No.1 for trends

CrossStitcher

IDEAS • STYLE • INSPIRATION

50 NEW SEASON PROJECTS

Time for giving!

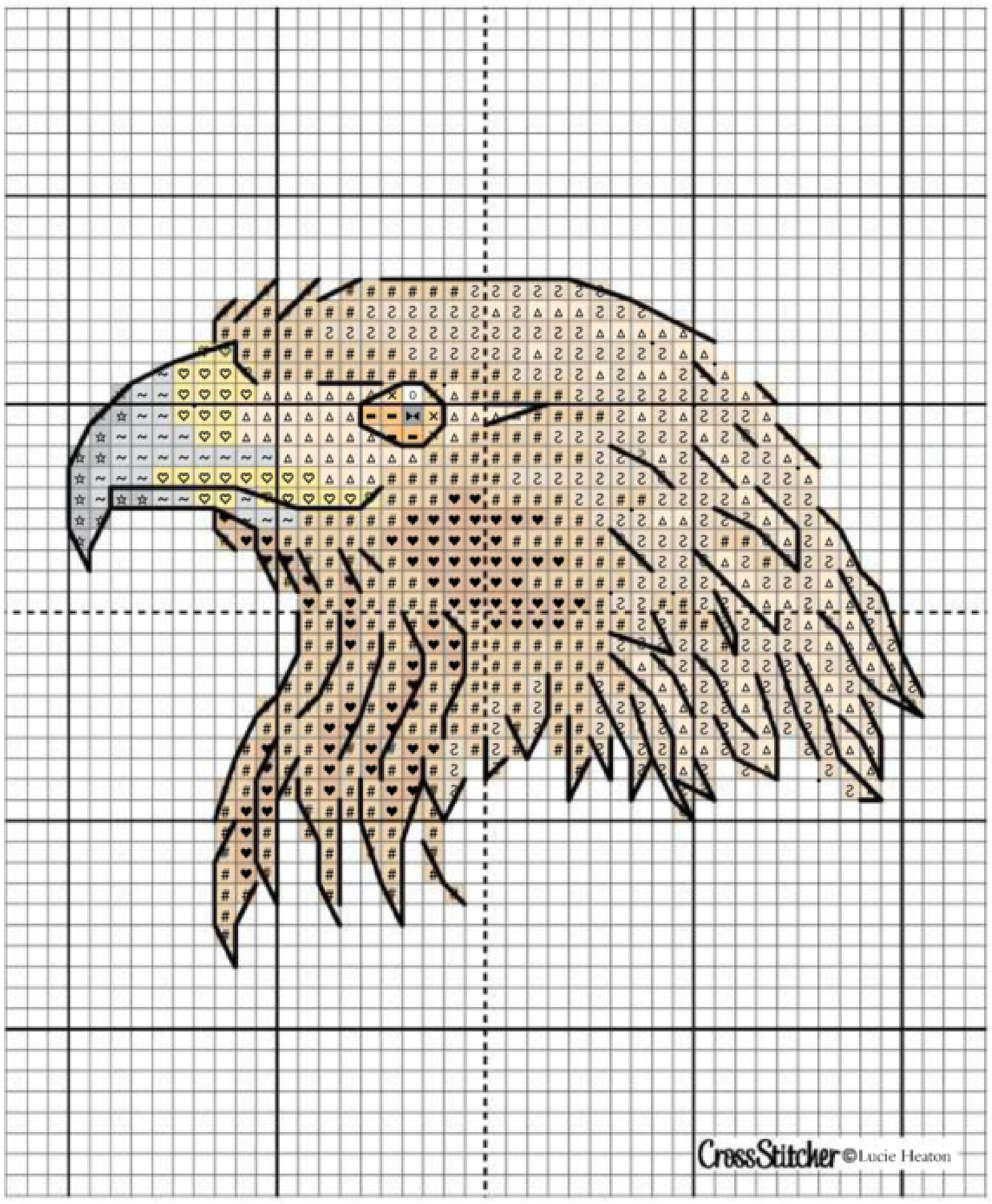
START STITCHING FOR CHRISTMAS!

REGAL EAGLE

Wow! With his sharp eyes and sharper beak, this guy's king of the skies. He's the eleventh in our bird series exclusively for digital readers

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
Cross stitch in two strands			
0	B5200	001	2401
☆	318	235	1801
~	415	399	1802
♥	435	365	2010
#	436	363	2011
2	437	362	2012
♡	726	295	0109
△	738	361	2013
▬	741	304	0203
×	742	303	0114
⋈	3799	236	1713
Backstitch in one strand			
▬	3799	236	1713

all details



MEET THE DESIGNER: LUCIE HEATON

Long-term *CrossStitcher* collaborator Lucie has created this chart exclusively for readers of our digital edition. Passionate about needlework and crafts, she has been designing cross stitch patterns for 18 years and has worked on every theme you can imagine, from baby gifts to tattoos! Her favourite projects are ones she knows people can give to loved ones as gifts. Find out more about her work at ***www.lucieheaton.com***

NEXT MONTH

Head to the Arctic and stitch up this snowy owl. Find him in our November issue, on sale 17 October.

13 CHARTS FOR YOU TO STITCH!

LOVE BIRDS

Stitch up your own mini aviary with 13 feathered friends from around the world

How on trend are these birdies designed by Lucie Heaton for our digital editions this year! The series began in January with issue 274, and you'll find a different chart in every 2014 digital edition, so download them all today! Complete your flock with our snowy owl in issue 285, on sale 17 October, and robin in issue 286, on sale 14 November.

Stitch & frame all our birds for a cool display

Welcome

Time to get cosy with your cross stitch

"IT'S BEGINNING TO LOOK A LOT LIKE CHRISTMAS" It may feel like the kids have only just gone back to school, but you've probably noticed that your local is touting its Christmas menu and the supermarket seasonal aisle is looking distinctly festive.

As a stitcher you'll know that it's never too soon to start thinking about Christmas. Handmade gifts take time, but we know it's worth it. And, as always, we're here to help!

We've got inspiration for the most luxurious presents – favourite storybook scenes from Belle & Boo (1), a novelty cuckoo clock (page 16), plus an inviting winter gift set (2) of hot water bottle, huggable cushion and mug cosy.

Talking of hot drinks, you must try our comedy coffee caddy (3). It's a fun treat for those who find it hard to surface in the morning (like your *CrossStitcher* team!) or maybe it's something to keep for yourself if you'd like your Christmas cross stitching to be caffeine fuelled.

Happy stitching!

Jenny

JENNY DIXON
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Mini hoops!

Don't miss a free embroidery hoop brooch. These mini marvels come with your next issue – on sale 17 October!

Bunting with pockets – the best-ever advent calendar!

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www.crossstitchermag.com

CrossStitcher

Contents

Issue 284 **October 2014**

56

16

YOUR CHARTS

8 **Dog 'n' Bone** Quick-make Scottie dog keyring

16 **Time for Giving** Scarlet cuckoo clock your friends will love receiving this Christmas

22 **Christmas Rules** Bright typographic sampler to get everyone in the festive spirit

27 **Wake Me Up** Witty band for your coffee tin

30 **Natural Beauty** Stylish blooms and brooches in stunning autumnal jewel tones

35 **Down on the Shore** On-trend puffin cushion

42 **Winter Warmers** Fair Isle hot water bottle, cushion and mug cosy for snuggly nights in

51 **All Dressed Up** Scandi reindeer cushion

54 **Trick or Treat** Spooky goody bags to fill with sweets for the kids on Halloween

56 **Feline Festive** Four kitty Christmas cards

60 **Count the Days** Advent calendar motifs for bunting, gift tags and more festive makes

OFFERS & COMPETITIONS

50 **Giveaways** £970 worth of Zweigart fabric and charts is up for grabs in our bumper competition

64 **Back issues** Missed an issue? Here's how you can get your hands on it

73 **Project kits** Indulge in a kit containing all you need to stitch your favourite *CrossStitcher* design

76 **Puzzles** Fill in our crossword for the chance to win some fantastic Madeira prizes

ON THE COVER

- Time for giving **page 16**
- Cuddle up with cosy cross stitch! **page 42**
- New homestyle **page 35**
- Natural beauty **page 30**
- Trick or treat! **page 54**
- Get ahead! **page 60**
- Merry moggies for cat lovers! **page 56**

54

27

35

22

42

EVERY ISSUE

11 Out there Discover all the latest stitching products and craft trends

14 New! Inside the mind of Mr X Stitch

20 An interview with Cross stitch graffiti artists VXS and Miss Cross Stitch

40 Subscribe to *CrossStitcher* and save over £34 on the shop price!

29 Letters Show off what you've stitched

74 Market place Our free reader ads page where you can buy, lend and sell items

77 Next month in *CrossStitcher*

30

8

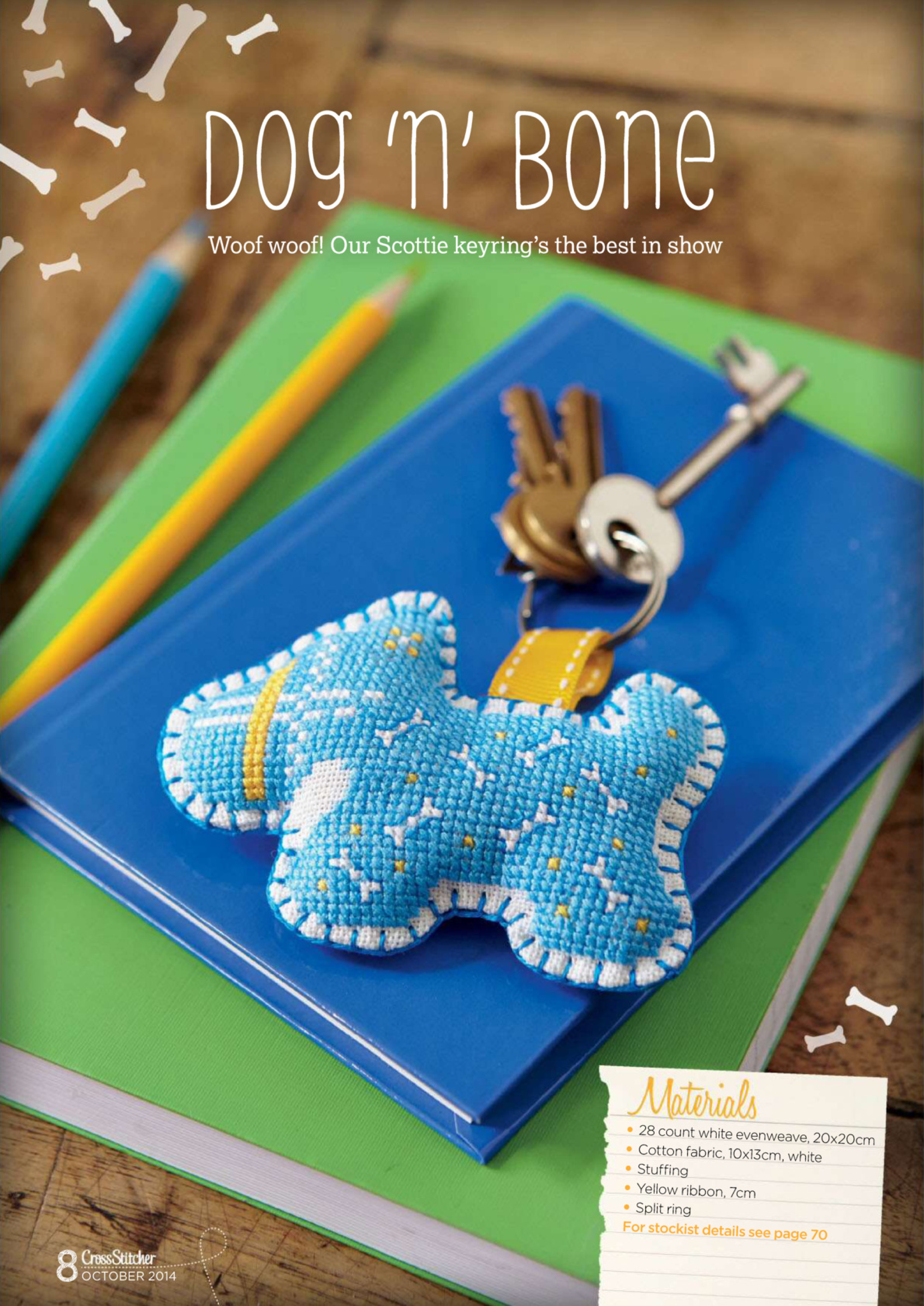
FESTIVE TREATS TO MAKE & GIVE

After gorgeous pressies to stitch for friends and family this Christmas? We've hand picked projects in this issue we think will make great gifts. Just look out for our 'Perfect Present' tag and get stitching!

We'll have more top gift ideas next month too – find our November issue in shops 17 October.

Dog 'n' Bone

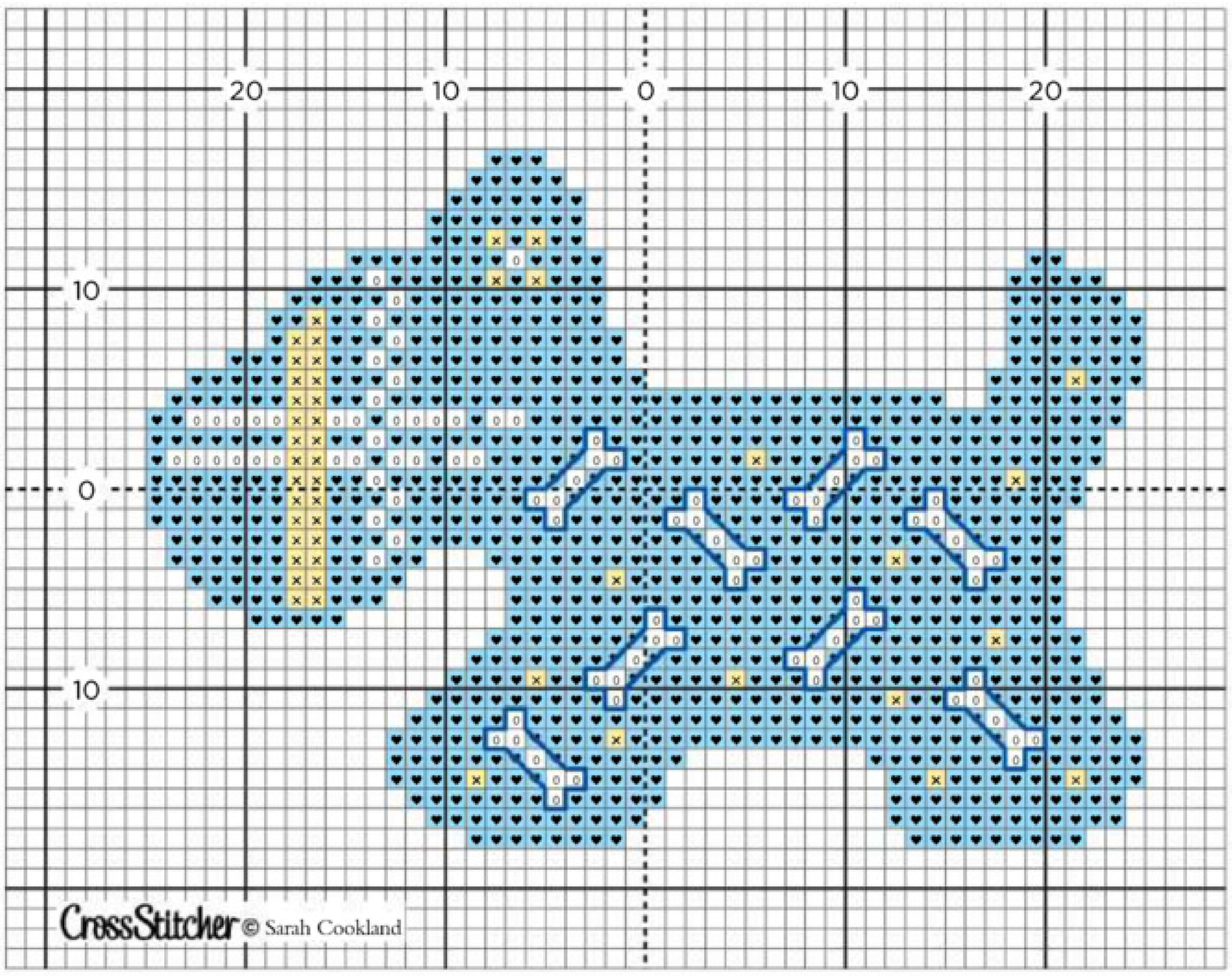
Woof woof! Our Scottie keyring's the best in show



Materials

- 28 count white evenweave, 20x20cm
- Cotton fabric, 10x13cm, white
- Stuffing
- Yellow ribbon, 7cm
- Split ring

For stockist details see page 70



	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
Cross stitch in two strands			
0	B5200	001	2401
×	743	305	0113
♥	996	433	1103
Backstitch in one strand			
—	995	410	1102

all details

Designed by: Sarah Cookland **Design size:** 7x9cm **Stitch time:** 6 hours

Make a… keyring

Step 1

TRIM your stitching 2cm outside the edge, then cut your backing fabric to the same size.

Step 2

FOLD the ribbon in half and thread it through the split ring. Place the ends right sides together on the centre of the dog's back. Put the backing fabric right side down on top. Stitch all the way round, leaving a small gap.

Step 3

TURN right sides out, stuff, then sew up the gap. Work blanket stitch all round the edge using four strands of dark blue stranded cotton.

Our keyring makes a great quick-stitch Christmas gift for a dog-loving pal

How to… blanket stitch

Step 1

BRING your needle up through the front of the fabric to start stitching. Take it back down a few millimetres away from where you came up.

Step 2

PASS your needle through the thread loop from back to front before you pull the thread all the way through, to create your first stitch.

Step 3

CONTINUE for each additional stitch, taking your needle down through the fabric and passing it through the thread loop.

The Knitting & Stitching Show

Alexandra Palace, London
8–12 October 2014

RDS Simmonscourt, Dublin
30 October–2 November 2014

Harrogate International Centre
20–23 November 2014

The definitive events for anyone with a love of stitch and creative crafts. Supplies, workshops and textile art.

Tickets and information from
www.theknittingandstitchingshow.com
0844 848 0132

Learning Curve Workshops in association with GROVES

Beadwork – Crochet - Cross Stitch - Dressmaking - Embroidery – Feltmaking - Home Furnishing
Knitting - Lacemaking – Patchwork & Quilting - Tapestry - Weaving, Spinning, Dyeing

UPPER STREET EVENTS
twistedthread

Image: Renate Keeping

Outthere

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

Woodland wonders

Autumn's a time for long walks in the country and cosy evenings inside, so combine the two with these nature-inspired wreaths, candles and other home accessories from Sainsbury's. In store from October, they're perfect for creating a snuggly space.
www.sainsburys.co.uk

DOG DAYS

LIFE NOT COMPLETE without a four-legged friend? Then you'll adore this collection of porcelain plates illustrated by Brooklyn artist Claudia Pearson. Each dog is full of character – just like the real things! www.westelm.com

ALL IN GOOD TIME

CUCKOO CLOCKS are right on trend this season. Stitch and give our scarlet cover project on page 16 and brighten your own home with this hot-pink version from The Contemporary Home. Love pineapple motifs too? Watch out for one to stitch coming soon in *CrossStitcher*! www.tch.net

Photograph: notonthehighstreet.com 0845 259 1359

Festive **folk**

These little people all have their own personalities! Handmade in England from vintage and recycled fabric, they have embroidered faces and make unusual festive decorations. www.notonthehighstreet.com/handmadebysamanthastas

NUTTY NEEDLES

NEVER LOSE your needle again with this magnetic needle minder. The ideal accessory for autumn stitching, each one is handmade from walnut wood in the US and engraved with the message "got thread?". thecottageneedle.com

NOTE IT DOWN

AFTER A FUN Christmas gift for a creative friend? Make this Emma Congdon-designed notebook for them to jot down their crafty ideas. Find the project in the October issue of our sister magazine *Cross Stitch Collection*, in shops now. www.myfavouritemagazines.co.uk

Setting seed

ACCESSORIZE AUTUMN outfits with this dandelion clock brooch designed by Betty Shek. Find out how to make it – and heaps of other modern embroidery projects – in issue two of *Hoop-La!* magazine, out now. www.myfavouritemagazines.co.uk

Photograph: notonthehighstreet.com 0845 259 1359

WINTER STAG

THERE'S SOMETHING so comforting about Fair Isle patterns – they make a room instantly homely. Stitch up our Winter Warmers on page 42 and add this Fair Isle-inspired stag cushion to your sofa.
www.notonthehighstreet.com/clothkat

The cat's whiskers

HOW CHARACTERFUL is this quirky feline! We love his bushy moustache and dapper suit. He's been hand-stitched by US-based Jessy Ellenberger – check out her Etsy shop for this cat and lots more on-trend embroidery designs.
www.etsy.com/shop/makingjiggy

THREE OF THE BEST *Halloween treats*

Celebrating the spookiest night of the year? Stitch our goody bags on page 54 and check out these Etsy finds

HERSWEETEMBRACE
A top-to-toe witch costume not quite your style? Keep your Halloween look subtle with this stitched ghost ring.

BEXCALIBER
This bright pumpkin has been hand-drawn and turned into a digital download. Print out and frame for your kitchen.

THEMANIACALMENAGERIE
We love this feline's yellow eyes! Needle felted and backed with a brooch pin, it's a cute accessory for Halloween or any time of year.

TREND SPOTTING

with CrossStitcher production editor
Jo Ryan

FOREST CREATURES

WOODLAND ANIMAL motifs are perfect for the new season and aren't just for kids. Here's our pick of designs.

Photograph: notonthehighstreet.com 0845 259 1359

WHO
Jessica Hogarth's colourful cards are great for sending pals cheery greetings.
www.notonthehighstreet.com/jessicahogarthdesigns

WHAT
This fox in the night makes a gorgeous autumn project – the kit comes with all you need, including a stitch guide.
www.etsy.com/shop/dioramatist

HOW
Create a cosy spot with this smart squirrel cushion from textile designer Carola van Dyke.
www.cotswoldtrading.com

NEW COLUMN!

Inside the mind of

MR X STITCH

Our manbroiderer sets himself the mission to get more people stitching on the go

Being the Kingpin of Contemporary Embroidery, I spend a lot of time travelling around the UK, being called out to use my stitchy powers to fight crime and bring peace.* If I can, I take the train as it's the most environmentally friendly approach (save the planet, yo) and gives me time to stitch along the way.

It still surprises me how few people you see on public transport who are being crafty. There's the occasional knitter, but I don't think I've seen someone stitching on a train or plane, unless they're part of my entourage. I just don't get it.

Let's be honest, Brits have a bit of a problem with interacting with strangers on trains. They'd rather hide behind a newspaper or stare at their phone than strike up conversation with the person next to them. So when someone like me comes along and gets their stitching out, most people don't know what to do.

I love it. I find that if I've got stuff on my mind, I can engage one half of my brain with stitching while the other half is working out what needs to happen upon arriving at my destination. I have my notebook out and jot ideas into it, all the while making progress on whatever stitchery I'm working on at the time.

Meanwhile, the person across the table from me hides behind their paper and casts furtive glances at me to see what I'm doing. I used to feel a bit paranoid about people looking at me stitching, but I've come to the conclusion they're jealous. I'm enjoying the inner peace that comes from stitching, while they're reading yesterday's news in the *Metro*. I know who I'd rather be.

It's interesting the reactions I get when stitching on a train. Some people look around the carriage at everything other than the big manbroiderer in front of them. Others pluck up the courage to chat and we end up having a fulfilling conversation that makes the journey much more interesting. And sometimes there are strange occasions…

I was stitching on the train once and the ticket master had been along, doing his duties. He'd clocked what I was doing but not made a noticeable response to it. However, 10 minutes later he came walking back, retracing his route, and as he sped past my table, he shouted: "I do rag rug making!" before entering the next carriage. I was bewildered, but glad I'd provided a safe space for his confession.

Do you stitch in planes, trains or automobiles? Tell me your experiences and I'll share them here. I want to get more people crafting on public transport. Let's make journeys more creative, by getting our crafts out for all to see. Are you with me?

> "When someone like me gets their stitching out, most people don't know what to do"

I LOVE STITCHING ON TRAINS – WHY NOT TRY IT TOO?

ALL I NEED FOR A HAPPY AND CREATIVE JOURNEY

Find me online:

www.mrxstitch.com
www.facebook.com/MrXStitch
www.twitter.com/MrXStitch

*By "fight crime" I mean "run workshops or do presentations".

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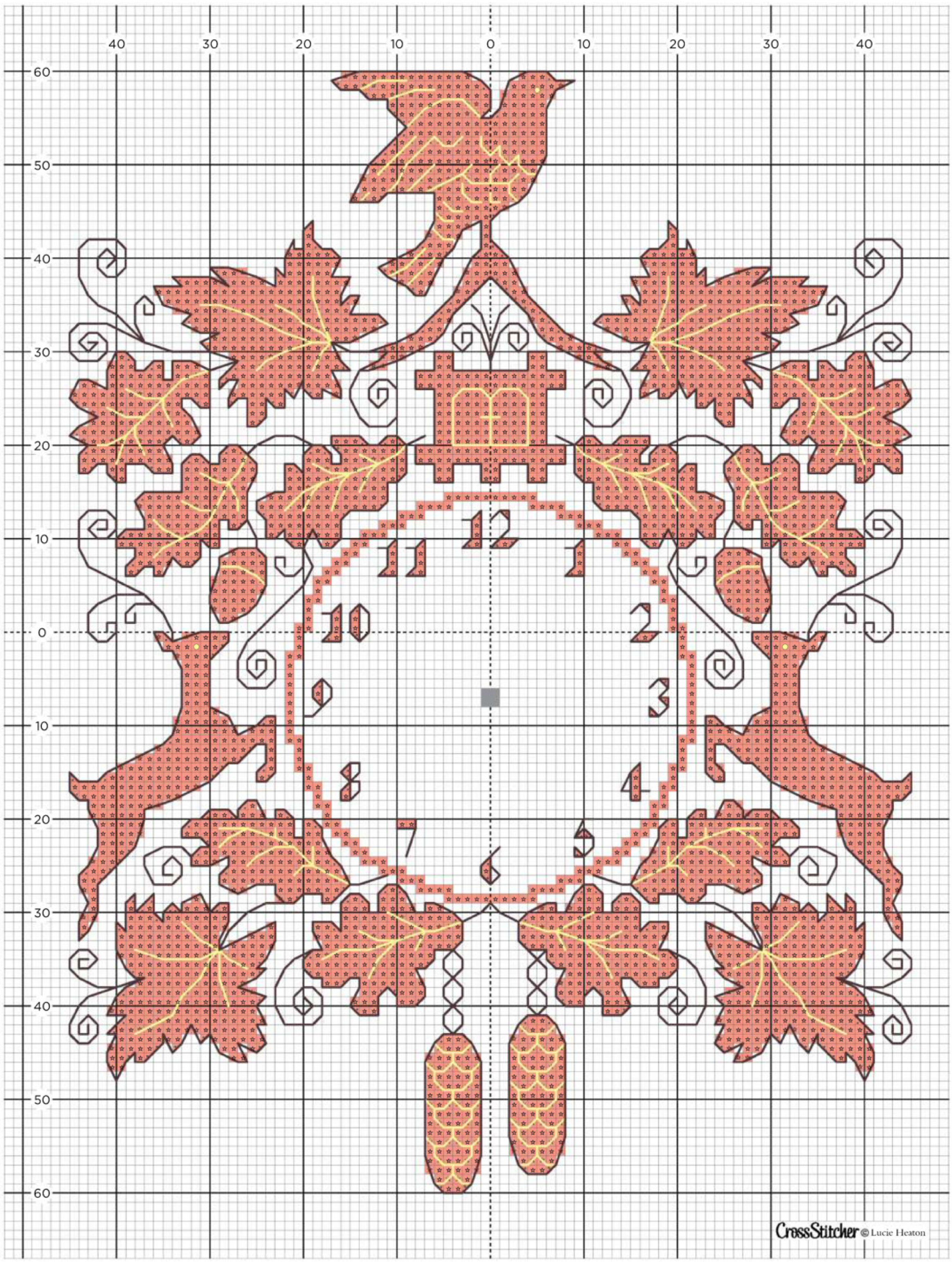
Heritage Crafts on Tel. 01889 575 256

www.zweigart.com

Time for giving

Top pals need top Christmas gifts! Stitch and give our scarlet cuckoo clock for a pressie they'll love forever

PERFECT PRESENT


40 30 20 10 0 10 20 30 40
60 50 40 30 20 10 0 10 20 30 40 50 60
12
11
1
10
2
9
3
8
4
7
6
5
CrossStitcher © Lucie Heaton

Designed by: Lucie Heaton
Design size: 22x16cm
Stitch time: 22 hours

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
Cross stitch in two strands			
★	349	013	0212 (2)
Backstitch in two strands			
	B5200	001	2401
bird, leaves, pulls			
	814	045	0514
all other details			
French knots in two strands			
	B5200	001	2401
eyes			
Cutting guide			
	Use as a guide to snip fabric for clock movement		

(2) indicates more than one skein required

Make a... clock

Step 1
CUT a circle of interfacing the same size as the clock face and press to the back of your stitching. Snip a small hole in the centre of this circle – enough to push the clock mechanism through.

