No.1 for trends

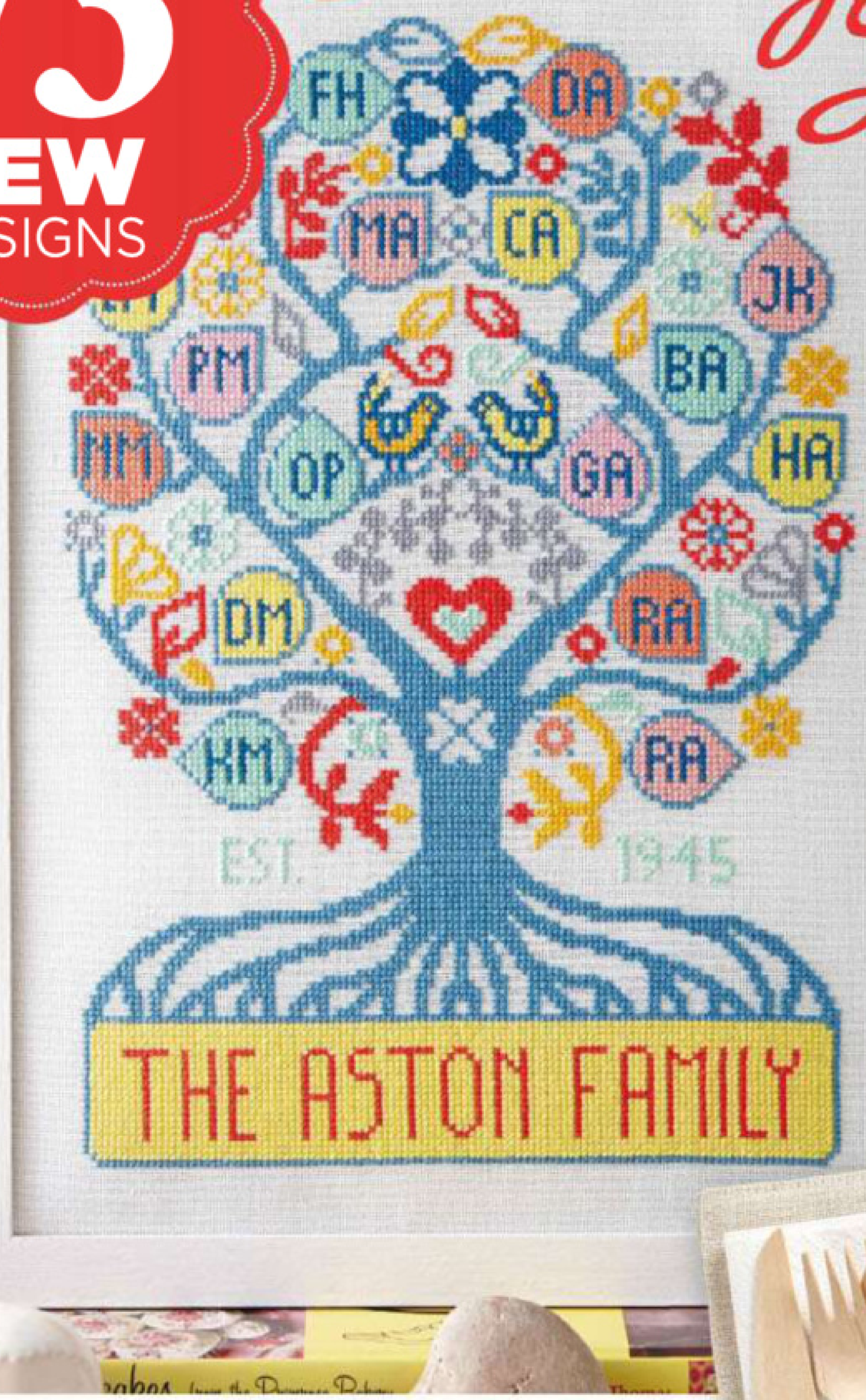
CrossStitcher

Future

IDEAS • STYLE • INSPIRATION

73 NEW DESIGNS

Family Fun













PICNIC TIME!

Dine alfresco with bags of style

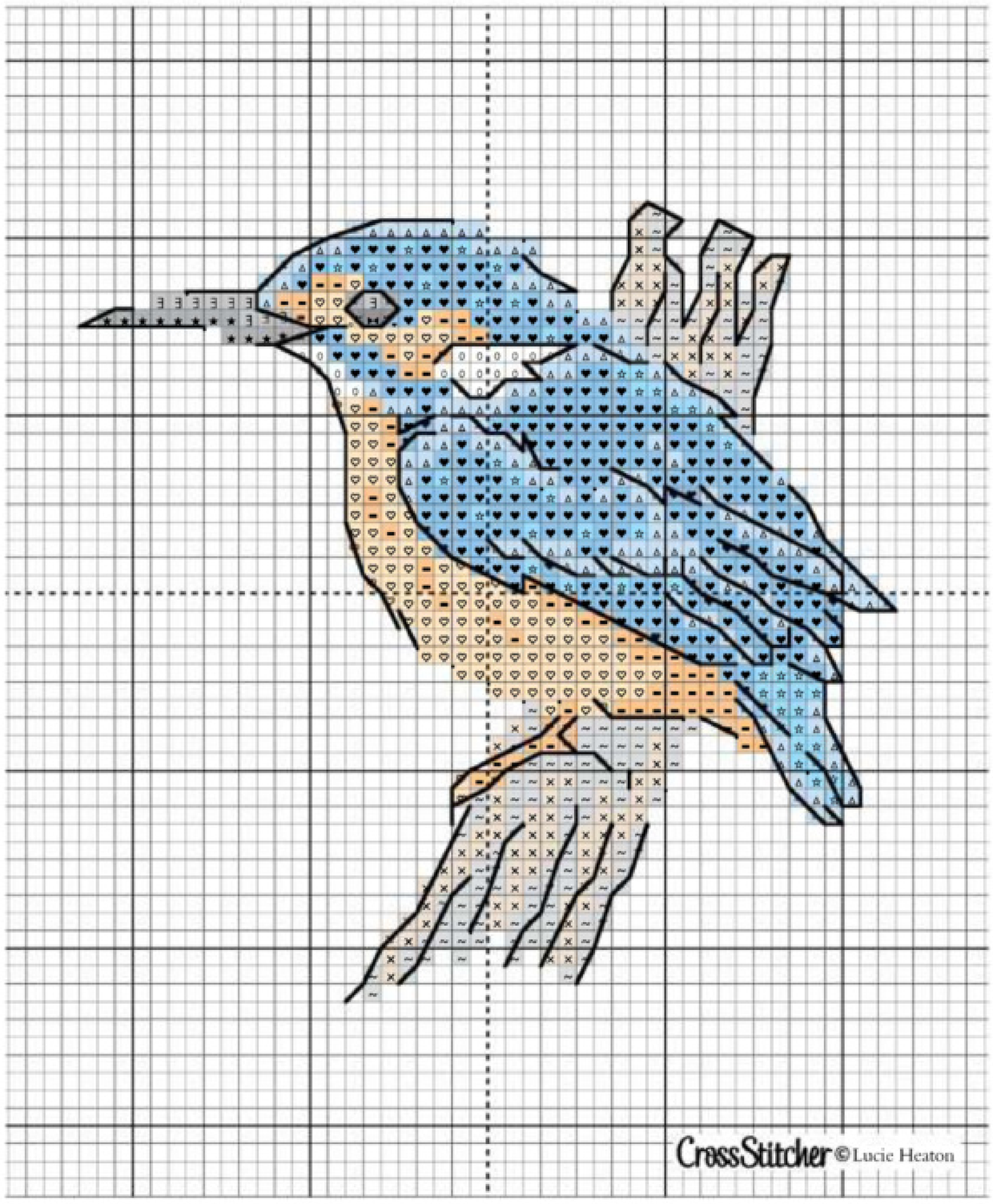


FLASHY KINGFISHER

Head down to the river and stitch this striking fellow flitting between the reeds. He's the eighth in our bird series exclusively for digital readers

FREE CHART

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
Cross stitch in two strands			
0	White	002	2402
Ǝ	318	399	1802
★	414	235	1801
~	415	398	1803
-	722	323	0307
×	738	361	2013
△	813	140	1013
♥	826	161	1012
☆	996	1090	1103
⋈	3799	236	1713
♡	3856	1047	2307
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

Take a trip to Africa and stitch our pink flamingo. He's in our August issue, on sale 25 July.



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Welcome

Fill your home with meaningful things



‘EAST OR WEST, HOME IS BEST’

It’s a very old saying but one that will always ring true. This month we have a whole magazine filled with the best ways to celebrate the things that mean home to us.

Of course family comes first. They may drive us crazy but they are the cornerstone of our world. With this in mind, why not have a go at creating your family tree in cross stitch? Felicity Hall’s tree of life design (1) makes it super-easy to personalise your version with initials of all your nearest and dearest.

We love the current trend for slogans in home decor. It didn’t take us long to find the perfect one for us – ‘Home is where the cake is’! Stitch this cheery picture (2) and don’t forget there’s mini bunting to match. Battenberg, anyone?

Our next favourite phrase is ‘No place like home’, and who could resist accessorizing it with a pair of Dorothy shoes (3) stitched with real metallic red sparkle? Just click your heels three times and count your stitches.

Happy stitching!

Jenny

JENNY DIXON
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF



To the sea!

Head for the coast with fresh sea-breezy homestyle next issue (on sale 25 July)





Never forget where you put your keys with an ellie key ring!

Follow us online!

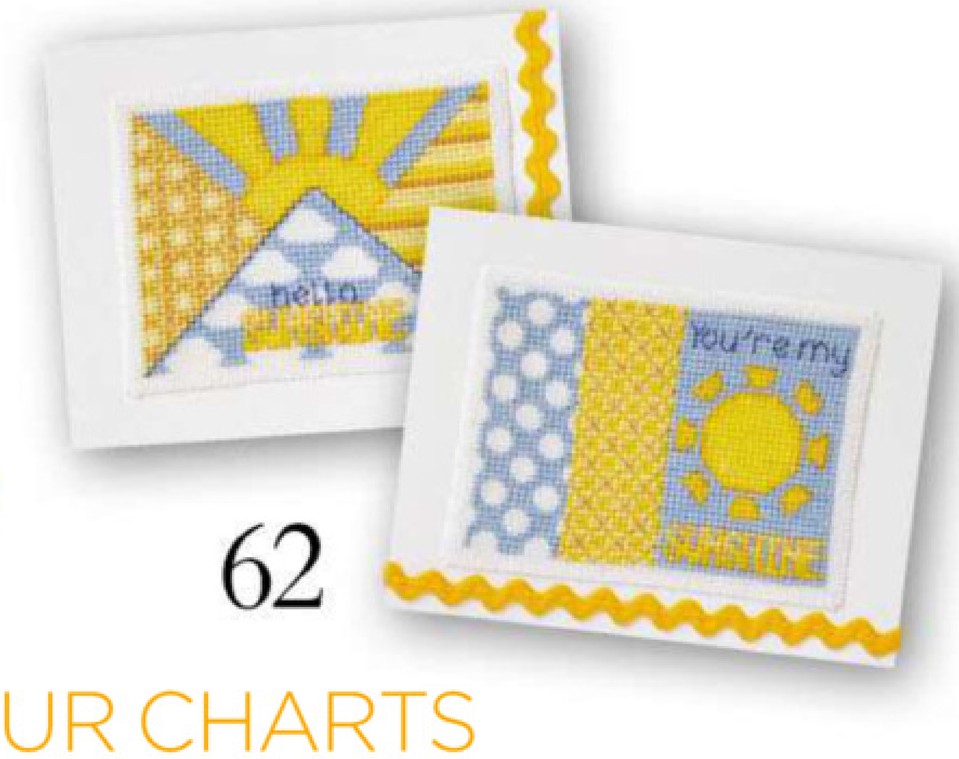
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twitter.com/XStitchmagazine

www.crossstitchermag.com

CrossStitcher

Contents

Issue 281 **Summer 2014**



62



16

YOUR CHARTS

8 **Little Ellies** Cute key rings to ensure you never forget where you left your keys

16 **Tree of Life** Colourful family tree you can personalise with your own loved ones' initials

24 **Let's Go Alfresco** Typographic lunch bags and cutlery holder for the most stylish picnic around

30 **Peg It** Message pegs to keep to-do lists organised

34 **Royal Flush** Luxe king and queen cushion duo

40 **Have Your Cake** Vintage-style sweet treats sampler, tea cosy and cake bunting

49 **Take Me Home** On-trend Dorothy cushion that'll make you always want to be at home

53 **What a Gem** Jewels to transform a plain t-shirt

56 **Heart of Mine** Adorable elephants for a nursery

62 **Bring Me Sunshine** Summery, retro-style cards

66 **Digging It** 22 garden motifs – in backstitch only!

OFFERS & COMPETITIONS

70 **Project kits** Order kits containing fabric, thread, needle and chart for selected projects in this issue

72 **Giveaways** Win over £430 worth of prizes including show tickets, kits and stitching lamps

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

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





ON THE COVER

- Family fun **page 16**
- Turn your home into a palace **page 34**
- Magic makeover **page 53**
- Sweet bunting **page 40**
- Baby gifts **page 56**
- Picnic time **page 24**
- Instant sunshine to stitch & send **page 62**



30



56



66





EVERY ISSUE

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

14 **New! Inside the mind of** Mr X Stitch

22 **An interview with** Emma Cowlam

32 **Subscribe to *CrossStitcher*** and save up to 34% on the shop price!

61 **Letters** Show off what you've stitched

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

91 **Next month** in *CrossStitcher*





49



THE Savvy Stitcher

Try something new every issue

73 Canvaswork
Have fun with texture and create 3D mini worlds using three simple canvaswork stitches – we show you how!



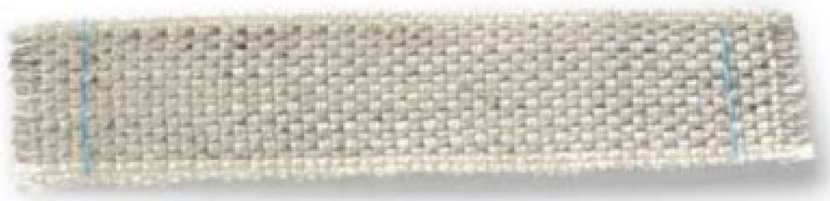


THE SAVVY STITCHER CANVASWORK 73

www.crossstitchermag.com

Little ellies

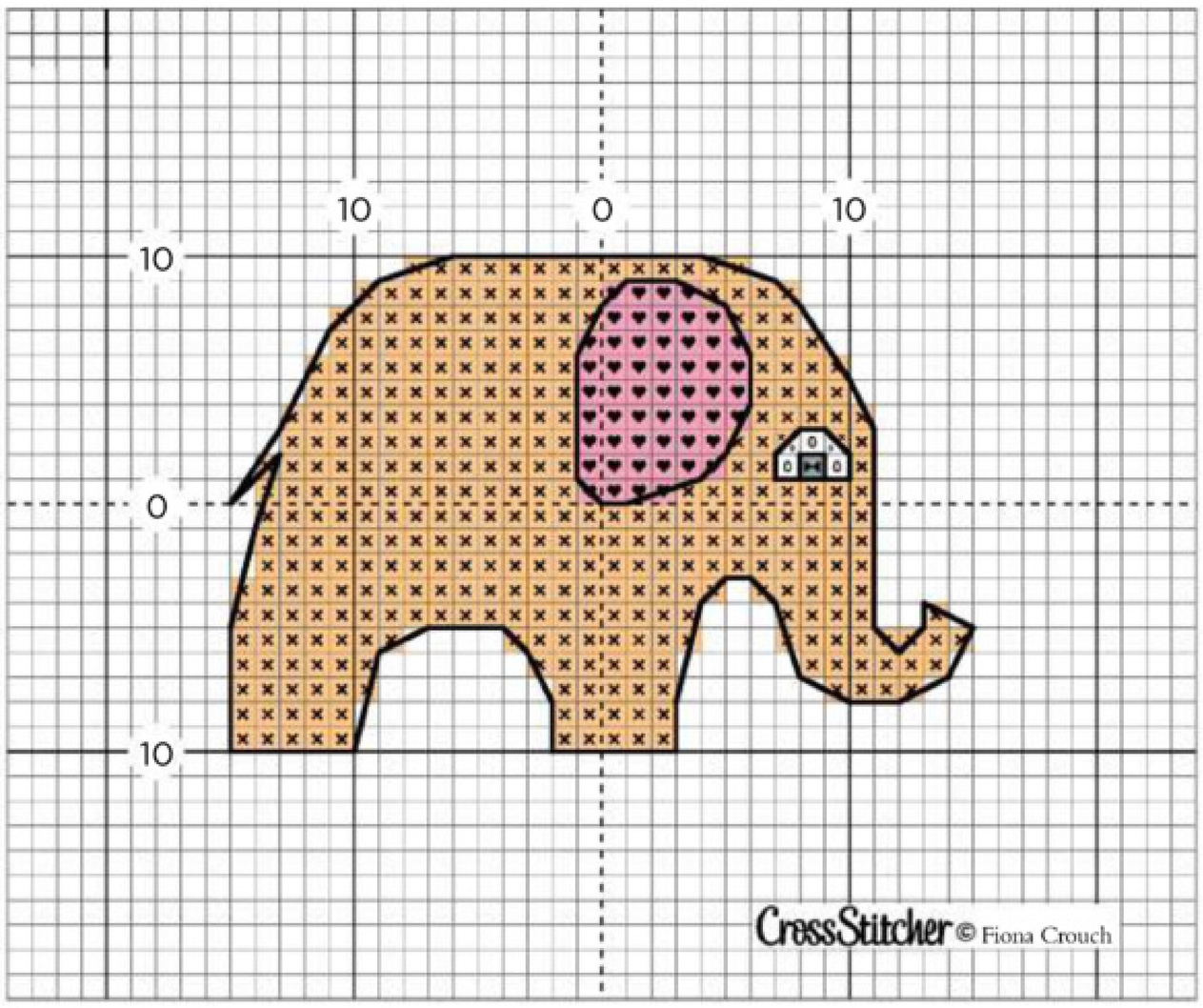
With these colourful cuties, you'll never forget where you left your keys

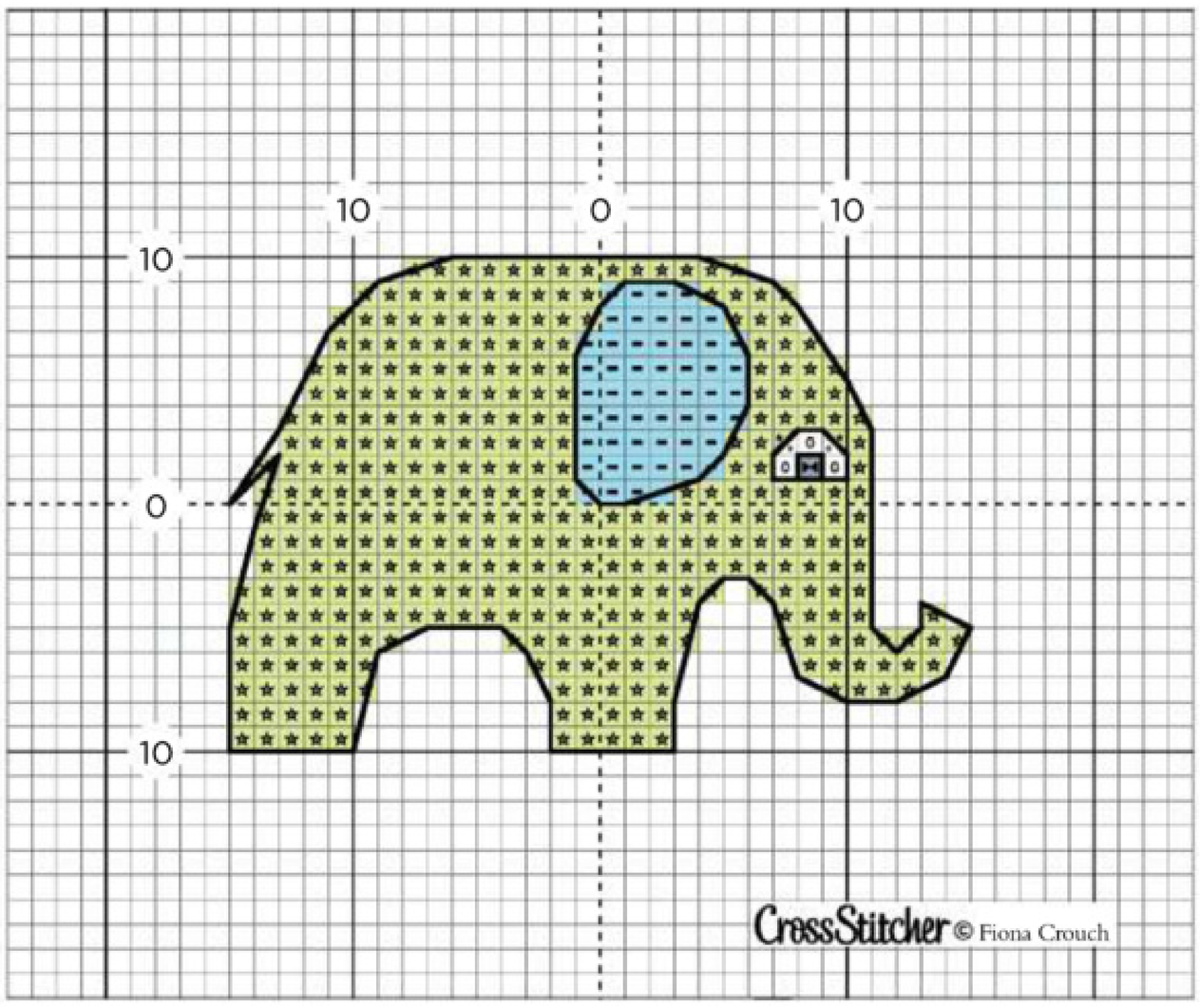


Designed by: Fiona Crouch
Design size: 4x5.5cm each
Stitch time: 2 hours each

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
Cross stitch in two strands			
0	B5200	001	2401
⋈	535	401	1809
♥	602	057	0702
×	741	304	0203
★	907	255	1410
-	3846	1090	1103
Backstitch in one strand			
—	310	403	2400

all details





Make a… key ring

Step 1

TRIM your stitching 2cm outside the edges and cut your backing fabric to the same size.

Step 2

THREAD the ribbon through the split ring. Place the ends right sides together in the centre of the short edge of your stitching and put the backing fabric right sides together on top of this.

Step 3

STITCH all the way round, leaving a small gap. Turn right sides out, add a bit of stuffing, then sew up the gap. Work a running stitch a little way in from the edge using dark grey stranded cotton.

