

No.1 for designs

CrossStitcher

IDEAS • STYLE • INSPIRATION

69

BRAND-NEW
DESIGNS

*Create a sparkling
winter wonderland!*



**Last-minute
makes to stitch
for Christmas!**



CrossStitcher
A 2022 CALENDAR
WITH A NEW CHART
FOR EVERY MONTH



NEXT MONTH

LOVE THE VIEW NEEDLECASE PROJECT

Brighten up your workbox for the new year with our gorgeous heart-shaped aperture needlecase design.



ISSUE 329
FEBRUARY 2022

On sale
29 December



ZWEIGART
since 1877

SCANDI WINTER

PREMIUM NEEDLEWORK FABRICS
100 % MADE IN GERMANY



Icy blue tones in combination with strong red and elegant gray make you dream of the Scandinavian winter landscape. The sun sends its rays over the snow-covered trees and makes the snow glitter in its light - the colors 7113 (platin) and 11 (opal) of our items **Cashel (28 ct.)** and **Murano (32 ct.)** with woven metallic threads create a nice and shiny effect.

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www.zweigart.de

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Willow Fabrics | www.willowfabrics.com
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Woolwarehouse | woolwarehouse.co.uk
Stitchastic | www.stitchastic.com



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Welcome

Merry 'twixmas' to all our readers...



WE THOUGHT WE should mention 'Christmas hangovers'. No, nothing caused by an excess of mulled wine, but the frustration arising from the things we meant to stitch last Christmas and put on the list for this year. We know we are not alone in this, so we have a project on page 52 dedicated to the feeling!

Even if some of the sparkly festive projects in this issue don't make it in time for this year – remember you can always find a quiet corner this 'twixmas' (the gap between Christmas and New Year) and enjoy a bit of festive stitching while the tree is still up and the house feels twinkly. We are especially in love with our cover project (page 18) and love the icy feel – the closest we may get to a white Christmas this year!

Our delayed issue 377 kits are now here. If you're a new reader this month and would like the charts to go with them, they were in issue 377, which can be ordered as a digi issue from pocketmags.com or head to www.crossstitchermag.com for a back issue. Plus, we're so excited that you can enjoy this month's free 2022 calendar too – with 12 stunning stitching accessories to make!

Happy stitching!

Susan & Martin

SUSAN & MARTIN PENNY
EDITORS

P.S. We love to hear about your current stitching projects! Send your letters and photos to crossstitcher@warnersgroup.co.uk



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www.crossstitchermag.com

Write to the editorial department at: CrossStitcher Magazine, PO Box 172, Northam, EX39 9DY

Folksy fun...

Stitch our winter sampler
in our February issue, on
sale 29 December.



Have bags of
fun with our
treat socks!

CrossStitcher Contents

Issue 378 January 2022



18



ON THE COVER

- Winter wonderland page 18
- Last-minute makes page 23
- Winter wishes page 31
- Wall hanging page 69
- Winter lampshade page 26
- Festive poster page 52
- Stacks of fun page 35



69



23



31

YOUR CHARTS

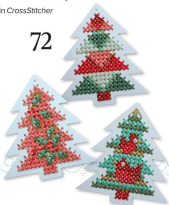
- 16 **Nature Diary** Nature notes for January
- 18 **Frozen Forest** Add sparkle with beads and metallics
- 23 **Filled With Joy** Three festive gift bags
- 26 **Snowdrops & Seedheads** Seasonal lampshade
- 31 **Botanic Beauty** Winter thank you cards
- 36 **Delightful Display** Colourful kitchen dresser design
- 41 **Letter Library** Dala horse alphabet
- 52 **Bam, It's Christmas!** Pop art poster
- 56 **Pennies From Heaven** Pretty paisley purse
- 61 **Create A Classic: Cinderella** Part 3
- 69 **Merry Me Time** Take a festive break!
- 72 **Ready, Steady, Stitch** Designer challenge

EXTRAS

- 14 **Reader Offer** Exclusive reader bargains
- 78 **Puzzles** Prize crossword
- 79 **CrossStitcher SAL** 2021 stitch-a-long

EVERY ISSUE

- 9 **Out there** The latest products
- 12 **Stitching with** Julian
- 34 **Letters** Show off what you've stitched
- 58 **Fully Booked** Stitching books round-up
- 68 **In my hoop** Sharon Brown's story
- 83 **Next month** in CrossStitcher



72

26



36



SUBSCRIBER PLUS

8 Book shop Stitching reads

50 Subscribe to CrossStitcher

41



61



56



Stitcher's SPOTLIGHT

Focus on stitch techniques...

76 Snowman decoration

Our expert shows
how to create a cone
shape character for your
Christmas tree.



NEW YEAR, NEW YOU...

Take up a new craft this year while enjoying exclusive 15% discount off all crafty books with FREE UK P+P from 3rd December 2021- 7th January 2022!

For every book sold during this period we will donate 50p to charity!



RRP £14.99
£12.74

In this practical and insightful book you'll discover all the inspiration and advice you need to get started, as well as ten visually exciting and easy-to-follow projects from professional card designers.



RRP £16.99
£14.44

Lexi's easy template-tracing method makes embroidery into a wearable art, so embroiderers can show off their stitching as a part of their everyday style, rather than just as a static wall display.



RRP £10.00
£8.50

Bursting with ideas for papercraft subjects, methods and styles, this book is a visual feast and source of inspiration for artists of all abilities looking to expand their papercraft skills.



RRP £12.99
£11.04

This book by Cristin Morgan, founder of the popular hand-embroidery company Marigold + Mars, contains a stunning collection of contemporary embroidery motifs with bold colour palettes for you to stitch away at for hours on end.



RRP £5.99
£5.09

Decoupage (from the French, découper, meaning to cut out) entails gluing cut-out pictures to an object and covering with varnish. It's a fun and easy way to decorate just about anything, from small household items to large pieces of furniture.

CrossStitcher

Tired of having stacks of magazines with nowhere to store them?

Keep your printed copies of CrossStitcher neat and tidy with these branded binders...



ONLY
£7.50

Save your favourite charts all in one place, it's easily accessible and ready for future use! Each binder holds 13 issues and are super robust!

GO ON, TREAT YOURSELF!

Available from: bit.ly/hacshop

Outthere

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



Winter wonderland

If you'd like to keep your festive home makes beautiful, but subtle, so they can be used well into the new year and beyond - take a look at some of the treats inside Rico's Merry Christmas (no.176) chart booklet. There are some Santa makes and Christmas decorations, as well as pine leaf designs for cushions and gift wrap ideas that can be enjoyed all winter. From cute, quick punched hole gift boxes, to cushions that can be used year after year - there's something for everyone here to see you through Christmas 2021 and the start of 2022. To find out more, visit www.rico-design.de.



MY CRAFT ROOM: TRACEY STARTIN

We get to see a glimpse of a designer's own craft space...



"My workspace is located at the rear of my home overlooking my garden. We took down the old conservatory and built a room for me to work in. When working, I have fabric and embroidery threads everywhere but afterwards I store them neatly away in cupboards and drawers. The tools I couldn't be without are my needle and thread, scissors/rotary cutter and cutting mat and of course my sewing machine. I store all my stock in large clear boxes so that when I sell an item, I can easily locate it and quickly despatch it to the customer." www.stitchgalore.com



"My most popular make is my personalised wooden spool pin cushions as they make a thoughtful little gift for people that love to sew."

"We kept the large windows so that I have lots of natural light which is ideal for sewing."



Drop us a line to crossstitcher@warmersgroup.co.uk with images of your craft space and a few words about it and our favourites could be featured in a future issue!



BOLD & BRIGHT

HANNAH BASS has three new Christmas needlepoint kit designs out this year, choose from 'I've Been Very Good This Year Santa', 'Santa Stop Here!' and 'Let It All Go, Let It Snow'. These colourful signs are worked in their new neon wools to give you a mid-winter lift – they also make great gifts! You'll use 10 count plastic canvas and 4 ply tapestry wool to create them, with the kits also containing a tapestry needle, chart and stitching instructions. hannahbass.com



FESTIVE TRIO

NO TIME to make a gift for a fellow stitch-mad friend this year? Here's a crafty gift idea that requires no effort on your part. Hawthorn Handmade have launched three new festive needleinders – a Penguin, Snow Globe and Christmas Jumper. The needleinders are made in the UK from 3mm birch plywood with a super strong neodymium magnet. Of course, you may just want to keep them for yourself! For more information and to order, visit www.hawthornhandmade.com.

PINS & TINY PINES

EXCLUSIVE FOR winter, this gorgeous Mini Masu Snow Tree Pincushion is being produced as part of Cohana's autumn and winter collection as a limited edition item. Resembling a Christmas tree, complete with star on top, it will really spruce up your winter workbox. We'll be stocking up on a few to give to stitching friends as gifts this Christmas! www.handsomeworkshop.com.au/shop



Floral beauty

INTRODUCING A friend or family member to cross stitch? This sweet kit could be just the thing to whet their appetite. They can create a pretty pincushion with decorative cord edging, showing the traditional Delft motif of tulips and fleur de lys. They can follow the pattern or add their own final flourish to the design. Worked on 14 count aida, the kit contains all they'll need to complete the stitching – all they need to provide is stuffing.

www.museumselection.co.uk

THREE OF THE BEST Dala horses

Make projects using our dala alphabet on page 41, then gallop over to Etsy and try these irresistible extra ideas...



DOTTOOTHAERDASHERY
Brighten your stitched designs with this gorgeous collection of Nordic Folk inspired iron-on patches, including a 4.5x4.5cm Dala horse.



ZWERGIGDIE
Back your Dala horse hangers and cushions with this 100% cotton fabric, LEKSAND MINI, in cream or light beige with colourful horses.



COTTONCLARA
Whip up three sweet Dala horses, pre-cut for stitching, ready to hang on your tree – you only need simple backstitch skills to complete them!

TREND SPOTTING

WINTER ANIMALS

LOVE OUR frozen forest of reindeer on page 18? Then make friends with more winter animals with these stitching finds...



WHO

Corinne Lapiere is the genius behind this gorgeous Felt Polar Bear Embroidery Kit, which is perfect for experienced stitchers to show off their French knots, running, back, star and blanket stitches.

www.culturevulturedirect.co.uk



WHAT

Wrap up warm with this Adorable Bear cross-stitch kit, who makes a friendly design to stitch up for a nursery or children's bedroom.

www.dmc.com/uk



HOW

Decorate your Christmas tree using this cute Reindeer Mini Cross Stitch Kit which includes a 3in hoop for framing – it would also make a fab stocking filler gift.

www.etsy.com/uk

STITCHING WITH JULIAN



Julian Odessa is celebrating those small moments of 'everyday magic' which help make our lives a bit more special, and this month it's time for a brew!

Hullo! We've had quite the ride these past few years and, while things have certainly been challenging, they've also given us time to slow down and notice the small, important details of life. We know I love a good mindfulness moment, but it's those fleeting moments of private joy that inspire me most. So, this new series is going to focus on stopping to notice the little things in life that make existence extra-special, whether it's the sun filtering through the trees just right, the first crack into the top of a crème brulee, or listening to a song from your teens that you haven't heard in years and realising you still remember all the words (and maybe the dance moves).

Something I find fascinating about people is when they tell me about those little moments in life that move them in a way that seems disproportionate to the event itself. Not the big, important things, but those small personal moments we don't usually share because they're special only to us, and often they're instances soon forgotten. These moments, for me, provide so much more connection to a person than their hobbies, their successes, or jobs.

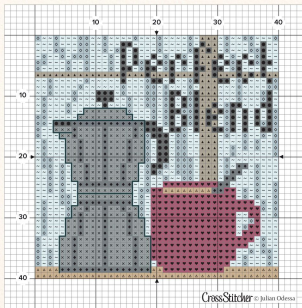
To start this series off, I've created a pattern of one of my favourite moments – the feeling of sitting inside, cosy and warm, with a hot drink while it's raining outside the window. The feeling of 'hygge' this gives me is wonderful; like the ever-swift movement of life is slowed to a crawl, allowing us all to indulge in a period of whimsy and peace.

For me, this feeling of sitting indoors and watching (or listening to) a storm raging outside, whether I'm feeling happy or sad, leads me to feel strangely content. It's almost as if the whole world were paused – like the rain has caused existence to stop and take a breath, to unclench its jaw and relax its shoulders.

So, stitch these little moments along with me. You could make them into a card, complete with a memory jotted

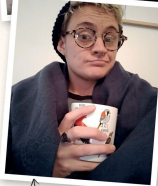
down for a friend (everyone loves a 'remember when...' moment). Or you could hang them up as a reminder of the small moments that bring you joy and satisfaction. Whatever you do, keep your mind open to noticing the 'little things' that add a little magic to your days, whether it's stitching, sunlight, or sweet dance moves.

Stitch boldly!
Julian



CrossStitcher © Julian Odessa

Rain and coffee
— a classic pair



Blankets
also work

DMC Anchor Madeira

Cross stitch in two strands

✕ ✕	169	849	1802
● ●	310	403	black
◆ ◆	413	401	1713
△ △	422	943	2102
♥ ♥	498	1005	511
▲ ▲	3032	903	2002
◇ ◇	3752	1033	1001
~ ~	3756	1037	886

Backstitch in one strand

—	413	401	1713
---	-----	-----	------

outlines

CRAFTY BOOKSHELF

Read on to find out our favourite new books for stitchers this month...

RAG RUG TECHNIQUES FOR BEGINNERS

Rag Rug Techniques for Beginners



ELSPETH JACKSON [CICO Books]
With this new book you can learn eight rag-rugging methods to create 30 items as accessories and homestyle makes. Rag rugging is an eco-friendly technique as the materials are unwanted clothing and textiles. From Coiled Rope Rugs and Peg Loom Weaving to Loopy Rugs and more, Elspeth gives you all the skills, tools and equipment you need to know to create items such as placemats, bowls, wall hangings and even a Christmas tree!

SUPER SUBVERSIVE CROSS STITCH

JULIE JACKSON

[Sasquatch Books] If you're of a sensitive nature, you may want to avert your eyes! Julie Jackson, creator of the Subversive Cross Stitch movement has compiled 50 easy-to-stitch designs, with 23 brand-new patterns and 27 fan favourites. Bringing traditional cross stitch techniques bang up-to-date with modern, witty and humorous sentiments that are often a twist on classic quotes, this is stitching for the next generation with designs such as



"What fresh hell is this?" and "Not today, Satan" to amuse you and those who see your finished pieces!

THE MENDING DIRECTORY



ERIN EGGENBURG [Search Press]

Visible mending is a new movement, where instead of trying to hide the repairs you've made to a garment, you make a feature out of them. Erin Eggenburg is a pioneer in the field and here she shows how to hand stitch or darn your clothes and other fabric items. With patterns for both beginners and the more experienced, there's a full colour photo for each stitch pattern, plus instructions. With over 50 patterns included, it's time to give your wardrobe a new lease of life!

FREE CHRISTMAS KRAFT TAG KIT*

CrossStitcher readers just pay £1.90 postage for these amazing deals...

Take advantage of our exclusive offers to UK readers* and receive a kraft tag bauble kit... see page 15 for more info...

CLASSIC 14 COUNT AIDA CHARM PACK

Back at the beginning of lockdown we gave you this amazing aida offer, but unfortunately due to delivery and staff difficulties we were unable to supply you. Since then many of you have asked when it will be available, so by popular demand we bring you the Classic Charm Pack.

Have you every looked through your stash and dreamed of having a selection of pretty aida colours in 14 count for cards and small projects? If so, then our Classic Charm Pack, which contains 24 pieces of 5x5in fabric, could be just the thing.

