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April 2015 /
Issue 201
**IMMEDIATE
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Meet the team

Look out for these friendly faces inside *Crazy* – they're mad about cross stitch, too!

Steph Maskery

Art Editor

This month...

"This month's free gift is so pretty – I've already started using mine!"



Rachel Nott

Production Editor

This month...

"My little ones will love Peter Rabbit on page 36 – such timeless charm"



Anne MacGregor

Senior Technical Editor

This month...

"The pretty garden birds abc on page 41 is one for my must-stitch list"



Sarah Heys

Charting Editor

This month...

"I can't stop smiling at the hilarious kitchen sayings on page 46!"

Fiona Baker

Charting Editor

This month...

"I'll be stitching the colourful Easter bunny cards on page 51"



Benedict Blyth

Art Assistant

This month...

"I'm loving the humbug chickens on page 61 – what a creative make!"



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Cross Stitch Crazy

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Welcome...



...to the April issue of *Crazy*!

This month, we're filled with the joys of spring, from the adorable Country Companions exclusive on page 10 – two cute hedgehogs collecting blossom – to your fab free gift! Inspired by vintage seed packets, each bobbin comes with two metres of thread,

perfect for your new season stitching. And, you'll find four of the **stylish seed packets** as charts on page 30, so you can capture their charm for your home.

There's also a **beautiful Peter Rabbit** project on page 36, a delightful garden bird abc on page 41, and on page 61, a set of **fun humbug chickens** to stitch and make – what could be more springlike?

We've got plenty of colourful charts too, from the quirky birthday gift ideas on page 20 to the cuckoo clocks for kids on page 68, and the bright, bold Easter cards on page 51, guaranteed to cheer up the gloomiest day. I hope you enjoy this issue, and I'd love to see your stitched designs – simply email your finished pics to yvette@cross-stitching.com!

Chelle x



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TURN TO
PAGE 34
TO FIND
OUT MORE



We're here for you...

✿ The best choice of designs, with easy-to-follow charts and keys, to suit beginners and more experienced stitchers

✿ A fantastic free gift for you in every single issue, plus an exclusive project to stitch

✿ Helpful stitchy tips from all of your favourite experts, including how to mount and finish your work to its best advantage

✿ Fun features, reader stories and reviews, so you're always the first to find out what's happening in the stitching world

Inside...

Your April issue of *Crazy*



8

EXCLUSIVE!

36



Anchor



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61

41



MustStitch

8 Your free gift
Six vintage-style bobbins plus 12m of pretty thread

10 Exclusive
Country Companions Ed and Edwina Hedgehog

19 Celeb stitch
Stitch the Hollywood legend Dustin Hoffman!

20 50 gift ideas
Adorable kawaii motifs for all your birthday needs

28 Crazy for...
...Cats! Ten furry felines to brighten your day

30 Stitch with
A pretty quartet of vintage seed packets

36 Special
Stitch Peter Rabbit for a fan of this classic tale

41 One nighters
You'll love this sweet garden birds abc

46 Take your pick
Three humorous designs for cooks by Julia Rigby

51 Simply 7
Hop to it and stitch these Easter bunny cards!

61 Mini makes
Fun spring chickens with bags of personality

68 Crazy kids
It's time to stitch these faux cuckoo clocks!

76 Challenge Lucie...
...with your very own personal chart request

20



51



YOUR FREE GIFTS* VINTAGE FLORAL THREAD BOBBINS PLUS 12M OF MATCHING THREAD!

46



30



68



MustRead

- 7** **Reader panel**
Three *Crazy* readers reveal their stitchy likes!
- 14** **Letters**
We share your fellow stitchers' latest finishes
- 39** **Stitch and chat**
Must-read gossip from the cross stitch world

- 45** **Reader feature**
Find out about Stitching Out Stigma's fab project
- 57** **Crazy's Angels**
The Angels are here to fix your stitching problems
- 67** **Join us online**
Check out these great blogs, websites and more!
- 74** **Track it down**
Challenge Sherlock Anne with your stitchy requests

- 80** **Guidelines**
Everything you need to know about cross stitch

MustWin

- 73** **Enter to win**
£1,036 of kits, lamps and other goodies to be won
- 82** **Teabreak**
Solve our crossword and you could be a winner!

MustBuy

- 26** **Must haves**
Spring ideas just for you
- 34** **Subscribe to *Crazy***
For a free one month trial
- 55** **Back issues**
Complete your collection
- 78** **Next month**
Coming up in issue 202

WIN
with
CRAZY



73



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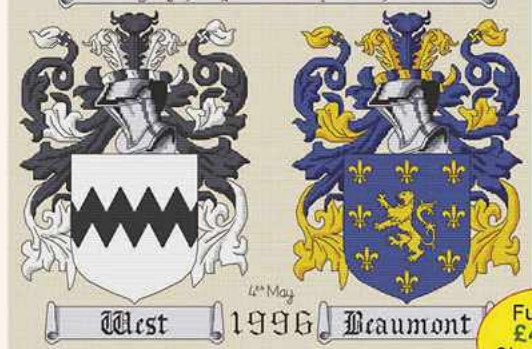


Full Kit £25.00
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7" x 10"
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Terry Philip + Elizabeth Claire



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CHART £5.50 KIT £17.00



8" x 10", 14hpi
CHART £5.00 KIT £15.00



8" x 10", 14hpi
CHART £5.00 KIT £15.00



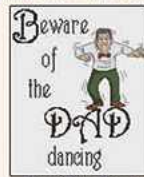
8" x 10", 14hpi
CHART £5.00 KIT £15.00



8" x 12", 14hpi
CHART £5.50 KIT £16.00



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CHART £6.00 KIT £18.00



8" x 10", 14hpi
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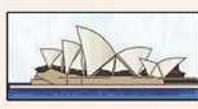


6" x 8"
14 hpi

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Marbled Blue Aida
CHART £5 KIT £10



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6.0" x 4.0", 14hpi
White Aida
CHART £5 KIT £10



Las Vegas
10.0" x 8.5", 14hpi
White Aida
CHART £5 KIT £15



Taj Mahal
11.0" x 7.0", 14hpi
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Over to you...

These stitchers are this month's reader panel stars –
keep an eye out for their comments throughout the issue!



Emma Wood, Berkshire

What's your stitching style?

Every time I choose a design I like to try
something new, whether it's a stitch
I haven't done before or more shading.
I'm just starting to use evenweave too.

When you're not stitching you're...

I adore cooking and can often be found
baking a cake on a leisurely weekend.

What's your favourite recent Crazy design?

I love the eye masks from issue 198. Such a
great little gift to make for someone special
as part of a pampering hamper, or to give
along with spa gift vouchers!



Kim Bairstow, Birmingham

Which designer would you like to meet?

Without a doubt, Michael Powell. He's my
favourite designer and I actually met him
at a craft show last year. He was really nice,
but I was a bit star struck and couldn't think
of any questions at the time!

How cross stitch crazy are you?

I've been cross stitching for about 10
years and I've lost count of the number of
projects I've done. I never have difficulty
finding my next project, my only difficulty is
that I want to do so many, I don't think one
lifetime is long enough to do them all!

Rosie Harris, Liverpool

Who taught you to cross stitch?

I actually taught myself. I started off with a small kit
that I got because I thought it would be nice to make
it into a card. Soon I was buying thread and fabric for
my own cross stitching projects.

Which is your favourite character to stitch?

I like to stitch Pokemon. I've been trying to work my
way through the first 150!

If you could invent a stitchy tool, what would it be?

Ooh, it would have to be something that made
metallic thread feel like cotton!



We want to hear from you...

If you'd like to feature in Crazy, email crazyreaderpanel@cross-stitching.com or send a
letter marked 'Reader panel' to the address on the left. We'll need your name, address
and a good quality picture of yourself, and if you're chosen, we'll be in touch!



Exclusive!

Vintage floral bobbins and threads



Add these beautiful threads to your stash, or use them to stitch this pair of oh-so-pretty designs!

We're positively addicted to gorgeous threads, so are really excited to be bringing you this fab free gift just in time for spring! Inside your pack you'll find 12 metres of embroidery thread in six soft shades, each wrapped around a vintage-style bobbin, designed by April Rose Illustration.

These lovely threads lend themselves perfectly to classic designs such as the Thank You and Home Sweet Home charts below, or try adding a personal touch with a different backstitched greeting. The simple stitches look lovely worked on ecru aida or evenweave, then mounted in a pastel card.

We always love seeing all your beautiful work so do keep sending your photos to yvette@cross-stitching.com. Enjoy! ●



Floral cards

✦ Cross stitch in two strands

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira	Colour
▽	369	1043	1309	green
♥	605	1094	613	pink
t	747	158	1104	turquoise
■	962	75	609	dark pink
□	3325	129	907	blue
■	3823	386	2512	yellow

✦ Backstitch in one strand

—	962	75	609	dark pink
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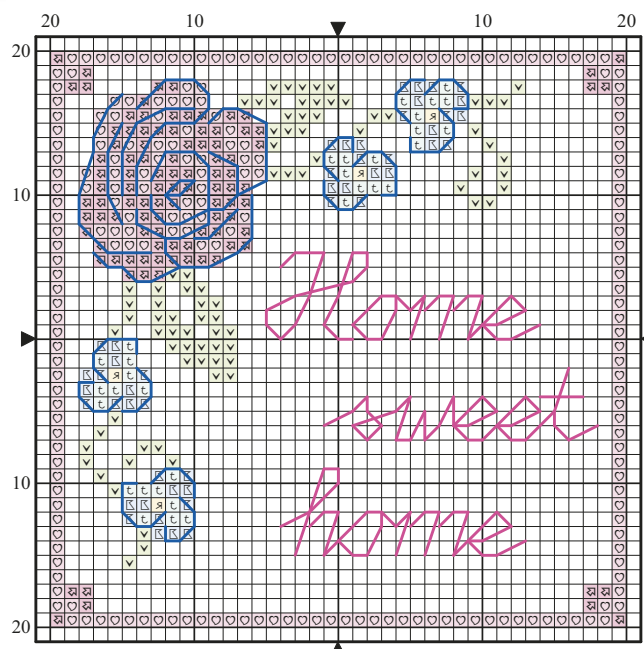
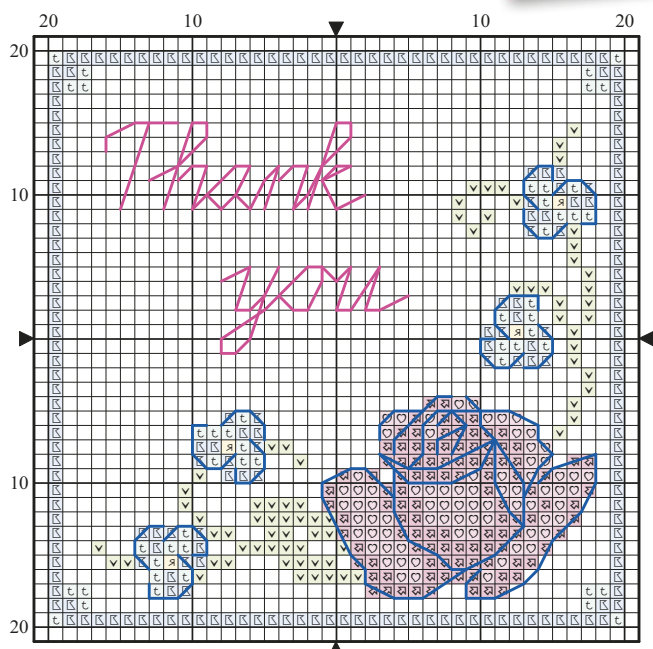
✦ Backstitch in two strands

—	3823	386	2512	yellow
---	------	-----	------	--------

✦ Whole stitches only

Stitch count 40 (h) x 40 (w)

Design area on 14-count fabric 7.5x7.5cm
(2¾x2¾in)



ExclusiveDesign

Spring fever

Capture the sunny charm of Ed and Edwina Hedgehog as they catch whirling blossoms in the breeze
Exclusive to Crazy!

We all know the Country Companions love nothing better than getting out and about, and this idyllic scene sees Ed and Edwina Hedgehog collecting flowers from a gorgeous cherry tree, along with a few ladybird friends for good measure!

StitchList...

- ✕ Whole cross stitch
- ✕ Half cross stitch
- ✕ Backstitch
- ✕ French knots

ShoppingList...

Threads - Anchor stranded cotton as listed in the key

Needle - Size 26 tapestry needle

Fabric - 16-count cream aida measuring 30x30cm (12x12in). To buy, visit www.sewandso.co.uk

Extras - 18cm (7in) wooden embroidery hoop



StitchTime
50-55 hrs
(Approx)

Framed in a wooden embroidery hoop, this exclusive design makes the prettiest picture, and would be a gorgeous gift for a friend. Or, you could stitch it for yourself as a reminder to yourself to enjoy the simpler things in life.

Worked in a variety of techniques, there's plenty of little details to keep your fingers busy, and the joys of spring will come to life with every stitch. ●

Embrace the new season with this oh-so-sweet exclusive stitch!



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Anchor
Anchor logo featuring an anchor symbol.



Country Companions

✕ Cross stitch in two strands

	Anchor	Colour
∩	1	white
🔍	6	light coral
C	8	coral
A	23	light pink
♥	25	pink
♀	46	red
🔴	47	dark red
♥	52	bright pink
t	103	lilac
Z	232	light shell grey
⬢	233	shell grey
◇	264	light green
◆	265	green
J	271	very light pink
🍊	302	tangerine
e	342	lavender
🟤	355	brown
🟡	357	dark brown
🟢	359	very dark brown
w	367	tan
🔍	369	light brown
x	372	dark tan
*	390	light stone grey
K	391	stone grey
🟠	401	dark grey
■	403	black
🟣	870	mauve
☆	899	dark stone grey
—	926	cream
☾	1031	very light blue

✕ Cross stitch in one strand

Я	232	light shell grey
✓	361	light tan

✕ Half cross stitch in two strands

I	128	light blue
☾	159	blue
P	264	light green
\$	265	green

✕ Half cross stitch in one strand

3	23	light pink
“	128	light blue
⬢	232	light shell grey
N	271	very light pink
b	361	light tan

✕ Backstitch in one strand

—	400	grey
—	401	dark grey
—	403	black

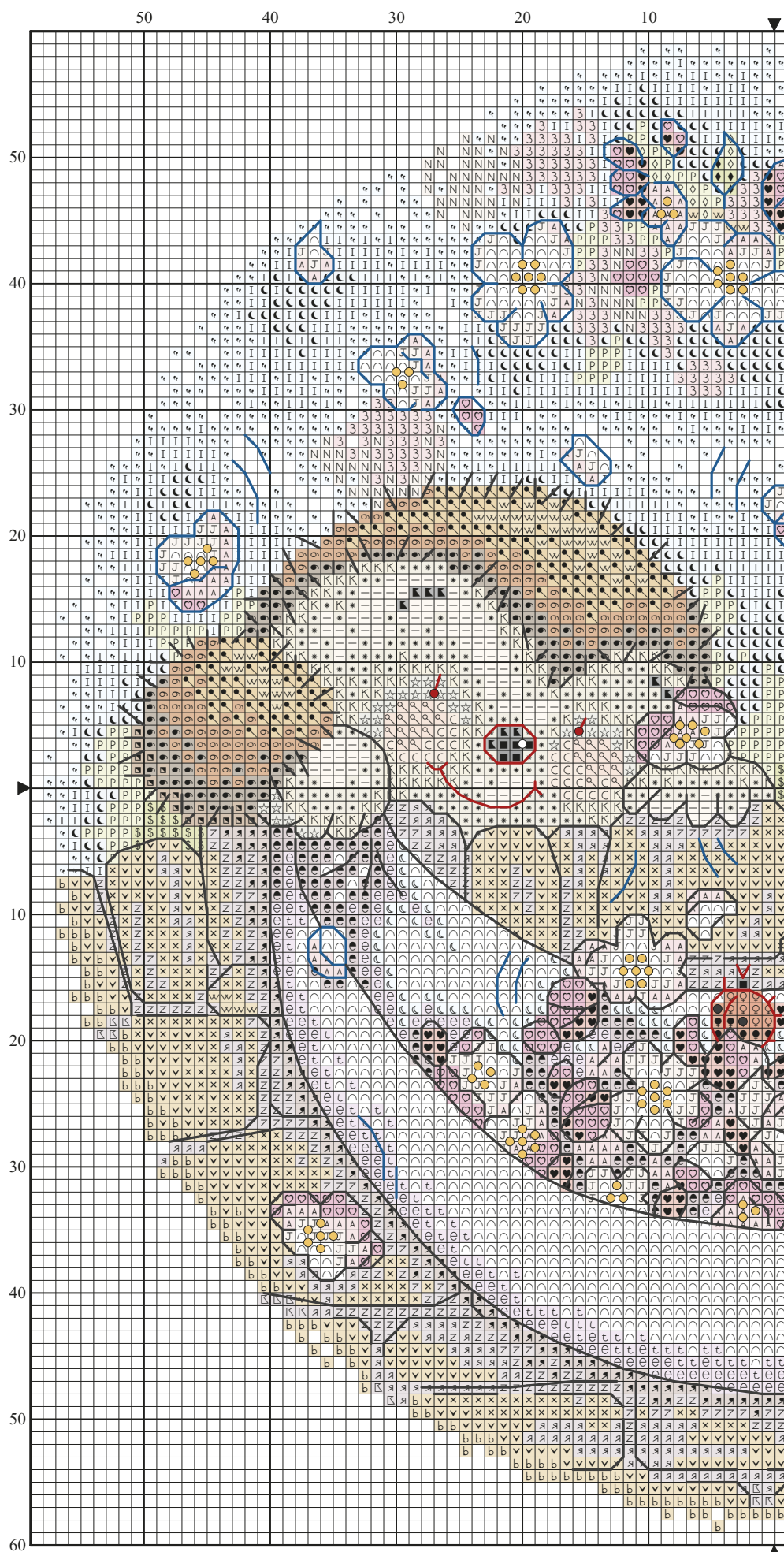
✕ French knots in one strand

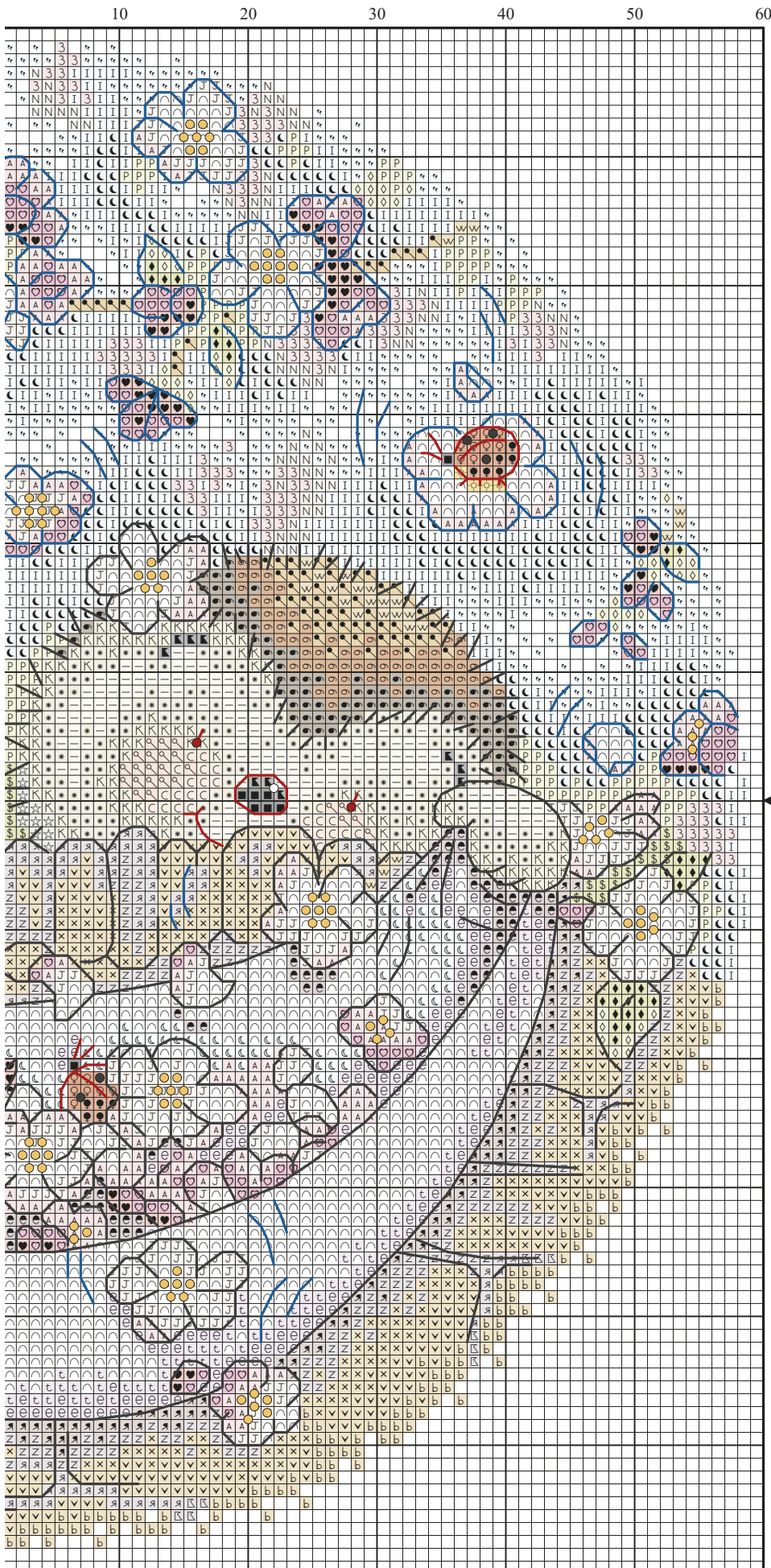
○	1	white
●	302	tangerine
●	401	dark grey
●	403	black

✕ Whole stitches only

Stitch count 118 (h) x 117 (w)

Design area on 16-count fabric
19x18.5cm (7½x7¼in)





ReaderSays...



