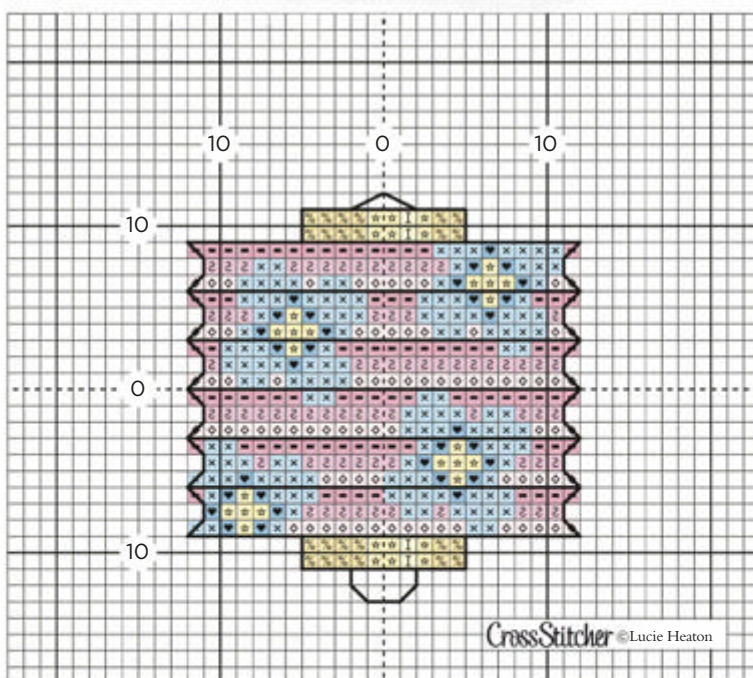
**TRIM** your stitched design, leaving one square of plastic canvas outside the stitching all the way round.

### Step 2

**THREAD** the cord through the top of the stitched canvas to tie to your straw or glass.

### Step 3

**MAKE** a yellow tassel and tie to the bottom of your stitching.



CrossStitcher ©Lucie Heaton

# GROW YOUR OWN

Got a green fingered friend? Our garden journal makes a great gift for anyone who loves to potter round their patch

Designed by: Lesley Teare  
Design size: 3x7cm Stitch time: 3 hours



## Materials

- 18 count cream aida, 15x42cm
- Cream cotton backing fabric, 7x42cm
- A5 notebook

For stockist details see page 84



CrossStitcher ©Lesley Teare

Use the alphabet to personalise your book band. Draw the letters out on to graph paper first to position them centrally

## Make a... journal band

### Step 1

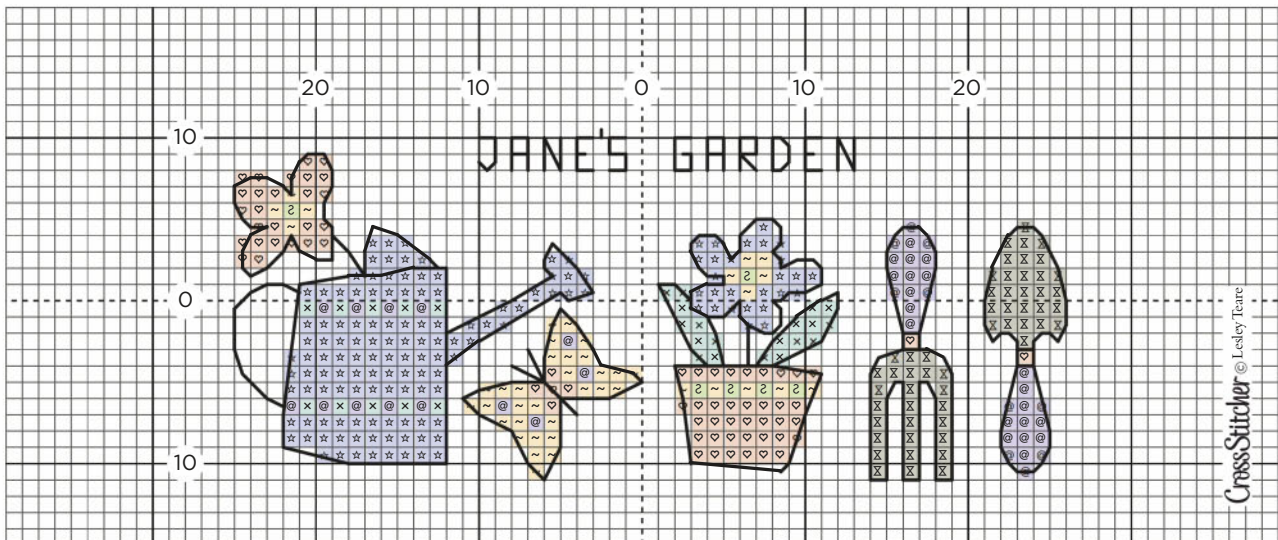
**TRIM** your piece of completed stitching to the same size as the cotton backing fabric, so the design is positioned on the right side of the aida fabric. Next, place the two fabric strips right sides together.

### Step 2

**SEW** along the two long edges and turn right sides out. Press the raw ends under and topstitch. Wrap the band round your book, tucking the ends under the front and back covers and stick into place.



	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
<b>Cross stitch in two strands</b>			
@	155	109	0803
X	169	399	1802
☆	340	118	0902
♥	352	009	0303
2	703	238	1307
x	3849	1070	1109
~	3855	311	2513
<b>Backstitch in one strand</b>			
—	413	236	1713
<small>all details</small>			



CrossStitcher © Lesley Teare





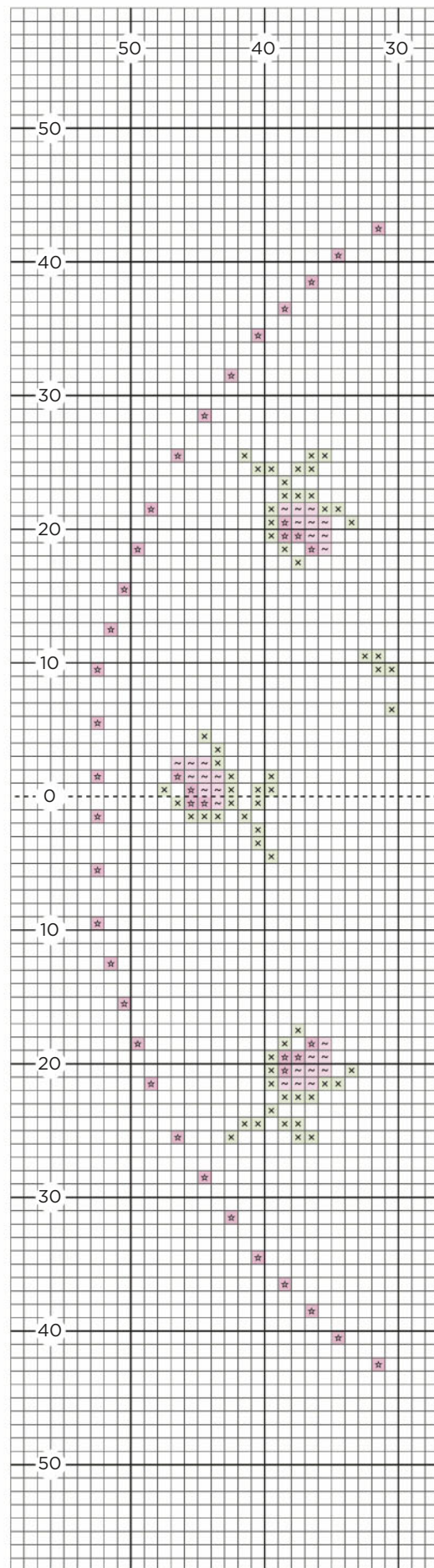
# TIME TO BLOOM

Tick, tock... Hang our vintage rose clock with ribbon and time-keeping becomes a shabby chic treat!

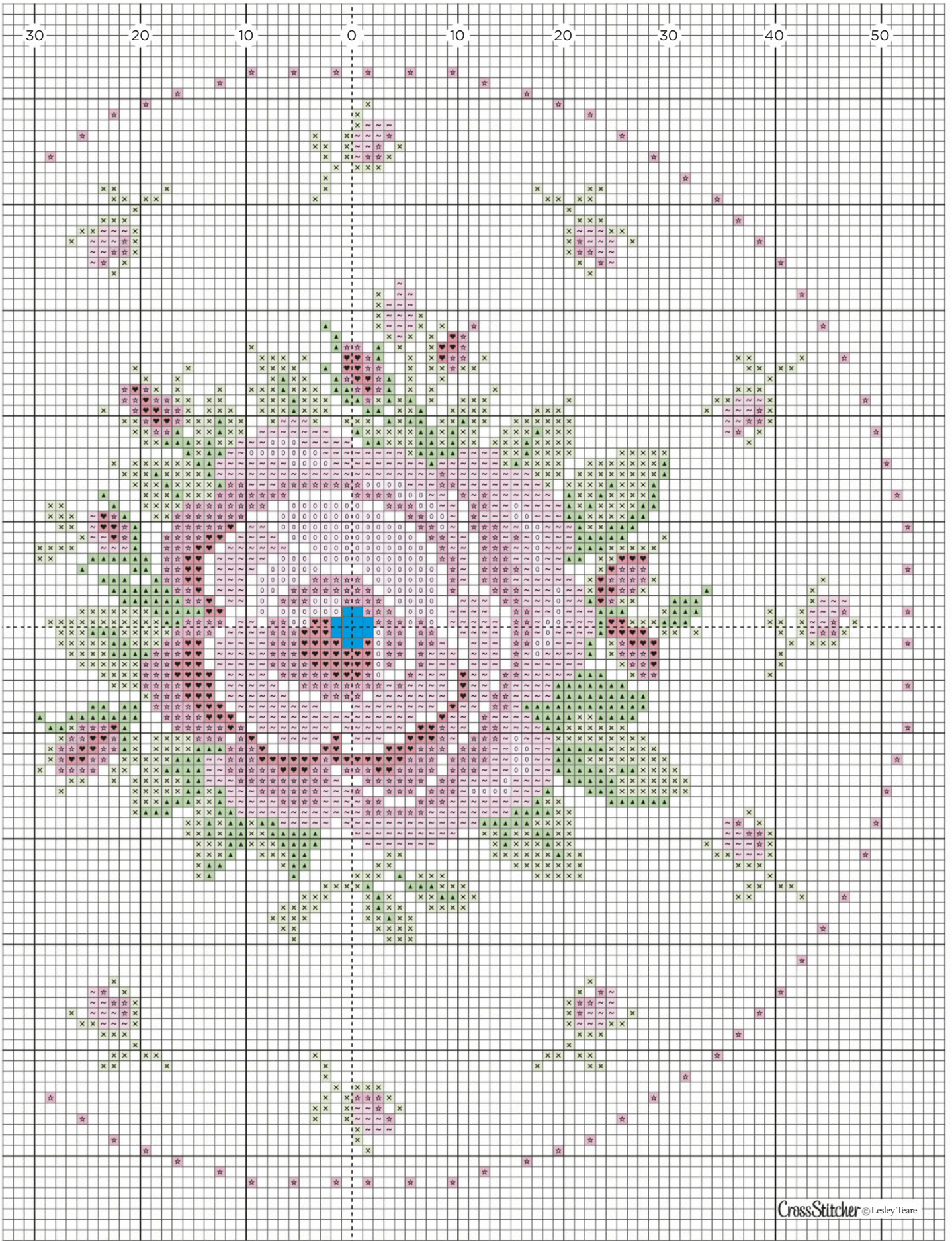




Designed by: Lesley Teare  
 Design size: 19x19cm Stitch time: 14 hours



	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
Cross stitch in two strands			
♥	150	042	0703
×	164	240	1209
▲	702	226	1306
○	963	023	0503
~	3716	025	0606
★	3806	055	0701
Positional guide			
■	Clock mechanism		



CrossStitcher © Lesley Teare



## Make a... clock

### Step 1

**CUT** a circle of interfacing the same size as the clock face and press to back of your stitching. Snip a small hole in the centre of this circle - enough to push the clock mechanism through.

### Step 2

**TRIM** your stitching and backing fabric into a circle slightly larger than your hoop. Centre it over the inner hoop and press the outer hoop down over your fabric. Pull your fabric taut and tighten the screw as much as you can. Secure the fabric edges with double-sided tape or hot glue.

### Step 3

**CUT** a piece of mount board to fit snugly inside the hoop from behind as this will make sure the clock mechanism is held more securely in place.

### Step 4

**MAKE** a hole in the mount board directly beneath the hole in the fabric then attach the clock movement following the manufacturer's instructions.

*Stitch a piece of felt to the frame back, add a curtain ring for hanging, then cut a hole in the felt so you can attach the mechanism*

### Materials

- 28 count white linen, 40x40cm
- Wooden embroidery hoop, 8in (20cm)
- White mount board, 20x20cm
- Cotton backing fabric, 30x30cm
- Double-sided tape
- Clock movement and hands, 73mm minute silver hand