Each pack is different, and contains a selection of light, medium and dark aida colours, chosen at random from quality Zweigart, DMC, Sampeiro and Charles Craft fabric – please note, you may receive duplicate colours in each pack. Each piece of fabric is just right for a card, and will save you cutting into a larger piece of fabric from your stash. Please note: the fabric will have straight edges and not pinked as shown in the picture.

Charm Pack Classic for £17.80,
ref: CHARMCL



MORE OFFERS FOR YOU!

If our charm pack offer has tempted you, we've lots more offers with UK postage of just £1.90...



DIMENSIONS TREE ORNAMENTS

Each kit contains 14 count plastic canvas, pre-sorted stranded cotton, needle and instructions. Choose from Christmas Tree A, Santa With His Bag B, Santa Holding Tree C, Sleigh D. Mark your coupon with the kit you would like to receive.

Plastic Canvas Ornaments for £8.50 each, ref: DPLAO



CHRISTMAS RIBBON BAG

This mixed Christmas ribbon bag contains 50m of bright, cheerful Christmas ribbon and baker's twine. In each pack you will find a mixture of sheer, satin, grosgrain, gingham printed and spotted in a wide range of traditional Christmas colours, at less than 12p per metre! Christmas Ribbon Pack for £8.90, ref: CHRRB



DMC SPARKLY AIDA

This DMC 14 count aida is available in three soft colours: white, blue and pink. You can buy a FQ 50x55cm (19½x21½in), in one of the three colours for an offer price of just £7.80. Mark your coupon with the colour you require.

DMC Iridescent Aida FQ for £7.80, ref: DMCIR4



MOUSELOFT 3 KIT BUNDLES

These kits contain aida, DMC stranded cotton, chart, instructions, needle, card & envelope. Your bundle will be mixed, but could include things like: Christmas Baking, Little Winter Robin, or Winter Stag, to name just a few! Order multiple packs and we'll try to send different cards in each. Mouseloft Christmas 3 Kit Bundle for £8, ref: MOUSEXB3



CHRISTMAS 16 CARD PACK

Looking for quality aperture cards to start your Christmas list? This mixed pack of cards in traditional colours with printed envelopes is just the thing. It includes 16 quality C6 (152x104mm) cards in four Christmas colours – Red, Green, Blue and Cream in four aperture shapes – Oval, Round, Rectangular and Square. Each pack comes with 16 printed envelopes for a festive finish. Plus, for this Christmas only, your card pack also includes a chart to stitch this sweet postbox design too!

Christmas 16 Traditional Card Pack for **£10.85**, ref: **CCP16**



FELT JELLY ROLLS

Your chance to buy these gorgeous felt Jelly Rolls in a mix of fab colours. Each jelly roll has 10 22x22cm (8 7/8x9in) pieces of wool felt mix (30% wool & 70% viscose) in 10 different colours fitting its name.

For example, Christmas contains several reds, greens, a gold, a brown, a white and a black. 10 Jelly Rolls are available in rainbow of colours: 1. Christmas, 2. Autumn, 3. Sherbet, 4. Woodland, 5. Dusk, 6. Citrus, 7. Jelly Bean, 8. Ocean, 9. Modern, 10. Cherry. Please mark your coupon with the Jelly Roll colour you would like to receive.

Jelly Rolls for **£7.65**, ref: **JELLY10**

FREE BAUBLE GIFT TAG KIT – JUST PAY £1.90 POSTAGE!

Take advantage of our exclusive offer to UK readers* and receive a Kraft attachable tag, a skein of Anchor stranded cotton, star sequins, red seed beads, chart and a size 24 tapestry needle.

You'll receive a Kraft tag, a skein of stranded cotton in a colour chosen at random, gold star sequins, red seed beads, a 24 count needle and a chart to complete the bauble. Please note: if you order any of the January offers on this page you'll receive a Free Bauble Tag Kit with your order. Offer ends 29 December, see Terms & Conditions on order form.

Kraft Tags & Twine for **£3.60**, ref: **KRAFT1**

If you'd like to buy more Kraft tags then our handy 10 pack plus baker's twine (twine colours may vary) is just **£3.60**.



CHRISTMAS FABRIC BUNDLES

Each of these fat quarter bundles contains five different 100% cotton fabrics measuring 54x45cm (21 1/2x17 7/8in). Wash at 40 degrees. Gingerbread contains a printed design and mix of plain and spotted fabrics. Classic contains a holly print, red & mix of festive fabrics. Snowflake Gitter contains a printed grey snowflake fabric, a snowflake printed red fabric & two coordinating fabrics. Festive Christmas contains five plain fabrics in bright colours. Mark your coupon with the bundle you'd like to receive. Christmas Fabric Bundles in Gingerbread, Classic Holly or Snowflake Gitter for **£9.90** or Plain Festive for **£8.20**, ref: **OTC**



Willow Fabrics
WWW.WILLOWFABRICS.COM

For all your cross stitch goodies!
Any questions? enquires@willowfabrics.com.

Place your order online using the discount code **CHRISTMAS21** to get the lower postage cost that comes with this offer or call 01237 237171 for telephone orders.

Offers available to UK readers only.

CrossStitcher READER OFFER

Post your orders to **CrossStitcher/Willow Fabrics Offers**,
PO Box 172, Northam, EX39 9DY

Title _____ Initials _____ Surname _____
Address _____ Postcode _____
Tel _____ Email _____
I enclose a cheque for £ _____ made payable to
Penny Creative Media Ltd with my name and
address on the back
Or charge my Visa ☐ Mastercard ☐ Maestro ☐
Card No
Expiry date Card security code
(Over 3 digits on signature strip)
Signature _____ Date _____

Terms and conditions: Your FREE bauble kit will be dispatched by second class post, please allow up to 28 days to arrive. Only one free pack per UK reader. Please note the contract for supply of goods is with Willow Fabrics, tel 01237 237171. Offer closes 29 December 2021. The FREE bauble kit is subject to availability & postage will be returned once stock has run out. Please supply an email address or telephone number in case we have to contact you about your order. Full terms and conditions on page 82.

DESCRIPTION	PRICE	QTY	TOTAL
CLASSIC CHARM PACK (CHARMC1)	£17.80		
DIMENSIONS TREE ORNAMENTS (DPLAC1) KIT	£8.50		
CHRISTMAS RIBBON PACK (CHR16)	£5.90		
DMC Iridescent Aida 10 (DMCIR10) COLOUR	£7.80		
XMAS 3 KIT BUNDLE (MOUSEXB3)	£9.00		
CHRISTMAS 16 CARD PACK (CCP16) COLOUR	£10.85		
FELT JELLY ROLLS (JELLY10) COLOUR	£7.65		
CHRISTMAS FABRIC BUNDLE (OTC) COLOUR	£		
KRAFT TAGS & TWINE (KRAFT1)	£3.60		
FROZEN FOREST PACK (PPFROZEN1)	£44.20		
LAMP SHADE (PPSNOWDR1) (MAIL ORDER ONLY)	£34.90/£30		
DELIGHTFUL DISPLAY PACK (PPDELIGHT1)	£44.90		
BAM IT'S XMAS MATERIALS PACK (PPBAM1)	£13.90		
MERRY ME TIME MATERIALS PK (MERRYMT1)	£11.50		
CINDERELLA MATERIALS PACK (PPCIN1)	£69.00		
UK ONLY POSTAGE	£1.90	1	£1.90
GRAND TOTAL	£		

Feel free to photocopy this offer or write your order on paper if you don't want to cut your magazine

Nature Diary

Zoë Patching shares her nature notes for January, as she records the beautiful flowers and wildlife on her doorstep



January

Seeing the first bunches of snowdrops on a wintry walk will always makes me smile – when my boys were little, they used to call them 'pixie hats', which is adorable! Something else which I love to see is frosty hedgerows lined with dried cow parsley – their architectural shape is stunning and I will always collect a few stems as they will look great in a simple glass jar.

Materials

- Zweigart Antique White 28 count
- Cashel, ref. 32810101, 20x20cm (8x8in)
- Stranded cotton as listed in the key
- Size 26 tapestry needle

Materials available from www.willowfabrics.com

DMC Anchor Madeira
Cross stitch in two strands

■ ■	413	401	1713
◆ ◆	414	235	1801
■ ■	415	398	1803
▲ ▲	444	297	106
◇ ◇	703	238	1307
~ ~	746	275	101
⊙ ⊙	841	1082	1911
▲ ▲	3024	397	1901
⊗ ⊗	3756	1037	886
✦ ✦	3819	278	2703

DMC Anchor Madeira
Cross stitch in two strands

■ ■	blanc	001	white
Backstitch in one strand			
—	413	401	1713
	beak, eye		
—	414	235	1801
	bird, words		
—	702	239	1306
	tree		
—	704	256	1308
	snowdrop		
—	746	275	101
	feathers		

DMC Anchor Madeira
Backstitch in one strand

—	782	308	2212
	tree		
—	841	1082	1911
	stem		
—	3756	1037	886
	tree		
French knots in one strand			
●	414	235	1801
	dots		
●	3024	397	1901
	eye		
●	3756	1037	886
	seeds		



Designed by: Zoë Patching Stitch count: 60 high x 58 wide

Design size: 10.5x10.5cm (4¼x4¼in) Stitch time: 6 hours

This design was stitched on 28 count linen over two threads of fabric.

CrossStitcher © Zoë Patching

7'6
37 ½ p.

FROZEN FOREST

Create a winter wonderland, with our trio of reindeer dashing through the snow, using beads and metallics

CrossStitcher PROJECT PACK

If you would like to stitch Frozen Forest, we have a materials pack with everything you need to get you stitching right away, and have it delivered straight to your door!



Your materials pack contains:

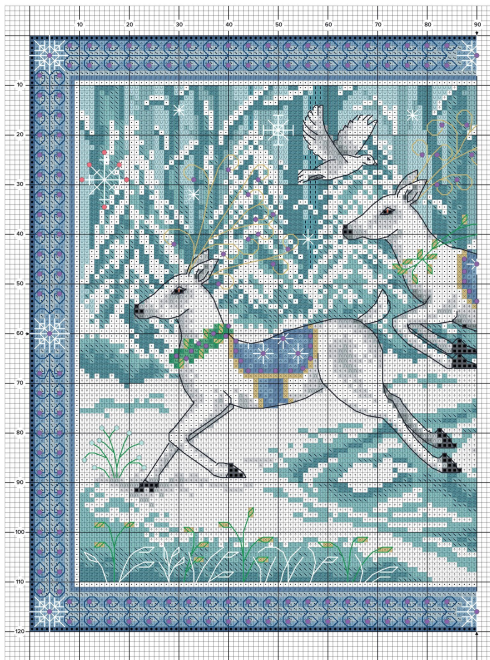
- Sampedro 14 count aida in White
- Skeins of DMC stranded cotton
- Skein of DMC Light Effects
- Anchor metallic embroidery thread
- Mill Hill beads
- Two gold-plated tapestry needles; size 24 and size 26

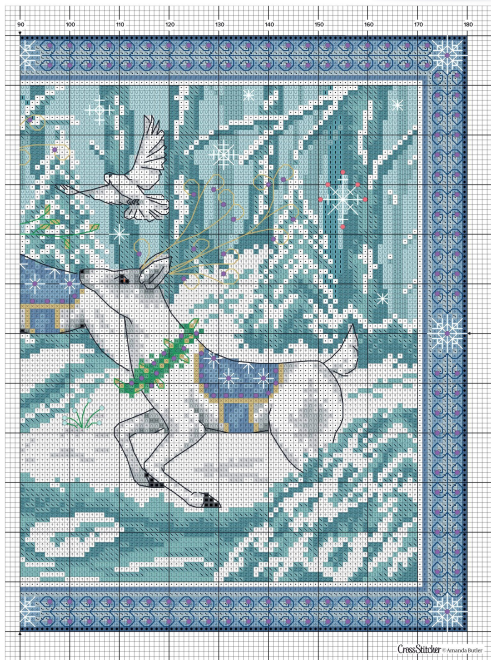
How to order: Fill in the form on page 15 or go to www.willowfabrics.com to order your project pack at the CrossStitcher reader price of £44.20, plus P&P.



FOR YOUR HOME







CrossStitcher © Amanda Butler



**TURN TO
PAGE 55
TO LEARN
HOW TO FRAME
YOUR PICTURE**

Designed by: Amanda Butler Stitch count: 120 high x 180 wide
Design size: 23x33cm (9x13in) Stitch time: 115 hours

This design was stitched on 14 count aida fabric.

PLEASE NOTE: Because of supply difficulties with some thread, particularly those manufactured in the USA, we have used a single strand of Anchor Metallic embroidery thread to complete the snow areas of your design – alternatively use two strands of B5200 DMC stranded cotton and one strand of Kreinik 32 blending filament. Although the threads are very different in structure, both will give you a gorgeous sparkly snow effect.

Get hold of a bead napper to make selecting and picking up any dropped seed beads so much easier!

Materials

- Sampedro White 14 count aida; 50x40cm (19x15 1/4in)
- Stranded cotton as listed in the key
- DMC Light Effects as listed in the key
- Anchor Metallic embroidery thread, col. 304, as listed in the key
- Size 24 tapestry needle
- Mill Hill seed beads as listed in the key

Materials available from www.willowfabrics.com

DMC	Anchor	Madeira
Cross stitch in two strands		
E3821 Light Effects		
Cross stitch blend in one strand of each		
Half cross stitch in two strands		
Half cross stitch blend in one strand of each		

DMC	Anchor	Madeira
Cross stitch in one strand		
Backstitch in two strands		
Backstitch in one strand		
E3821 Light Effects		
E5200 Light Effects		
Attach beads with cotton		

(2) indicates more than one skein is required.



FILLED WITH JOY

Our trio of gift bags are perfect for Christmas Eve, and our bauble design can be used for any small present to make it extra-special...



CrossStitcher © Cheryl McKinnon

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
Cross stitch in two strands			
♥ ♥	355	1014	401
▲ ▲	470	267	1502
● ●	3787	273	1810
● ●	3847	1076	2057
◇ ◇	3849	1070	1202
△ △	ecru	387	ecru
Backstitch in one strand			
—	355	1014	401
—	3847	1076	2057
—	ecru	387	ecru

Designed by: Cheryl McKinnon

Stitch count: 50 high x 40 wide (each)

Design size: 8x6.5cm (3¼x2½in);

Stitch time: 6 hours (each)

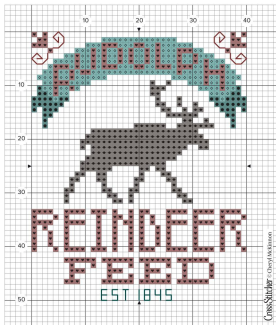
These designs were stitched on 32 count linen over two threads of fabric.

Materials

For each bag

- Zweigart Natural Silver 32 count Belfast linen, ref: 3609/17; 38x15cm (15x6in)
- Stranded cotton as listed in the key
- Size 24 tapestry needle
- Length of baker's twine

Materials available from www.willowfabrics.com



CrossStitcher © Cheryl McKinnon



Make a... mini sack

Step 1

FOLD your fabric in half lengthways, and place a pin 3cm (1in) up from the fold line at the bottom, on one side of the bag – this will be the bottom of your stitching.

Step 2

STITCH the design using two strands of stranded cotton for the cross stitch and one strand for the backstitch, working each stitch over two threads of fabric.