Step 2
TRIM the mount board to the same size as the outside edge of your wooden frame. Attach to the front using double-sided tape.

Step 3
STICK double-sided tape on the back of the frame. Mark and match up the centre points on the frame and fabric edges.

Step 4
STRETCH the fabric to the reverse, folding neatly at each corner. Staple the fabric to the back of the frame. Secure the raw edges with tape.

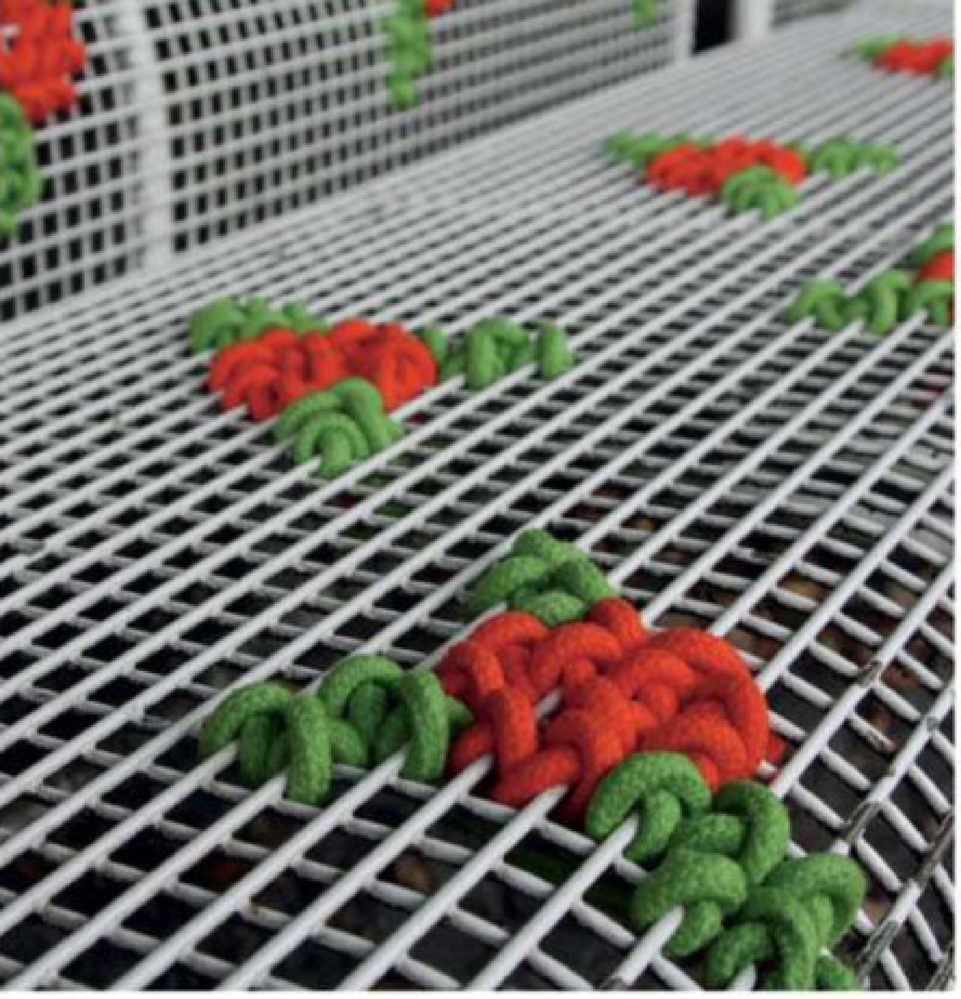
Step 5
MAKE a hole in the mount board directly beneath the hole in the fabric. Attach the clock movement following the manufacturer's instructions.

For a neat finish, stitch felt to the back of your frame then sew on a curtain ring for hanging

Stitch it on aida!
If you prefer to stitch on aida choose a 14 count white aida

Materials
- 28 count white linen, 45x40cm
- Clock movement and hands, 36mm minute hand
- Wood frame with outside measurement of 24x18cm
- Interfacing
- White mount board
- Staple gun
- Double-sided tape

For stockist details see page 70



Stitching on a huge scale and still no trailing threads – we could learn a lot from Miss Cross Stitch

An interview with...

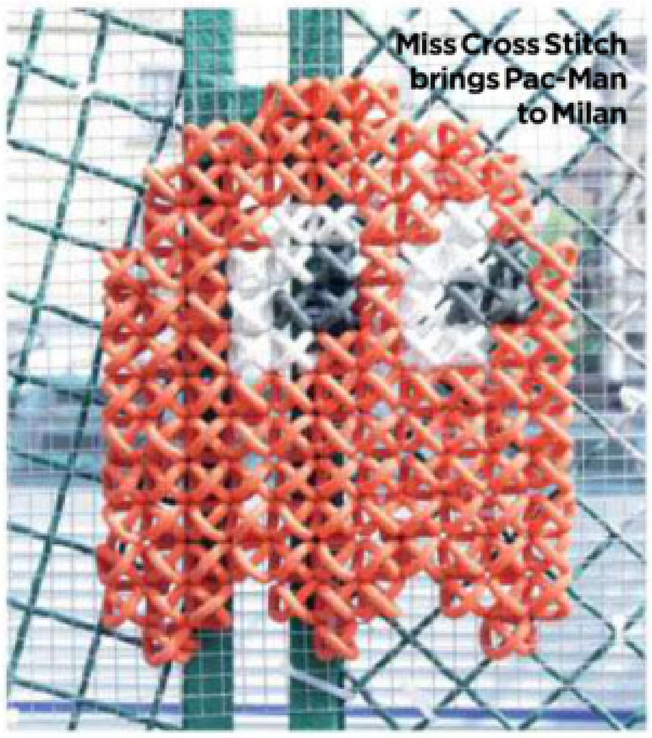
Cross Stitch Graffiti Artists

Meet the stitchers putting a new twist on embroidery by combining it with street art

Interview by ***Jessica Bateman***

Crafty graffiti is nothing new – woolly yarn bombing has become a common sight in many towns. And now cross stitch is being given the street-art treatment, with wire fences and benches being used in place of aida.

We spoke to two of the leading artists in this field – France's VXS and Germany's Miss Cross Stitch – about what inspired them to take the craft to the streets.



Miss Cross Stitch brings Pac-Man to Milan

Tell us a bit about yourselves

VXS: We are a girl and a boy called Vanessa and Stephane, aged 34 and 32 respectively. We've been in love (but not married) for 10 years now, and live in Lyon, France.

Vanessa practices sewing and traditional embroidery and Stephane is a graffiti writer. The idea of mixing our two passions came naturally – it seemed obvious to us.

Once we had the idea, we sourced fabric, drew sketches and tried them out in the street, using wire fences.

Miss Cross Stitch: I studied fashion and jewellery design. I've embroidered, stitched and knitted since I was a child. But over the years I became interested in putting these techniques in a modern context, to show that craft can be more than just Grandma's crocheted tablecloth. And what better way to do this than in a public space.

I got the idea to turn my stitching into street art when I was working in the design industry, creating a modern product line with stitched bags and pillows. One day, I was driving in my car when I spotted a park bench with a metal grid and thought how it looked like a textile that had been made for embroidering.

How do you create your stitched graffiti?

VXS: We embroider simple patterns, mixing cross stitch and pixel art. They require us to be meticulous and methodical – we stay focused when working and stick carefully to the pattern. There's no room for freestyle or improvisation.

Miss Cross Stitch: At first I tried self-dyed cotton rope, but now I use polypropylene rope because it's more resistant against water and sun. Creating the work is simple – I have my pattern, take the rope and start embroidering.

VXS, pictures of your graffiti recently went viral. How did this happen and what did it feel like?

It all started after our work was featured on a blog last year. A number of other websites picked up on the images and spread a lot of misinformation about us, but who cares – at least the photos are real. Following this, we've heard about other

Left: How do VXS make their XXL designs really pop? With XXL backstitch!

Right: Patterns are closely stuck to – no getting away with wrong stitches at this size

> My favourite place to work was Berlin, as so many people reacted positively to what I was doing
>
> **MISS CROSS STITCH**

people being inspired to try embroidering in their neighbourhood or garden. That's a positive outcome we're very happy about.

How do you decide what designs to stitch?

VXS: The patterns we embroider depend on the time, place, equipment and, most importantly, our mood.

Miss Cross Stitch: A repeat pattern embroidered all over a bench often looks good and, in the case of some roses in Berlin, brings a warm and cosy atmosphere to the public space. I like the contrast it creates.

Often I'm inspired by the places I'm stitching. For example, in Hamburg I embroidered an anchor, a heart and a cross. Hamburg's a port city and you frequently see those symbols there.

How have the public reacted to your work?

VXS: Passers-by stop and look astonished. They don't always understand what we're doing, so they look at our sketches and ask questions. Some people just don't understand why we spend our time and energy for free on a piece that can be destroyed the next day. Overall, however, people usually react well. We embroider in daylight, but often on Sunday afternoons when the city is quiet.

Miss Cross Stitch: Once I tried to embroider a park bench in the pedestrian area of Stuttgart, but when I was about halfway through a policeman came over and asked me to remove the thread.

My favourite place to work was the park in Berlin, because so many people reacted positively to what I was doing and came to speak to me.

What would be your dream piece to create, if there were no restrictions on time or budget?

VXS: Maybe one day we'll try reproducing extra-large versions of famous classical paintings.

Miss Cross Stitch: I'd like to embroider a bench completely, but it's tricky finding a grid bench where I can do this.

You can visit VXS's Facebook page at www.facebook.com/urbanxstitch

To see Miss Cross Stitch's blog, go to misscrossstitch.wordpress.com

Wire fences are the perfect street fabric

VXS's designs reflect their mood

Christmas rules

Time to celebrate! Get everyone in the festive spirit with our bright sampler

Deck the halls
DREAM BY THE FIRE
BE GOOD
for goodness sake
check your list twice
Say Hello
to friends you know
WALK IN
a winter
WONDERLAND
WISH JOY TO THE WORLD

40 30 20 10 0 10 20 30 40
120
110
100
90
80
70
60
50
40
30
20
10
0

0
10
20
30
40
50
60
70
80
90
100
110
120
CrossStitcher © Felicity Hall

Designed by: Felicity Hall
Design size: 44x16cm
Stitch time: 55 hours

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
Cross stitch in two strands			
0	307	289	0104
⋈	310	403	2400
★	349	013	0212
#	414	235	1801
♥	718	088	0707
×	964	185	1112
▬	996	433	1103 (2)

(2) indicates more than one skein required

Materials

- 28 count white linen, 70x40cm
- White backing fabric, 49x21cm
- Interlining, 46x18cm
- Bobble trim, 20cm
- Twisted red and white cord

For stockist details see page 70

Make a... hanging

Step 1
TRIM your stitched evenweave to 2.5cm outside the edge of the stitching all the way round, then fold the edges over 1.5cm to the back.

Step 2
PLACE the interlining on top of the back of the evenweave beneath the turned-under edges. Hand stitch it into place without going through to the front.

Step 3
STITCH the bobble trim to the back of the hanging at the bottom.

Step 4
PLACE the backing fabric over the interlining, then turn the edges under to match up with the edges of the evenweave and slip stitch into place. Stitch on the cord to hang your sampler.

Stitch it on aida!
If you prefer to stitch on aida choose a 14 count white aida

BOBBLE TRIM
To get your bobbles closer together on a length of trim, just fold the cotton tape into pleats. We decorated our sampler with a trim from Deckchair Stripes (www.deckchairstripes.com).

WAKE ME UP

Caffeine addict? Perk up your coffee tin with our witty band

Designed by: Emma Congdon
Design size: 8x8cm
Stitch time: 5 hours

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
Cross stitch in two strands			
★	433	358	2008
o	437	362	2012
♥	938	381	2005
~	3341	328	0302

Got a kitchen colour scheme? Stitch our design in colours to match

Stitch it on aida!
If you prefer to stitch on aida choose a 14 count white aida

Make a… pot band

Step 1
MEASURE round your tin and add 3cm to this measurement. Cut your evenweave to this length and 12cm wide. Stitch the design in the centre, then cut the backing fabric to the same size.

Step 2
STITCH the fabrics right sides together along the top long edge. Open out and refold the other way, placing the short edges of the evenweave and lining right sides together. Stitch to make a tube.

Step 3
TURN right sides out, push the lining inside, then fold the bottom edges under. Top stitch round the top and bottom. Slip the tube of fabric over your tin.

Materials

- 28 count antique white evenweave, see instructions for sizing
- White backing fabric, see instructions for sizing
- Coffee tin

For stockist details see page 70

Your *stitching*

Drop us a line to pin your projects into our album!
Email your photos to crossstitcher@futurenet.com

Here's the cat I stitched from issue 282. I love cats – especially ginger ones – so this was just right for me.
Sheila Ibbotson, via email

I stitched the butterfly necklace that came with issue 282, using rainbow threads for summer. I hope you like it!
Rose Smith, via email

I enjoyed every stitch of this beautiful design by Durene Jones in issue 281. I stitched it on to a canvas bag.
Jan Whittick, via email

Here's the beetle picture I made for my son's birthday from the card designs in issue 280.
Jeni Nicol, Canada

I love this design. It took me a few months to stitch for a very special couple who are thrilled with it.
Fiona Middleton, via email

Here's the pinboard I made from issue 274 – I added a few extra butterflies and used lots of different colours.
Louisa Booth, via email

I stitched this tree to give a friend as a wedding present, and made it into a cushion for the couple's home.
Hayley Livermore, via email

Here's my latest project. I adore skulls, so this design is perfect. I love stitching but find some designs too girly!
Jen Pearce, via email

Stay in touch...

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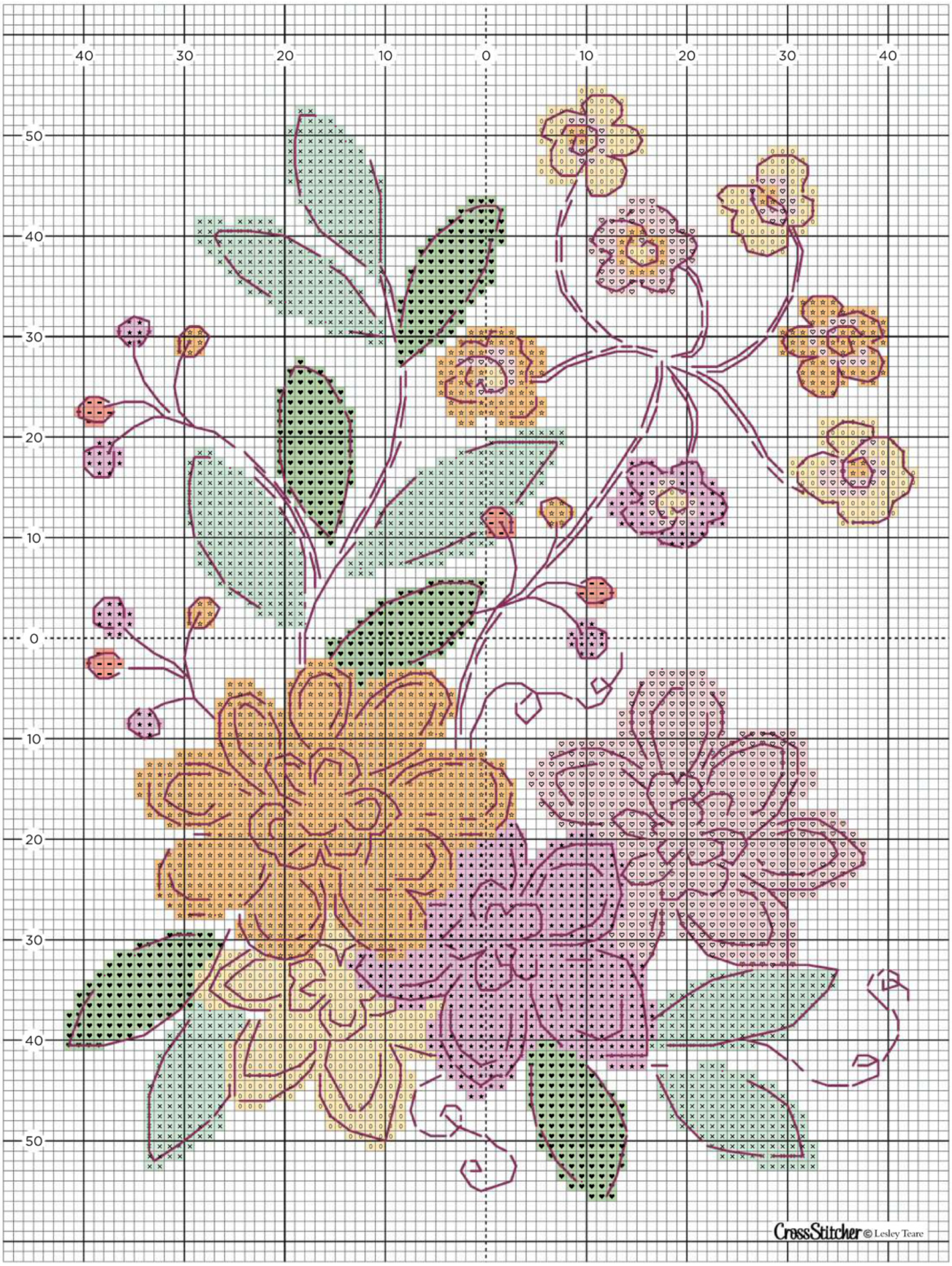
Love the changing colours of autumn? Enjoy them all year with our gem-toned blooms and brooches


CrossStitcher © Lesley Teare

Designed by: Lesley Teare
Design size: 20x15cm
Stitch time: 25 hours

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
Cross stitch in two strands			
▬	350	011	0213
×	564	206	1208
★	721	324	0308
♡	957	050	0612
♥	989	242	1401
★	3607	087	0708
0	3855	311	2513
Backstitch in one strand			
—	150 all details	042	0703

Materials

Picture

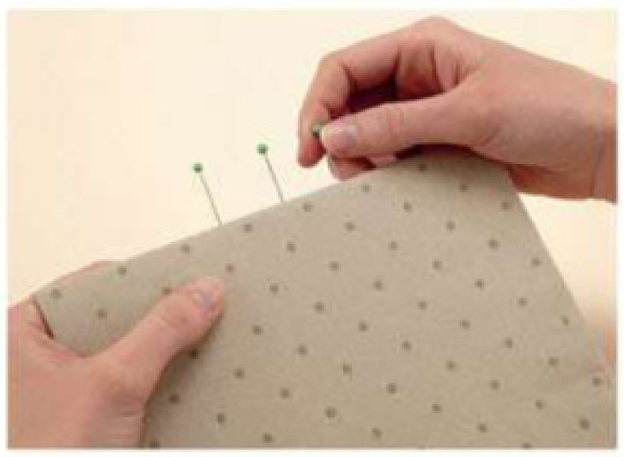
- 28 count cream linen, 40x35cm
- Small coloured buttons
- Wooden frame
- Mount board

For stockist details see page 70

For a 3D finish, stitch small buttons in co-ordinating colours to the centres of the larger flowers

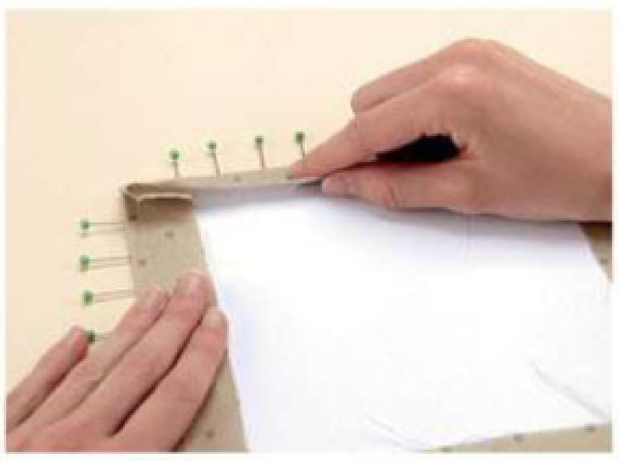
How to… **frame a picture**

Step 1



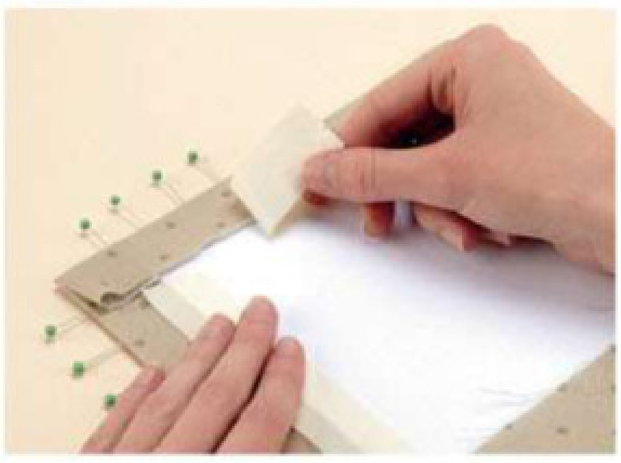
CUT a piece of white mount board to fit inside your frame. Place your design centrally over the mount board and pin the fabric around the board to secure, starting at the centre of each side and working outward.

Step 2



PIN around the entire perimeter and check that 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.

Make a… brooch

Step 1

TRIM your fabric into a 6cm circle. Work a running stitch round the edge of your fabric. Place over the button and gather the fabric ends around it.

Step 2

USE your fingernail to tighten and smooth any lumpy areas around the perimeter of your button. Once you're happy with it, pop the backing in place. Glue a brooch pin over the backing plate.