Materials

- 28 count warm grey evenweave, 15x15cm
- Cotton fabric, 9.5x8cm, grey
- Stuffing
- Spotted ribbon, 7cm
- Split ring

For stockist details see page 84



Stitch it on aida!
If you'd rather stitch on aida, go for 14 count grey aida

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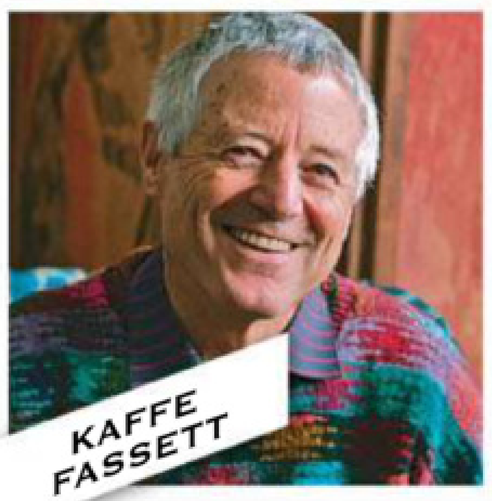
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Outthere

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

Coastal cool

Dream of a house by the sea? Then you'll love Matalan's Seascape interiors range. Featuring gorgeous items for every room, it'll give your home a coastal feel even if you live far inland. www.matalan.co.uk



PICTURE PERFECT

WE'RE BIG fans of Floss & Mischief's designs, so are excited about their new Thread Art collection. Giving black and white photos a punchy twist using bold embroidery, the series includes nostalgic scenes and animal portraits – the perfect gift for a friend or yourself!
www.flossandmischief.com



Cute **clutch**

We can't resist a summery clutch – especially if it's been cross stitched. This one, with its cheeky quip, gets a double thumbs up!
www.asos.com

BUTTONED DOWN

WANT TO keep your button stash under control? Follow our sister magazine *Cross Stitch Collection*'s lead and store them in a mason jar topped with a cute button lid. Find the project in their August issue, on sale now!
www.myfavouritemagazines.co.uk





Photograph: notonthehighstreet.com 0845 259 1359

HAPPY DAYS

BE REMINDED of carefree childhood holidays at the seaside with this ceramic sandcastle bowl. Handmade in Britain, it comes in blue, yellow or white and will add retro cool to any room.
www.notonthehighstreet.com/carolinemcgrath



PALATIAL SPACE

STITCHING OUR king and queen cushions on page 34? Complete the regal look with these crown vinyl wall stickers. They're available in a whole range of colours and are simple to apply.
www.etsy.com/shop/livingwall

Sunshine bright

MIXING GEOMETRIC patterns and a zesty colourway, this drum lampshade oozes summer style. Handcrafted in England, it's perfect for brightening your crafting space.
katiharris.com

A IS FOR ALFRESCO

FORGET PLAIN white plates and supermarket carrier bags. Picnics these days require stylish presentation. Stitch our typographic lunch bags on page 24, and accessorize with these alphabet paper plates and cups.
www.notonthehighstreet.com/theletteroom



Photograph: notonthehighstreet.com 0845 259 1359



Life's a beach

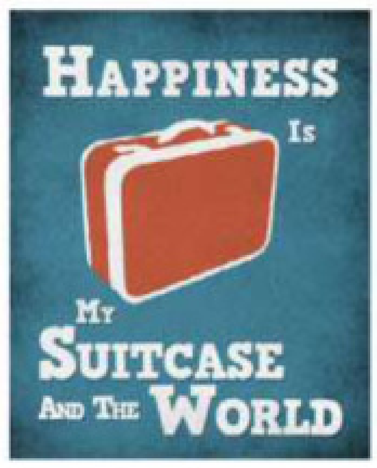
WHETHER YOU'RE heading to the high street, gym or the beach, a canvas tote is just the thing for carrying all your gear. This Colby shopper is ideal for summer... and for keeping the summer feeling through next season too!
www.radley.co.uk

THREE OF THE BEST *On your travels*

Join the jet set with these holiday-themed goodies we spotted on Etsy



BELEDIENHANDMADE
Keep your passport in this cute linen holder, with appliquéd felt motif and cheerful lining printed with rainbows.



LOTUSLEAFCREATIONS
Hang up this print next to some of your framed holiday snaps and feel inspired by your trips all year round.



BOMBUS
Record travel memories in these sketch and notebooks hand-covered with a vintage map of your favourite place.

TREND SPOTTING

with CrossStitcher production editor
Jo Ryan



EDGY ELEPHANTS

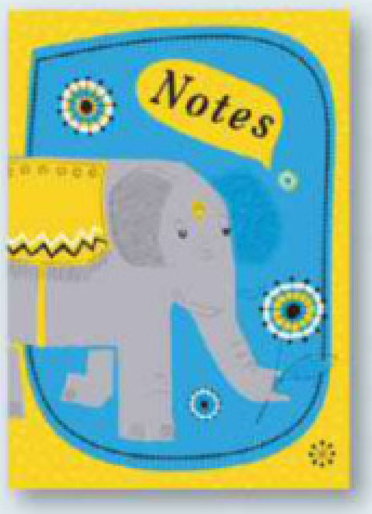
THESE GENTLE giants are topping the trends this month. Stitch our ellie key rings on page 8 and cute cushion on page 56, and check out these buys.



WHO
Alice Potter's print combines on-trend simplicity with colourful detailing.
alicepotter.co.uk

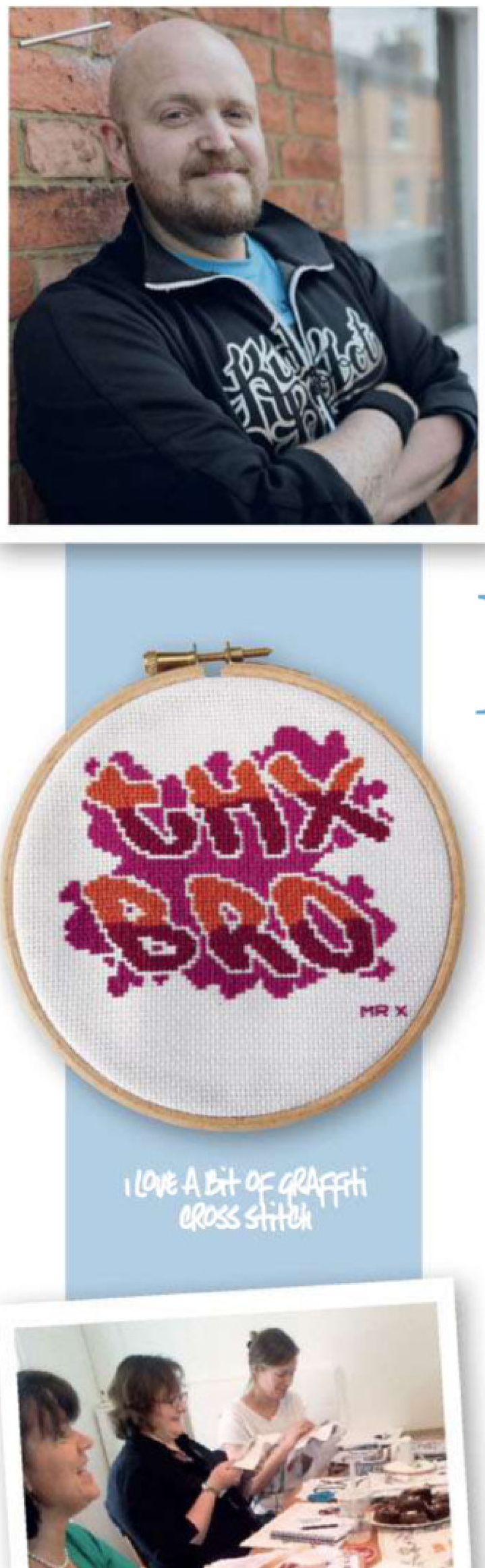
WHAT
This part-embroidered cushion will add a touch of quirkiness to your sofa.
www.oliverbonas.com





HOW
Organise lists and ideas in this fun notebook – we love the bright blue and yellow!
clareloves.co.uk

NEW COLUMN!





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Inside the mind of

MR X STITCH

Our very own stitchy superhero shares his views on the craft, the universe and everything

Hello beloved *CrossStitcher* readers! I'm Jamie, aka Mr X Stitch, aka the Kingpin of Contemporary Embroidery, and I'm here to change the way the world thinks about needlecraft!

It's a real honour to be joining this magazine to share my world views and answer your cross stitchy questions. A question I get asked a lot is: "Who are you and what are you doing in my house?" but that's not relevant here. Another question I get asked is: "How did you get into cross stitch?" so I thought I'd tell you my story.

For many years, I didn't know what it was like to be a stitcher. For many years, I bumbled idly along, getting my gratification from video games and other non-productive pursuits. Then, on a visit to a haberdashery shop in Milton Keynes, everything changed.

I was soon to be going on holiday to Canada and wanted something to do on the plane. As a big guy, I struggle with sleeping on long flights, so the methods of relaxation (other than gin and tonic) can be quite limited.

I was intrigued by the idea of doing a cross stitch; it felt like a provocative move. "Imagine the reactions of people when they see a man of my size doing cross stitch", I thought. And that was it.

I bought a cross stitch kit, based on the art nouveau work of Alphonse Mucha, and took it on holiday. The kit, which contained all the threads, fabric, pattern booklet and needles, was too big to manage on the outbound flight, so I started stitching while on holiday and, well, I was hooked.

After the initial ten minutes of wrangling the threads and learning how to get the stitches to sit right, I found my groove and began filling in the space with little Xs. As I continued, I noticed I was relaxing and that the repetition of the stitching was inducing a state not unlike meditation. Deep inside, my soul lifted ever so slightly and I began to smile...

> "Imagine the reactions of people when they see a man of my size doing cross stitch"

A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step, and in Orillia, Canada, I took my first step. Who would have thought that it would end up here?

I shall share more of my story in future columns, dear readers, and I hope you'll let me know what you think of the column, or ask me any burning questions you may have. You can ask me anything and, even if I don't know the answer, I will reply one way or the other!

In the meantime, find me all over the internet as Mr X Stitch and happy cross stitching!

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THREADS

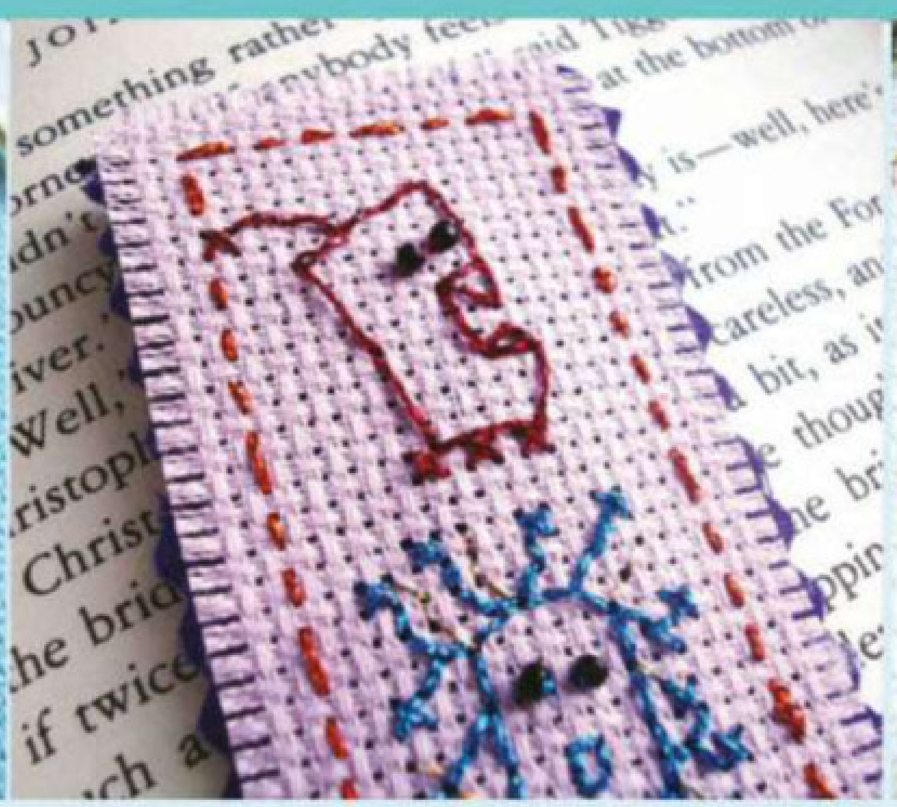




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CROSS STITCH BACKSTITCH ANY STITCH

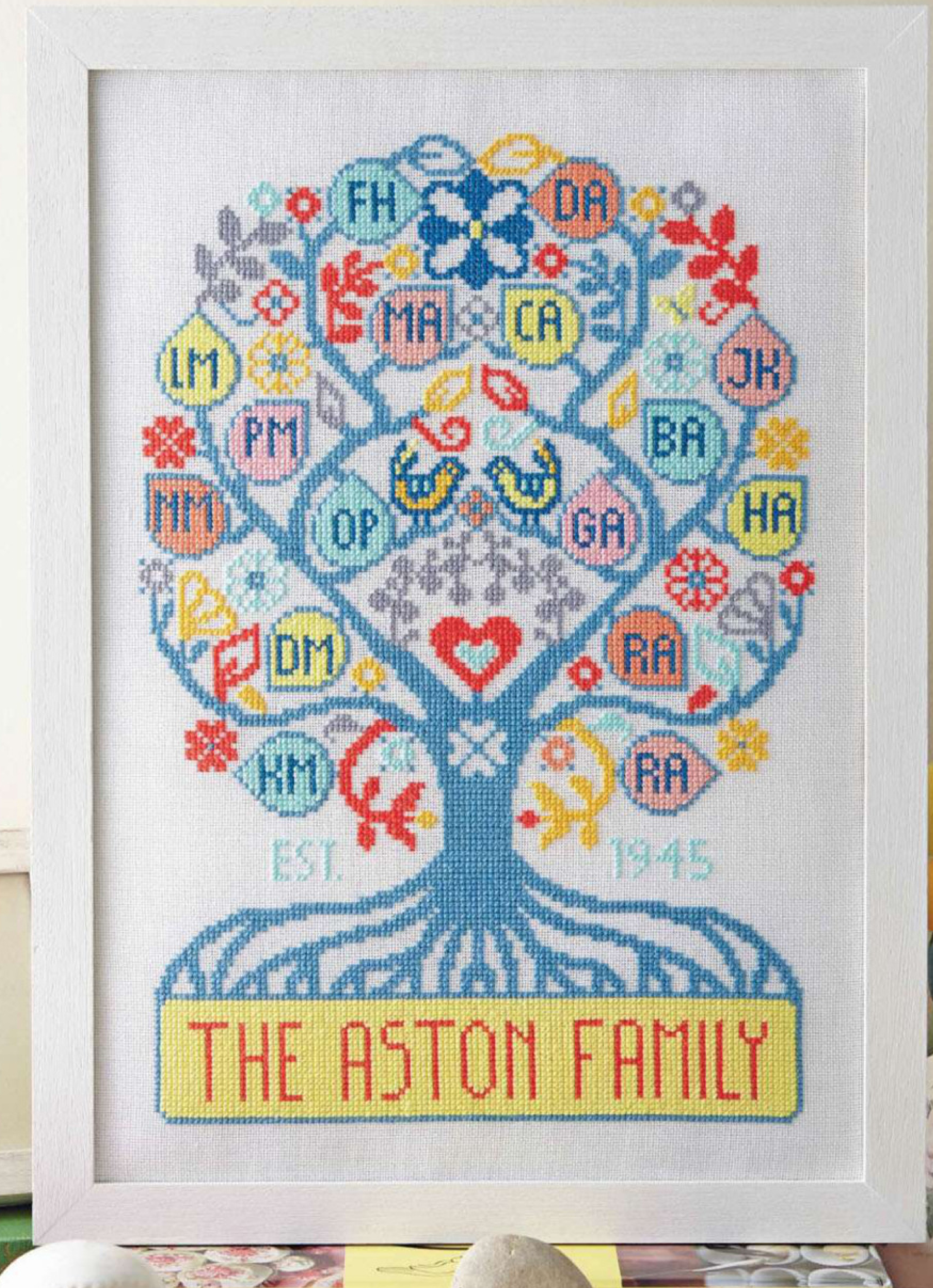
Free projects, ideas, how-to, and everything you want to know about Kreinik threads, online:

Visit www.kreinik.com for thread colour charts and store locator

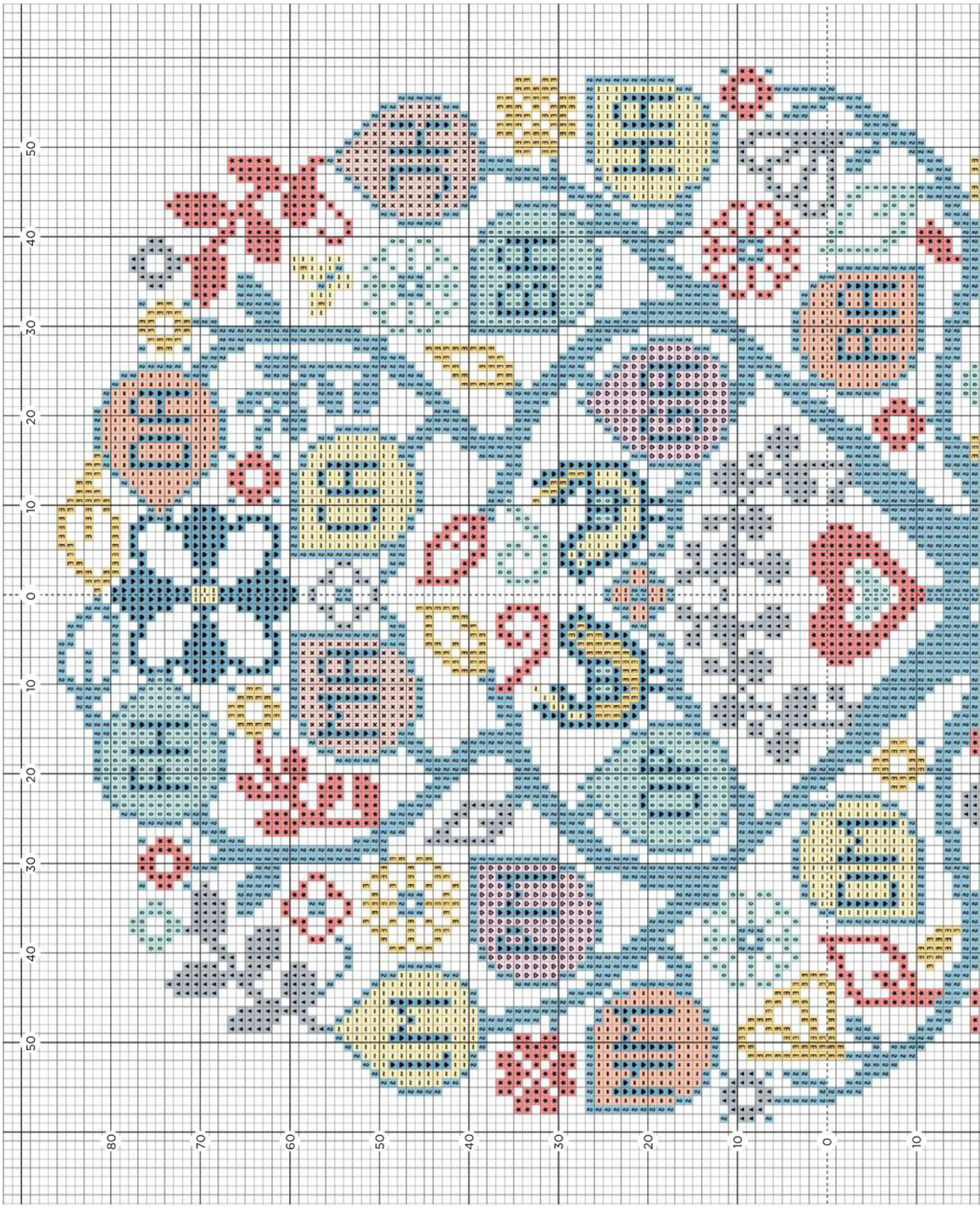
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TREE OF LIFE

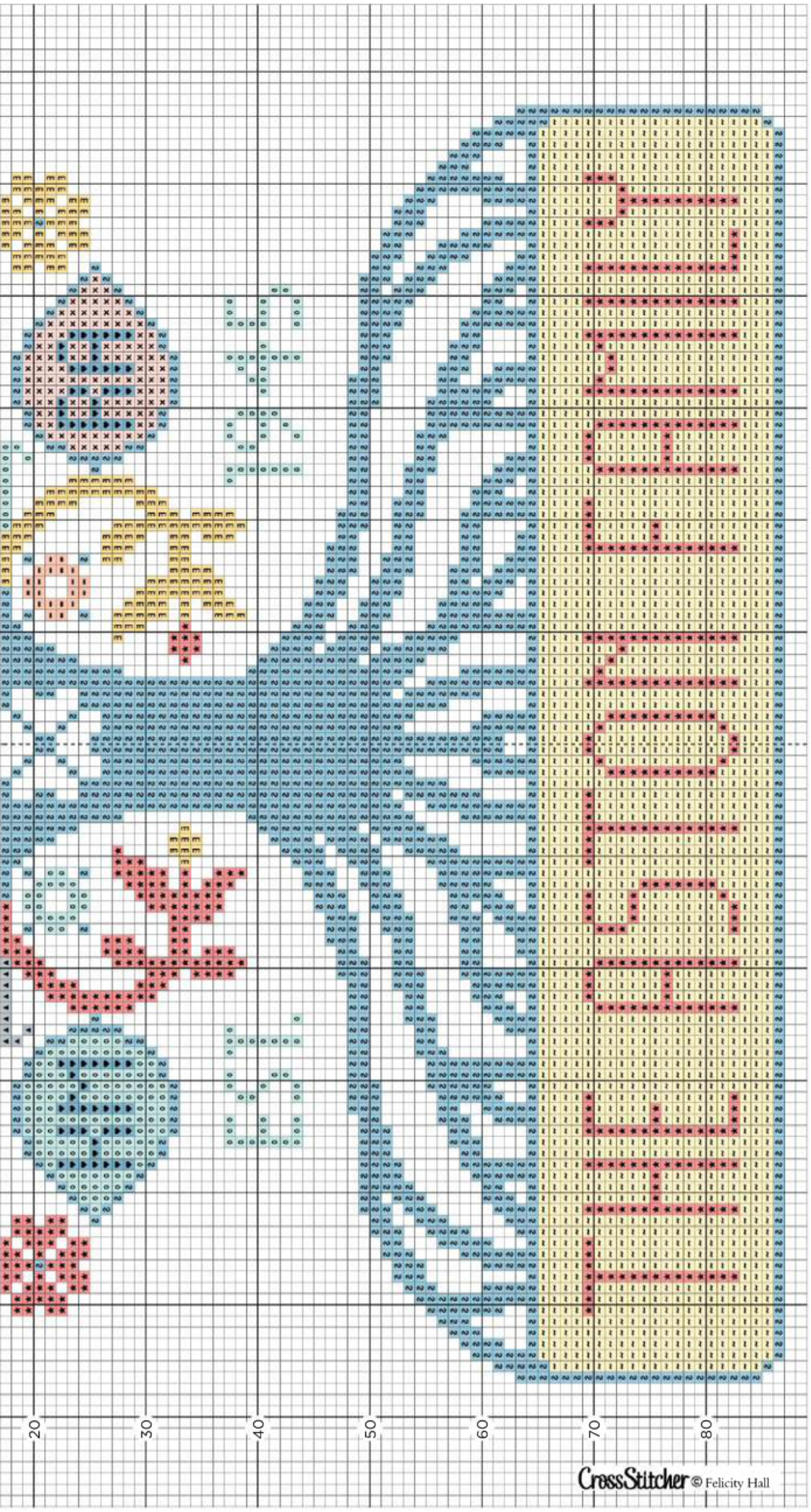
Celebrate the roots and branches of your family by stitching and personalising your own colourful tree