Step 3

COMPLETE the design, then fold the fabric again so that the right side is on the inside of the bag. Pin the two layers together. Fray the top edge on both sides of the bag by carefully pulling away the top two or three threads.

Step 4

STITCH down the two side seams with a 1.25cm (½in) seam allowance. Neaten the seams, then cut away some of the excess seam allowance before turning to the right side. Use a length of baker's twine to close the bag.

We suggest filling the reindeer feed sack with some porridge oats – taking care not to over fill!



SNOWDROPS & SEEDHEADS

Let the first signs of spring shine through, with our stunning lampshade design that's easy to make up

CrossStitcher PROJECT PACK

If you would like to stitch Snowdrops & Seedheads, we have a materials pack with everything you need to get you stitching right away, and have it delivered straight to your door!



Your materials pack contains:

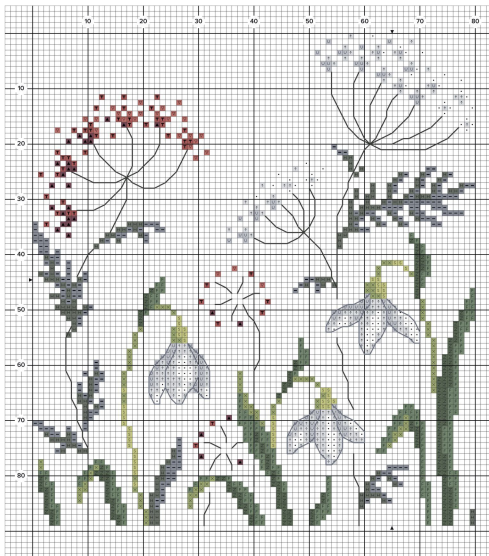
- Zweigart 28 count Cashel linen in Mystic Grey
- Skeins of DMC stranded cotton
- Two gold-plated tapestry needles; size 24 and size 26
- 15cm drum lampshade kit

How to order: Fill in the form on page 15 or go to www.willowfabrics.com to order your project pack at the CrossStitcher reader price of £34.90, or the lampshade kit only at £10.50, both plus P&P.



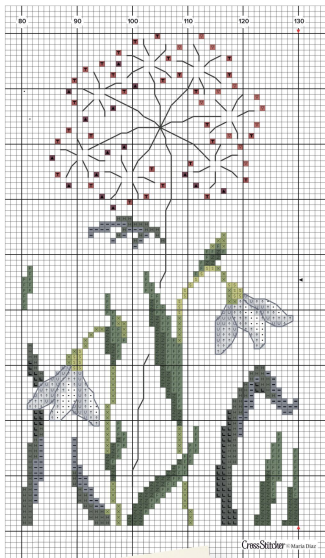


SNOWDROPS & SEEDHEADS



Designed by: Maria Diaz Stitch count: 90 high x 130 wide – one pattern repeat
 Design size: 16x23cm (6¼x9in) – one pattern repeat Stitch time: 26 hours – one pattern repeat

This design was stitched on 28 count linen over two threads of fabric.



CrossStitcher © Maria Diaz

Materials

- Zweigart Mystic Grey 28 count Cashel linen, ref. 3821/771, 25x55cm (10x21 1/2")
- Stranded cotton as listed in the key
- Size 26 tapestry needle
- 15cm drum lampshade kit

Materials available from www.willowfabrics.com

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
Cross stitch in two strands			
	356	338	402
	414	235	1801
	415	398	1803
	471	265	1501
	472	253	1414
	535	1041	1809
	645	273	1811
	762	234	1804
	3362	263	1601
	3363	261	1602
	3802	1019	810
	3830	5975	401
	B5200	001	white
Backstitch in one strand			
	414	235	1801
petal outlines			
	535	1041	1809
stems			

▼ This symbol shows the start and end of the pattern repeat

There's no need to do anything special to make the repeat pattern work – simply start the chart again from left to right once you finish the first repeat



Make a... lampshade

Step 1

MEASURE the height and circumference of your lampshade carefully before starting – this will give you the size that your stitching needs to be to cover the shade. For the 15cm shade you will need just over two pattern repeats to cover the shade. Your stitching should be the same size as your backing fabric, but because of the stretch in the fabric it may be slightly larger once stitched, meaning the pattern repeat may not match exactly at the back of the shade.

Step 2

PLACE the PVC self-adhesive panel on the wrong side of your stitching. Once you're happy with the placement, peel back the backing paper from the middle out and press down the panel, attaching it to the stitching. Check the panel – if you feel a crease, peel back and start again.

Step 3

TRIM away the unstitched fabric from around the panel. Snap back the creased edges on the long sides of the PVC panel to break on the pre-made cut, and then remove the PVC strips from both long edges. Apply double-sided tape to both the panel ends. Fold the fabric over onto the tape on one short side, and on the other, cut the fabric flush with the edge of the plastic, leaving the tape for securing the overlap.

Step 4

APPLY double-sided tape to the outside of the shade ring. Apply evenly, and then fold the tape around the wire. Repeat for the other ring. Place the two rings on the PVC covered fabric, top and bottom, and then roll together towards the other end of the fabric – you need to start at the end that is cut flush with the PVC panel. Make sure the rings are on the PVC and not the fabric. When you get to the end, let the neatened fabric edge overlap, and press together from the centre out – do not apply too much pressure or you will dent the lampshade. Place the lampshade on a firm surface and carefully apply pressure to the overlap, to hold the ends firmly together.

Step 5

SNIP the edge of the fabric in line with the struts on the ring. Pinch the fabric onto the sticky ring, and then using the tool supplied with the kit, and working on the inside, push the fabric behind the ring at the top and bottom on the lampshade.



Botanical Beauty

Give your Christmas thank you cards a wonderfully wintry look with our seasonal flora cards that are super-quick to stitch



Designed by: Maria Diaz

Max. stitch count: 54 high x 39 wide

Max. design size: 10x7cm (4x2¾in)

Stitch time: 4 hours each

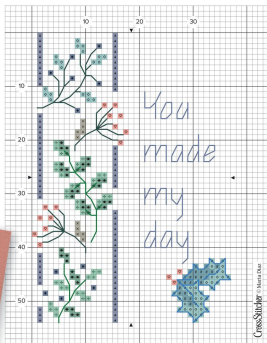
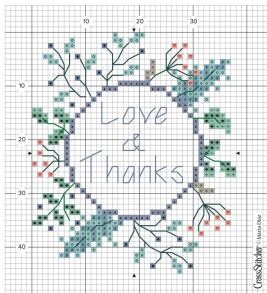
These designs were stitched on 14 count aida fabric.

DMC Anchor Madeira
Cross stitch in two strands

▲▲	161	176	906
◆◆	312	979	1005
♥♥	352	009	303
◆◆	562	210	1206
◆◆	563	208	1207
◆◆	598	1062	1111
××	3023	899	1902
■	3810	168	1108

Backstitch in one strand

—	161	176	906
words			
—	505	228	1301
foliage			
—	645	273	1811
stems			
—	3756	1037	886
outlines			





Make an... aperture card

Step 1

WORK using two strands of stranded cotton for the cross stitch, and one strand for the backstitch – as you will be stitching areas of isolated backstitch, take care not to track across the back of your fabric or you will create shadows when viewed from the front.

Step 2

TRIM the stitched fabric to fit your card, with the design centrally placed behind the card's aperture.

Step 3

ATTACH double-sided tape to the inside of the card around the edge of the aperture.

Step 4

PLACE the stitching on the table right-side up, and then place the card on top, pressing down firmly on the tape.

Step 5

CHECK which flap will fold onto the back of the stitching, then add strips of double-sided tape and press firmly down to secure.

Why not use seed beads for the berries to give your card a luxury finish?

Materials

For each card

- DMC White Iridescent 14 count aida; 15x12cm (6x4 3/4in)
- Stranded cotton as listed in the key
- Size 24 tapestry needle
- Card blank, with an 11x9cm (4x3 1/2in) rectangular aperture

Materials available from www.willowfabrics.com

Needles & Motions

Your stitching,
top tips, online
chat and more!

Pro Tip

Top designers share
their favourite
stitching tips

"Recycle wool to make stranded cotton"

"Embroidery threads can be quite expensive, so many times I use my knitting yarn and split the threads and save a lot of

money on that! Here I've stitched on dip dye hessian with my jeans yarn in 'Crazy' – a variegated yarn. Of course you can use any knitting yarn, but it has to be wool or cotton as acrylic breaks."



Anette Eriksson
www.anetteeriksson.com

FIRST PAST THE POST!



Val White was the first to send us a pic of her finished festive camper van design from issue 377 – she wins a selection of DMC stranded cotton skeins in 20 colours of her choice from Willow Fabrics. The first person to stitch and send us a pic of one of their finished makes from the calendar with this issue to crossstitcher@warnersgroup.co.uk will also win this great prize!



Just finished my nativity scene by Susan Bates from December 2020. So happy, can't wait to give it to my mum!
Carole Hauer, Grenoble, France



Just finished this brooch from issue 375. I've made it for my gran – I hope you'll do some more as they are great!
Annemarie Brunning, by email



Loved stitching this Halloween sampler from issue 375. I used glow-in-the-dark threads for the ghosts, moon and pumpkin faces.
Michelle Smith, Staffordshire

New recruit

Hello Susan and Martin, I wanted to send you my first ever cross-stitch project, which just happened to be your wonderful soldier boy card kit from issue 376. Your guide was so easy to follow and I'm pleased with the end result.

I'd love to be featured in the magazine and I look forward to starting the stitch-a-long!

Kind regards,

Leah Graham-Cave, by email



Must-stitch mission



Hi, I wanted to share this photograph of my finished 3D greenhouse project from issue 374. I stitched it for a family member's birthday. It was a new challenge for me as it was my first attempt at a 3D cross stitch design but I knew as soon as I saw the pattern that I had to give it a go!

Kind Regards,

Karen Gill, Cornwall

“OVER TO YOU...”

We asked our fans on Facebook, "What are your favourite thread shades to stitch with?"

MICHELLE SMITH I love bold and bright because it feels all colourful and happy when doing a piece of work.

JOSEY GRIMWOOD I love bright, bold colourful ones, they go so well with a nice black crisp outline.

JOANNA GU LEANNE HULSE I love bright and colourful threads, especially blues, as these are my favourite colours and are calming.

SHANNIE DILWORTH I love glow-in-the-dark threads! I love stitching with them and waiting until it's dark for a surprise!

DEBORAH JULIA WHITE I love variegated threads most of all. They're interesting to work with as they're always changing, and create some wonderful effects. I love finding new ways to use different colour combinations.

GRACE COLLIER I try to work Étoile in with my stitching... adds just the right amount of bling!

HELENE FLOKSTRA Love the variegated and glow-in-the-dark threads in combination with regular threads.

LEE ANN KOST I love them all, especially when they are combined to make such beautiful pictures.

SHARON IRELAND I love bright, clean colours, especially green. Red comes a close second. Of course, Christmas designs give me my fix, but green leaves are refreshing during the rest of the year.



"Like" our page on Facebook;
facebook.com/CrossStitcherMag
and join the conversation!



I finished the Salute The Season card from issue 376 over a week ago ready to send out for the Christmas season.

Malanie Wallwork, Greater Manchester



Hi, I have made two of the comparisons using my slash instead of waiting for the issue 377 kit. Hope you like the colour change. I am going to make them into Christmas cards for family members.

Sandra Perce, by email

Stay in touch...

crossstitcher@warnersgroup.co.uk



CrossStitcher, PO Box 172,
Northam, EX39 9DY



@XStitchmagazine



pinterest.com/xstitchmagazine



Delightful DISPLAY

Colourful crockery, nick-nacks, mementos and more... our delightful dresser is stacked high with curiosities on every shelf!

CrossStitcher PROJECT PACK

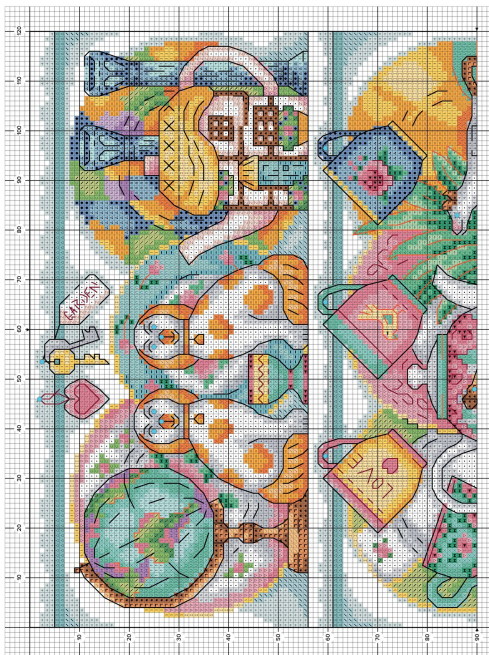
If you would like to stitch Delightful Display, we have a materials pack with everything you need to get you stitching right away, and have it delivered straight to your door!

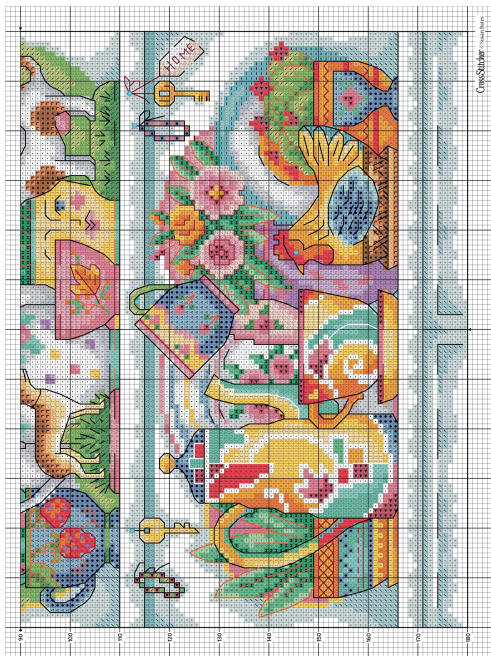


Your materials pack contains:

- Zweigart 14 count aida in Light Blue
- Skeins of DMC stranded cotton
- Two gold-plated tapestry needles; size 24 and size 26

How to order: Fill in the form on page 15 or go to www.willowfabrics.com to order your project pack at the CrossStitcher reader price of £44.90, plus P&P.







TURN TO
PAGE 55
TO LEARN
HOW TO FRAME
YOUR PICTURE

DMC	Anchor	Madeira	DMC	Anchor	Madeira		
Cross stitch in two strands			Cross stitch in two strands				
	013	206	1210		993	1070	1201
	016	254	1308		3325	129	1002
	151	023	607		3733	075	813
	209	109	803		3756	1037	886 (2)
	211	342	801		3766	167	111*
	415	398	1803		3811	1060	1101*
	598	1062	1111*		3826	365	2306
	606	335	209		3832	028	506
	702	239	1306		3855	311	2013
	704	256	1308		B5200	001	white
	726	305	109	Backstitch in one strand			
	740	316	202		310	403	black
	745	300	111	outlines, border			
	747	158	1104		319	218	1313
	762	234	1804	leaves			
	799	136	910		498	1005	511
	819	271	501	words			
	828	975	1101*		B5200	001	white
	911	205	1214	details			
	913	204	1212	French knots in one strand			
	964	1092	1112		310	403	black
	972	298	107	eyes, hooks			
	977	1002	2012		726	305	109
				details			

(2) Indicates more than one skein is required

(2) indicates more than one skein is required.

Designed by: Susan Bates
Stitch count: 180 high x 120 wide
Design size: 33x22.5cm (13x9in)
Stitch time: 102 hours

This design was stitched on 14 count aida fabric.