Materials

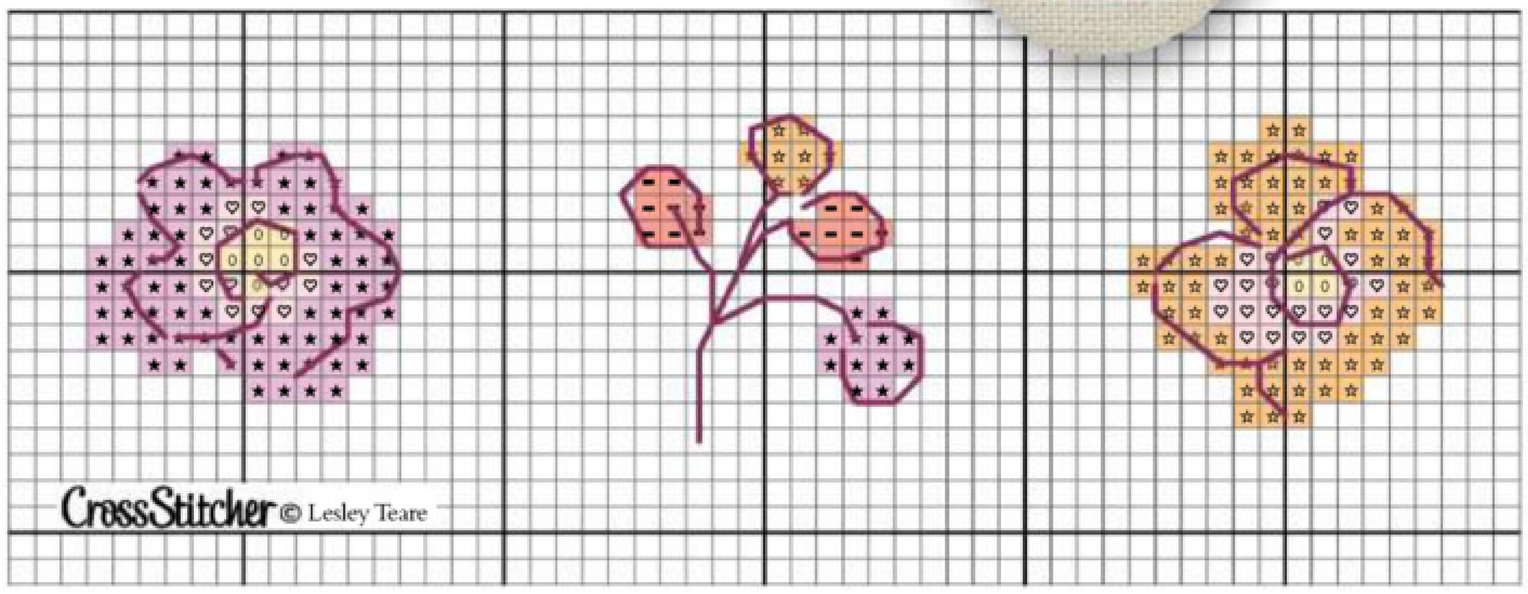
Brooches

- 28 count cream linen, 15x15cm
- Self-cover button, 38mm
- Brooch pin

For stockist details see page 70

Self-cover button kits make assembling buttons easy. Find them in haberdasheries or online

Stitch it on aida!
If you'd rather stitch on aida, choose a 14 count cream aida

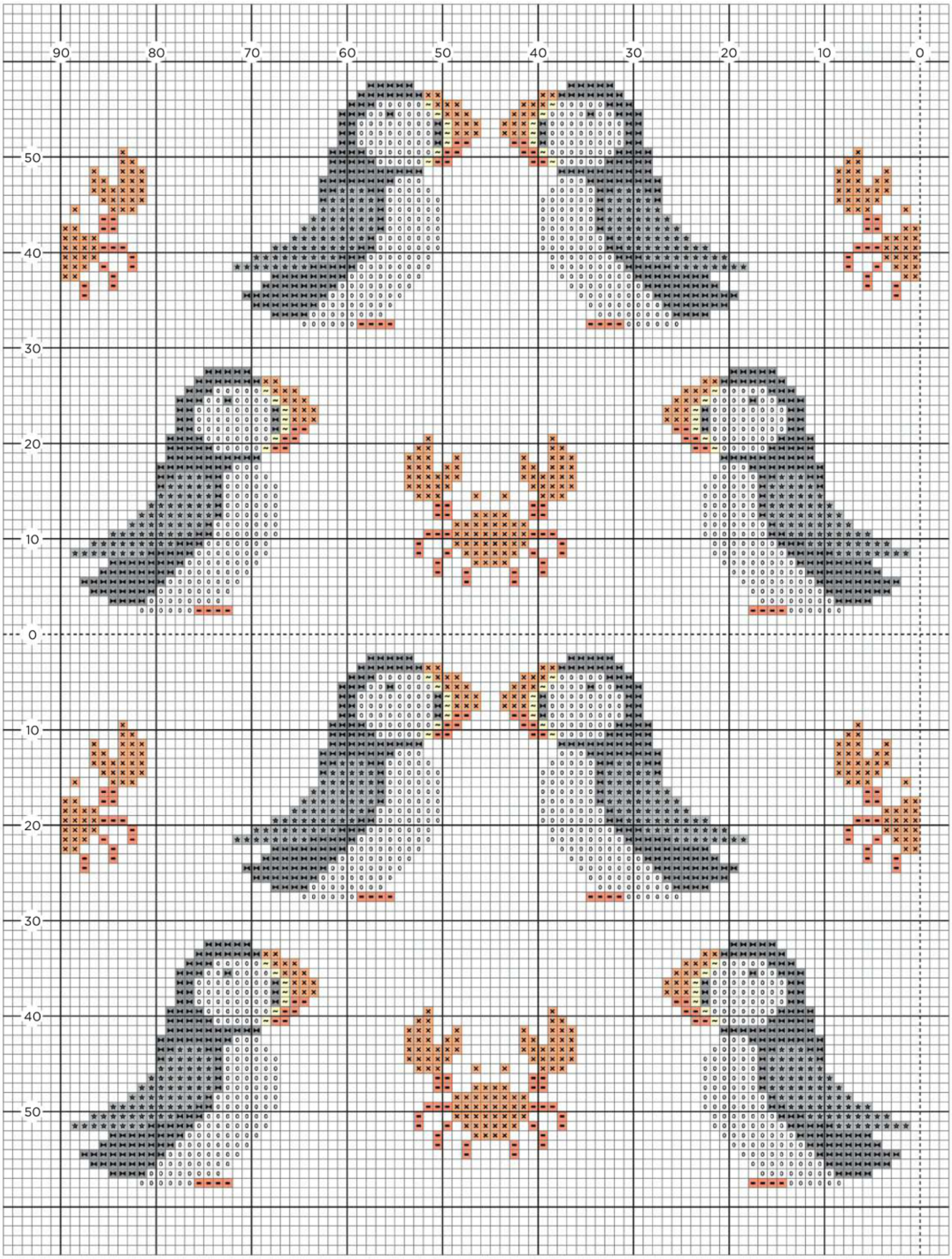


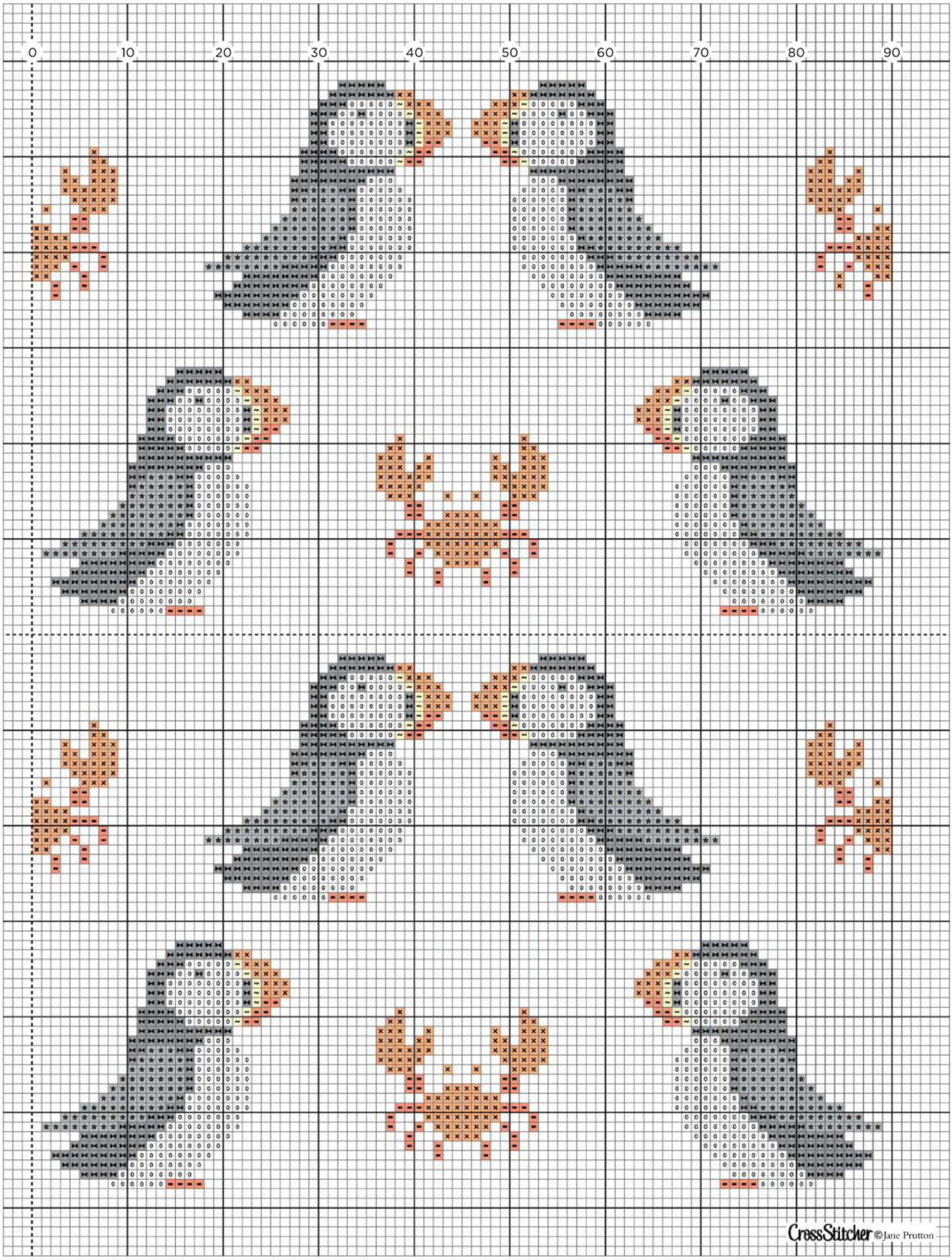
DOWN on the SHORE

Stitch puffins and crabs in repeat for an on-trend printed-fabric effect cushion

PERFECT PRESENT

DOWN ON THE SHORE

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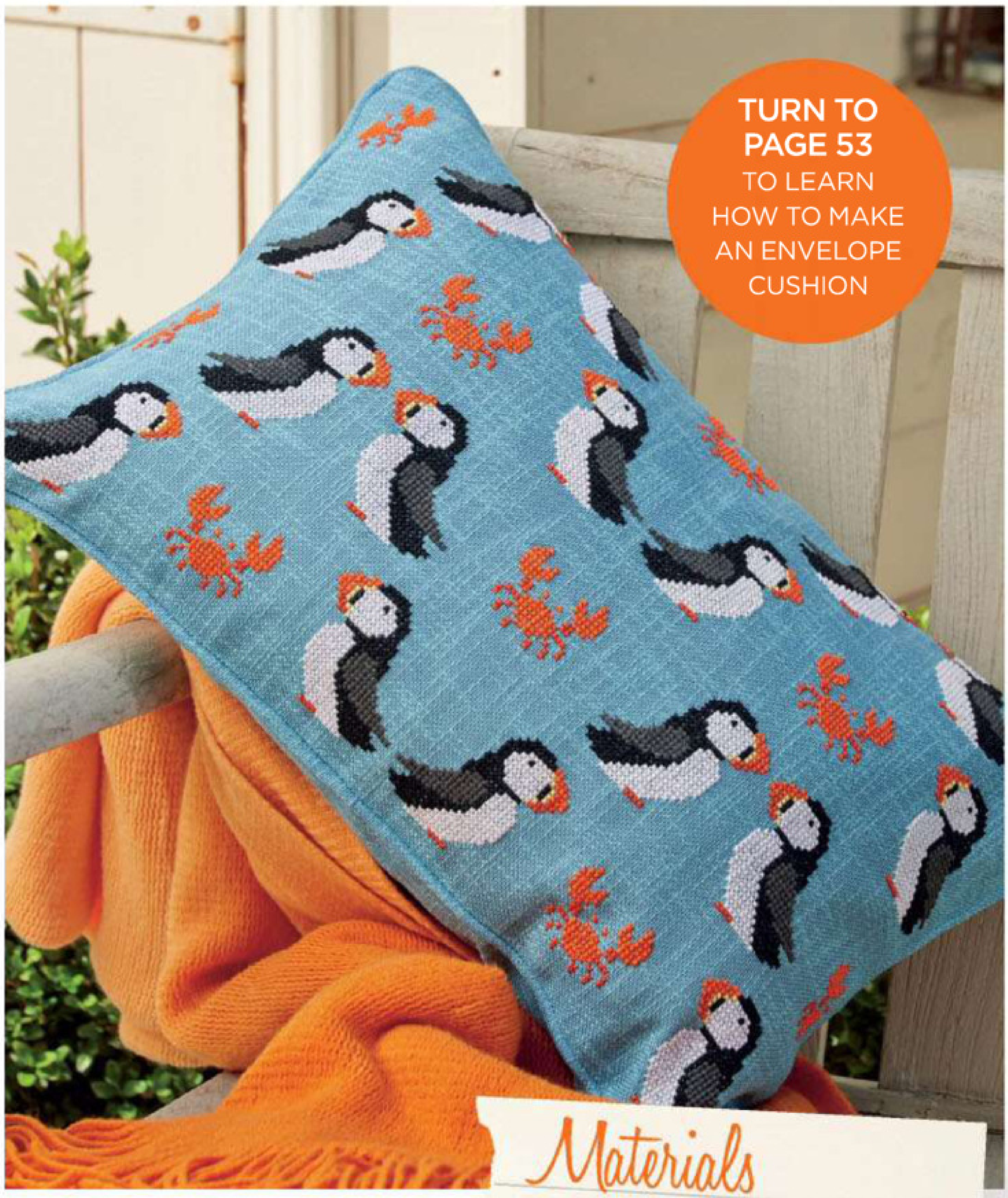
CrossStitcher ©Jane Prutton



TURN TO PAGE 53 TO LEARN HOW TO MAKE AN ENVELOPE CUSHION

Designed by: Jane Prutton
Design size: 31x48cm
Stitch time: 35 hours

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
Cross stitch in four strands			
0	B5200	001	2401 (3)
⋈	310	403	2400 (3)
~	744	301	0112
▬	900	333	0208
×	946	332	0207 (2)
★	3799	236	1713 (2)

(2) indicates more than one skein required

Materials

- 19 count blue evenweave, 50x70cm
- Blue backing fabric, two pieces 24x55cm
- Blue bias binding, 180cm
- Piping cord, 180cm
- Cushion pad, 40x60cm

For stockist details see page 70

For a perfect pattern, count carefully to ensure your motifs are in the right positions

Make a… piped cushion

Step 1

WRAP your bias binding around the piping cord and pin the long edges of the strip together. If you can't find bias binding to match, cut strips of leftover evenweave and sew them together into one long strip.

Step 2

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

Step 3

TRIM your stitching to 38x55cm. Pin your piping cord in place on the cushion front, cutting notches in excess fabric at the corners. Trim the piping away from the overlap end and nest the fabric over the other end.

Step 4

MAKE an envelope cushion by placing your stitching right sides together with the two hemmed pieces of backing fabric. Pin, then machine sew as close to the edges of the piping as possible. Turn and insert the cushion pad to finish.

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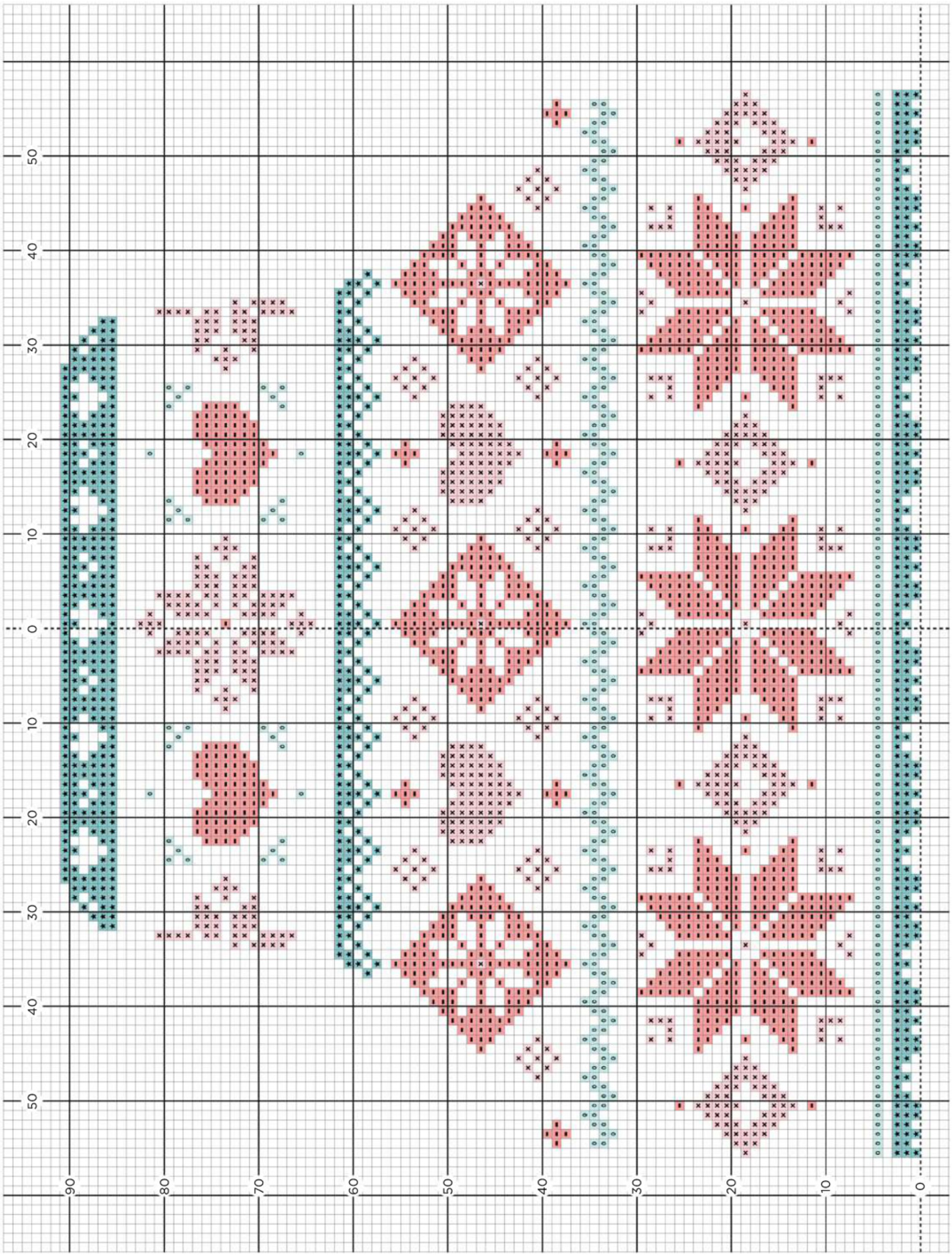
Winter Warmers

Keep toasty on cold nights with our Fair Isle-inspired hot water bottle cover, cushion and mug cosy

PERFECT PRESENT
Home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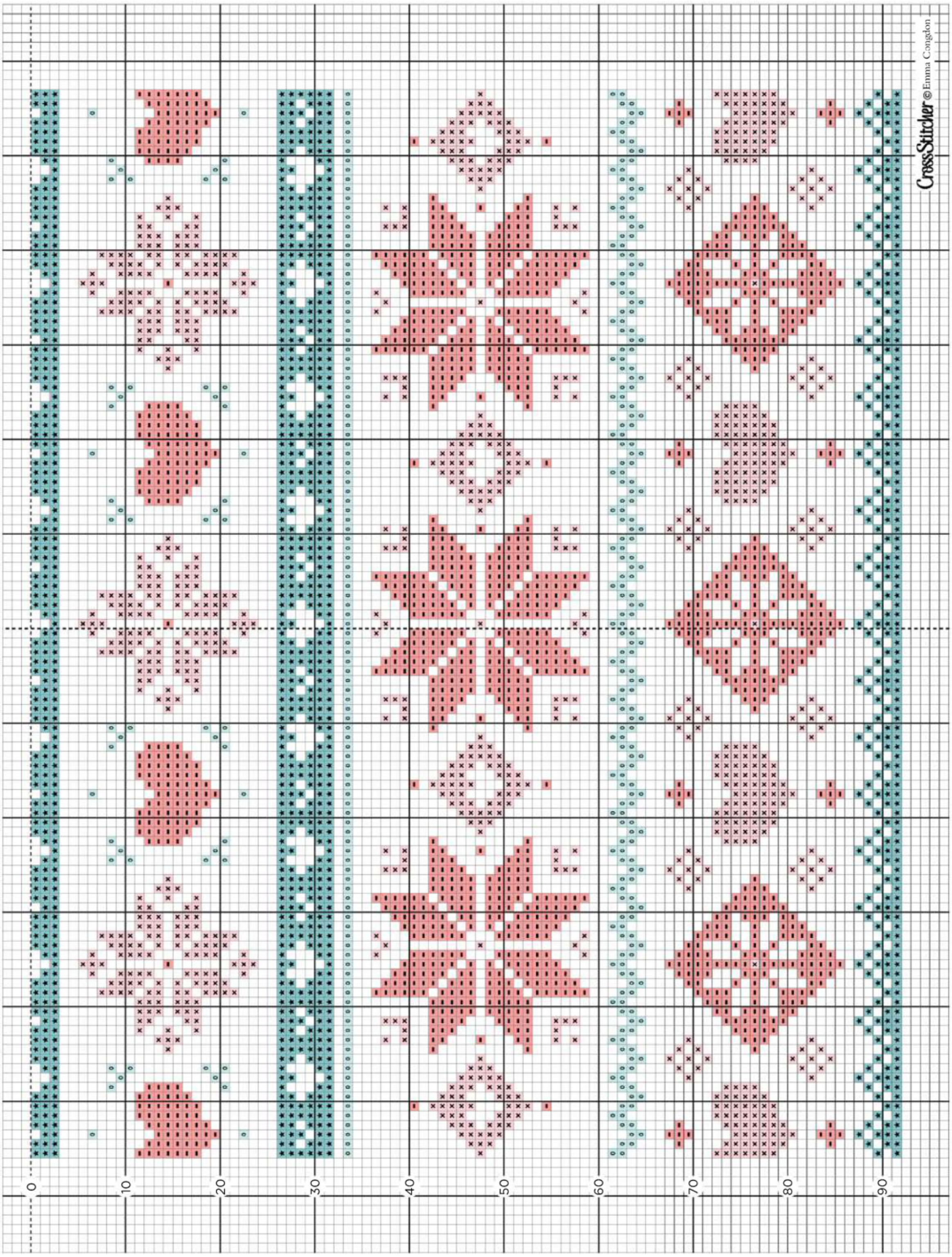
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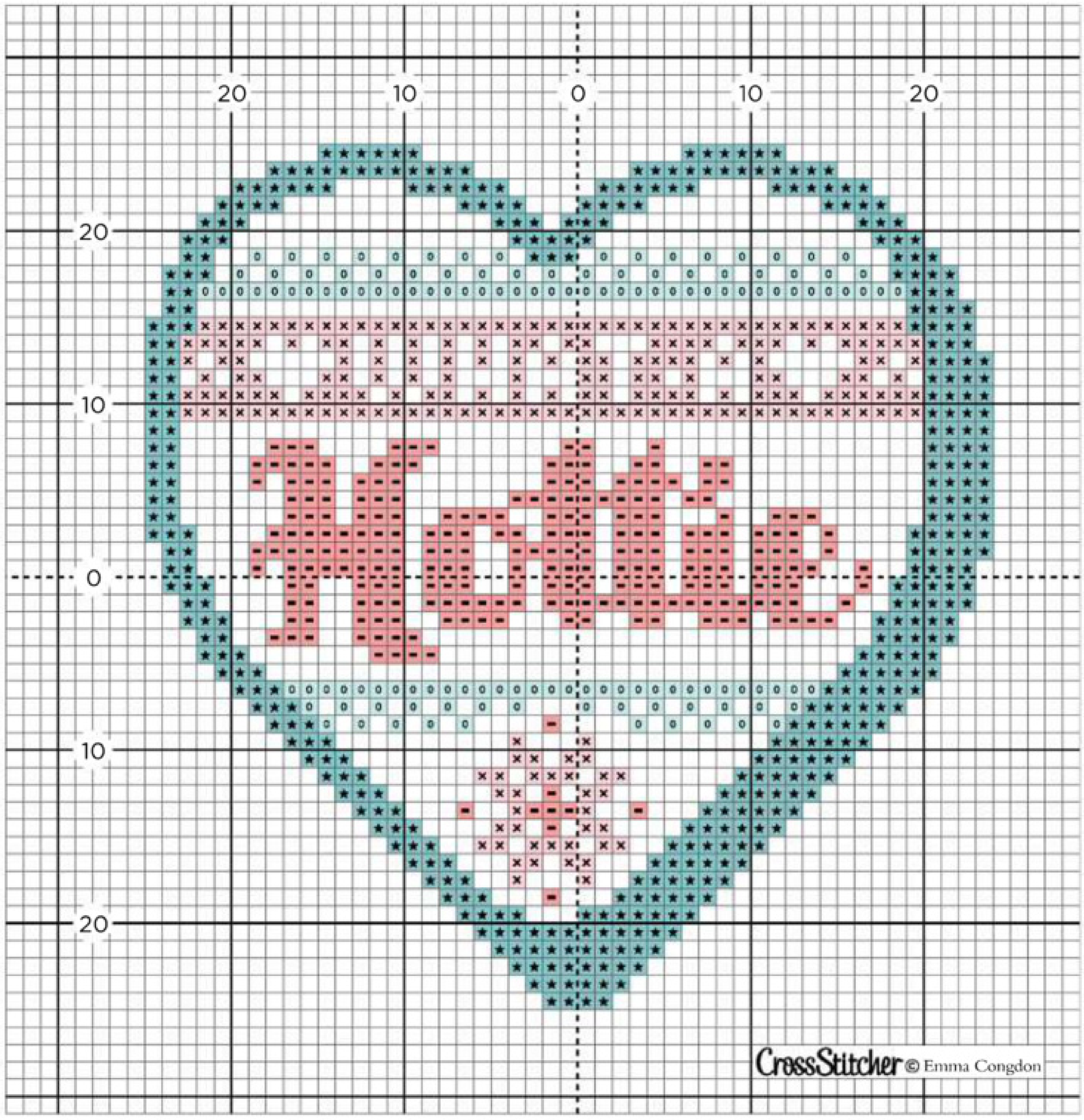


Designed by: Emma Congdon **Design size:** 33x20cm **Stitch time:** 50 hours

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
Cross stitch in two strands			
▬	891	035	0411 (2)
×	894	026	0408 (2)
o	964	1092	1112
★	3812	188	2706 (2)

(2) indicates more than one skein required

Materials

Hot water bottle cover

- 28 count white evenweave, 55x40cm for the cover; 30x30cm for the pocket
- White cotton backing fabric, see instructions for sizing

For stockist details see page 70

Make a… hot water bottle cover

Step 1

CREATE a pattern to fit your hot water bottle by drawing round it and adding a little extra for ease and a seam allowance. Stitch the design until you've filled the shape, ignoring the seam allowance.

Step 2

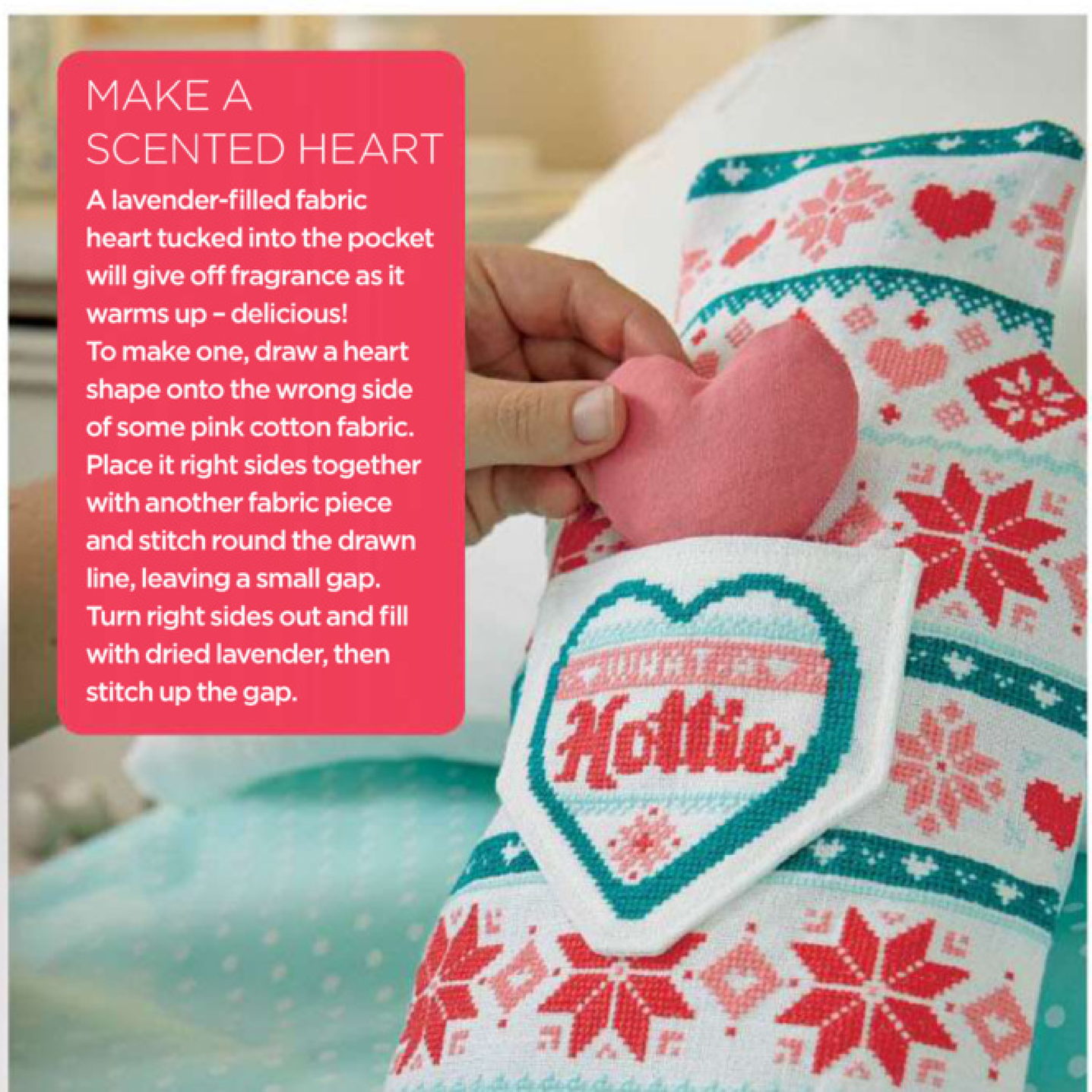
MAKE the pocket by trimming your stitched fabric 2.5cm outside the design. Place right sides together with cotton fabric of the same size and stitch, leaving a gap. Turn right sides out, top stitch the upper edge, then stitch the sides and bottom to the centre of your hot water bottle design.