FH
DA
MA
CA
LM
JK
PM
BA
HM
OP
GA
HA
DM
RA
KM
RA
EST.
1945
THE ASTON FAMILY

TREE OF LIFE









Designed by: Felicity Hall
Design size: 31x21cm
Stitch time: 57 hours

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
Cross stitch in two strands			
▲	318	235	1802
▬	352	009	0303
S	518	1039	1106 (2)
♡	605	1094	0613
Ǝ	725	305	0108
~	727	293	0110 (2)
×	761	1021	0404
0	964	185	1112
♥	3765	170	2506
★	3801	1098	0411

(2) indicates more than one skein required



CrossStitcher PROJECT KITS
GET YOURS ON PAGE 70

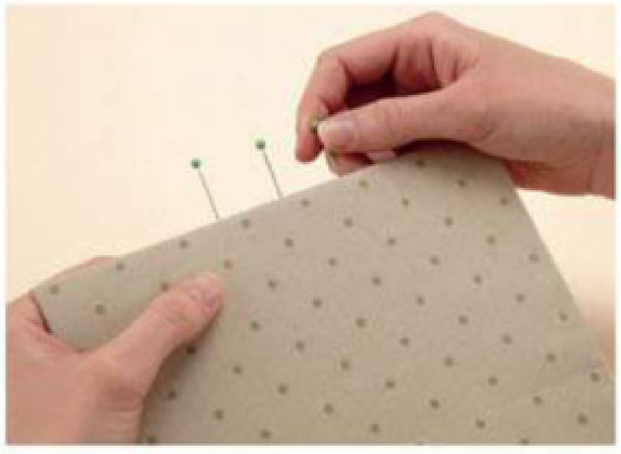
Materials

- 28 count white evenweave, 50x40cm
- Wooden frame
- Mount board to fit inside your frame

For stockist details see page 84

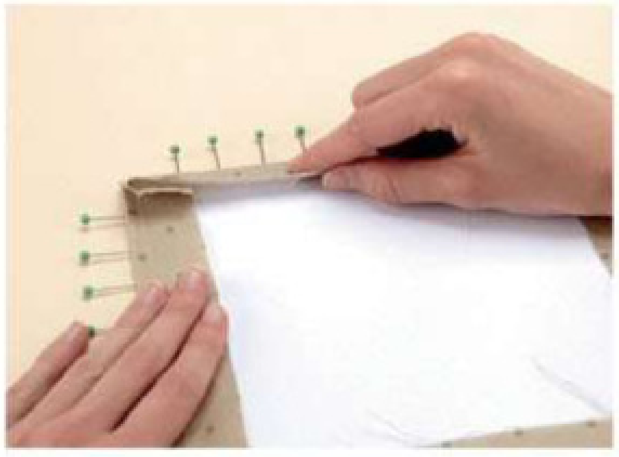
How to… **frame a picture**

Step 1



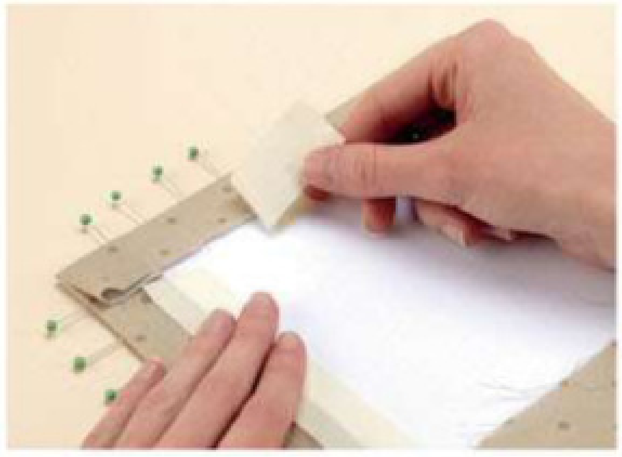
CUT a piece of white mount board to fit inside your frame. Place your design centrally over the mount board and pin the fabric around the board to secure, starting at the centre of each side and working outward.

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.





Personalise your family tree with our alphabet - plan it out before you begin stitching to ensure you include everyone





An interview with...

Emma Cowlam

What do you get if you combine thread, paper and a printer? Emma Cowlam's unique art and homestyle, of course...

Interview by ***Jessica Bateman***

Artist and illustrator Emma Cowlam only graduated from Chelsea College of Arts a few years ago, but already her stitched and printed work has taken the design world by storm.

Her unique prints, which adorn posters, fabrics and homestyle, begin with an illustration stitched on to paper, which is then digitally manipulated and scanned into a repeat pattern. Essentially, it's a print of a stitch — the perfect blend of traditional and modern techniques. We sat down for a chat with her to find out more.

Tell us about your background

I've always been passionate about design, drawing and illustration, and studied textile design at Chelsea College of Arts. As part of my course I was awarded an exchange placement



at the Fashion Institute of Technology in Manhattan, where I took a specific illustration class for the first time. My wonderfully inspiring tutor, herself a well-respected fashion illustrator, encouraged me to develop and refine my own technique and style.

How did you start creating stitched illustrations?

My illustrations are handstitched in black cotton on paper. The style stems from a project set while I was at the Fashion Institute, which required illustrations to be produced from a non-traditional drawing tool.

Being on a textile course, I obviously had plenty of needles and thread, and as soon as I started experimenting I knew I was on to something special.

Who or what inspires you?

I am inspired by lots of seemingly normal, everyday things – they somehow ignite something deep in my imagination. Ideas are frequently conjured from the most unlikely of places – they often just 'pop' into my head!

Once I've had an idea I can't focus on anything else until I've illustrated it – I need to get it out of my system.



'Morning Coffee' shows the London commute

'NY Bike Lovers' is Emma's most popular piece



> I'm inspired by lots of normal, everyday things – they somehow ignite something in my imagination

Describe your creative process

I start by handstitching a line drawing on paper. I create an image that can be scanned and digitally manipulated before being printed on to paper or other products.

What inspired you to turn your illustrations into patterns and prints, and how do you do it?

My ultimate aim has always been to bring together my love for illustration and passion for beautiful products. I continually strive to manufacture products in the UK from the highest quality materials.

After my process of handstitching and hand-drawing is finished, I use modern technology to create repeat patterns and print design layouts.

What has been your most popular or bestselling piece?

Without a doubt, my 'NY Bike Lovers' print. It was one of the first illustrations I ever did while living in New York, and is inspired by a photograph I saw in a newspaper of a couple kissing on a bike. I don't think I could ever tire of illustrating it, as it holds such special memories of my time in New York.

Do you practise any other crafts?

I like traditional cross stitch, but using it to create an ultra-modern look. A bit of mustard yellow or a sludgy green, coupled with some hot pink or neon orange, can look stunning.

It's hard to get noticed as a young creative – what do you think the secret to standing out is?

It's about being totally unique in your creative style and talent. Being inspired by others but not copying them, and ultimately working consistently harder than everyone else!

Who are your creative heroes?

The list is endless! I have so many creative heroes and admire them all for different reasons. However, I think it was reading [fashion designer] Barbara Hulanicki's autobiography while I was on my art foundation course that made me realise illustration was a career, and that illustrations do not just magically appear in books – someone actually does them!

What's coming up for you and your business?

There are a lot of exciting projects currently in the pipeline. I'm continuing to create originals for galleries and exhibitions as well as developing more illustrated products and expanding my ranges. I want my products to tell a story and have a narrative people can identify with and relate to.

I also hope to do more editorial illustration work in the form of books, newspapers, magazines and other printed publications.

emmacowlam.com

LET'S GO ALFRESCO







Let's go ALFRESCO

Sunny weekend? Gather your friends and take lunch outside with our typographic picnic bags and cutlery holder

Designed by: Emma Congdon

Design size: 21x16cm **Stitch time:** 27 hours

LET'S GO ALFRESCO





	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
Cross stitch in two strands			
⋈	310	403	2400
♥	321	047	0510
ƨ	351	010	0214
▲	434	310	2009
@	436	363	2011
◇	444	291	0105
☆	606	334	0209
0	738	361	2013
#	741	304	0203
●	801	359	2007
▬	892	033	0412
×	894	031	0408
⧗	907	255	1410
△	963	023	0503
♡	964	185	1112
★	995	1089	1102
Ǝ	3844	433	1103
~	3846	1090	1105
Backstitch in one strand			
—	310 bee	403	2400



Make a… **bag with a gusset**

Strengthen the bag's base by stitching heavyweight interfacing between the outer fabric and lining

Materials

Picnic bag

- 28 count light rustic linen, 50x40cm
- Cotton outer fabric to match linen: 34x29cm for back; 13x29cm for base gusset; and two 13x34cm strips for side gussets
- Turquoise lining fabric, same sizes as bag outer
- Cream cotton webbing, two 40cm pieces

For stockist details see page 84

Step 1



JOIN the three gusset fabric pieces together at the short ends, ensuring the base piece is in the centre, to make one long strip.

Step 2



TRIM your stitched linen to the same size as the bag back, then stitch the gusset strip to the sides and bottom of the linen. Stitch the lining pieces together in the same way, leaving a gap in one seam for turning.

Step 3



STITCH the bag back to the other side of the gusset. Pin one piece of webbing to the top of the bag front and the other piece to the bag back.

Step 4



PLACE the lining inside the bag outer, right sides together. Stitch around the top. Turn right sides out through the gap in the lining and stitch up the gap. Push the lining inside and topstitch around the upper edge of the bag.



Make a… lunch bag

Step 1

CUT your stitched linen to 34x22cm, with the stitching placed 4.5cm up from the lower edge.

Step 2

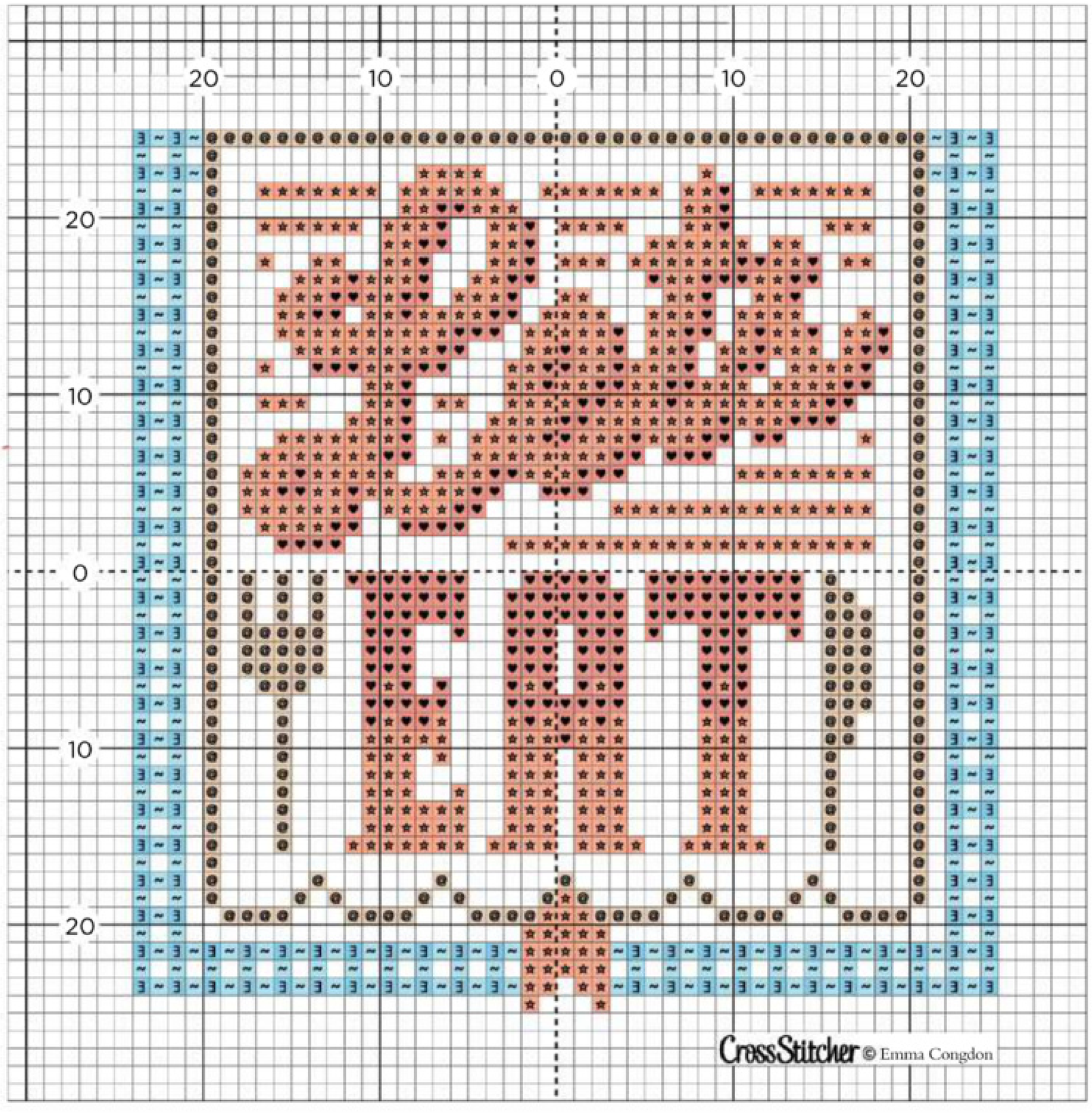
ASSEMBLE the bag outer and lining, joining the pieces in the same way as for the picnic bag.

Step 3

TOPSTITCH the front and back edges of the side gussets to help your lunch bag stand up.







Make a...

cutlery holder

Step 1

STITCH the design 5cm down from the top of the linen and centrally across it. Trim the fabric to 33x13cm, with the stitching placed 2cm down from the top edge.

Step 2

TURN under the edges of the linen 1.5cm and place the interfacing under the folded edges. Turn under the edges of the lining fabric to match and tack on top of the interfacing.

Step 3

TOPSTITCH the top edge of the fabrics above the stitched design. Create a pocket by folding the fabric so the bottom of the design is 0.5cm above the fold. Topstitch together down the sides and along the top.

For a wipe-clean finish, line your cutlery holder with oilcloth rather than cotton

Materials

Lunch bag

- 28 count light rustic linen, 40x40cm
- Cotton outer fabric to match linen, 34x22cm
- Turquoise cotton fabric, 40x110cm cut into: two pieces 34x22cm for the lining back and front; two strips 11x22cm for the base gusset; and four strips 11x34cm for the side gussets

Cutlery holder

- 28 count light rustic linen, 40x30cm
- Cotton lining fabric to match linen, 33x13cm
- Heavyweight interfacing, 30x10cm

For stockist details see page 84

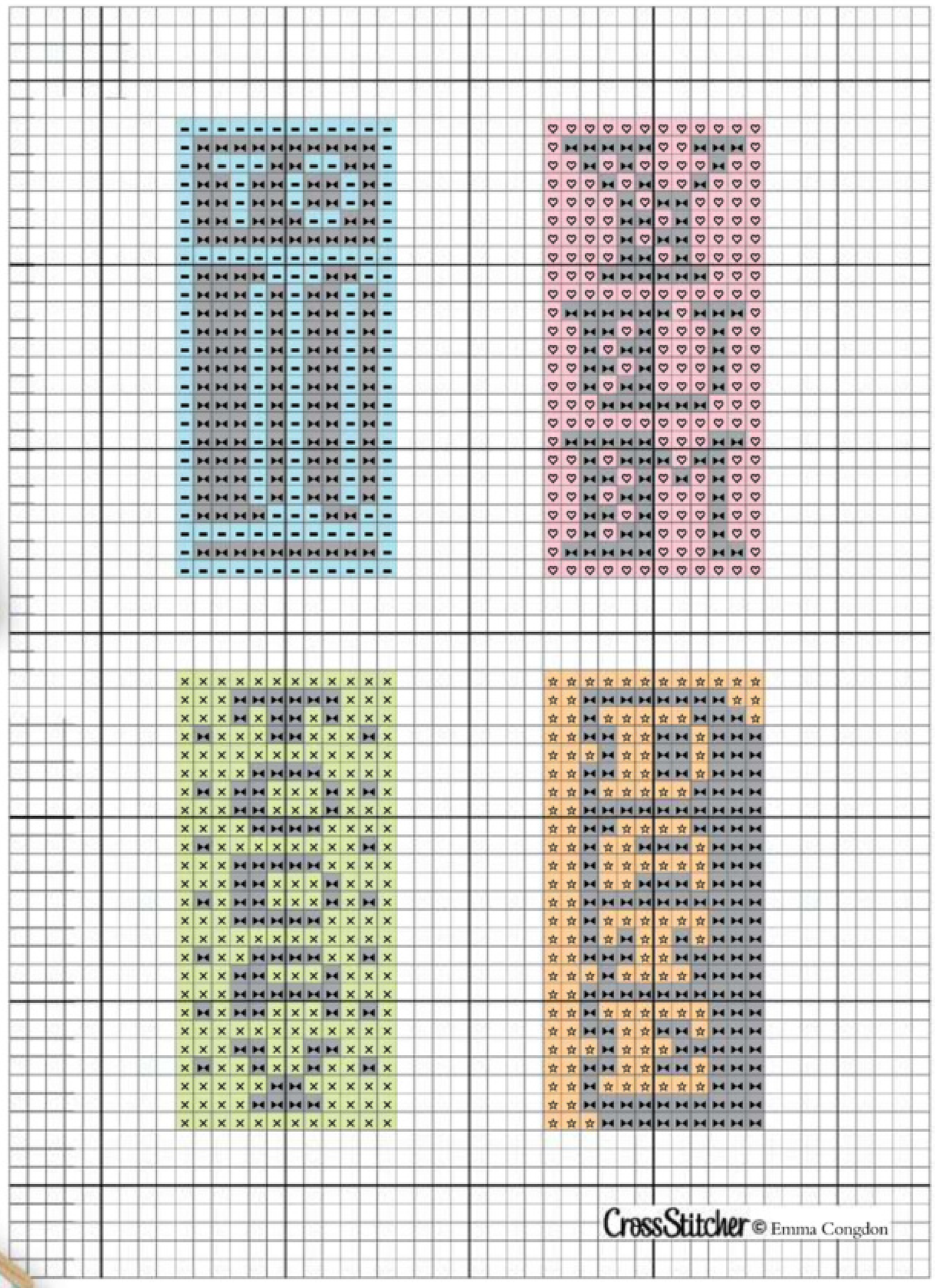


PEG IT

Keep tickets and to-do lists organised with our quick-make message pegs







Want to stick your pegs on the fridge? Just attach a magnetic strip to the back

Designed by: Emma Congdon
Design size: 4.5x2cm each
Stitch time: 2 hours each

Materials

- 14 count plastic canvas, 10x10cm per peg
- Patterned paper
- Wooden peg

For stockist details see page 84

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
Cross stitch in two strands			
×	166	279	1308
-	598	1062	1111
♡	3354	074	2610
⋈	3799	236	1713
☆	3854	313	2301

Make a... message peg

Step 1

TRIM around your stitched design, leaving at least one unstitched block all the way round.

Step 2

CUT a strip of paper to fit one side of the peg, then stick in place.

Step 3

STICK your stitched canvas to the top of the covered peg.