Use the park and
stitch method to help
you tackle the many
colour changes in
this design

Materials

- Zweigart Light Blue 14 count aida, ref: 3706/503; 55x50cm (21½x19½in)
- Stranded cotton as listed in the key
- Size 24 tapestry needle
- Frame with a 38x29cm (15x11½in) aperture
- Mount board to fit frame

Materials available from www.willowfabrics.com

*See 'The Key' on page 80.

Letter LIBRARY

DALA HORSES

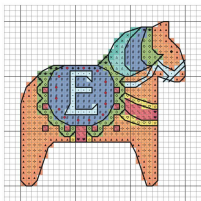
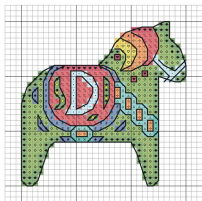
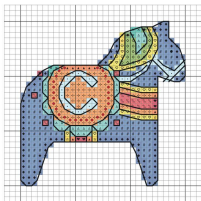
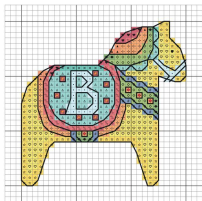
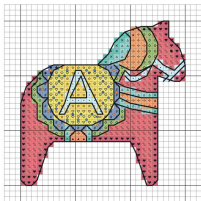
For traditional Swedish style, look no further than our colourful Dala horse letters and numbers...

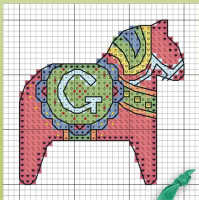
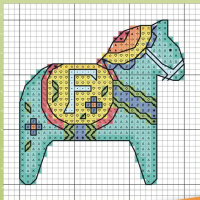


Each month we publish a new letter and number set based on a theme, designed for you to cut out and keep for when you need it

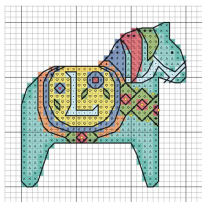
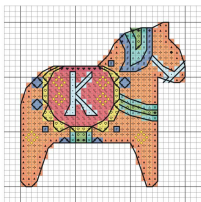
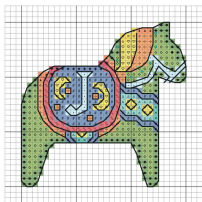
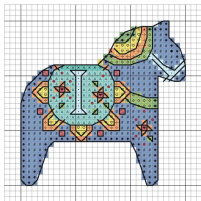
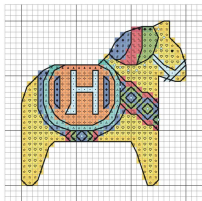
The Dala horse originated in Sweden as a simple carved toy horse that became more elaborately decorated over time. It's now become a traditional symbol of Dalarna, where it was first created, and of Sweden in general. Our colourful Dala horses make a joyful way to spell out names, sentiments and more – perfect for your new year stitching.

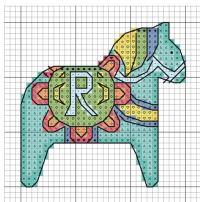
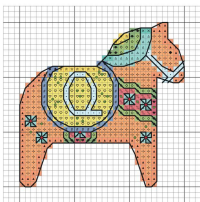
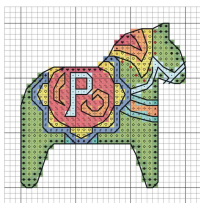
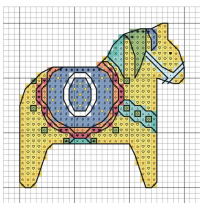
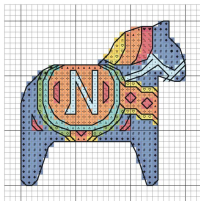
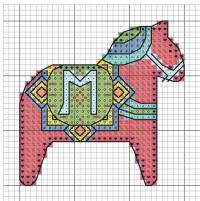
Designed by: Fiona Crouch

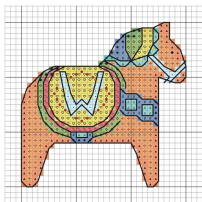
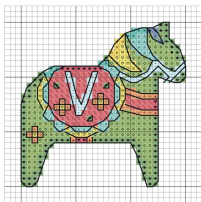
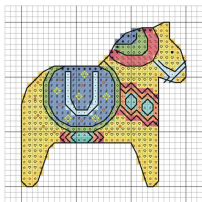
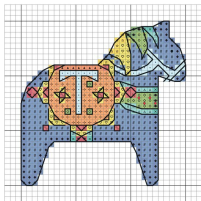
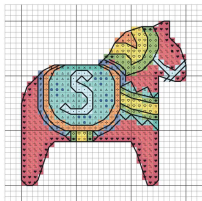




Our Dala horse alphabet letters were mounted in a card, hoop and a wrapped hoop. Each was stitched on 14 count white aida, and each letter is approximately 30 high x 30 wide. The design size for each letter is approximately 6x6cm (2½x2½in), and it took our stitcher three hours to stitch each one.







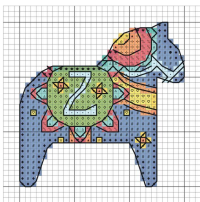
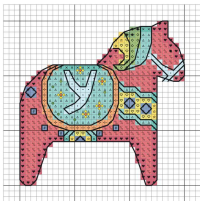
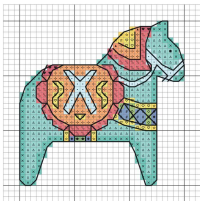
More to make...

Mix and match your letters to create a colourful range of designs. Try these ideas to get you started...

1 Stitch on plastic canvas and back with felt and a brooch pin to make a personalised badge for a friend as a special gift.

2 Stitch several horses in rows, spelling out a sentiment, on aida – enough to form a square of horses, and back and stuff to make a mini cushion.

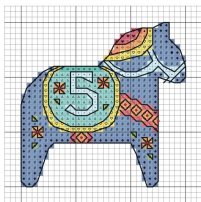
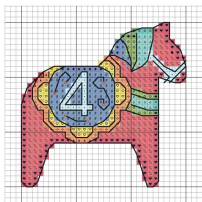
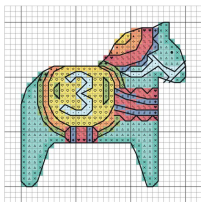
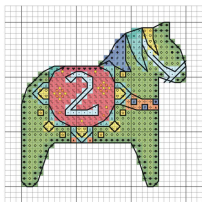
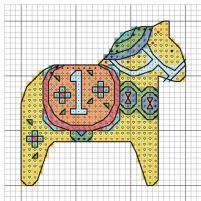
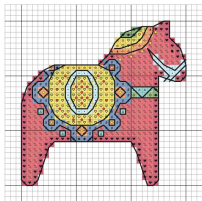
3 Create personalised napkin holders for special occasions, with the person's initial and horse stitched onto a band of aida.

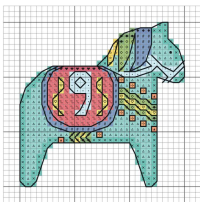
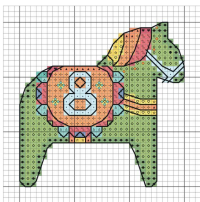
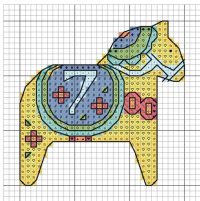
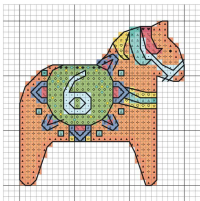


These horses are perfect for using up any spare bright thread shades you have in your stash!

The horse shape makes it ideal for stitching on plastic aida to make a badge or brooch that can be easily cut out

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
Cross stitch in two strands			
♥ ♥	307	289	104
♥ ♥	666	046	210
▲ ▲	740	316	202
✦ ✦	741	304	201
◆ ◆	798	131	911
■ ■	799	136	910
◆ ◆	906	256	1411
◇ ◇	907	255	1410
✕ ✕	959	186	1113
△ △	964	1092	1112
☆ ☆	973	290	105
% %	3801	1098	411
• •	B5200	001	white
Backstitch in one strand			
—	310	403	black
outlines			
French knots in one strand			
○	various		
eyes & decoration – choose colours to complement your design			





CrossStitcher © Fiona Crouch

Don't forget to cut out and keep your alphabet on file so you can build up a collection!

NEXT MONTH...

Pop the kettle on – as coming up in our February issue, we have a delicious Teatime Alphabet designed by Fiona Crouch. Get to the shops on 29 December to pick up your copy of issue 379, or subscribe and the issue will be delivered to your door. Head over to page 50 for details of our latest subscription offer.



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BAM, IT'S CHRISTMAS



BAM, IT'S CHRISTMAS!

Make your Christmas go with a bang with our bold, bright pop-art inspired poster that's sure to raise a smile!

CrossStitcher PROJECT PACK

If you would like to stitch BAM, it's Christmas, we have a materials pack with everything you need to get you stitching right away, and have it delivered straight to your door!



Your materials pack contains:

- Sampedro 14 count aida in White
- Skeins of DMC stranded cotton
- Two gold-plated tapestry needles; size 24 and size 26

How to order: Fill in the form on page 15 or go to www.willowfabrics.com to order your project pack at the CrossStitcher reader price of £13.90, plus P&P.



Designed by: Emma Congdon
 Stitch count: 120 high x 90 wide
 Design size: 22x17.5cm (9x6 7/8in)
 Stitch time: 33 hours

This design was stitched on 14 count aida fabric.

Try not to carry black thread too far across the back of your work when stitching the words, as it may show through

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
Cross stitch in two strands			
● ●	310	403	black
▲ ▲	353	006	303
♥ ♥	498	1005	511
♦ ♦	666	046	210
◇ ◇	833	907	2203
▲ ▲	958	187	1114
☆ ☆	973	290	105
■ ■	995	410	1102



Materials

- Sampeiro White 14 count aida; 40x36cm (16x14in)
- Stranded cotton as listed in the key
- Size 24 tapestry needle
- Frame with a 23x19cm (9x9 1/2in) aperture
- Mount board to fit frame

Materials available from www.willowfabrics.com

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.



Pennies from Heaven

Looking for a quick gift idea? Our money's on this pretty paisley purse that can be completed in just a few evenings...

Make a... purse

Step 1

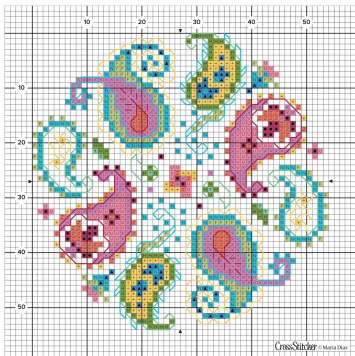
CUT your fabric using the template provided with your purse kit, or follow the instructions for making a template. Some kits have a gusset and others just the front and backs. The photo shows the shape of the purse kit we have used and how the design fits below the clasp. Adjust your fabric size accordingly.

Step 2

STITCH the design using two strands for the cross stitch and one for the backstitch.

Step 3

ASSEMBLE your purse following the instructions given with the kit. You will need to cut a backing and two lining pieces using the same template as for the front of the purse. Once the purse front and the backing are joined and turned to the right side, the lining pieces can also be joined before being inserted into the purse. Finally, attach the clasp to the top edges of the assembled purse.



The bag clasp we used and other clasp styles are available to order from www.willowfabrics.com

Designed by: Maria Diaz Stitch count: 54 high x 54 wide
Design size: 9.5x9.5cm (3 7/8x3 3/8in) Stitch time: 10 hours

This design was stitched on 28 count linen over two threads of fabric.

Materials

- Zweigart Petrol Blue 28 count Cashel Linen, ref: 3281/5153; 20x20cm (8x8in)
 - Backing fabric; 20x20cm (8x8in)
 - Stranded cotton as listed in the key
 - Size 26 tapestry needle
 - Lining fabric for purse; 20x20cm (8x8in) x 2 pieces
 - Hemline Rose Gold 125mm purse clasp
- Materials available from www.willowfabrics.com

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
Cross stitch in two strands			
	016	254	1308
	309	039	507
	726	305	109
	906	256	1411
	954	203	1211
	957	031	612
	995	410	1102
	3340	329	301
	3608	060	709

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
Cross stitch in two strands			
	3846	433	1103
Backstitch in one strand			
	309	039	507
borders, patterns			
	726	305	109
borders, patterns			
	954	203	1211
borders, patterns			
	3846	433	1103
borders, patterns			

FULLY BOOKED!

Whatever your mood, whatever your interests, there's a cross stitch book out there with designs you'll be itching to stitch. We've rounded up some of our favourite stitching titles – many of which would make great gift ideas!



For when small is beautiful...

MEGA MINI CROSS STITCH

MAKOTO OOZU [Pavilion]

Got no time for larger designs? Just love mini motifs? Japanese cross stitch guru Makoto Oozu is here to help with hundreds of tiny motifs you can use to customise anything and everything, from T-shirts to bags. To help you decide which you'd like to stitch first, the book is arranged by themes that cover everyday life so you can visit the toyshop packed with teddies, dinosaurs, cars, trains and computer games, try on some new styles with sunglasses, watches, socks, jewellery and make-up and make some new animal pals with dogs, cats, birds and fish. All this and much more! Plus, there are step-by-step instructions for beginners, as well as tips for stitching onto different fabrics.

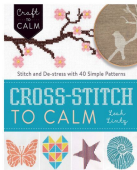


For when you want to stab something!

REALLY CROSS STITCH

RAYNA FAHEY [Herbert Press]

If you're feeling frustrated and just want to stab a sharp object into something, this is the book for you! Inspired by the banners and signs at marches around the world, *Really Cross Stitch* takes all that anger, outrage and protest and puts it inside a pretty, decorative border. Yes, it's time to create some snarky remarks in stitches! Packed with 40 original designs as well as instructions for beginners, you can put your needle to work making art inspired by public protests of the past. Just as feminists have often used needlework in their demonstrations, now a whole new generation of crafters are realising that cross stitch can be revolutionary!

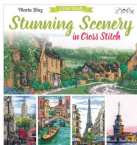


For when you want to take a trip...

STUNNING SCENERY IN CROSS STITCH

MARIA DIAZ [Tuva Publishing]

Travelling during a pandemic is certainly not always easy, so while we wait for the world to return to a more normal state, here's a great way to see the sights without leaving the comfort of your sofa. In this book Maria Diaz has compiled a selection of scenes from around the world – some more well-known than others – to give you a flavour of faraway places, captured beautifully in cross stitch. From the British countryside to the streets of Paris and London and many more stunning destinations, it will give hours of enjoyment as you bring them to life in stitches.



For when you want to be mindful...

CROSS STITCH TO CALM

LEAH LINTZ [Interweave]

Mindfulness and cross stitch go hand-in-hand – there's something so calming about taking some time out with your stitching and concentrating solely on needle and thread. Here designer Leah Lintz helps you to take your cross stitch to an even more tranquil level, with patterns that have been specially designed to be stress-free to stitch, with few colour changes and simple, bold designs. If you're looking for a good way to find some 'me time' over the winter holiday season, take a leaf from Leah's book!

For when you care about the planet...

CROSS STITCH FOR THE EARTH

EMMA CONGDON [David & Charles]
Climate change, pollution and threats to the natural world are becoming increasingly urgent issues. Leading cross stitch designer Emma Congdon (who regularly designs for CrossStitcher) showcases 20 exclusive designs, from mini hoops to larger samplers, which tap into the collective hope for a greener future. Some of the sentiments you can stitch include, 'Pardon the weeds, we're feeding the bees', 'Take care of the Earth and she will take care of you' and 'Live gently on the Earth'. There's a stitch guide for beginners and this title is printed on FSC paper, is recyclable, plus every purchase includes a donation to Friends of the Earth.