For stockist details see page 84

**Stitch it on aida!**  
If you prefer stitching on aida use a 14 count white aida instead

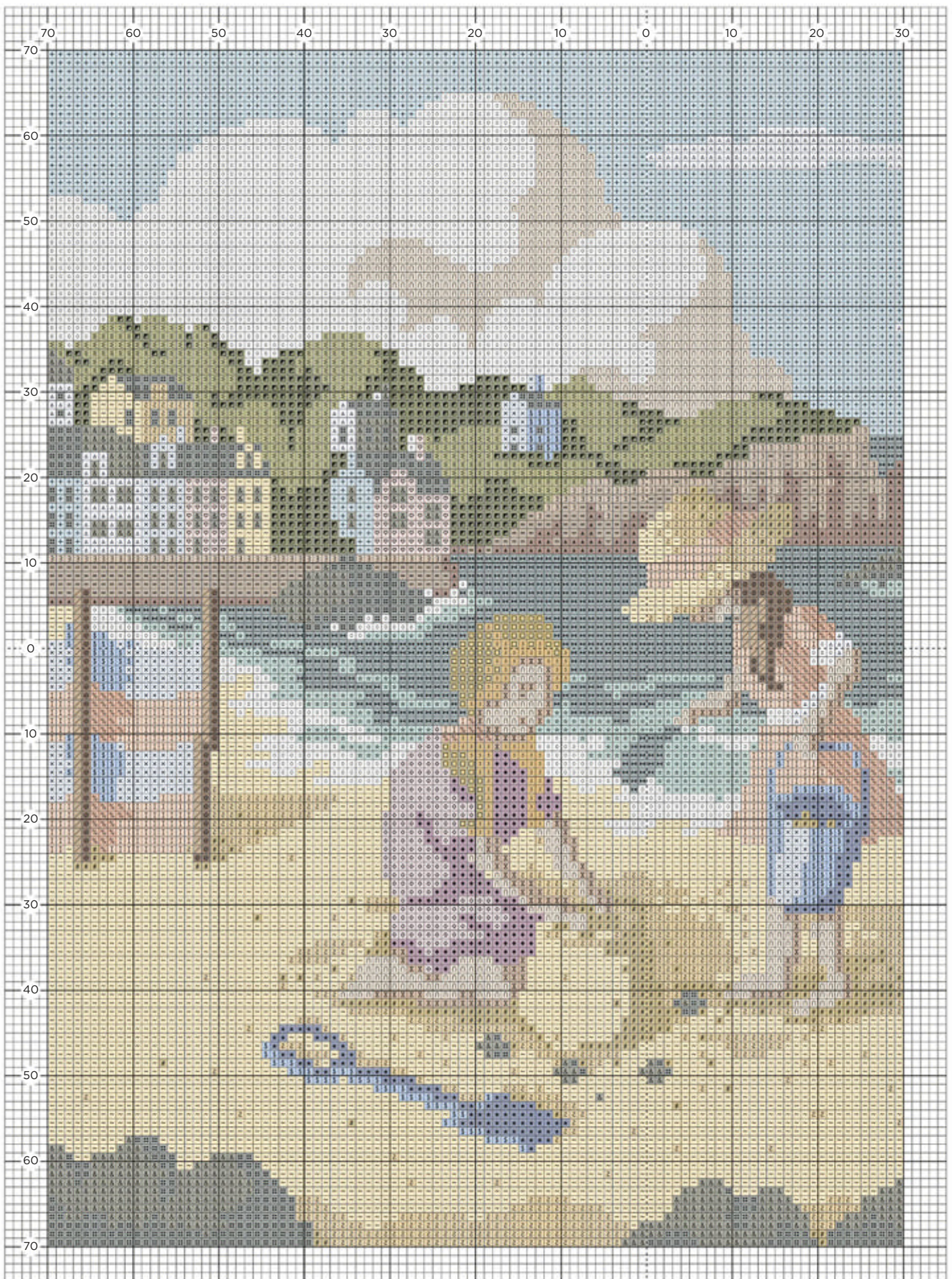


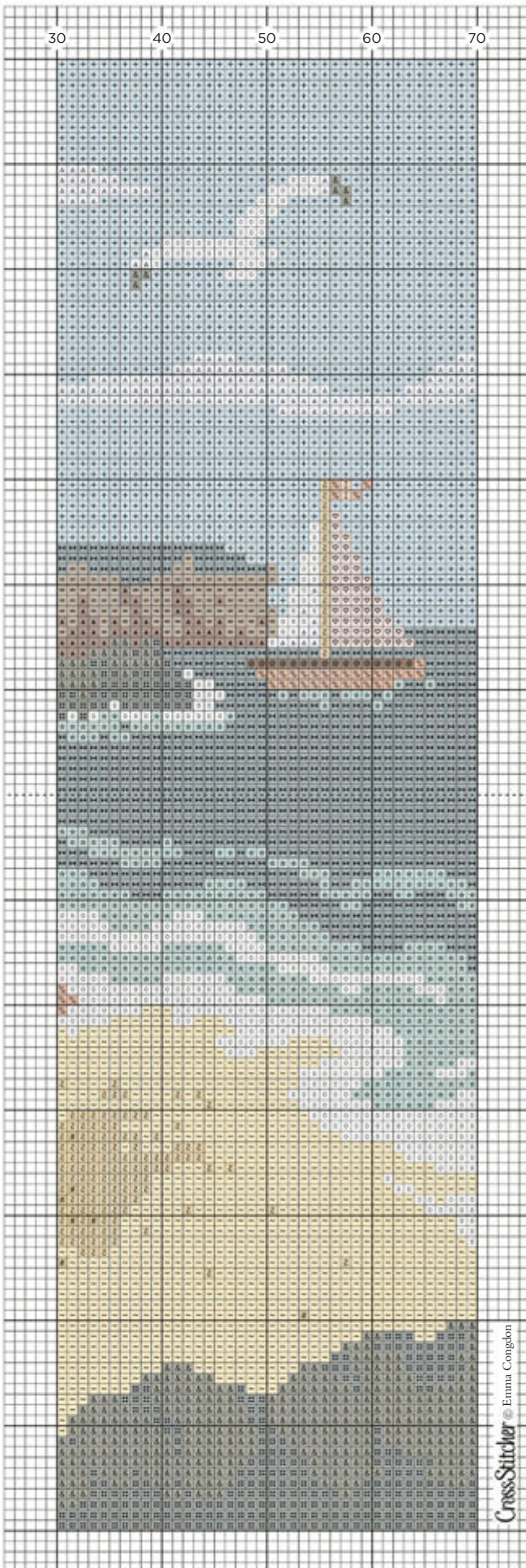
# Wish You Were Here!

Grab your bucket & spade! Remember happy holidays from times gone by with our nostalgic seaside scene



# WISH YOU WERE HERE





CrossStitcher © Emma Congdon

Designed by: Emma Congdon  
 Design size: 25x25cm  
 Stitch time: 95 hours

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
Cross stitch in two strands			
0	White	002	2402
\$	334	977	1003
%	351	010	0214
I	352	009	0303
/	420	374	2104
W	470	266	1502
&	646	1040	1812
~	676	887	2208 (2)
2	729	890	2209
♥	761	1021	0404
5	782	308	2211
@	801	359	2007
▲	839	1086	1913
=	840	1084	1912
E	841	1082	1911
■	844	1041	1810
★	930	1035	1712
■	937	268	1504
∩	950	4146	2309
X	3064	883	2312
x	3325	129	1002
◆	3726	1018	0810
◇	3727	1016	2610
△	3753	1031	1001
+	3766	167	1105 (2)
□	3820	306	2509
#	3829	901	2210
⊠	3847	1076	2507
☆	3849	1070	1109

(2) indicates more than one skein required

## Materials

- 28 count white evenweave, 45x45cm
  - Wood frame with outside measurement of 27x27cm
  - White mount board
  - Staple gun
  - Double-sided tape
- For stockist details see page 84



### Stitch it on aida!

If you prefer stitching on aida use a 14 count white aida instead

Mount your fabric in an embroidery hoop or frame – you'll find it easier to stitch and it will keep the tension of your stitches even

## Make a... stretched canvas frame

### Step 1



**STARTING** with a basic frame, cut a piece of mount board to exactly the same size as the outside edge of the frame. Attach using double-sided tape.

### Step 2



**PLACE** double-sided tape on the back of the frame. Mark and match up the bottom corners on the frame and the fabric edges.

### Step 3



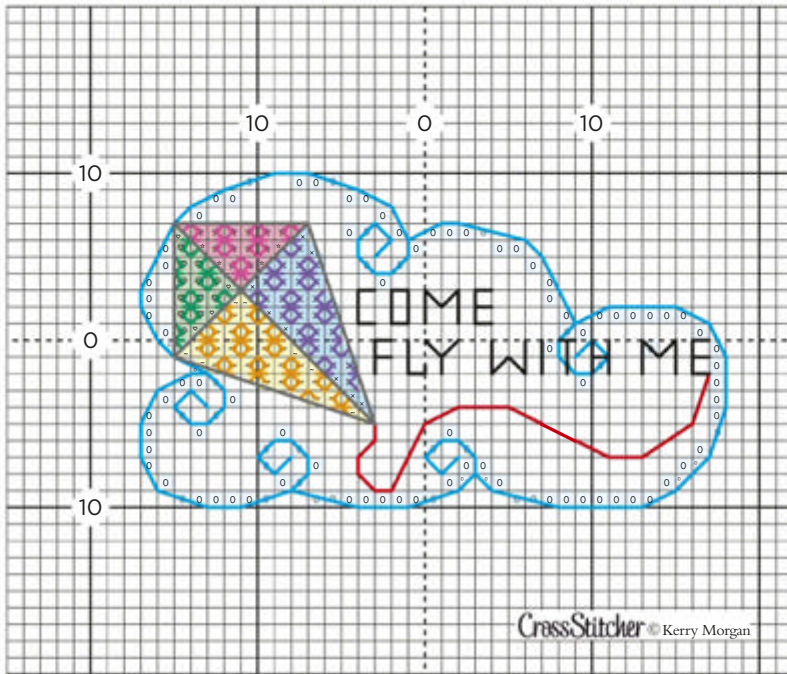
**STRETCH** the fabric to the reverse, folding neatly at each corner. Staple the fabric to the back of the frame. Secure the raw edges with tape.



# Go fly a kite

Keep flying high above  
the clouds with our bright  
and breezy kite brooch





Designed by: Kerry Morgan

Design size: 4x6cm

Stitch time: 2 hours

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
<b>Cross stitch in two strands</b>			
★	602	057	0702
~	727	293	0110
o	775	128	1001
♥	954	203	1211
x	996	433	1103
<b>Backstitch in two strands</b>			
—	414	235	1801
	lettering		
—	415	398	1802
	kite tail		
<b>Backstitch in one strand</b>			
—	156	117	0902
	kite pattern		
—	157	120	0901
	cloud		
—	307	289	0104
	kite pattern		
—	415	398	1802
	kite outlines		
—	913	204	1212
	kite pattern		
—	957	050	0612
	kite pattern		

*Put ribbons on the kite tail before you assemble your shape using narrow ribbon and threading it in and out of the felt then tying in a knot and trimming the ends short*

## Make a... padded brooch

### Step 1

**REMOVE** the waste canvas threads from your stitching then cut out the felt, 1cm outside the stitching, all the way round. Trim the backing felt to the same size and shape.

### Step 2

**PLACE** the back and front wrong sides together and oversew all the way round using white thread, leaving a small gap on the bottom edge.

### Step 3

**STUFF** your cloud shape lightly then sew up the gap and stitch the brooch back to the other side of your cloud to complete.



## Materials

- 14 count waste canvas, 10x10cm
- White felt, front: 10x10cm back: 6x8cm
- 3mm width ribbon, 10cm of green, yellow and pink
- Soft toy stuffing
- Brooch back

For stockist details see page 84

# Your stitching

Drop us a line to pin your projects into our album!  
Email your photos to [crossstitcher@dennis.co.uk](mailto:crossstitcher@dennis.co.uk)



Here's the Happy Camper from the July 2012 issue. I changed it to my fave colour. It took me one week to stitch.  
Angela Philpitt, Canada



Your freebie from issue 287 became the perfect birthday card for a friend with beautiful red hair and a love of buttons!  
Nadia Chelbi, Yorkshire



I've stitched the necklace from issue 277 for my friend's goddaughter and baby booties so the kids can match each other!  
Magda Kostrzewska, Poland



I made the Copy Cats cushion from issue 289 for my son to go in his bedroom - I changed the colours to suit his room.  
Rosie Daniels, via email



Loved the hedgehog pincushion kit that came with issue 291 so much I had to make one more using light brown aida!  
Anne Berg Gjølberg, Norway



I've just finished this rose picture from issue 293. I used Mill Hill beads instead of French knots. It's so pretty!  
Sarah Lister, West Yorkshire



I stitched the swallow brooch from issue 292 using beads. It was fun to do something different and quickly done!  
Carla Den Haan, Belgium



I did this for Mother's Day. I spotted the March issue in a craft store and it was great - I'll be buying more issues!  
Sarah Carafelli, USA

## Stay in touch...

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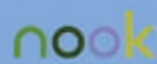
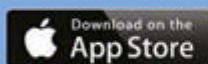


# CrossStitcher Digital Edition





↓ AVAILABLE ON YOUR DEVICE NOW



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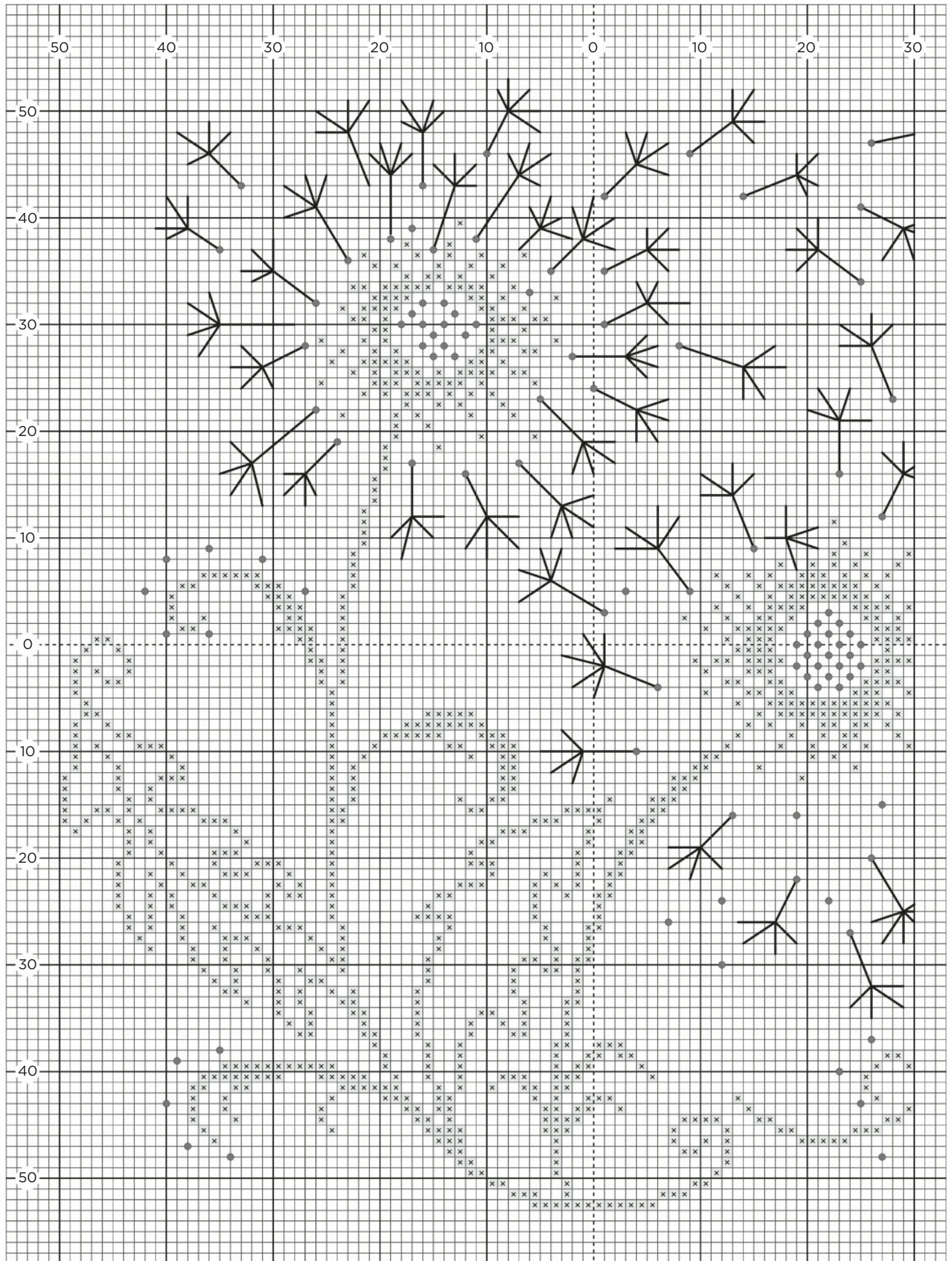


# Just Dandy

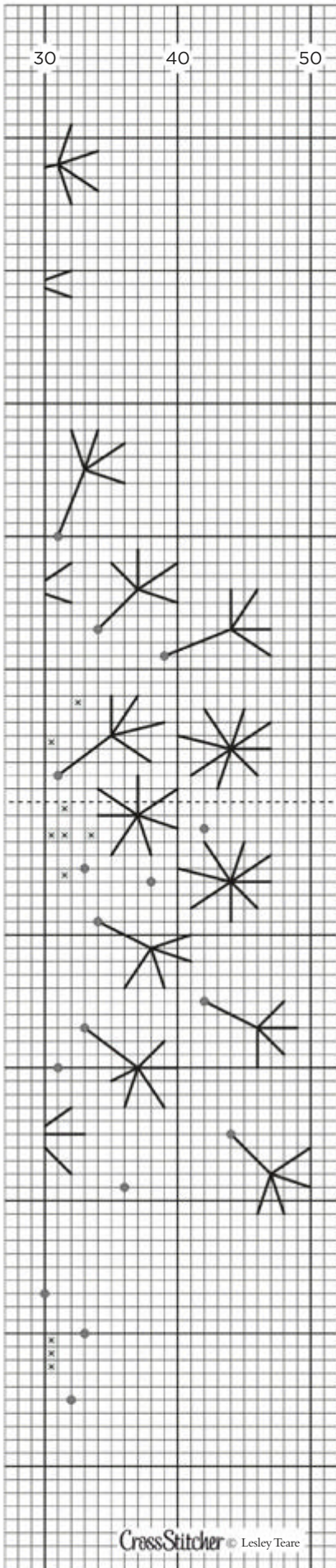
Treat someone special to our trio of dandelion delights, with a pretty purse, keyring and bag to choose from...