I love the Country Companions characters as they are just so cute. The variations in colour used to make the spines look realistic make them really fun to stitch, too. I'll be stitching this to give to my mum for Mother's Day. The spring flowers make it just perfect.

Emma Wood, Berkshire

There'sMore

Love Country Companions? Then here are more cute designs! Visit www.makeitcoats.com or call ☎ 01484 681 881 for stockists



▲ Barbecue Time, (CTM0020), 15x22cm (6x9in), £21.20



▲ Sewing Circle, (CTM0017), 20x20cm (8x8in), £21.20



▲ The Gang, (CTM0013), 20x25cm (8x10in), £21.20



Your Letters

We love seeing what you've been busy stitching, so send us an email or letter along with a photo and if it gets printed you'll win a prize!

Star letter Favourite things

You are
a winner!
**Deborah
Butler**



My 14-year-old son, Liam, decided he wanted to make a special gift for his girlfriend, Ella, for Christmas. He decided on a handmade cushion with her favourite things on. *Crazy* came in very handy for a lot of the charts;

luckily I have every single issue in my stash! Liam started at the beginning of December and I completed the cushion on the 23rd. I think he did a great job as he hadn't stitched for four years. He actually appeared in *Crazy* when he was five years old!

Yvette says: If only there were more boys like Liam around! What a gorgeous gift for Ella. I bet she was bowled over to unwrap this on Christmas morning. Great team work!

WIN!

Each month our star letter winner receives a fantastic prize!

WORTH
OVER
£18!



This month's Star letter winner receives this cute Fuchsia Chick-Chat kit by Valerie Pfeiffer from Heritage Crafts worth £18.75! Visit www.hcrafts.com or contact them on 01889 575 256 to order today.

Hearts and flowers

I thought I'd send you a photo of the lovely Art Deco bookmark card kit that came free with issue 200 of *Crazy* magazine. I really enjoyed stitching it, so thank you for the gorgeous designs!

Jan Wells, Hertfordshire

Rachel says: You've stitched this really beautifully, Jan, and sent it in to us so quickly – we're very impressed! We'd love to know whether you'll be keeping this bookmark – it just looks too pretty to part with!

► Jan's stylish bookmark was free with issue 200



Easter parade

Here are pictures of the cards that I sent last Easter, made using the designs from issue 84. They were all so sweet and nice it was hard to choose amongst them! I enjoyed making them and the final result was highly appreciated.

Sara Lugnani, Switzerland

Yvette says: I love the way you've used washi tape to mount these designs, Sara. The patterns work brilliantly!



▲ Sara's sweet Easter cards from issue 84 went down a storm!

Big cats

I didn't get this design done in time for *Crazy*'s Finish Friday on Facebook, so I thought I'd show you now instead!

Jo Carter, East Sussex

Rachel says: I love it! Thanks for sharing, Jo!

► Fans of big cats will love the exquisite shading in Jo's photo-realistic cushion





▲ Christine cross stitched two coffee tables with her own unique design

Top tables

I wanted to share with you my first completed cross stitch project for 2015 – two matching designs on a pair of coffee tables that my parents were going to throw out. I enlarged the charts onto graph paper then marked the holes out on the top of the tables. I then drilled hundreds of little holes 1cm apart in the table top, ready for stitching. I'm a fan of birds so was really happy to find these patterns. I just have to get glass on top and they're ready to use.
Christine Day, Brisbane, Australia

Yvette says: Wow, Christine, you must be a whizz with a drill!

Quick stitch!

Send us a picture of your first finished project from this issue of *Crazy*, and you could win First Past the Post!

Year of the sheep

Well, of course, I just had to do this little cutie sheep from issue 200. I decided to stitch it on black aida as I think the sheep stands out nicely on it. While looking for a small frame to put it in, I found a multi photo frame which I bought for a bargain price of £1.50, so I'm now turning it into a sheepy cross stitch frame and plan to fill it with lots of small cross stitched sheep!
Michelle Sullivan, Birmingham

Rachel says: Oh my woolly word, you've done this *Crazy* for farmyard animals design proud, Michelle! The honour of First past the post this issue goes to you – well done! We can't wait to see what you'll be putting in the frame next...



Addicted to stitching

A dear work colleague taught me to cross stitch last summer and created a monster! I'm completely addicted and, prior to treating myself to a proper stand, required physio for neck pain as I'll stitch for so many hours at a time! Anyway, after several small projects, I proudly finished this Bothy Threads design just after Christmas. I'm so very proud of myself, and thankful to my colleague for opening up this wonderful world for me. This piece took me about 100 hours, but don't worry, I did have a few tea breaks in there too!

Jacqui Anne Marsden, Cumbria

Yvette says: It sounds like you've been waiting all your life to stitch, Jacqui – welcome to this wonderful hobby!



▲ Life's a beach when you discover a passion for cross stitching!

Flutter and fly

I just wanted to write and congratulate the *Crazy* team on the celebration of your 200th issue. I've been buying *Cross Stitch Crazy* for many years and have even subscribed recently. Seeing all the wonderful stitched designs, hints and tips have helped me to develop my stitching. Even seeing other readers' work inspires me to keep stitching. I suffer badly with anxiety and depression, and I find stitching a sort of therapy. These butterfly hair grips from issue 193 were lovely to stitch with their variety of colours. Making the designs into hair grips was so different, rather than just making them into a card or mounting in a frame.
Claire Boston, Southport

Rachel says: It's always so wonderful hearing how *Crazy* has helped our readers, so thank you for taking the time to write to us, Claire. These butterfly grips look fab – have you tried adding a safety pin at the back to wear them as badges, too?



▲ Claire enjoyed trying something new with these butterfly hair grips from issue 193

Subs stars



WORTH
£32!

Frames not included

Prizes every month!

Each month, three subscribers are selected to win a prize as a thank you for their loyalty to *Crazy*. This month, winners will receive this pair of Tatty Teddy kits worth £32! For your chance to win, turn to page 34 and subscribe to *Crazy* today. See below for this month's lucky winners.

- ▶ **Mrs Bentley** Subs no: **CSCZ1230**
- ▶ **Miss Moss** Subs no: **CSCZ14924**
- ▶ **Mrs Forde** Subs no: **CSCZ15305**

To find out how to become a *Crazy* subscriber, turn to page 34!

YourLetters



▲ Marie's first ever cushion was a special gift for nine-year-old Dominic

Terrific trio

When I asked my soon-to-be nine-year-old son what he wanted for his birthday, I wasn't expecting the reply I received. He said he wanted a fluffy camouflage cushion with a cross stitched design of a soldier, a pilot and a sailor, with his name above! I think he's happy with it. It's the first time I've made a cushion, so I'm happy too!

Marie Case, Devon

Rachel says: So you should be, Marie, this works really well, and the fleecy fabric looks so snuggly. I'd love to receive a personalised cushion for my birthday!

Ready, teddy, go!

For Christmas, I was fortunate enough to receive issue 195 of *Crazy*. As it's currently the summer holidays in South Africa, I'm looking forward to being able to stitch the Christmas Tatty Teddy, just as soon as the stores open so I can get some thread! I've stitched Cupcake, Christmas Coat and Pins and Needles (clockwise from top left) during the holiday. I struggle with French knots so use beads for the eyes instead. Thank you for a great mag!

Julia West, South Africa

Yvette says: Something tells me you're a big Tatty Teddy fan, Julia! Using beads is a great alternative if you struggle with French knots.



◀ Julia is itching to stitch the Christmas pud Tatty Teddy from issue 195!



► Joan Elliott's Belle de Mer mermaid looks incredible on this fabric

Underwater beauty

I'm probably not the only one who fell in love with the Belle de Mer mermaid from issue 193, and I knew what fabric to use the moment I saw this great design. Joan Elliott, please continue designing, your ideas are ever so nice.

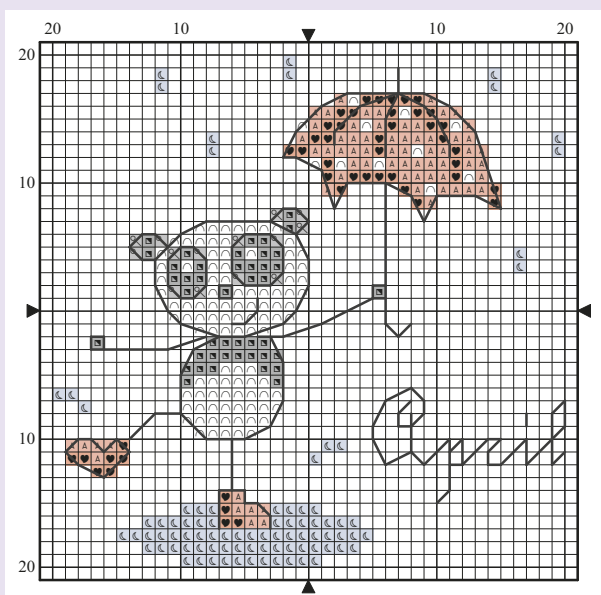
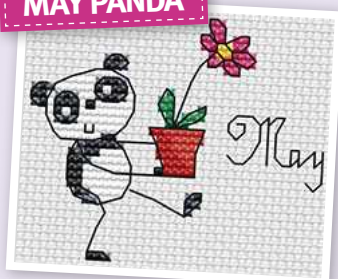
Yke Wieland, Netherlands

Yvette says: Your version of Joan's Belle de Mer looks incredible, Yke. We're all wondering where you found this fabric – it looks like it was created especially for this design! We love Joan's work as much as you, so you can rest assured there'll be plenty more of her designs appearing in future issues of *Crazy* – keep your eyes peeled!

Cross Stitch quickie!

Be it sunshine or showers, bring a smile to your face with this month's adorable puddle-dipping panda!

Next month
MAY PANDA



April panda

✕ Cross stitch in two strands

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
∩	blanc	2	2402
♥	349	1098	212
A	351	10	214
⌘	414	235	1714
☾	799	145	910
■	3799	236	1713

✕ Backstitch in one strand

—	3799	236	1713
---	------	-----	------

✕ Whole stitches only

Stitch count 40 (h) x 40 (w)
Design area on 14-count fabric
7x7cm (2¾x2¾in)

Celebrity Wordsearch



Rex Features Ltd

C	V	G	F	B	Y	S	I	N	G	E	R	S
T	O	S	K	O	O	R	E	A	R	P	L	C
V	H	B	R	Y	O	V	T	A	M	I	O	G
N	G	E	W	E	O	D	E	N	D	M	S	Y
O	N	Y	T	L	G	P	W	I	U	E	E	E
I	O	W	N	A	S	N	N	R	L	O	G	L
S	R	I	O	E	L	G	E	E	I	W	C	P
S	T	O	K	R	D	E	G	V	Y	T	R	I
E	S	A	N	O	T	N	N	N	A	O	E	R
S	H	K	O	M	A	L	E	T	O	E	O	R
S	F	R	B	S	A	T	A	F	E	O	H	M
O	S	Y	O	P	H	N	O	P	K	D	K	T
P	V	L	O	N	O	I	G	A	T	N	O	C

EMMA
CONTAGION
COOKBOOKS
COUNTRY / STRONG
FOOD WRITER
GWYNETH / PALTROW
IRON MAN
LOS ANGELES
POSSESSION
PROOF
SHAKESPEARE / IN LOVE
SINGER
SLIDING DOORS
THE AVENGERS
THE TALENTED / MR RIPLEY

All the words in this month's wordsearch relate to Gwyneth Paltrow. Words can read up, down, across, backwards and diagonally. Which word is left over?

You can find the answer to this puzzle on page 82!

Twoo cute

Here's my variation on Oscar the owl from issue 191, with both eyes open. I then decided he was far too cute to just go on a card so I decided to frame him instead!
Gemma McMahon, Gloucester

Rachel says: Oscar the patchwork owl looks like he's ready for anything with both eyes open! I like the way you've framed him, too, using a bright floral paper and a smart wooden frame. Top work, Gemma!



◀ Gemma stitched Oscar with both eyes open for a wide awake effect

Fairy wishes

I so loved the Lucie Heaton fairy with the freebie hoop that came with issue 193. The magic just pops! I thought I'd add the sentiment 'Free Wishes', and I also gave her a bead on her wand – such a generous fairy deserves no less!
Marie-Therese Kielty, Clydebank

Yvette says: I love how you've personalised this design, Marie-Therese. I'm really glad we made your wish come true with this fab free gift.



▶ We adore Marie-Therese's version of the fairy from issue 193!



▲ Andrew's partner took a year to finish this fairytale masterpiece

Get in touch!

We love to see what you've been busy stitching, so get in touch and tell us all about it, and don't forget to include a picture! Every letter printed wins a super-cute kit from www.Mouseloft.co.uk

Email: crazyletters@cross-stitching.com
Facebook: [facebook.com/crossstitchcrazy](https://www.facebook.com/crossstitchcrazy)
Twitter: twitter.com/crazy_magazine
Write to: Yvette Streeter, Cross Stitch Crazy, 2nd Floor, Tower House, Fairfax Street, Bristol BS1 3BN



Design may vary

WIN!

A dream to stitch

Here's my soon-to-be wife's finished project, a dreamscape called The Castle. It's taken her just under a year off and on, and is a present for her stepdad. It has about 70 to 80 colours in it and also something we haven't come across before where you use a strand from two different thread colours. It's like that throughout most of the chart. Meanwhile, I've been working on a chart of the Flying Scotsman which I've been doing for about a year also. We're so proud of our work as they're our biggest ever projects.
Andrew Wellard, Lowestoft, Suffolk

Rachel says: How lovely to share a hobby with your partner, Andrew. Huge congratulations on your joint achievements!

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CelebStitch

Dustin Hoffman

Make a date with Dustin and show him off in star-studded stitches for a super-fan

Propelled to stardom in 1967 thanks to his role in *The Graduate*, Dustin Hoffman has enjoyed a glittering and varied career, showing off his incredible range from emotive performances in *Kramer vs. Kramer* and *Rain Man*, to comedy turns in *Hook*, and *Meet the Fockers*. And, in 2012 Dustin made his directorial debut in British comedy-drama *Quartet*.

Worked in whole stitches only, this hugely talented star is a must-stitch for any serious film fan. So, put your stitching in the spotlight as you render this TV, film and theatre great in stitches today! ●

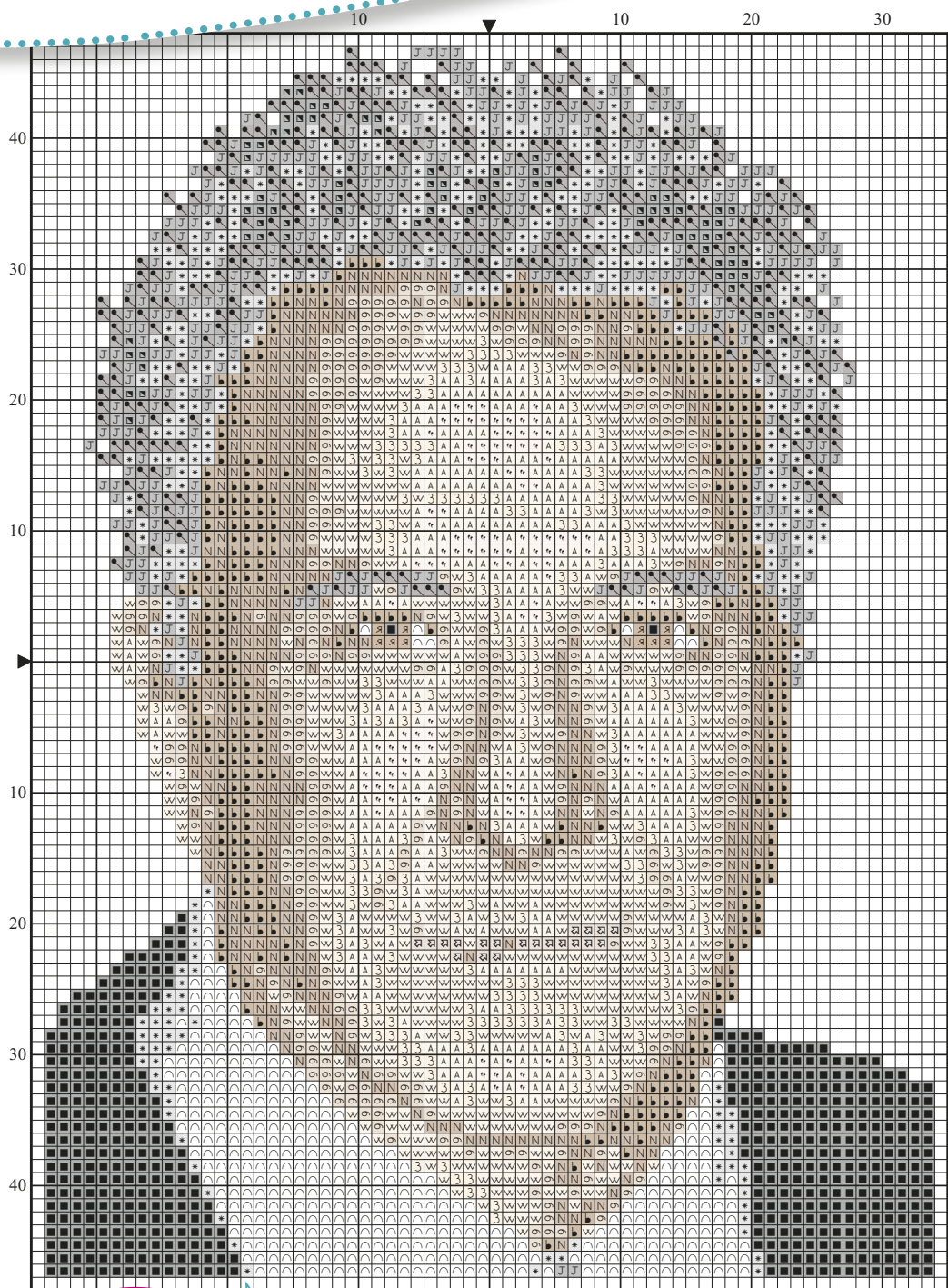
Dustin Hoffman

✕ Cross stitch in two strands

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
○	blanc	2	2402
■	310	403	2400
■	317	400	1714
J	414	235	1801
*	415	398	1802
A	948	892	306
w	950	4146	2309
+	3770	1009	2314
3	3774	778	305
Я	3781	1088	2003
■	3799	236	1713
■	3859	1013	2310
■	3862	374	1913
N	3863	379	1912
o	3864	376	1910

✕ Whole stitches only

Stitch count 94 (h) x 68 (w)
Design area on 14-count fabric
 17x12.5cm (6³/₄x4³/₄in)



Reader's pick!
 This celeb was chosen by
LESLEY PAYLING

Who would you like to see as a *Crazy Celeb* stitch? It might be your favourite actor, a Hollywood icon or even a sporting great! Email your requests to celebstitch@cross-stitching.com or post them to: Celeb stitch, Cross Stitch Crazy, 2nd Floor, Tower House, Fairfax Street, Bristol BS1 3BN.

If the celebrity you request is picked to appear in a future issue of *Crazy* then you could be the lucky winner of a fantastic mystery gift.

And, don't forget to email any photos of your stitched celebrities to yvette@cross-stitching.com for your chance to appear on *Crazy's* Letters page and possibly win a prize!

50 Birthday Gift ideas



These cute and colourful kawaii motifs are perfect for all your birthday celebrations, and super-fun to stitch!
Designed by Mollie Johanson

Birthdays are a great excuse to get stitching, so get your needle stuck into these fabulous fun-size designs and bring some Japanese-style cuteness to the party!

From invitations to cupcake toppers and gift tags to party bags, there are so many ways to add cool kawaii style to your do, and these colourful motifs couldn't be easier to stitch. They use whole stitches and backstitch only, and are worked in bright, colourful thread shades that will appeal to all ages. If you're a beginner, these adorable designs are a perfect place to start – moshi moshi! ●



StitchTime
2-4 hrs
(Each)

StitchList...

Perfect for beginners

- ✕ Whole cross stitch
- ✕ Backstitch

ShoppingList...

Threads - Stranded cotton as listed in the key

Needle - Size 24/26 tapestry needle

Fabric - Zweigart 14-count white aida measuring a maximum of 10x10cm (4x4in) for most designs. Zweigart 16-count 2.5cm (1in) white aida band with white trim cut to the desired length. To buy, visit www.sewandso.co.uk or call ☎ 0800 013 0150

Extras - Craft Creations Single Fold Deckle Edge card (DEC4U) and Square Aperture card (AP55U) in Pale Yellow (02). To buy, call ☎ 01992 781 900 or visit www.craftcreations.com. All other items from high street stores or handmade



A sweet surprise



Let's have fun!