For when you want to keep things fresh...

MODERN CROSS STITCH

HANNAH STURROCK [CICO Books]
Hannah is well-known in the stitching world for her Bobo Stitch brand. Here she shares over 30 beautiful modern patterns, each included in the following chapters: For a Beautiful Baby; For Big Kids; For a Special Occasion; For a Nature Lover; and For the Home. The designs range from a comic-book style cross-stitched mobile phone case to a Christmas toy sack and Hannah encourages you to make use of other materials, such as waste canvas and glow-in-the-dark embroidery thread. With simple, clean outlines and fresh colours, Hannah's designs will give your home and gifts a gorgeous contemporary look.



For when you love vintage style...

RETRO CHRISTMAS CROSS STITCH

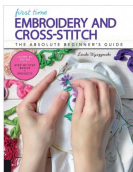
LEE FISHER [Leisure Arts]
Happy Holidays! Whether you're wanting to whip up a few last-minute Christmas gifts for 2021 or try some New Year projects, or have already set your sights on which festive items you'd like to tackle for December 2022, there's plenty of options to enjoy here. Retro style is the order of the day, as all these designs have been created by Lee Fisher to have a vintage feel, with inspiration taken from the 1950s and '60s. There are nine patterns you can use for a variety of festive projects, including a Merry Christmas Ornament Banner, Home Sweet Home Gingerbread House, Happy New Year, and Eat, Drink, and Be Merry!



For when you want to teach kids...

STITCHING WITH JANE FOSTER: EASY PRESS-OUT PATTERNS TO CROSS-STITCH AND SEW

JANE FOSTER [Walter Foster Jr]
Once you've caught the stitching bug, a real joy can be found in handing down your interest to the next generation. Jane Foster, who is renowned for her bold and bright illustrations, has put together 37 quick and easy cross-stitch sewing cards with punched holes. They are included in this book, with instructions on how kids can create their own patterns or mix up their thread colours. This will get kids familiar with basic stitches such as straight stitch, cross stitch, backstitch and more, so kids can have fun without even realising they're learning a new skill.



For when you're a beginner...

FIRST TIME EMBROIDERY AND CROSS-STITCH

LINDA WYSZYNSKI (Quarto)
If you're a total stitching newbie, this book can help get you started. Expert stitcher Linda Wyszynski guides you through all the cross stitch and embroidery techniques you need to know. She starts off with covering all the basic materials you'll need for the

various methods featured, then gives you a series of step-by-step tutorials for classic embroidery, crewel, silk ribbon embroidery, bead embroidery, cross stitch and more, with some homestyle and fashion projects to tackle along the way.



For when you want to make it personal...

DO-IT-YOURSELF STITCH PEOPLE

ELIZABETH DABCZYNSKI-BEAN (Beanski LLC)

Now in its 2nd edition, *Do-It-Yourself Stitch People*, is the ultimate bible for those of you wanting to create custom family portraits. Based on research undertaken with thousands of stitchers, the second edition features a whole host of interchangeable motifs, hair styles, uniforms, pets and much, much more! Elizabeth Dabczynski-Bean will take you through every aspect of how to design, prepare, stitch and frame your very own, personalised cross-stitch family portraits to give away as gifts for weddings, anniversaries, birthdays and other occasions, while sharing all the tips and tricks she knows to get great results every time.

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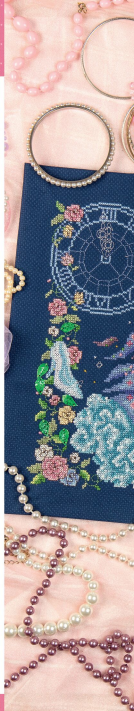
CREATE A CLASSIC:

Cinderella

Our three-part Cinderella design concludes this month.
Stitch with beads, sequins and metallics to bring our scene to life



Welcome to the final part of our latest three-part project – a companion piece to our Cinderella scene from last Christmas. This month you'll be focussing on the right-hand section of the design. There are plenty of luxury touches to this special design, and as you can see from the finished scene opposite, they all combine to create a gorgeous shimmering, embellished result.

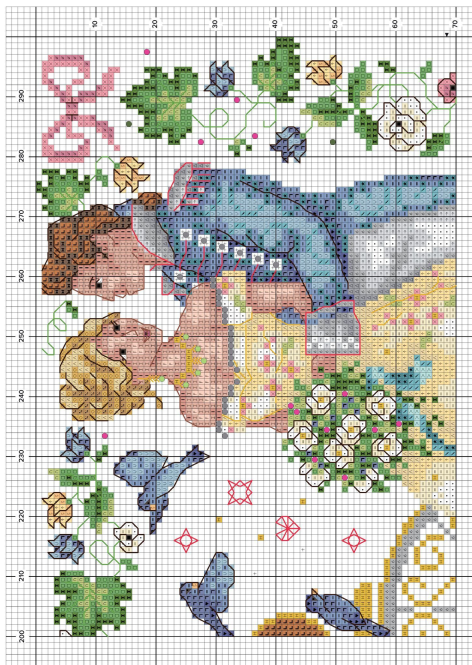


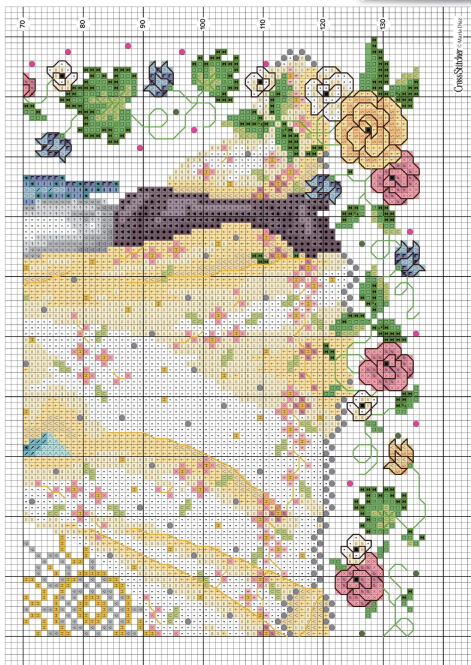
CREATE A CLASSIC

PART 3



You can frame
your finished design
or why not make a
wall hanging?





CrossStitcher © Maria Dine

YOUR FINISHED CINDERELLA SCENE



This issue we've given you the final, right-hand section of this three-part design. If you missed our last issues, which contained part 1 (issue 376) and part 2 (issue 377), simply visit www.hobbles-and-crafts.co.uk to order a back issue, or pocketmags.com to buy a digital issue.

Designed by: Maria Diaz
Stitch count: 137 high x 300 wide
(complete design - 3 parts)
Design size: 25.5x55cm (10x21½in)
Stitch time: 140 hours

This design was stitched on 14 count aida fabric.

For a longer project
such as this we
recommend using
a roller frame

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
Cross stitch in two strands			
	002	398	1803
	003	399	1802
	016	254	1308
	435	1046	2010
	677	886	2207
	703	238	1307 (2)
	729	890	2209
	745	300	111
	746	275	101
	747	158	1104
	758	868	403
	762	234	1804
	792	177	905
	793	939	906
	794	117	907
	800	159	908
	838	1088	1914 (3)
	905	257	1412
	948	1011	306
	950	4146	2309
	963	023	608
	976	1001	2302
	3041	871	806
	3042	870	807
	3052	262	1509

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
Cross stitch in two strands			
	3053	858	1510
	3687	076	604
	3688	066	605
	3716	025	606
	3740	873	2614
	3766	167	1111
	3810	168	1108
	3821	305	2510
	3854	313	2301
	3855	311	2013
	3862	358	1913
	B5200	001	white (2)
	E3852	Light Effects (3)	
	E5200	Light Effects	
Backstitch in one strand			
	703	238	1307
			foliage, dress detail
	793	939	906
			clock, slipper
	838	1088	1914
			outlines
	3688	066	605
			mouse balls
	3772	1007	2311
			fish outlines
	E3852	Light Effects	
			decoration

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
Backstitch in one strand			
	E5200	Light Effects	
			clock hands, decoration
French knots in one strand			
	838	1088	1914
			mouse eye
	3688	066	605
			mouse nose
Attach beads & sequins with cotton			
	Mill Hill	167	
			decoration
	Mill Hill	479	
			skirt, decoration
	Mill Hill	2005	
			shoulders, bust, decoration
	green leaves		
			decoration

(2) indicates more than one skein is required.

Materials

- Zweigart Navy 14 count aida, ref: 3706/589; 55x85cm (21½x33½in)
 - Stranded cotton as listed in the key
 - DMC Light Effects as listed in the key
 - Mill Hill beads as listed in the key
 - Green leaf sequins
 - Size 24 tapestry needle
- Materials available from www.welllowfabrics.com

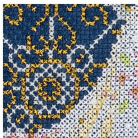
HOW TO... TAKE YOUR STITCHING TO THE NEXT LEVEL

We have included some more advanced stitching techniques in this project to help you to develop your stitching skills, ready for your next challenge...



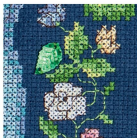
BEADS FOR A 3D EFFECT:

Beadstitch can offer a realistic way to embellish areas such as clothing and shoes – and a cluster of pretty seed beads add gorgeous texture to Cinderella's bouquet here.



METALLICS FOR SPARKLE:

Use Light Effects threads in this design for a sparkling touch – you can see them really stand out against the dark blue background in this section in the gold ornate carriage wheels.



SEQUINS FOR TEXTURE

You'll find a lot of texture in this design, including the unique green leaf sequins you'll find throughout the design, which really help to pull all the elements together.

We have given you the complete key and thread count for working the whole Cinderella project – this will allow you to buy your threads together

Key correction

PLEASE note the key for Cinderella in issue 376 November had an incorrect stranded cotton number – the large black dot on the dark violet background in the key should be DMC 3740 not 740. Apologies for any confusion caused – the key is correct going forward.

Stitching your... Cinderella scene

Step 1

START with your fabric turned landscape. Part one of the design, in issue 376, is stitched 12cm (5in) in from the left side of your fabric, if you buy the recommended amount of fabric listed opposite. Part two of the design, which was in issue 377 December, should be stitched to the right of part one. The final part, in this issue, should be stitched to the right of part two.

Step 2

USE two strands of stranded cotton for the cross stitch and one strand for the backstitch and French knots. Finally add the beads and the green leaf sequins.

CrossStitcher PROJECT PACK

If you would like to stitch the complete Cinderella scene, we have a materials pack with everything you need to get you stitching right away, and have it delivered straight to your door!



Your materials pack contains:

- Zweigart 14 count aida in Navy • Skeins of DMC stranded cotton • Skeins of DMC Light Effects
- Mill Hill beads • Green leaf sequins
- Two gold-plated tapestry needles; size 24 and size 26

How to order: Fill in the form on page 15 or go to www.willowfabrics.com to order your project pack at the CrossStitcher reader price of £69, plus P&P.

In My Hoop...

Sharon Brown had years of stitching experience behind her before she took the plunge to start running her own cross stitch classes – which have proved to be a roaring success!

Like so many of our readers, Sharon Brown has been stitching for a very long time – in her case, since 1990! She came across a book on cross stitch and was instantly hooked.

"To say I am an addict is an understatement!" Sharon exclaims. "I stitch as often as I can. I look forward to settling down on the couch in the evenings with my cross stitch and watching some true crime series." Based in South Africa, Sharon finds the stitching scene there is thriving, but supplies are always an issue. "We do not have the luxury of having lots of lovely needlework stores so purchasing online from South African suppliers is our best and only option available. We do have a Stash Unload group where stitchers sell items from their stash, so this is another opportunity to get some great bargains at good prices."

"I felt inspired to spread my love of cross stitch to as many people as possible"

FRIENDS NEAR AND FAR

With Sharon's love of stitching, it seems almost inevitable she would want to run a class one day. "I love the fact that it brings people together. I have made many stitchy friends over the years which has been great. It's so exciting spending time with other people who enjoy cross stitching."

These online friendships created the spark of an idea. "I often post photos of my finishes on my Facebook page and a friend of mine suggested that I run cross stitch classes. Over time the idea started to take shape in my head. I am extremely passionate about cross stitch and felt inspired to spread my love of it to as many people as possible. I took the plunge and contacted a local craft store who has a coffee shop and asked if I could host my classes there on a Saturday morning. The owner was thrilled to have the classes at their store and the rest is history."

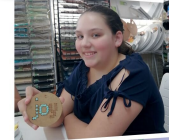
Sharon's first class started in March 2021 and was a huge success. "I hold the classes each Saturday morning and my youngest attendee who is 12 years old, attends the class with her mum. We have many history and geography lessons, as cross stitch has a long history and is popular in many countries. The lesson on Blackwork was the most memorable as we explored Henry 8th and Catherine of Aragon."

BETTER TOGETHER

"I always tell people that my Saturday mornings are my weekly therapy. I love meeting and engaging with people and sharing new information and tips. I have made so many new friends and everyone goes out of their way to help each other with all sorts of things. The best feedback I received was from Kayla, our youngest member, who told me that Saturdays are the highlight of her week, and she really looks forward to them. The cross stitch classes are a great way of dealing with the challenges of COVID as people often feel very isolated and alone. The classes bring people together and make people feel special and valued."

SHARON'S TOP 5 TIPS FOR RUNNING A STITCHING CLASS

1. Always prepare your lessons well in advance. The week goes by so quickly, and before you know it, Saturday is here.
2. Be approachable and engaging with everyone in the class.
3. Be reliable – if you start a class, ensure you're committed and follow it through.
4. A group of stitching ladies can become quite rowdy so whenever you begin your lesson, be prepared to have lot of chatter!
5. Advertise your classes on platforms in different areas to grow your following.



"I started with five ladies, and the classes have grown to eight ladies."

"I normally have a Saturday in the month where we don't have a lesson, but still get together to chat and stitch."

Do you have a stitching story to share? Drop us a line at crossstitcher@warnersgroup.co.uk or write to the postal address on page 5 and you and your projects could feature here!

MERRY ME TIME

We whisk you a Merry Christmas! Time to enjoy Christmas cake making and a well deserved break in front of your fave festive films...





Designed by: Emma Congdon
 Stitch count: 121 high x 93 wide
 Design size: 23.5x17.5cm (9¼x6¾in)
 Stitch time: 16 hours

This design was stitched on 14 count aida fabric.

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
Cross stitch in two strands			
	310	403	black
	603	052	701
	604	055	614
	606	335	209
	702	239	1306
	995	410	1102
Backstitch in one strand			
	310	403	black
wings			
	604	055	614
shadowers			

Make a... hanger

Step 1

TURN the sides of your stitched aida over onto the wrong side of the fabric, leaving 2cm (¾in) between the design and the fabric edge. Repeat for the other side. Press in place.

Step 2

TURN over the bottom of your fabric, leaving 2.5cm (1in) of unstitched fabric at the front. Turn the top of the fabric over, leaving 2.5cm (1in) of unstitched fabric showing at the front, but making sure there is enough fabric to make a channel for the dowel to go through at the back. Press in place.

Step 3

LEAVE enough seam allowance to secure the fabric at the back, then cut away the excess. Catch stitch the fabric edges to the back of the stitching, making sure they do not show on the front. Slip the dowel through the channel in the fabric to make sure it fits.