Designed by: Lesley Teare

## Make a... tote bag

### Step 1

**TRIM** your stitching to the size of your backing fabric then place them right sides together and stitch down one side, across the bottom and up the other side. Repeat with the two lining pieces but leaving a gap in the centre of the bottom edge for turning later.

### Step 2

**TAKE** one handle strip and fold it in half lengthways with right sides together. Stitch down the length and turn right sides out then top stitch down both long edges. Repeat for the other handle.

### Step 3

**PIN** the short end of one handle to the right side of the bag front, matching raw edges and positioning it 6cm in from the side seam. Pin the other end of the handle 6cm from the other side seam in the same way. Repeat for the other handle on the bag back.

### Step 4

**PLACE** the bag lining inside the bag outer with wrong sides touching and matching side seams. Stitch together all round the top then turn right sides out though the gap in the lining and slip stitch to close. Push the lining inside the bag and topstitch around the top edge to neaten.



*Go for bold fabric colours to set off your stitching! We used orange for the bag and a bright green for the lining*



	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
<b>Cross stitch in four strands</b>			
✕	B5200	001	2401 (2)
<b>Backstitch in two strands</b>			
—	B5200	001	2401
all details			
<b>French knots in two strands</b>			
●	B5200	001	2401
dandelions			
(2) indicates more than one skein required			

## Materials

### Tote Bag

- 19 count orange evenweave, 50x50cm
- Cotton backing and lining fabric, three 37x35cm pieces
- Fabric for handles, two 4x63cm pieces

For stockist details see page 84



## Make a... keyring

### Step 1

**TRIM** your stitched fabric to the same size as the backing fabric then place them right sides together.

### Step 2

**STITCH** together all the way round leaving a small gap along one side for turning.

### Step 3

**TURN** the keyring right sides out and slip stitch the gap closed. Punch an eyelet into the centre of the top then loop the cord through to finish.

## Materials

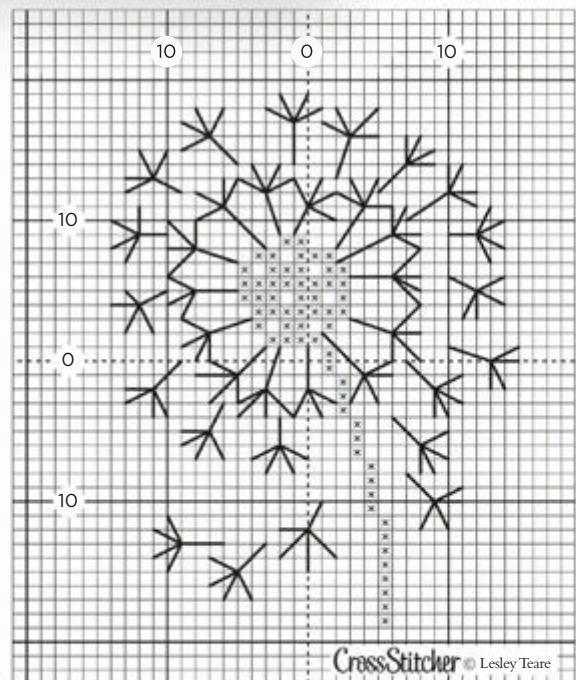
### Keyring

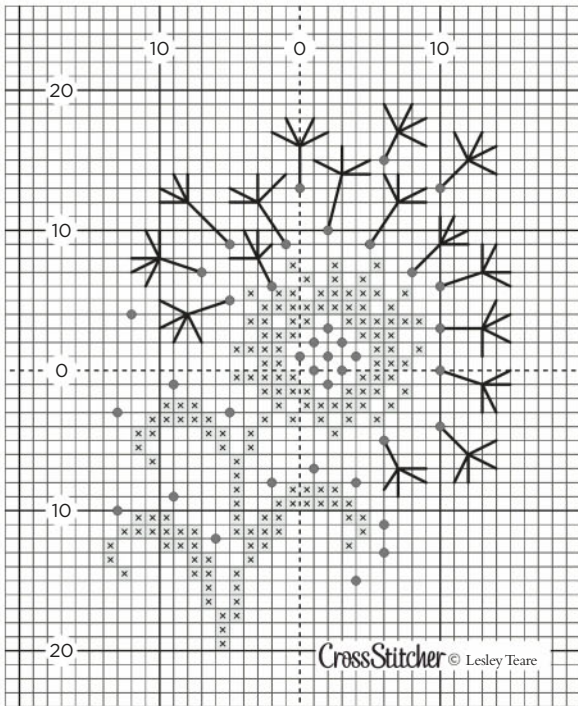
- 19 count green evenweave, front 15x15cm, back 11x12cm
- White eyelet
- White cord

For stockist details see page 84

*The keyring and purse are dainty designs so you'll need to stitch over one thread only to ensure they'll be the right size*

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
Cross stitch in two strands			
✕	B5200	001	2401
Backstitch in one strand			
—	B5200	001	2401
all details			





	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
Cross stitch in two strands			
✕	B5200	001	2401
Backstitch in one strand			
—	B5200	001	2401
all details			
French knots in one strand			
●	B5200	001	2401
dandelion			

*To make a pattern, draw round your clasp and add a rounded bottom, then add a seam allowance*

## Make a... clasp purse

### Step 1

**MAKE** paper pattern in a purse shape, adding a seam allowance (see tip, right). Place centrally over your stitching, draw round it and cut it out. Cut the purse back to the same size.

### Step 2

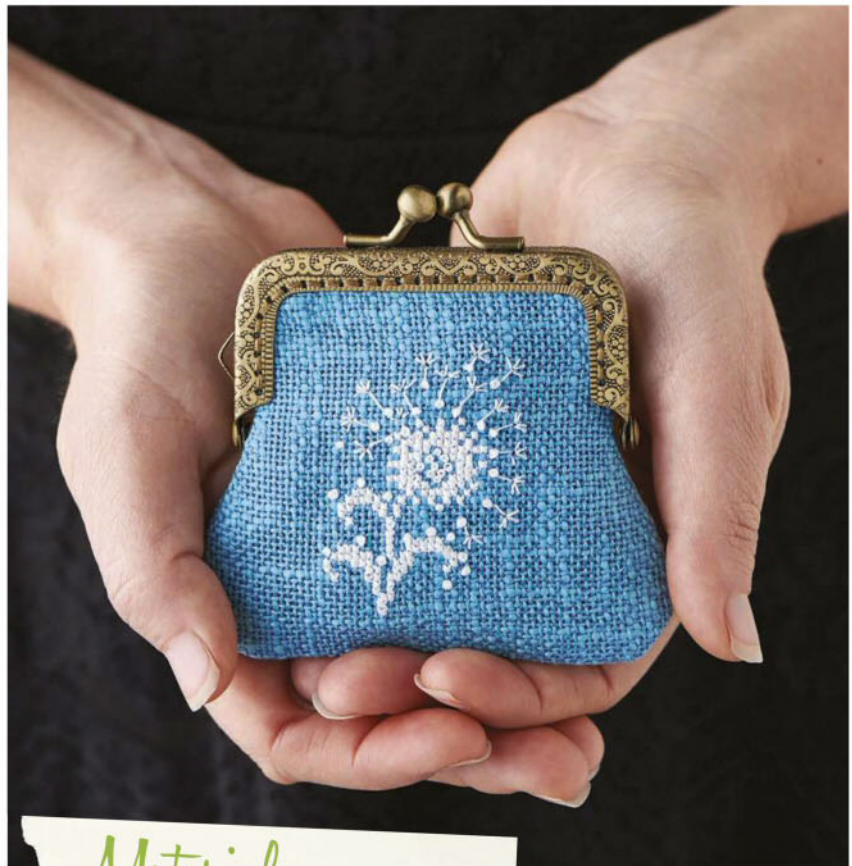
**PLACE** the purse back and front right sides together and stitch down the side along the bottom and up the other side starting and finishing where the clasp's hinges will be positioned.

### Step 3

**TURN** the unstitched top and side edges under by 1cm.

### Step 4

**TUCK** the purse front and back inside the clasp then stitch in place through the holes in the clasp and into the fabric. Use a thread to match the clasp.



## Materials

### Clasp Purse

- 19 count blue evenweave; front 20x20cm, back 10x12cm
- Purse frame, 8cm width

For stockist details see page 84

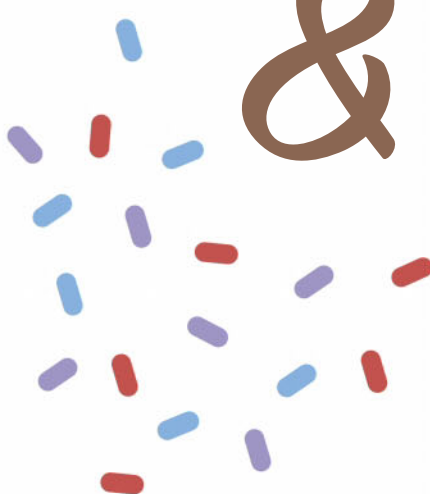
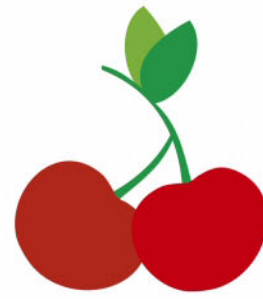


## Materials

- 16 count blue aida, 20x10cm
- White felt, 15x5cm
- Red felt ball or bead

For stockist details see page 84

# Scoops & Sprinkles



Want a fun summer bookmark that looks good enough to eat? Yes please, with a cherry on top!

*Sew a red bead or felt ball to the bottom of your finished bookmark to match the cherry on top*

## Make a... bookmark

### Step 1

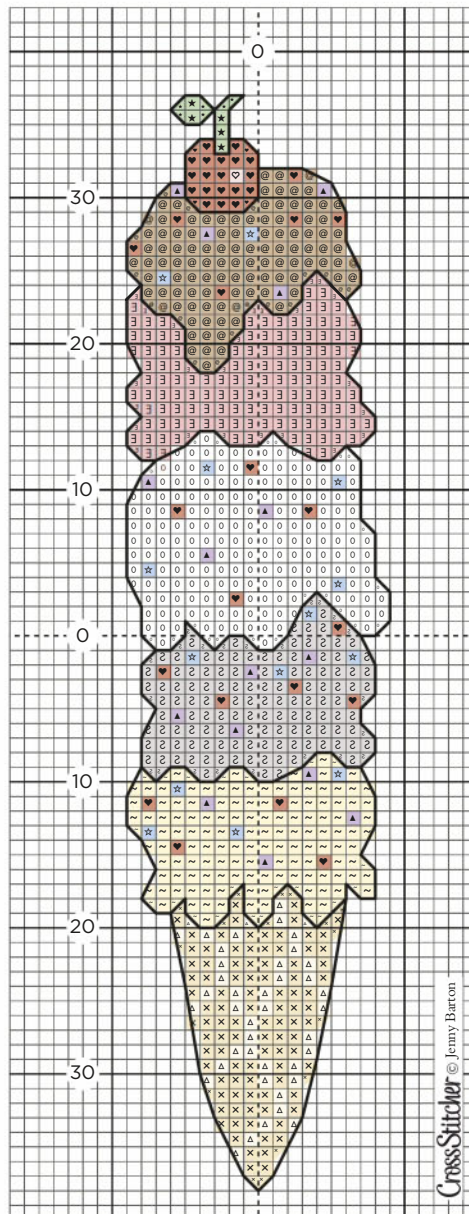
**TRIM** your aida to 2cm outside the stitching all the way around.

### Step 2

**TURN** the edge of the aida over 1cm to the wrong side and turn the bottom into a point then press.

### Step 3

**TRIM** the felt to the same size as the turned over aid then slip stitch to the back of your bookmark.



CrossStitcher © Jenny Barton

Designed by: Jenny Barton

Design size: 12x3cm

Stitch time: 6 hours

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
Cross stitch in two strands			
0	White	002	2402
▲	208	110	0804
×	437	362	2012
2	452	232	1807
♥	666	046	0210
★	702	226	1306
△	739	366	2014
~	744	301	0112
E	760	1022	0405
☆	799	145	0910
♡	3708	031	0408
@	3862	358	1913
Backstitch in one strand			
—	310	403	2400
all details			