All wrapped up

Make a wish!



To a little cutie



It's party time!



Treats for you!



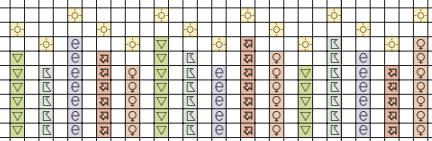
You're my number one



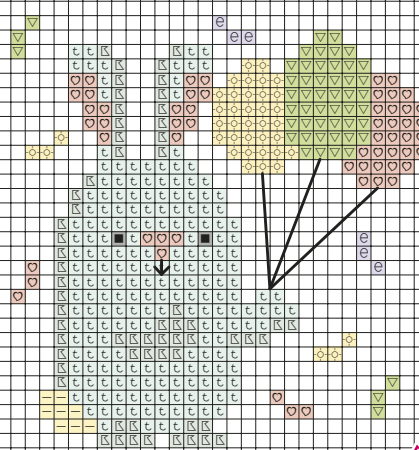
On your special day



1



2



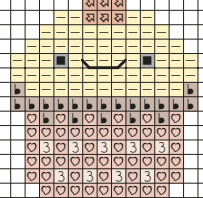
3

► Use a cute cake-themed motif to make place setting cards for the essential party tea!

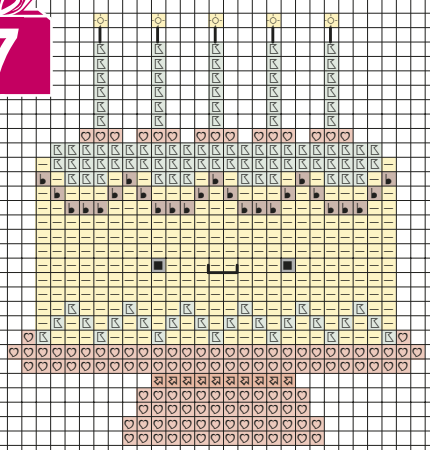
4

► If you've been to a party, say thank you with a sweet little stitch patched onto a card

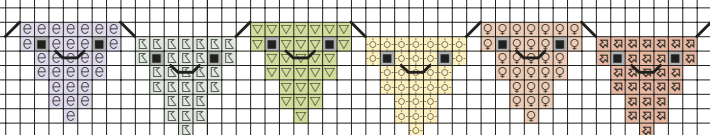
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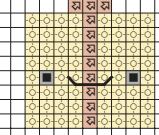
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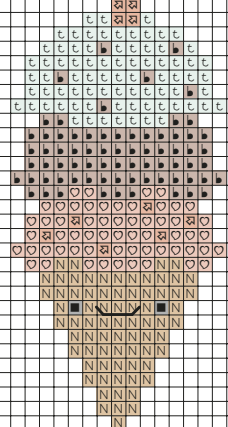
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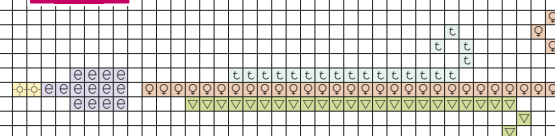
10

► Stitch on plastic canvas and turn your favourite motif into a cute charm necklace

12



11



Birthday kawaii

✕ Cross stitch in two strands

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
e	155	1030	902
I	210	108	802
■	310	403	2400
■	350	11	213
♥	352	9	303
3	353	6	2313
N	435	1046	2010
■	597	1064	1110
t	598	1062	1111
◆	702	226	1306
▽	703	238	1307
○	726	295	109
—	727	293	112
b	838	380	2005
♀	3340	329	301
я	3825	336	302

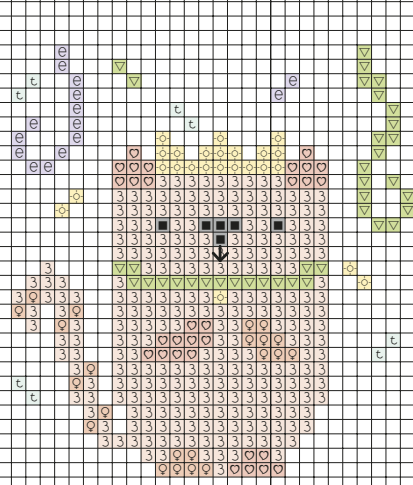
✕ Backstitch in one strand

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
—	155	1030	902
—	310	403	2400
—	726	295	109

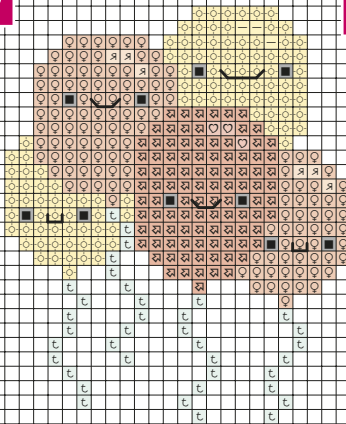
✕ Whole stitches only

Max. stitch count 40 (h) x 49 (w)
Design area on 14-count fabric
7.5x9cm (2¾x3½in)
Stitched by Judy Davies

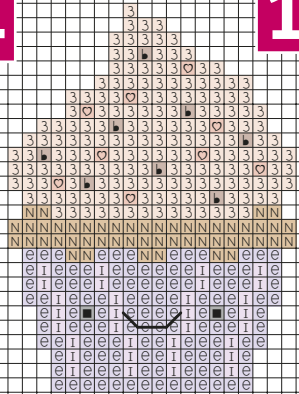
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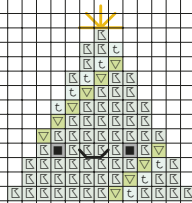
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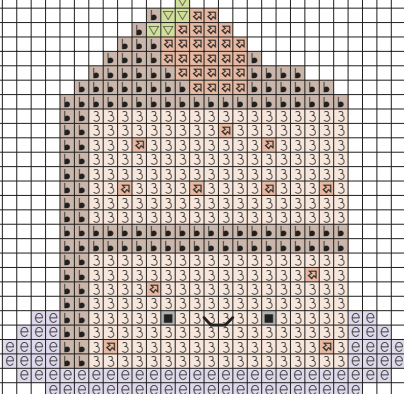
16

► Use metallic gold thread for the candle flames in this collection of designs

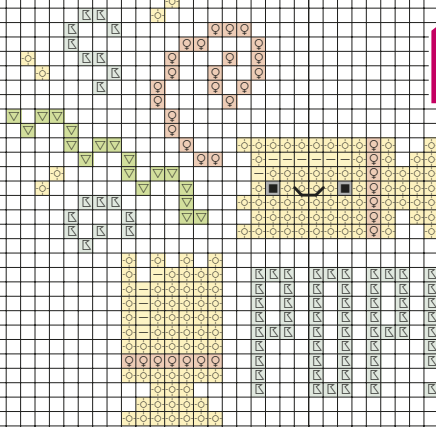
17



20



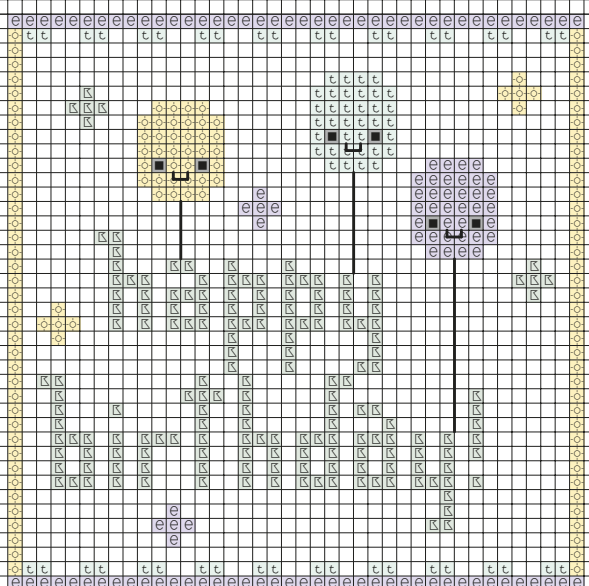
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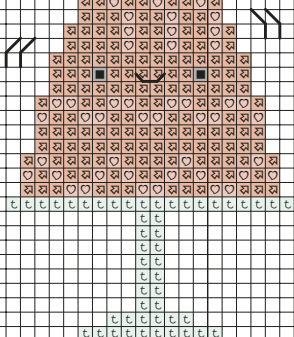
19

► Attach a mini design to a ring blank (available from craft stores) for a sweet birthday gift

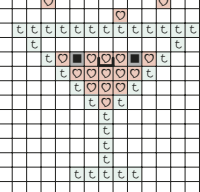
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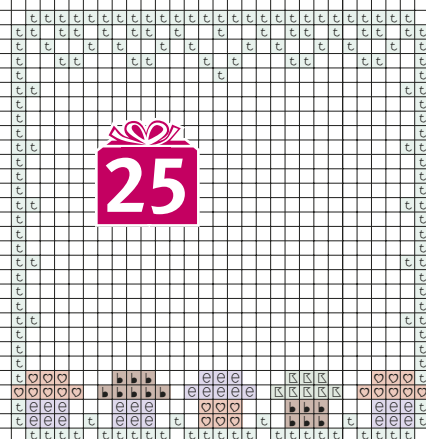
24

► Foodie designs like this wobbly jelly (above) are perfect for turning into fun fridge magnets!

More charts over the page

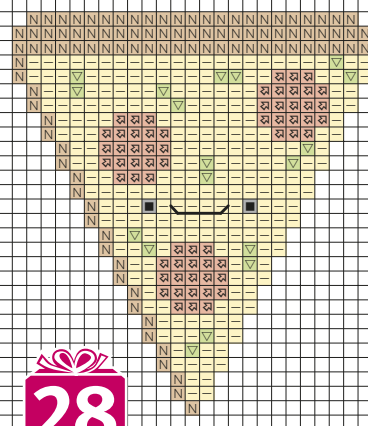


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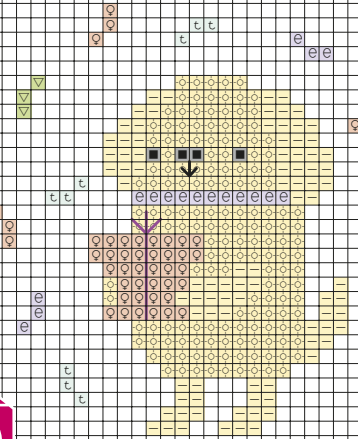


26

► Invite friends over for a movie night using this pizza slice (right) as a tempting invitation!



27

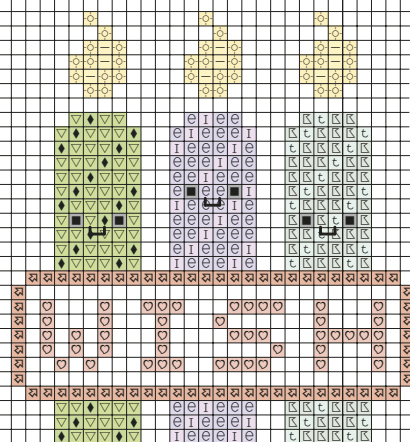


28

29

► Stitch a cute character onto a DIY cross stitch phone case for a quick and easy pressie idea

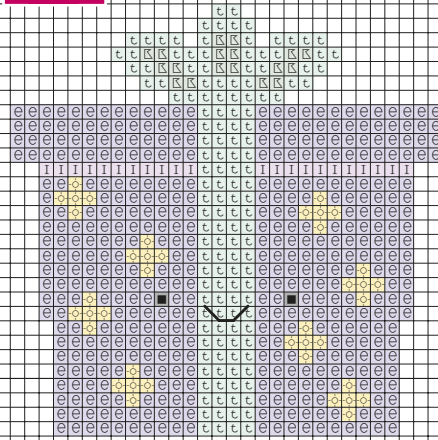
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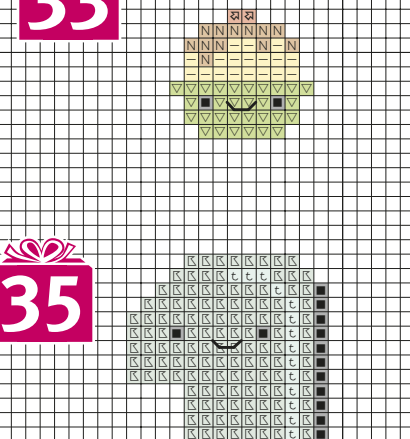
31

► Use bright, colourful papers to complement these motifs when making cards and gifts

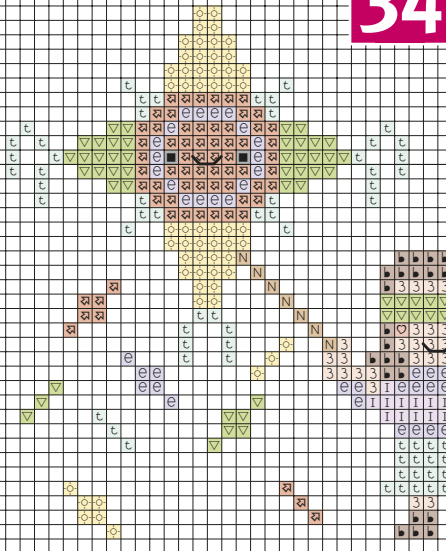
32



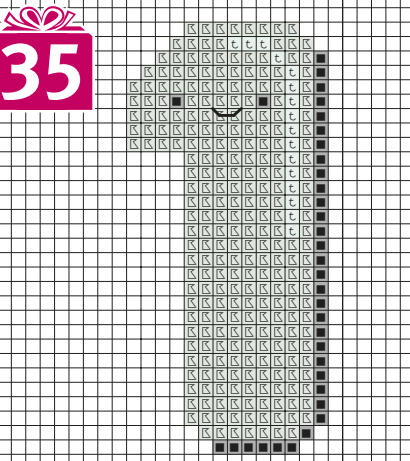
33



34



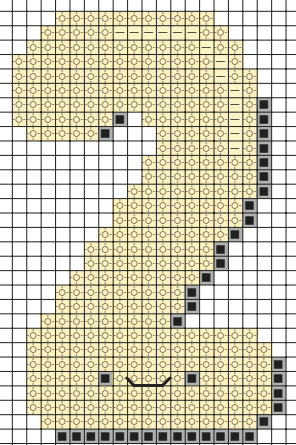
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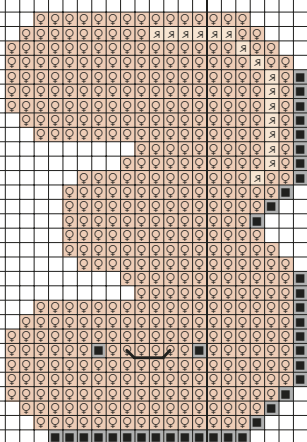
36

► Mount a selection of designs in individual picture frames to create a colourful wall display

37



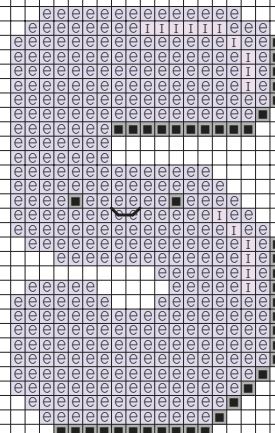
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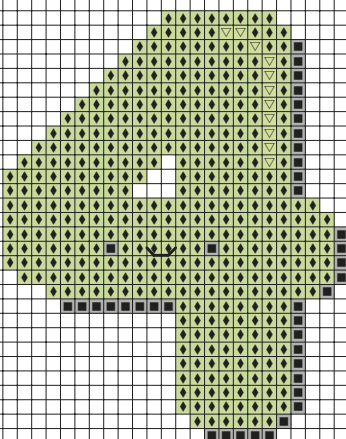
39

► Make a simple sampler-style picture for a child's room using these cheerful and chunky numbers

40

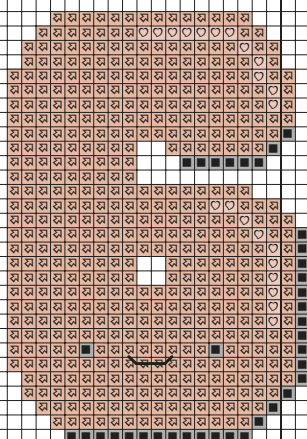


42



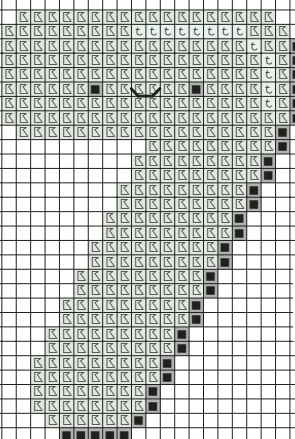
41

► Use perforated paper to stitch a motif on, then back with card for brilliant gift tags



44

► Stitch a selection of small motifs onto aida band to create a fun birthday bookmark!



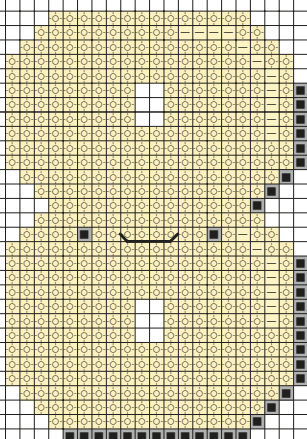
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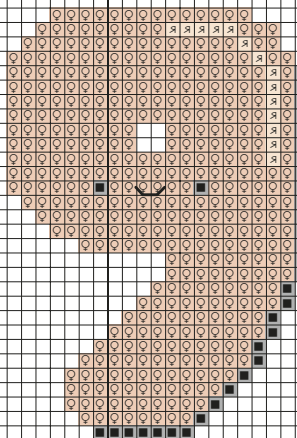
46

► Use soluble canvas to stitch a fun birthday top for your little one to wear at their party

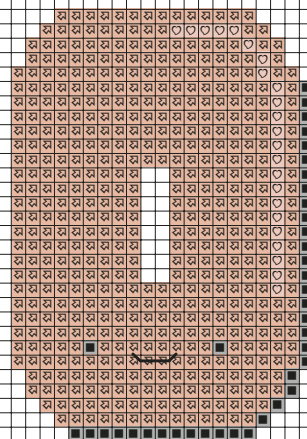
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48



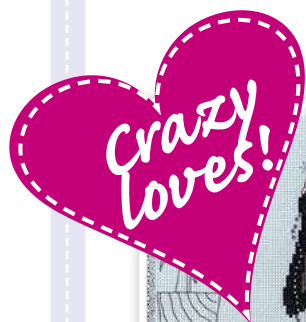
50



49

► Use variegated threads to create cute number badges in pretty rainbow shades

April... Must-haves



Rachel has been scouring the shops to find treats to keep you stitching all the way to Easter!

◀ Glamour seekers

Have you started 2015 with a bang? If so, we think you'll be foxtrotting your way through your WIPs to get started on these glam new designs from Bothy Threads! Celebrating the roaring twenties, Evelyn, Cassandra, and Scarlett (clockwise from top) are works by artist Ella Rose, and each is a wonderful recreation of this thrilling era! Cassandra and Scarlett measure 25x25cm (10x10in), and cost £27.49 as a complete kit, while Evelyn measures 35x25cm (14x10in) and costs £29.99.

* Visit www.bothythreads.com or call ☎ 01900 828 844 to buy



▶ Sitting kitty

We can't quite believe Hello Kitty is 40 years old – she looks good, doesn't she? We're delighted to announce that, thanks to Anchor, you can now stitch this sweet-faced character to your heart's content! The brand new collection features tapestry as well as cross stitch kits, from phone holders to rugs – but the design that's caught Crazy's eye is this soft and snuggly Afghan from the Hello Kitty One Spot Collection. Measuring 125x85cm (49¼x33½in) and costing £57.75, it will doubtless make a treasured heirloom for a new baby.

* For stockists, visit www.makeitcoats.com or call ☎ 01484 681 881



▲ Homemade heaven

If you love to stitch sayings you know you'll enjoy turning to again and again, then check out this new chart from RedBear Design, which beautifully sums up how we crafters feel about homemade! Featuring little cupcakes, hearts, and pretty retro patterns, Happiness is Homemade is a zingy and heart-surging delight, measuring 23x15.6cm (9x6¼in) when finished. It costs £6 for a PDF download – why not hang it in your kitchen when you're done, so you can feel added satisfaction every time you lift a tray of cakes out of the oven?

* To buy, visit www.redbeardesign.etsy.com



▼ Hello, sunshine

Had enough of winter yet? Us too! So why not give your needle a taste of the summer to come with this ravishing new Butterflies and Insects range from DMC's Signature Collection. With their beautiful use of colour and shading, this striking quartet of nature-inspired designs is set to give pleasure long after they've been stitched. Butterfly Garden (top left) measures 16x25cm (6½x10in) once stitched, and Peacock Butterfly, Bee and Bluebells, and Ladybird (clockwise from top right) each measure 20x20cm (8x8in). All four kits are priced at £20.99 each.