Step 4

PLACE the felt over the back of the stitching. You may need to cut it down in size slightly so that it cannot be seen from the front. Catch stitch the felt to the back of the stitching. Tie the baker's twine to the dowel to hang.



Materials

- DMC White Iridescent 14 count aida; 38x36cm (15x14in)
- Stranded cotton as listed in the key
- Size 24 tapestry needle
- Wooden dowel; 1cm (¾in) diameter
- Felt for backing; 25x20cm (10x8in)
- Baker's twine to hang

Materials available from www.willowfabrics.com

You can buy the Christmas light trim we used from www.willowfabrics.com

CrossStitcher PROJECT PACK

If you would like to stitch Merry Me Time, we have a materials pack with everything you need to get you stitching right away, and have it delivered straight to your door!



Your materials pack contains:

- Sampedro 14 count aida in White
- Skeins of DMC stranded cotton
- Two gold-plated tapestry needles; size 24 and size 26

How to order: Fill in the form on page 15 or go to www.willowfabrics.com to order your project pack at the CrossStitcher reader price of £11.50, plus P&P.

Ready, steady, stitch!

We've challenged three designers to come up with some super-quick to stitch Christmas tree decorations to be worked on punched card tree shapes

Welcome to this month's designer challenge! With Christmas Day nearly here we wanted to set a challenge for decorations that could be made at the last minute. So we asked three designers to come up with a festive design for a ready-to-stitch card tree shape, just using six shades of stranded cotton with some gold metallic for sparkle. Read on to see their amazing results, which might just give you some ideas for your own quick decs! If you'd like to take on an upcoming challenge, turn to page 75 for details of the challenge for our March issue!

THE CHALLENGE

- Punched card tree shape
- Six shades of stranded cotton (shown above)
- Gold metallic thread

THE RULES

- Create a Christmas tree from a punched card shape
- The design should be no larger than 22 x 15 stitches
- Only the materials above can be used
- Be creative as possible!

FIONA CROUCH... HOLLY TREE



"I wanted to go for something pretty, and have the soft pink as the dominant colour, to match some of the modern decoration colour schemes that have become popular. I then used a holly motif for a more traditional feel."



CHERYL MCKINNON... GEOMETRIC JOY



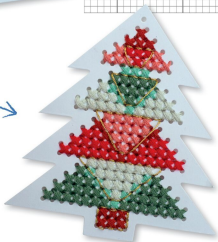
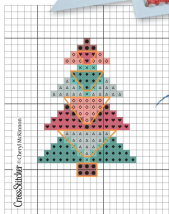
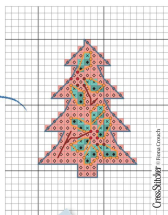
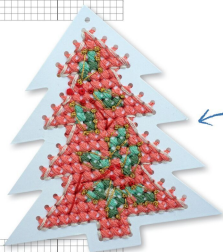
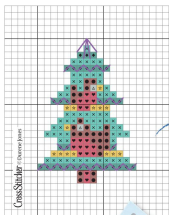
"This is such a cute, tiny space. I wanted to keep the design quite clean-looking, so I've done a modern geometric design filled with colourful triangles in complementary shades. This quick stitch could be a gift tag or an ornament!"

DURENE JONES... ROCKIN' ROBINS



"The main thing that decided what I was going to do with this design was the overall size, I was quite surprised at how small it was when I counted the stitches up, that and the very distinct tree outline, so I decided to work with that and charted some tiny little robins to sit in a tree that was decorated with gold ready for Christmas."





	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
--	-----	--------	---------

Cross stitch in six strands

	352	009	303
	666	046	210
	919	340	313
	928	274	1709
	959	186	1113
	3814	1074	1203
	E3852	Light Effects	

Backstitch in four strands

	928	274	1709
	outlines		
	E3852	Light Effects	
	outlines, details		

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
--	-----	--------	---------

Backstitch in two strands

	919	340	313
	details		

	E3852	Light Effects	
	outlines, details		

French knots in two strands

	666	046	210
	details		

	919	340	313
	details		

	E3852	Light Effects	
	details		

Stitching... your tree decoration

STITCH the design onto the card tree shape, using six strands of stranded cotton for the cross stitch and two and four strands for the backstitch. The French knots are worked using two strands. Make sure the thread ends are well secured at the back of the design by weaving the thread ends through the stitches. It may help to keep them secure and to neaten the back by cutting out another tree from white card and then gluing it on the back using fabric glue. Thread baker's twine or cord through the hole at the top to hang or attach to a parcel.

The materials our designers were given for this challenge are all available from www.willowfabrics.com

SEE YOUR WORK HERE!

If you would like to take the challenge, post your stitching on our Facebook page and we will then pin it on our Stitching Challenge board on Pinterest... so get designing!

March issue 380 challenge:

Please create a design to fit the Sierra fridge magnet as available from www.willowfabrics.com. The theme is gardening, so please include a short phrase and a garden scene.

Materials and rules:

- White 14 count aids
- Max. stitch count: 50 x 25 stitches
- Clear magnet case
- Seven shades of DMC stranded cotton: Pale Green (955), Medium Nile Green (913), Light Sky Blue (376), Cyclamen Pink (3805), Dark Lavender (209), Ultra Very Light Shell Pink (225) & Dark Steel Grey (545)

Please make sure the design is your own work, and not taken from another source.



Stitcher's SPOTLIGHT

Susan Penny shows you how to make a sparkly snowman for your Christmas Tree...

Some of you may be lucky enough to have a white Christmas every year, but for us, it's been quite a few years since we built a snowman at Christmas. So let's make a cute snowman tree decoration for our Christmas tree! He can be a reminder of those fun-filled snowy Christmases as a child – the anticipation of waiting for Santa to arrive – decorating the tree with sparkly lights – and of course building a giant snowman with a carrot nose, and your dad's old gardening hat and scarf to keep him warm!

SPOTLIGHT ON...
TREE DECORATIONS



In issue 324, November 2017, of *CrossStitcher* I designed a Santa to hang on your tree. His checked jacket with holly buttons, rosy cheeks and big beard and mustache, make him a colourful addition to your Christmas decorations. If you missed issue 324, you can simply visit www.hobbysandcrafts.co.uk to order a back issue or head to pocketmag.com to order a digital issue.



In issue 338, December 2019, of *CrossStitcher*, Mrs Santa joined Mr Santa to hang on your tree. Also dressed in bright colours, to match Santa's outfit, she is the quintessential Mrs Christmas! If you missed Mrs Santa, use the links above to order.

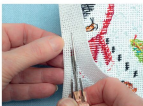
Make a... snowman decoration

Step 1



FOLLOW the chart and key to stitch your snowman – try to stitch the individual blocks of snowflakes on him without trailing the thread across the back of the fabric. Start using the loop method, as this saves weaving the thread ends into the back of the each snowflake later.

Step 2

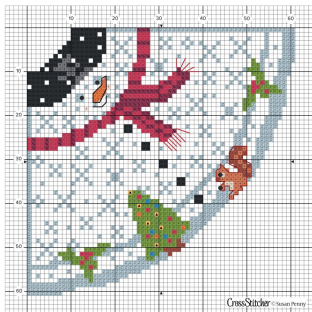


COMPLETE the stitching, then roll the aid into a cone shape. Leave one square of blank fabric either side of the outer pale blue stitched rows at the back. Fold excess fabric to the wrong side of the stitching and trim, leaving four blank aid squares on the reverse side.

Step 3



CUT away excess fabric carefully from the bottom of the snowman, leaving 6mm (1/4in) of unstitched fabric below the design. Fold this inside the cone, then finger press to get a neat edge on the curve. Work slowly along the seam to get the fold right on the edge of the stitching.



We used DMC White Iridescent 14 count fabric, red cotton fabric and black felt for the snowman, all available from www.willowfabrics.com

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
Cross stitch in two strands			
	310	403	black
	317	400	1714
	498	1005	511
	666	046	210
	743	298	2294
	775	1031	1001
	819	271	501
	906	256	1411
	920	1004	312
	922	1003	310
	970	316	204
	995	410	1102
	ecru	387	ecru
Backstitch in one strand			
	310	403	black
	666	046	210
	919	340	313
			squirrel
French knots in one strand			
	310	403	black
			eyes

Step 4



USE white sewing thread to sew up the cone. Hide the knot in the seam allowance and make a stitch on one side of the fabric, parallel to the edge. Repeat with the fabric's other side. Continue forming ladder stitches. Pull the thread to close the stitches and hide the seam.

Step 5



USE black cord for the hanger. Tie the ends in a knot, then stitch to the inside of the hat. Cut a small circle of felt to fit the top of the hat. Make a hole then push the folded cord through. Stitch in place. Cut a larger circle for the brim, cut a hole and slip over the snowman's hat. Sew in place.

Step 6



STUFF with toy stuffing or cotton wool. Cut a 7cm (2 3/4in) circle from fabric. Place the circle at the cone's base to check the fit, you may have to cut the circle slightly smaller to fit the base. Oversew or blanket stitch neatly around the bottom edge to attach the aida to the fabric.

CrossStitcher JUST FOR FUN

Prize crossword

Across

- 1 Second planet from the Sun (5)
- 4 Top prize (7)
- 8 Religious woman (3)
- 9 Counted-thread embroidery (9)
- 10 Hire (5)
- 12 Meeting (7)
- 15 Mammal related to the llama (6)
- 17 Evaluate (6)
- 20 Domestic help (7)
- 23 Fabric with a low stitch count (5)
- 25 Ape, native to Borneo (9)
- 26 Hair product (3)
- 27 Nasal cavity (7)
- 28 Group of eight musicians (5)

Down

- Popular ice cream flavour (7)
- 2 Japanese martial arts expert (5)
- 3 Type of fencing sword (5)
- 4 Denim trousers (5)
- 5 Baked goods (5)
- 6 Oath (7)
- 7 Voucher (5)
- 11 Health resort (3)
- 13 Test (4)
- 14 Continuous strand of twisted threads (4)
- 16 Maybe (7)
- 18 Slide on snow (3)
- 19 Small onion (7)
- 20 Eating utensil (5)
- 21 Wrath (5)
- 22 All parts together (5)
- 23 Stringed instrument with a long neck and round body (5)
- 24 Silent ..., Christmas carol (5)

Winning word clue:
New Year's Eve
is the perfect
occasion to crack
this bottle? (9)



HOW TO ENTER

COMPLETE the crossword and rearrange the letters in the shaded boxes to make up a winning word. Write your winning word and "Crossword 378" on the back of a postcard or stuck-down envelope, adding your name, address and email address and post it to: CrossStitcher, PO Box 172, Northam, EX39 8DY

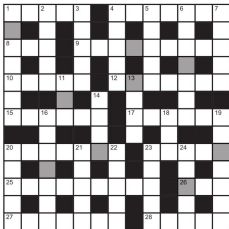
Competition coen:

30 November – 28 December 2021

For full terms and conditions, see page 82.

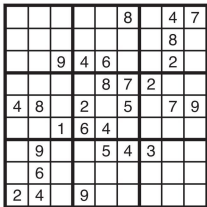


YOUR PRIZE Our winner will receive 'Celebration', new to the Karen Carter Collection at Heritage Crafts, which can be easily personalised for a birthday or anniversary. With a design size of 19.5x20cm, the kit contains Zweigart fabric, DMC stranded cottons sorted onto numbered cards, a needle, clear charts and instructions. Order for RRP: £27.56 from hccrafts.com.



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.



Issue 376's winning word: **FAWKES**

CrossStitcher

STITCH-A-LONG

GRIMMS' FAIRY TALES:
SLEEPING BEAUTY



**NEXT
MONTH**

Don't miss next month for a bonus design and to see the completed stitched SAL!

Welcome to our stitch-a-long for 2021. Designer Amanda Butler has created an amazing Grimms' Fairy Tale Sampler SAL – and has been unveiling a new scene from their wonderful books each month. In this issue we give you Sleeping Beauty...

GRIMMS' FAIRY TALES SAL

This is the final part of this year's stitch-a-long design. Over the year we brought you 12 Fairy Tales. In this issue we give you Sleeping Beauty.

We have greyed out the border from the first part of the design in the February issue. The grid lines are correct for the complete design, but the centre marks indicate the centre of just this motif.

Designed by: Amanda Butler

Stitch count: 30 high x 30 wide (character only)

Design size: 5.5x5.5cm (2¼x2¼in)

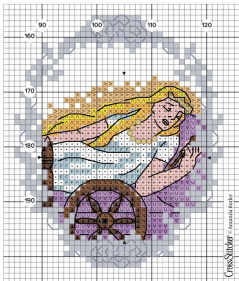
Stitch time: 3 hours

This design was stitched on 14 count aida fabric.

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. 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. Where no close match can be found, you may have to use a different brand of thread for that shade.



THE CHART

EACH square on the chart represents a single cross stitch. Start from the centre of the design and your fabric. The

centre of our charts are indicated by arrows at the designs' edges. To find your fabric's centre, fold it in half and into quarters.

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
Cross stitch in two strands			
	209	109	803
	210	108	802
	307	289	104
	310	403	black
	434	310	2009
	725	306	808

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
Cross stitch in two strands			
	775	1031	1001
	801	359	2007
	818	073	502
	B5200	001	white
	E3852	Light Effects	

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
Half cross stitch in two strands			
	676	891	2208
Backstitch in one strand			
	310	403	black
detail & outlines			
Attach beads with cotton			
	Mill Hill	00557	
necklace			

HOW TO JOIN OUR STITCH-A-LONG

WE'RE UNVEILING a chart from February to January, starting with the border then 12 characters over the year. To join in, you will need to buy a fat quarter; 50x55cm (19½x21¼in) of Cream Sampedro aida to complete the design, plus DMC Light Effects Gold E3852 and E5200, and one pack of Mill Hill seed beads, colour Gold 557. The design size will be 210 stitches high x 130 stitches wide, with a finished size of 38x24cm (15x9½in).

KEEP US POSTED! Why not join in our special SAL Facebook group at www.facebook.com/groups/CrossStitcherSAL to get regular posts and updates from fellow SAL stitchers.

CROSSSTITCHER PROJECT PACK If you would like to stitch our Grimms' Fairy Tales Sampler, we have a materials pack with everything you need to get your stitching straight away, and have it delivered straight to your door! Your materials pack contains:

- Sampedro 14 count aida in Cream
- Skeins of DMC stranded cotton
- Skein of DMC Light Effects
- Mill Hill Gold seed beads
- Two gold-plated tapestry needles; size 24 and size 26

How to order:

Go to www.yellowfabrics.com to order your project pack at the CrossStitcher reader price of £44.50, plus P&P.

BEGINNERS START HERE...

New to cross stitch? Our handy guide will take you through all the basic techniques and stitches you need to get you started

THE ESSENTIAL KIT YOU'LL NEED TO START STITCHING

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. Keep yours sharp by only using them to cut threads.

STRANDED COTTON

Embroidery thread is also called stranded cotton. Each thread length is made up of six strands of cotton twisted together. The chart key will tell you how many strands you'll need to stitch with.

HOOPS AND FRAMES

Though not absolutely essential, we do recommend using an embroidery hoop or frame to keep an even stitching tension.

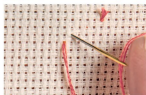
FABRICS

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 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.

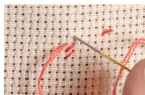
Start stitching... on aida

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 (below). Make a diagonal half cross stitch across a single aida block.

Step 2



MAKE a second diagonal stitch to make the cross. You can work a row of half cross stitches first, then work back on yourself to complete the stitches. All the top stitches should face the same way.

and... on evenweave



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.