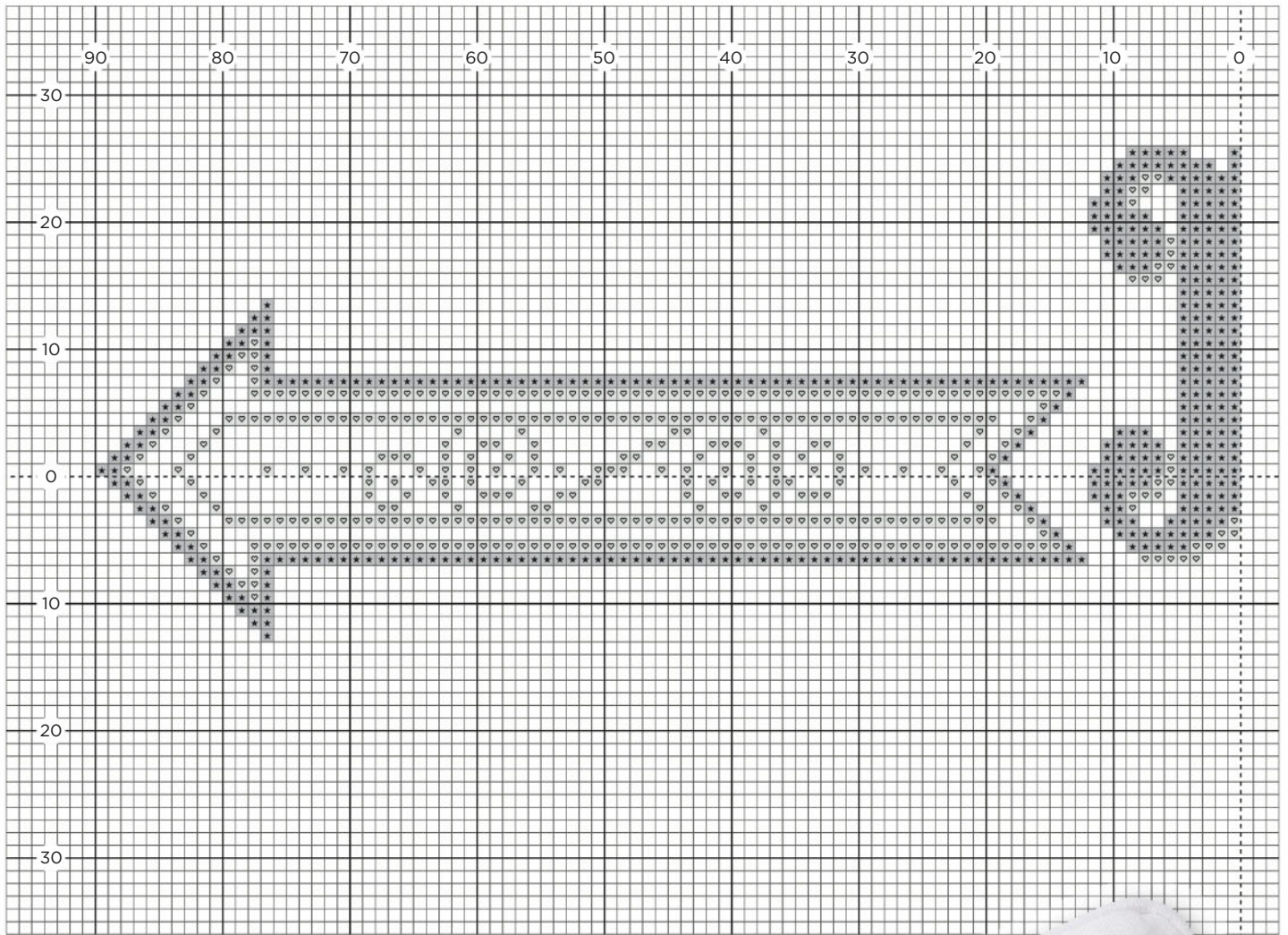


# PILLOW FIGHT!

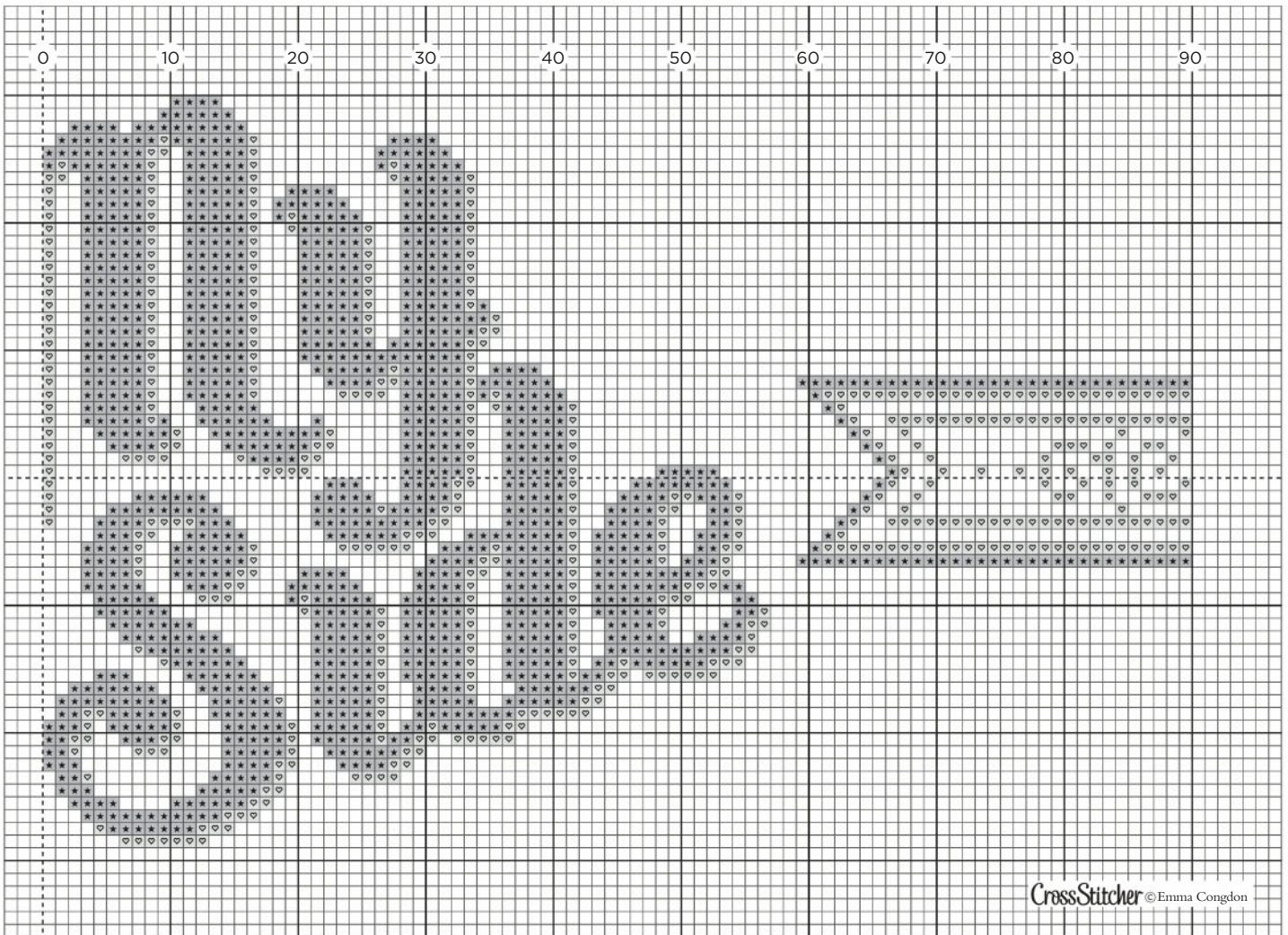
Bed hogs beware! Our striking pillowcase set spells out exactly who needs their space...



# PILLOW FIGHT







CrossStitcher © Emma Congdon

Designed by: Emma Congdon

Design size: 15x46cm each

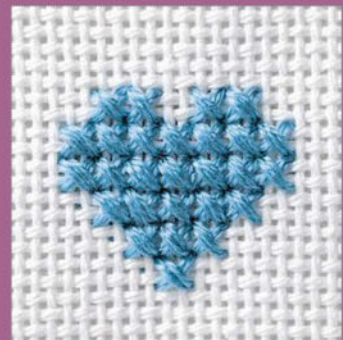
Stitch time: 15 hours each

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
★	317	400	1714 (2)
♥	415	398	1802

(2) indicates more than one skein required

### 20 COUNT

Even if you've never tried stitching on evenweave before, we think you'll find using the 20 count variety a breeze. As you can see, the holes are much larger and easier to see than on 28 or 32 count, giving bold, chunky stitches.



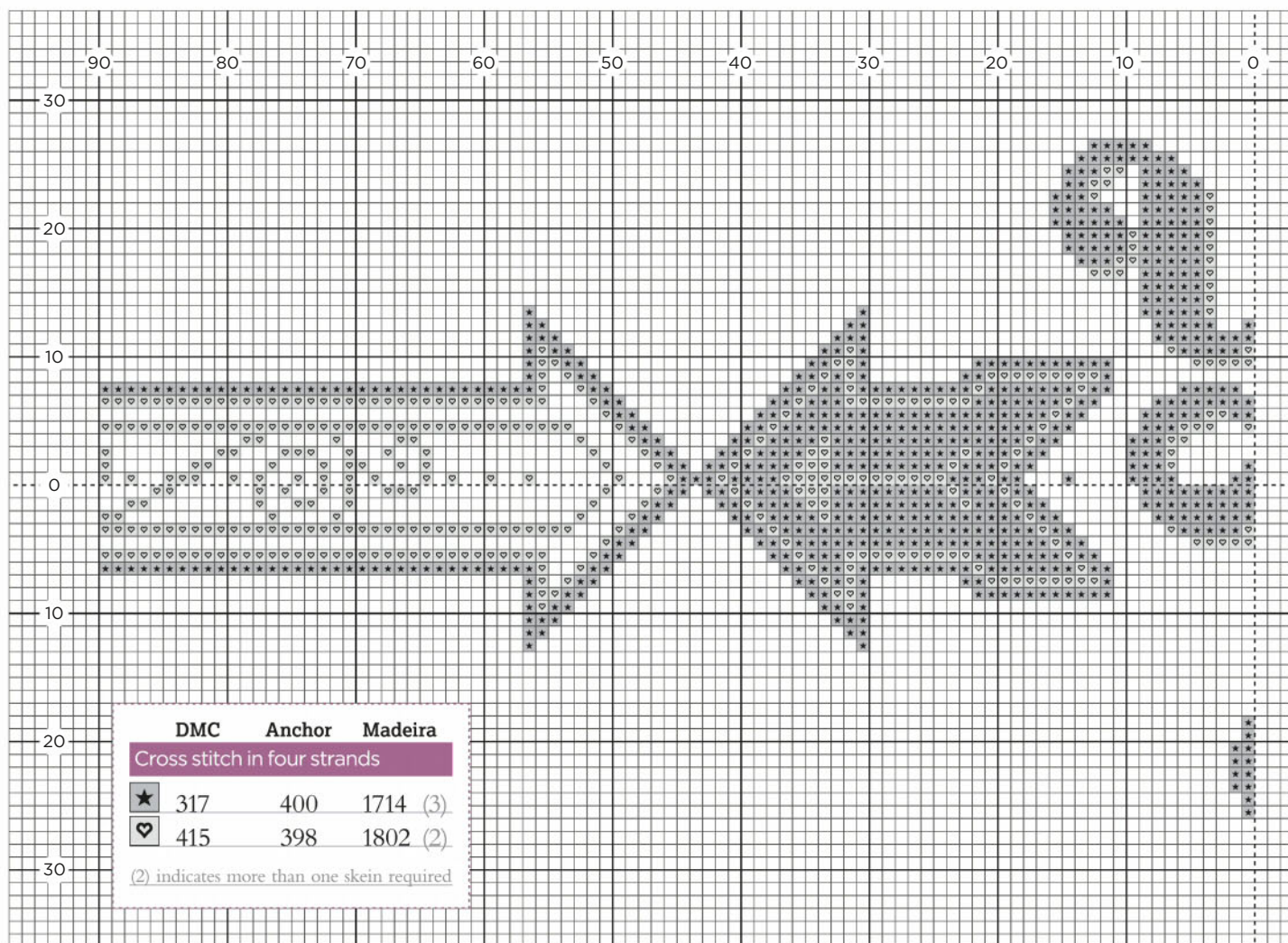
### Materials

#### For each cushion

- 20 count white evenweave, 40x60cm
- White cotton fabric; two pieces 21x51cm
- White bias binding, 250cm
- Piping cord, 250cm
- Cushion pad, 30x50cm

For stockist details see page 84





*Our monochrome design will work with most bed linen, but it's easy to change the colours to match your duvet if you like!*

## Make a... piped cushion

### Step 1



**WRAP** your bias binding around your piping cord and pin the long edges of the strip together. If you can't get hold of any bias binding, you can simply use 4cm wide strips of white fabric or evenweave joined together to make your piping strip instead.

### Step 2

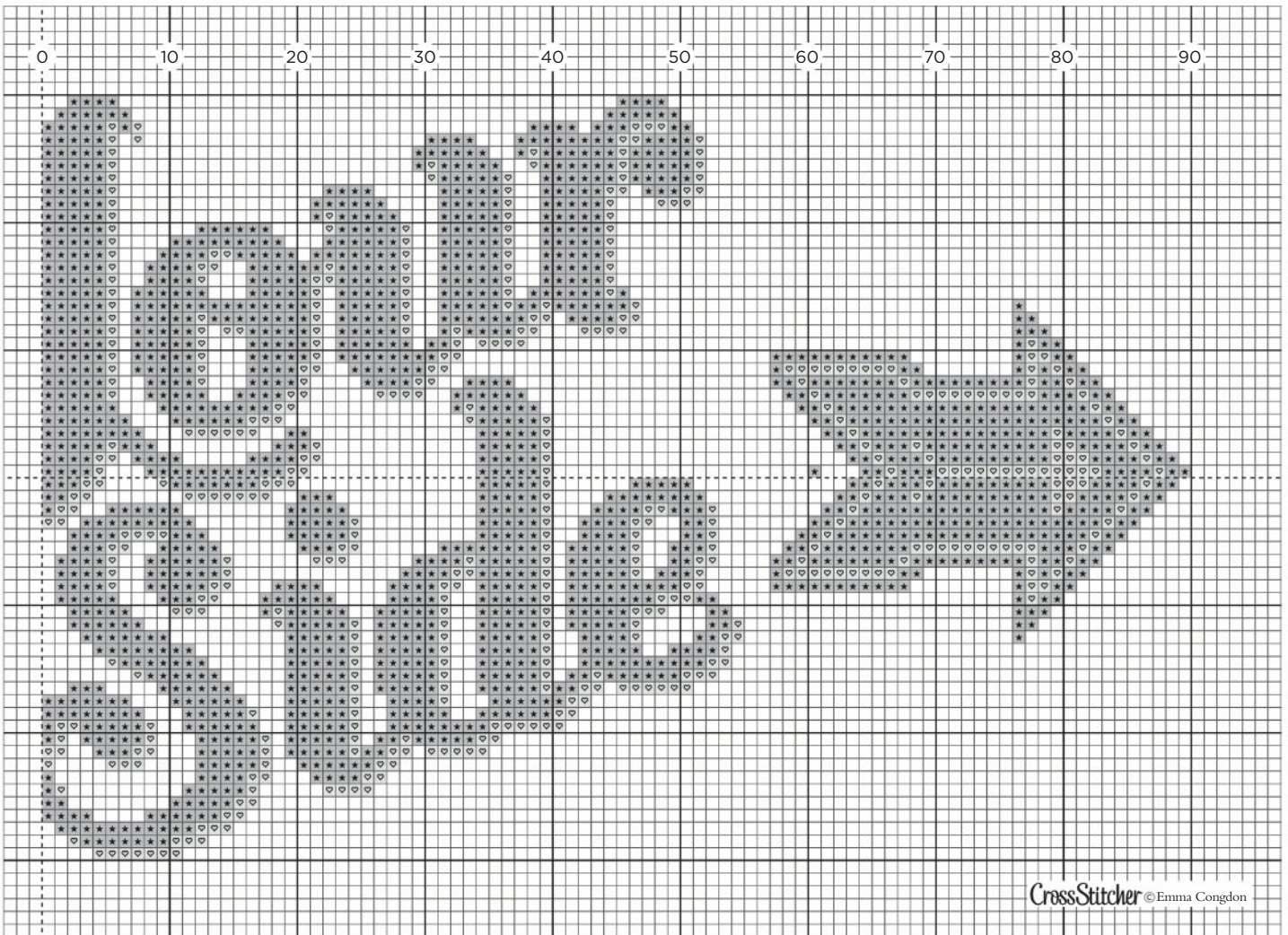


**SWITCH** to a machine zipper foot which allows you to sew much closer to the piping cord than a traditional foot. Make sure you sew up to the edge of the piping without sewing over it. The piping should look like the above image once finished.

### Step 3



**TRIM** stitching to 31x51cm with one arrow end 1.5cm from edge so it's sewn into the seam, as shown. Pin the piping cord on the cushion front. Cut notches in any excess fabric at the corners. Trim the piping away from the overlap end. Nest the fabric over the other end.



CrossStitcher © Emma Congdon



Step 4



**HEM** one long edge on each backing piece. Place your stitching right sides together with the two hemmed pieces of backing fabric overlapped and pin. Machine sew as close to the edges of the piping as possible. Turn and insert the cushion pad.



# Step It Up

Want to polish up your card-making? These ideas for fun greetings are a shoe-in...



STEPPING OUT



BEST FOOT FIRST



NEW SHOES!