* For stockists, visit www.dmccreative.co.uk or call ☎ 0116 275 4000



▲ Fab frames

If, like us, you're a fan of quick stitches, you'll love these Rico Design cross stitch kits from Cloud Craft, which are suitable for every level of stitcher. Measuring 14x10.5cm (5½x4in), both come with everything you need to stitch the pretty little birds, including the sweet scalloped-edge felt frames. Each kit costs just £5.75, so make sure you snap yours up fast, before they sell out!

* To order, visit www.cloudcraft.co.uk

► Easter parade

Planning an Easter egg hunt? You'll be needing some of these, then! Craft Department has just expanded its range of Jute Gift Bags to incorporate a glorious array of rainbow shades. At just £1.40 each for a mini bag measuring 13x15x8cm (5x6x3in), or £1.50 for a medium bag measuring 15x20x10cm (6x8x4in), they're ideal for carrying around the garden, filled to the brim with gleaming eggs, and would look so sweet embellished with a cute Easter motif, like our adorable bunnies on page 51! Simply stitch your design on aida, then patch it onto the bag for a cute keepsake!

* Visit www.craftdepartment.com or call ☎ 01539 823 199 to buy



◀ Sew sweet

Wise Owl Embroidered Sewing Buddy, £24, will instantly look at home on any craft table! With room for pins, needles, scissors, a stitch unpicker and two cotton reels, Wise Owl comes in seven colourways. Plus, you have the option of including sewing accessories for an extra £14, and for an extra £2 you can choose to have French lavender added to the stuffing for a sweet-smelling stitch buddy!

* Visit www.notonthehighstreet.com/ruthspringerdesign to buy



Splurge or save?

This month, we've chosen two adorable Easter chick kits to suit your stitching budget, whether you're counting the pennies or splashing out!

Chick to chick

Featuring bold red tulips and sunny yellow chicks cheeping around a huge Easter egg, this design is a beauty. Easter Cross Stitch Kit by Luca S measures 23.5x23cm (9¼x9in), comes with 16-count aida and costs £15.40. To buy, visit www.mariescrossstitch.co.uk or call ☎ 01376 777 017.

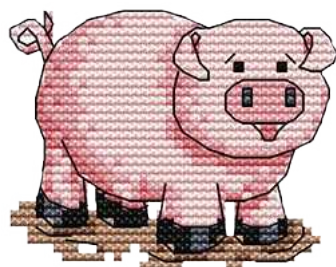


Chicken run

We can't resist Mouseloft's often humorous mini stitch kits, and this Easter Chicks design has certainly tickled us! Conveying so much in just a few stitches, it's a steal at only £2.89. To buy, visit www.mouseloft.co.uk.



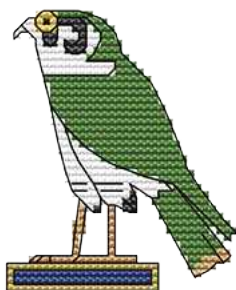
Previously you've been Crazy for...



Farm animals
Issue 200



Chinese New Year
Issue 199



Ancient Egypt
Issue 198



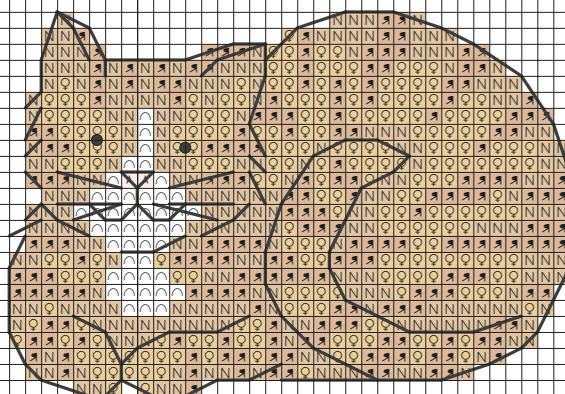
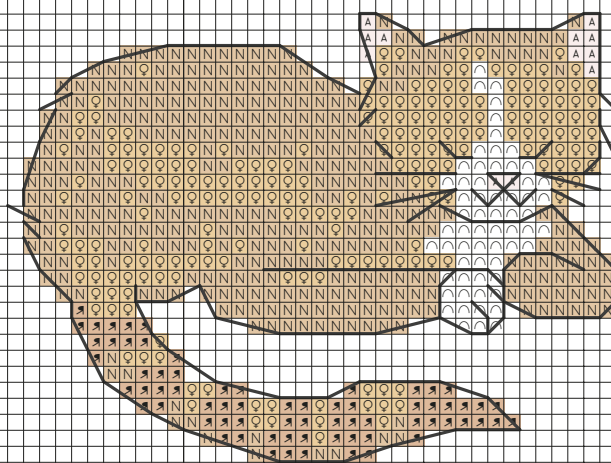
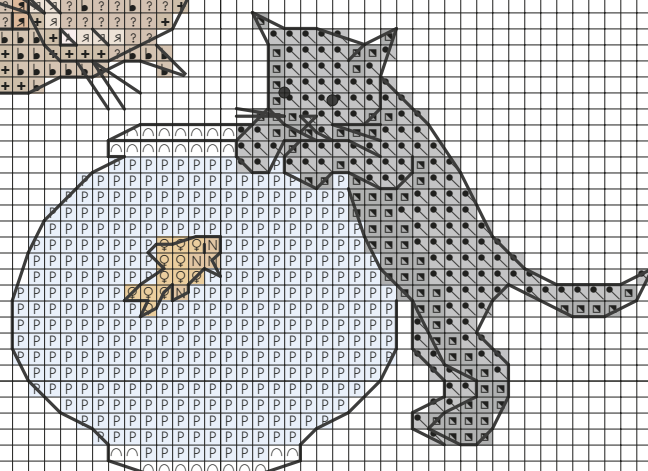
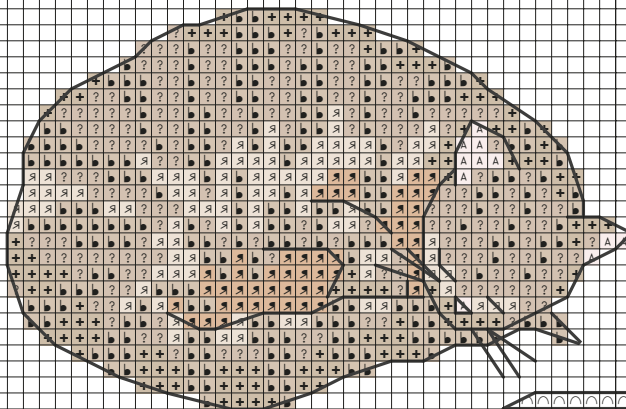
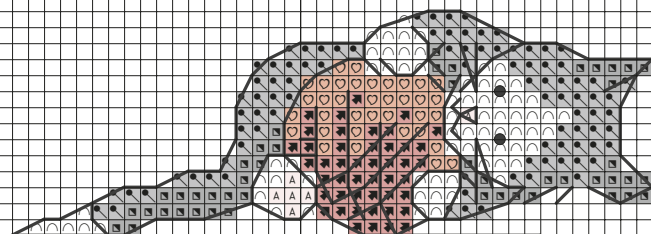
Xmas cuties
Issue 197

Back issues!

Crazy hotline

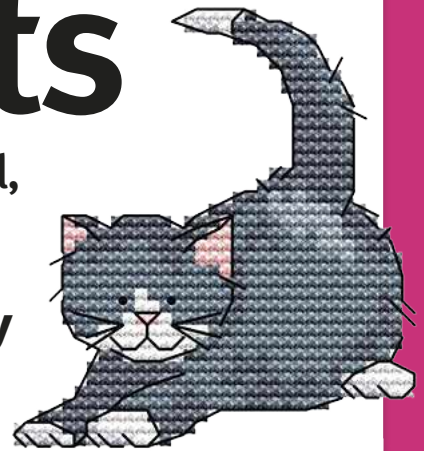
☎ 0844 844 0385

Cute cats			
✕ Cross stitch in two strands			
	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
∩	blanc	2	2402
■	317	400	1714
♥	350	11	213
⦿	414	235	1801
J	415	398	1802
*	762	234	1804
■	801	359	2007
✕	817	13	210
▽	907	255	1308
■	975	355	2303
N	976	1001	2010
Q	977	1002	2302
⦿	996	433	1103
P	3325	129	907
A	3713	1020	502
—	3855	311	2513
+	3862	374	1913
?	3863	379	1912
Я	3864	376	1910
✕ Backstitch in one strand			
—	3799	236	1713
✕ French knots in one strand			
●	3799	236	1713
✕ Whole stitches only			
Max. stitch count 36 (h) x 40 (w)			
Design area on 14-count fabric			
6.5x7.5cm (2½x2¾in)			



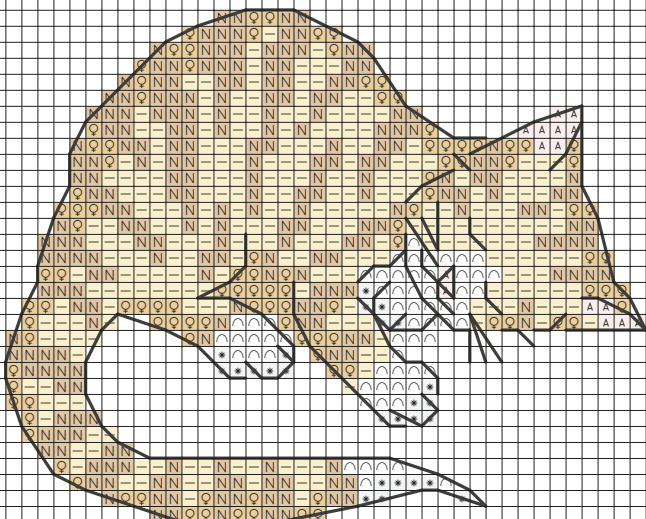
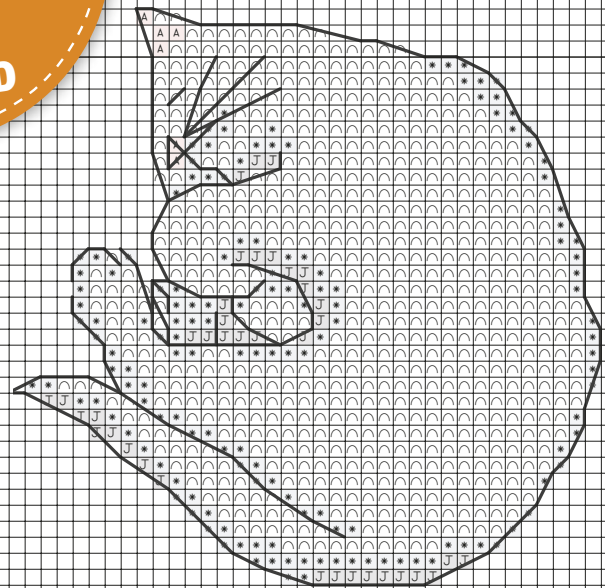
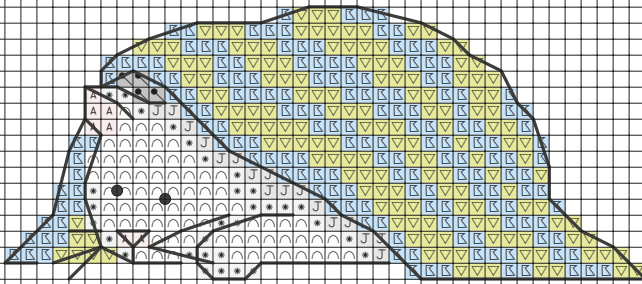
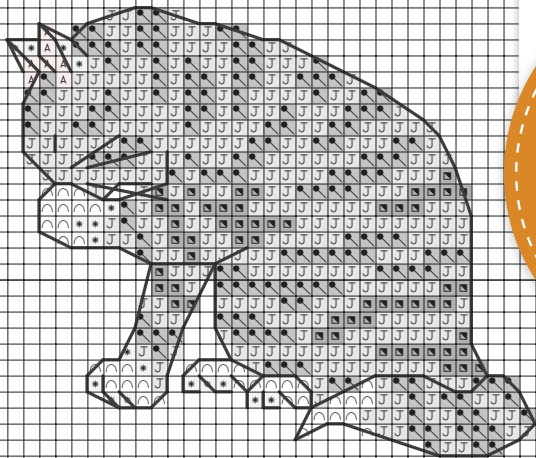
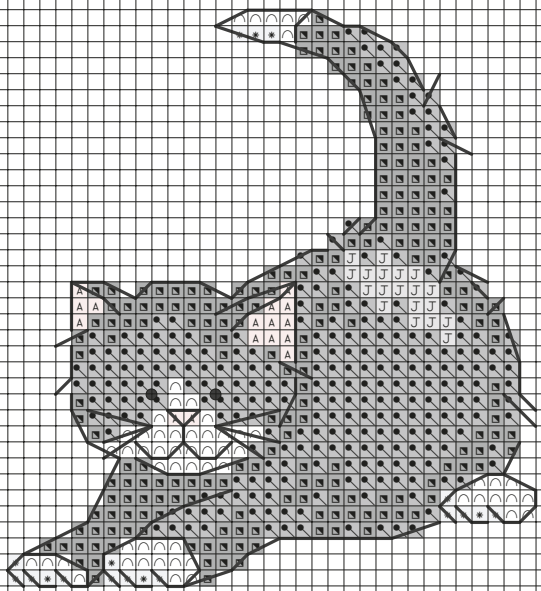
Crazy for... Cute cats

Furry, purry and oh-so-playful,
stitch these kitty cats before
they get up to some mischief!
Designed by Kate Mawdsley



*Reader's
pick!*

These designs
were requested by
**NICOLA
WALFORD**



What are you crazy for?

Tell us what you're mad about stitching! We'll gather together the most popular requests and ask one of our top designers to create a whole spread of designs – just for you!

Name and address.....

.....

.....Postcode.....

Tel no.....

I'm crazy for.....

Because

Fill in and cut out this coupon (or photocopy it) and send it to:

Crazy for... Cross Stitch Crazy, Immediate Media Company Bristol Ltd,
2nd Floor, Tower House, Fairfax Street, Bristol BS1 3BN or email your
requests to: crazyfor@cross-stitching.com

Vintage blooms

Watch in wonder as these elegant designs from a bygone era blossom with every stitch of your busy needle

Designed by April Rose Illustration

Like a magnificent garden, cross stitch designs take time and dedication to bring them to vivid life, and we know you'll enjoy tending these gorgeous floral scenes.

Designed exclusively for *Crazy* to create this month's free gift of six pretty bobbins, we couldn't resist charting four of these



StitchTime
18 hrs
(Each)

vintage-style seed packets, decorated with scented roses and other fragrant flowers.

With soft and subtle colours to really capture that faded charm, they're beautifully realistic – you'll use both fractionals and French knots to add an extra level of detail. Stitch them as a birthday gift, or to show how devoted you are to your mum this Mother's Day. ●

StitchList...

- ✕ Whole cross stitch
- ✕ Backstitch
- ✕ Fractionals
- ✕ French knots

ShoppingList...

Threads - Stranded cotton as listed in the key

Needle - Size 24 tapestry needle

Fabric - Zweigart 14-count white aida measuring 23x20cm (9x8in) for each design. To buy, call ☎ 0800 056 7811 or visit www.willowfabrics.com

Extras - Frames and mounts of choice with a minimum aperture of 13x10cm (5x4in)





*Celebrate the beauty of the garden
with this graceful quartet*

Crazy tip!

With densely stitched designs, take extra care to keep the back of your work neat

Seed packets

✕ Cross stitch in two strands

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
∩	blanc	2	2402 (x2)
×	164	240	1209
▽	368	214	1310
∨	369	1043	1309
♡	605	1094	613
☼	744	301	112
∞	746	275	2511
t	747	158	1104
⌘	961	76	610
⌘	962	75	609
w	963	73	502
◆	987	244	1403
\$	989	241	1401
⌘	3325	129	907
P	3761	928	1001
☾	3766	167	1106
я	3823	386	2512 (x3)
Q	3853	1003	311
3	3854	313	114
Z	3855	311	2513

✕ Backstitch in one strand

—	312	979	1005
—	898	360	2006
—	3765	169	2505
—	3831	1006	507

✕ Backstitch in two strands

—	3325	129	907
—	3831	1006	507

✕ French knots in one strand

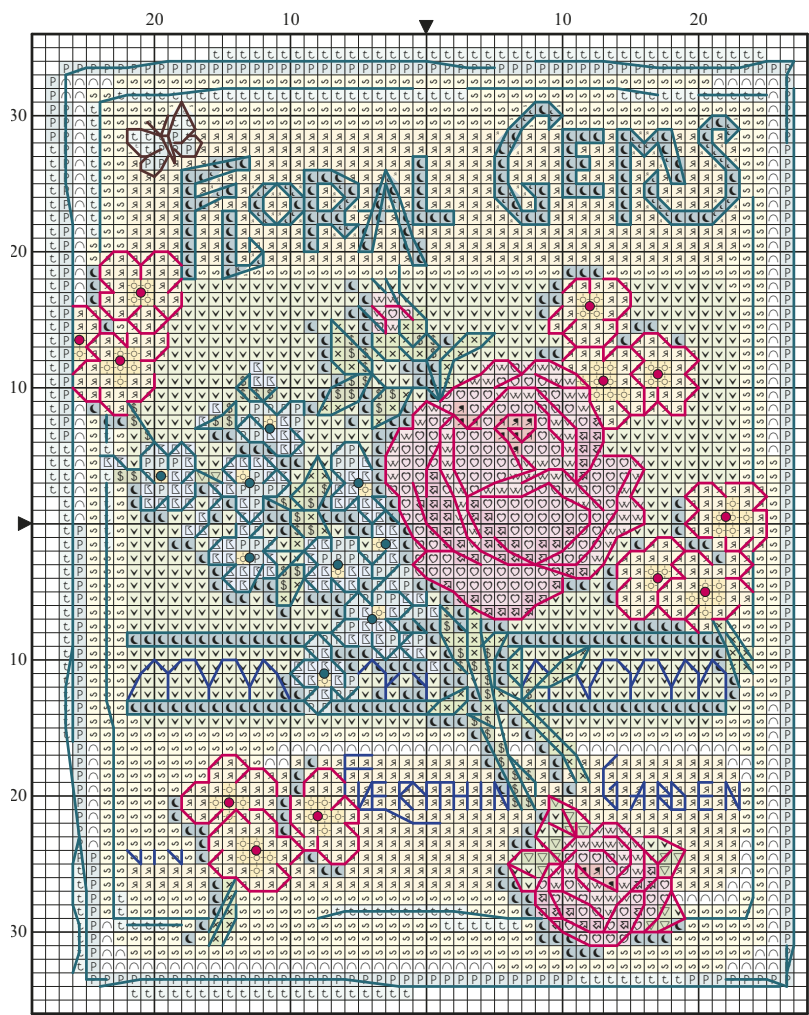
●	312	979	1005
●	3765	169	2505
●	3831	1006	507

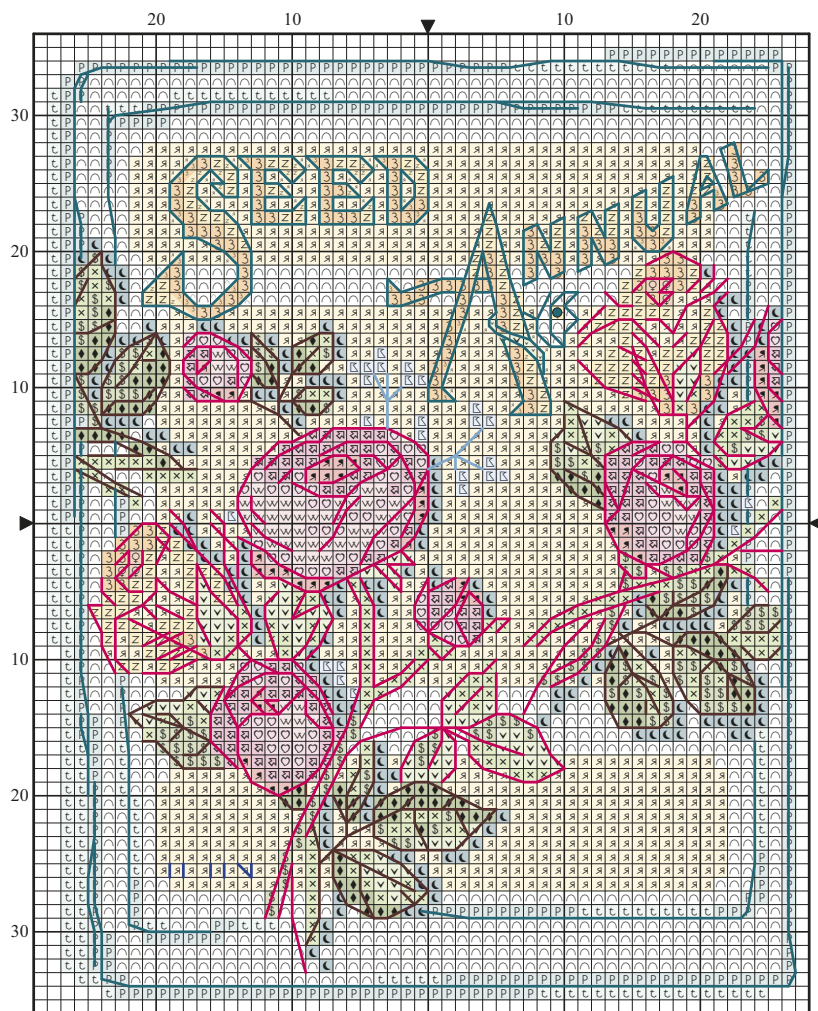
✕ Contains fractionals

Max. stitch count 70 (h) x 55 (w)

Design area on 14-count fabric
13x10cm (5x4in)

Stitched by Dorothy Henderson





RachelSays...