Step 3

USE your bottle template to cut two pieces of fabric for the back, creating an envelope opening in the middle with 8cm of overlap. Hem the short edges.

Step 4

PLACE the back pieces and front right sides together and stitch all the way round the edge. Turn right side out to finish.



MAKE A SCENTED HEART

A lavender-filled fabric heart tucked into the pocket will give off fragrance as it warms up – delicious! To make one, draw a heart shape onto the wrong side of some pink cotton fabric. Place it right sides together with another fabric piece and stitch round the drawn line, leaving a small gap. Turn right sides out and fill with dried lavender, then stitch up the gap.

Make a… mug cosy

Step 1

TRIM your stitching to 10x30cm. Place your backing fabric on top right sides together and sew along the top, bottom and right side.

Step 2

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

Step 3

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

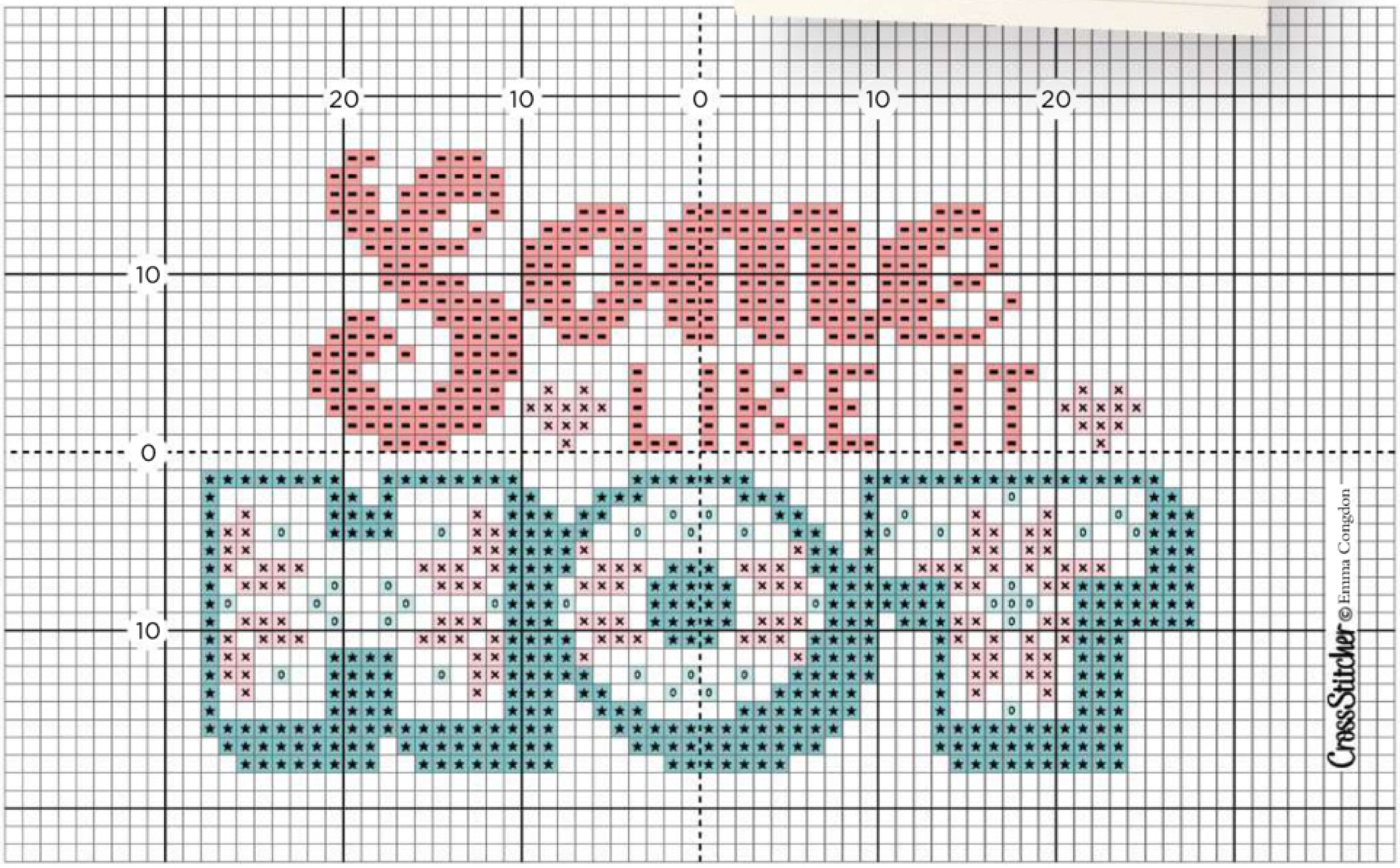
	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
Cross stitch in two strands			
▬	891	035	0411
×	894	026	0408
o	964	1092	1112
★	3812	188	2706

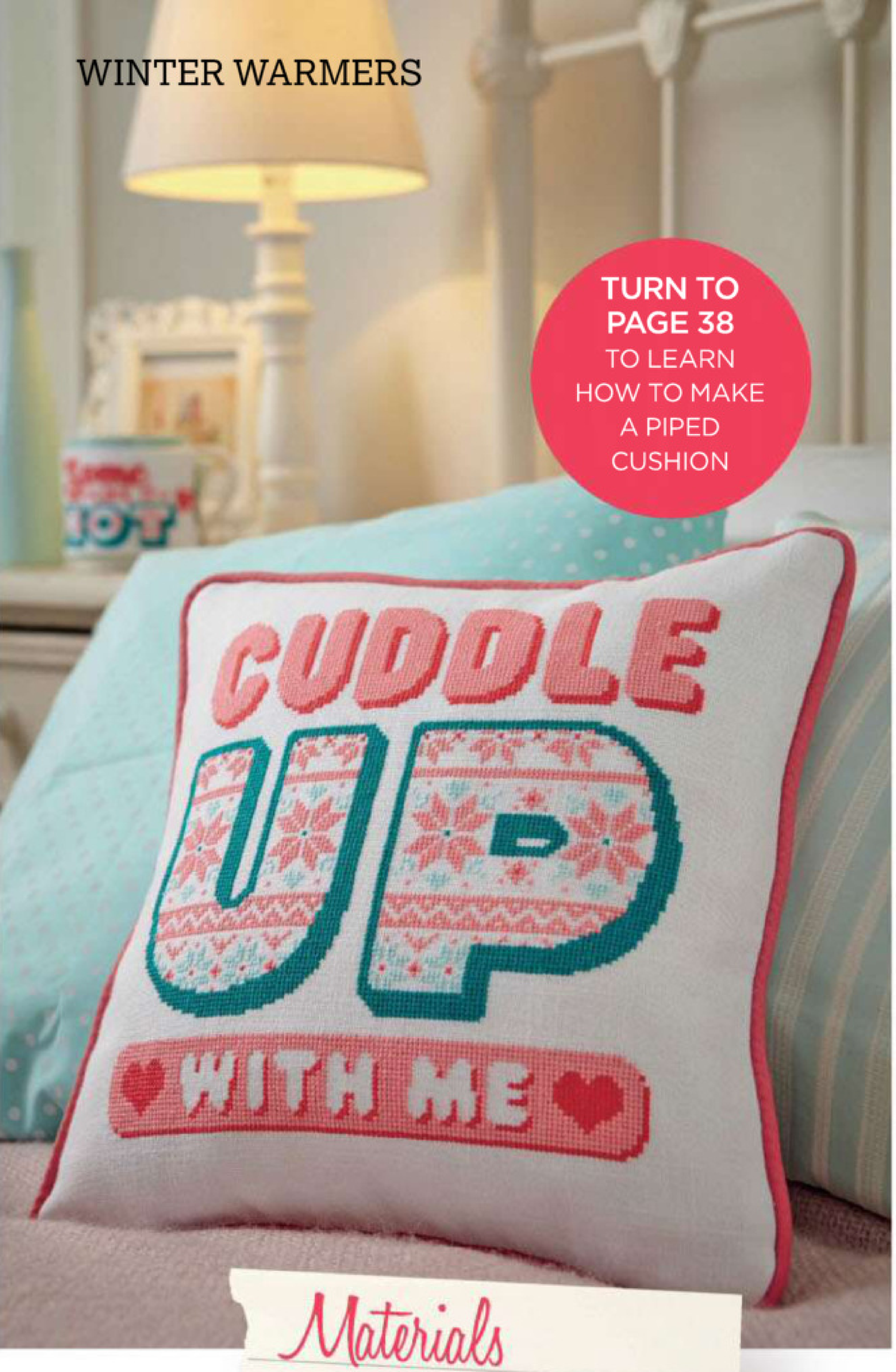
Materials

Mug cosy

- 28 count white evenweave, 30x50cm
- White cotton backing fabric, 10x30cm
- Pink cord
- Heart button

For stockist details see page 70





TURN TO PAGE 38 TO LEARN HOW TO MAKE A PIPED CUSHION

Materials

Cushion

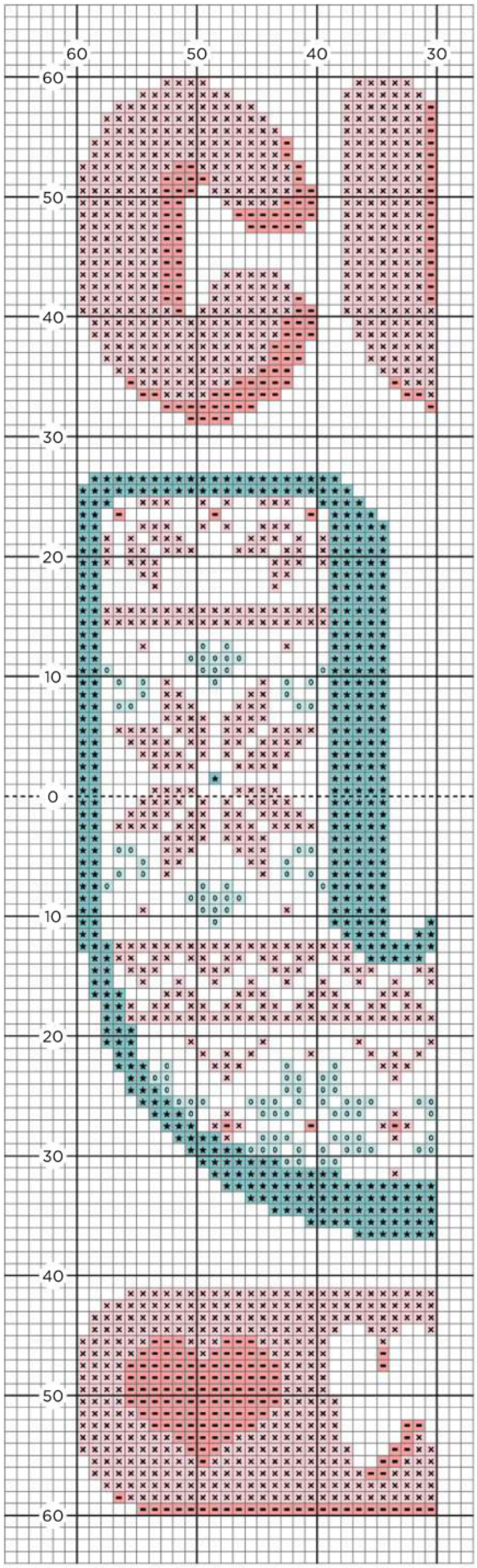
- 28 count white evenweave, 45x45cm
- White cotton backing fabric, two pieces 22x33cm
- Pink bias binding, 140cm
- Piping cord, 140cm
- Cushion pad, 35x35cm

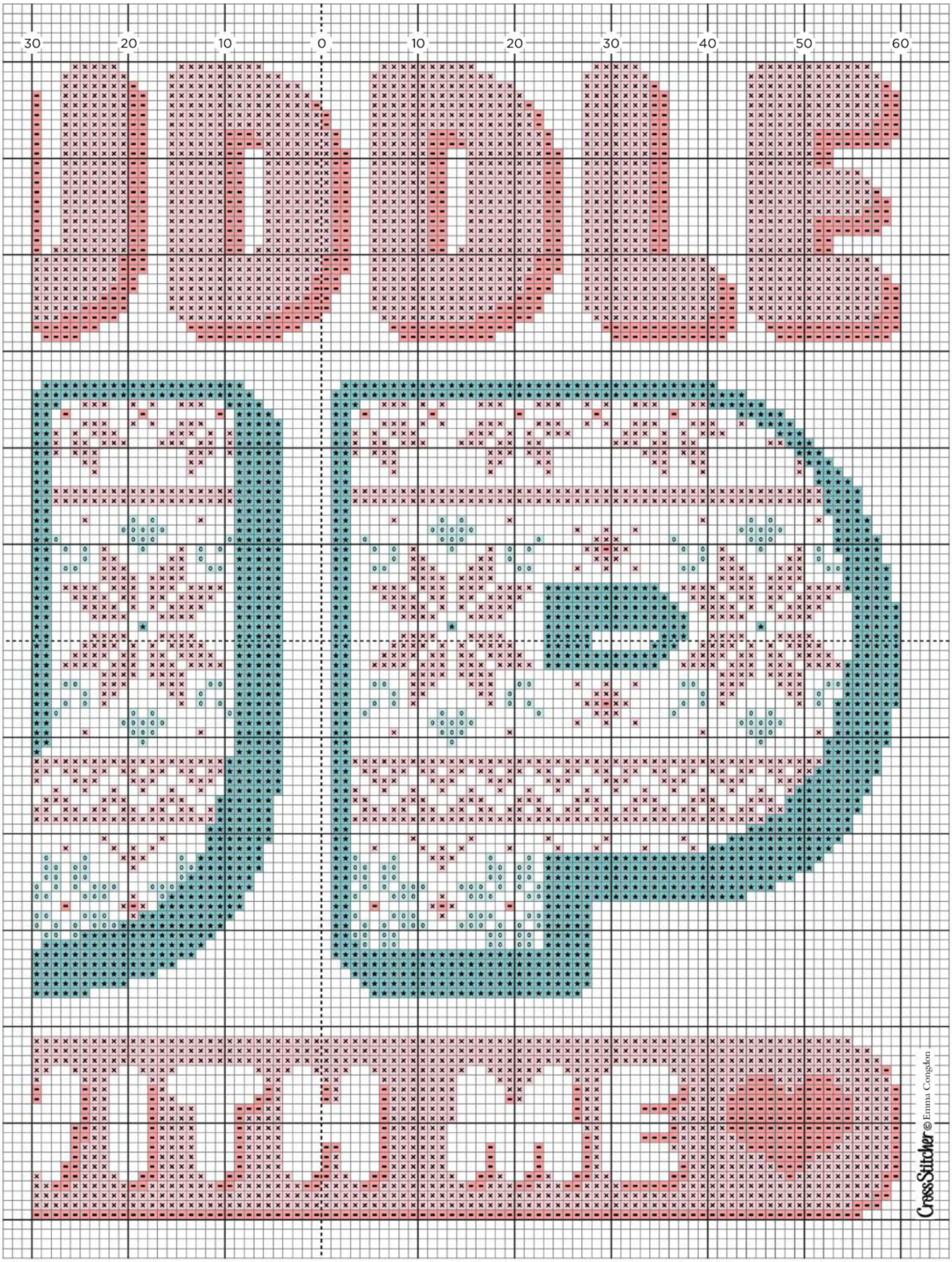
For stockist details see page 70

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
Cross stitch in two strands			
▬	891	035	0411
×	894	026	0408 (3)
o	964	1092	1112
★	3812	188	2706

(2) indicates more than one skein required

TURN TO PAGE 53 TO LEARN HOW TO MAKE AN ENVELOPE CUSHION

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CrossStitcher © Emma Congdon

CrossStitcher COMPETITION

Win fantastic products from ZWEIGART® in our exciting competition!

WIN!

IN A RANGE of beautiful natural shades, Zweigart fabric is perfect for autumn stitching projects, and we have **10 sets of three fabrics up for grabs.** Your prize includes 1m of each of these 25 count fabrics: Lugana in the new 'flamingo' colour; Floba in linen; and Perlleinen also in linen – perfect for making homestyle and accessories for the new season. As part of your prize, Zweigart is including the **Nature ideas book** featuring lots of autumnal motifs such as foxes and hedgehogs, berries and flowers to decorate your makes – so enter our competition today!

YOUR PRIZE

One metre of each of these fabrics:

- Lugana (ref 3835) in new colour 4082 flamingo
- Floba (ref 3988) in colour 53 linen
- Perlleinen (ref 3385) in colour 53 linen

PLUS the Nature ideas booklet (ref 104/267)

The total value of each prize is £97

Just answer this question:

What count is Floba fabric?

A 25 **B** 26 **C** 27

Competition open 19 September – 16 October 2014

PRIZES WORTH **£970!**

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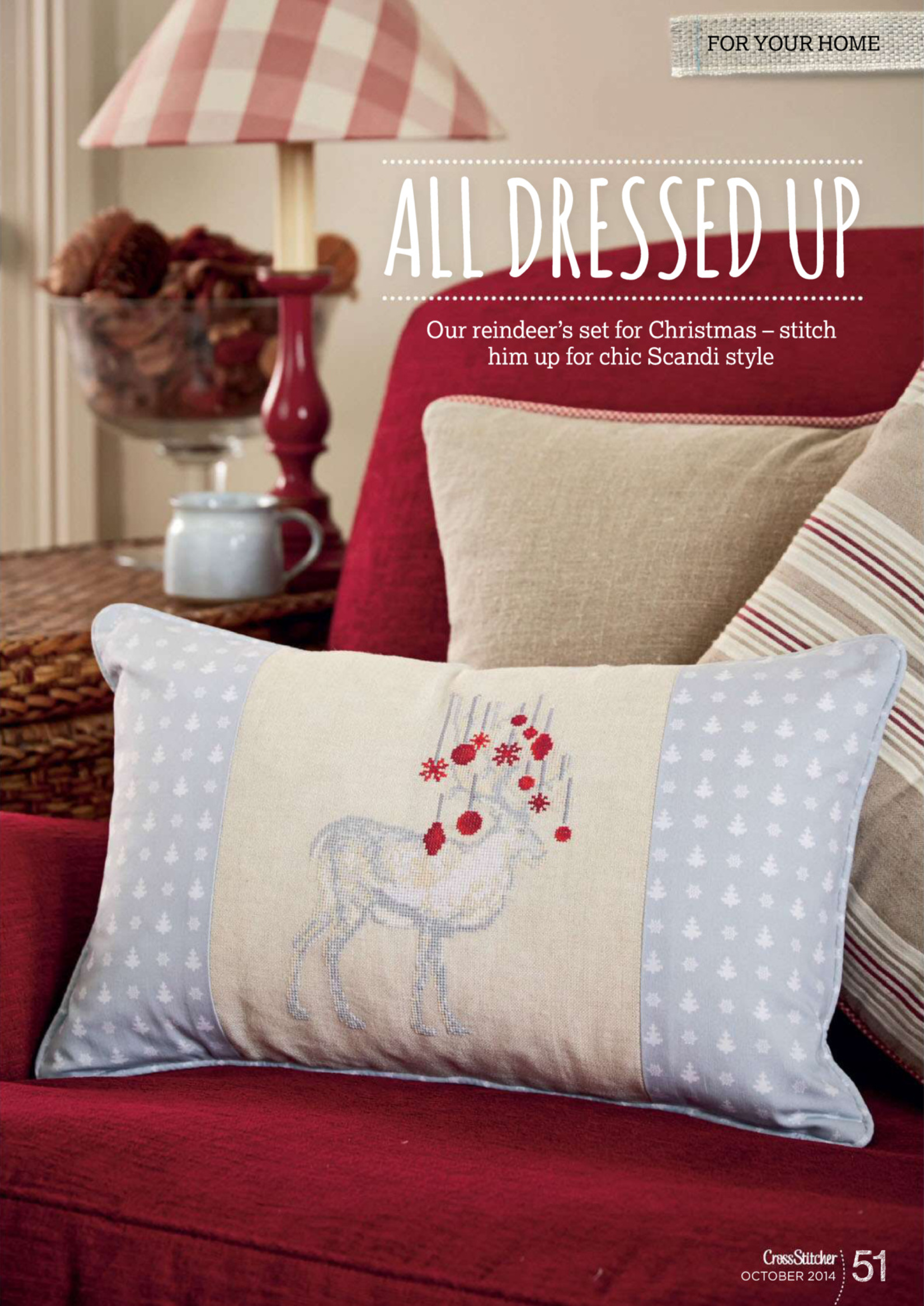
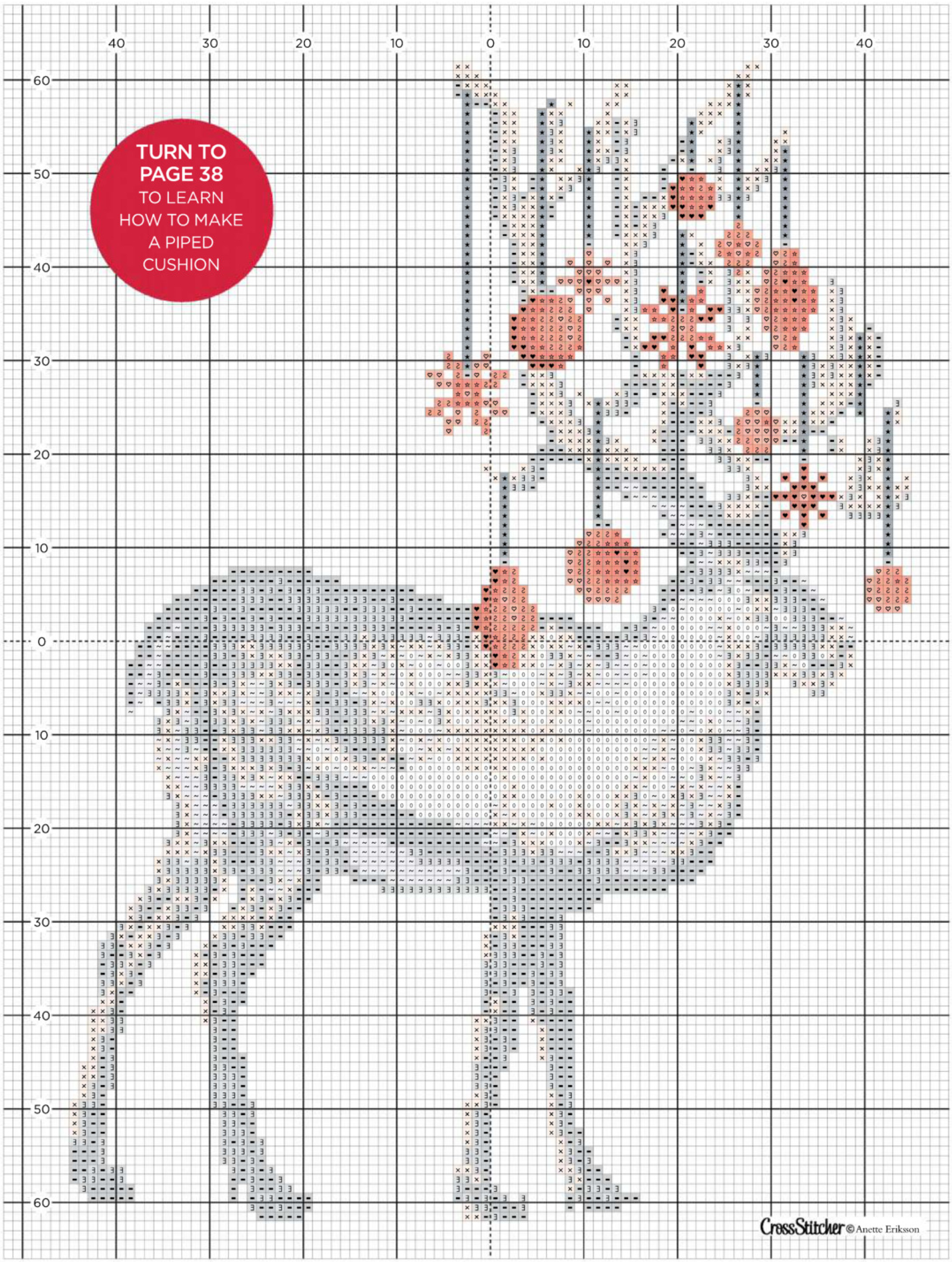
Giveaways are open to UK readers only and winners will be chosen at random. Please note postal entries won't be accepted for these giveaways. For full giveaway terms and conditions turn to page 71.

ALL DRESSED UP

Our reindeer's set for Christmas – stitch him up for chic Scandi style

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TURN TO PAGE 38 TO LEARN HOW TO MAKE A PIPED CUSHION
CrossStitcher © Anette Eriksson

Materials

- 28 count light rustic linen, 50x40cm
- Grey print cotton fabric: two front pieces 15x33cm, two backing pieces 22x51cm and two piping strips 4x90cm
- Piping cord, 180cm
- Cushion pad, 40x60cm

For stockist details see page 70

Designed by: Anette Eriksson
Design size: 22x16cm
Stitch time: 22 hours

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
Cross stitch in two strands			
0	B5200	001	2401
×	Ecru	387	2404
☆	304	019	0510
★	318	235	1802
2	321	013	0210
▬	415	398	1803
♥	498	1005	0511
♡	666	046	0211
Ǝ	762	234	1804
~	3865	926	2403

Need help picking a patterned fabric? Pale with a small print works well, or try one with little splashes of red

Stitch it on aida!
For a faster finish, choose a 14 count rustic aida

Make an… envelope cushion

Step 1

TRIM your stitching to 33x27cm, then join the front pieces of grey print fabric either side of this. Hem one long edge on each back piece. Right sides in, lay the first hemmed piece over your stitching.

Step 2

LAY your second hemmed piece on top, so the two pieces overlap each other in the centre. Pin along the hem to hold in place. Pin around the edges of your cushion.

Step 3

STITCH all the way around the outside edge of your cushion. Trim excess fabric at the corners. Turn your cushion right sides out, press and pop on your cushion pad.