Future



CrossStitcher Digital Edition



*Free Trial not available on Zinio

Queen

King

CrossStitcher
PROJECT KITS
GET YOURS ON PAGE 70



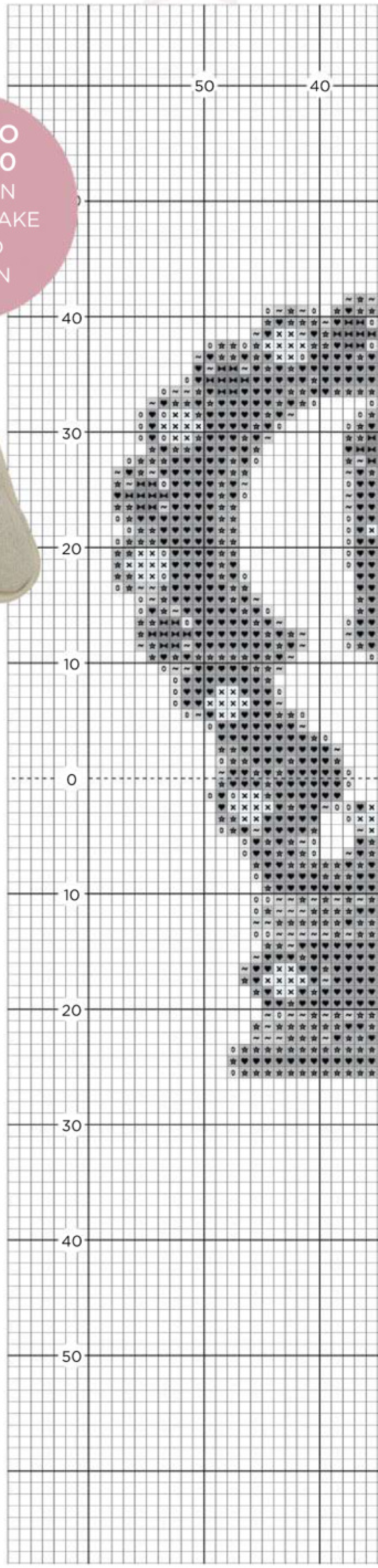
ROYAL FLUSH

Make your home a palace with our
luxe king and queen cushion duo

ROYAL FLUSH



TURN TO PAGE 60 TO LEARN HOW TO MAKE A PIPED CUSHION



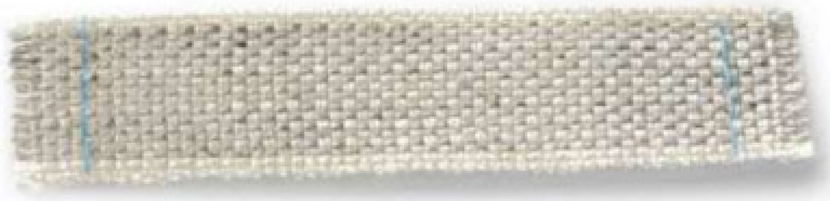
Designed by: Anette Eriksson
Design size: 21x21cm each
Stitch time: 28 hours each

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira	
Cross stitch in two strands				
⋈	310	403	2400	
~	318	399	1801	
♥	413	236	1713	(4)
☆	414	235	1714	(2)
0	415	398	1802	
Cross stitch in one strand				
×	Kreinik Fine (#8) braid 001HL			

(2) indicates more than one skein required

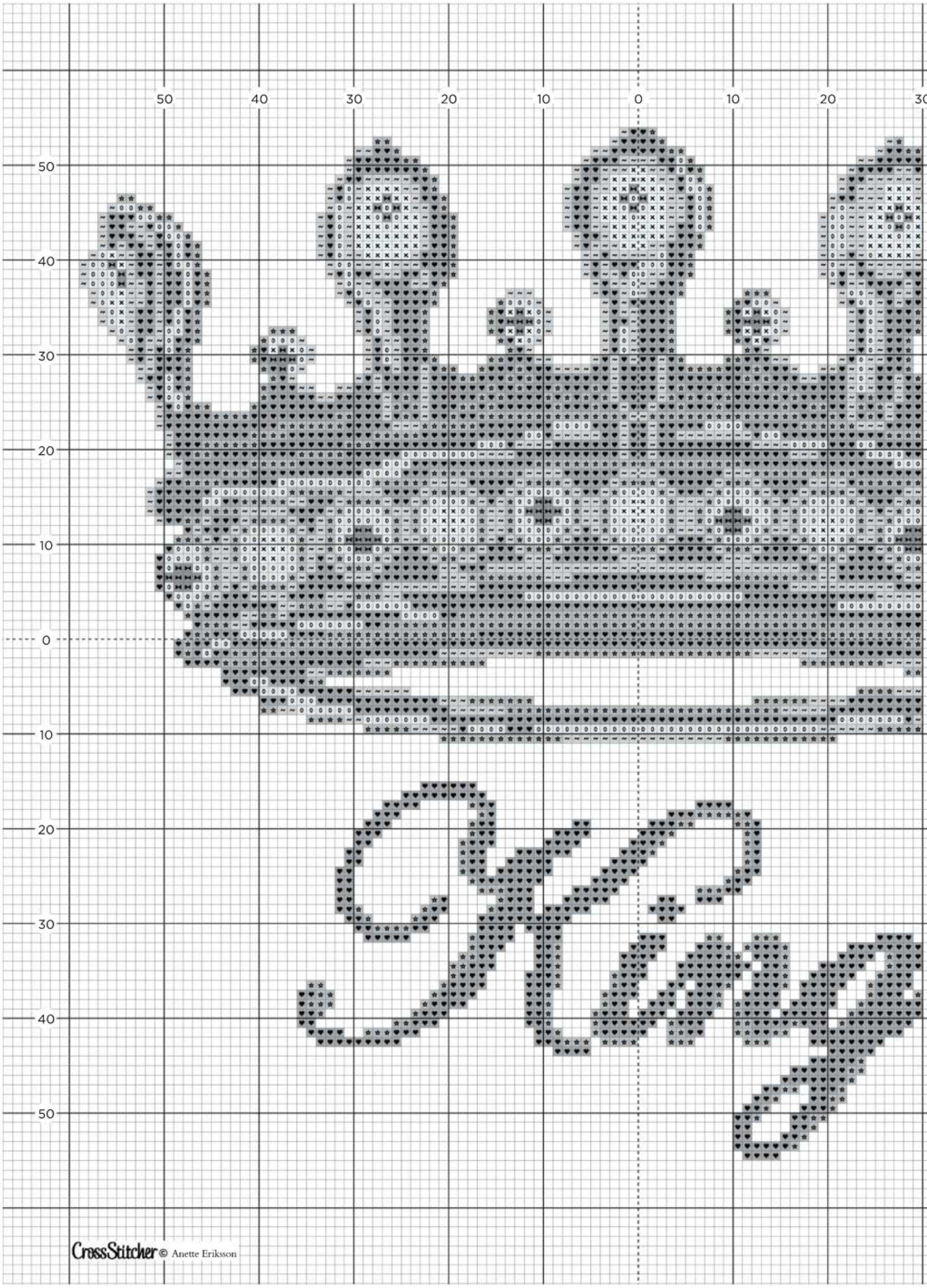
KREINIK THREADS

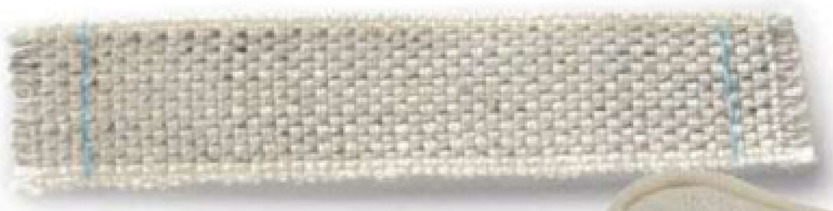
Kreinik's braid is non-divisible and should be used singly in the needle. It is coarser than stranded cotton, so it might be worth using a larger, size 22 tapestry needle, which will help to stretch each evenweave hole and reduce the amount of wear and tear on the thread.

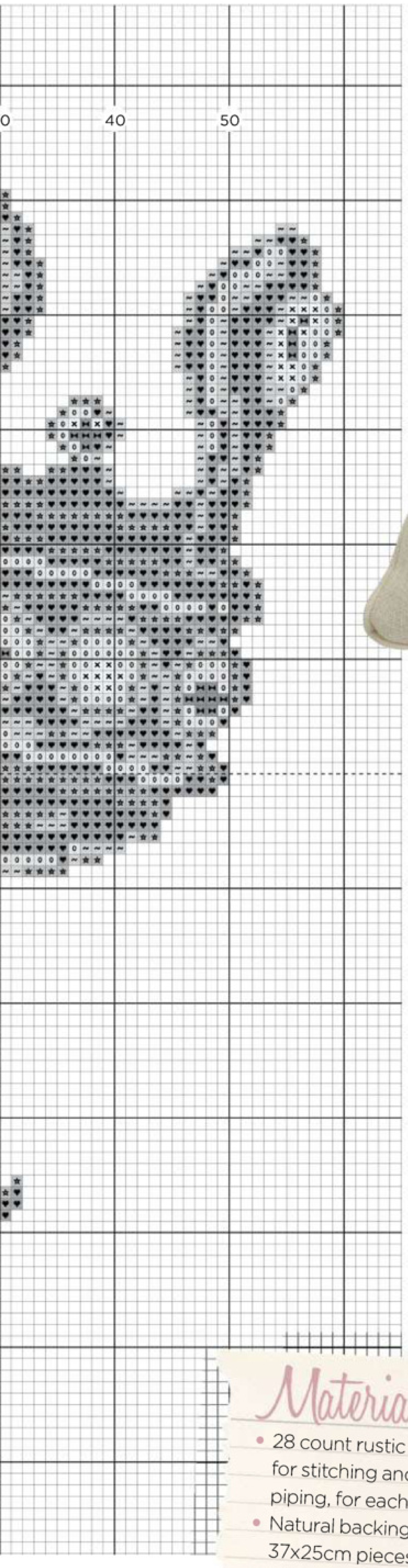


CrossStitcher © Anette Eriksson

ROYAL FLUSH


50
40
30
20
10
0
10
20
30
50
40
30
20
10
0
10
20
30
40
50
CrossStitcher © Anette Eriksson







Friends getting married?
Why not stitch our cushions
for a super-special gift



Materials

- 28 count rustic linen, 50x50cm for stitching and 150x8cm for piping, for each cushion
- Natural backing fabric, two 37x25cm pieces for each cushion
- Piping cord, 150cm for each cushion

For stockist details see page 84

HAVE YOUR CAKE





Have your CAKE

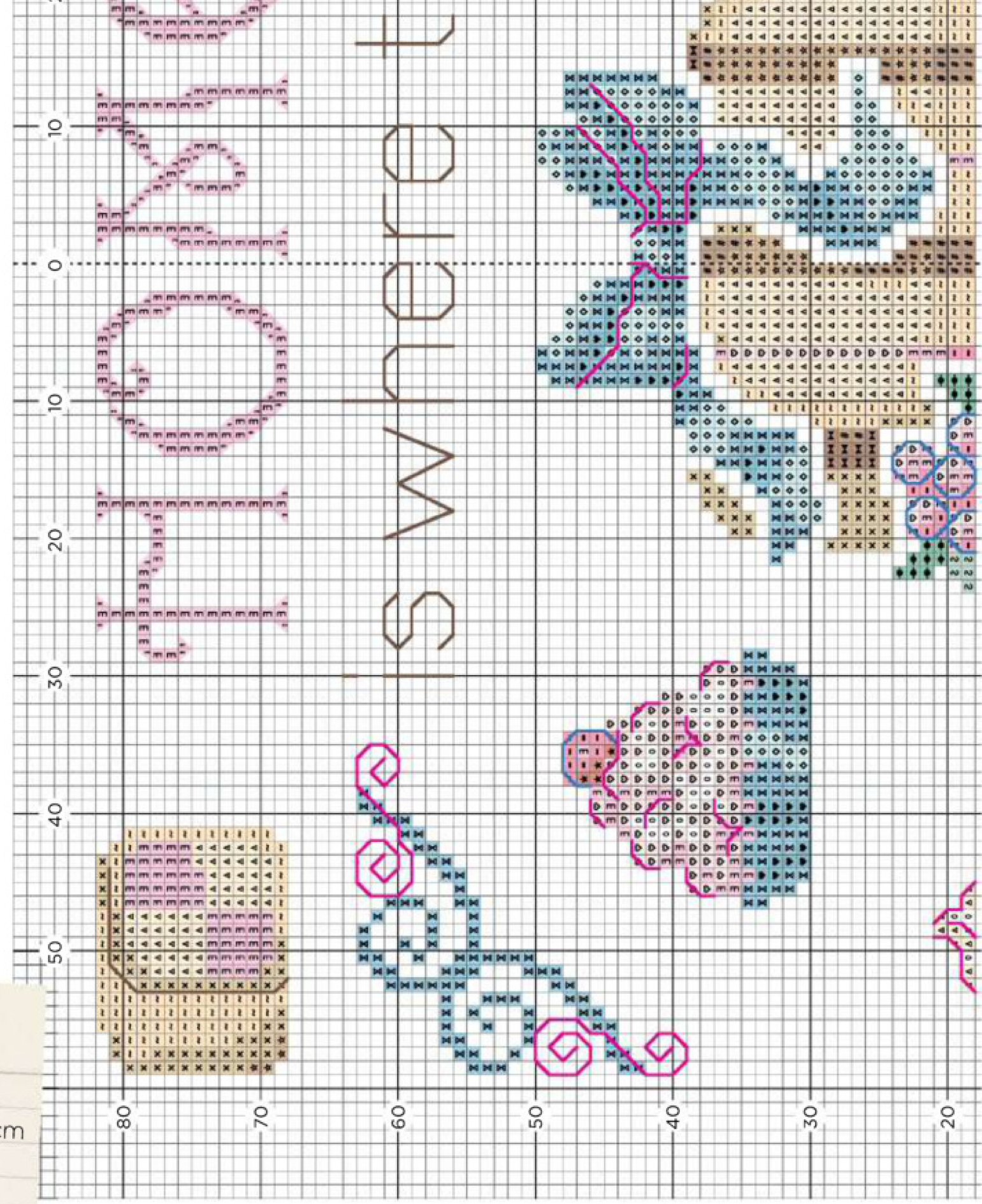


Forget celery and carrot sticks! Enjoy sweet treats for zero calories with our sampler, tea cosy and cake bunting

HAVE YOUR CAKE

Designed by: Maria Diaz

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
Cross stitch in two strands			
0	White	002	2402
×	422	372	2102
⋈	433	358	2008
#	434	310	2009
☆	435	365	2010
●	505	211	1206
⧗	597	1064	1110
▬	601	063	0703
Ǝ	603	055	0701
♡	605	1094	0613
~	676	887	2208
△	677	885	2207
★	816	043	0512
♥	3809	1066	1108
◇	3811	1060	1111
ƨ	3816	876	1703
Backstitch in two strands			
	601	063	0703
	all other details		
	915	1029	0705
	strawberries, cherries		
	3862	379	1913
	cakes, lettering, bunting		
French knots in two strands			
	783	307	2212
	strawberries		



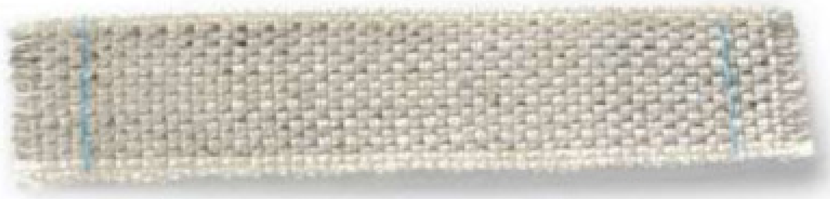
CrossStitcher
PROJECT KITS
GET YOURS ON PAGE 70

Materials

Sampler

- 28 count white evenweave, 50x50cm
- Wooden frame with outside measurement of 32x23cm
- White mount board
- Staple gun
- Double-sided tape

For stockist details see page 84





Make a… stretched canvas frame

Step 1

CUT a piece of mount board to exactly the same size as the outside edge of your frame. Attach using double-sided tape.

Step 2

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

Step 3

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

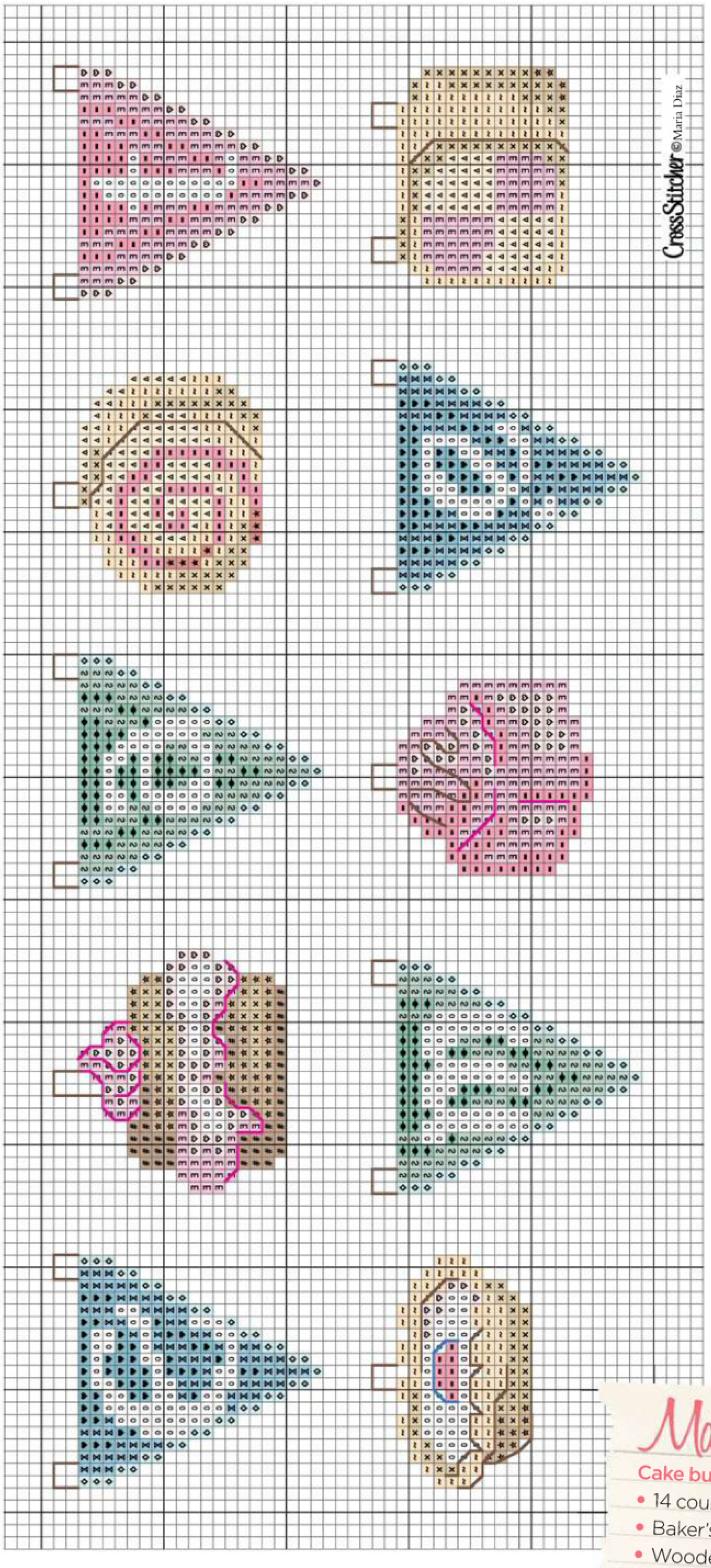
Why not pick your favourite cake to stitch up into a card for a friend's birthday





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





	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
Cross stitch in two strands			
0	White	002	2402
×	422	372	2102
⋈	433	358	2008
#	434	310	2009
☆	435	365	2010
●	505	211	1206
⧖	597	1064	1110
▬	601	063	0703
∃	603	055	0701
♡	605	1094	0613
~	676	887	2208
△	677	885	2207
★	816	043	0512
♥	3809	1066	1108
◇	3811	1060	1111
ƨ	3816	876	1703
Backstitch in two strands			
─	601	063	0703
	all other details		
─	915	1029	0705
	strawberries, cherries		
─	3862	379	1913
	cakes, lettering, bunting		
French knots in two strands			
●	783	307	2212
	strawberries		

Making bunting is easy: simply trim the plastic canvas just outside your stitching, then thread twine through the holes at the top and tie to skewers

Materials

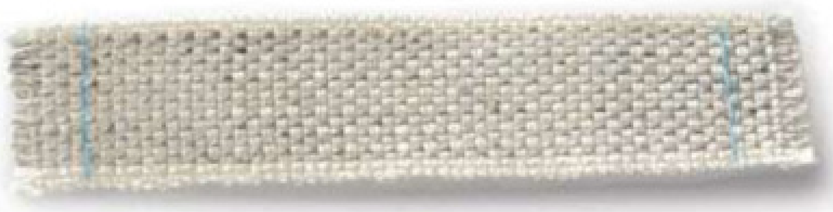
Cake bunting

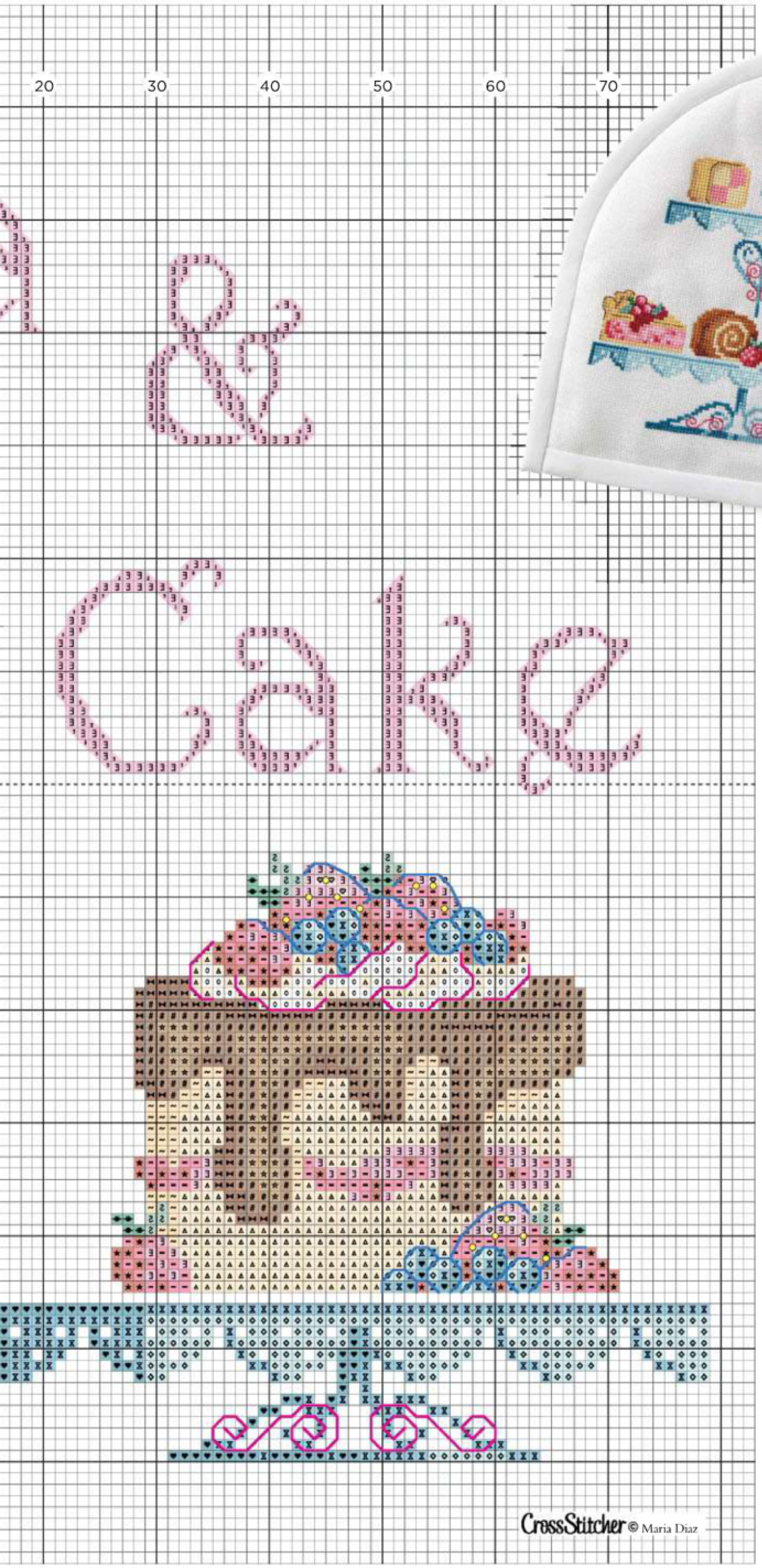
- 14 count plastic canvas, 8x8cm each
- Baker's twine
- Wooden skewers

For stockist details see page 84

HAVE YOUR CAKE









	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
Cross stitch in two strands			
0	White	002	2402
×	422	372	2102
⋈	433	358	2008
#	434	310	2009
☆	435	365	2010
●	505	211	1206
⧗	597	1064	1110
▬	601	063	0703
∃	603	055	0701
♡	605	1094	0613
~	676	887	2208
△	677	885	2207
★	816	043	0512
♥	3809	1066	1108
◇	3811	1060	1111
Ƨ	3816	876	1703
Backstitch in two strands			
	601	063	0703
	all other details		
	915	1029	0705
	strawberries, cherries		
	3862	379	1913
	cakes, lettering, bunting		
French knots in two strands			
	783	307	2212
	strawberries		



Materials

Tea cosy

- 28 count white evenweave, 40x50cm
- White cotton fabric, three 29x36cm pieces
- Wadding, two 29x36cm pieces
- White bias binding, 150cm

For stockist details see page 84

Make a... tea cosy

Step 1

DRAW a tea cosy shape on the reverse of your stitching. Trim, adding 1.5cm seam allowances. Cut the three white cotton fabric pieces and the wadding pieces to the same shape.