These seed packets look great as a foursome, but will work just as well individually. I have a keen gardening friend who loves botanical prints and floral patterns – I bet she'd love one of these designs, too.

**Rachel Nott, Production Editor,
Cross Stitch Crazy**



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Bunny tales

Relive childhood memories as you stitch this wonderfully detailed portrait of adventure-loving bunny Peter Rabbit

Exclusive to Crazy

Many of us will have grown up with Beatrix Potter's charming stories following the adventures of Peter Rabbit and his adorable animal friends. So, this sweet



StitchTime
35-40 hrs
(Approx)

design showing Peter wearing his trademark jacket will no doubt prove a nostalgic stitch. Using mostly whole stitches, with half stitches depicting the grass, backstitch to define Peter's features, and French knots to add texture, this project is a joy from start to finish. ●

StitchList...

- ✕ Whole cross stitch
- ✕ Half cross stitch
- ✕ Backstitch
- ✕ French knots

ShoppingList...

Threads - Anchor stranded cotton as listed in the key

Needle - Size 26 tapestry needle

Fabric - 16-count white aida measuring 33x14cm (13x5½in). To order, visit www.sewandso.co.uk or call ☎ 0800 013 0150

Extras - Tilda Summer Fair fabric in Mini Gingham Slate Blue – visit www.stitchcraftcreate.co.uk or call ☎ 0844 880 5851 to buy. Ribbon and cushion pad from local craft store

Beatrix Potter™ © Frederick Warne & Co., 2015. Licensed by Silvergate PPL Ltd.



Anchor

*Take your needle on a journey
into the world of Peter Rabbit*



Peter Rabbit

✕ Cross stitch in two strands

	Anchor	Colour
∩	1	white
A	9	light coral
w	11	coral
■	13	red
t	128	light blue
P	160	blue
■	161	dark blue
■	355	dark ginger
■	360	dark brown
N	370	brown
■	403	black
s	926	cream
b	942	light tan
x	1046	tan
■	1049	ginger

✕ Half cross stitch in two strands

▽	253	light green
\$	265	green

✕ Backstitch in one strand

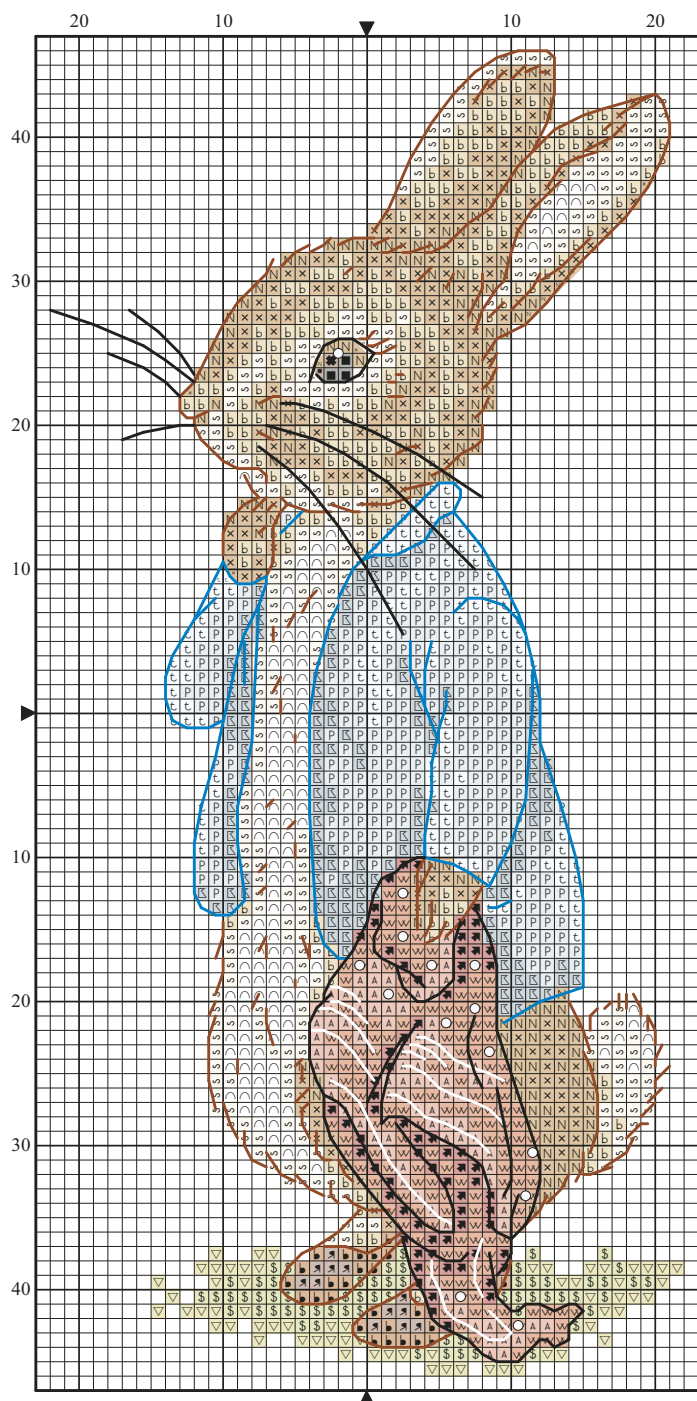
—	1	white
—	360	dark brown
—	401	grey
—	403	black

✕ French knots in one strand

○	1	white
---	---	-------

✕ Contains fractionals

Stitch count 92 (h) x 44 (w)
Design area on 16-count fabric
14.5x7cm (5³/₄x2³/₄in)



WIN this pretty *Jemima Puddleduck* kit!

We have five *Jemima Puddleduck* Birth Sampler kits from Anchor worth £21.20 to give away! To enter, text **CSC201JEMIMA** followed by your name and address to 87474. Texts are charged at 50p plus your standard network rate. You can also enter at **Cross-stitching.com** or send a postcard marked 'Jemima 201 giveaway' to the address on page 73. For full T&Cs see page 73. **The closing date is 1st April 2015.**





Stitch & Chat

Catch up on all the gossip from your fellow stitchers and get involved by sharing your photos, stories, views and more!

Fun with fabric

Love sewing? Well, we think you're going to love this brand new magazine then! Perfect for those who enjoy sewing, or who are keen to start and aren't sure how to begin, *Simply Sewing* is packed with fresh ideas and expert tips, plus projects you'll adore. From quirky little toys and accessories to clothes for women and children, not to mention gorgeous makes for your home, there's something for everyone. You'll also find fun features and profiles of celebrity stitchers and bloggers to enjoy with a cup of coffee during sewing breaks. And what's more, each issue comes with a free gift, so get your copy today!

The first issue of *Simply Sewing* is on sale now in all good newsagents! For more information and to take a sneak peek inside the current issue, make sure you visit www.simplysewingmag.com today.



Coming up:

Got a story to tell us about your favourite hobby? Send it in to us with a photo to stitchandchat@cross-stitching.com for a chance to appear in *Crazy* and win a lovely prize!

TAKE PART TODAY...

WIN with *CRAZY*

...and if you're featured, you'll win a prize!

This month's winners will receive a pack of Sublime Floss™ in Frosting. Each pack contains seven skeins of thread in gorgeous shades such as Melon Ball, Cookie Sheet and Blue Fondant! For more information and to buy visit www.sublimestitching.com.

For your chance to be featured, send your pictures and comments to Stitch and Chat, Cross Stitch Crazy, 2nd Floor, Tower House, Fairfax Street, Bristol BS1 3BN or email stitchandchat@cross-stitching.com.



Your say

What's the best stitchy advice you've ever been given?

"Always measure your lengths of thread from the base of your hand to your elbow. I find this method gives me a good length of thread to stitch with."

Jennifer Harrison, Scotland



"Stitch something you enjoy. If what you're working on feels like a chore, put it down and

come back to it later. After all, stitching is supposed to be fun!"

Kelly Blissett, County Durham



"Gently moisten cotton thread on a damp sponge by running it under your fingertip. It will stop the thread from twisting as you stitch."

Judy Roubick, Wisconsin, USA



Coming up:

What's the number one reason you love cross stitching?

Email your answer and a photo to stitchandchat@cross-stitching.com

SPOT THE STITCHES!

This is a close-up of one of the charts in this issue of *Crazy* – but which one do you think it is? Send a postcard with the page number the chart is on, along with your name and address, to: Stitch and Chat 201, Cross Stitch Crazy, 2nd Floor, Tower House, Fairfax Street, Bristol BS1 3BN by 1st April 2015. The first correct answer pulled out of the hat will win the gorgeous threads pictured on the right!

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All of a flutter



StitchTime
3-4 hrs
(Each letter)



Watch your needle swoop and fly through this delightful clutch of birds as you spell out names, words and phrases in a gentle array of soft shades

Designed by Lucie Heaton

StitchList...

Perfect for beginners

- ✕ Whole cross stitch
- ✕ Backstitch

Are you one of the lucky ones who enjoys regular visits to your garden from tiny feathered friends? Whether you have a plethora of birds who love nothing more than filling their tummies at your bird table, or you simply enjoy admiring them sitting amongst the branches, we think any keen ornithologist would be thrilled to bits to receive a gift embellished with these dainty little creatures.

Each letter is worked in easy whole stitches with just a small amount of backstitch to create branches and add definition, so this is the perfect project for all levels of stitcher. Why not start off with a single initial, patched onto a card to suit any occasion? Or, if you're feeling adventurous, whip out the sewing machine and create a pretty toiletry bag just like ours. Whatever you decide to stitch and make, the sky's the limit! ●

ShoppingList...

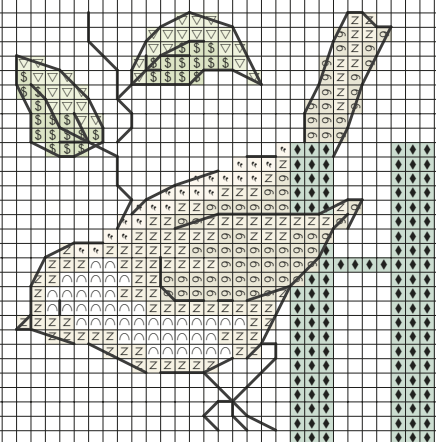
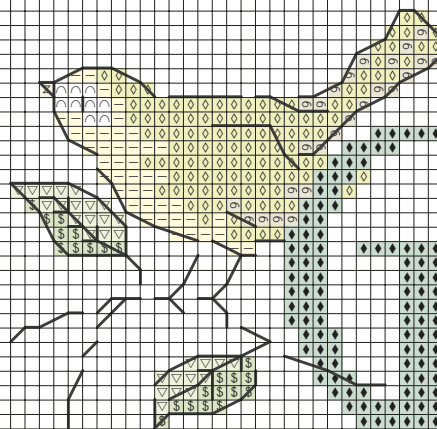
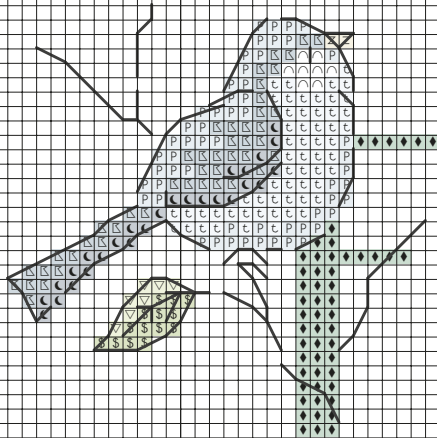
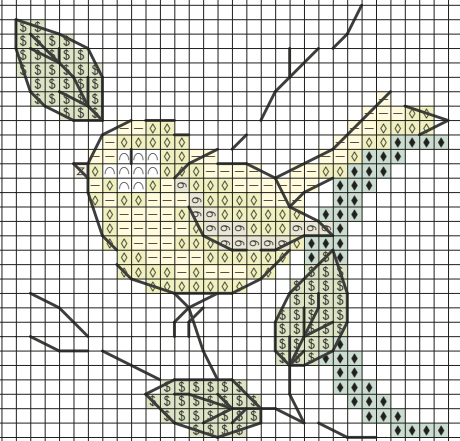
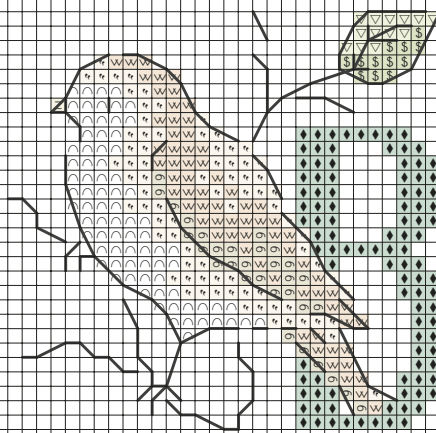
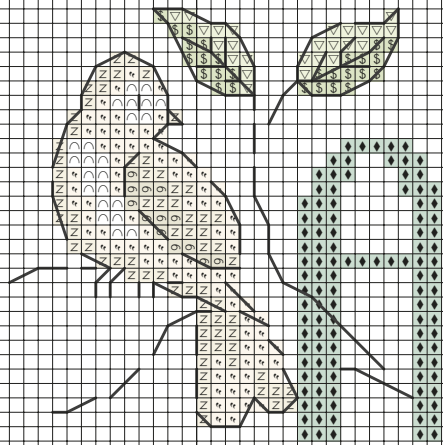
Threads - Stranded cotton as listed in the key

Needle - Size 24 tapestry needle

Fabric - Zweigart 14-count white aida measuring 12cm (4³/₄in) x required length. To buy, visit www.sewandso.co.uk or call ☎ 0800 013 0150

Extras - Tilda Winter Memories Birdcage Toile Teal fabric from www.stitchcraftcreate.co.uk or call ☎ 0844 880 5851 to buy. Zip from local craft store





Birds abc

✕ Cross stitch in two strands

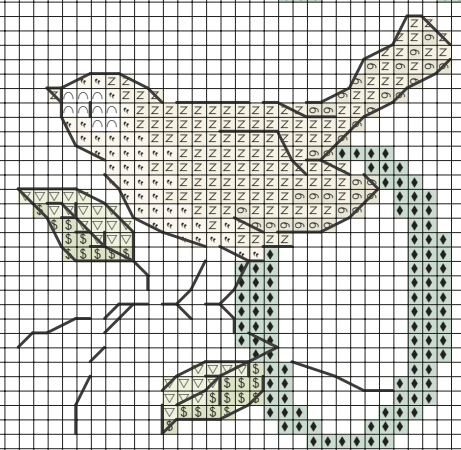
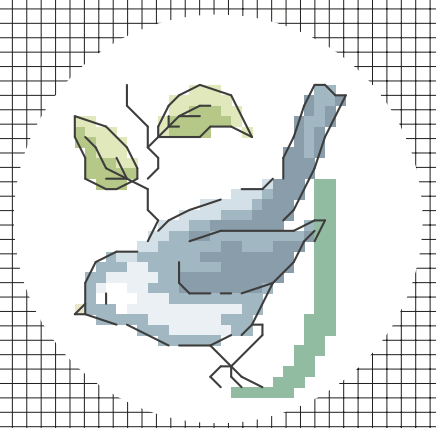
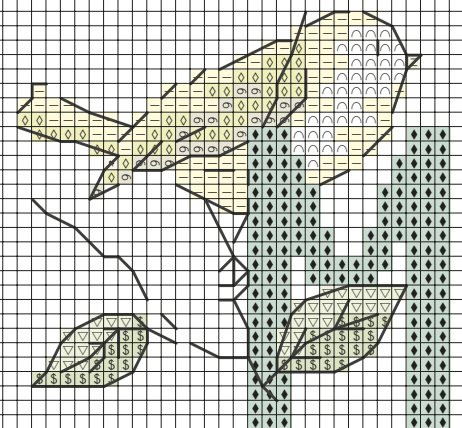
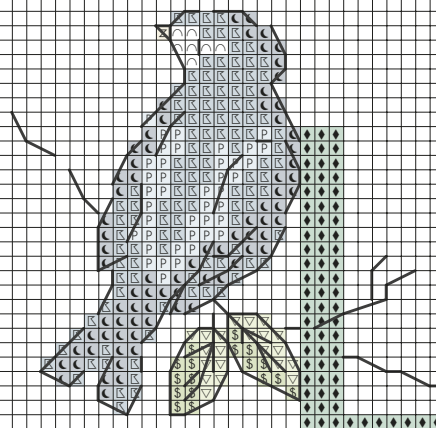
	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
∩	blanc	2	2402
t	162	9159	1101
◇	165	278	1414
\$	368	214	1310
▽	369	1043	1309
w	754	1012	305
⊠	813	140	910
P	827	160	1013
☾	931	1034	1711
•	948	892	306
Z	3033	391	1908
—	3078	292	102
o	3782	899	1911
◆	3816	876	1703

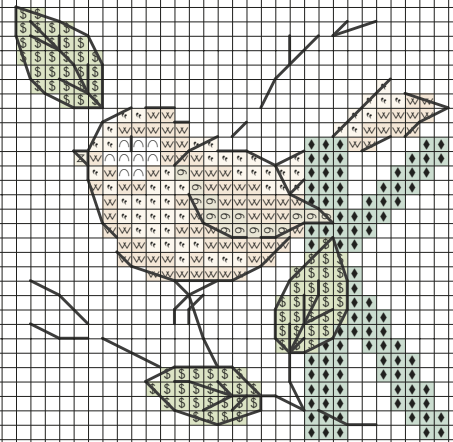
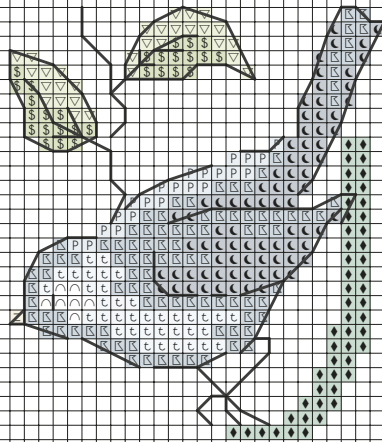
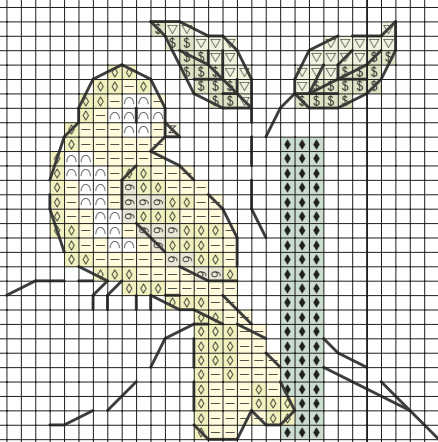
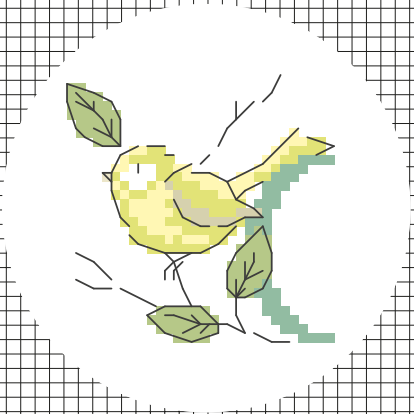
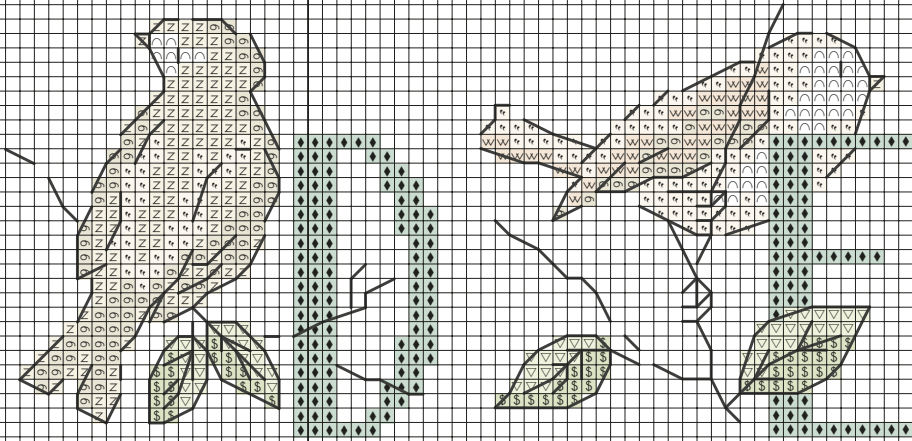
✕ Backstitch in one strand

—	3799	236	1713
---	------	-----	------

✕ Whole stitches only

Max.stitch count 33 (h) x 33 (w)
Design area on 14-count fabric
6x6cm (2¼x2¼in)
Stitched by Val Watkins