Designed by: Kerry Morgan
Max design size: 8x8cm
Stitch time: 4-5 hours for each

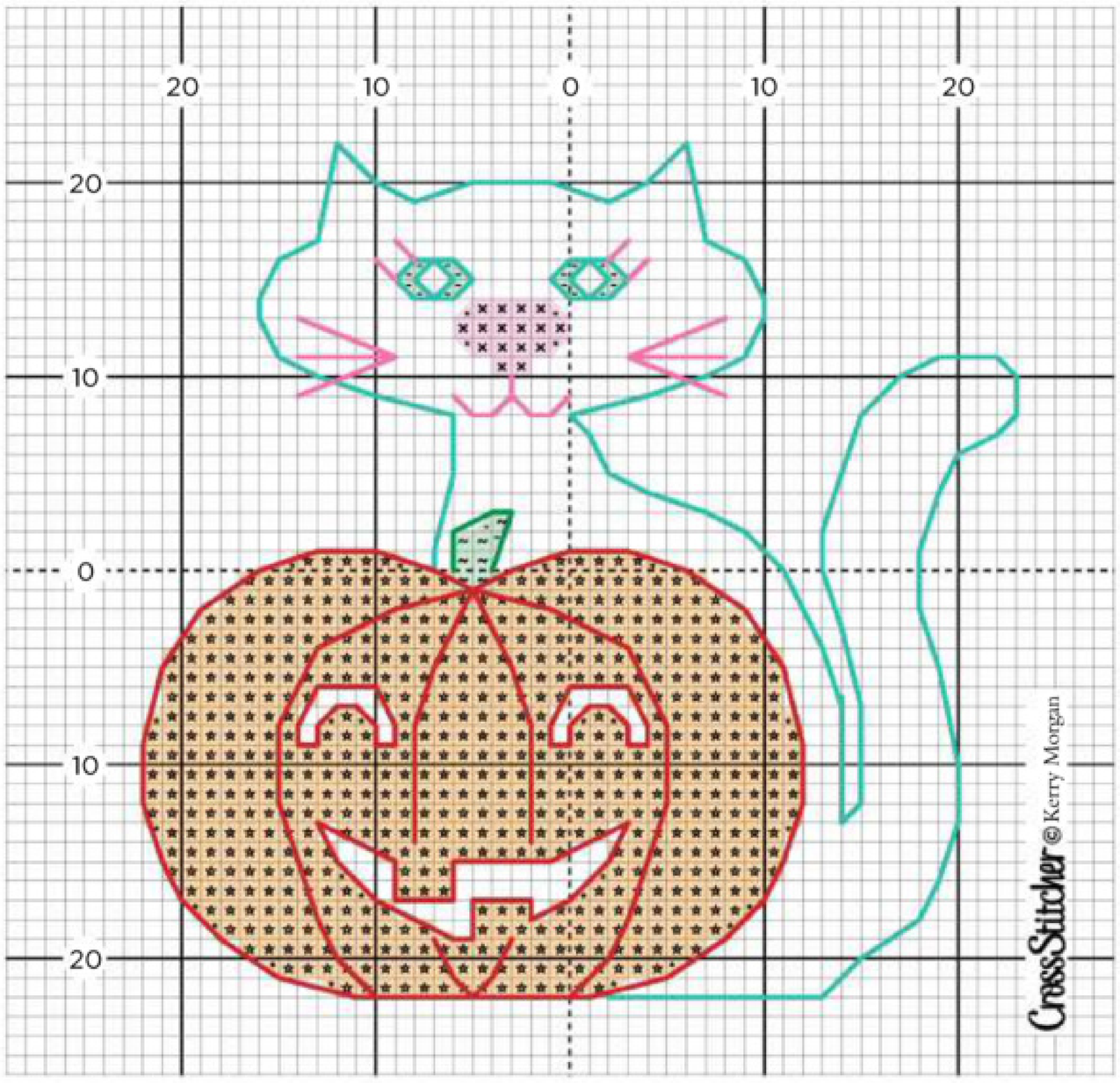
Materials

- 14 count black aida, front piece 35x30cm, back piece 17x15cm
- Orange cotton lining fabric, two pieces 17x15cm
- Black webbing tape, two pieces 23cm

For stockist details see page 70

TRICK OR TREAT

Spooky! Kids'll love these Halloween bags – just make sure they're filled with sweets!



Make a… treat bag

Step 1

TRIM your stitched fabric to the same size as the backing fabric. Place the two pieces right sides together and stitch down one side, along the bottom and up the other side. Repeat with the lining fabric but leave a gap along the bottom.

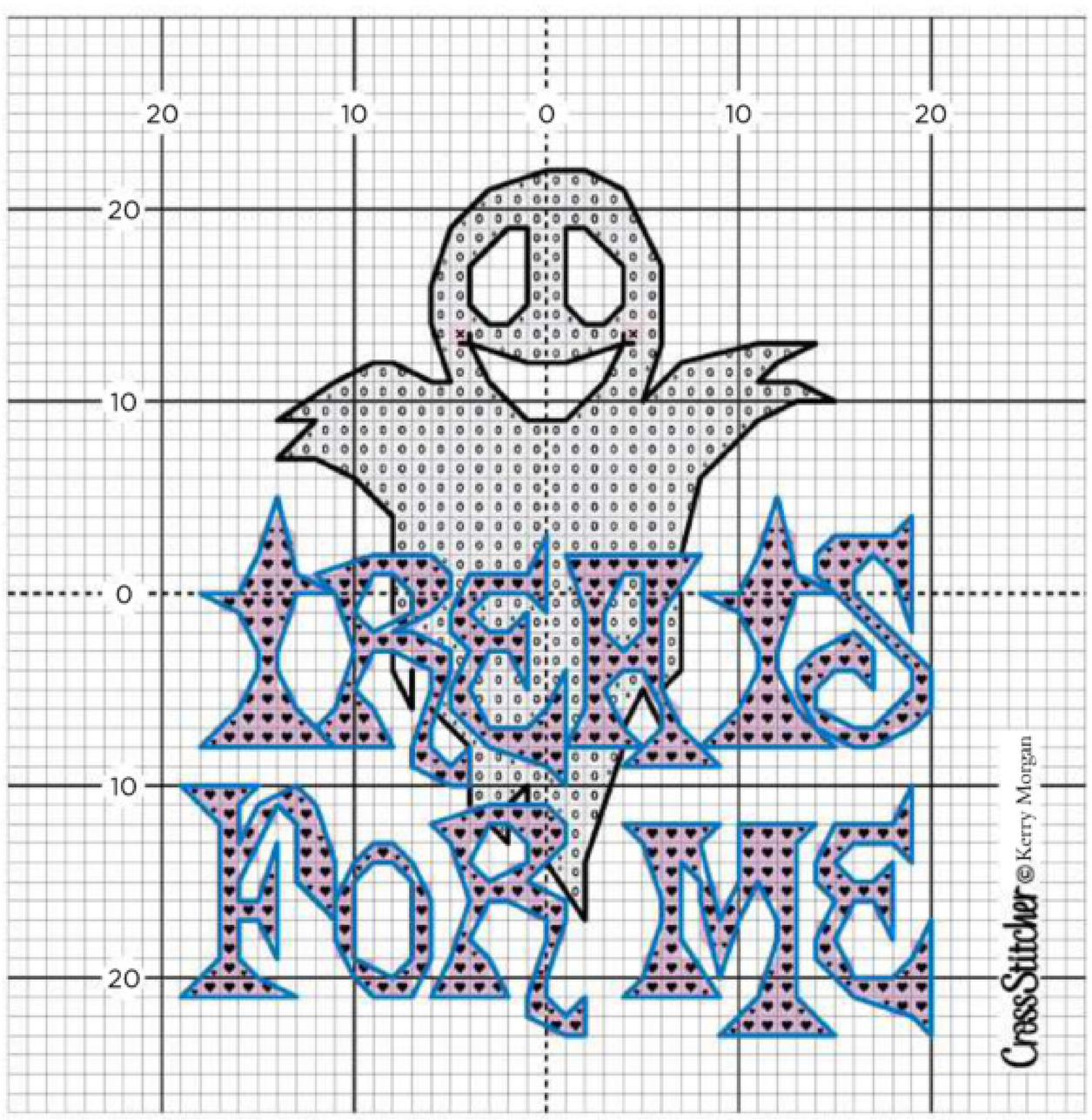
Step 2

PIN one webbing handle right sides together with the front of the bag, just in from the side seams and matching raw edges. Repeat with the other handle on the bag's back.

Step 3

PLACE the outer and lining right sides together (one inside the other) and stitch together round the top. Turn right sides out through the gap in the lining, then slip stitch the gap closed. Push the lining inside and top stitch round the top edge.

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
Cross stitch in three strands			
0	B5200	001	2401
♥	553	098	0712
×	894	026	0408
~	955	203	1210
★	3854	313	2301
Backstitch in two strands			
cat	B5200	001	2401
cat	955	203	1210
Backstitch in one strand			
ghost	310	403	2400
pumpkin	608	330	0205
pumpkin	905	257	1412
lettering	3854	313	2301



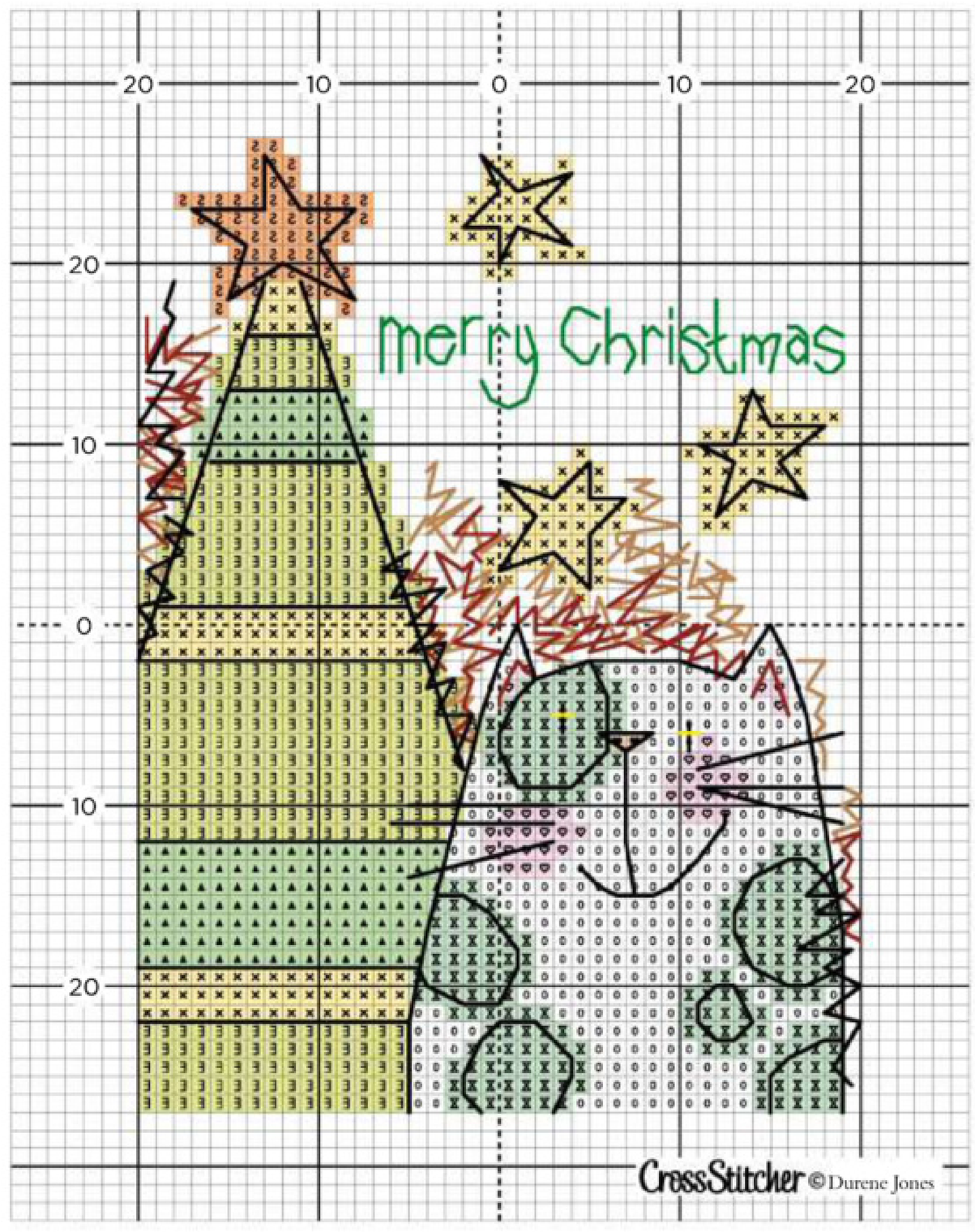
FELINE FESTIVE

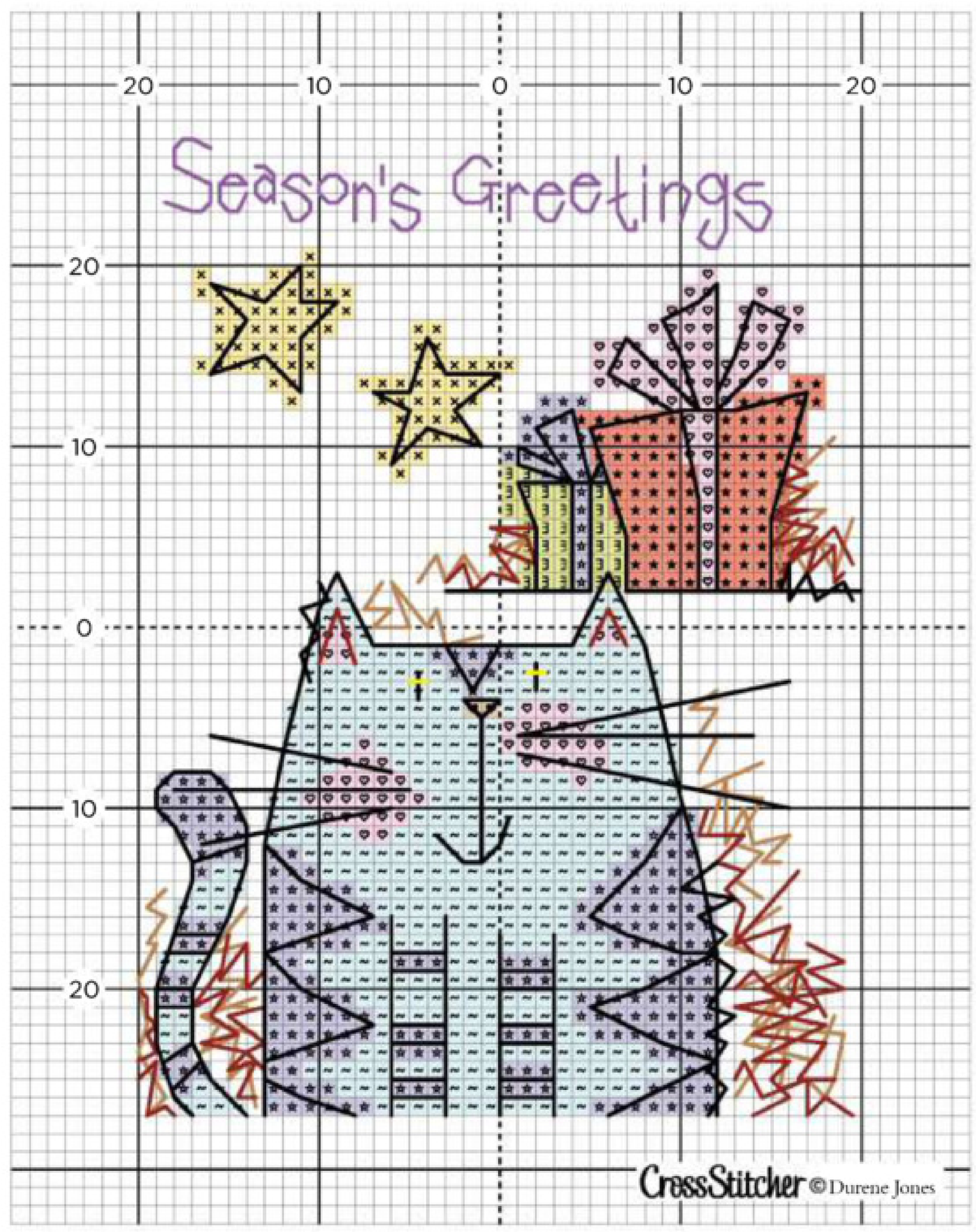
Wish pals a meow-vellous Christmas with our merry moggie cards

Merry Christmas
Season's Greetings

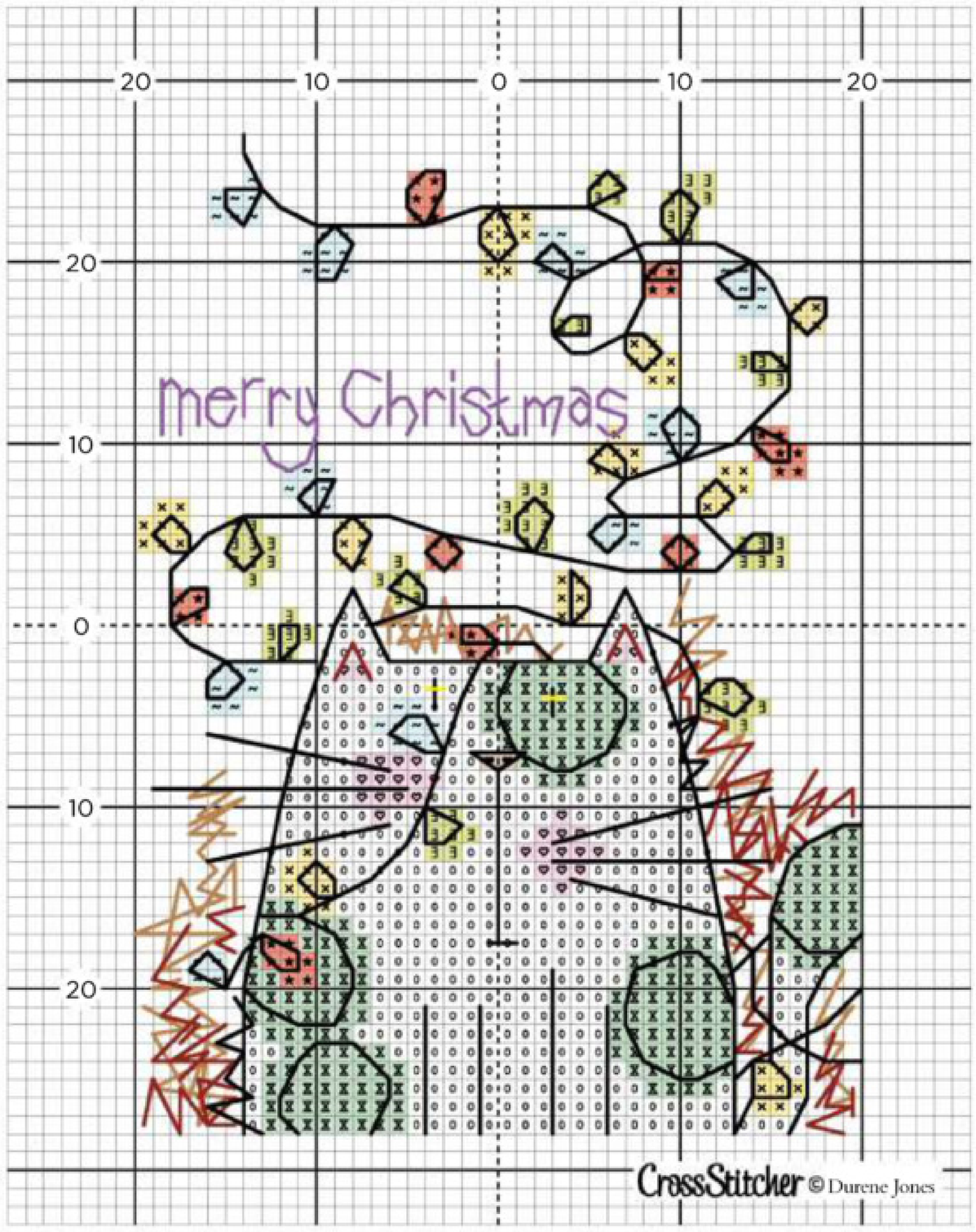
Designed by: Durene Jones
Design size: 10x7cm each
Stitch time: 8 hours each

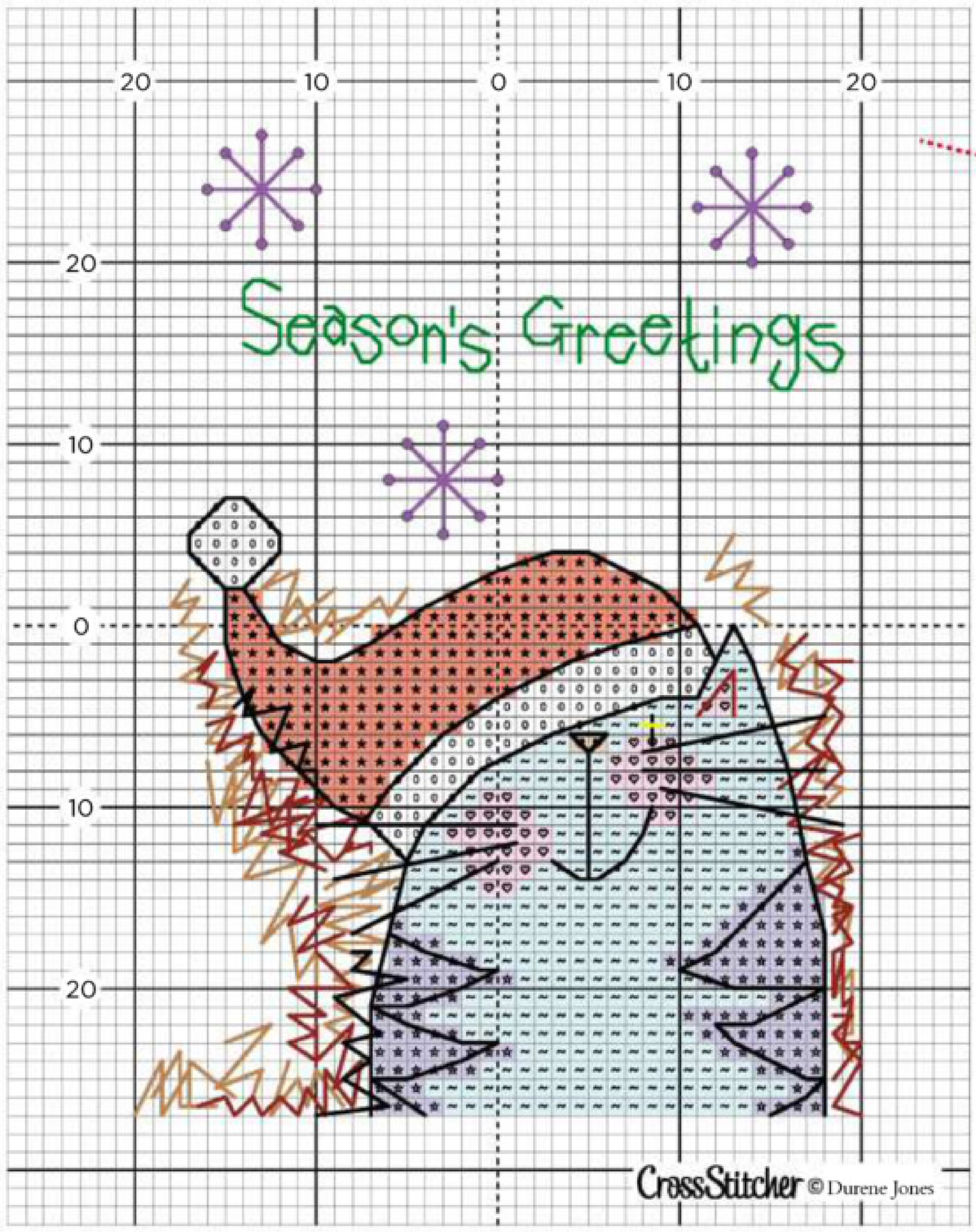
	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
Cross stitch in two strands			
	B5200	001	2401
	340	118	0902
	436	363	2011
	605	1094	0613
	703	238	1307
	747	158	1104
	817	013	0211
	907	255	1410
	947	330	0205
	955	203	1210
	973	290	0105
Backstitch in two strands			
eyes	B5200	001	2401
lettering	700	228	1304
all other details	801	359	2007
lettering	3746	1030	2702
Backstitch in one strand			
background scribble	436	363	2011
background scribble, ears	801	359	2007
French knots in two strands			
snowflakes	3746	1030	2702





DOWNLOAD & PRINT YOUR **FREE** ILLUSTRATED CARD FROM **WWW.CROSSSTITCHERMAG.COM**





How to… mount a card

Step 1

DOWNLOAD your free card mount from our website and print on thin card, or print on paper and stick to thin card. Cut out the aperture and around the card edges.

Step 2

PLACE your stitched fabric on a padded surface, then place the card aperture centrally over the stitching. Stick a pin in each corner to mark this position.

Step 3

STICK double-sided tape round the back of the aperture. Then, using the pins as guides, stick the card to your fabric. Stick card over the back of your stitching for a neat finish.

For a luxe padded finish, put a piece of wadding the same size as the card aperture behind your fabric

Materials

- 28 count white evenweave, 30x30cm
- Thin white card
- Double-sided tape
- Card mount printed free from www.crossstitchermag.com

For stockist details see page 70

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

Let's get *inspired*

COUNT THE DAYS

Celebrate the run-up to Christmas with our cute advent motifs – and a choccy or three

Designed by: Fiona Crouch

MATERIALS

Gift tag
- 14 count white perforated paper, 15x15cm
- Peg

Advent bunting (each pocket)
- 28 count white evenweave, 20x30cm
- White backing fabric, 11x15cm
- Cotton print fabric, two pieces 15x15cm
- Bias binding

For stockist details see page 70

Have a Christmas colour scheme? Use threads in tones to match for a co-ordinating look

Make… advent bunting

Step 1

MAKE a pocket by trimming your stitching to the same size as the backing fabric and stitching right sides together along the top edge. Turn right sides out and top stitch down.

Step 2

PLACE the backed stitching right sides together on top of one of the cotton print squares, matching the bottom edges. Place the other cotton print square right sides together on top. Stitch along the sides and bottom, then turn right sides out.

Step 3

CREATE all 24 pockets, then join them together by folding a length of bias binding over the top of each one and stitching in place to make one long strip.