Step 2

PLACE a piece of wadding over one of the cotton fabric pieces, then the stitched fabric right side up on top. Bind the straight edge, enclosing all three layers. Repeat for the back of the cosy.

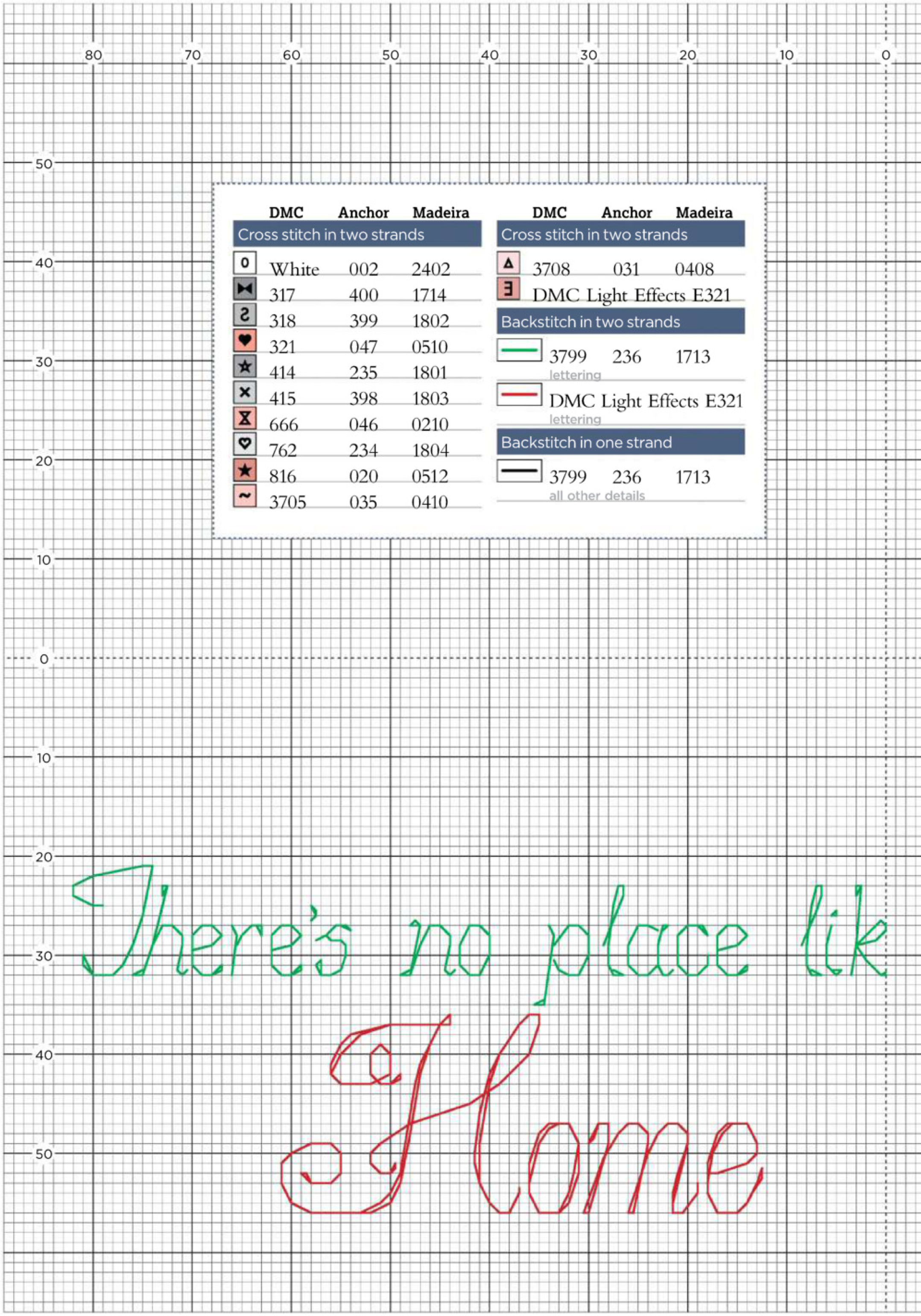
Step 3

PIN the back and front pieces together. Bind the curved edge, enclosing all six layers of fabric and wadding. Fold the short edges under to complete.

Using heat-resistant insulating wadding will make your cosy super efficient. Find it in good fabric shops or online

Take me Home

Click those heels! With our Dorothy cushion on your sofa you'll always want to be at home


80
70
60
50
40
30
20
10
0
50
40
30
20
10
0
10
20
30
40
50
DMC Anchor Madeira
Cross stitch in two strands
0 White 002 2402
317 400 1714
318 399 1802
321 047 0510
414 235 1801
415 398 1803
666 046 0210
762 234 1804
816 020 0512
3705 035 0410
DMC Anchor Madeira
Cross stitch in two strands
3708 031 0408
DMC Light Effects E321
Backstitch in two strands
3799 236 1713
lettering
DMC Light Effects E321
lettering
Backstitch in one strand
3799 236 1713
all other details
There's no place like
Home



CrossStitcher © Angela Poole



CrossStitcher PROJECT KITS
GET YOURS ON PAGE 70

Designed by: Angela Poole
Design size: 18x26cm **Stitch time:** 29 hours

Friend moving to a new pad? Our Dorothy cushion would make a great gift to help them settle in

Materials

- 32 count blue check evenweave, 40x50cm
- Backing fabric, two 26x26cm pieces
- Cushion pad, 30x40cm

For stockist details see page 84

Make an… **envelope cushion**

Step 1



TRIM your stitching to 26x38cm. Hem one edge on each backing piece. Right sides in, lay your first hemmed piece over your stitching.

Step 2



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

Step 3

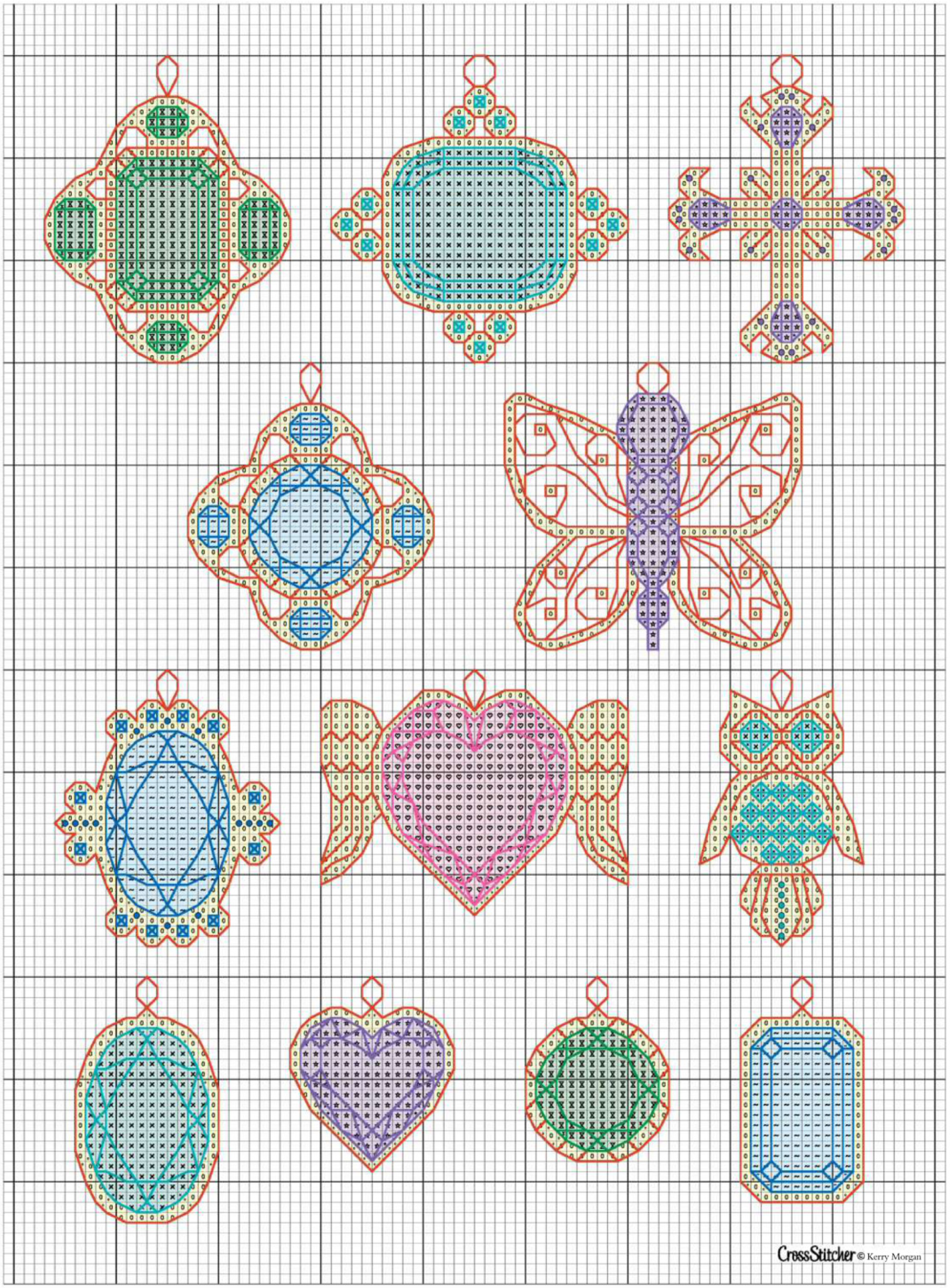


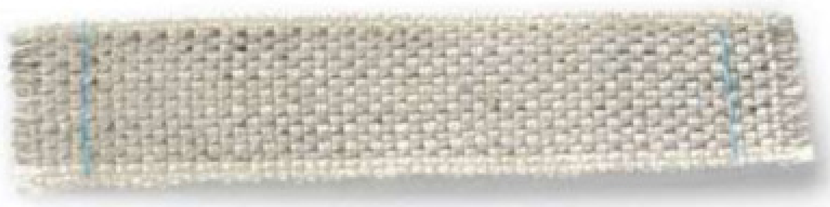
STITCH around the outside edge of your cushion. Trim excess fabric at the corners. Turn your cushion right sides out, press and pop on your cushion pad.

WHAT A GEM

Give it some glam! Our vintage jewels are the perfect plain-tee makeover

WHAT A GEM





Designed by: Kerry Morgan

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
Cross stitch in two strands			
★	153	095	0801
0	744	301	0112
~	800	144	0908
⧗	955	203	1210
♡	963	023	0503
×	964	185	1112
Backstitch in one strand			
—	156	117	0902
—	209	109	0711
—	728	306	0113
—	913	209	1212
—	957	050	0612
—	993	1070	1201
French knots in one strand			
●	156	117	0902
●	209	109	0711
●	993	1070	1201

How to... decorate a t-shirt

Step 1

MARK out the chain lines lightly in pencil on your t-shirt, making sure they are symmetrical and curve gently.

Step 2

STITCH the chains using six strands of dark grey stranded cotton in chain stitch along the drawn lines.

Step 3

TACK squares of waste canvas on your t-shirt where you want your jewels to go. Stitch the jewels, ensuring they hang off the chains.

Using a sharp-pointed needle when stitching on a t-shirt will help keep your work neat



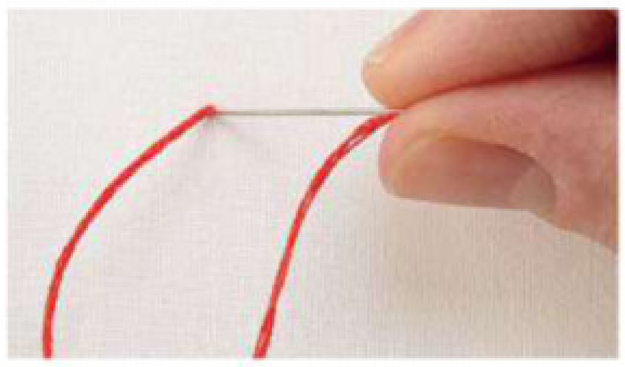
Materials

- 14 count waste canvas, 10x10cm for each motif
- Dark grey stranded cotton
- White t-shirt

For stockist details see page 84

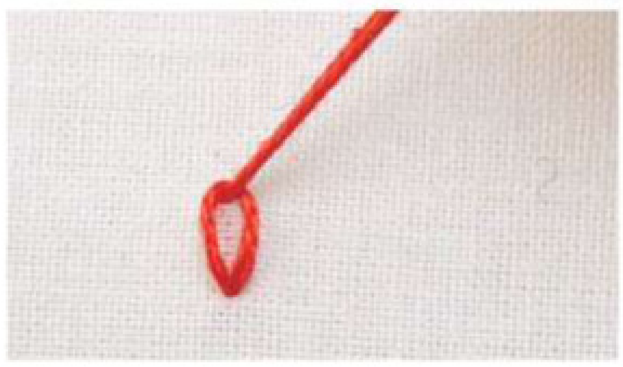
How to... chain stitch

Step 1



BRING your needle up through your t-shirt and take it back down through the same hole. But rather than pulling all the way through, leave a small loop of thread on the fabric surface.

Step 2



PUSH your needle back through to the front again a few millimetres away, catching your needle in the loop as you go. Carefully pull the thread to make a neat loop but don't pull too tightly or the chain effect will be lost.

Step 3



CREATE the next loop by repeating the process, going back down through the same hole on the front of your t-shirt. Make sure each additional loop is the same size as your first one.

Step 4



FINISH off your chain by making a small straight stitch around your final loop to hold it in place.

HEART OF MINE

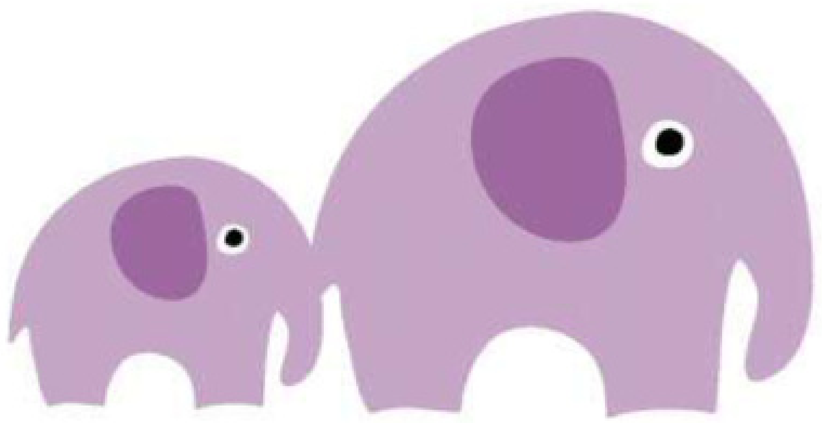
CrossStitcher PROJECT KITS

GET YOURS ON PAGE 70



HEART OF MINE

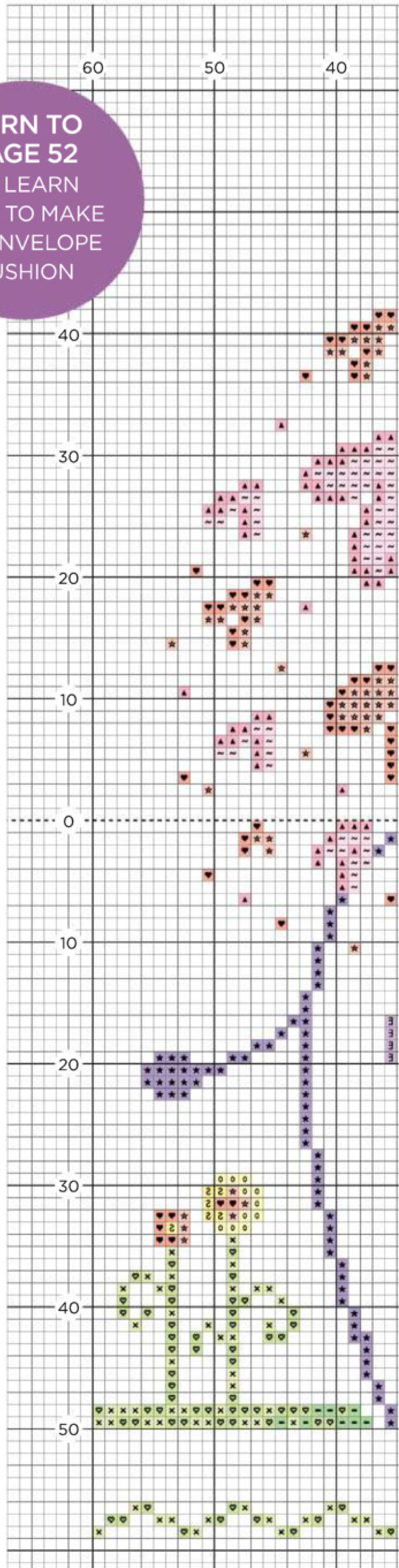
Brighten a little one's nursery (or your own sofa!) with our elephant mummy and baby cushion



HEART OF MINE



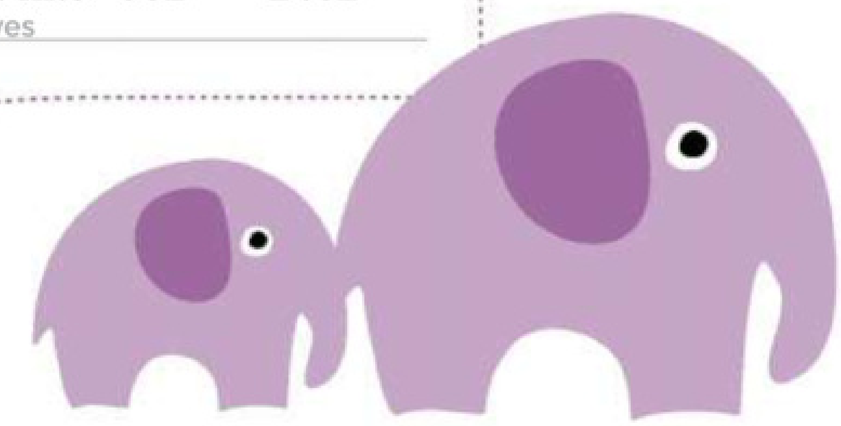
TURN TO PAGE 52 TO LEARN HOW TO MAKE AN ENVELOPE CUSHION



Designed by: Durene Jones

Design size: 21x21cm **Stitch time:** 13 hours

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
Cross stitch in two strands			
E	209	109	0711
Δ	210	108	0802
2	307	290	0104
♥	350	011	0213
☆	352	009	0503
0	445	288	0103
▲	603	055	0701
~	605	1094	0613
▬	906	256	1411
♡	907	255	1410
×	3819	278	2703
★	3837	111	0713
French knots in two strands			
●	White	002	2402
	eyes		





CrossStitcher © Durene Jones

Materials

- 28 count white linen, 50x50cm
- White backing fabric, two 31x22cm pieces
- Green check bias binding, 150cm
- Piping cord, 150cm
- Cushion pad, 30x30cm

For stockist details see page 84

Get a smooth finish by backing your stitching with white fabric before making your cushion



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

Make a... piped cushion

Step 1



WRAP your bias binding around your piping cord and pin the long edges of the strip together. If you can't find bias binding in the right colour, cut several strips of green check fabric and sew 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 31x31cm. 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.