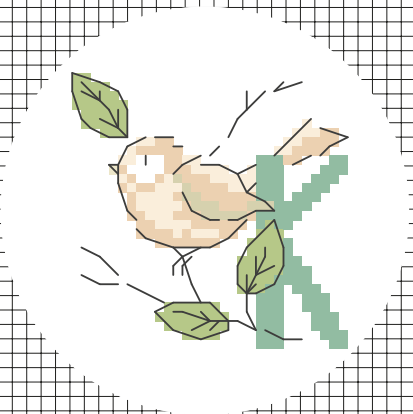
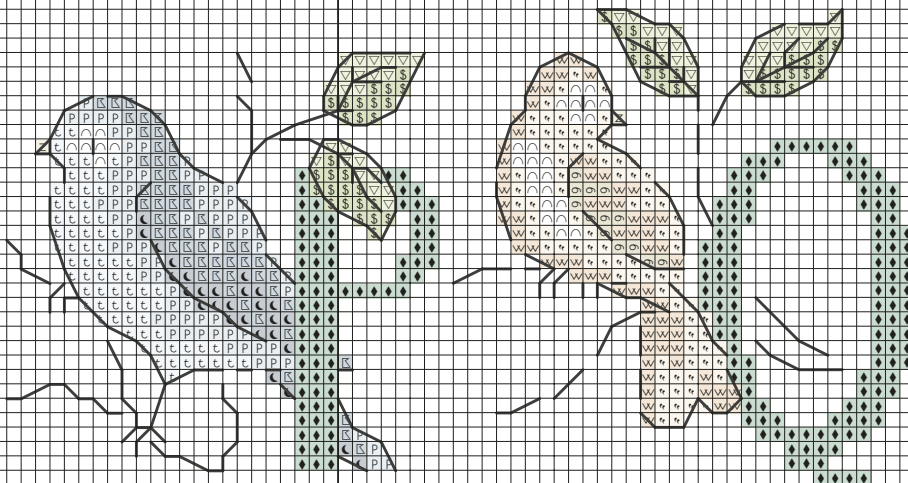
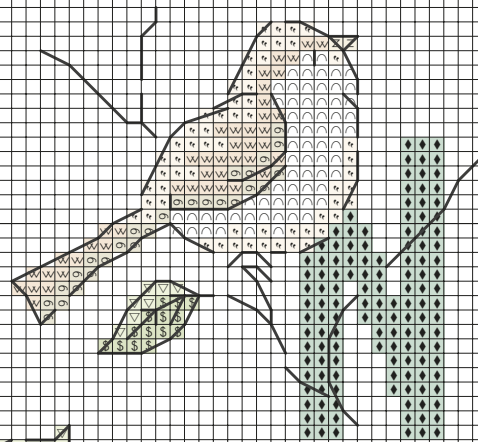


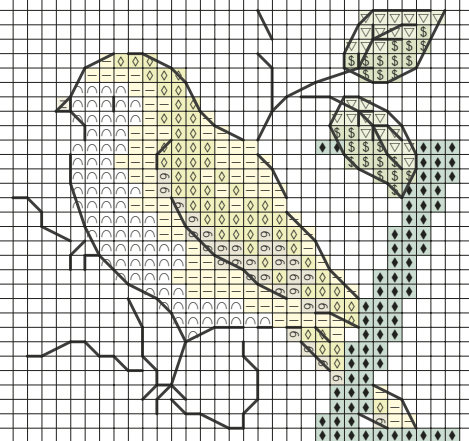
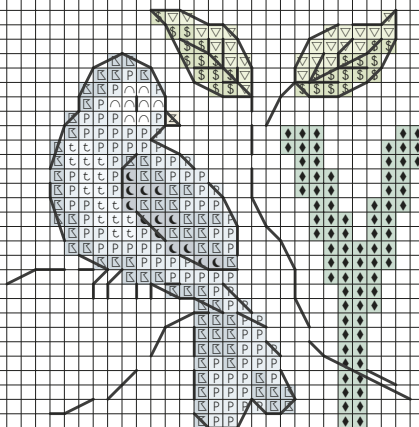
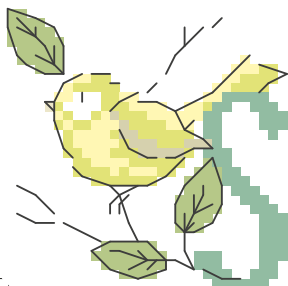
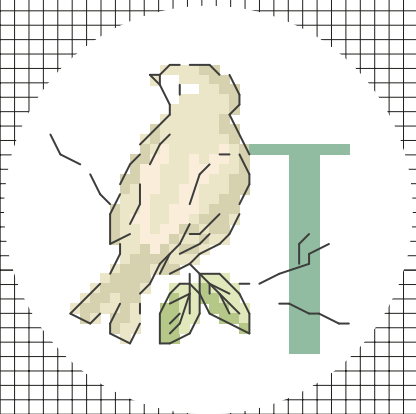
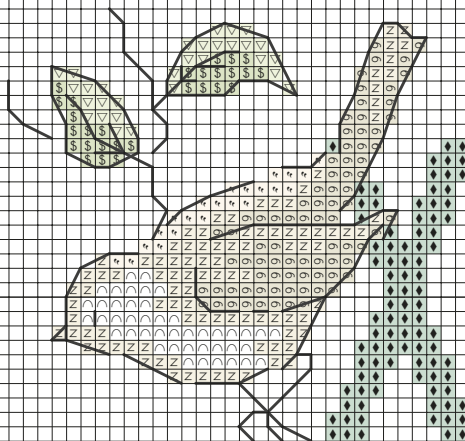
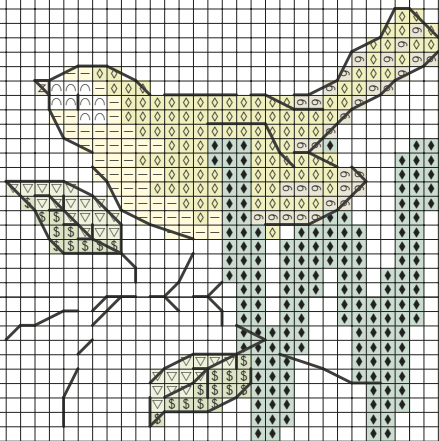
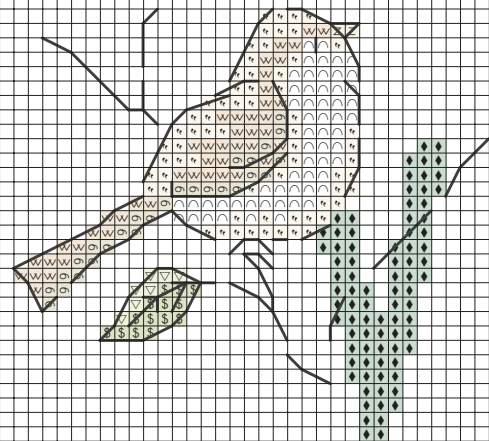
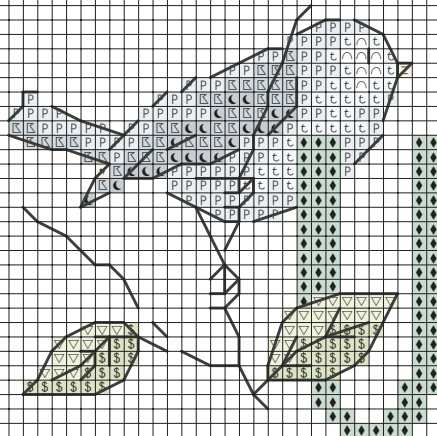
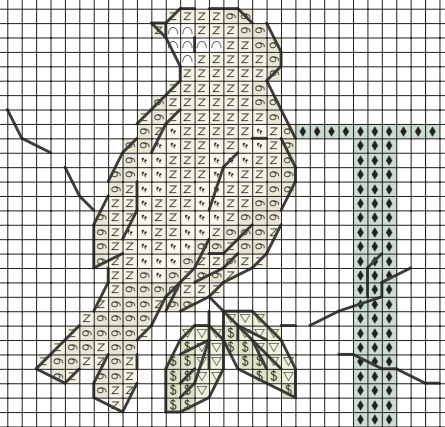
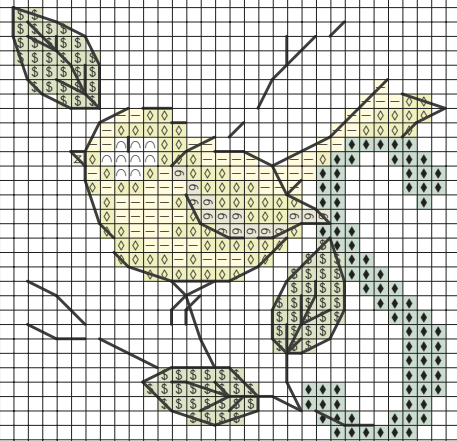
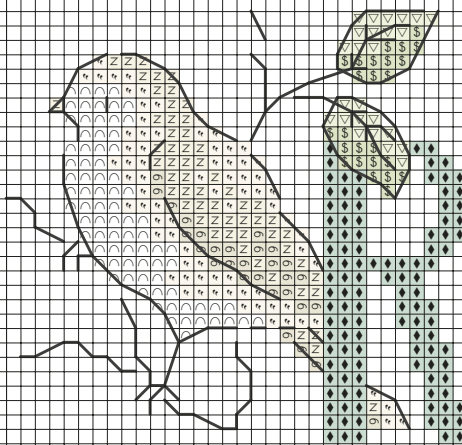
StephSays...



As soon as I saw this abc, I just knew I had to have it in my life! I love the watercolour-effect shading, and the birds' bright and inquisitive faces are so cheering.

Steph Maskery, Art Editor
Cross Stitch Crazy





How often have you sat down to work on your latest WIP, then looked up to realise the evening has flown by? We stitchers know the soothing motion of thread through aida can take your mind off even the most hectic day, which is why this comforting craft is more than just a hobby to many.

From depression and anxiety to obsessive compulsive disorder, many of us know someone who's experienced mental illness, or have even suffered ourselves. It can affect anyone at any time, so in May 2014 a group called Stitching Out Stigma formed with the intention of using cross stitch to raise awareness of mental health problems, and help stop discrimination against those affected. Its founder, Natalie McCulloch, was well aware of stitching's therapeutic qualities – able to distract even the busiest of minds with rewarding results – and Stitching Out Stigma set out to test the full extent of its capabilities.

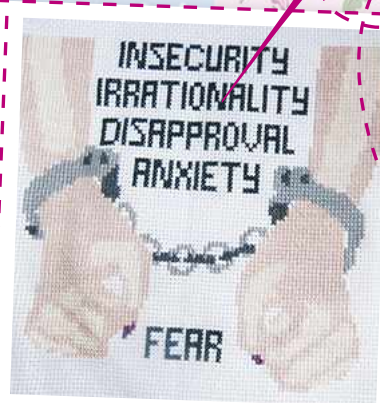
But you're
always
smiling

▲ Rozelle Faulkner stitched her square as part of a round robin

▲ Rozelle Faulkner stitched her square as part of a round robin

Cross stitch keeps my brain occupied when I'm sat doing nothing at night so it doesn't tend to wander off into unwanted lands." Catherine has found that "awareness of PTSD and mental health issues is very poor, and I've encountered this first hand.

Visit www.stitchingoutstigma.co.uk for more, or to submit your square by April 1st. To contact the Mental Health Foundation, visit www.mentalhealth.org.uk



▲ A selection of designs and completed squares for the project

Dinner's ready!



Lots of laughter and fun are on the menu as you stitch this set of comical cooking-related sayings!

Designed by Julia Rigby

We love any opportunity for a giggle here at *Crazy*, so we're thrilled to be welcoming back Julia Rigby with her humorous take on the trials of modern life!



StitchTime
40 hrs
(for the set)

If you've ever felt the need for a funny retort, you can guarantee Julia will have one! The quirky, sketched style of these hilarious domestic scenes is achieved through well-placed backstitch, while a scattering of fractionals add wonderful expression. Start today for a generous serving of cross stitch comedy! ●

StitchList...

- ✕ Whole cross stitch
- ✕ Fractionals
- ✕ Backstitch
- ✕ French knots

ShoppingList...

Threads - Stranded cotton as listed in the key

Needle - Size 24 tapestry needle

Fabric - Zweigart 14-count white aida measuring 30x25cm (12x10in), 20x25cm (8x10in) and 20x20cm (8x8in) for the large, medium and small designs. Available from Willow Fabrics – to buy, call ☎ 0800 056 7811 or visit www.willowfabrics.com

Extras - Frames of choice to fit



you want breakfast
bed... Sleep in
the kitchen!



Today's menu....



1. Take it
2. Leave it!

I love to cook with wine
... Sometimes I even put it in
the food!





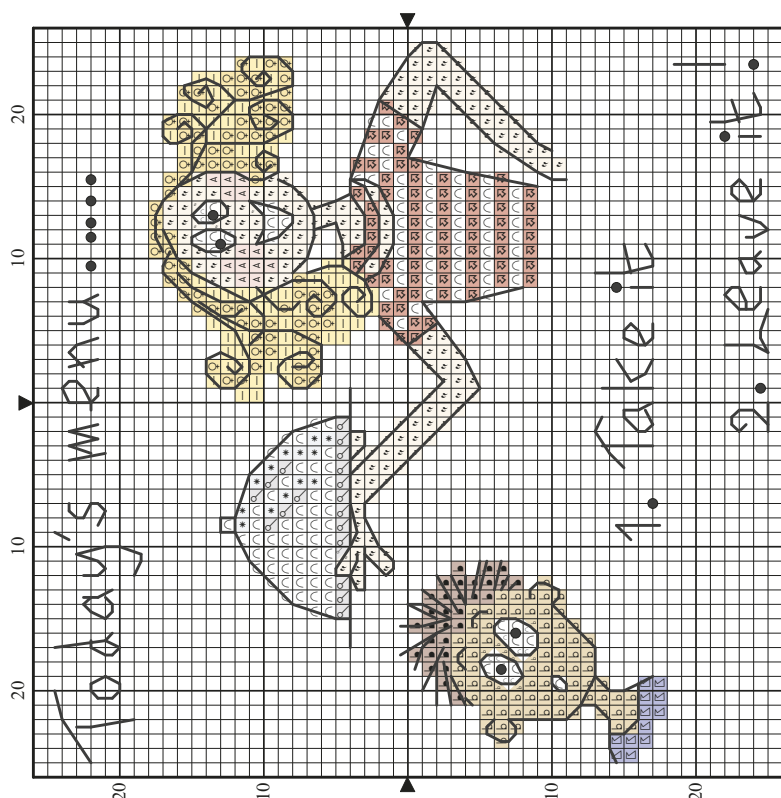
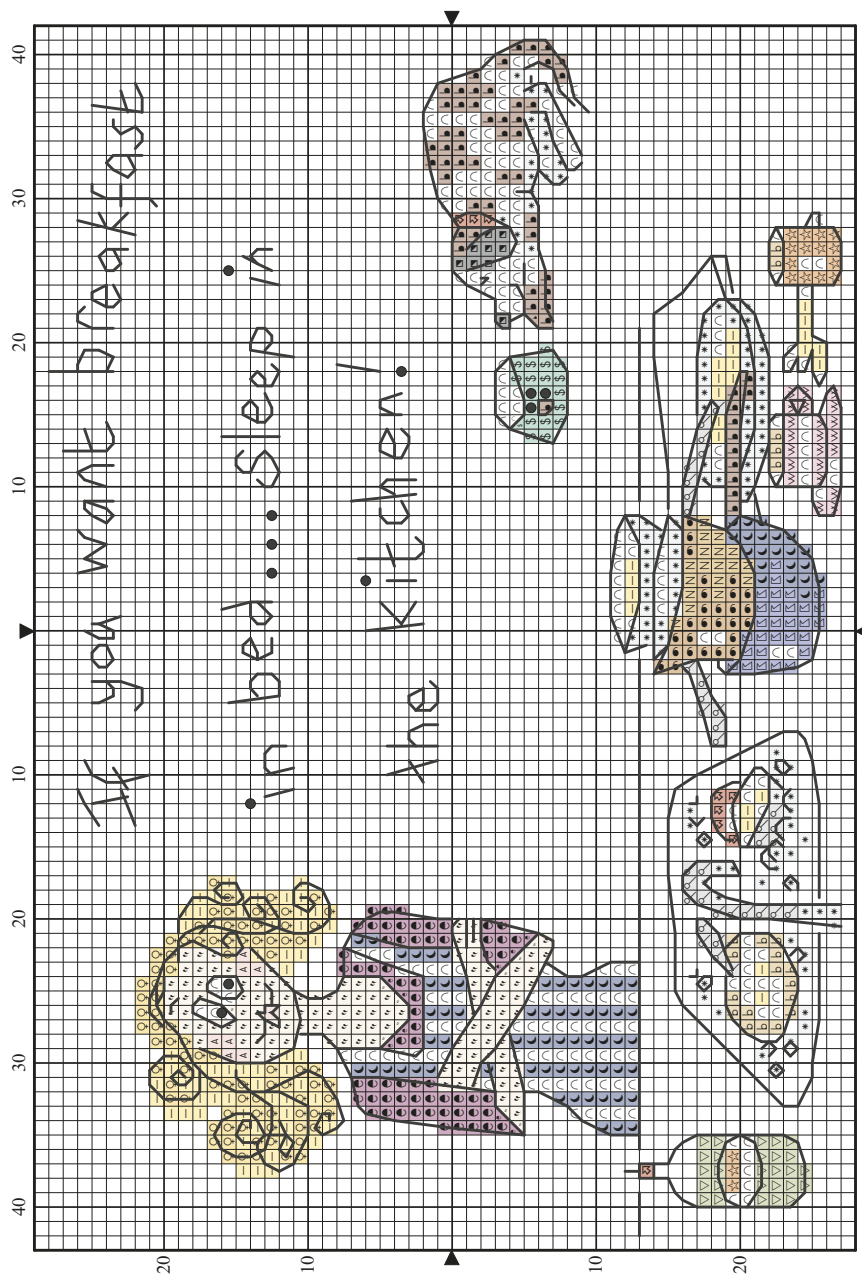
ReaderSays...



This is my ideal stitching project as it involves quirky humour and cooking, my second favourite past time

when I'm not stitching! The bright colours and simple design make it a lovely project and I can't wait to start on one for my kitchen.

Kim Bairstow, Birmingham



Kitchen set

✕ Cross stitch in two strands

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
∩	blanc	2	2402
☾	312	979	1005
☒	321	9046	510
☒	322	131	1004
☒	415	398	1802
b	422	943	2102
●	435	1046	2010
N	436	1045	2011
w	604	55	614
☆	721	324	308
♀	725	305	113
—	726	295	109
A	761	1021	404
*	762	234	1804
☐	898	360	2006
☐	948	892	306
\$	958	187	1114
▽	989	241	1401
P	3755	140	1013
☐	3799	236	1713
☐	3835	98	712
I	3836	90	2713

✕ Backstitch in one strand

—	3799	236	1713
---	------	-----	------

✕ French knots in one strand

●	3799	236	1713
---	------	-----	------

✕ Contains fractionals

Max. stitch count 83 (h) x 110 (w)

Design area on 14-count fabric
15x20cm (6x7¾in)

Stitched by Debbie Hart

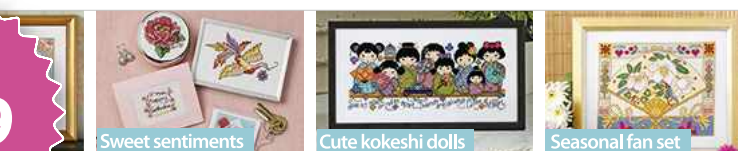
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Two-tone cards



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VOL 4 2015

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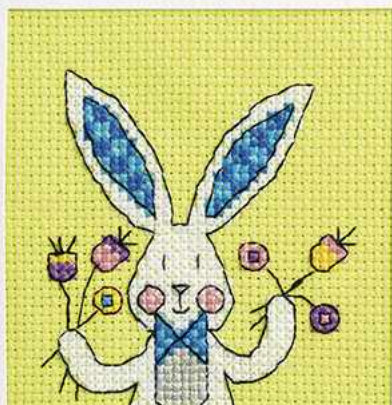
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Lines open weekdays 8am to 8pm and Saturday 9am to 1pm.

Overseas please call +44 (0) 1795 414 676 EUR price £10.99, ROW price £11.99. All prices include p&p.

Full of the joys...

1



CUT OUT
AND KEEP



Easter treats!



These bold, bright cards are an egg-cellent way to send Easter greetings, so chocs away, make a start today!

Designed by Durene Jones

...of springtime!

Easter egg hunts...

2



Just a note...

3



...are so much fun!

...to say hello!

Cut-out&Keep

Quick and easy to stitch one a night!



StitchTime
4-5 hrs
(Each)

StitchList...

Perfect for beginners

- ✕ Whole cross stitch
- ✕ Backstitch

ShoppingList...