Making a tag is easy – simply cut round the design at least one block away from the edge of your stitching, then peg to your gift

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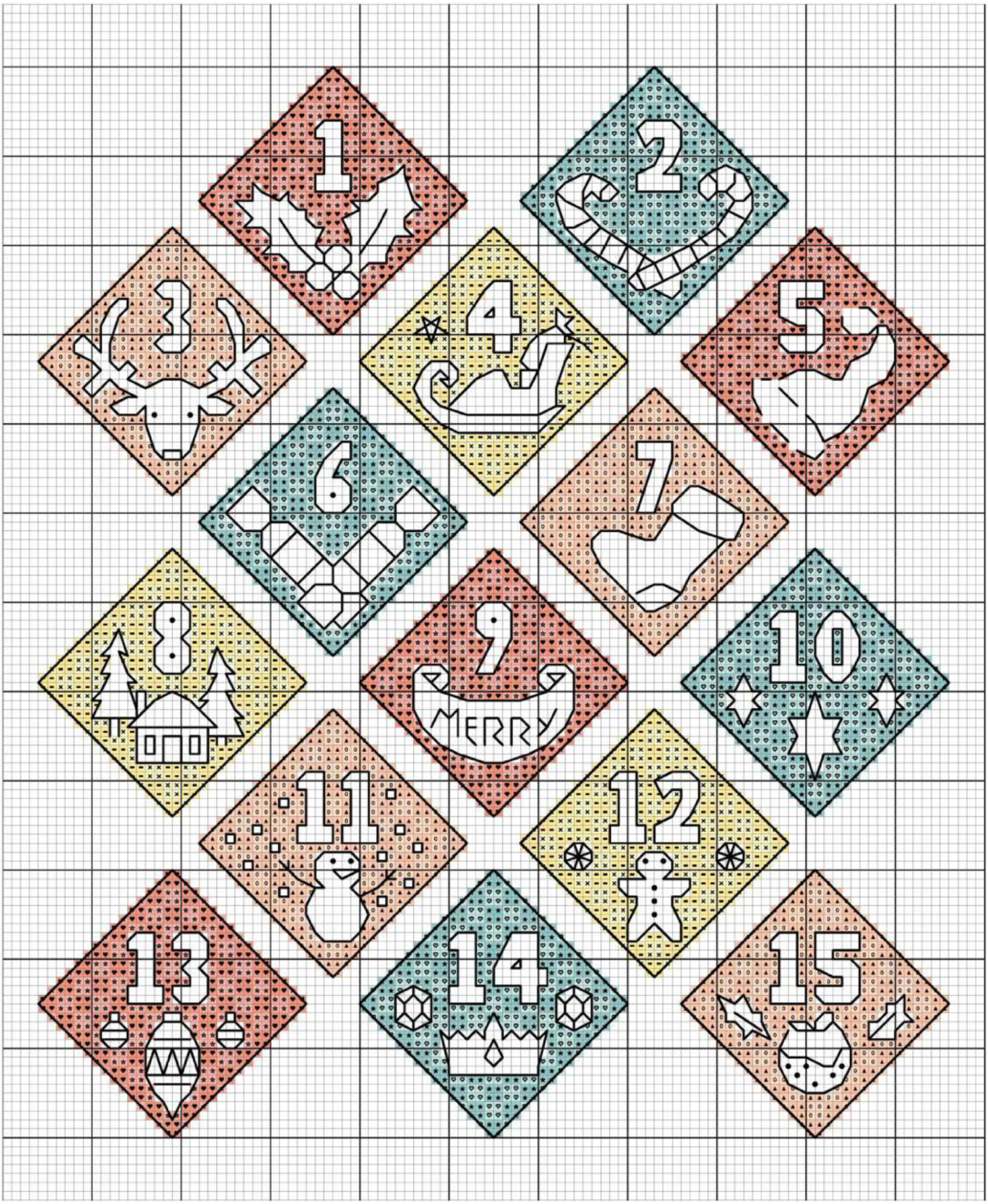

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	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
Cross stitch in two strands			
♥	347	1025	0407
▬	726	295	0109
×	727	293	0110
★	958	187	1114
♡	964	185	1112
0	967	006	2503
▲	3341	328	0302
☆	3712	1023	0406
Backstitch in one strand			
— all details	310	403	2400
French knots in one strand			
● numbers, motifs	310	403	2400

What to make

You can use our advent motifs for all kinds of festive projects – here's some inspiration...

1 Make one of the motifs into a patch and stick to a card to send season's greetings.

2 Stitch all of the numbers onto one piece of fabric to make an advent calendar sampler to give to a friend.

3 Create little drawstring bags with a motif stitched on the front, then fill with chocolates and candy canes, and hang on your tree.

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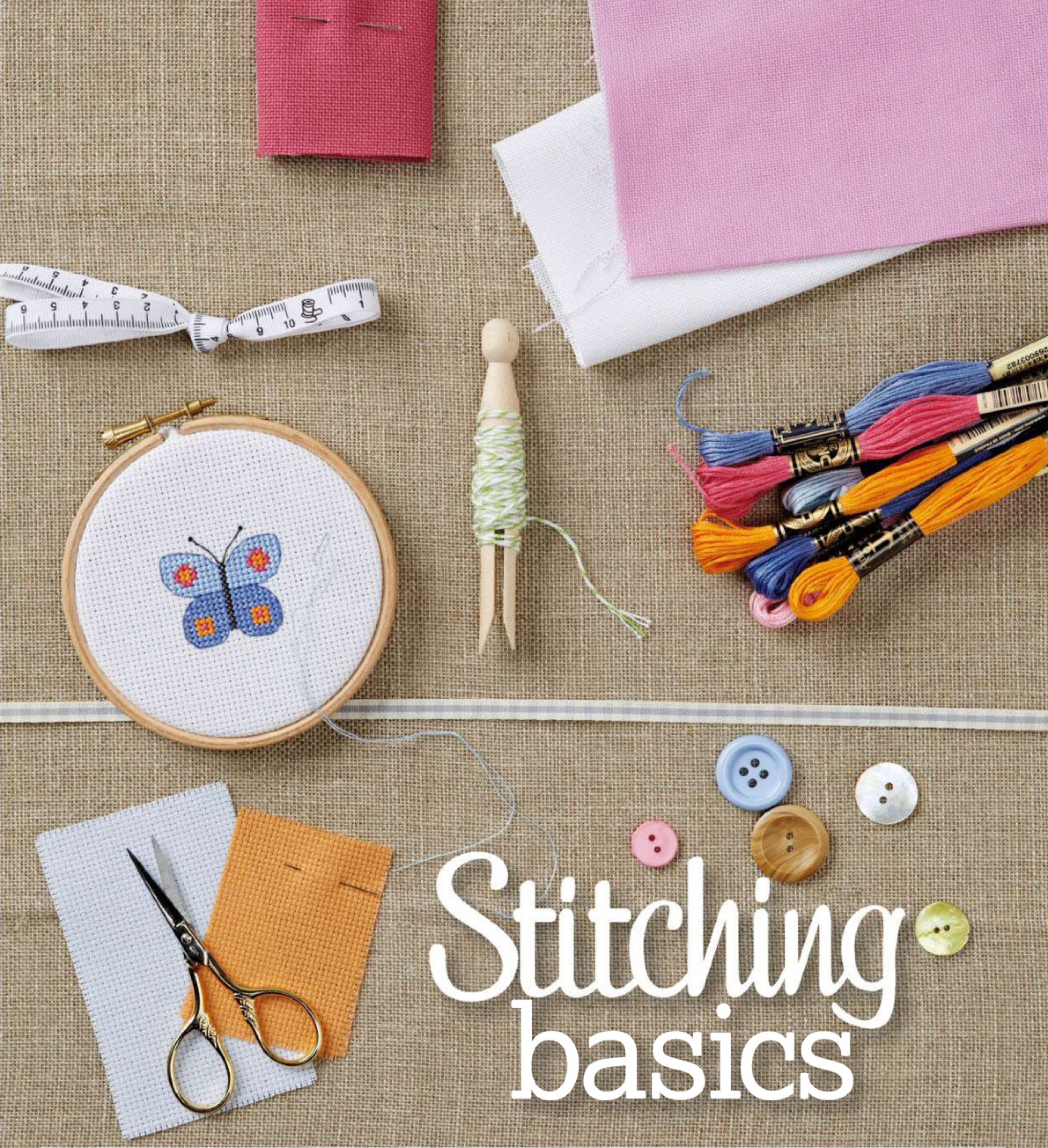


Stitching basics

TOOLS OF THE TRADE

NEEDLES

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

EMBROIDERY SCISSORS

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

STRANDED COTTON

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

HOOPS AND FRAMES

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

AIDA

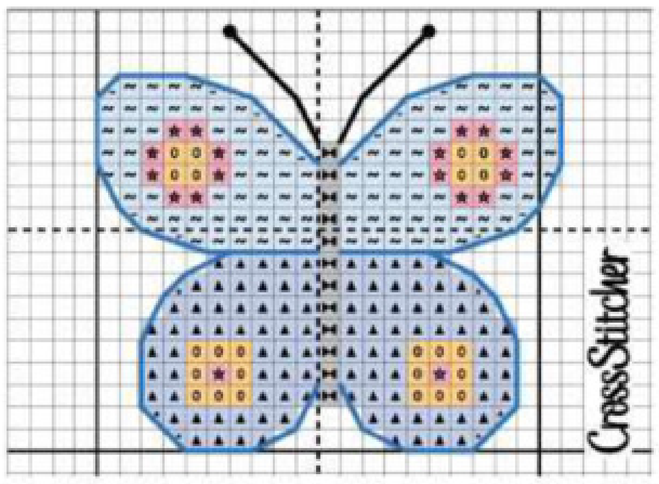
Aida is an ideal choice for cross stitch beginners. 14 count is the most common, although it's available in a huge variety of colours and counts. Each cross stitch is worked over a single aida block, making counting and keeping your place a cinch.

EVENWEAVE

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

THE CHART

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



Reading the chart

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

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
Cross stitch in two strands			
★	602	057	0611
0	741	314	0202
⋈	3799	236	1713
▲	3839	176	0906
~	3840	120	0907
Backstitch in one strand			
—	3799 butterfly antennae	236	1713
—	3838 all other details	940	0905
French knots in two strands			
●	3799 butterfly antennae	236	1713

THE KEY

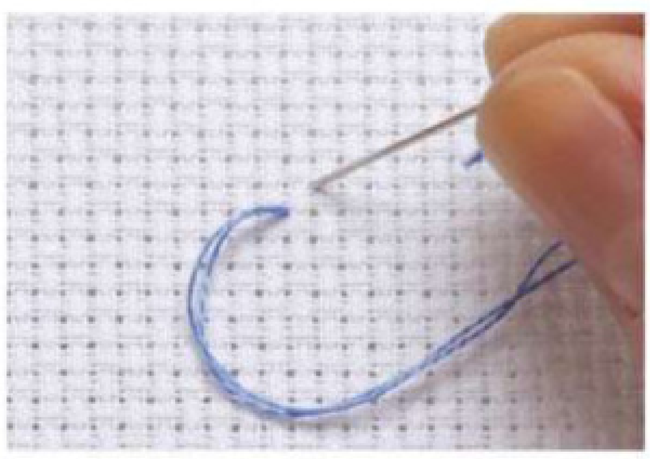
ALL THE symbols that appear on the chart are listed in the key with their corresponding thread codes beside them. The key also tells you the different stitches used in the design.

Colour match

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

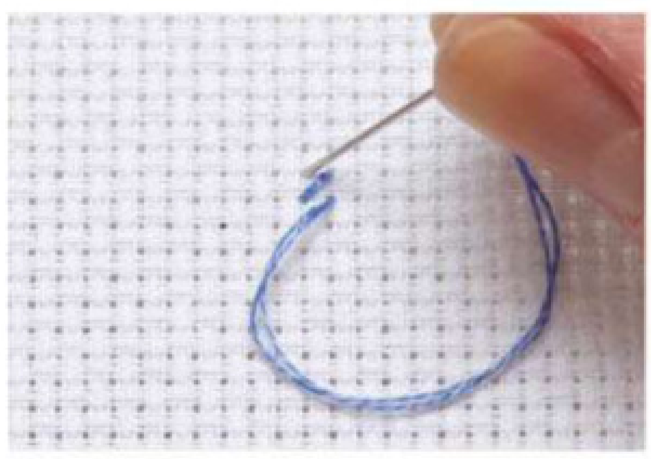
Start stitching… on aida

Step 1



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

Step 2



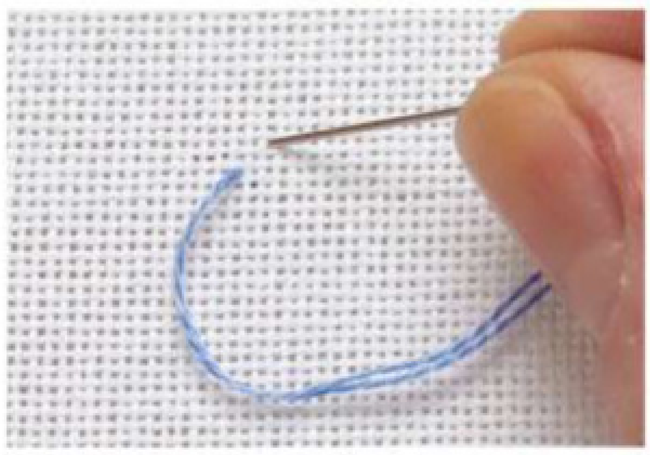
MAKE a second diagonal stitch to complete your first cross. Alternatively, you can work a row of half cross stitches first, then work back on yourself to complete the stitches.

Step 3

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

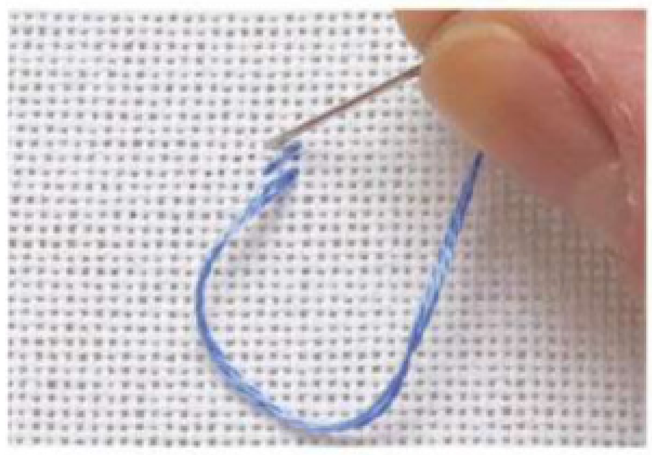
Start stitching… on evenweave

Step 1



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

Step 2



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

Step 3

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

BACKSTITCH

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

Step 1

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

Step 2

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

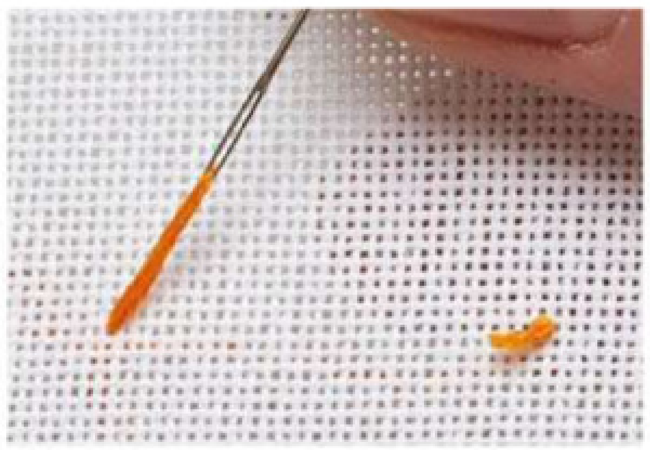
Step 3

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

WASTE KNOT

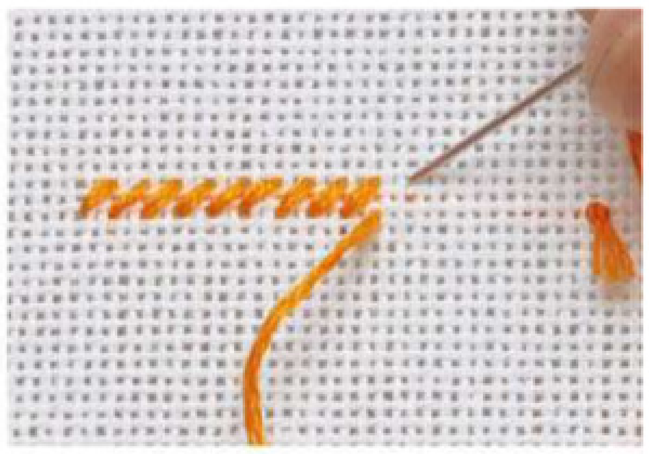
A simple way to get started stitching

Step 1



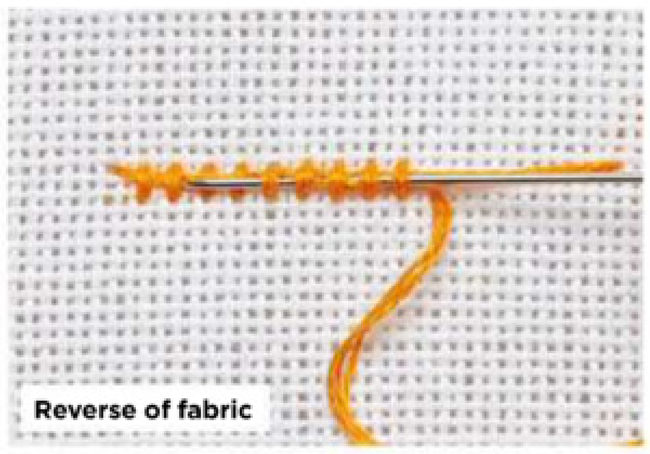
KNOT one end of your thread and take it down through the front of your fabric, about 2cm from your starting point. Then bring it back up to the front of your fabric to make your first stitch.

Step 2



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

Step 3



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

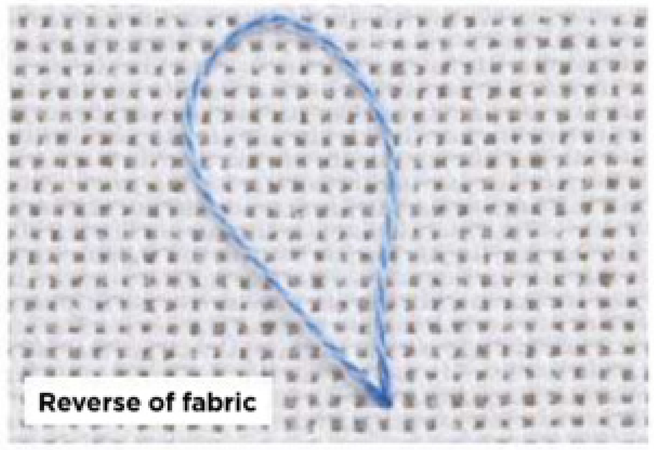
LOOP KNOT

This easy start to your cross stitch is brilliantly neat

Step 1

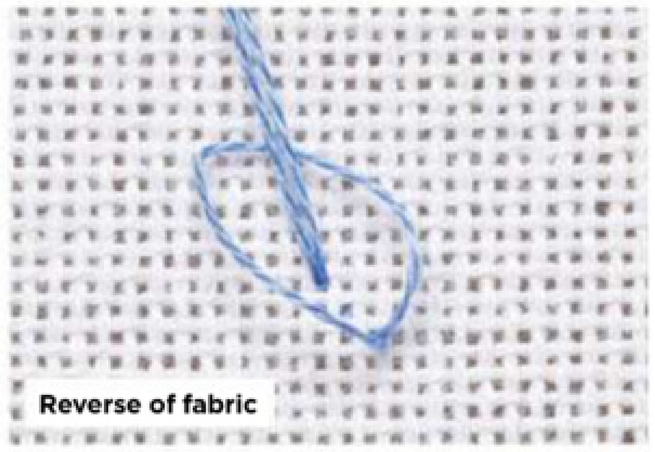
IF YOU'RE working in two strands, a loop knot is the easiest and neatest method. Cut a single length of thread, twice as long as normal. Fold it in half to create a loop at one end.

Step 2



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

Step 3

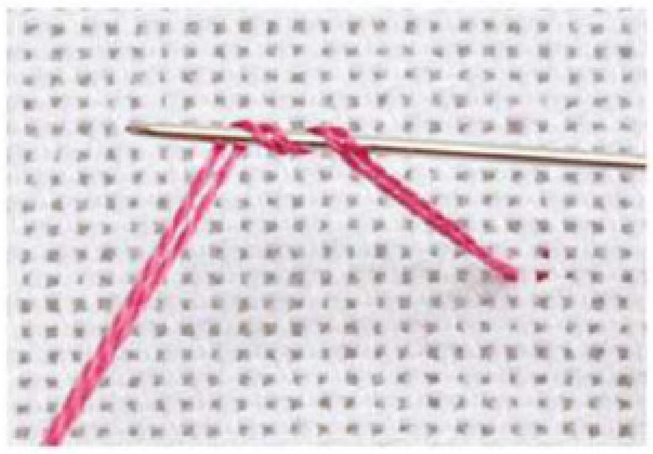


MAKE a half cross stitch, passing your needle through the loop on the reverse as shown here. Pull all the way to secure the thread. Now continue with your stitching as normal.

FRENCH KNOTS

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

Step 1



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

Step 2

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

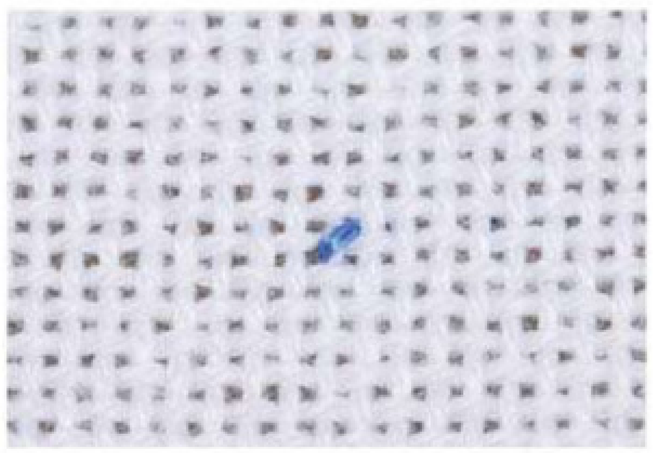
Step 3

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

FRACTIONALS

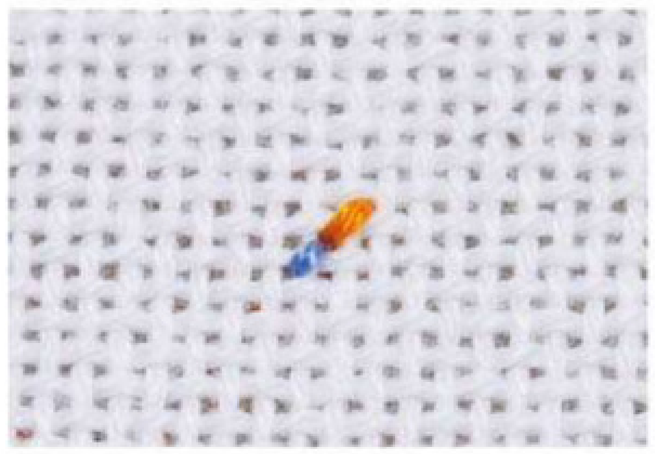
These little stitches are great for adding a bit more detail to your work

Step 1



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

Step 2



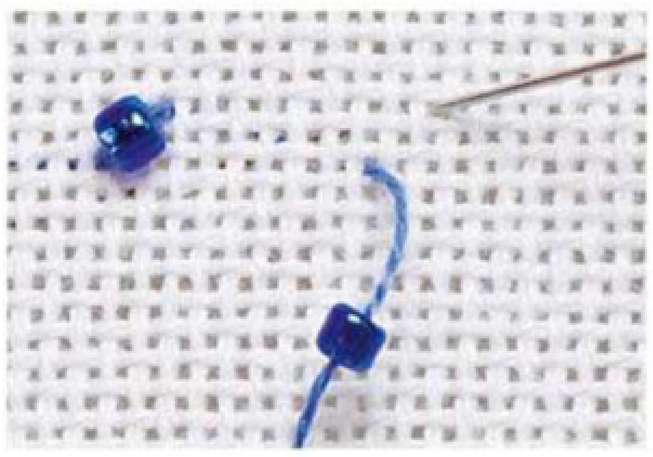
MAKE your next quarter stitch in your second colour, coming up from the opposite corner and back down through the centre. You've now created a half cross stitch.

Step 3

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

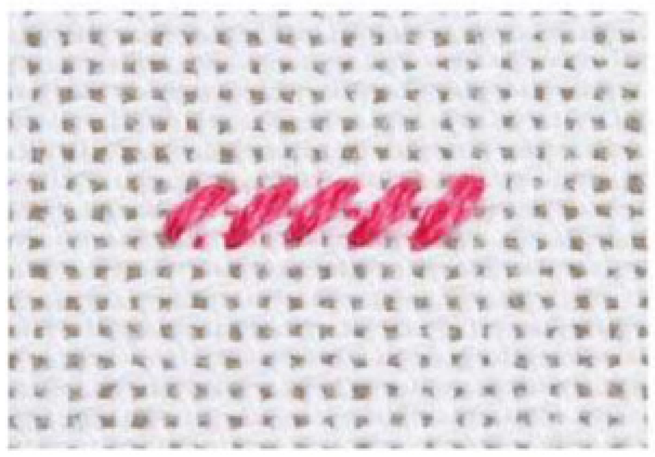
BEADING

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



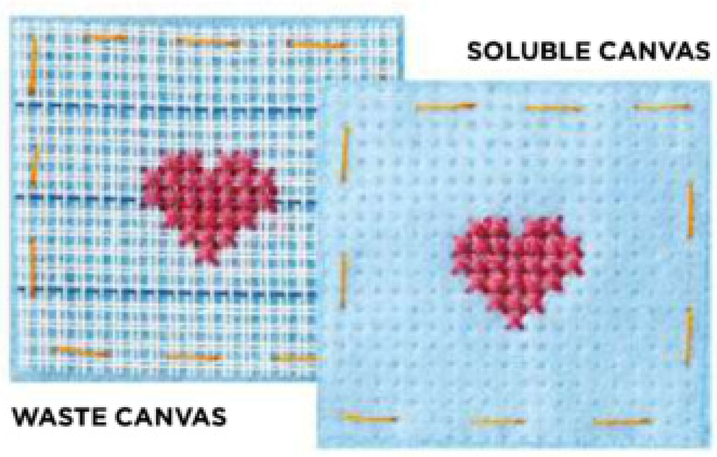
HALF CROSS STITCH

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



WASTE AND SOLUBLE CANVAS

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



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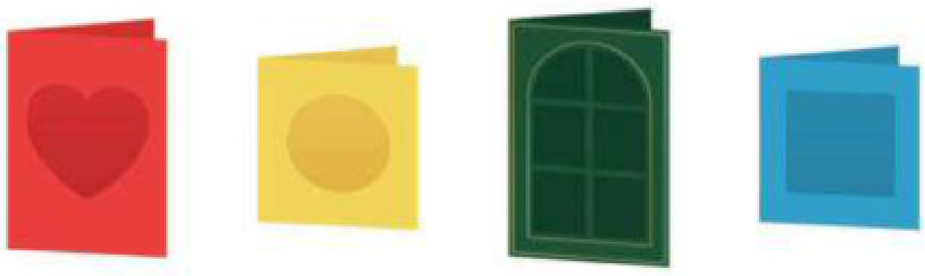

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Your projects

You can make our projects using any materials you like, but if you need help tracking down specific items here are a few hints. Contact details for the suppliers are above or on the opposite page.