Your stitching

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



I like this fashion model design, which I found in CrossStitcher issue 223. I've stitched it onto a shopping bag.
Marie-Christine Termonia, via email



I made this card for a friend. I used the free gift from issue 263 and put some of my own touches to it.
Rebbecca Price, via email



Here is one of my recent projects – now, whenever my friends visit, I can serve them coffee on my stitched tray!
Jutyna Flos, Poland



This sampler is my first cross stitch project. I made it for my husband for our anniversary – he loves it!
Christine Slaughter, via email



Here's the Chinese dragon I stitched from issue 274 – I adore all the bright colours and loved working on it.
Christa Chilton, USA



I made the free kit from issue 279 into a Father's Day card for my husband, Paul. The two small owls represent our children!
Amber Evans, via email



I stitched this for my mum. She's hung it on her kitchen wall, so she can see it every morning when she drinks her coffee.
Marta Truszkowska, Poland



Here are some Belle & Boo designs I have stitched. I love these projects and hope there will be more!
Yvonne Cotterill, via email

Stay in touch...

crossstitchermag.com

facebook.com/CrossStitcherMag

@XStitchmagazine

pinterest.com/xstitchmagazine

BRING ME SUNSHINE

Summer's here! Celebrate by sending sunny greetings with our bright retro cards





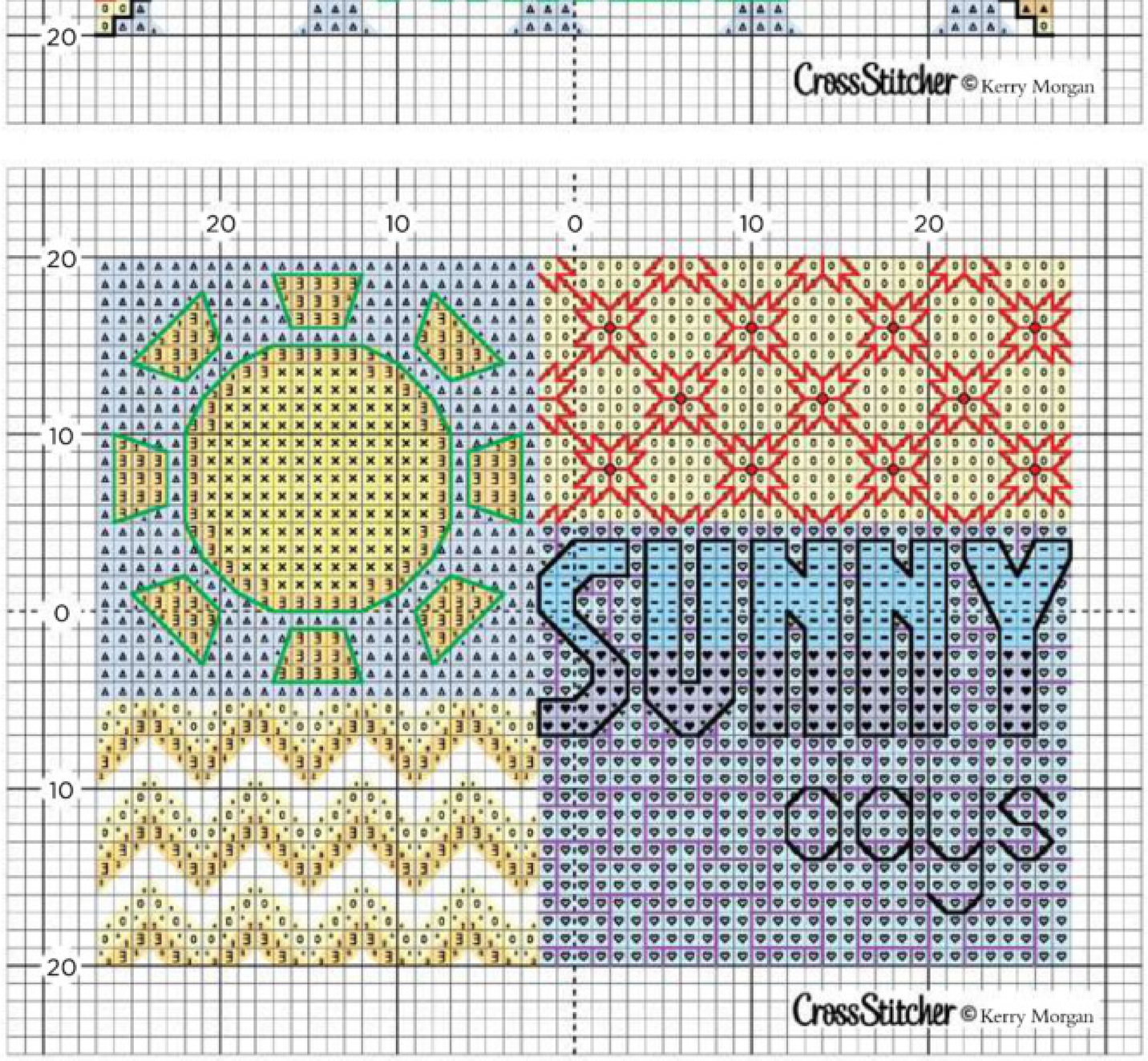

you're my
SUNSHINE
here comes
the SUN

BRING ME SUNSHINE

Designed by: Kerry Morgan
Design size: 7x9cm each
Stitch time: 12 hours each

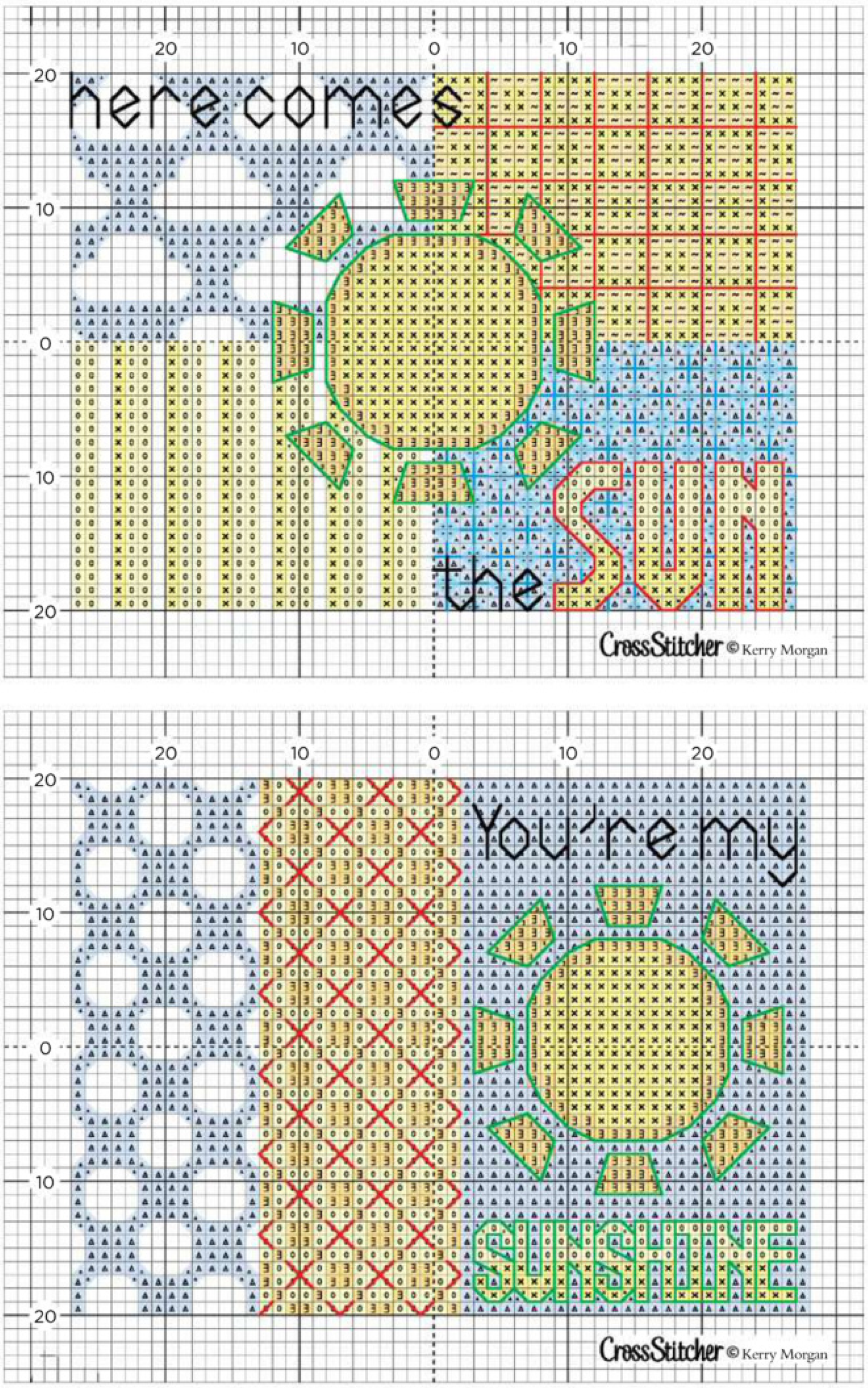
	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
Cross stitch in two strands			
×	307	289	0104
♥	341	117	0901
~	726	295	0109
0	727	292	0110
▲	783	307	2212
△	800	144	0908 (2)
♡	827	160	1002
∃	973	290	0105
▬	996	1090	1103
Backstitch in one strand			
White pattern	002		2402
783 lettering, pattern	307		2212
797 lettering, border	132		0912
972 lettering, suns, border, pattern	298		0107
996 pattern	1090		1103
French knots in one strand			
783 pattern	307		2212

(2) indicates more than one skein required



GO TO **WWW.CROSSSTITCHERMAG.COM** TO DOWNLOAD YOUR **FREE** BONUS CHART





Make a... patch card

Step 1

TRIM your stitching to 8x10cm and fray two threads of the evenweave fabric. Stick to the front of your card using double-sided tape.

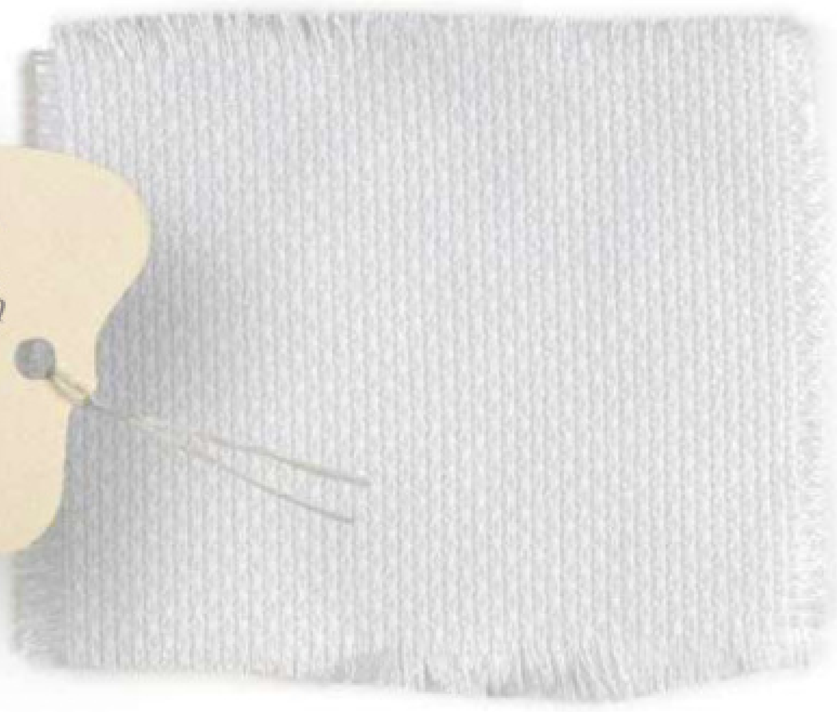
Step 2

STITCH a length of yellow ric-rac braid to the side or lower edge of your card, folding the ends under.



Why not frame your favourite and hang in your kitchen for a cheerful decoration

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



Materials

- 28 count white evenweave, 20x20cm
- White card, 21x13.5cm
- Yellow ric-rac braid, 15cm

For stockist details see page 84

Let's get *inspired*

DIGGING IT

Grow your own gifts for gardeners with our 22 motifs – just using backstitch!

Designed by: Lesley Teare



MATERIALS

Notebook

- 28 count light rustic linen, 40x55cm
- Cream backing fabric, 19x35cm
- Contrast lining fabric, 19x35cm
- Ribbon, 22cm
- A6 notebook

Gift tag

- 28 count light rustic linen, 30x22cm
- Silver eyelet

For stockist details see page 84

Make a… **notebook**

Step 1

TRIM your stitching to 19x35cm with the motif 11.5cm from the right-hand short edge and centred vertically. Place the backing fabric over the reverse of your stitched fabric and pin.

Step 2

PLACE your lining fabric right sides together over your stitching and position your ribbon bookmark at the top in the middle between the two fabrics. Stitch all the way round, leaving a gap for turning.

Step 3

TURN the cover right sides out and press the raw edges under, then slip stitch the gap closed. Fold the short edges over to create pockets and stitch them in place.

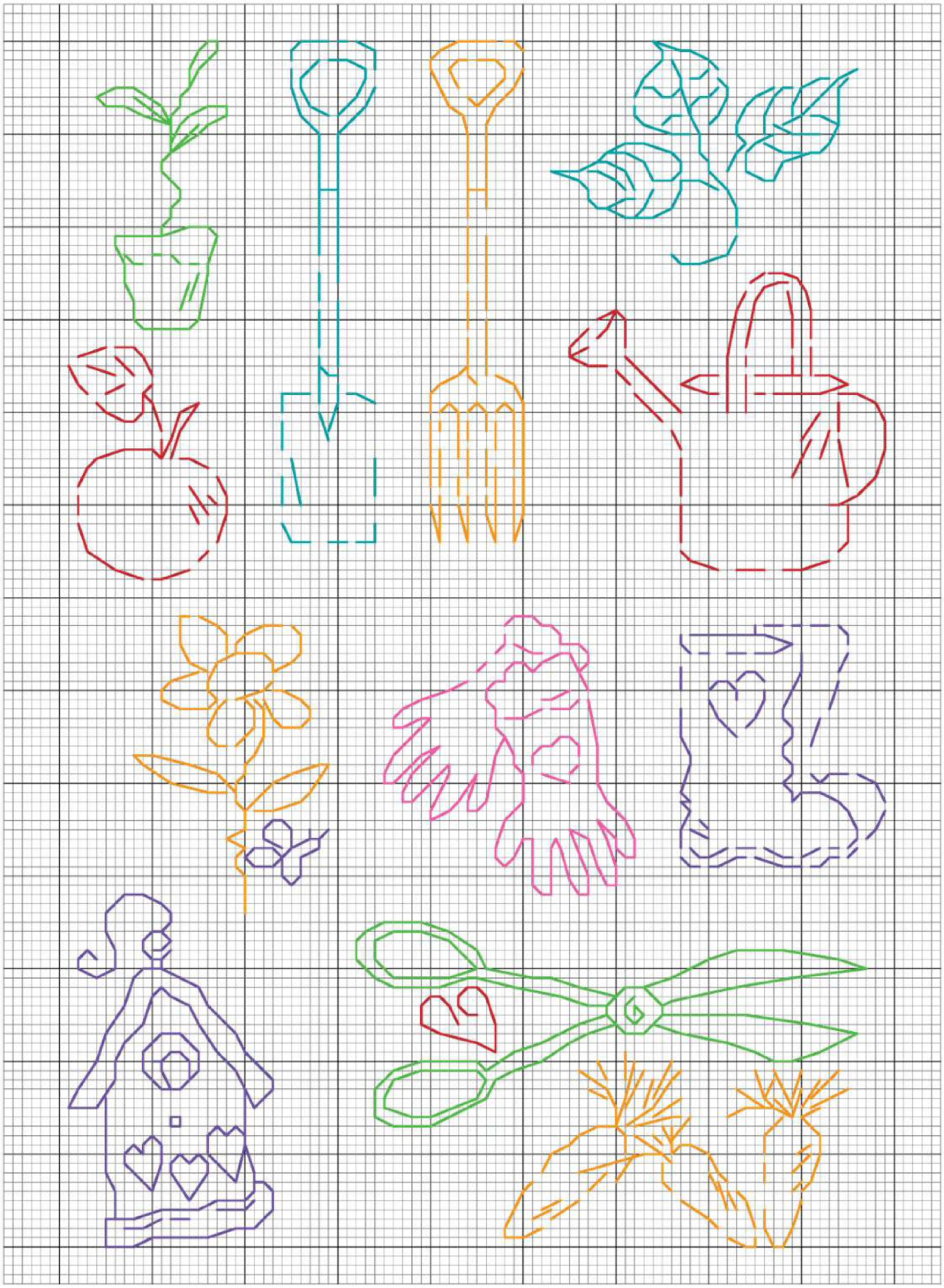
Make a… **gift tag**

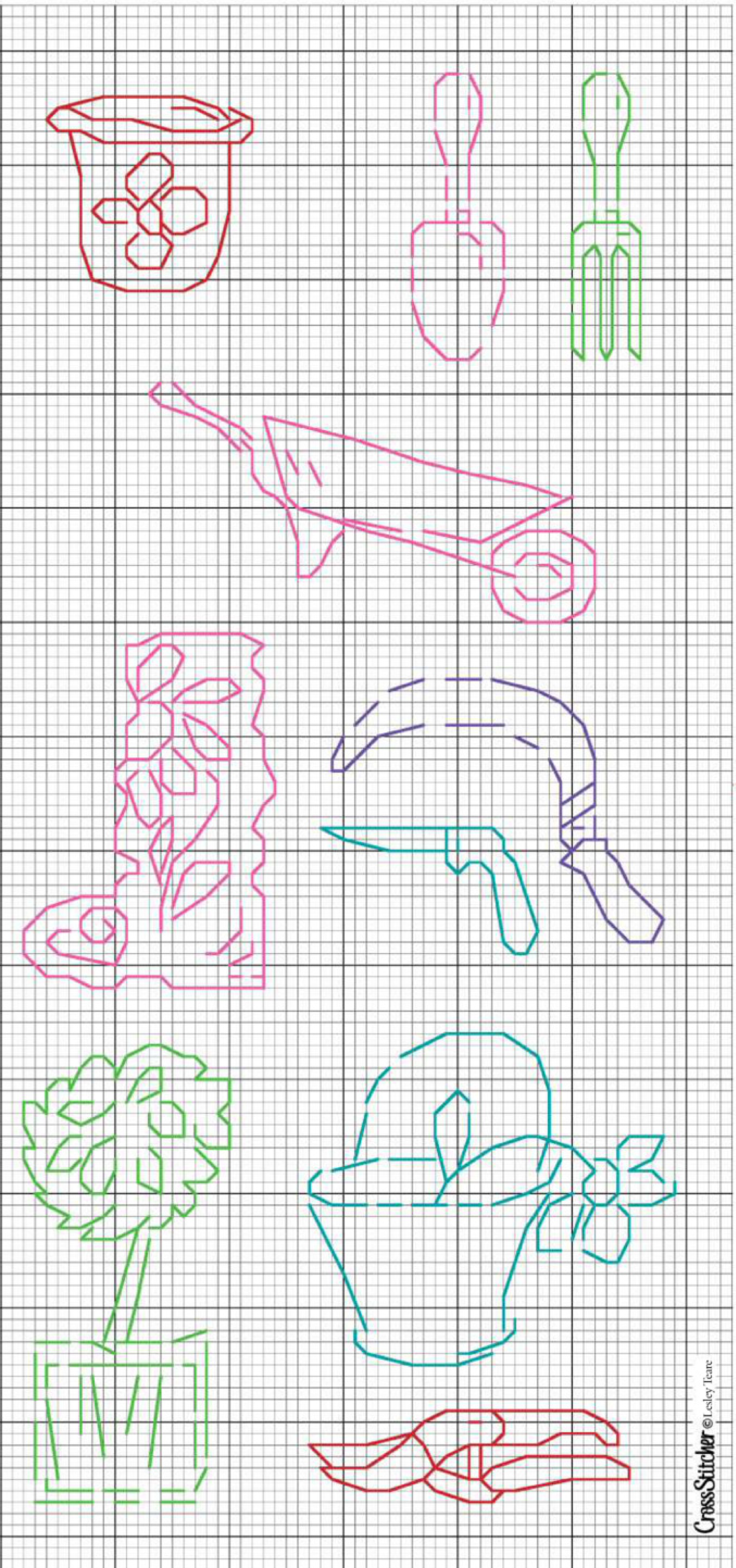
Step 1

DRAW a tag shape on the back of your stitching. Place right sides together with some spare linen and stitch along the line, leaving a gap.

Step 2

TURN right sides out and slip stitch the gap closed. Punch an eyelet in the top of your tag for threading with twine or ribbon.





	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
Backstitch in two strands			
	333	119	0903
	349	013	0212
	720	326	0309
	907	255	1410
	3607	087	0708
	3848	1074	2705

These small motifs are great for using up scraps of thread in your stash

What to make

Love these gardening motifs? Here are a few more ways you can use them...

1 Make one into a birthday card for a green-fingered friend and backstitch a greeting underneath.

2 Decorate a plain tablecloth by using waste canvas to stitch motifs across it.

3 Make a key ring for your shed or greenhouse key – see page 9 to learn how to make a key ring.

ORDER ONLINE
BIT.DO/ILOVECROSSSTITCH

CrossStitcher PROJECT KITS

BY POST

Buy the materials you'll need to stitch five of our favourite projects from this issue



Royal Flush

page 34, by Anette Eriksson

YOUR KIT CONTAINS:

- 28 count linen OR 14 count aida • Needle
- Full skeins of stranded cotton • Charts

CrossStitcher price: **£32.99**



Have your Cake sampler

page 40, by Maria Diaz

YOUR KIT CONTAINS:

- 28 count evenweave OR 14 count aida • Needle
- Full skeins of stranded cotton • Chart

CrossStitcher price: **£24.99**



Take me Home

page 49, by Angela Poole

YOUR KIT CONTAINS:

- 32 count evenweave • Needle
- Full skeins of stranded cotton • Chart

CrossStitcher price: **£34.99**



Heart of Mine

page 56, by Durene Jones

YOUR KIT CONTAINS:

- 28 count linen OR 14 count aida • Needle
- Full skeins of stranded cotton • Chart

CrossStitcher price: **£23.99**



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TURN TO PAGE 32 TO SUBSCRIBE

Tree of Life

page 16, by Felicity Hall

YOUR KIT CONTAINS:

- **28 count evenweave OR 14 count aida • Needle**
- **Full skeins of stranded cotton • Chart**

CrossStitcher price: £18.99

ORDER FORM

Project description	Price	Sub. price*	Quantity	Total	Code
Royal Flush (linen)	£32.99	£29.69			603239
Royal Flush (aida)	£32.99	£29.69			603240
Have your Cake sampler (evenweave)	£24.99	£22.49			603234
Have your Cake sampler (aida)	£24.99	£22.49			603235
Take me Home	£34.99	£31.49			603238
Heart of Mine (linen)	£23.99	£21.59			603232
Heart of Mine (aida)	£23.99	£21.59			603233
Tree of Life (evenweave)	£18.99	£17.09			603236
Tree of Life (aida)	£18.99	£17.09			603237

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Grand total £

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CrossStitcher GIVEAWAYS

This month we've got over £430 worth of exciting products for you!
Giveaways open 27 June – 24 July

Get creative

TICKETS TO THE CREATIVE CRAFTS SHOW AT SANDOWN

Get lots of inspiration for your stitching this year with a visit to The Creative Crafts Show at Sandown, in Esher, Surrey. Taking place on 4-6 September, the event promises an exciting programme of Make & Takes and workshops, plus a wide range of exhibitors and free demos of the best new products on the market. Feature areas will include decopatch, embroidery, beading, textiles, glass mosaics, sugarcraft and mixed media, so you're sure to find heaps of ideas and techniques to tempt you. Adult tickets are £8 on the day, while concessions are £7. Under-16s get in free when accompanied by an adult. For more details, visit www.sccshows.co.uk. We have 13 pairs of anyday tickets up for grabs in our giveaway, so why not see if you can win a pair?

KEYWORD: 281SHOW





Night owl

OWL KITS FROM HERITAGE CRAFTS



How adorable is this owl, ready to head off on a night-time adventure! He's the latest addition to Karen Carter's Cross Stitch Critters range available from Heritage Crafts (www.hcrafts.com). The design size is 11.5x11.5cm and it's worked in whole crosses with simple outlining, so will be quick to stitch. We think he'd look perfect framed and displayed on a youngster's bookshelf. The kit is priced £15.75 and comes with everything you need, including 14 count Zweigart aida, DMC stranded cotton, needle, chart and instructions. We have seven kits to give away.

KEYWORD: 281OWL

Travel light

FOLDI LED LAMPS FROM THE DAYLIGHT COMPANY



Heading off on holiday and looking forward to having time to stitch? Then one item you'll want to pack is a good lamp and The Daylight Company's latest generation Foldi LED lamp (RRP £59.99) is just the job. With a slim design, the Foldi will pack neatly in your luggage, while its 30 Daylight LEDs provide glare-free light for up to eight hours on batteries or an unlimited time when plugged into a computer. There's no switch or bulky bulb, plus it's low-heat and energy-friendly. For more information, visit www.daylightcompany.com or call 020 8964 1200. Two winners will each receive one Foldi LED lamp in our giveaway.

KEYWORD: 281LAMP

ENTER ONLINE AT
www.crossstitchermag.com

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 85.

THE Savvy Stitcher

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

by Sarah Griffiths

2D CITY SCENE

Transform a mason jar by giving it a cityscape pincushion lid

Yes you can!

Canvaswork

Have fun with texture and create miniature scenes
using three simple embroidery stitches



3D MODELS
Skyscrapers are the perfect project for the blocky canvaswork stitches

Canvaswork stitches produce all sorts of textures, and while you still work to a grid, you can look like you're being more creative. They can be worked on various fabrics, not only canvas. We've used paper, but you could also try plastic or evenweave.