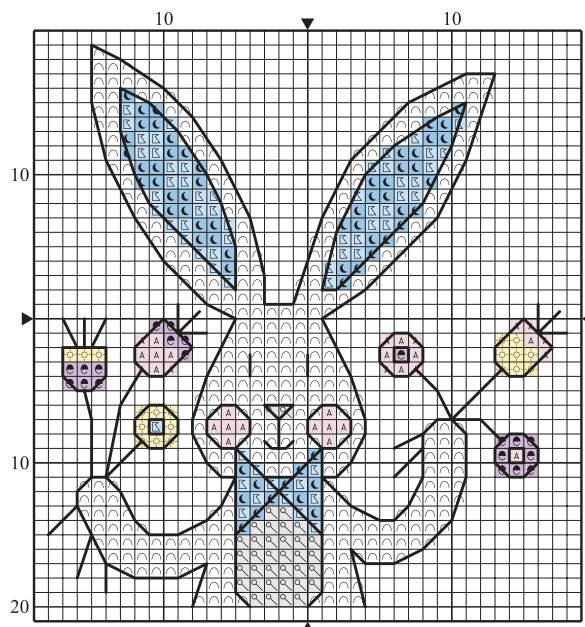
Threads - Stranded cotton as listed in the key

Needle - Size 24 tapestry needle

Fabric - 14-count DMC Charles Craft Bright Ideas aida in Grasshopper or Polar Ice measuring 15x15cm (6x6in) for each design. Call ☎ 0800 013 0150 or visit www.sewandso.co.uk to buy

Extras - Craft Creations Square Aperture card (AP10U) in Creative Smooth White (30). To buy, visit www.craftcreations.com or call ☎ 01992 781 900

1



Rabbit with flowers

✕ Cross stitch in two strands

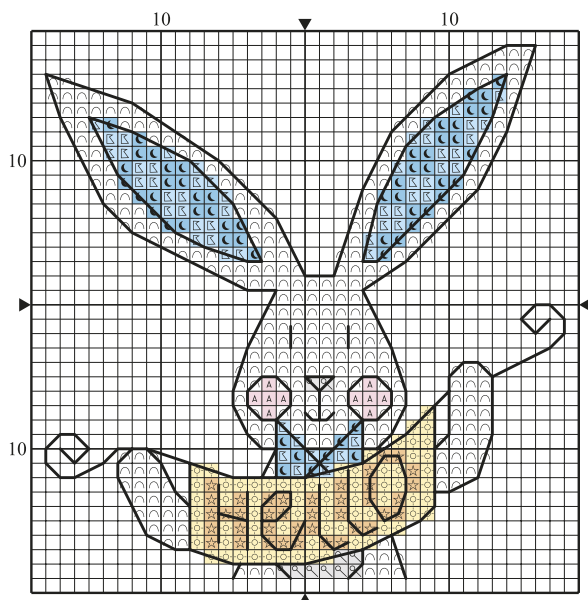
✕ Cross stitch in two strands

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira		DMC	Anchor	Madeira
⌒	B5200	1	2401	⌒	995	410	1102
⌒	208	99	804	⌒	996	433	1103
⌒	415	398	1802	✕ Backstitch in one strand			
A	604	55	614	—	310	403	2400
⊙	726	295	109	✕ Whole stitches only			

Stitch count 39 (h) x 36 (w)

Design area 14-count fabric 7x6.5cm (2³/₄x2¹/₂in)

3



Rabbit with hello sign

✕ Cross stitch in two strands

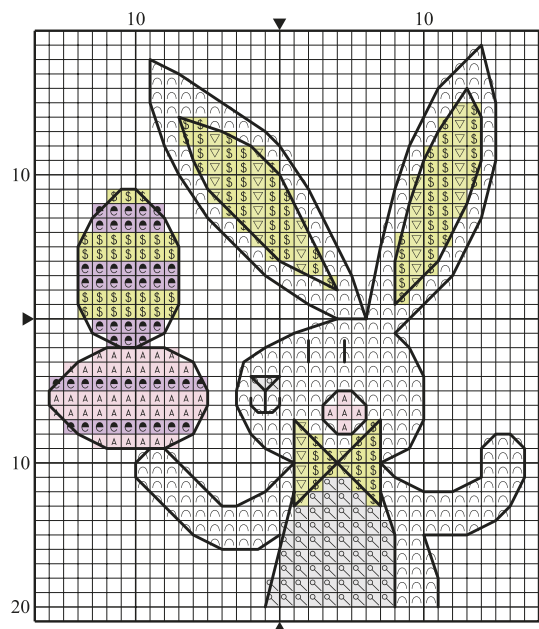
✕ Cross stitch in two strands

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira		DMC	Anchor	Madeira
⌒	B5200	1	2401	⌒	995	410	1102
⌒	415	398	1802	⌒	996	433	1103
A	604	55	614	✕ Backstitch in one strand			
⊙	726	295	109	—	310	403	2400
★	741	304	202	✕ Whole stitches only			

Stitch count 37 (h) x 36 (w)

Design area 14-count fabric 7x6.5cm (2¹/₂x2¹/₂in)

2



Rabbit with eggs

✕ Cross stitch in two strands

✕ Cross stitch in two strands

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira		DMC	Anchor	Madeira
⌒	B5200	1	2401	⌒	3819	279	1610
⌒	208	99	804	✕ Backstitch in one strand			
⌒	415	398	1802	—	310	403	2400
A	604	55	614	✕ Whole stitches only			
⊙	907	255	1308				

Stitch count 39 (h) x 33 (w)

Design area 14-count fabric 7x6cm (2³/₄x2¹/₂in)

4

sending you...



...Easter wishes

5

Something sweet...



...with love from me!

6

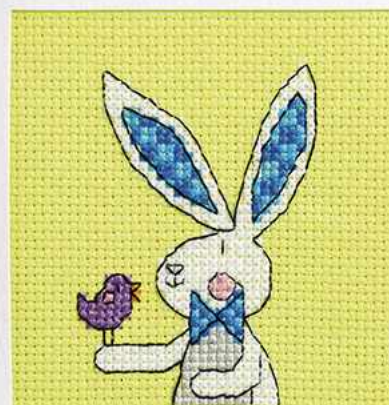
Spoil yourself...



...you deserve it

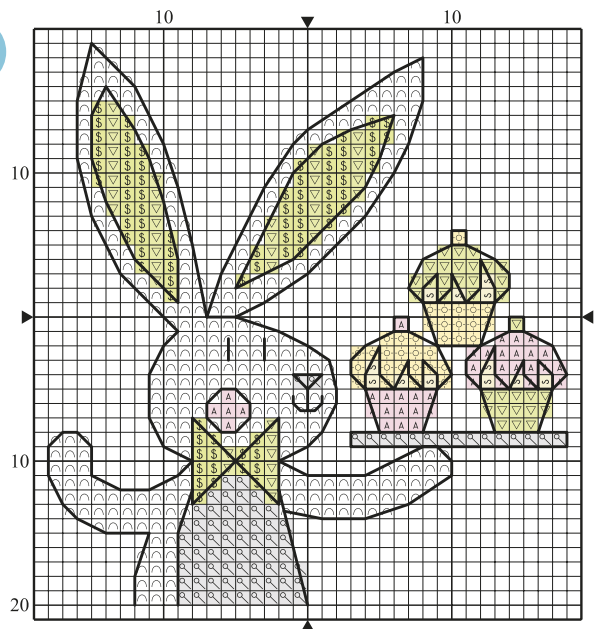
7

For my friend...



...let's catch up!

5



Rabbit with cakes

✂ Cross stitch in two strands

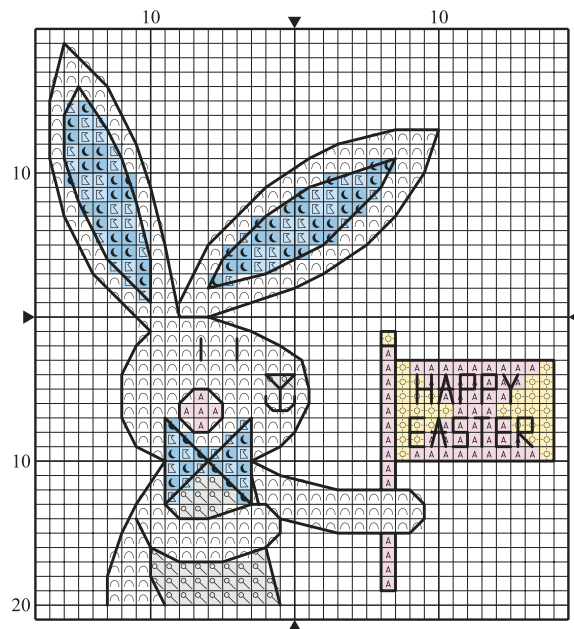
✂ Cross stitch in two strands

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira		DMC	Anchor	Madeira
∩	B5200	1	2401	\$	907	255	1308
🔍	415	398	1802	▽	3819	279	1610
A	604	55	614	✂ Backstitch in one strand			
s	677	886	2207	—	310	403	2400
☀	726	295	109	✂ Whole stitches only			

Stitch count 39 (h) x 36 (w)

Design area 14-count fabric 7x6.5cm (2³/₄x2¹/₂in)

4



Rabbit with flag

✂ Cross stitch in two strands

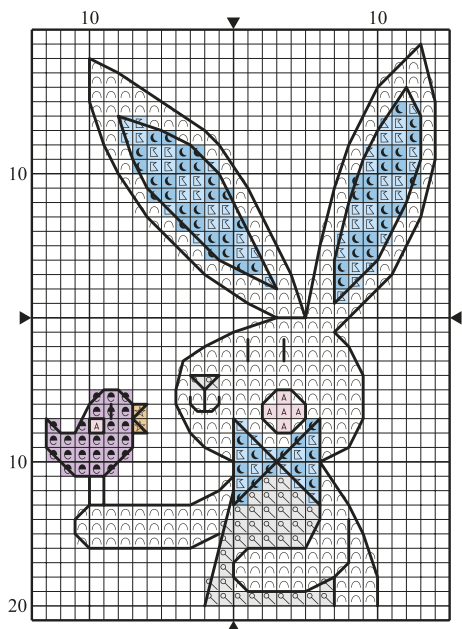
✂ Cross stitch in two strands

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira		DMC	Anchor	Madeira
∩	B5200	1	2401	☾	996	433	1103
🔍	415	398	1802	✂ Backstitch in one strand			
A	604	55	614	—	310	403	2400
☀	726	295	109	✂ Whole stitches only			
☾	995	410	1102				

Stitch count 39 (h) x 35 (w)

Design area 14-count fabric 7x6.5cm (2³/₄x2¹/₂in)

7



Rabbit with bird

✂ Cross stitch in two strands

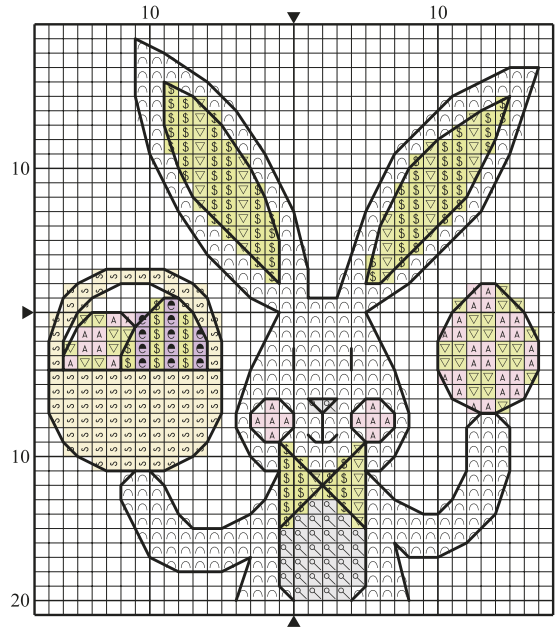
✂ Cross stitch in two strands

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira		DMC	Anchor	Madeira
∩	B5200	1	2401	☾	995	410	1102
☾	208	99	804	☾	996	433	1103
🔍	415	398	1802	✂ Backstitch in one strand			
A	604	55	614	—	310	403	2400
☆	741	304	202	✂ Whole stitches only			

Stitch count 39 (h) x 27 (w)

Design area 14-count fabric 7x5cm (2³/₄x2in)

6



Rabbit with basket

✂ Cross stitch in two strands

✂ Cross stitch in two strands

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira		DMC	Anchor	Madeira
∩	B5200	1	2401	\$	907	255	1308
☾	208	99	804	▽	3819	279	1610
🔍	415	398	1802	✂ Backstitch in one strand			
A	604	55	614	—	310	403	2400
s	677	886	2207	✂ Whole stitches only			

Stitch count 39 (h) x 34 (w)

Design area 14-count fabric 7x6cm (2³/₄x2¹/₂in)

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Crazy's Angels



Send your stitching problems to *Crazy's Angels* and watch them leap into action!

Hand drawn

Q I'm interested in creating my own cross stitch designs but I don't have access to a computer. Could you advise another way of going about it?

Edith Taylor, Glasgow

A Of course, Edith! Firstly, get some good quality colouring pencils or pens in a selection of colours and some graph paper. Start by selecting the thread colours you like, then match up the thread with the pencil shades, labelling the pencils with the skein number so you can keep track of the colours. Draw out your chosen design, colouring in each square as you go, then you're ready to stitch! Computer users can



▲ Design your own charts with a squared notebook

download and print out graph paper for free online, but we love this basic yet classic Squared Notebook by Moleskine. The book comes in three different sizes with a soft cover, and two with a

hardcover. It'll keep all your designs together and is perfect for popping in your bag! Ranging from £9.99 to £16.99, visit www.moleskine.com or call ☎ 0203 499 5017 to buy.

Club together

Q I really want to join a stitching club but I don't know if there are any in my area. Where can I go to find out?

Gwen Moore, Somerset

A We love stitching with friends too, Gwen! Visit Cross-stitching.com and click on 'Community', then 'Clubs' to find out if there are any stitching clubs in your local area. Or, if you can't see any near you, why not set up one of your own? All you need is a

name, a venue such as a local church hall or community centre, and to put out the word with simple posters or an advert in the local paper. Don't forget to cover your overhead costs, and decide if or what to charge. Let us know how you get on, Gwen!

Pretty paper

Q I love stitching on perforated paper but I find white quite boring. Is it available in any other colours?

Michelle Harris, Hampshire

A We sympathise, Michelle; white can be a bit mundane, so trying a different colour is a great way of spicing up your stitching. Mill Hill make a good variety of colourful perforated papers, all in 14-count, and each pack contains two pieces measuring 23x30.5cm (9x12in). We love this Flourish Rose pattern, one of 30 shades and patterns available. To buy for £4.08 a pack, visit www.sewandso.co.uk or call ☎ 0800 013 0150.



▲ Try stitching on perforated paper in a fresh new shade

3 of the best tape measures

Essential and oh-sew-sweet accessories!



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Love vintage style? Then you'll adore this Vintage Crafts Mini Tape Measure which comes in its own cute box. It measures up to 150cm and is available for £2.95 from www.dotcomgiftshop.com.



LADYBIRD LOVE

This Ladybird Tape Measure, £8.50, by Little Ella James is made from felt and has lovely appliqué details. It would make an ideal gift – available from www.notonthehighstreet.com.



TWO IN ONE

This House Tape Measure doubles up as a pincushion, too. The adorable house design will also brighten up any stitching area! Visit www.fredaldous.co.uk to buy for just £4.50.

AskTheAngels

For stitching in miniature

2 Always read the chart to make sure you use the correct size needle, threaded with the right number of strands.

4 Miniatures make ideal gifts as they're quick to stitch. Try making jewellery, scissor fobs and even doll's furniture.

6 If you've cut your fabric too small to fit in a hoop, tack strips of fabric around the edge to make it larger, then unpick it once you've finished stitching.

7 If you're having trouble seeing the holes, put a piece of paper or fabric in a contrasting colour behind.

Q I'd love to stitch and sew a quilt for my friend's baby girl, due in a few months, but I've never tackled a big project and don't think I'd get it done in time! Could you help me find a chart that doesn't involve too much stitching?

A What a lovely idea, Mindy. Stitching for a new baby is one of the loveliest handmade presents you can give, and I think we have just the project for you! This beautiful quilt from Hélène Le Berre's book *Liberty Cross Stitch* uses a mixture of pretty fabrics and simple cross stitched squares which are arranged as you like and then sewn together using a sewing machine, or by hand if you don't have one. As the cross stitched squares are all fairly small, you'll whizz through them in no time, giving you plenty of time to make this gorgeous keepsake for your friend's baby! Buy for £10.99 at www.searchpress.com or call 01892 510 850.

Q I'm stitching a really elegant design of a fairy and I want the finished design to have that wow factor. I've tried using metallic threads but they don't quite give me the glamorous effect I'd like. What can I use instead?

Karen Appleby, Devon



A Have you ever tried stitching with DMC Satin Thread, Karen? It has an almost silk-like quality that brings a beautiful sheen to your work, and is made up of six easily separated strands, so you can use as many or as few as you like to achieve different thicknesses in your work. Lovely to stitch with as it glides through the fabric, switching to these threads should bring radiance to your design and give it the wow factor you desire! For stockists, call ☎ 0116 275 4000 or visit www.dmccreative.co.uk.



▲ Add radiance to your projects with DMC Satin Thread

Q I've been stitching for a few months and tie knots in my thread when I change colour, but it seems to make my stitching loose and lumpy. Is there an alternative way to do it?

A The best and neatest way to end a thread is to run your needle under the last few stitches on the back of the aida, then snip off the end of the thread. This is surprisingly secure and will make the back of your



▲ For stitching through leather, use a tougher needle intended for the job

Looking sharp

Q I've bought a leather handbag that I've started stitching onto, but I'm struggling as my usual needles don't go through the material very well. Are there any specialist needles for sewing through leather?

A What a fantastic idea to cross stitch onto leather, Chloe! Leather needles (also known as glovers) are specifically designed for stitching through leather and heavy fabrics with ease. They have a triangular point, which cuts through without making a large hole. This pack from John James contains three needles of varying sizes, ranging from a large size 3 to the finer size 7, however they also offer needles from a large size 1, to the smallest, size 10

(which is great for bead embroidery on leather). A top tip when stitching on leather is to use a pencil or tailor's chalk on the back of the fabric to mark a grid so you can stitch regular sized crosses and neatly follow a pattern. Buy this pack of Leather Sewing Needles for 90p at

www.jjneedles.com
or contact them on
 01527 830 941.

Send your stitching problems to *Crazy's Angels* and we'll come to your rescue! Make your questions as crazy as you like and send them to the address listed below.

.....

Date sent.....

Name and address.....

Fill in and cut out this coupon (or photocopy it) and send it to:

Crazy's Angels... *Cross Stitch Crazy*, Immediate Media Company Bristol Ltd, 2nd Floor, Tower House, Fairfax Street, Bristol BS1 3BN or email your requests to: crazysangels@cross-stitching.com



Creative short break holidays

Fancy a getaway and the chance to enjoy expert craft workshops? Here's how...

Precious Metal Clay jewellery making, Toulouse, France – from £547 per person

Bring back one-of-a-kind accessories you're sure to treasure on this unique jewellery-making holiday. You'll enjoy a four-day break in a luxury 19th century farmhouse located in 50 acres of beautiful countryside, and soak up the sun and the stunning views by the pool. Plus, you'll have your own en-suite room with all meals included, so you

can experience Gascony's renowned cuisine.

The jewellery-making workshops and studios will fire your creativity, and are suitable for beginners and those who've tried jewellery-making before. Book today to be inspired in a stunning setting!

Flights not included: Fly to Toulouse (1hr 40), Bordeaux (1hr 40), Pau (2 hours) or Bergerac (1hr 50).

Price includes:

- ✓ 3 nights / 4 days accommodation in a private twin / double room with en-suite bathroom
- ✓ Prices based on one person in their own private room with en-suite bathroom (no single supplement for private room)
- ✓ Pick up and drop off from Agen train station included
- ✓ Check in any time after 4pm on day 1 and check out by 10am on day 4
- ✓ This is an all-inclusive break. Includes breakfasts, lunches, three-course dinners and all refreshments (incl. wine)
- ✓ Two jewellery-making workshops (on days 2 and 3). Workshops include PMC, art clay and working with bronze and hollow forms
- ✓ Access to the jewellery studio daily to work on your pieces
- ✓ All materials and equipment for jewellery making
- ✓ Tips on starting your own jewellery business
- ✓ English and French-speaking hosts and tutors
- ✓ Excursions (with transport) included: vineyard visit with wine tasting, plus Armagnac distillery visit/tasting session

Painting, Hérault, Languedoc, France – from £409 per person

Get creative on this fun, five-day painting break and develop your artistic skills with expert tuition from David McEwen, your experienced drawing tutor and guide. Suitable for all levels, whether you're new to painting or have more experience, you're sure to enjoy this creative break. Lodève is a small town set in the Hérault area with

spectacular surroundings to inspire you, and David, and wife Sally's, charming home perfectly combines French style with modern facilities, comfort and a warm welcome. The accommodation and studio are combined so you can relax or practise your artistic techniques at any time.

Flights not included: Fly to Montpellier from £40 one way.