DOG 'N' BONE
White cotton fabric: Seamstar
Split key ring, 25mm: Fred Aldous
Ribbon: Seamstar (for similar)

DOWN ON THE SHORE
19 count Zweigart Ariosa evenweave, blue, ref 3711/5091: Willow Fabrics
Blue cotton fabric: Seamstar
Bias binding: Seamstar
Piping cord: Gone to Earth
Cushion pad, 40x60cm, ref 64913103: John Lewis

NATURAL BEAUTY
28 count Zweigart Cashel linen, cream, ref 3281/222: Willow Fabrics
Buttons: The Makery (for similar)
Wooden frame: eFrame
Mount board: Fred Aldous
Self-cover buttons, 38mm: Hobbycraft
Brooch pins: Hobbycraft

TIME FOR GIVING
28 count Zweigart Cashel linen, white, ref 3281/100: Willow Fabrics
Wooden frame: eFrame
Mount board: Fred Aldous
Clock movement with 36mm black hands: C&L Clocks

WAKE ME UP
28 count Zweigart Brittney evenweave, antique white, ref 3270/101: Willow Fabrics
White cotton fabric: Seamstar
Coffee storage tin, Premier Housewares
Coffee Canister: Amazon

FELINE FESTIVE
White card: Craft Creations

CHRISTMAS RULES
28 count Zweigart Cashel linen, white, ref 3281/100: Willow Fabrics
White cotton fabric: Seamstar
Interlining: Merrick & Day
1.5cm bobble trim, Cricket: Deckchair Stripes
Striped cord rope braid, red: Deckchair Stripes

WINTER WARMERS
28 count Zweigart Trento evenweave, white, ref 3453/100: Willow Fabrics
White cotton backing fabric: Seamstar
Bias binding: Seamstar
Piping cord: Gone to Earth
Cushion pad, 35x35cm, ref 64913002: John Lewis
Pink cord: Seamstar (for similar)
Heart button: The Makery (for similar)

ALL DRESSED UP
28 count Zweigart Cashel linen, light rustic, ref 3281/52: Willow Fabrics
Grey print cotton fabric, Winter Essentials II 2220-90 from Studio E Fabrics: Country Threads
Piping cord: Gone to Earth
Cushion pad, 40x60cm, ref 64913103: John Lewis

COUNTING THE DAYS
14 count white perforated paper, white: Willow Fabrics
White cotton backing fabric: Seamstar
Cotton print fabrics: Country Threads

TRICK OR TREAT
14 count Zweigart aida, black, ref 3706/720: Willow Fabrics
Orange cotton fabric: Seamstar
Black webbing tape: Seamstar

Give your home a quirky look with this feline embroidery from Making Jiggy on Etsy

Shopping guide

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

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HER SWEET EMBRACE
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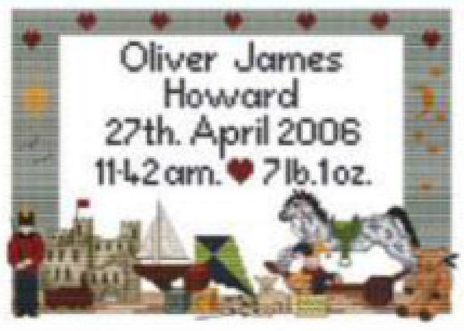

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CrossStitcher MARKET PLACE

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

Desperately seeking

I have the free Bagpuss kit from issue 124, August 2002, but am missing the chart. If anyone could send it to me I would appreciate it.
Myra Warrener,
Email: myra.warrener@tiscali.co.uk

I am looking for the Follow My Leader chart of three elephants in a line from issue 175, July 2006. If you could send it to me, I'd be happy to pay postage.
Mrs A Clews, 62 Coronation Road, High Heath, Pelsall, Walsall, West Midlands WS4 1BQ

I'm after Emily Peacock's Peace, Love & Happiness design from issue 245, October 2011 – if you are able to send it to me, please get in touch.
Shay Spann,
Email: sspann@alvaradoisd.net

I am looking for the key for the Out of Africa design from the October 2004 issue of *CrossStitcher*. If you have it and are willing to send it to me, please email me.
Jean Harris-Dewey,
Email: crossstitchthreads@gmail.com

I am looking for a copy of issue 193 – please email if you could send it to me.
Kate Smith,
Email: kate@postingsend.plus.com

I trying to track down the camper van design from issue 254, July 2012 – please get in touch if you could send it to me.
Helen Kotlewski,
Email: ekotlewski@aol.com

I'm collecting unwanted cross stitch kits, charts and other associated items to send out to help Hope Home in Chiang Mai, Thailand. Hope Home is a charitable organisation helping children who have a disability. If you have any kits or other items to donate, please post them to the address below.
Ros Einchcomb, 29 Magnolia Way, Fleet, Hampshire GU52 7JZ

I have been looking for a chart that was in *CrossStitcher* a long time ago. The design is of a Forever Friends bear carrying several books. If you recall it and can send it to me, please email.
Sara Starr,
Email: sarastarr268@btinternet.com

I am trying to locate a pattern of a cat in a teacup from the September 2010 issue, number 229. Please get in touch if you can help.
Sandra Wilson,
Email: willsanden@live.co.uk

Get in touch

Hi, I'm Jemma. I have a baby boy and two dogs. We live with my lovely partner near sunny Scarborough. I love baking and doing anything crafty. I'd love pen pals of all ages to send letters the good, old-fashioned way!
Jemma Bavidge, 40 Church View, Sherburn, Malton, YO17 8PW

My name is Fiona and I am 45 years old. I enjoy cross stitching, knitting and reading. I live in Scotland and would like to hear from people from the UK, Canada, Australia and New Zealand.
Fiona Taylor,
Email: fionactay@gmail.com

Hi, I'm 26 years old and love most things crafty! I also love reading and animals. I would love to hear from anyone, anywhere.
Hayley Scott, 7 Jellicoe Road, Ryde, Isle of Wight PO33 3NY

I am Kanchani from Sri Lanka. I'm 40 and have two naughty kids. I love writing to pen friends from all over the world. I enjoy cross stitching, cooking, reading, and collecting T-shirts, watches and magazines.
Kanchani,
Email: bandaranayakejanaka@gmail.com

EMAIL YOUR ADS to us at crossstitcher@futurenet.com

If you're not online, drop us a note with your ad details and contact information to *CrossStitcher* Ads, 30 Monmouth Street, Bath BA1 2BW

We regret that we're unable to print requests from readers who are under 16 years old

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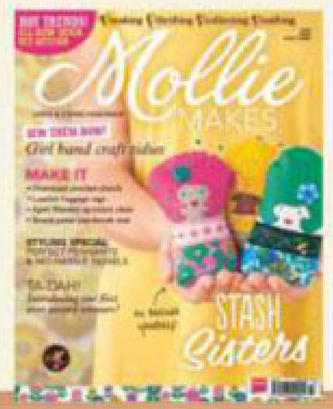

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CrossStitcher JUST FOR FUN

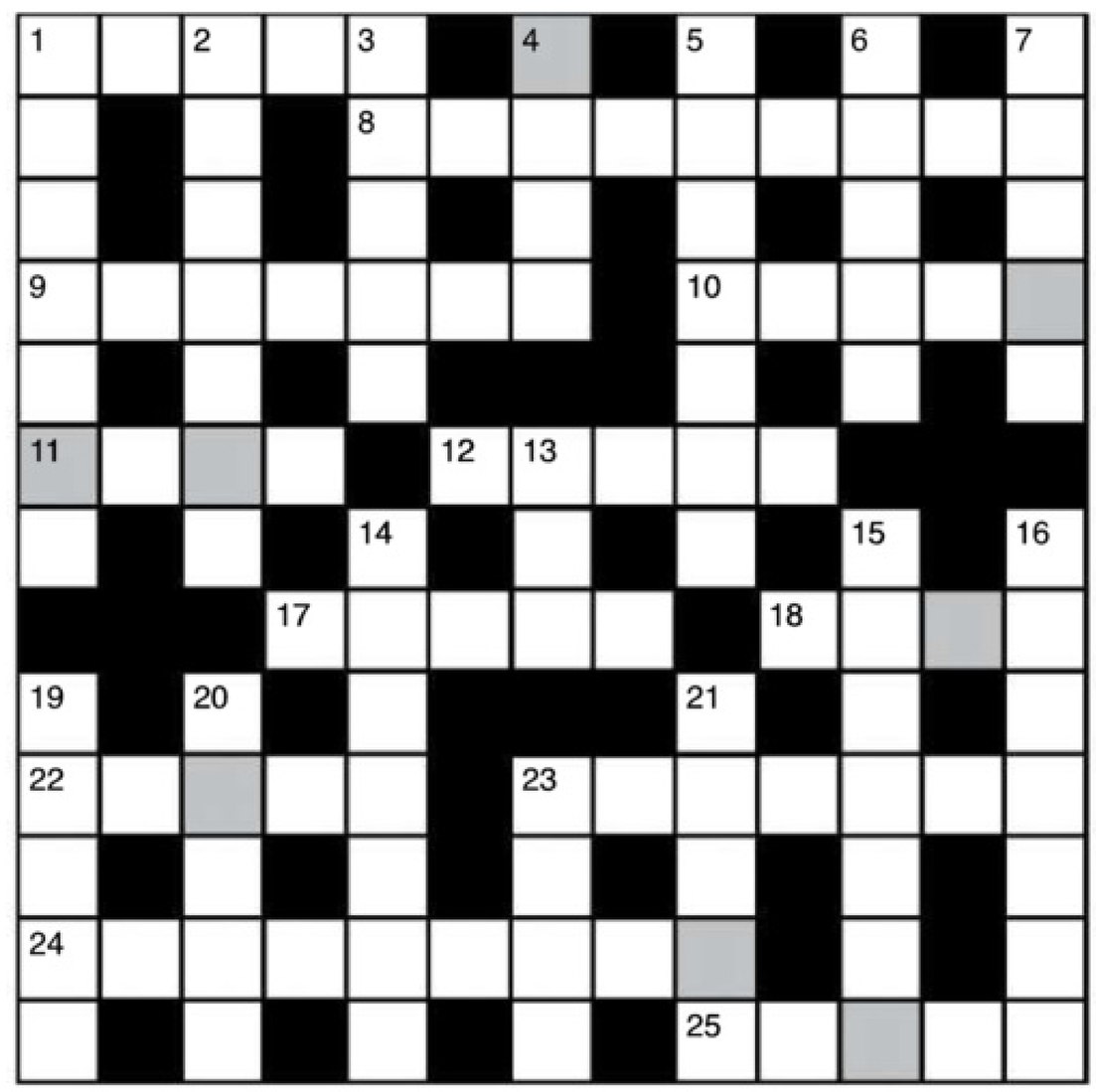
Prize crossword

Across

1 Army officer (5)
8 Exactly the same (9)
9 Pharmacist (7)
10 Complains loudly and excitedly (5)
11 Street (4)
12 Precipitous (5)
17 Light ale (5)
18 Prank (4)
22 London cricket ground (5)
23 Art of paper folding (7)
24 Award for first place (4,5)
25 Length of yarn in a loose long coil (5)

Down

1 Thermometer metal (7)
2 Popular evenweave fabric (7)
3 Inflexible (5)
4 Nuisance (4)
5 Entrée (7)
6 Perfume (5)
7 US term for stranded cotton (5)
13 Neckwear (3)
14 Seedless mandarin orange (7)
15 Cute, endearing (7)
16 Deer meat (7)
19 Dutch footwear? (5)
20 Boring tool (5)
21 --- Aloud, pop group (5)
23 Probability (4)



Winning word clue: **A diamond of a firework on Bonfire Night? (8)**

HOW TO ENTER

Win!

COMPLETE the crossword and rearrange the letters in the shaded boxes to make up a winning word. Then go to www.futurecomps.co.uk/pcw284 to enter online. Postal entries will not be accepted. Competition open **19 September – 16 October 2014**

For full terms and conditions, see page 71.

YOUR PRIZE Five winners will receive goodies from Madeira worth approximately £22. For stockist details, contact EQS on **0116 271 0033** or visit **www.eqsuk.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.

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

Issue 282's winning word SAPPHIRE

Winners: Karen Catton, Glos; Jacqueline Rayson, Lancs; Fred Wraxall, Kent; Patricia Bentley-Ivens, E Sussex; Claire Booth, S Yorks

No.1 FOR TRENDS

In your November

CrossStitcher

Fabulous festive makes you'll love

ISSUE 285
NOVEMBER 2014
On sale
17 October

Inside this month

- Cheery winter scene full of **Christmas magic**
- Chic snowflakes cushion for **on-trend festive style**
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Christmas with Belle & Boo

STORYBOOK CHARTS TO STITCH & TREASURE

22 PAGES OF DESIGNS

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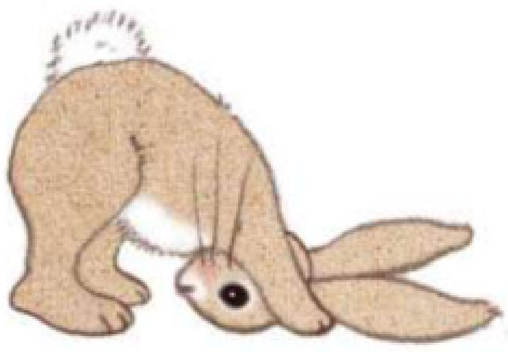
WELCOME

"Enter the charming world of Belle and Boo, a bob-haired little girl and her adorable bunny friend. Follow the adventures of this curious pair as they enjoy the simple pleasures of childhood."

We're thrilled to share these storybook favourites with you. Inside you'll find five of Mandy Sutcliffe's nostalgic illustrations, each beautifully recreated in cross stitch. Settle down and enjoy the cosiest season with projects to make perfect presents or simply to treasure in your own home.

We know you'll enjoy the merriest Christmas ever with a girl called Belle and a rabbit called Boo.

Your CrossStitcher Team



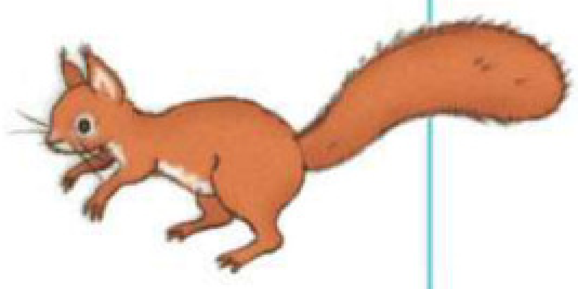
CHRISTMAS FAVOURITES FROM Belle & Boo

Above: Advent Calendar Craft Kit **£5**
Entire £5 goes directly to charity Kids Company

"Decorate Me" Christmas Tree Wall Sticker **£28**

Above: Christmas Tins from **£3.50**
Right: Mini Mugs **£6**

Left: Boo's Winter Coat **£68**

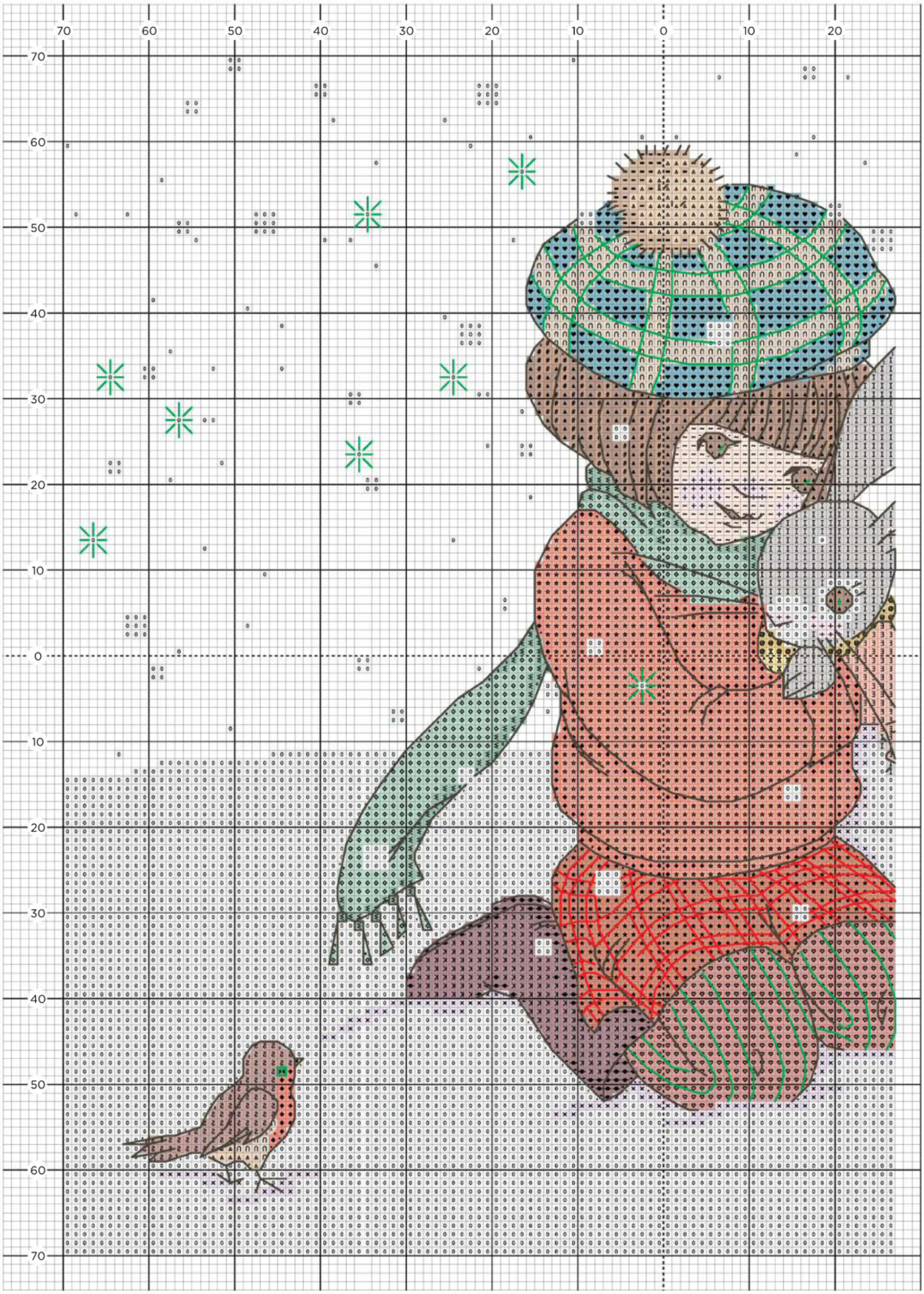


www.belleandboo.com

CUDDLE UP

Join in a tender hug between the very best of friends

Design size: 28x28cm **Stitch time:** 45 hours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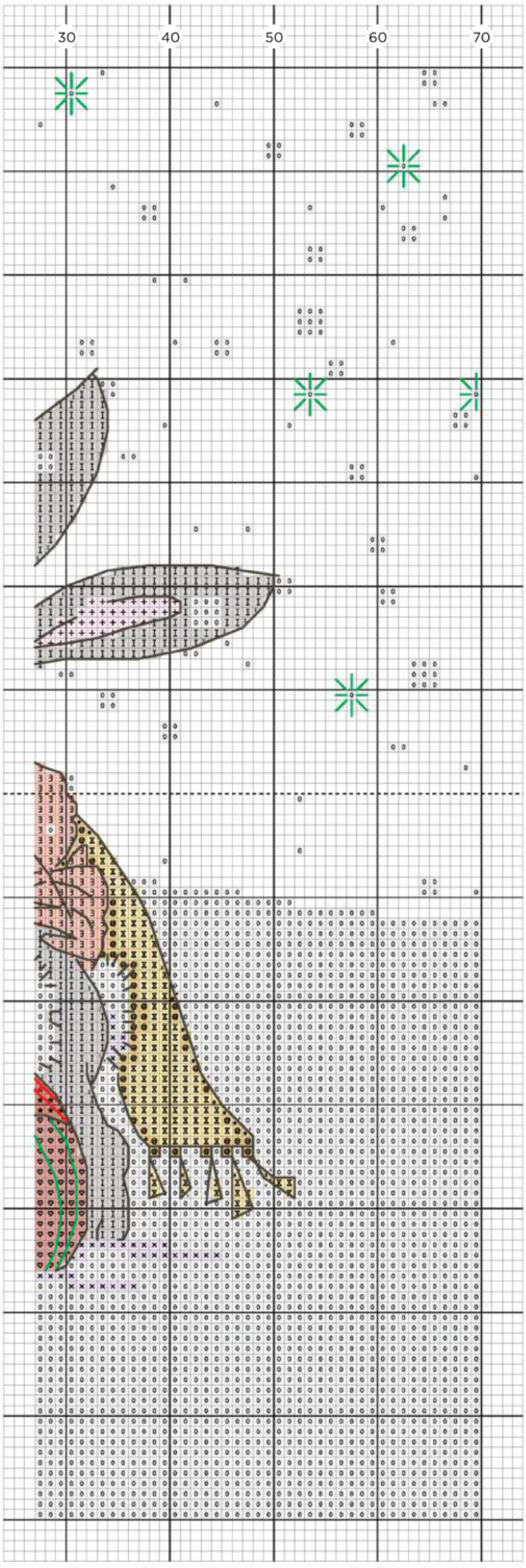


	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
Cross stitch in three strands			
0	White	002	2402 (5)
◆	349	013	0212
☆	350	011	0213
#	433	358	2008
⋚	502	876	1703
◇	503	875	1702
I	648	231	1814
Ɜ	760	1022	0405
▲	801	359	2007
⋈	838	1088	2005
∩	842	1080	1910
●	902	897	0601
★	919	340	0313
~	948	1011	0306
+	963	023	0503
♡	3328	1024	0406
×	3743	869	2611
ƨ	3772	1007	2312
ꓘ	3802	1019	0810
♥	3809	1066	2507
@	3820	306	2509
⧗	3822	295	0112
▬	3863	379	1912
▲	3864	376	1910
Backstitch in one strand			
—	White	002	2402
	eyes, snowflakes, hat, tights		
—	838	1088	2005
	all other details		
—	3864	376	1910
	skirt		

(5) indicates more than one skein required

Materials

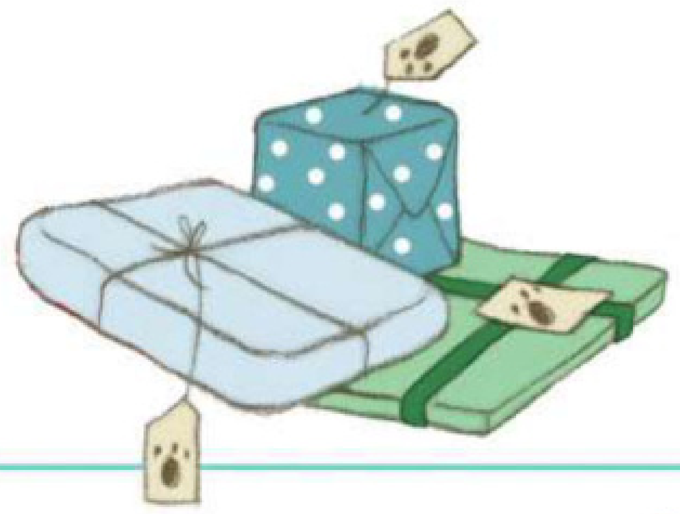
- 25 count moss green evenweave, 40x50cm
- Wooden frame
- Mount board

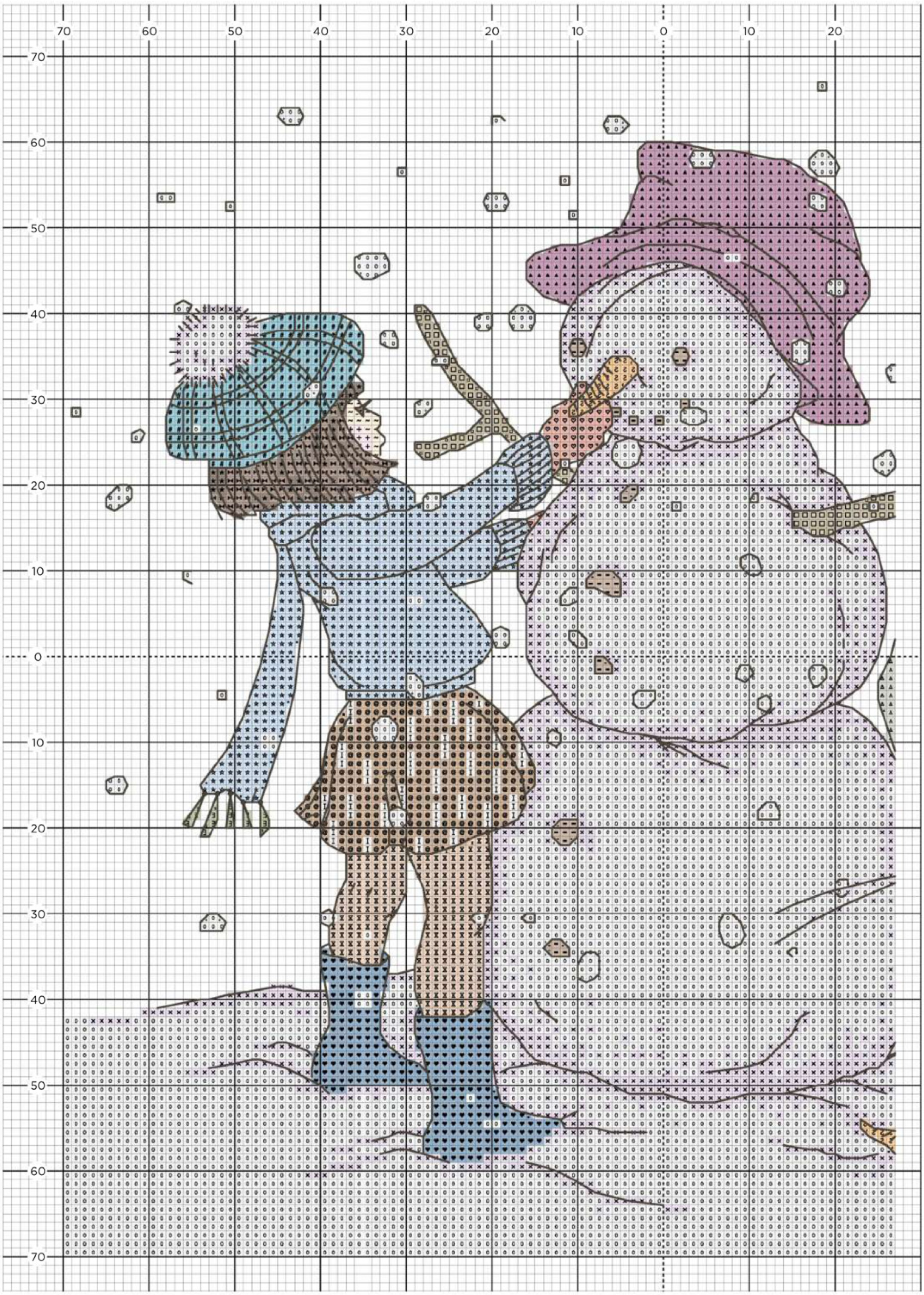
For stockist details see page 22

Boo peeped out from behind the Snowman. "Don't worry Boo, I've saved a carrot for you to enjoy later"