These stitches lend themselves well to the miniatures trend, so why not whip up mini buildings to create little worlds of your own? They make a cute gift, even if just for yourself.

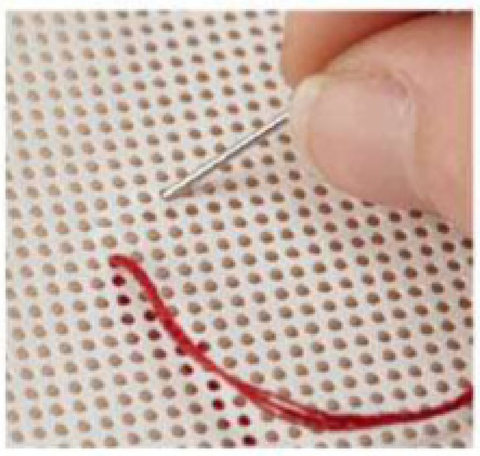


COUNTRY BARN
Combine a few different stitches to make a traditional painted barn

HOW TO... BYZANTINE CHECK

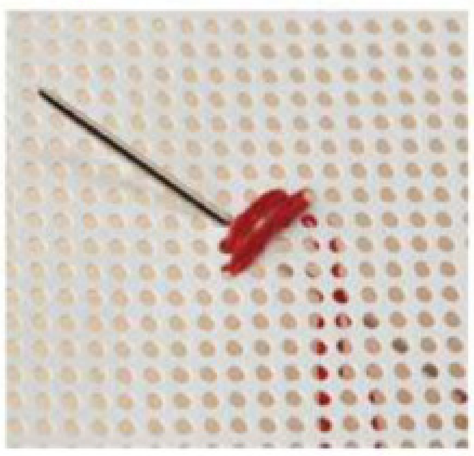
A variation on tent stitches, these little checks will cover your fabric quickly

Step 1



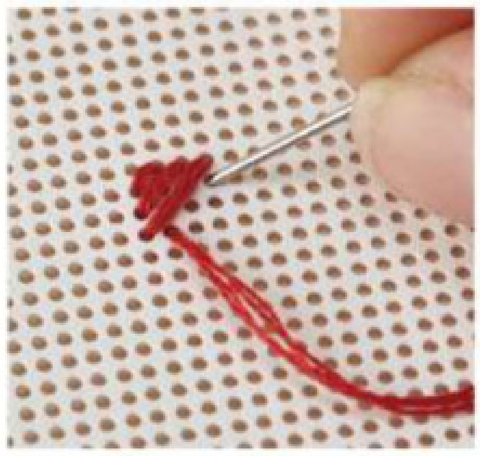
START by bringing your needle up in the bottom left corner of your first square. Make a diagonal stitch, taking your needle back down three holes above and to the right of your starting point.

Step 2



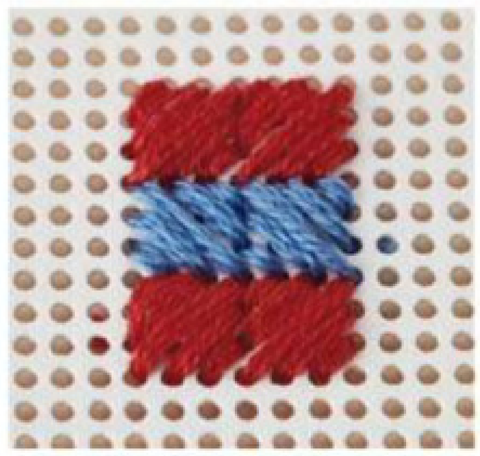
BRING your needle up one hole above your starting point, then take it down to the left of your first stitch. This stitch will be slightly smaller and above the first diagonal. Repeat for the third stitch.

Step 3



FILL in two more diagonal stitches to finish the square, coming up at the bottom of the square each time. This method will strengthen the material, which is important when working in 3D.

Step 4

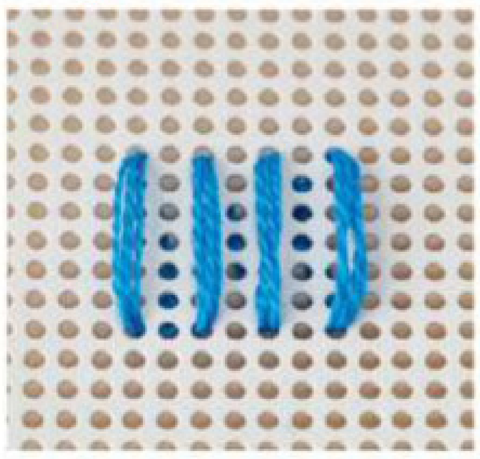


CONTINUE filling in the rest of the area by creating adjoining squares. Add variation by reversing the diagonal, or use different thread colours to create a chequerboard effect.

HOW TO... LONG STITCH

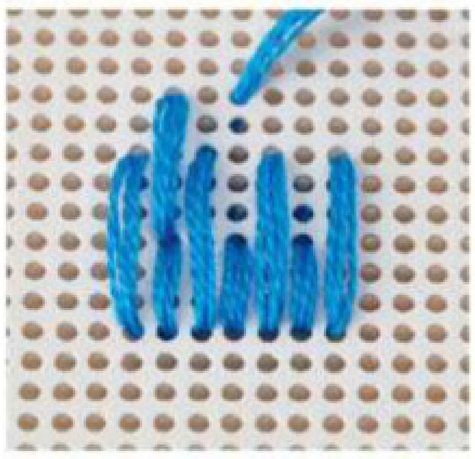
Fill large areas with colour in moments using this simple stitch

Step 1



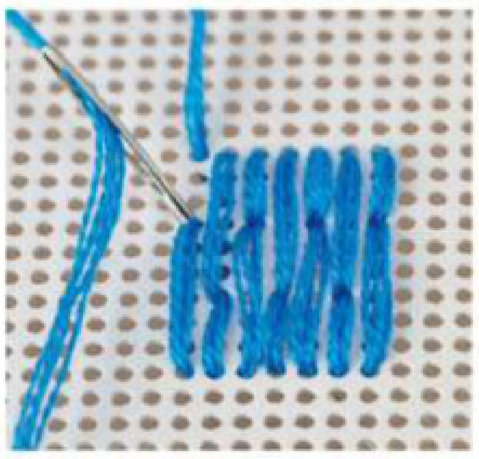
FILL in every other row with long vertical stitches, working left to right. The length of stitches depends on your materials and preference, but up to six threads is about right.

Step 2



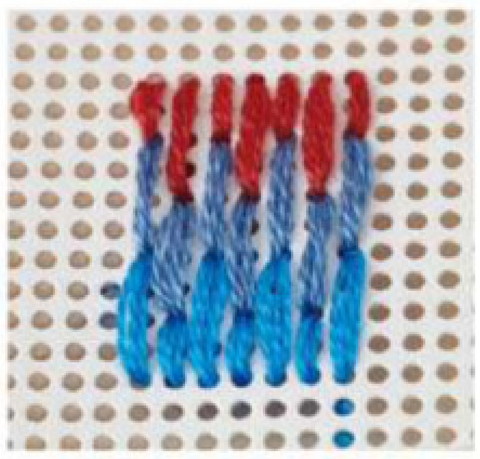
WORK from right to left to fill in the gaps between your stitches. Make this row half the length of your first set. Then work a row of long stitches above these.

Step 3



CONTINUE adding rows of long stitches, working every other thread. When you want to finish your design, work a second row of half stitches to square up the area.

Step 4



ACHIEVE different finishes by changing thread colours between rows. Use different shades of one colour for an ombre effect, or contrasting tones for a space dyed look.

IF YOU LIKED THIS, YOU'LL LOVE...



JENNY HENRY DESIGNS

jennyhenrydesigns.wordpress.com

Jenny loves making 3D objects, and even started a blog hop. So, hop on over and be inspired by her and several other canvasworkers.



CAROL'S COUNTED CANVASWORK AND NEEDLEWORKS

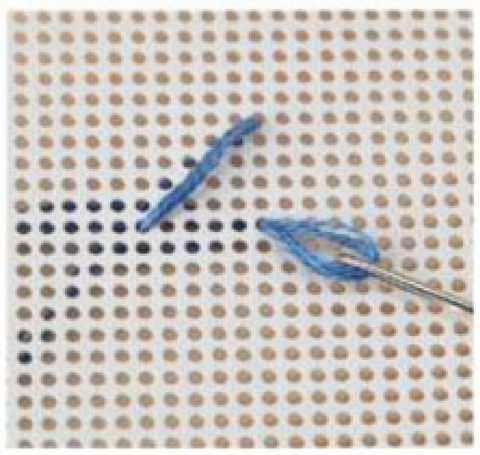
carolscountedcanvaswork needleworks.blogspot.co.uk

A teacher and designer of canvaswork, Carol has lots of inspiring, bright designs.

HOW TO... RICE STITCH

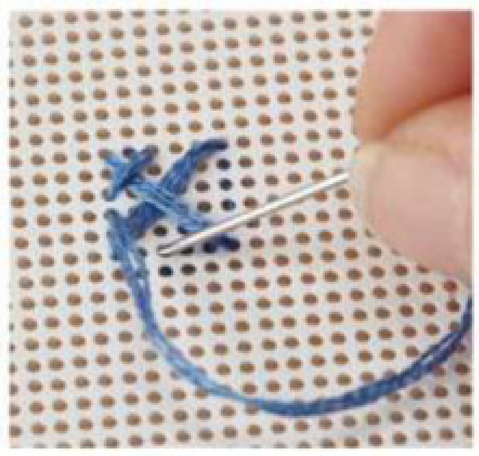
This decorative stitch is easy to scale up and down for ornamental effect

Step 1



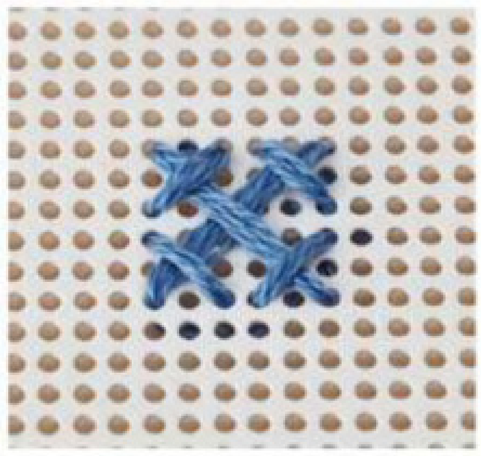
START in the bottom left of your square and make a large diagonal. This can be any size, as long as it's over an odd number of threads. Make a second diagonal, as you would a cross stitch.

Step 2



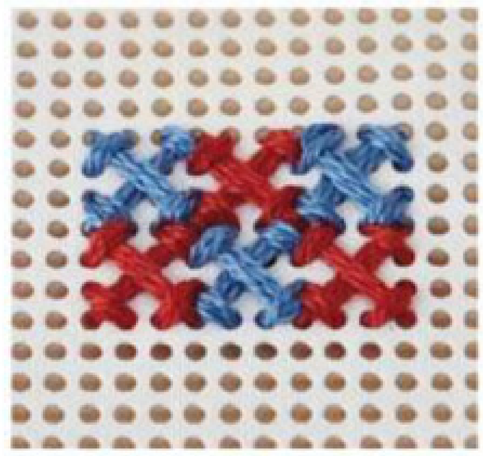
MAKE a small diagonal stitch across the top left corner. This stitch should cover half the square. Come up just below this stitch to create the next diagonal across the lower left corner.

Step 3



REPEAT these stitches around your large X. The resulting stitch will have a snowflake-like appearance. You can stop here, and fill in the area around with background stitches.

Step 4

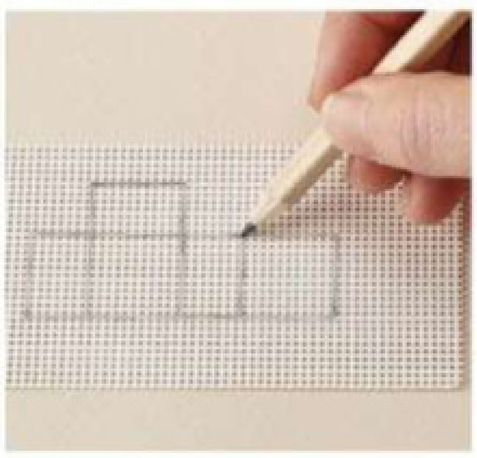


FILL in a large area and create a textured pattern by working rice stitches in horizontal rows. Start a new thread at the beginning of each line and experiment with colour for different effects.

MAKE A... MINI BUILDING

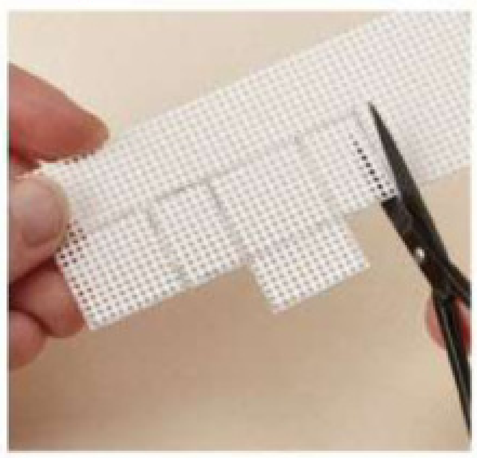
Whip up tiny town and country dwellings in four easy steps

Step 1



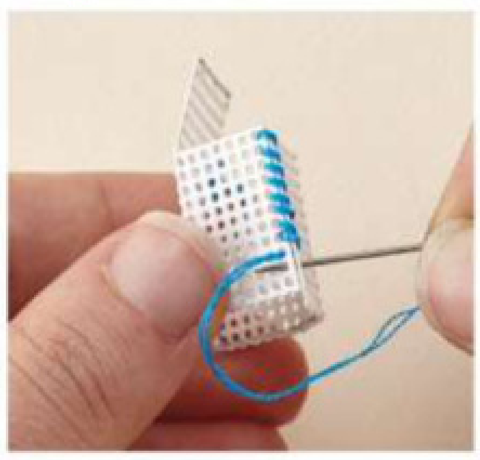
SKETCH the outline of your building onto perforated paper. Start with the face of one side, then add three more adjacent sides. Add a flap to the top for the roof.

Step 2



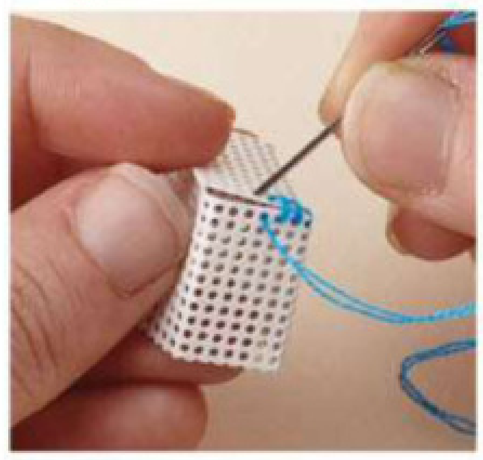
FILL in your sketched area with stitches. Then cut around the edge, trimming just outside the row of holes next to your stitching to create a flat edge.

Step 3



CREASE the paper between each section using the reverse of a utility knife. Fold the flaps to create a cube, then stitch along the edge where the wall flaps meet.

Step 4



FOLD over the roof flap and stitch the edges down to the tops of the walls. Bury the thread inside your building and knot off at the bottom for a neat finish.



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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

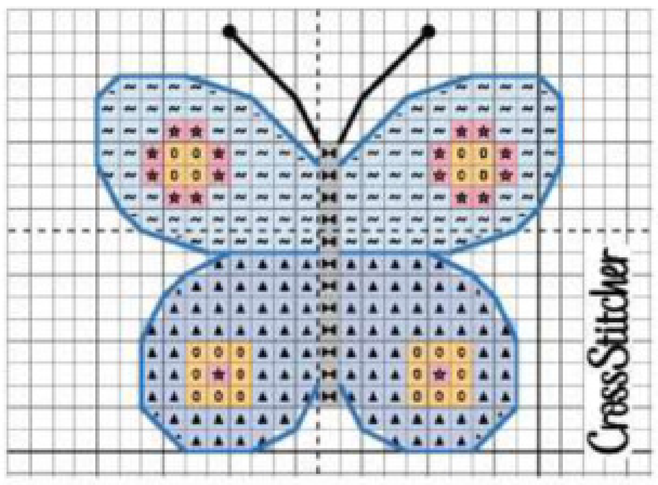
Aida is an ideal choice for cross stitch beginners. 14 count is the most common, although it's available in a huge variety of colours and counts. Each cross stitch is worked over a single aida block, making counting and keeping your place a cinch.

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.

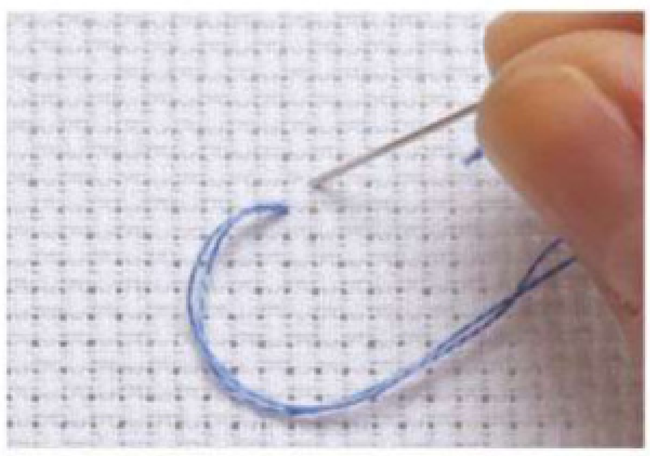


Colour match

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.

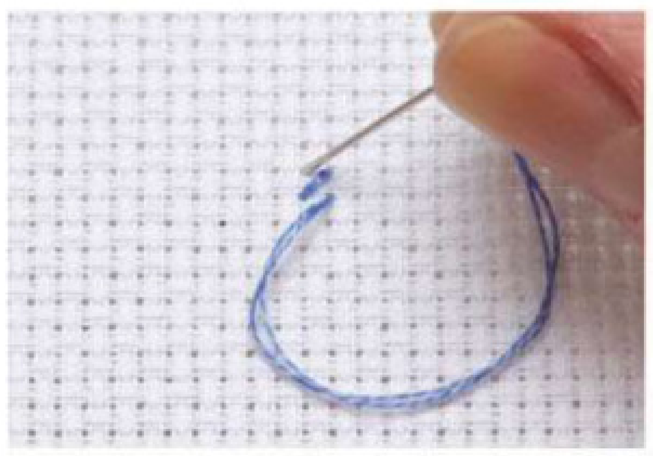
Start stitching… **on aida**

Step 1



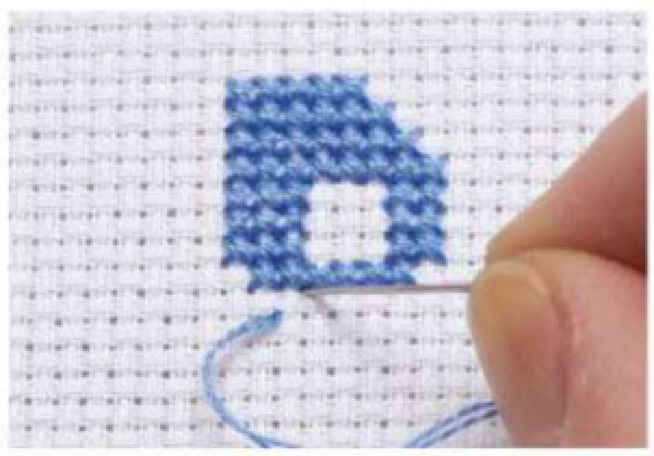
CUT a 40cm thread length, and thread your needle with two of the six strands. Knot one end and start with a waste knot (opposite). Make a diagonal half cross stitch across a single aida block.

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.

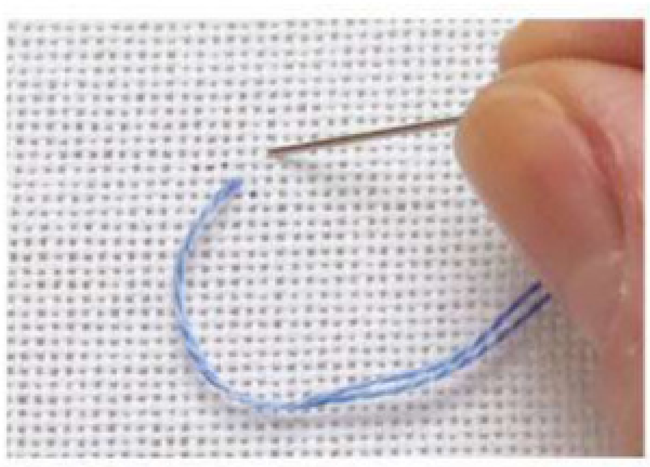
Step 3



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.

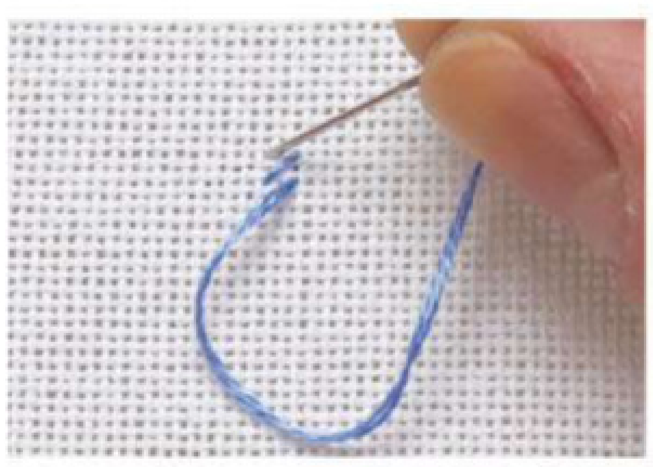
Start stitching… **on evenweave**

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

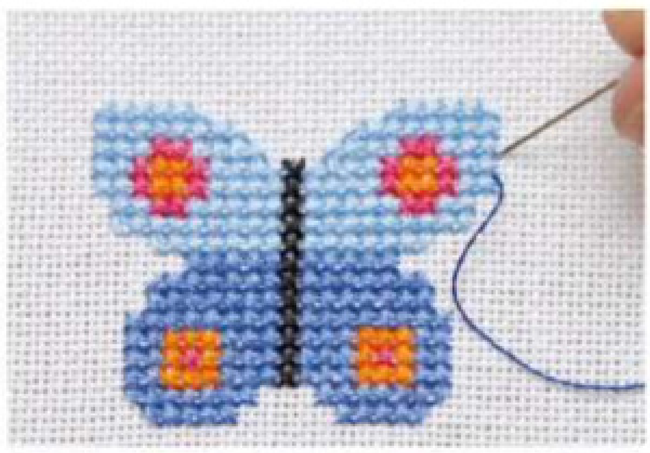


CONTINUE working from the centre of your design outward. If you find the extra counting a bit daunting at first, don't give up. We promise it'll become second nature in no time.