WALK WITH ME

Designed by: Diane Machin

Max design size: 10x7cm

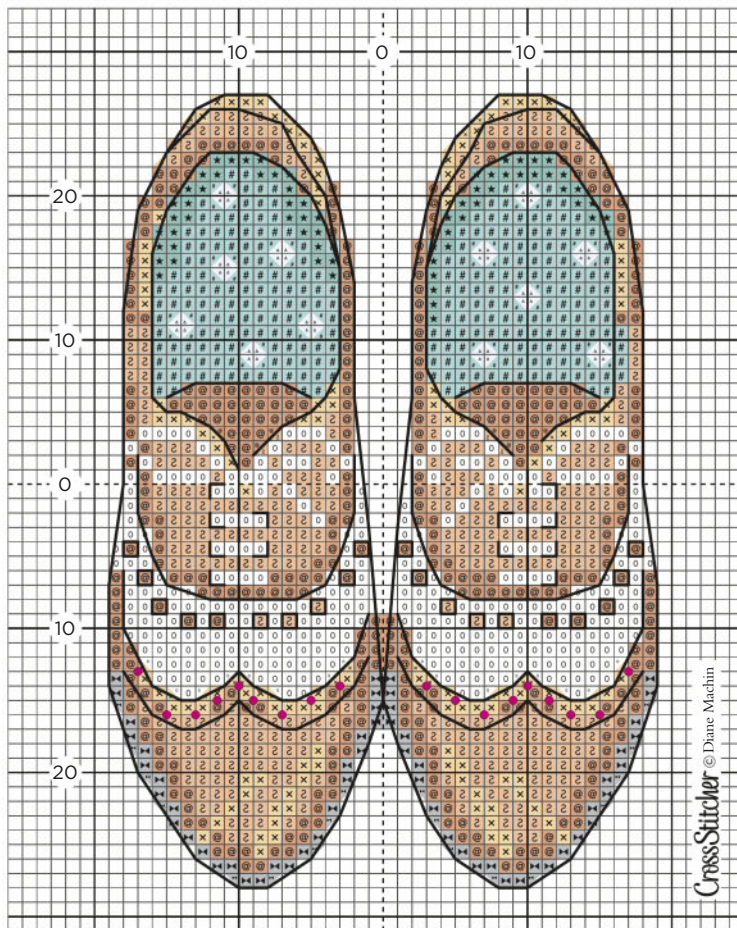
Stitch time: 8 hours each

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
Cross stitch in two strands			
0	White	002	2402
△	162	128	1001
♥	208	110	0804
✕	317	400	1714
▲	334	977	1003
~	415	398	1802
+	444	291	0105
◆	602	057	0702
⊞	603	055	0701
♡	605	1094	0613
@	920	1004	0312
2	922	1003	0310
#	958	187	1114
◇	964	185	1112
✕	977	1002	2301
★	3325	129	1002
★	3812	188	2706

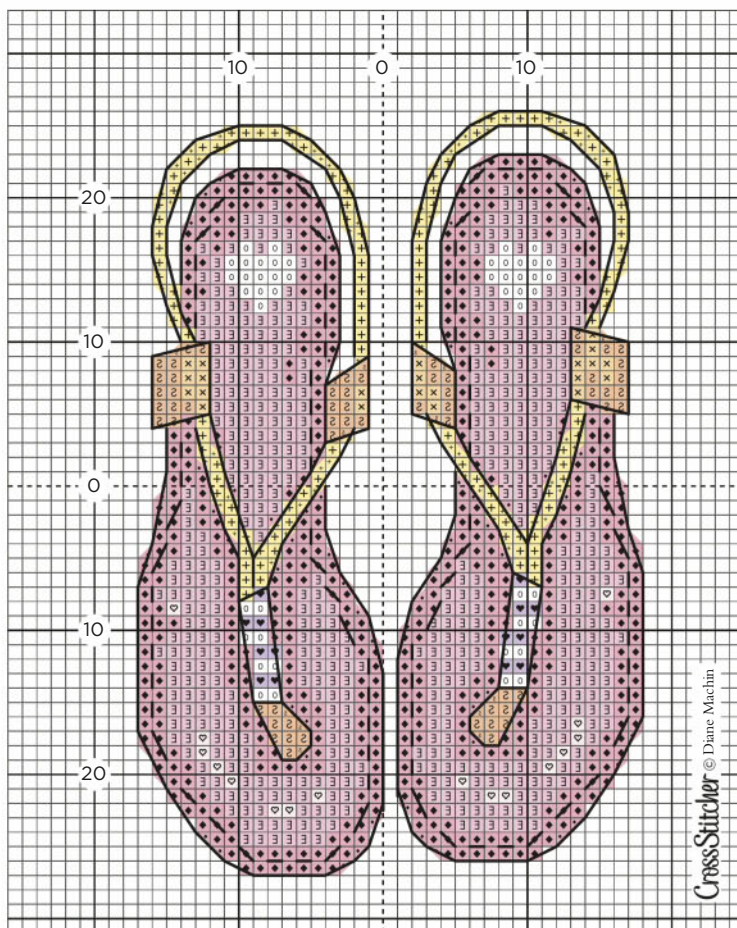
Backstitch in one strand			
	White	002	2402
	trainers		
	317	400	1714
	all other details		

French knots in two strands			
	White	002	2402
	shoes		

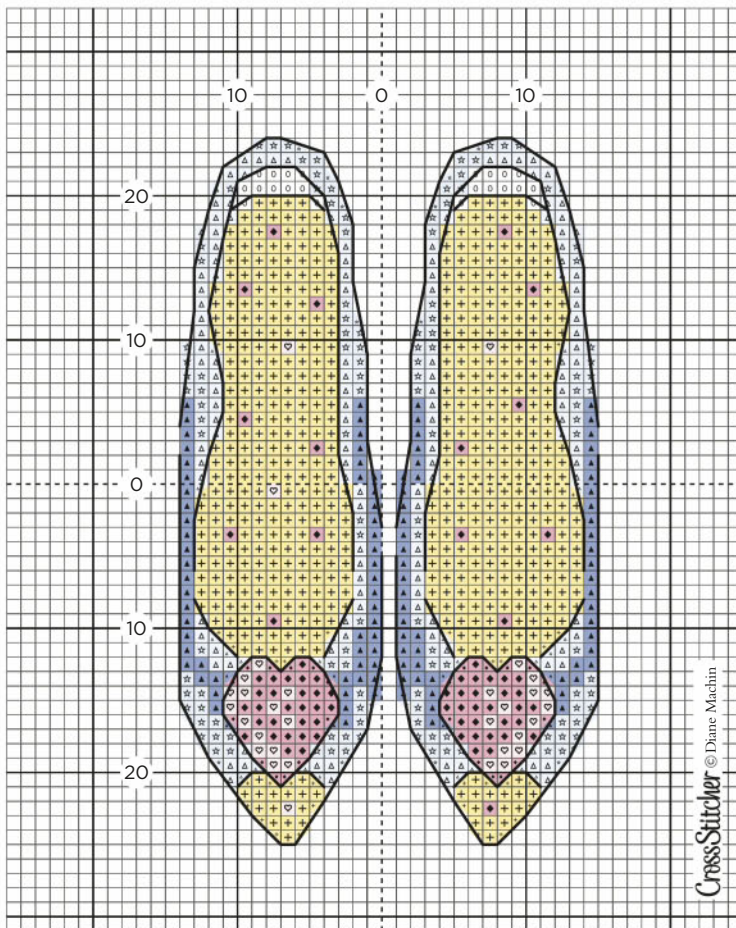
GO TO [WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/CROSSSTITCHERMAG](http://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/CROSSSTITCHERMAG) TO DOWNLOAD & PRINT YOUR FREE GREETINGS



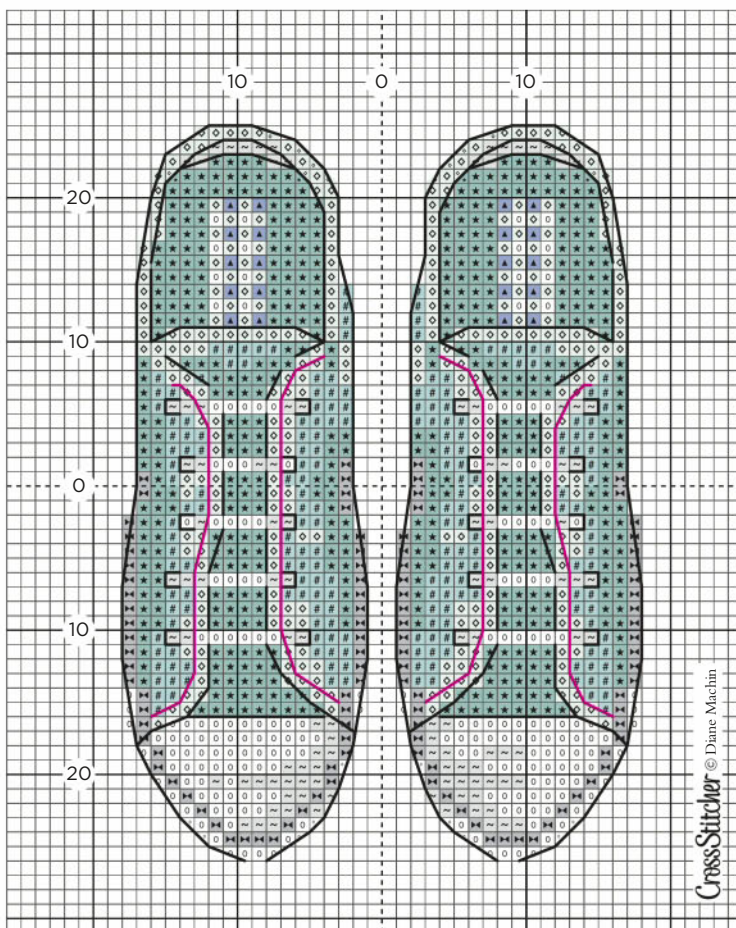
CrossStitcher © Diane Machin



CrossStitcher © Diane Machin



CrossStitcher © Diane Machin



CrossStitcher © Diane Machin

## Make a... patch card

### Step 1

**TRIM** your fabric to 11.5x8.5cm and fray the outer two rows. Back your fabric with white paper.

### Step 2

**FOLD** the card in half widthways and stick your fabric to the centre of the front. Machine stitch in place all the way round, close to the edge.

### Step 3

**PRINT** out the greetings – they're free from our Facebook page. Cut out your greeting then stick it below the shoes on your card using double-sided tape.



*Try printing a greeting  
directly on to a card  
- take care placing it  
before printing*

## Materials

- 28 count white evenweave, 20x20cm
- White card, 18.5x25cm
- Double-sided tape

For stockist details see page 84



Let's get  
inspired

# FACE TO FACE

Get a head start on quirky projects full of character with our round-up of mini face motifs!

Designed by: Jenny Barton



*Stitch a circle of felt over  
the back to neaten*

## MATERIALS

### Hoop Lady

- 16 count white aida, 25x25cm
- Wooden embroidery hoop, 4in (10cm)
- Cotton backing fabric, 20x20cm
- Double-sided tape

### Cake toppers

- 14 count plastic canvas, 10x10cm
- Bamboo skewer

For stockist details see page 84

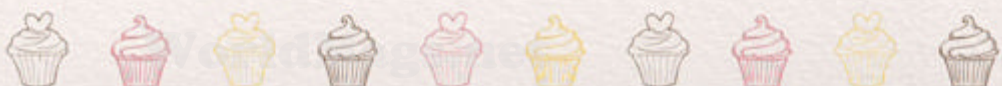
## How to... frame in a hoop

### Step 1

**TRIM** your stitching and backing fabric into a circle slightly larger than your hoop. Centre over the inner hoop and press the outer hoop down over your fabric.

### Step 2

**PULL** your fabric taut and tighten the screw as much as you can. Secure the fabric edges with double-sided tape or hot glue.