Belle and Boo have a frosty new pal
to share their winter fun

Design size: 28x28cm **Stitch time:** 60 hours

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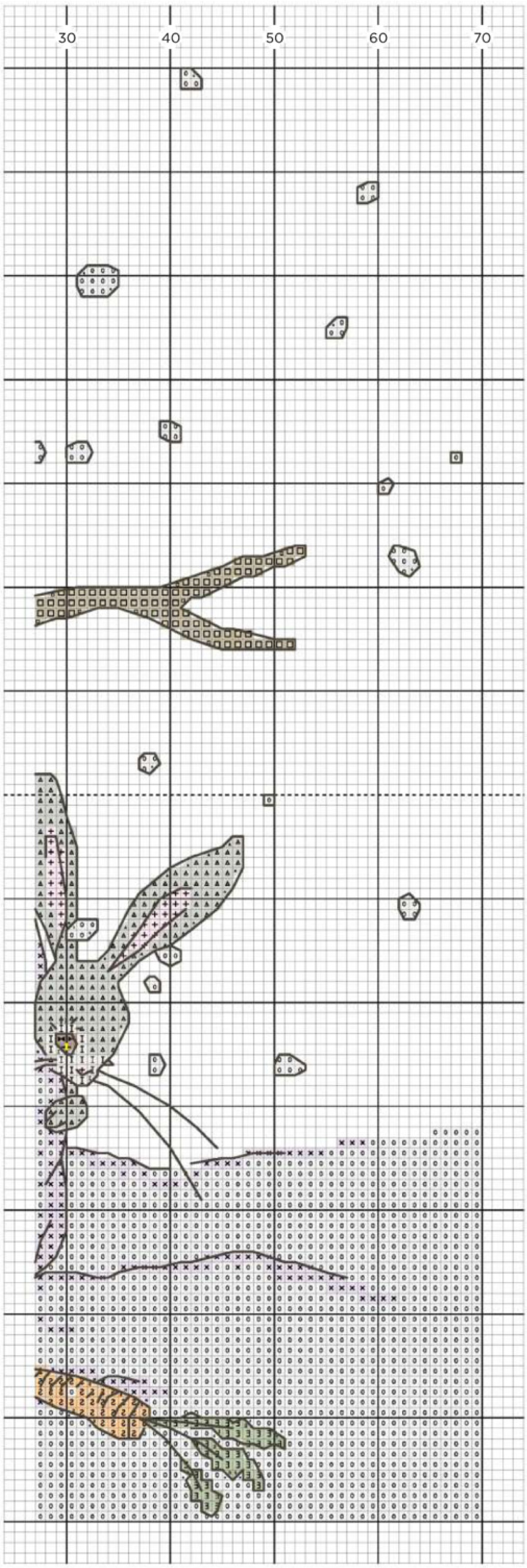


	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
Cross stitch in three strands			
0	White	002	2402 (3)
#	518	1039	1106
□	612	832	2108
△	648	231	1814
☆	800	144	0908
⋈	839	1086	1913
▬	840	1084	1912
♥	931	1034	1711
+	963	023	0503
2	977	1002	2301
★	3031	905	2003
Ξ	3052	844	1509
♡	3712	1023	0406
×	3743	869	2611
~	3770	1009	2314
▲	3834	100	0805
@	3863	379	1912
X	3864	376	1910
I	3865	926	2403
Backstitch in one strand			
White eye	002	2402	
3031 all other details	905	2003	
French knots in one strand			
3031 end of scarf	905	2003	

(3) indicates more than one skein required

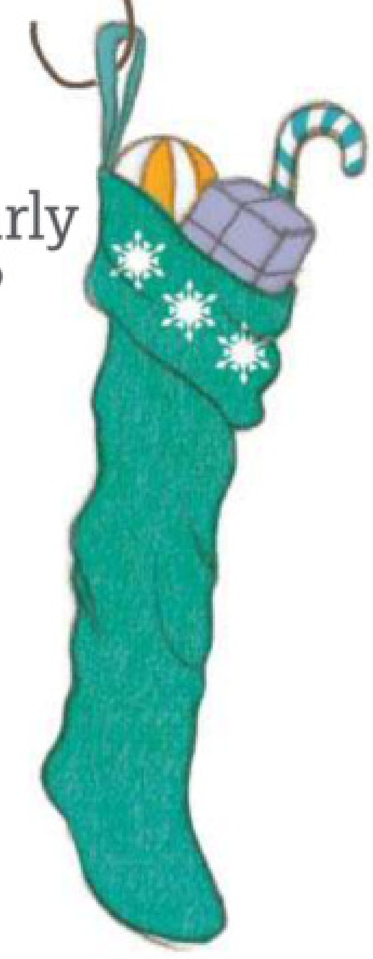
Materials

- 25 count Wedgwood blue evenweave, 50x50cm
- Wooden frame
- Mount board

For stockist details see page 22

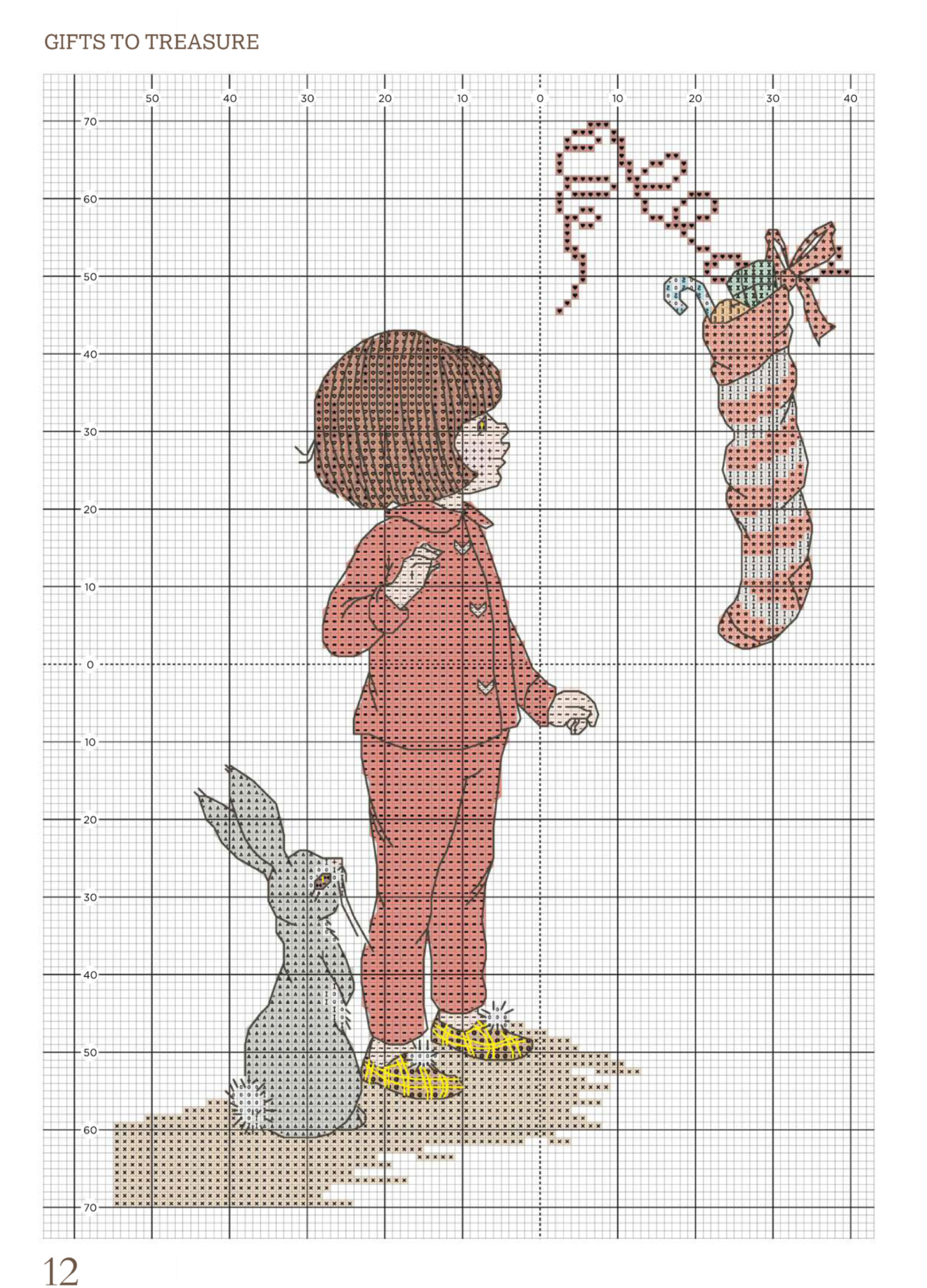
TREATS AND TREASURES

Christmas is here and Belle and Boo are up early to open their presents – what will be inside?



Design size: 28x22cm **Stitch time:** 25 hours

At last it was Christmas morning. The long stripy stocking was filled right up to the top with presents for Belle and for Boo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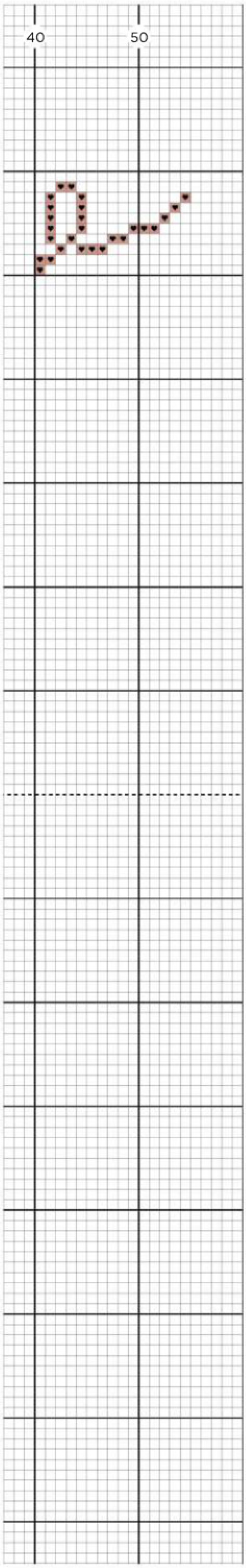
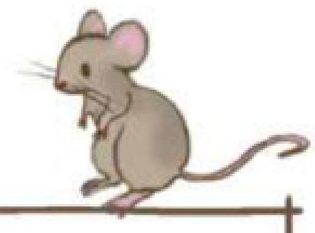




	DMC	Anchor	Madeira	
Cross stitch in three strands				
0	White	002	2402	
♡	301	1049	2306	
☆	351	010	0214	
♥	355	1014	0401	
★	400	351	2305	
@	436	363	2011	
S	519	1038	1105	
Δ	648	231	1814	
Ǝ	722	323	0307	
▬	817	013	0211	(2)
⋈	898	380	2006	
~	948	1011	0306	
+	963	023	0503	
X	3817	875	2604	
×	3864	376	1910	
I	3865	926	2403	
Backstitch in one strand				
White slippers		002	2402	
898 all other details		380	2006	

(2) indicates more than one skein required

Materials

- 25 count bone evenweave, 50x50cm
- Wooden frame
- Mount board

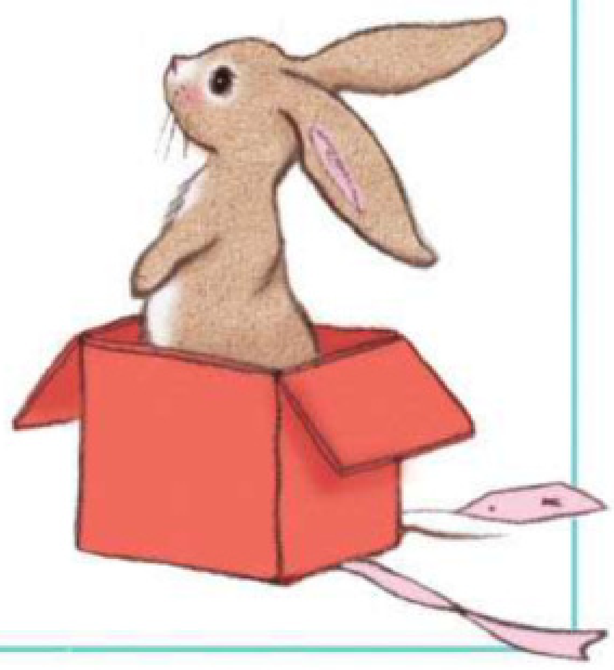
For stockist details see page 22

Pink cheeks and chilly noses – and nice surprises – are the things we love best about a snowy winter's day

LITTLE KISS

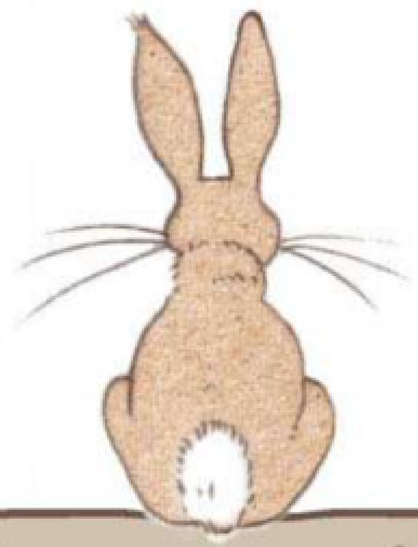
Ahh, feel your heart melt as you stitch this enchanting moment

Design size: 28x28cm **Stitch time:** 43 hours



	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
Cross stitch in three strands			
0	White	002	2402 (3)
2	318	235	1801
Δ	415	398	1802
@	452	233	1807
I	453	232	1806
E	612	832	2108
◇	613	831	2109
▲	720	326	0309
⋈	779	936	2005
★	839	1086	1913
#	840	1084	1912
⧗	841	1082	1911
~	948	1011	0306
+	963	023	0503
♥	3041	871	0806
▬	3042	870	0807
♡	3743	869	2611
☆	3860	379	1914
×	3866	926	1901
Backstitch in one strand			
—	838 all details	1088	2005

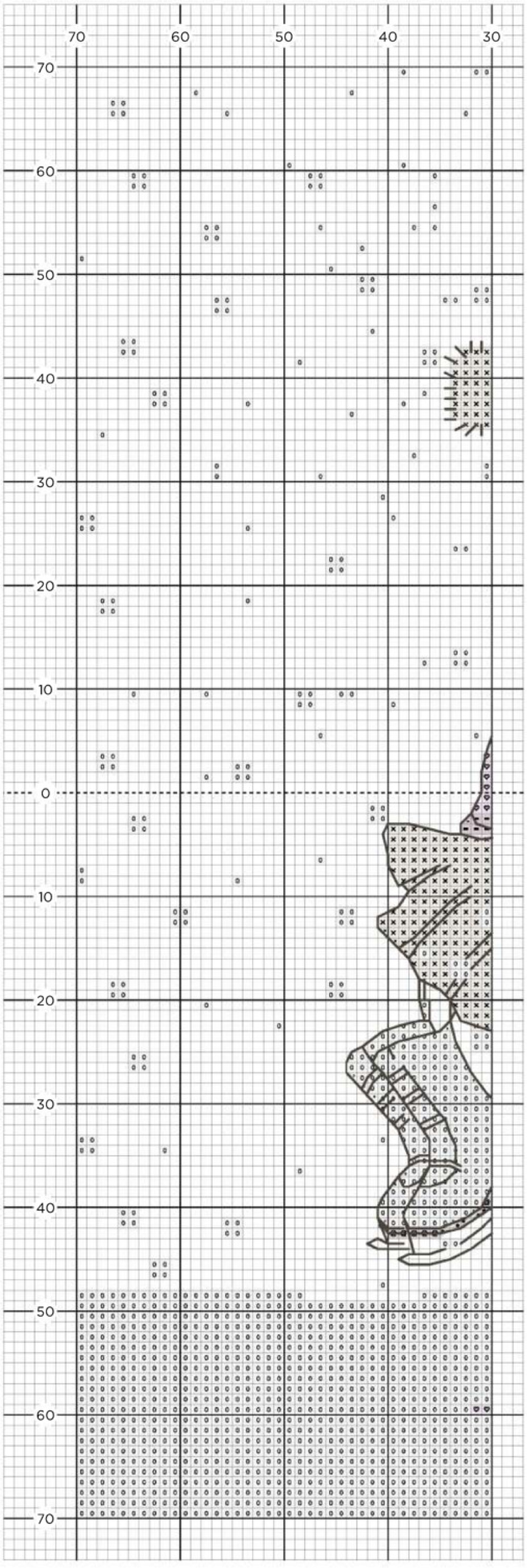
(3) indicates more than one skein required

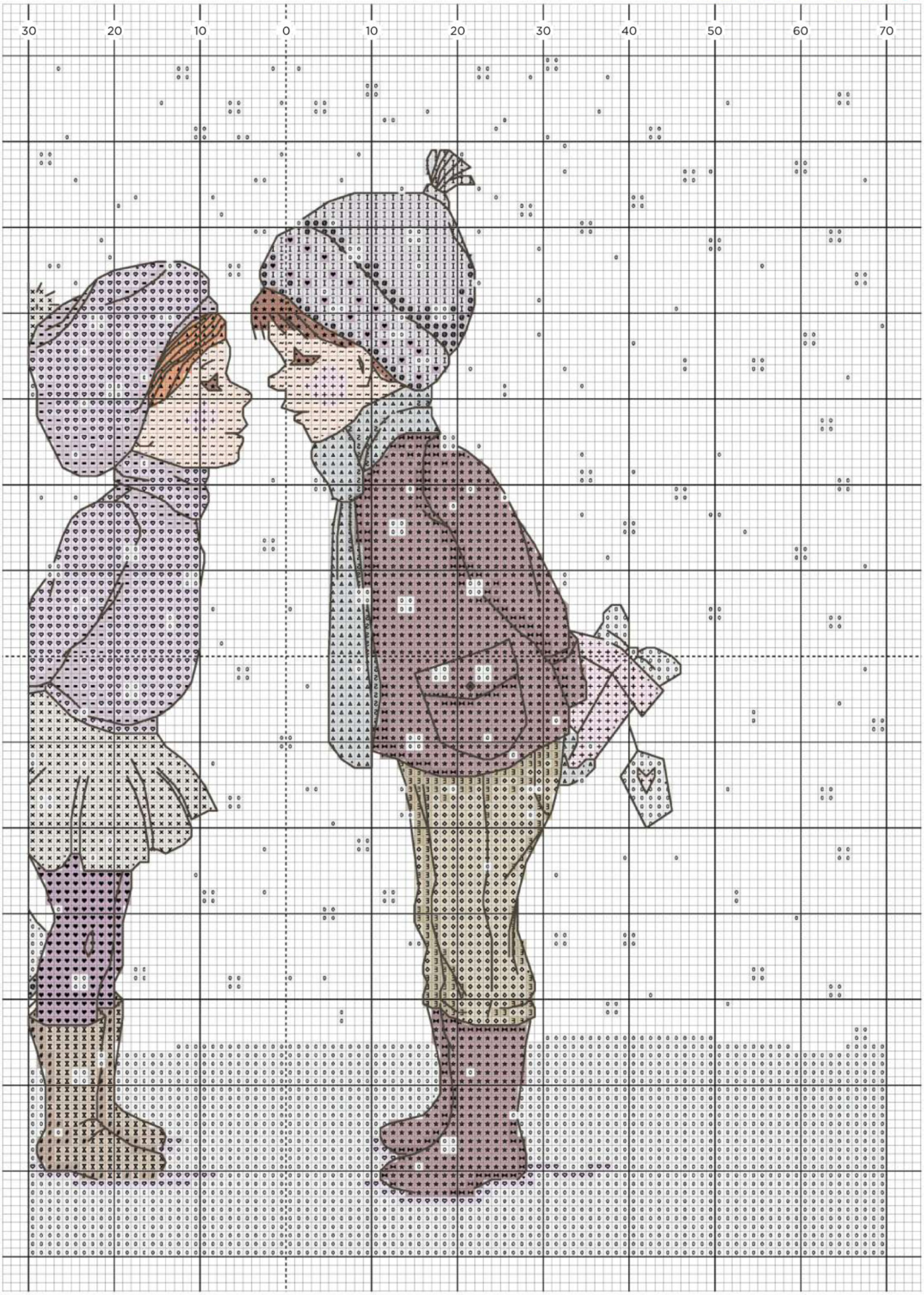


Materials

- 25 count taupe evenweave, 50x50cm
- Wooden frame
- Mount board

For stockist details see page 22

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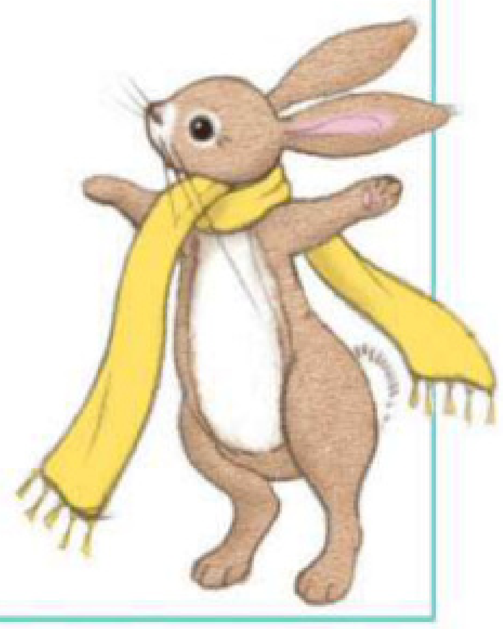
Belle wanted to swing high enough to say hello to the blue birds. "Push me higher Boo," Belle said excitedly

OUT IN THE SNOW

Belle and Boo are all wrapped up for playtime on a winter's day

Design size: 24x41cm **Stitch time:** 44 hours



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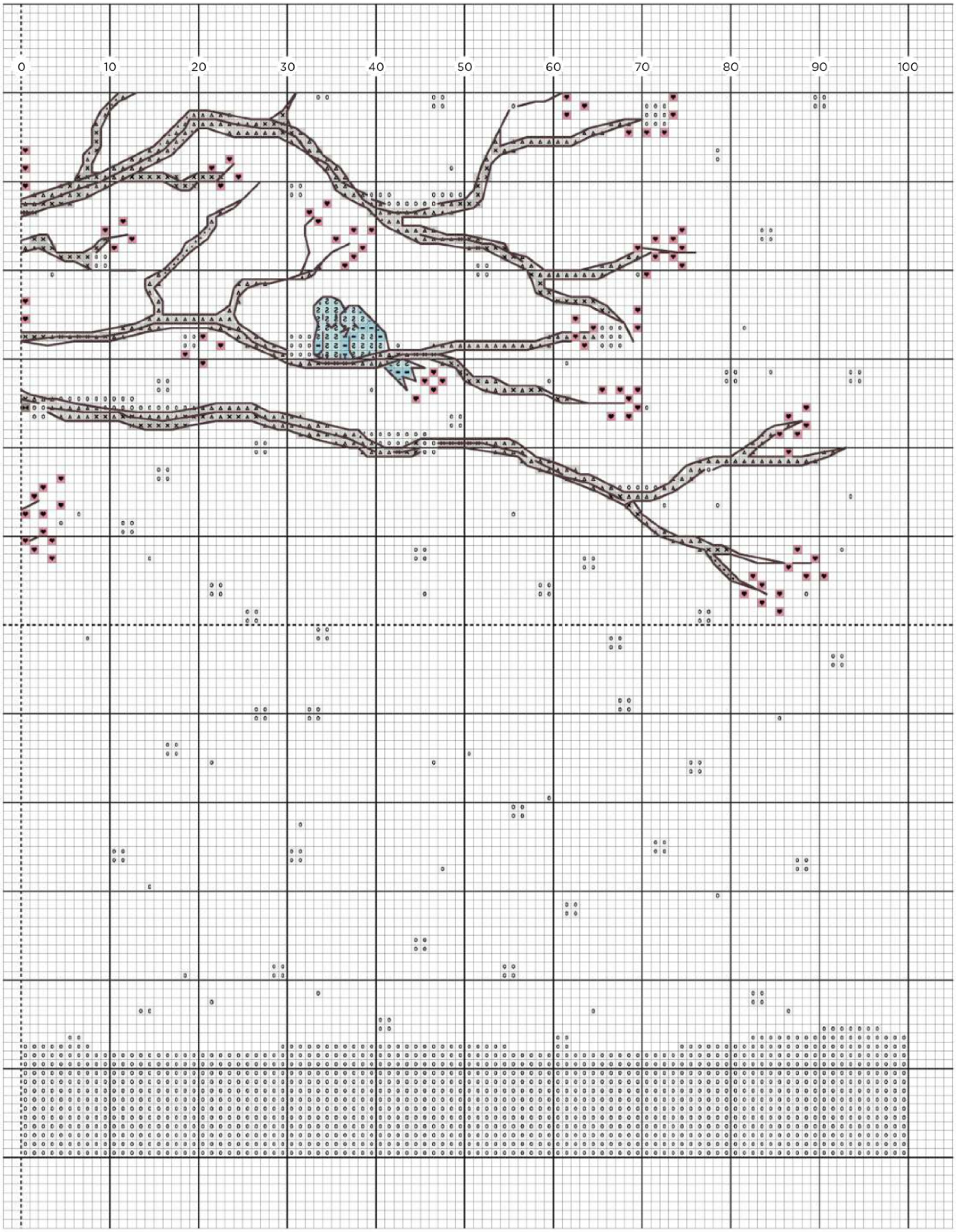
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	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
Cross stitch in three strands			
o	White	002	2402 (3)
♥	150	042	0703
I	168	234	1709
#	420	374	2104
▲	518	1039	1106
Ɜ	519	1038	1105
▬	597	1064	1110
ƨ	598	1062	1111
×	648	231	1814
⧗	738	361	2013
♡	747	158	1104
★	839	1086	1913
+	963	023	0503
△	3024	391	1901 (2)
⋈	3371	382	2004
~	3770	1009	2314
@	3863	379	1912
Backstitch in one strand			
White (eyes)	002		2402
791 (hat)	178		0904
3371 (all other details)	382		2004
French knots in one strand			
White (hat)	002		2402

(2) indicates more than one skein required

Materials

- 25 count pewter evenweave, 45x60cm
- Wooden frame
- Mount board

For stockist details see below

STOCKISTS & SUPPLIES FOR YOUR Belle & Boo DESIGNS

CUDDLE UP

25 count Zweigart Lugana moss green evenweave, ref 3835/618: Willow Fabrics, 0800 056 7811 www.willowfabrics.co.uk

LITTLE KISS

25 count Zweigart Lugana taupe evenweave, ref 3835/779: Willow Fabrics

SNOW BUDDIES

25 count Zweigart Lugana Wedgwood blue evenweave, ref 3835/501: Willow Fabrics

TREATS AND TREASURES

25 count Zweigart Lugana bone evenweave, ref 3835/253: Willow Fabrics

OUT IN THE SNOW

25 count Zweigart Lugana pewter evenweave, ref 3835/713: Willow Fabrics

Wooden frames: eFrame www.eframe.co.uk

Mount board: Fred Aldous www.fredaldous.co.uk

CrossStitcher

Coming soon! Look out for another Belle & Boo exclusive in your favourite cross stitch magazine