STARTING A THREAD

1. Away waste knot



KNOT one end of your thread and take it down through the front of your fabric, 2cm from your starting point. Bring it back up to the front of the fabric to make your first stitch. Begin stitching your design, making sure you stitch over your starting thread with each stitch. 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.

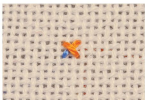
2. Loop knot



WORKING in two strands makes a loop knot the neatest method. Cut a single length of thread, twice as long as normal. Fold in half to create a loop at one end. Thread your needle with the two tail ends. Bring your needle up to the front of your fabric, leaving a small loop of thread on the reverse. Make a half cross stitch, passing your needle through the loop on the reverse, as shown. Pull all the way to secure the thread then continue with your stitching.

FRACTIONALS

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



START with a quarter stitch, working from one corner into the centre (with aida, you'll need to pierce the fabric). Make a quarter stitch in your second colour, coming up from the opposite corner and back down the centre. Finish with a half cross stitch. Fractionals are charted either as two symbols opposite one another in a square, or as a symbol opposite an empty space.

ADDING BACKSTITCH OUTLINES & DETAILS

Step 1



WORK your backstitch 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



MAKE each backstitch over one thread of fabric on aida and two threads if you work on evenweave. Follow the chart to see where to place each one.

FRENCH KNOTS

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

Step 1



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 chunkier knot. Hold your thread end firmly and take your needle down, ever so slightly away from where you came up. Slide the twisted thread down the needle, so it rests on the fabric's surface.

Step 2



FEED the needle gently through the fabric. Try to 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. Keep practising your French knots until you are happy you have perfected the technique.

CrossStitcher

Email us at crossstitcher@warnersgroup.co.uk

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CrossStitcher market place

www.Lifetime Samplers.co.uk ~ 100 cross stitch card kits



Competition rules By taking part in one of our Competitions, you agree to be bound by these Competition Rules. Late or incomplete entries will be disqualified. Proof of posting if relevant and not be covered by delivery. Entries must be submitted by an individual who is aged 18 years or over and is a resident of the United Kingdom. The Competition is open to all UK residents of 18 years and over, except employees of Warners Group Publications Plc and any party involved in the competition or their households. By entering a Competition you give permission to use your name, likeness and personal information in connection with the Competition and for promotional purposes. All entries will remain the property of the Company until accepted and will not be returned. You warrant that the Competition entry is entirely your own work and not copied or adapted from any other source. If you win a prize, you may have to provide additional information. Details of winners will be available on request after three months of the closing date. If you are a winner named by you of any prize conditions upon you completing self-organising other things in the Competition Rules. You acknowledge and agree that neither the Company nor any associated parties shall have any liability for you in connection with your prize and/or prize possession of your prize. Competitions in issue 225 are open 30 November - 20 December 2021.

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In your February

CrossStitcher

Must-stitch designs to cosy up inside with

No.1
FOR DESIGNS



YOUR FREE GIFT!

Spruce up your workbook for 2022 with our pretty needlecase! Your free kit contains everything you need to complete it...



Contents subjects to change
Customers gifts may vary.

Inside this month

- ♥ Go for wintry folksy style with our **seasonal sampler**
- ♥ **Enjoy a cuppa** with our teatime alphabet
- ♥ **Apple of my eye:** four fab fruity Valentine's Day cards
- ♥ **Beautiful blackbird** nature study scene

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HERITAGE Crafts

Making with talented artists to produce beautiful counted cross stitch designs



Age Is Just A Number!

Just a Number - 22 x 18.5cm
by Peter Underhill



You're My Sunshine on a Fine Day

My Sunshine - 14.5 x 17.5cm
by Peter Underhill



I Wouldn't Change You for the World!

I Wouldn't Change You - 19.5 x 15cm
by Peter Underhill



Together Forever

Together Forever - 17.5 x 13cm
by Peter Underhill



Time for a Walk

Time For a Walk - 11.5 x 13.5cm
by Peter Underhill



Tea Break

Tea Break - 19 x 16cm
by Peter Underhill



Buddie's Butterfly - 12 x 17cm
by Peter Underhill



Lavender Bee - 11.5 x 17cm
by Peter Underhill



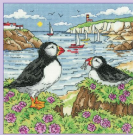
Katrina - 51.5 x 38cm - by John Clayton



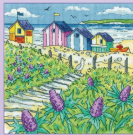
Harbour View - 20.5 x 21.5cm - by Karen Carter



Island View - 20.5 x 21.5cm - by Karen Carter



Puffin Shore - 20.5 x 20.5cm - by Karen Carter



Sea Holly Shore - 20.5 x 20.5cm - by Karen Carter



Home - 24.5 x 8.5cm - by Karen Carter

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Cross Stitch Calendar 2022

A YEAR OF BEAUTIFUL STITCHING ACCESSORIES



January

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						



February

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						



March

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			



April

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	



May

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					



June

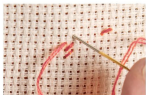
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

START STITCHING HERE!

All you need to know to start cross stitching...

Welcome to our calendar for 2022! We've a whole year of stitching for you to enjoy – with a different accessory to make for every month of the year. If you've never cross stitched before, fear not! Our handy stitch guides below take you through all the stitches you'll need for the projects in this calendar. We recommend you use a hoop or frame to support your work while you stitch. We also suggest, unless specified otherwise in the instructions, to first fold your aida fabric into quarters to find the centre, so you can start stitching there. Everything else you'll need for each project is listed on our "pull out and keep" instructions pages at the centre of this calendar, and can be purchased from www.willowfabrics.com. Happy stitching!

STITCHING ON AIDA



CUT a 40cm thread length, and thread your needle with two of the six strands. Knot one end and start with a waste knot (see tip on June's instructions page). Make a diagonal half cross stitch across a single aida block. Make a second diagonal stitch to make the cross. You can work a row of half cross stitches first, then work back on yourself to complete them. All the top stitches should face the same way.

ADDING BACKSTITCH



WORK your backstitch once you've finished all the cross stitches in your design. Backstitches are usually used to add details and outlines. To secure your thread, weave it through the back of your stitches, then bring your needle up to the surface. Make each backstitch over one thread of fabric on aida and two threads if you work on evenweave. Follow the chart to see where to place each one.

CrossStitcher

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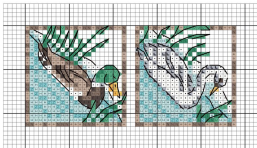
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FRENCH KNOTS



BRING your needle up at your starting point and wrap your thread once or twice around the needle. Hold your thread end firmly and take your needle down, ever so slightly away from where you came up. Slide the twisted thread down the needle, so it rests on the fabric's surface. Feed the needle gently through the fabric. Try to 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.

January Duck & Swan Scissor Fobs



DMC	DMC
Cross stitch (2)	Cross stitch (2)
415	910
742	912
743	3766
747	blanc
838	Backstitch (1)
840	3371
842	

Designed by: Doreen Jones
Stitch count: 23 high x 23 wide
Design size: 4.5x4.5cm (1 7/8x1 7/8in)
Stitch time: 2 hours

This design was stitched on
14 count aida fabric.

Materials:

- DMC Blue Iridescent 14 count aida;
- 7.5x7.5cm (3x3in) x 2 pieces
- Stranded cotton as listed in the key
- Size 24 tapestry needle
- Backing fabric: 7.5x7.5cm (3x3in) x 2 pieces
- Toy stuffing

Make a... scissor fob

Step 1

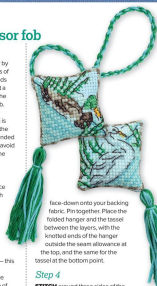
MAKE the twisted cord hanger by cutting four 60cm (24in) lengths of stranded cotton. Knot the strands together at each end and insert a pencil through one end. Loop the other end over a handle or knob. Keeping the yarn taut, twist the pencil until the stranded cotton is tightly twisted and kinks when the tension is relaxed. Fold the stranded cotton in half, keeping it taut to avoid getting tangled, then remove the pencil. Knot at both ends.

Step 2

MAKE a tassel by cutting a piece of cardboard to the same length as you want the tassel to be. Wrap stranded cotton around the cardboard until you have enough thickness to make the tassel. Slip a piece of stranded cotton under the stranded cotton at one end of the cardboard and tie in a knot – this is your hanger. Cut through the bottom of the tassel and remove from the cardboard. Tie a piece of stranded cotton around the tassel, just down from the top.

Step 3

STITCH your design in the centre of your fabric, using two strands for the cross stitch and one for the backstitch. Place your stitched aida



face-down onto your backing fabric. Pin together. Place the folded hanger and the tassel between the layers, with the knotted ends of the hanger outside the seam allowance at the top, and the same for the tassel at the bottom point.

Step 4

STITCH around three sides of the design, just outside the outer row of cross stitch and leaving one side open. Trim the seam allowance, clip the corners and turn to the right side. Carefully pull out the tassel and hanger. Stuff with toy stuffing, and sew up the open seam with small, neat stitches.

February

Bee Box Pincushion

DMC	DMC
Cross stitch (2)	Cross stitch (2)
310	3689
563	3813
742	3835
743	blanc
762	Backstitch (1)
838	3371
FF	3688

Make a... box pincushion

Step 1

CUT your fabric into five pieces – the top, measuring 15x15cm (6x6in), and four side strips, each measuring 15x5cm (6x2in). Stitch in the centre of each piece of fabric using two strands for the cross stitch and one for the backstitch – the multi bee design should be repeated on each of the side panels.

Step 2

JOIN the side panels together on the short seam, so that the cross stitch flows continuously along the assembled strip. Reduce the seam allowance on these

Designed by: Durene Jones
Stitch count: 41 high x 41 wide top;
8 high x 45 wide sides
Design size: 8x8cm (3 1/4x3 1/4in);
8.5x1.5cm (2 1/4x1/2in)
Stitch time: 9 hours

This design was stitched on 14 count aida fabric.

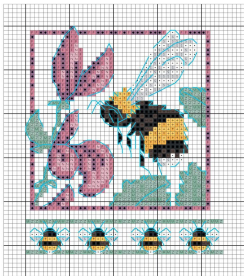
Materials:

- DMC White Iridescent 14 count aida; 15x45cm (6x18in) top & sides
- Stranded cotton as listed in the key
- Size 24 tapestry needle
- Felt for base; 11.5x11.5cm (4 1/2x4 1/2in)
- Toy stuffing
- Cardboard for the base

seams. Working on the wrong side, pin the assembled side strip to the top, making sure the corners line up, and leaving two blank squares between the seam and the cross stitch on the top and the sides.

Step 3

MACHINE stitch the top in place, stopping just short of the corner where the final side seam is to be joined. Join the final side seam, making sure the cross stitch matches, and then trim away the excess seam allowance on this seam. Join the final



corner to the top and then trim the seam allowance on the top seam.

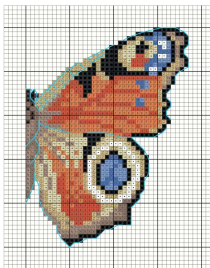
Step 4

TURN to the right side and then stuff with toy stuffing. Cut a piece of

cardboard to fit inside the base and a piece of felt to cover it. Insert the cardboard into the pincushion and then the felt. Catch stitch the felt to the bottom edge of the aida using small, neat stitches.

March

Butterfly Needlecase



DMC	DMC
Cross stitch (2)	Cross stitch (2)
310	3046
798	3047
809	3853
838	blanc
840	Backstitch (1)
NN	841
414	900

Designed by: Durene Jones
Stitch count: 60 high x 74 wide
(complete butterfly)
Design size: 5x10cm (2x4in)
Stitch time: 12 hours

This design was stitched on 14 count aida fabric.

Materials:

- DMC White Iridescent 14 count aida; 20x20cm (8x8in)
- Stranded cotton as listed in the key
- Size 24 tapestry needle
- Backing felt; 18x18cm (7x7in) x 2 pieces
- Fray Check or fabric glue

Make a... butterfly needlecase

Step 1

STITCH one half of the butterfly on the right-hand side of the aida, using two strands for the cross stitch and one for the backstitch. Use your phone to make a mirror image of the butterfly chart to complete the other half – for an iPhone, take a picture using the camera and then go to edit where you can flip the butterfly wing. On an android phone use the tools option to rotate the image.

Step 2

PLACE the stitched butterfly face-up on one piece of felt. Pin the two layers together. Working on the right side, machine stitch around the edge of the design, leaving three to four blank squares of aida between the design and the stitching. Try to follow the outer line of the cross stitch to get a good butterfly shape.

Step 3

FOLLOW the machine stitched line to carefully cut, using small, sharp scissors, around the edge of the butterfly, leaving two blank aida squares between the machine stitching and the cut edge. Paint the outer edge of the sides with Fray Check or fabric glue. Leave to thoroughly dry.

Step 4

MAKE a page to go inside the case. Place the remaining felt sheet onto the back of the assembled butterfly. Draw the butterfly shape onto the felt. Unpin and then cut out the butterfly 5cm (2in) inside the marked line.

Step 5

PLACE the smaller felt butterfly over the felt lining inside the case. Pin carefully to get the butterfly correctly placed. Turn to the right side and then stitch down the centre of the butterfly, holding the layers together and forming a spine. Fold the butterfly in half on the spine.

April

Blue Tit Scissor Case

DMC	DMC
Cross stitch (2)	Cross stitch (2)
023	809
165	840
166	3689
413	blanc
Backstitch (1)	
415	Backstitch (1)
743	3371
798	

Designed by: Durene Jones
Stitch count: 47 high x 41 wide
Design size: 9x7.5cm (3 1/2 x 2 3/4 in)
Stitch time: 4 1/2 hours

This design was stitched on 14 count aida fabric.

Materials:

- DMC Blue Iridescent 14 count aida; 18x28cm (7x11in)
- Stranded cotton as listed in the key
- Size 24 tapestry needle
- Cotton lining; 18x28cm (7x11in)

Make a... folded scissor case

Step 1

STITCH the blue tit centrally onto the aida, using two strands for the cross stitch and one for the backstitch. Make a paper pattern of the outer triangular shape stitched around the blue tit, by laying tracing paper, or any see-through paper, over the design and then tracing the shape. Add 5mm (1/4in) around the design, then fold the paper on the side seams, so that you have two back flaps. Cut out the shape – you'll have three identical outer shapes that when the two outer ones are folded in, fit exactly

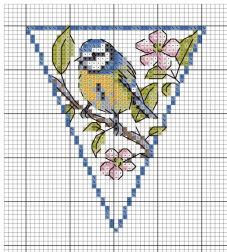
behind the central triangle. Working on the back, with the flaps folded in, cut from the centre top to the point – this will give you a central back seam once stitched.

Step 2

PLACE the paper pattern on your stitched aida, so the central triangle is exactly over the design. Pin in place. Add 1.25cm (1/2in) to all edges for the seam allowance. Cut on the seam allowance, and then cut your cotton lining fabric to the same size.

Step 3

WITH right sides inside, fold the aida so the back seams come together. Stitch with a 1.25cm (1/2in) seam allowance. Repeat for

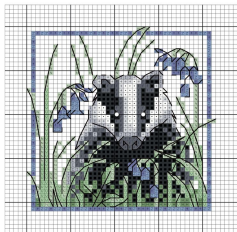


the cotton lining. Trim away some of the seam allowance, and then turn the aida scissor case to the right side. Finger press the top edge of the scissor case onto the inside, leaving two blank aida squares above the stitching showing at

the front. Repeat for the lining, then place the lining inside the scissor case – the right side of the fabric should be showing inside the scissor case. Machine or catch stitch the top edge closed.