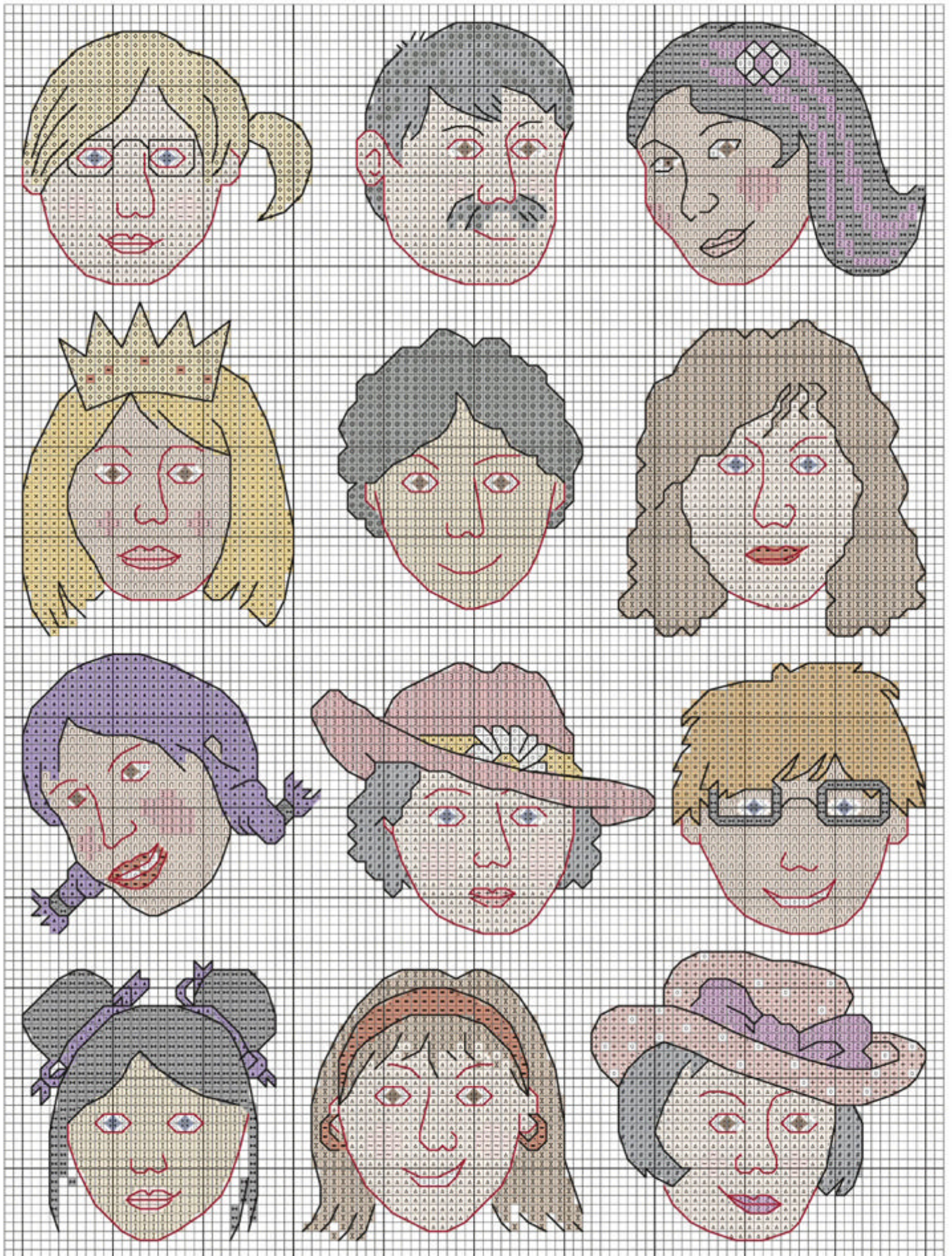
## Make a... cake topper

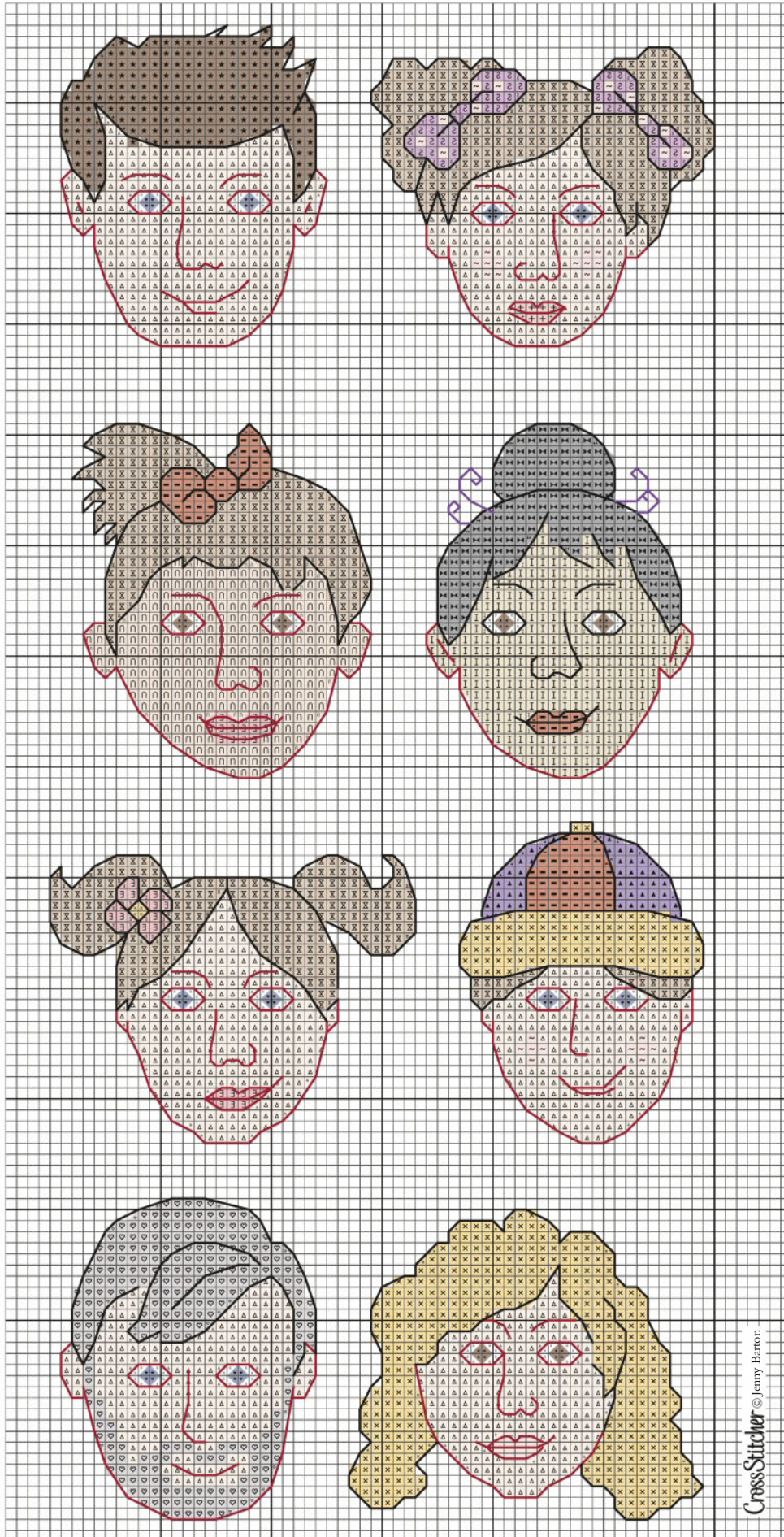
### Step 1

**TRIM** your plastic canvas to one square outside the stitching all the way round.

### Step 2

**TAPE** a bamboo skewer to the back of your stitching and poke into a cake to decorate.





CrossStitcher © Jenny Barton

**DMC Anchor Madeira**  
Cross stitch in two strands

0	White	002	2402
▶	310	403	2400
#	317	400	1714
@	413	236	1713
♥	452	232	1807
■	666	046	0210
◇	676	887	2208
△	754	1012	0305
☒	760	1022	0405
~	761	1021	0404
★	801	359	2007
⊗	841	1082	1911
♥	930	1035	1712
×	972	298	0107
☆	976	1001	2302
2	3607	087	0708
+	3706	033	0409
∩	3771	9575	2309
▲	3837	111	0713
I	3864	376	1910

Backstitch in one strand

—	413	236	1713
		hair	
—	552	099	0713
		hair	
—	632	936	2311
		faces	

## What to make

Who will you stitch next? Here are some fabulous ideas for more fun face projects...

- 1 Make a really fun gift tag by choosing the face which most resembles your gift's recipient.
- 2 Stitch a selection of faces in a row to make a family sampler – change the hair, eye and clothes colours to make it personal to your own family.
- 3 Waste canvas a face onto felt for a fun coaster!



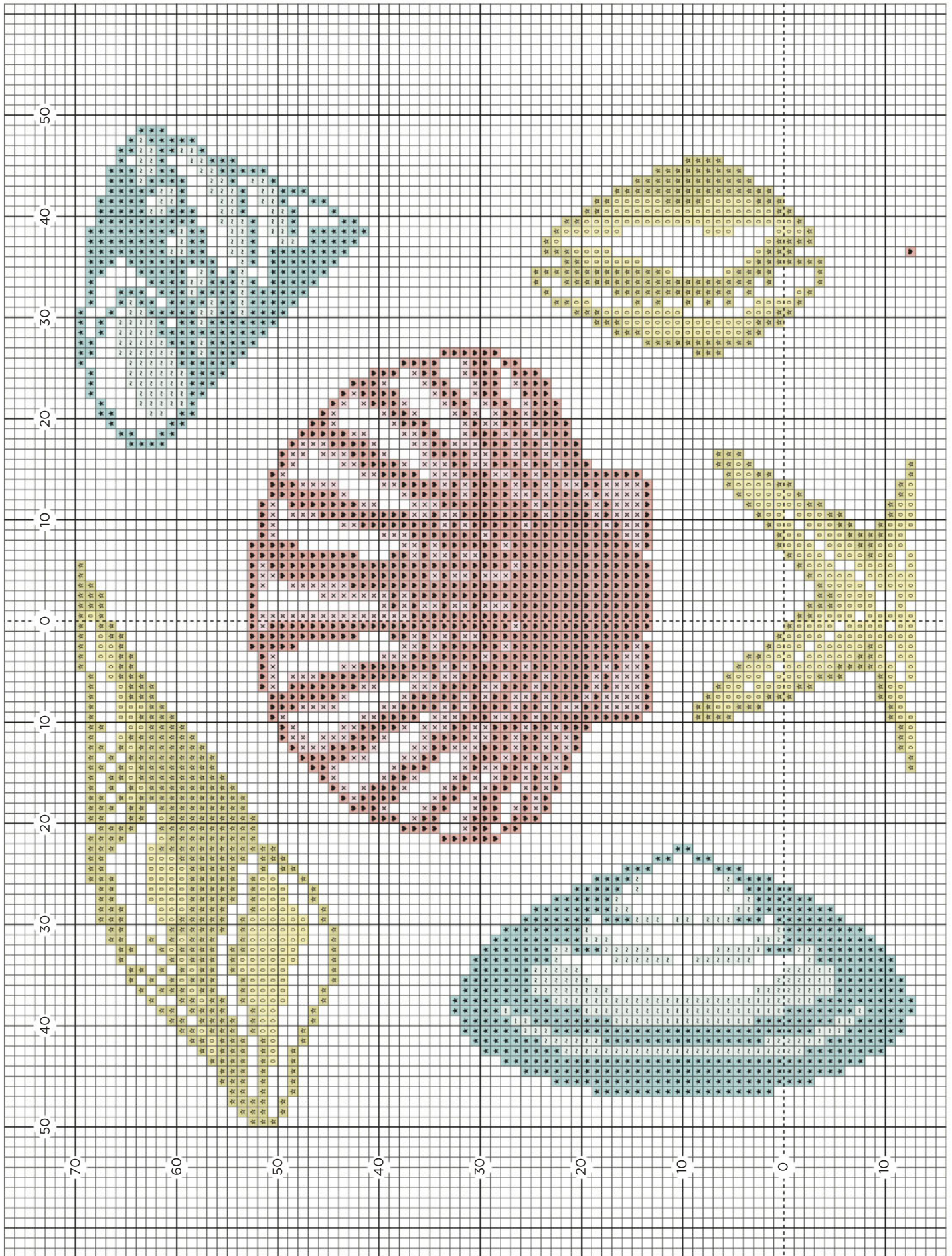


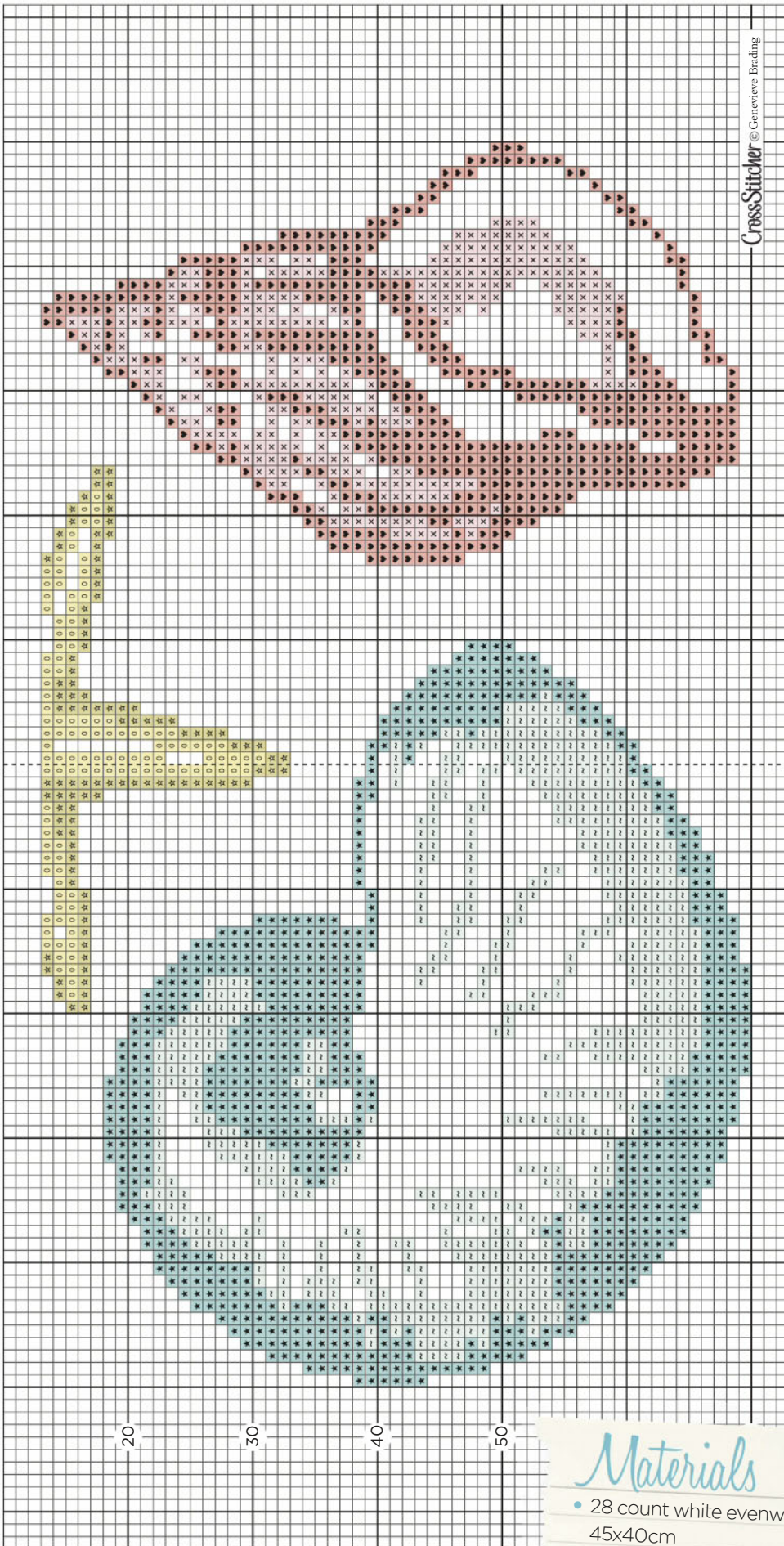
BY THE  
THE  
SEASHORE...

Brighten up your wall with our beach  
combing collection. Stitched in bold shades,  
our pretty shells are the real stars of the sea!









Designed by: Genevieve Brading  
 Design size: 25x18cm  
 Stitch time: 30 hours

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
Cross stitch in two strands			
0	165	253	1414
☆	166	279	1308
♥	892	033	0412
×	894	026	0408
★	958	187	1114
~	964	185	1112

### Materials

- 28 count white evenweave, 45x40cm
- Wooden frame
- Mount board

For stockist details see page 84





To help with your counting, stitch one shell at a time before moving on to the next one

**Aida swatch**  
If you prefer stitching on aida use a 14 count white aida instead



## How to... frame a picture

### Step 1



**CUT** a piece of white mount board to fit inside your frame. Place your design centrally over the mount board and pin the fabric around the board to secure, starting at the centre of each side and working outwards.

### Step 2



**PIN** around the entire perimeter and check you are happy with the positioning of your design, then turn over to the reverse. Use double-sided tape to secure the fabric excess around all four sides.

### Step 3



**SECURE** the fabric edges with masking tape and remove the pins. Position your stitching in the frame and back with a second piece of mount board. Seal the edges with more masking tape to finish off.





# THE Savvy Stitcher

Always wanted to try out a new technique or trend? Every month The Savvy Stitcher shows you just how it's done!

by Zoë Patching

*Yes you can!*  
Make perfect  
*pom-poms*

They're fun, easy and they look amazing too,  
it's time to prettify your projects with pom-poms!



STRAWBERRY  
PRESERVE  
Combine two pom-poms and trim to  
make a juicy strawberry with pips



### VASE OF FLOWERS

Use mini 'allium' pom-poms as a flamboyant finish touch to your stitching!



Whether you've fond memories of making pom-poms at school, or this is all new to you, you'll love our on-trend projects! We've come up with three different ideas you can use alongside your stitching - choose from this delicious ice cream charm complete with a plastic canvas cone and woolly pom-pom top, or how about a delicate trio of mini allium pom-pom flowers? And who could resist this tempting strawberry pom-pom? It would make the perfect addition to your summer cream tea or party table!



### CORNET CHARM

Top a plastic canvas cone with a pom-pom scoop for a charming idea!

## MAKE A... BASIC POM-POM

Brush up on your basic pom-pom skills with this easy 'ice cream' design

### Step 1



**CUT** out two 4cm diameter circles of card, then cut a 1.5cm diameter circle in the centre of each. Start to wrap 3 meters of yarn around the two discs. Pass it through the centre hole, catching the end under the first few wraps.

### Step 2



**CONTINUE** to wrap the yarn until you run out of it or the centre hole becomes too narrow. Pass the end through the wrapped yarn to secure. Cut around the wrapped edge, passing your scissors between the two card discs.

### Step 3



**TAKE** a 30cm length of yarn and pass it between the two card discs and tie a couple of knots to secure - make sure these knots are pulled tight. Now you can remove the card discs by simply cutting and sliding away.

### Step 4

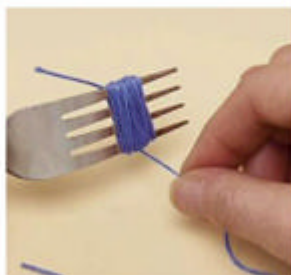


**HOLD** the tying yarn and start to trim the pom-pom to smooth the surface. The tying yarn can also be used to hang your finished charm. Attach the pom-pom to a plastic canvas cone, stitched using the chart on page 77.

## MAKE... MINI FLOWER POM-POMS

Use a fork to wind your yarn to create this allium flower head effect

### Step 1



**TAKE** a skein of stranded cotton. Start to wrap the stranded cotton around a fork, catching the starting thread under the first few wraps. We wrapped the cotton around the fork about 40 times for each pom-pom.

### Step 2



**SECURE** the tail end under the wrapped threads. With a couple of strands of the same coloured cotton, tightly tie the bundle of threads around the centre, between the central teeth of the fork, and secure with a couple of knots.

### Step 3



**SLIDE** the thread bundle carefully off the fork and then take lots of care as you cut the wrapped loops of thread with a small pair of embroidery scissors. Holding the tying thread as you work will make this easier to do.

### Step 4



**TRIM** into a more spherical shape. Separate the strands by combing with a blunt tapestry needle and tease the threads around the central tie to create a smoother surface. Attach to your stitching with your tying threads.

## IF YOU LIKED THESE, YOU'LL LOVE...



### COTTON PATCH

[www.cottonpatch.co.uk](http://www.cottonpatch.co.uk)

Clover's pom-pom maker is the perfect accessory to have stashed in your craft box! It comes in various sizes, plus there's a heart shaped pom-pom maker too!