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

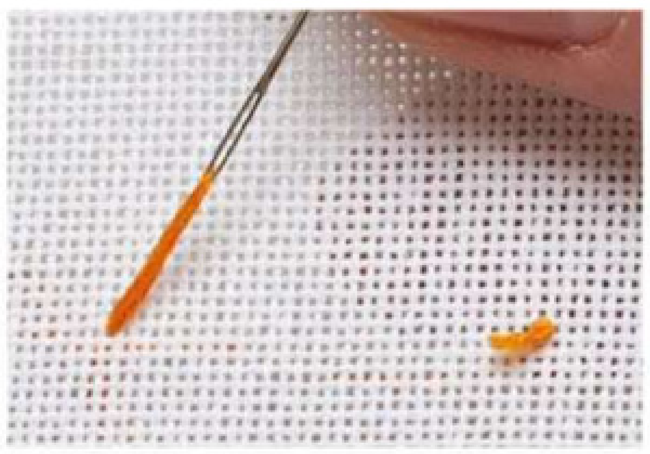


FOR each additional stitch, bring your needle up 1-3 chart squares away from your previous stitch. Then pass it back through the fabric at the same point as your previous stitch.

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

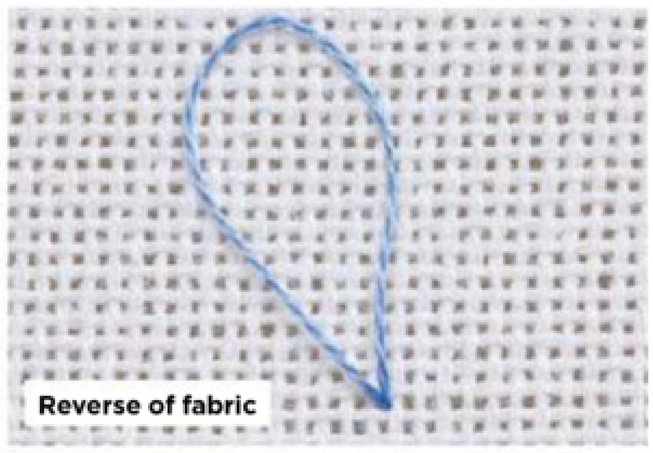
This easy start to your cross stitch is brilliantly neat

Step 1



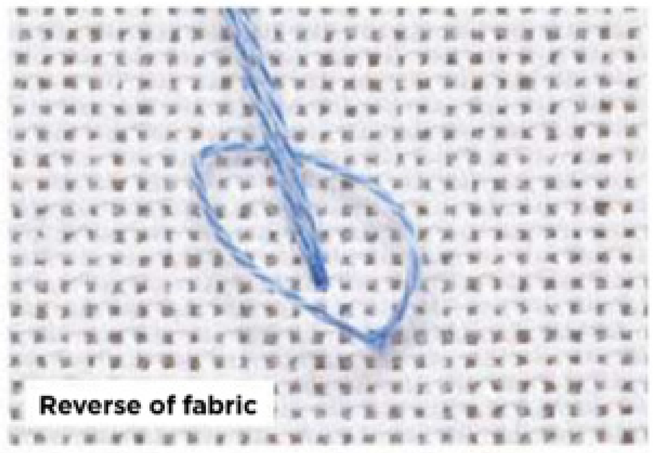
IF YOU'RE working in two strands, a loop knot is the easiest and neatest method. Cut a single length of thread, twice as long as normal. Fold it in half to create a loop at one end.

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

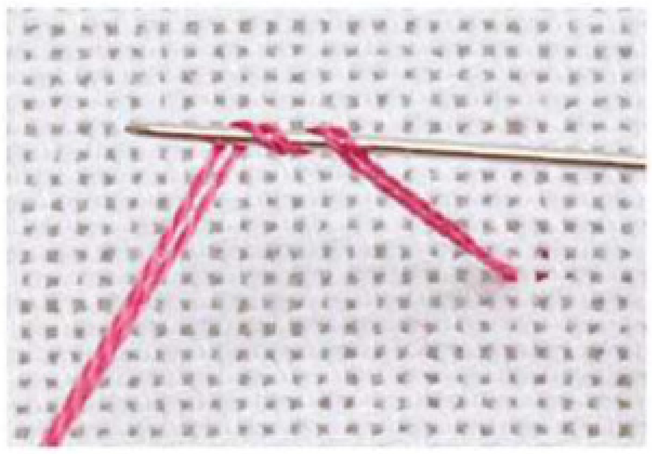


MAKE a half cross stitch, passing your needle through the loop on the reverse as shown here. Pull all the way to secure the thread. Now continue with your stitching as normal.

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

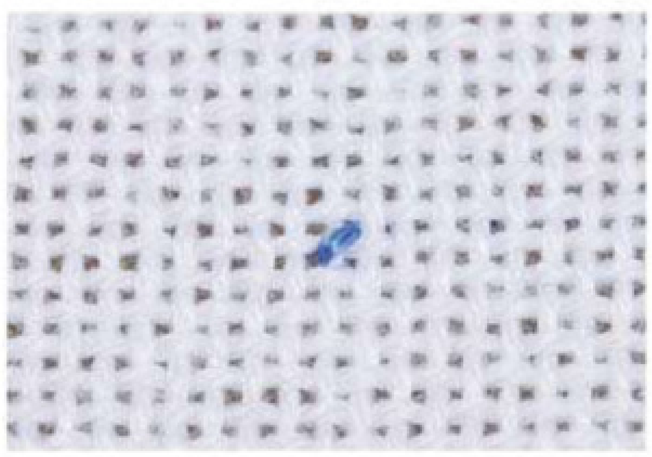


KEEP your thread as taut as possible to prevent the knot becoming loose. Gently pull your thread through to tighten the knot, so that it sits neatly on the surface. And remember, if you don't get it right away, keep practising!

FRACTIONALS

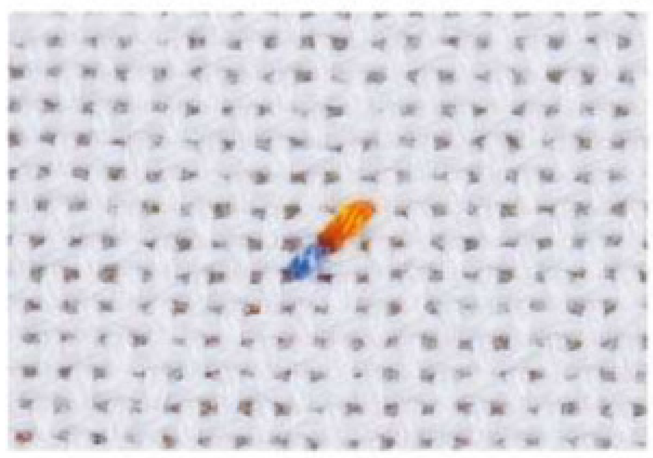
These little stitches are great for adding a bit more detail to your work

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.

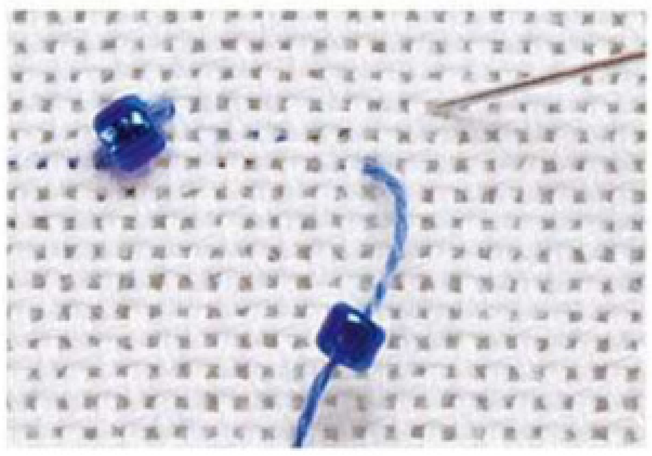
Step 3



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.

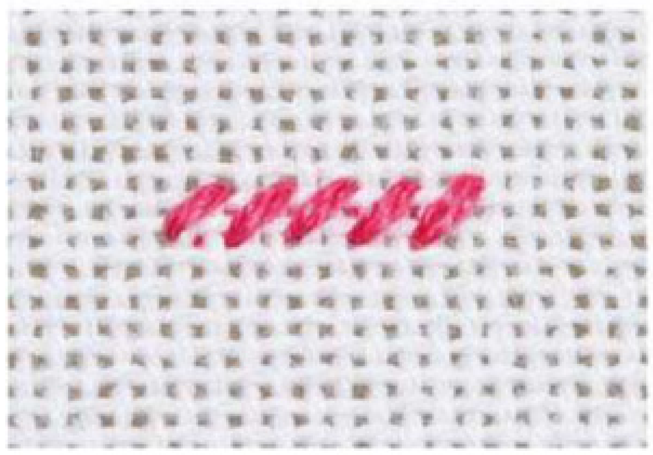
BEADING

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.



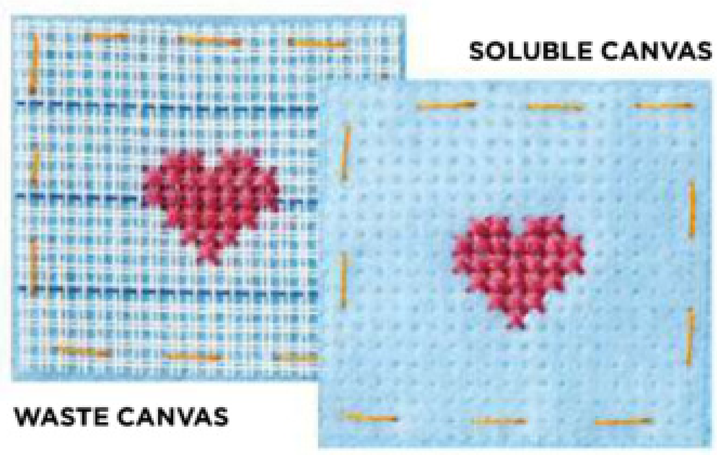
HALF CROSS STITCH

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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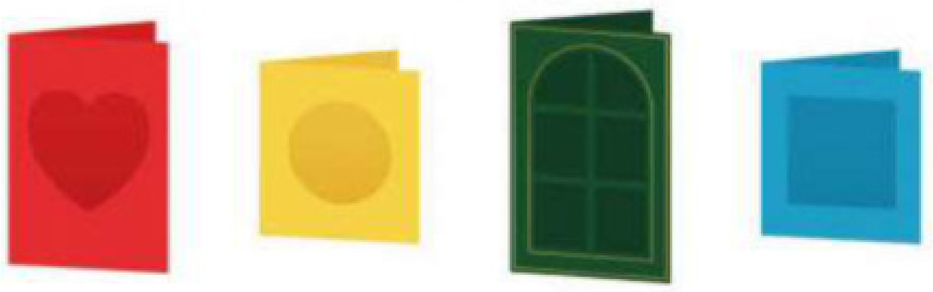
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Your projects

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.

WHAT A GEM
14 count waste canvas: Willow Fabrics

LITTLE ELLIES
28 count Zweigart Trento evenweave, ref 3453/7033: Willow Fabrics
Grey backing fabric, Better Value Cotton: Seamstar
Split ring, 25mm: Fred Aldous
Ribbon: Seamstar (for similar)

PEG IT
14 count plastic canvas: Willow Fabrics
Patterned paper: HobbyCraft (for similar)

BRING ME SUNSHINE
White cards 105x148mm, ref SF33U-30: Craft Creations
Yellow ric-rac braid: Seamstar

LET'S GO ALFRESCO
28 count Zweigart Cashel light rustic linen, ref 3281/52: Willow Fabrics
Cotton fabric, Better Value Cotton: Seamstar
Cream cotton webbing: Sewing Supplies

TREE OF LIFE
Wooden frame: eFrame
Mount board: Fred Aldous

HEART OF MINE
28 count Zweigart Cashel white linen, ref 3281/100: Willow fabrics
White cotton fabric, Better Value Cotton: Seamstar
Bias binding: Seamstar (for similar)
Cushion pad, 30x30cm, ref 64913001: John Lewis

DIGGING IT
28 count Zweigart Cashel light rustic linen, ref 3281/52: Willow Fabrics
Eyelet: Seamstar
Cream cotton fabric, Better Value Cotton: Seamstar
A6 notebook: WHSmith

ROYAL FLUSH
28 count Zweigart Cashel light rustic linen, ref 3281/52: Willow Fabrics
Natural backing fabric, Better Value Cotton, ref F/1513: Seamstar

HAVE YOUR CAKE
Wooden frame: eFrame
Mount board: Fred Aldous
White cotton fabric, Better Value Cotton: Seamstar
Bias binding: Seamstar (for similar)
14 count plastic canvas: Willow Fabrics

TAKE ME HOME
32 count Zweigart Murano Vichy blue check evenweave, ref 7661/1014: Willow fabrics
White cotton fabric, Better Value Cotton: Seamstar
Cushion pad, 30x40cm, ref 64913101: John Lewis





This cute tote from Radley is perfect for shopping and trips to the beach





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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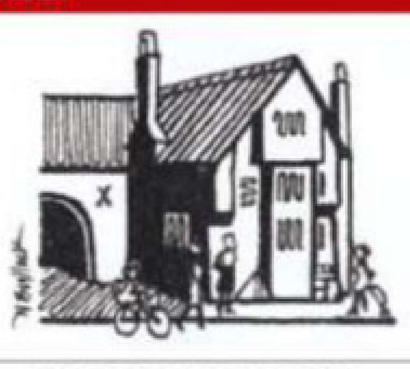
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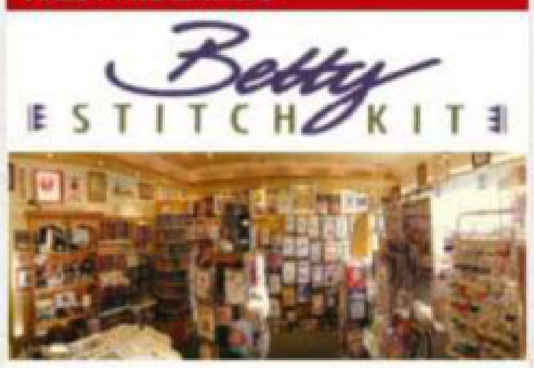
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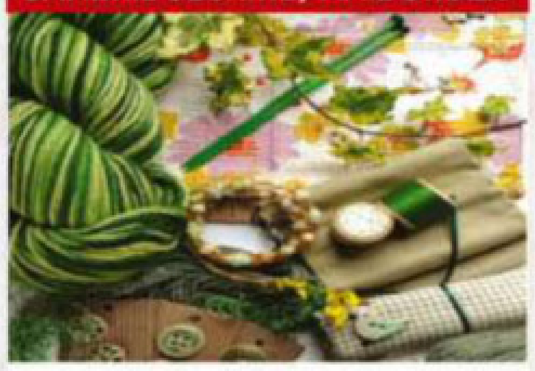


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Desperately seeking

I have a pattern for a baseball stocking from the December 1998 issue of *CrossStitcher*, but I'm missing the DMC key. If you can help me, it would be great to hear from you.
Jo McCroan,
Email: jomccroan@gmail.com

I am looking for the December 1995 and April 1996 issues of *CrossStitcher*, which feature the teacup Afghan series. If anyone could send me the magazines or the designs, it would be much appreciated.
Deb Kyser, 5134 Friendship Road, Tallassee, AL 36078, USA
Email: dkyser@elmore.rr.com

I have the kit of a cottage from *CrossStitcher* issue 60, September 1997, but unfortunately I don't have the magazine it was from. If you have this issue and would be able to send it to me, please email me.
Diane,
Email: spleen@internode.on.net

I am looking for a copy of *CrossStitcher* issue 253 (June 2012), or if not the whole magazine, just the Flying the Flag project. If you could send me either, please get in touch. I will cover costs.
Mrs Thacker, 01743 366 889

A friend gave me the kit from *CrossStitcher* issue 166, November 2005, but I don't have the pattern. Does anyone have a copy they could send me?
Sylvia King,
Email: sj.king1@btinternet.com

I'm looking for a copy of the biscornu project in issue 142 – please get in touch if you could send it to me.
Mrs Mottram,
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I am new to cross stitching and have discovered Margaret Sherry's designs, which I love. If you have a copy of *The Best of Margaret Sherry* collection and would be willing to send it to me, please get in touch.
Chara Biggs,
Email: biggsc@ukzn.ac.za

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Sheila Thompson,
Email: shemik.st@gmail.com

I am selling back copies of *CrossStitcher* going back to early issues. Some have their free gifts. Please email for list of specific issues and prices.
Jackie Holland,
Email: jackie.holland56@gmail.com

Get in touch

Hi, my name is Dawn and I'm from the US. I am looking for a pen pal from Britain. I love cross stitching and need to have a needle, thread and fabric to hand at all times or I feel lost! If you would like to be my pen pal, please email me – I'd love to hear from you.
Dawn,
Email: still.unwriiten.me@gmail.com

Hello, my name is Rebecca and I'm 30 years old. I live with my partner in Australia. I like cross stitching, hand sewing, art, reading and the outdoors. All letters answered.
Rebecca Stenner, 5/20 Barossa Street, Larrakeyah, Darwin 0820, Northern Territory, Australia



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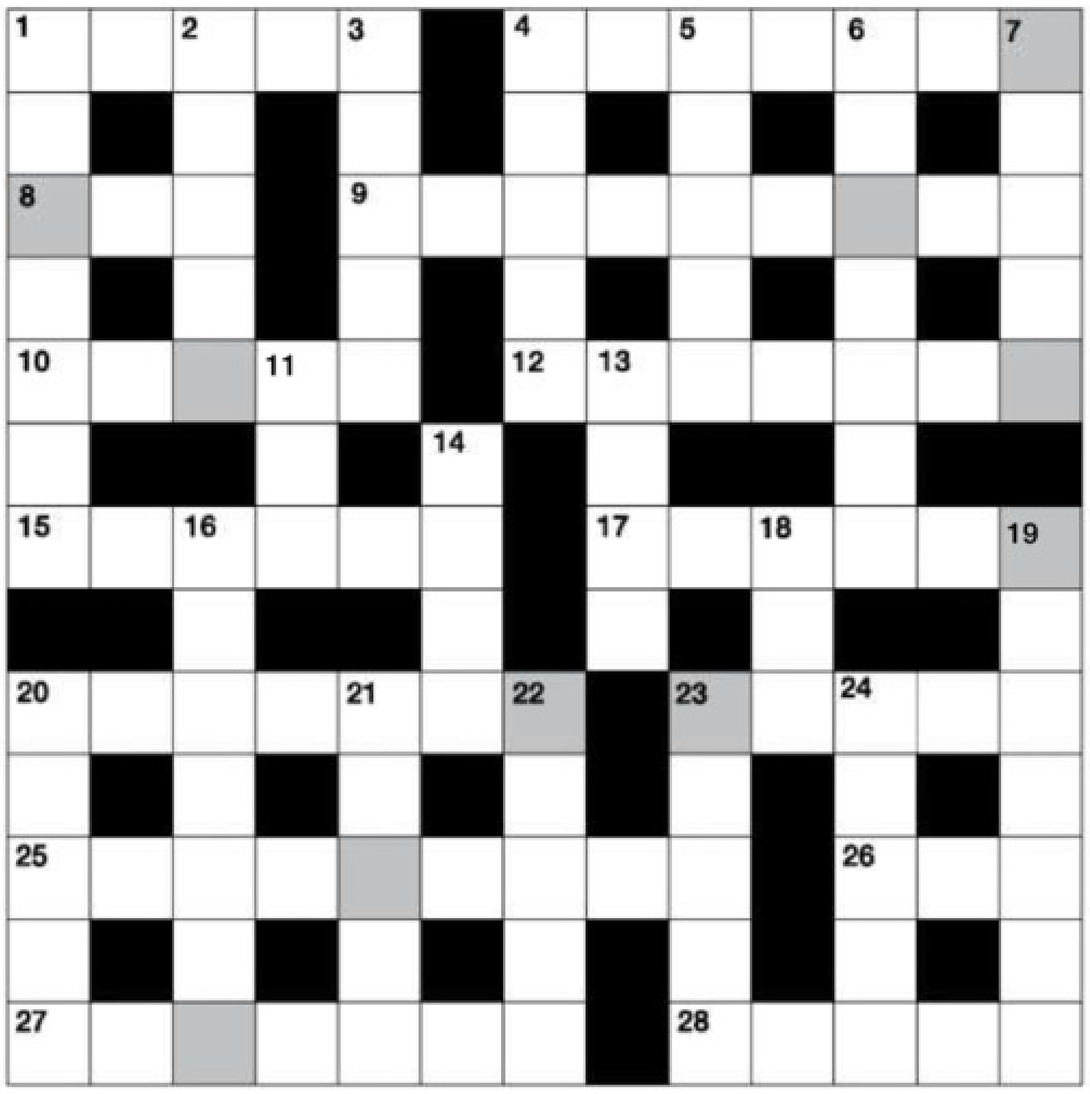
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CrossStitcher JUST FOR FUN

Prize crossword



Across

1 Dangers (5)
4 Leafy green vegetable (7)
8 Zero (3)
9 Alternative fabric to aida (9)
10 Very angry (5)
12 Guess the outcome (7)
15 Baby's sound (6)
17 Thin yarn (6)
20 Accomplishment (7)
23 Citrus fruit (5)
25 Aeroplane escape device (9)
26 Neckwear (3)
27 Find a solution (7)
28 Long-legged wading bird (5)

Down

1 Large temporary stitch (7)
2 Spicy Mexican tomato sauce (5)
3 Native of Stockholm? (5)
4 Reasonably priced (5)
5 David ---, Space Oddity singer (5)
6 Greed (7)
7 Choose by voting (5)
11 Label (3)
13 List of work duties (4)
14 Camera part (4)
16 Historical documents (7)
18 Fish eggs (3)
19 Dark, underground cell (7)
20 Fantastic (5)
21 Surpass (5)
22 Brown, tomato or horseradish? (5)
23 Blood-sucking creature (5)
24 Car (slang) (5)

Winning word clue: **A palace on the beach? (10)**

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/pcw281 to enter online. Postal entries will not be accepted.
Competition open
27 June – 24 July 2014
For full terms and conditions, see page 85.



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SUDOKU

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

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

Issue 279's winning word WOMBLES
Winners: Stanley Carroll, Lincolnshire; Jodie Attreed, Essex; Angela Hill, Devon; Julie Ramwell, Lancashire; Michelle Walters, Berkshire

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NO.1 FOR TRENDS



ISSUE 282
AUGUST 2014

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- Folksy floral heart to **brighten your home**
- Coastal cushion duo for **fresh** seaside style
- Bake off! **Retro** sampler, apron and cake band
- **Perfect gifts** for pet lovers, trendsetters and the gals



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