May

Badger Needlecase



DMC	DMC
Cross stitch (2)	Cross stitch (2)
164	988
310	3807
369	blanc
413	Backstitch (1)
415	3371
762	French knot (1)
794	blanc

Designed by: Durene Jones
Stitch count: 42 high x 42 wide
Design size: 8x8cm (3 1/4 x 3 1/4 in)
Stitch time: 9 hours

This design was stitched on 14 count aida fabric.

Materials:

- DMC Blue Iridescent 14 count aida; 24x15cm (9 1/2 x 6 in)
- Stranded cotton as listed in the key
- Size 24 tapestry needle
- Cotton lining; 24x15cm (9 1/2 x 6 in)
- Felt; 20x11.5cm (8x4 1/2 in)
- Button
- Small hair band or elastic band

Make a... traditional needlecase

Step 1

STITCH the badger onto the left-hand side of the fabric, centrally between the top and the bottom, and in a position so that when the aida is folded the badger will be on the front of the needlecase – to check you have got it right, you should have at least 4cm (1 1/2 in) between the outer edge of the design and the edge of the fabric on the right-hand side.

Step 2

CUT your stitched aida to 12.5x21.5cm (5x8 1/2 in), leaving 2cm (3/4 in) between the outer edge of the design and the fabric on the top, bottom and right hand edges – once your needlecase is assembled the badger design will sit centrally on the front.

Step 3

FOLD in all edges of the aida by 1cm (1/2 in), and press to the wrong side. Repeat for the lining fabric. Place the aida and the lining fabric wrong sides together, with the seam allowance between the layers. On the back edge of the needlecase, centrally between the top and bottom, insert the end of a folded elastic band. Pin the layers together. Machine stitch around the edge of the case, just in from the edge.

Step 4

CUT a felt page just smaller than the needlecase when flat. Place the page centrally on the inside of the case. Pin, then machine stitch down the spine of the needlecase to hold it in position. Attach a button to the front edge to correspond with the elastic loop.

Our charts and instructions can be pulled out from the centre of the calendar for you to use separately, while the remaining calendar pages can be hung and displayed.

June Nesting Bird Scissor Fob

Make a... scissor fob

Step 1

STITCH the design in the centre of the fabric using two strands for the cross stitch and one for the backstitch.

Step 2

PLACE your stitched side right-sides together with your backing fabric. Stitch around the design, just outside the outer row of cross stitch, and leaving the bottom edge open. Reduce the seam allowance and clip the corners before turning to the right side. Fill with toy stuffing.

Step 3

PUSH the seam allowance at the bottom up and inside the fob, so that the outer edge of the design matches the other sides. Catch stitch the seam

closed, but leave a small gap centrally at the bottom to make it easier to attach the twisted cord and the tassel.

Step 4

MAKE a tassel and a length of twisted cord following the instructions for the January project. The twisted cord should be long enough to fit around the edge of the fob and also create a loop at the top. Fold the cord in half, then make a twist. Place the twist centrally at the top of the fob, leaving a loop at the top. Stitch to the fob where you have made the twist. Bring the cord down and around the edge of the fob on both sides, over stitching to hold it in place. Continue until you reach the small gap left at the bottom. Push the excess cord up inside the fob, and also the end at the top of the tassel. Close the gap with stitches, so that the cord and the tassel are held firmly in place.

Designed by: Durene Jones
Stitch count: 29 high x 18 wide
Design size: 5.5x3.5cm (2 1/4 x 1 3/8 in)
Stitch time: 3 hours

This design was stitched on 14 count aida fabric.

Materials:
• DMC White Iridescent 14 count aida; 9x6.5cm (3 1/2 x 2 1/2 in)
• Stranded cotton as listed in the key
• Size 24 tapestry needle
• Backing fabric; 9x6.5cm (3 1/2 x 2 1/2 in)
• Toy stuffing

DMC	DMC
Cross stitch (2)	Cross stitch (2)
023	842
164	3047
369	3649
415	3766
747	3371
840	
841	



TIP: Start with a waste knot; knot one end of thread, take down through fabric front, 2cm from starting point. Bring back up to fabric front to make first stitch. Start stitching, ensuring you stitch over starting thread, then once secure snip off knot.

July Dragonfly Biscornu

Take care not to over stuff your pincushion, so that the biscornu retains its distinctive shape

Make a... dragonfly biscornu

Step 1

STITCH the top of the biscornu following the chart and working in the centre of the aida. Use two strands for the cross stitch and one

make stitches in this way until you reach the first corner. You'll need to mould the fabric around the corner each time you reach one, holding it in place until it is stitched.

Step 2

TRIM both fabric pieces, leaving a 1.25cm (1/2 in) seam allowance. Fold the seam allowance to the reverse, so the outer teal backstitch line is on the edge of both fabrics. Press the folds and points in place. Using a pin, join a corner point on the bottom fabric to the middle point on one side of the top.

Step 3

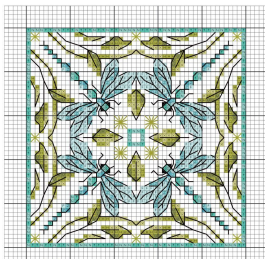
USE teal stranded cotton to sew the top and bottom of the biscornu together using whip stitch. To do this, take your needle under a border stitch close to the pin on your bottom fabric, then go up and through the corresponding top stitch. Pull together as you work – the needle and thread should go cleanly through the stitch without snagging the fabric below. Take your needle down through the next top stitch and under the corresponding stitch at the bottom. Continue to

Step 4

FIND the midpoint on the next side and mark it with a pin. Place this against the corner on the bottom fabric, and check that the midway point matches up with the next corner. The success of your biscornu will depend on the accuracy of matching each corner and midway point together.

Step 5

STITCH six out of the eight sides together, then stuff the biscornu firmly with stuffing or cotton wool, and sew up the remaining sides. Sew the buttons in the centre of the top and bottom, passing the needle through the biscornu to stitch both in place. Pull up the thread and finish securely.



Designed by: Durene Jones
Stitch count: 52 high x 52 wide
Design size: 10x10cm (4x4 in)
Stitch time: 11 hours
This design was stitched on 14 count aida fabric.

Materials:
• DMC White Iridescent 14 count aida; 15x15cm (6x6 in) x 2 pieces
• Stranded cotton as listed in the key
• Size 24 tapestry needle
• Button x 2
• Toy stuffing

DMC	DMC	DMC	DMC
Cross stitch (2)	Cross stitch (2)	Cross stitch (2)	Backstitch (2)
165	581	958	166
166	747	964	3371
310	807	3766	

August Floral Envelope Needlecase

Designed by: Doreen Jones

Stitch count: 74 high x 74 wide

Design size: 10x10cm (4x4in)

Stitch time: 6 hours

This design was stitched on 14 count aida fabric.

Materials:

• Sampedro Cream 14 count aida; 20x20cm (8in)

• Stranded cotton as listed in the key

• Size 24 tapestry needle

• Cotton lining; 20x20cm (8in)

• Button

• Thin elastic band or small hair band

Make an... envelope needlecase

Step 1

STITCH the design in the centre of the aida fabric. Place the stitched aida and the lining right-sides together. At the top most point, the flap with the complete butterfly, insert one folded end of an elastic band between the layers, with the other end just overlapping the seam allowance. Pin the layers together, then stitch around the edge just outside the outer row of cross stitch, leaving a gap on one side for turning.

Step 2

CUT off the excess fabric, leaving a small seam allowance. Turn to the right side through the gap. Sew up the gap with small, neat stitches. Press flat.

Step 3

WITH the lining fabric facing you, fold

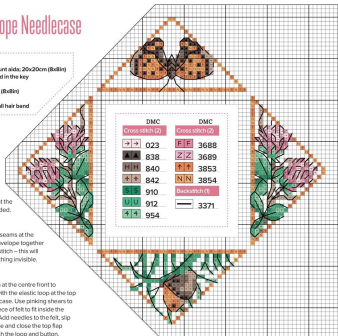
in three points to the centre, keeping the point with the elastic band at the top and unfolded.

Step 4

SEW the two seams at the front of the envelope together using ladder stitch – this will make the stitching invisible.

Step 5

SEW a button at the centre front to correspond with the elastic loop at the top of the needlecase. Use pinkish shears to cut a small piece of felt to fit inside the needlecase. Add needles to the felt, slip inside the case and close the top flap securing it with the loop and button.



September Field Mouse Scissor Case

DMC		DMC	
Cross stitch (2)		Cross stitch (2)	
→ →	023	I I	3827
▲ ▲	310	↑ ↑	3853
S S	420	U U	3854
H H	422	Backstitch (1)	
F F	3046		3371
Z Z	3047		blanc
↑ ↑	3689		

Designed by: Doreen Jones

Stitch count: 48 high x 26 wide

Design size: 9x6.5cm (3½x1½in)

Stitch time: 4 hours

This design was stitched on 14 count aida fabric.

Materials:

• Zweigart Celestion Green

14 count aida, ref: 3706/611

30x13cm (12x5in)

• Stranded cotton as listed in the key

• Size 24 tapestry needle

• Felt: 30x13cm (12x5in)

Make a... scissor case

Step 1

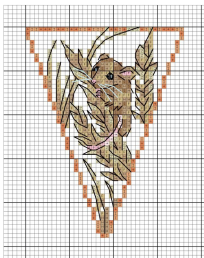
STITCH the field mouse in the centre of the bottom half of your aida using two strands for the cross stitch and one for the backstitch – you will be using the aida doubled over when you assemble the scissor case, so the top half of the aida will fold behind as a lining.

Step 2

FINISH your stitching. Fold the top half of the aida behind your work, leaving two blank squares above the design on the front. Finger press the fold in place.

Step 3

COPY the template of the case top onto tracing paper, and cut out. Cut around the folded aida, four squares outside the outer row of stitching, creating an upside down triangular shape. Fold the felt in half, then place the template case top on the felt, with the stitched aida triangle beneath. Pin in place – you now have two layers of felt and two layers of aida. Cut the felt to the same shape and size as the outer edge of the aida and the template. Machine stitch around the scissor case, 3mm (¼in) in from the edge.



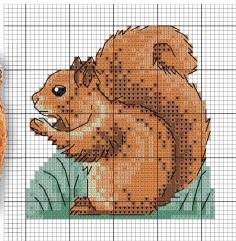
October Squirrel Pincushion

Designed by: Durene Jones
Stitch count: 48 high x 43 wide
Design size: 9.8cm (3 7/8" x 3 1/4")
Stitch time: 10 hours

This design was stitched on 14 count aida fabric.

Materials:

- Sampedro Cream 14 count aida; 15x12.5m (6x5in)
- Stranded cotton as listed in the key
- Size 24 tapestry needle
- Felt 11.5x9cm (4 1/2" x 3 1/2") back; 9cm (3 1/2") diameter circle for the base
- Toy stuffing
- Cardboard circle for the base



Make a... squirrel pincushion

Step 1

STITCH the squirrel centrally onto the aida, using two strands for the cross stitch, one for the backstitch and the French knots. Place the stitched aida face-down on the felt square. Pin in place.

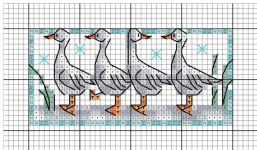
Step 2

MACHINE stitch around the edge, following the outer row of cross stitch to create a squirrel shape. Reduce the seam allowance and clip the curves and also clip into any tight corners. Turn to the right side.

Step 3

CUT a card circle to fit the bottom of your squirrel pincushion. Cover with the felt circle and lace in place over the back. Stuff the squirrel with toy stuffing, then place the covered cardboard circle on the bottom of the pincushion. Catch stitch the felt to the aida around the bottom edge.

November Geese Rolled Needlecase



Make a... rolled needlecase

Step 1

STITCH the geese so that the bottom of the design is 3cm (1 1/4") up from the bottom of the fabric, and centrally from left to right. Use two strands for the cross stitch and one strand for the backstitch.

Step 2

PLACE the stitched design and the cotton backing fabric right-sides facing. Place pins around the edge of the fabric to mark the stitching line, leaving six aida squares either side of the design, and nine aida squares below it.

Step 3

PLACE the elastic band between the layers of fabric, and centrally below the geese, with one folded end just over the seam allowance. Stitch around the edge of the fabric, catching the elastic band in the seam, and leaving a gap on one long side for turning. Reduce the seam allowance, and clip the corners before turning to the right side.

Step 4

PRESS flat, then sew up the gap with small, neat stitches. Roll up the fabric to check where the button needs to be positioned. Sew the button in place.



DMC	DMC
Cross stitch (2)	Cross stitch (2)
U U 415	T T 3853
F F 563	T T 3854
N N 747	blanc
S S 762	Backstitch (1)
Z Z 3766	3371
H H 3813	3766

Designed by: Durene Jones
Stitch count: 19 high x 40 wide
Design size: 3.5x7.5cm (1 1/4" x 3in)
Stitch time: 3 hours

This design was stitched on 14 count aida fabric.

Materials:

- Zweigart Royal Blue 14 count aida, ref: 3706/567; 31.5x12.5cm (12 1/2" x 5in)
- Stranded cotton as listed in the key
- Size 24 tapestry needle
- Cotton lining; 31.5x12.5cm (12 1/2" x 5in)
- Thin elastic band or small hair band
- Button

December

Robin & Holly Pincushion

Make a... robin & holly pincushion

Step 1

STITCH the robin centrally onto the aids, using two strands for the cross stitch, one for the backstitch and one for the French knots. To create the pincushion shape, wrap the fabric around into a cone shape. Pin the cone down the back, and check the design is central on the front. Mark the seam allowance for the back seams with pins, and mark the top seam in the same way.

Step 2

UNDO the back seam, and lay the fabric flat on the table. You'll see that, once flat, the top edge is curved, with the centre top being higher than the top of the side seams. Once you are happy with the shape, cut out the fabric and sew up the back seam on the wrong side, creating a cone.



Step 3

TURN through to the right side. Stuff with toy stuffing. Make a row of running stitches around the top of the fabric, and then pull up the thread to gather. Fold a length of baker's twine in half and knot the ends together. Push the knot down into the top of the stuffed shape, securing it slightly with the gathering thread.

Step 4

USING the template provided, cut five holly leaf shapes from felt, then make a row of running stitches down the centre of each. Place the folded ends of a length of baker's twine into the top of the strawberry shape and secure. Stitch the holly leaves around it, then sew a bell to the bottom of the strawberry shape.

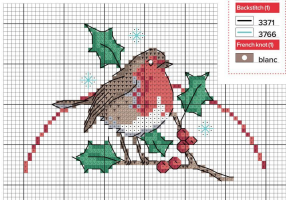
Designed by: Dorene Jones
Stitch count: 39 high x 60 wide
Design size: 10x15cm (4x6in)
Stitch time: 5 hours

This design was stitched on 14 count aida fabric.

Materials:

- Zweigart Celedon Green 14 count aida, ref: 3706/611, 25.5x19cm (10x7 1/2in)
- Stranded cotton as listed in the key
- Size 24 tapestry needle
- Toy stuffing
- Felt for holly leaves
- Baker's twine for hanger
- Bell

DMC	
Cross stitch (2)	
351	351
415	415
817	817
841	841
842	842
910	910
912	912
blanc	blanc
Backstitch (1)	
3371	3371
3766	3766
French knot (3)	
blanc	blanc



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July

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31



August

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				



September

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		



October

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						



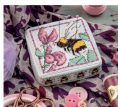
November

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				



December

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	



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