### FRUMBLE

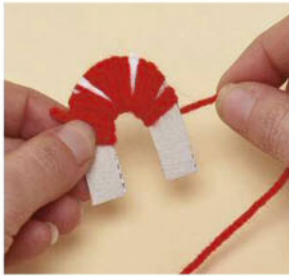
[www.frumble.co.uk](http://www.frumble.co.uk)

For a quick fix try ready-made pom-poms! There's a delicious selection of colours, and sizes to be found here, plus pom-pom trim - perfect for adding an extra bit of fun to projects!

## MAKE A... STRAWBERRY POM-POM

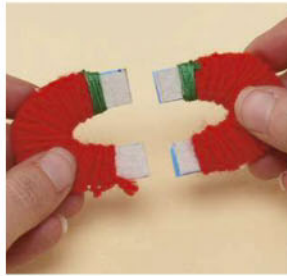
Wrap different colours of yarn to make a strawberry, complete with pips and leafy top!

Step 1



**CUT** two horseshoe shaped pieces of card, 4cm high and 3cm wide. Place them together and wrap red yarn around them. For pips, add two to three wraps of white stranded cotton, at a couple of intervals, as shown here.

Step 2



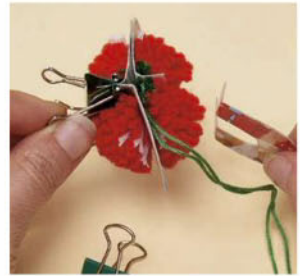
**CONTINUE** wrapping with the red yarn, we used three tightly wrapped layers. At one end, wrap a section of green stranded cotton to create the leaves. Repeat steps 1 and 2 to create a second wrapped card.

Step 3

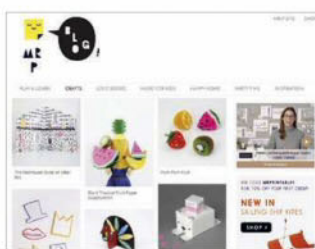
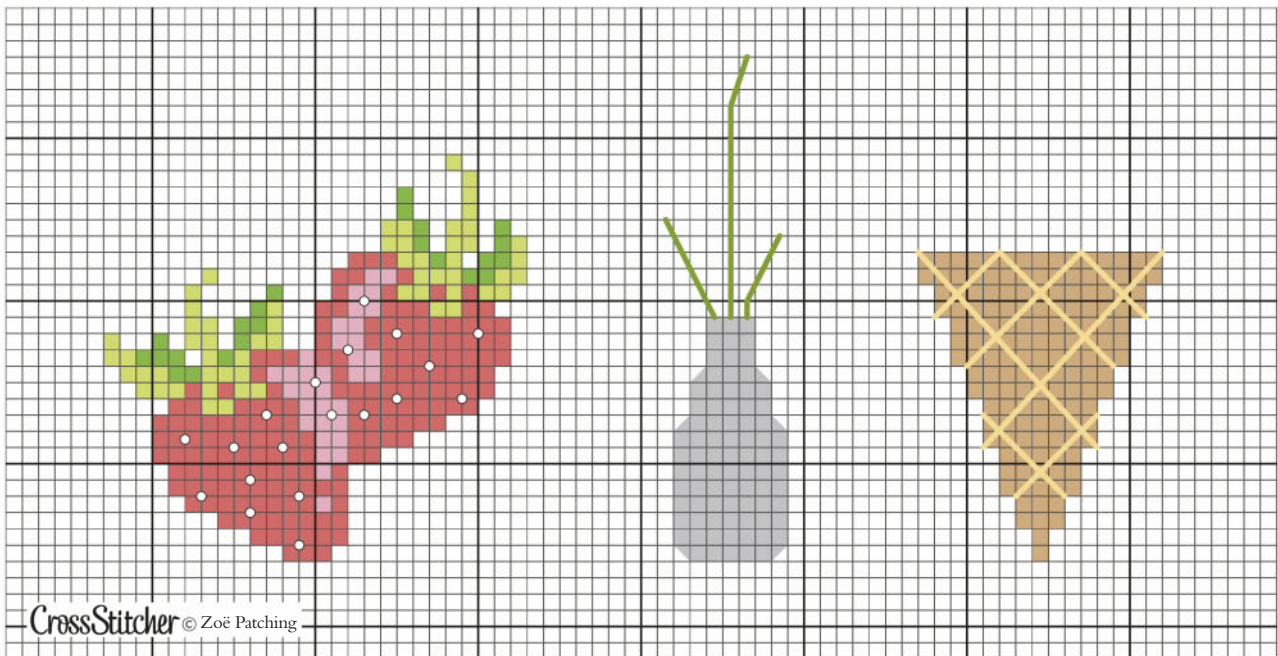


**CLIP** the two wrapped cards together, by folding the exposed card ends outwards and butting the two wrapped cards together to create an oval shape. We used small bulldog clips for this, as shown.

Step 4



**CUT** along the wrapped edge, sliding your scissors' tip between the two card pieces. Pass green stranded cotton between the cards and tie to secure. Unclip and remove card. Trim into a berry shape, keeping the leaves long.



### MR PRINTABLES BLOG

[www.blog.mrprintables.com](http://www.blog.mrprintables.com)

Fresh fruit, wild animals and even children's play sets, there's a pom-pom for just about everyone here! Be inspired by this array of ideas - plus there are handy tutorials too!



### OUR PINTEREST BOARD

[www.pinterest.com/xstitchmagazine](http://www.pinterest.com/xstitchmagazine)

Visit our Pinterest board to find a special board dedicated to *The Savvy Stitcher*. You can pin all these designs and find inspiration for more!

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WorldMags.net



# Stitching basics

## TOOLS OF THE TRADE

### NEEDLES

For basic stitching you'll need a tapestry needle that has a blunt tip and large eye. Use a size 24 needle for most aidas, and a size 26 for evenweaves and linens. Use a sharp embroidery needle for finer details such as backstitch and French knots.

### EMBROIDERY SCISSORS

Embroidery scissors are an absolute must-have for stitchers and can be picked up for just a few pounds. Keep yours sharp by only using them to cut threads – that way a decent pair should last you a lifetime.

### STRANDED COTTON

Embroidery thread is also commonly referred to as stranded cotton. Each thread length is made up of six strands of cotton twisted together. The chart key will indicate how many strands you'll need to stitch your design with.

### HOOPS AND FRAMES

Though not absolutely essential, we do recommend using an embroidery hoop or frame to keep an even stitching tension. Just make sure it's big enough to fit your entire design.

### AIDA

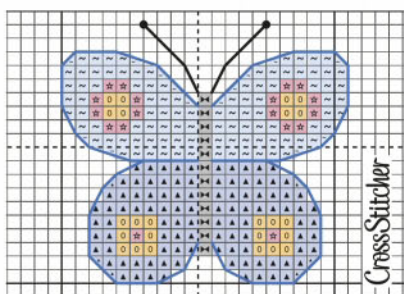
Aida is an ideal choice for cross stitch beginners. 14 count is the most common, although it's available in a huge variety of colours and counts. Each cross stitch is worked over a single aida block, making counting and keeping your place a cinch.

### EVENWEAVE

Evenweave is much simpler to work with than you might think. Start with a 25 or 28 count evenweave, such as Zweigart Lugana. Once you're confident, try your hand at a linen version.

## THE CHART

**START** stitching from the centre of the design and your fabric. The centre of our charts are indicated by dotted lines. To find the centre of your fabric, fold it in half and then into quarters.

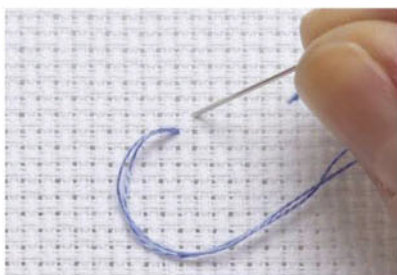


### Reading the chart

**EACH** square on the chart represents a single cross stitch. Fractionals are half filled squares or squares filled with two different colours.

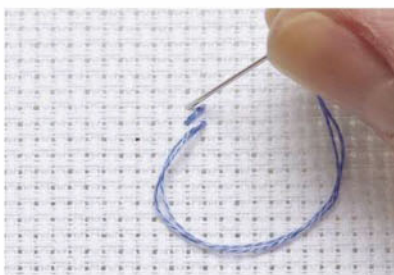
## Start stitching... on aida

### Step 1



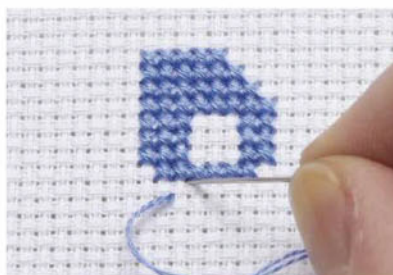
**CUT** a 40cm thread length, and thread your needle with two of the six strands. Knot one end and start with a waste knot (opposite). Make a diagonal half cross stitch across a single aida block.

### Step 2



**MAKE** a second diagonal stitch to complete your first cross. Alternatively, you can work a row of half cross stitches first, then work back on yourself to complete the stitches.

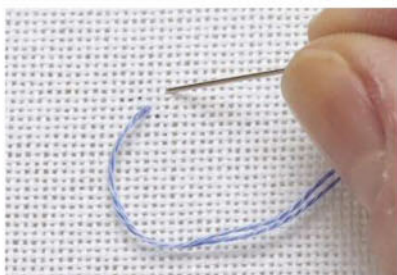
### Step 3



**THE** direction of your diagonals is up to you, just be sure all your stitches cross in the same direction. Otherwise, your design will look uneven. Continue working from the centre outward.

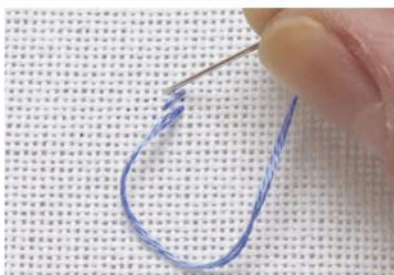
## Start stitching... on evenweave

### Step 1



**INSTEAD** of taking your needle diagonally across a single aida block, take your needle diagonally across two evenweave threads, creating a half cross stitch as before.

### Step 2



**MAKE** a second diagonal stitch to complete your first cross stitch. Work each stitch individually or work a row of half cross stitches, then work back on yourself to complete the stitches.

### Step 3



**CONTINUE** working from the centre of your design outward. If you find the extra counting a bit daunting at first, don't give up. We promise it'll become second nature in no time.

## THE KEY

**ALL THE** symbols that appear on the chart are listed in the key with their corresponding thread codes beside them. The key also tells you the different stitches used in the design.

### Colour match

**IN THE** key, the closest column of thread codes listed next to the chart symbols is the thread brand that's used in the design. Similar colour matches are listed alongside it.



	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
<b>Cross stitch in two strands</b>			
★	602	057	0611
○	741	314	0202
◀▶	3799	236	1713
▲	3839	176	0906
~	3840	120	0907
<b>Backstitch in one strand</b>			
—	3799	236	1713
	butterfly antennae		
—	3838	940	0905
	all other details		
<b>French knots in two strands</b>			
●	3799	236	1713
	butterfly antennae		



## BACKSTITCH

Use this easy stitch to give a neat outline and add details

### Step 1



**WORK** your backstitch using a sharp needle, once you've finished the cross stitch. To secure your thread, weave it through the back of your stitches, then bring your needle up to the surface.

### Step 2



**WORK** your backstitch over about 1-3 chart squares at a time, making sure to closely follow the chart. Any longer and your stitches could end up becoming loose and pulling out.

### Step 3



**FOR** each additional stitch, bring your needle up 1-3 chart squares away from your previous stitch. Then pass it back through the fabric at the same point as your previous stitch.

## WASTE KNOT

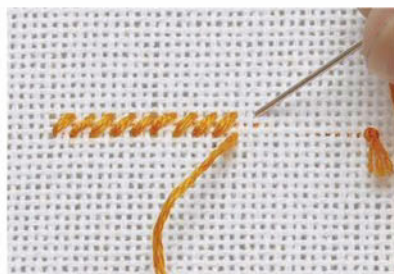
A simple way to get started stitching

### Step 1



**KNOT** one end of your thread and take it down through the front of your fabric, about 2cm from your starting point. Then bring it back up to the front of your fabric to make your first stitch.

### Step 2



**BEGIN** stitching your design, making sure you're stitching over your starting thread with each stitch. You can work whole stitches or work half stitches then come back on yourself.

### Step 3



**ONCE** you're happy that your starting thread is secure, snip off the knot. To secure your thread when you've finished stitching, weave it through the back of your stitches as shown here.

## LOOP KNOT

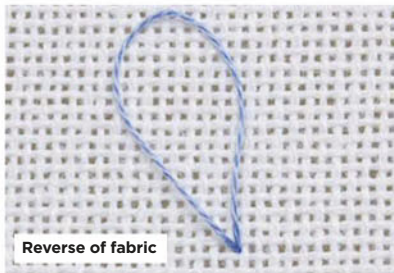
This easy start to your cross stitch is brilliantly neat

### Step 1



**IF YOU'RE** working in two strands, a loop knot is the easiest and neatest method. Cut a single length of thread, twice as long as normal. Fold it in half to create a loop at one end.

### Step 2



**THREAD** your needle with the two tail ends, just as you normally would. Bring your needle up to the front of your fabric, leaving a small loop of thread on the reverse.

### Step 3

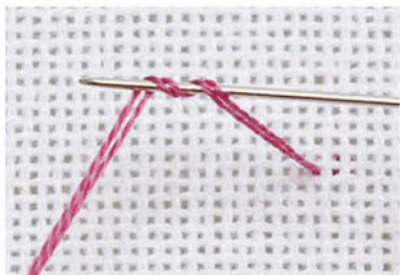


**MAKE** a half cross stitch, passing your needle through the loop on the reverse as shown here. Pull all the way to secure the thread. Now continue with your stitching as normal.

## FRENCH KNOTS

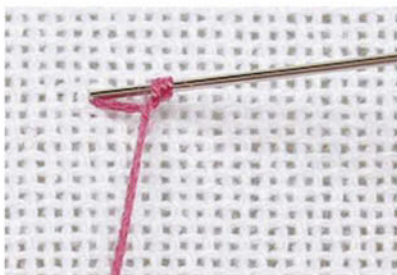
Go dotty with this simple way to add neat knots to your designs

### Step 1



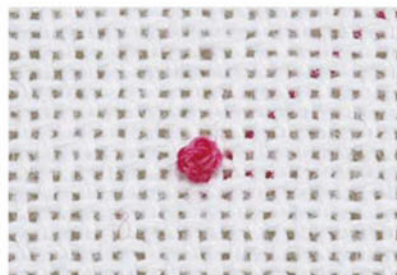
**USE** a sharp embroidery needle to help pierce the fabric. Bring your needle up at your starting point and wrap your thread once or twice around the needle. Use one strand for a small knot and two for a slightly chunkier knot.

### Step 2



**HOLD** your thread end firmly and take your needle down, ever so slightly over from where you came up. Slide the twisted thread down the needle, so it rests on the fabric's surface, and gently feed the needle through the fabric.

### Step 3

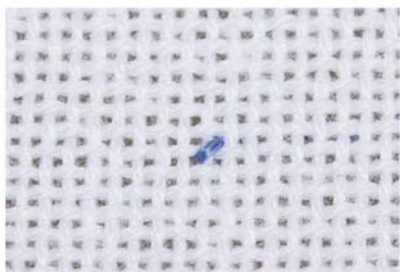


**KEEP** your thread as taut as possible to prevent the knot becoming loose. Gently pull your thread through to tighten the knot, so that it sits neatly on the surface. And remember, if you don't get it right away, keep practising!

## FRACTIONALS

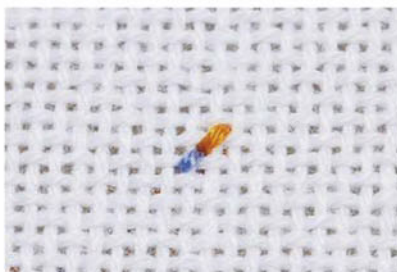
These little stitches are great for adding a bit more detail to your work

### Step 1



**START** with a quarter stitch, working from one corner into the centre. For evenweave, there is already a hole in the centre to stitch into. With aida, you'll need to pierce the centre of the block.

### Step 2



**MAKE** your next quarter stitch in your second colour, coming up from the opposite corner and back down through the centre. You've now created a half cross stitch.

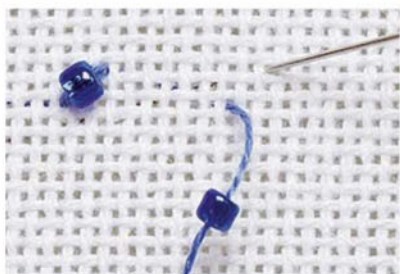
### Step 3



**FINISH** your stitch by making a half cross stitch. Fractionals are shown in the chart either as two symbols opposite one another in a chart square, or by a symbol opposite an empty space.

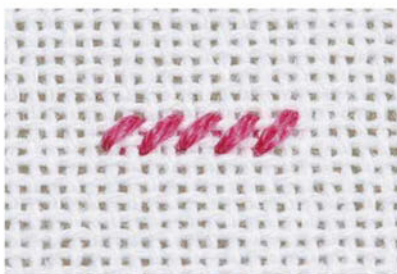
## BEADING

**TO ATTACH** beads, you'll need a thin, flexible beading needle. Thread with one strand of cotton. Bring your needle to the front of your design, thread on a bead and make a diagonal stitch to secure the bead. If you like, stitch through again for added security.



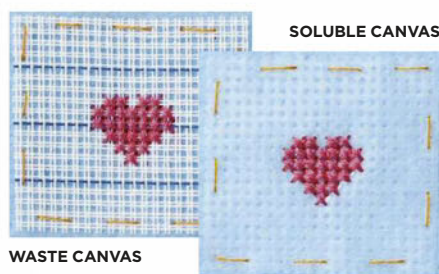
## HALF CROSS STITCH

**HALF** cross stitches are exactly what they sound like – half of a cross stitch. Each diagonal stitch is worked across two evenweave threads or one aida block. They're most often used to create a subtle background in a design.



## WASTE AND SOLUBLE CANVAS

**WASTE** and soluble canvases are used when stitching on plain fabrics and felts. Tack onto your fabric and stitch as normal. Soluble canvas dissolves in water. For waste canvas, soak in water then remove each thread individually.



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Your shopping

# Stockists

Seen something that's inspired you? Here's where you can buy it...

## Get started

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[www.willowfabrics.co.uk](http://www.willowfabrics.co.uk)  
0800 056 7811

*For evenweave, aida and all kinds of stitching fabrics*

**BARNYARNS**  
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*For Anchor, DMC and Madeira threads and all kinds of haberdashery supplies*

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For picture frames for displaying your stitching

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[www.hobbycraft.co.uk](http://www.hobbycraft.co.uk)  
0330 026 1400  
For cardstock, paper, paint, glue and general crafting supplies

## Shopping guide

Contact details for all the suppliers quoted in this issue, plus a few of our favourite places for extra inspiration!

**ALISON BICK**  
[www.alisonbick.co.uk](http://www.alisonbick.co.uk)

**ALSO HOME**  
[www.alsohome.com](http://www.alsohome.com)

**THE BASKET ROOM**  
[www.thebasketroom.com](http://www.thebasketroom.com)

**BIJOUX BEADS**  
[www.bijouxbeads.co.uk](http://www.bijouxbeads.co.uk)

**CHARLOTTE MACEY**  
[charlottemacey.co.uk](http://charlottemacey.co.uk)

**CHERISH HANDMADE**  
[www.notonthehighstreet.com/cherishhandmade](http://www.notonthehighstreet.com/cherishhandmade)

**CLAIRE HARTIGAN**  
[www.etsy.com/shop/clairehartigan](http://www.etsy.com/shop/clairehartigan)

**CLOCK MOVEMENTS**  
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**CRAFT CREATIONS**  
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**FRED ALDOUS**  
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## Your projects

You can make our projects using any materials you like, but if you need help tracking down specific items here are a few hints.

### BREW FOR TWO

**28 count Zweigart Brittny white evenweave, ref 3270/100:** Willow Fabrics  
**Cotton backing fabric:** Cotton Patch  
**White cord:** Bijoux Beads  
**White button:** similar from The Makery

### CREATURE COMFORTS

**20 count Zweigart Bellana white evenweave, ref 3256/100:** Willow Fabrics  
**Cotton backing fabric:** Cotton Patch  
**Soft toy filling:** Hobbycraft

### FESTIVAL OF LIGHT

**28 count Zweigart Brittny white evenweave, ref 3270/100:** Willow Fabrics  
**Wooden frame:** eFrame  
**Mount board:** Fred Aldous  
**Cotton backing fabric:** Cotton Patch  
**14 count plastic canvas:** Willow Fabrics  
**Grey cord:** Bijoux Beads

### GROW YOUR OWN

**18 count Zweigart cream aida, ref 3793/264:** Willow Fabrics  
**Cotton backing fabric:** Cotton Patch  
**A5 notebook:** WHSmith

### TIME TO BLOOM

**28 count Zweigart Cashel white linen ref 3281/100:** Willow Fabrics  
**Embroidery hoop, 8in:** Hobbycraft  
**Mount board:** Fred Aldous  
**Cotton backing fabric:** Cotton Patch  
**Clock movement with 73mm silver hands:** www.clockmovements.co.uk

### WISH YOU WERE HERE

**28 count Zweigart Brittny white evenweave, ref 3270/100:** Willow Fabrics  
**Wooden frame:** eFrame  
**Mount board:** Fred Aldous

### SCOOPS & SPRINKLES

**16 count Zweigart blue aida, ref 3251/503:** Willow Fabrics  
**White felt:** Wool Felt Company  
**Red felt ball:** Blooming Felt

### GO FLY A KITE

**14 count waste canvas:** Willow Fabrics  
**White felt:** Wool Felt Company  
**3mm ribbon:** Hobbycraft  
**Soft toy filling:** Hobbycraft  
**Brooch back:** Bijoux Beads

### JUST DANDY

**19 count Zweigart Ariosa evenweave, orange, ref 3711/4066:** Willow Fabrics  
**Cotton backing fabric:** Cotton Patch  
**19 count Zweigart Ariosa evenweave, blue, ref 3711/5091:** Willow Fabrics  
**Purse frame, 80x40mm, bronze tone:** Well Made Tools at Amazon.co.uk  
**19 count Zweigart Ariosa evenweave, green, ref 3711/6073:** Willow Fabrics  
**Eyelet:** Hobbycraft  
**White cord:** Bijoux Beads

### PILLOW FIGHT

**20 count Zweigart Bellana white evenweave, ref 3256/100:** Willow Fabrics  
**Cotton backing fabric:** Cotton Patch  
**Bias binding:** similar from The Makery  
**Piping cord:** Gone to Earth  
**Cushion pad, 30x50cm, ref 64913009:** John Lewis

### STEP IT UP

**28 count Zweigart Brittny white evenweave, ref 3270/100:** Willow Fabrics  
**White card:** Craft Creations

### FACE TO FACE

**14 count plastic canvas:** Willow Fabrics  
**Bamboo Skewer:** Lakeland  
**16 HPI Zweigart white aida, ref 3251/100:** Willow Fabrics  
**Wooden embroidery hoop, 4in:** Hobbycraft  
**Cotton backing fabric:** Cotton Patch

### BY THE SEASHORE

**28 count Zweigart Brittny white evenweave ref 3270/100:** Willow Fabrics  
**Wooden frame:** eFrame  
**Mount Board:** Fred Aldous

# CrossStitcher

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**Next issue on sale 24 July 2015**  
**Printed and bound by** William Gibbons  
**Distributed by** Seymour Distribution Ltd, 2 East Poultry Avenue, London EC1A 9PT Call: 0207 429 4000

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# CrossStitcher MARKET PLACE

Welcome to the *CrossStitcher* reader ads page. Here you can post pleas for help, find a home for your spare stash, or track down pen pals and clubs in your area – all absolutely free!

## Desperately seeking

Hi, I'm Paula and I'm trying to get hold of issue 278. It has the Love chart by Emma Congdon in it. Can anyone who may have this issue at home, send me the issue or even just the chart I need? I am happy to pay all costs.

Paula Cubitt,  
4 Tippet Close,  
Norwich, Norfolk,  
NR5 9HQ  
Email: pchip31@gmail.com

I'm really hoping to find some charts to go with some old free *CrossStitcher* kits I have. I have the kits but need the charts from inside the magazines to make them. One is the Christmas gift tags kit from issue 260 and the other is the Jubilee heart from issue 253. Can anyone send me the issues or just the charts? I'm willing to pay any costs. Please let me know by email (or post).

Johnnie Jean Buchanan,  
PO Box 550,  
Porcupine Plain, Sk.,  
Canada, S0E 1H0  
Email: rjbuch@xplornet.ca

I was wondering if anyone can help. My friend is trying to find a copy of the cross stitch chart of the Spring Window by Lesley Teare which was featured in 2002. Having completed the Summer, Autumn and Winter

ones she would now like to complete the set. My friend is prepared to pay any costs incurred.

Email: forster-m7@sky.com

Hello, I'm looking for issue 283 of *CrossStitcher*. I really want to stitch the butterfly project that was on the cover of this issue. If anyone is able to send me the issue or just the chart I need I am happy to pay all costs. Please get in touch.

Sedat Andic,  
96 Crondall Court,  
St John's Estate,  
London N1 6JJ  
Email: s.andic@outlook.com:

Hello, I am looking for the charts for a number of cross stitch project packs I have lost. They are all from the very first issues of *Cross Stitch Collection*, numbers 1-18 (the date of no.18 is Aug/Sept 1995). I subscribed to the magazine for quite a number of years and last year I decided to make more room on my shelves and because the packs were separate I mistakenly thought the instructions were in the packs.

Unfortunately they were not and in fact the instructions were in the magazine itself and I don't have them anymore. If anyone has these charts available please could they get in touch!

Kathleen Forrester,  
13 Cairniehill Gardens,  
Arbroath,  
Angus,  
DD11 4EP

## Get in touch

Hi I'm Louise, aged 38 and a mum of three. I love cross stitch, knitting, baking, music, reading and lots more. I'd love to hear from like-minded ladies any age, anywhere. Looking forward to hearing from you!

Louise Clark,  
2/2, 73 Gorget Avenue,  
Glasgow,  
G13 2AN  
Email: janwillacarros@aol.com

Hello, my name is Ann. I like cross stitch and card making. I'd love to have penpals from anywhere in the world. Please write to me, thank you!

Miss Ann Hancox,  
9A Charlton Street,  
Oakengates,  
Telford,  
Shropshire,  
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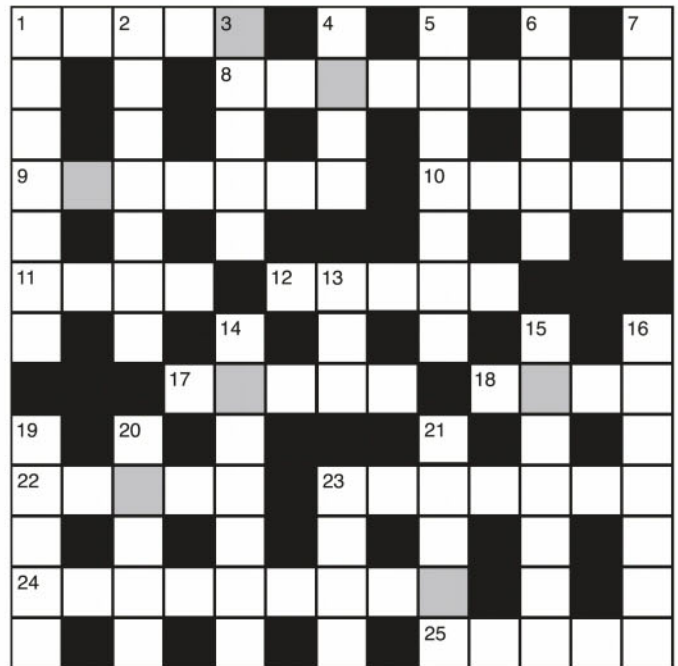
## Prize crossword

### Across

- 1 --- of *Endearment*, 1983 film (5)
- 8 List of symbols on a cross stitch chart (6,3)
- 9 Baby frog (7)
- 10 Male singing voice (5)
- 11 Once --- a time, fairy tale opener (4)
- 12 Longest river in France (5)
- 17 Steam bath (5)
- 18 Method of starting off stitching (4)
- 22 Large wading bird (5)
- 23 Moscow landmark (7)
- 24 Listen to others' conversation (9)
- 25 Largest wild cat (5)

### Down

- 1 Toddler meltdown (7)
- 2 Selfish driver (4,3)
- 3 Ice cream server (5)
- 4 Adhesive (4)
- 5 Dijon or wholegrain, eg (7)
- 6 Foul-smelling mammal (5)
- 7 Synthetic sportswear fabric (5)
- 13 Possess (3)
- 14 Decorate food with food (7)
- 15 Game played with ten 'pins' (7)
- 16 Tool for turning nuts and bolts (7)
- 19 Torn strip of material or paper (5)
- 20 Sauce for a roast dinner (5)
- 21 Lure (5)
- 23 --- Lagerfeld, fashion designer (4)



Winning word clue: **Put this umbrella up when the sun comes out (7)**

### HOW TO ENTER

Win!

**COMPLETE** the crossword and rearrange the letters in the shaded boxes to make up a winning word. Go to [www.facebook.com/CrossStitcherMag](http://www.facebook.com/CrossStitcherMag) and click the Giveaways tab to enter. Postal entries not accepted. Competition open **26 June - 24 July 2015**. For full terms and conditions, see page 85.



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### SUDOKU

**USING** logic and a process of elimination, fill the blank boxes with numbers so that each row, column and 3x3 box contains the digits 1 to 9 only once.

				4	6	7	
3	9			8			1
	7		1	2	3		
		5		3			9
9			7	6			5
6				8		4	
		9	4	7		2	
7			8			5	4
	8	4	9				

Issue 292's winning word **SUNFLOWER**

NO.1  
FOR TRENDS

In your August

# CrossStitcher

Sizzling makes & gifts for summer!



## Inside this month

- ♥ Rise & shine! Stitch our **cushion** sunny-side up
- ♥ Treat yourself to our retro **sewing machine** design
- ♥ Snap happy! Cool camera **shoulder bag** & album cover
- ♥ Cute **caravan picture** to brighten your living room

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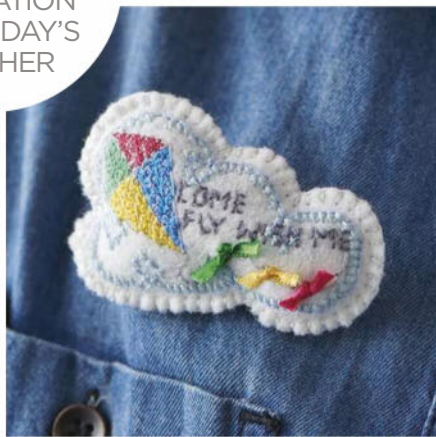
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STYLISH  
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47  
BRIGHT NEW  
PROJECTS



Inside...  
**CrossStitcher**  
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*Just stitch it!*

**PLUS** How to make the prettiest  
mini pom-poms for your projects