Price includes:

- ✓ 4 nights / 5 days accommodation in a double en-suite bedroom
- ✓ Singles will be allocated a double for sole occupancy where available. (No single supplement.) Where not available, singles will have their own private room with a shared bathroom
- ✓ Breakfast and light lunch daily
- ✓ Dinners taken either in a local restaurant with the group, or home-cooked by Sally
- ✓ Painting tuition for three days from artist David McEwen
- ✓ Morning tuition sessions run 9am to 1pm, afternoons are 2.30pm to 5.30pm
- ✓ Painting equipment to use during your course inc. easels, drawing boards, lightweight folding chairs, basic materials. (Please bring your favourite brushes, pencils, sketchpad and, if you're working in watercolour, a good-quality, gummed-edge paper pad)
- ✓ Any transport to and from painting locations, where required. Most are located within walking distance

For more info and to book, call ☎ 0845 625 0445 or email hello@golearnto.com and quote **CRAFTHOLIDAYS**

Terms and conditions Prices do not include flights. Discount applies to the base price of the holiday and is subject to availability. This offer cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer, and discounts cannot be applied retrospectively. Age restrictions apply – jewellery-making holiday: minimum age 10 (under 18s must be accompanied by an adult), painting holiday: minimum age 18.

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Tons of fun!



StitchTime
6 hrs
(Each)



Bring some rustic charm to your home this Easter with our gorgeous humbug chickens – the perfect companions at breakfast time!

Designed by Fiona Baker

StitchList...

For all stitchers

- ✕ Whole cross stitch
- ✕ Backstitch



*Add a splash of cheery colour
with these farmyard friends!*

MiniMakes

Easter is just around the corner and the thought of chocolate eggs is already tempting us, but happily these sweet chicks are a treat that won't ruin your waistline! Featuring patterns of spots, feathers, flowers and hearts, Fiona's simple designs are worked on rustic oatmeal aida for a homespun twist. Once you've finished stitching the pretty panels, follow the steps on page 64 to transform these designs into cute chickens with heaps of personality. Cheep, cheep! ●

ShoppingList...

Threads - Stranded cotton as listed in the key

Needle - Size 24 tapestry needle

Fabric - Charles Craft Fiddlers Cloth 14-count oatmeal aida measuring 13x23cm (5x9in) for each design. Call ☎ 0800 013 0150 or visit www.sewandso.co.uk

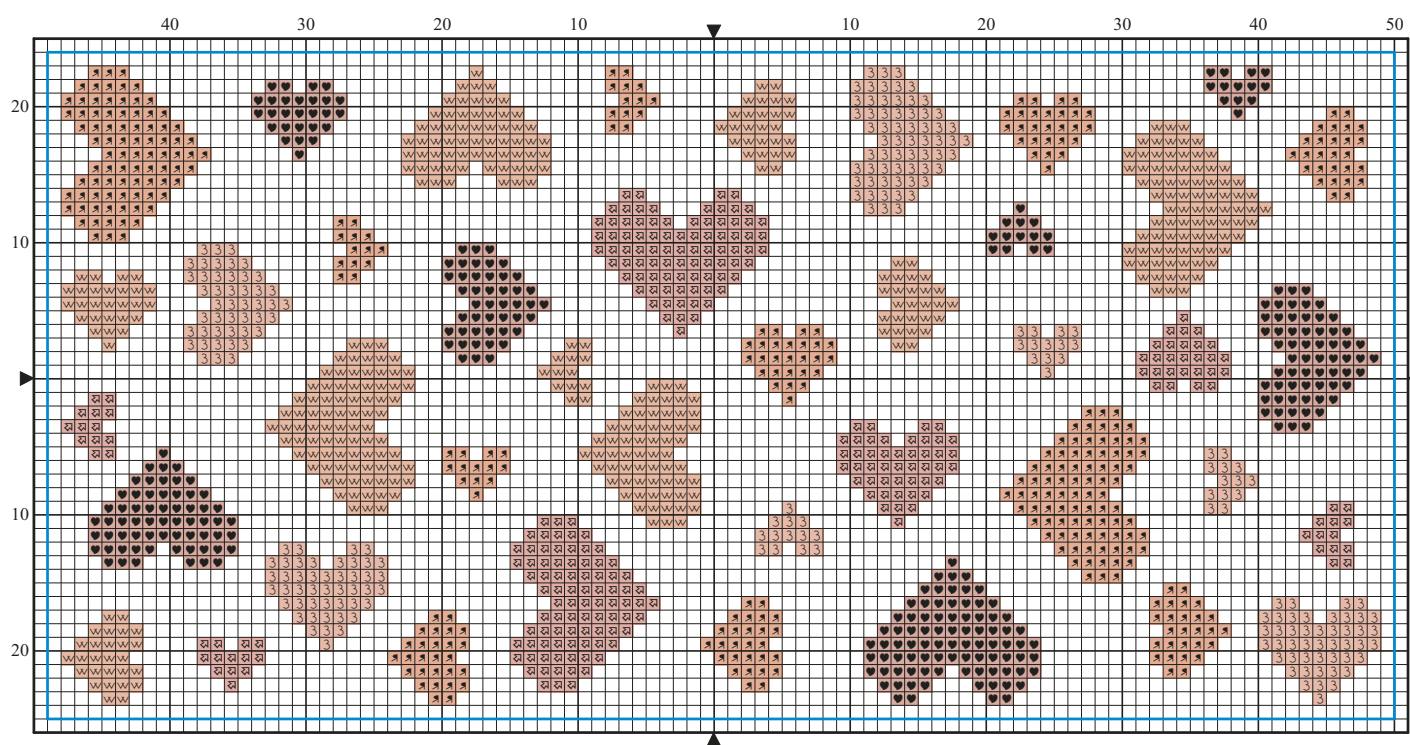
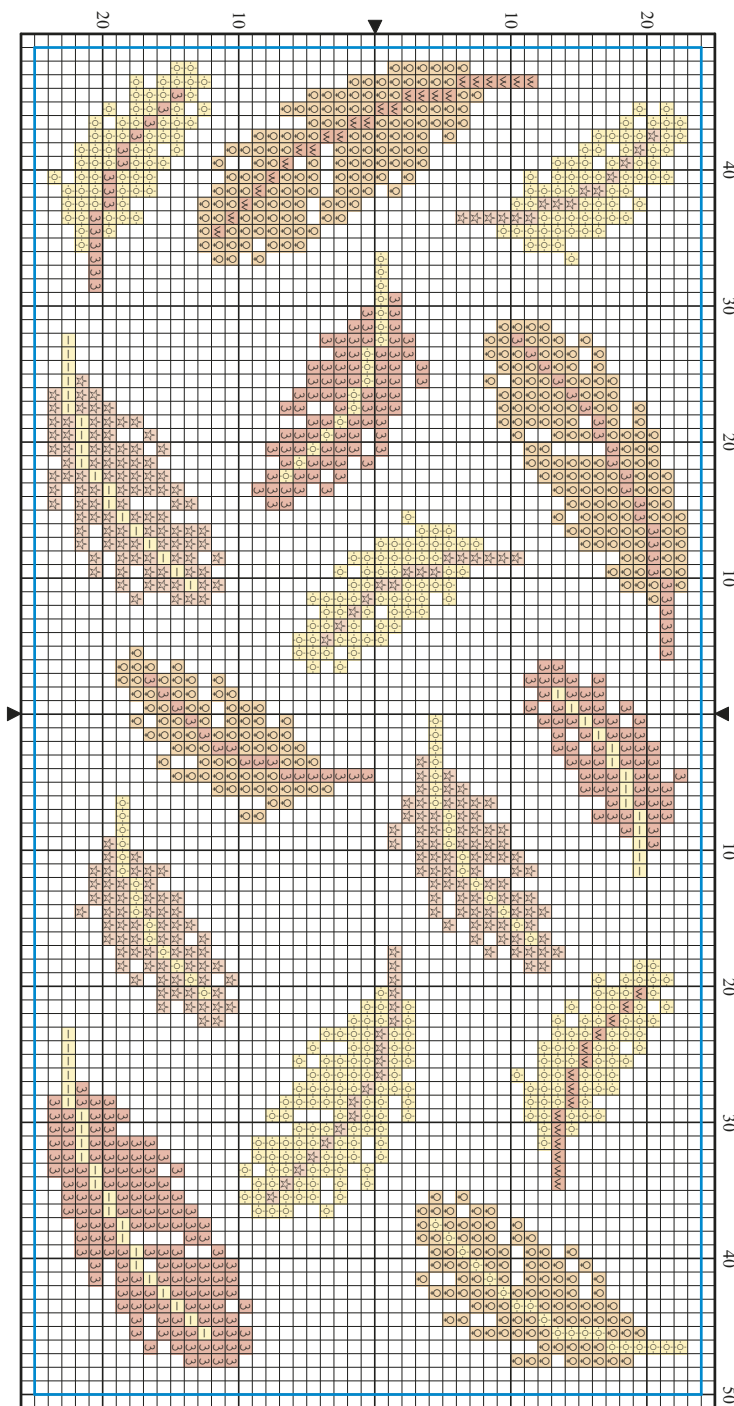
Extras - Small triangle of felt, beads, wadding and 4cm (1in) of ric-rac braid of your choice

ReaderSays...



I just love these humbug chickens – they're really different and would go well in my mum's kitchen. I'd maybe try putting Velcro on one seam, so I could fill the inside with mini chocolate eggs for an Easter present.

Rosie Harris, Liverpool



Crazy tip!

Add a small bag of rice inside the wadding to make a chicken paperweight!

Humbug chickens

✕ Cross stitch in two strands

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
♥	347	1025	407
♣	349	1098	212
W	350	11	213
3	351	10	214
☼	726	295	109
—	727	293	112
☼	3328	1024	406
☆	3853	1003	311
♀	3854	313	114

✕ Backstitch in one strand

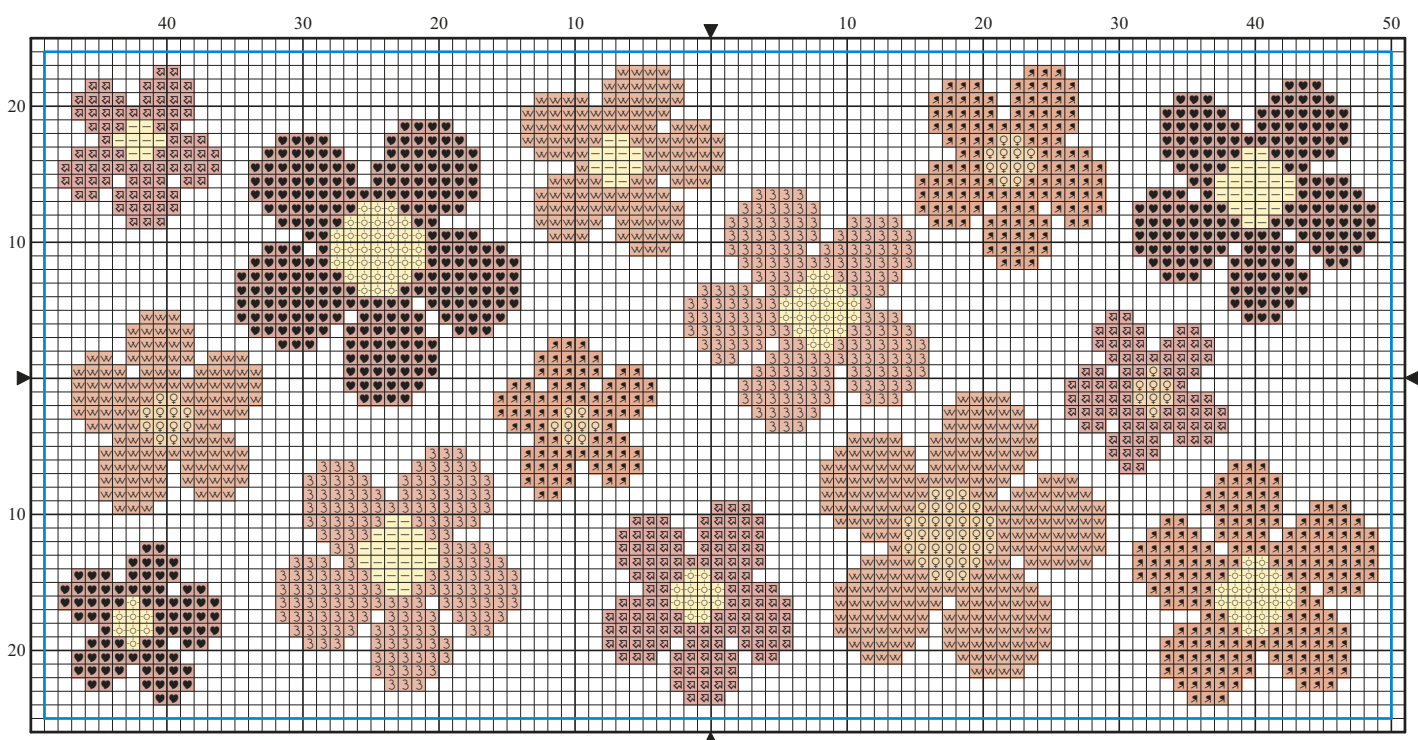
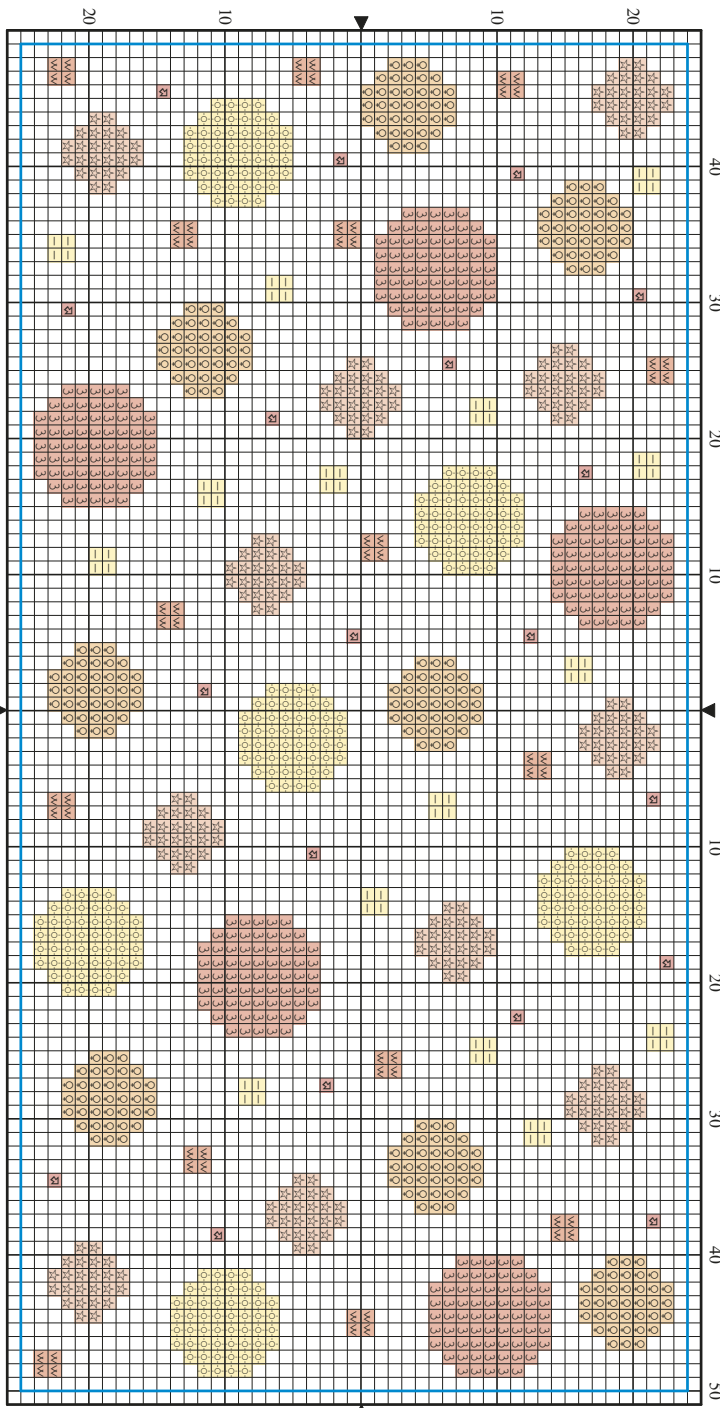
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✕ Whole stitches only

Stitch count 49 (h) x 99 (w)

Design area on 14-count fabric
9x18cm (3½x7in)

Stitched by Barbara Cox



How to make... a humbug chicken



1 Stitch your design onto a piece of aida, then carefully cut it out using a sharp pair of fabric scissors, so your stitched piece measures 14x24cm (5½x9½in).



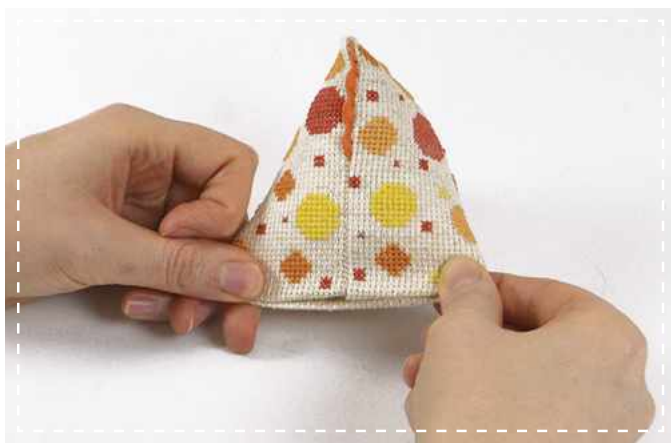
2 Fold the short edges under, up to the white backstitched line. Whipstitch together, securing the ric-rac between the layers and close to the backstitched line of one long edge.



3 Fold the long edge closest to the ric-rac under, up to the backstitched line. Whipstitch together, this time attaching the folded triangle of felt between the layers for the beak.



4 You will now have something that looks like a little pocket. Stuff the pocket with a generous amount of wadding until you have a nicely plump, squishy shape.



5 To create the humbug shape, fold the remaining open edge under following the white backstitched line, so the stitched top seam is centred as shown in the photo above.



6 Whipstitch the gap closed with small, neat stitches. Turn the humbug round and, slightly above either side of the beak, attach two beads for the eyes to finish.

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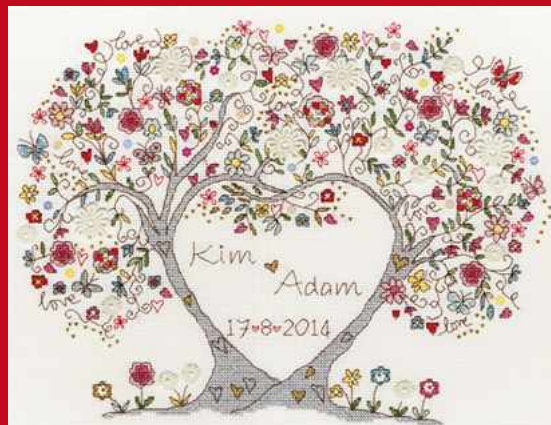
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With the best gossip on social media plus top blogs and sites, get online with *Crazy* and get inspired!



HOW TO PRETTY UP YOUR IPHONE CASE!

Let's face it, phone cases can often be more of a practical than a pretty option, so we love the idea of creating your own unique design on a stitchable case. Once you've bought your Anchor iPhone case at £13.60 for a pack of two – call ☎ 01484 681 881 or visit www.makeitcoats.com for stockists – check out Purl Bee's beautiful craft blog at www.purlbee.com for these two standout ways to customise your case. We can't decide which we like more, so perhaps we'll have to stitch both! This is a great way to use up threads from your stash, so go on, be creative!

The twittersphere

What you've been tweeting about!



► Winding threads onto pegs is way more fun than laundry #crossstitch #DMCthreads #crafts #sew @homebirdstudio

► There's a guy on the train who is cross stitching a Mario Bros piece like it's just a casual thing to be doing.

@Cedric_Davies

► So glad I've finally finished my cross stitch project. It's taken me three months, now it's off to the framer's ASAP!

@smartcookiesam

Facebook chat

Here's what you've been chatting about this month!



► Thank you for another fantabulous issue, I love everything in it!

Emma Swartz

► After being stuck in traffic for five hours last night, I finally got home feeling exhausted only to see *Cross Stitch Crazy* had arrived. That certainly put a smile on my face!

Jan Wells

► My first finish of 2015 – a Gorjuss cross stitch design called On Top of the World. This is the 19th Gorjuss design I've stitched!

Lindsay Holmes

Most liked...



This month, your favourite pic is by Lyndsay Morrison: "I've just finished this Winnie the Pooh and friends design for a friend's baby boy."



Download of the month

www.cross-stitching.com

Say thank you with a glorious bouquet of stitched blooms! Go to 'Charts & Patterns' and search for 'Thanks a bunch!'



Website of the month

www.flossandmischief.com

Fabulously quirky, Floss and Mischief have breathed new life into cross stitch with their uniquely contemporary approach to design.



Pin of the month

www.whatdelilahdid.bigcartel.com

Insects are a big trend right now and we love these cross stitch versions in silhouette – we think they make an awesome wall display!

GET IN TOUCH!

[facebook.com/crossstitchcrazy](https://www.facebook.com/crossstitchcrazy)

twitter.com/crazy_magazine

[pinterest.com/crazymagazine](https://www.pinterest.com/crazymagazine)

Stitch o'clock!

Tick tock, it's time to get kids into stitching with these cute cuckoo clock-style designs – they're so tweet!

Designed by Tiny Modernist

With their bold, enticing colours and miniature clock motifs, kids of all ages are bound to go cuckoo for these sweet designs! Using mainly whole stitches, these easy pieces make great choices for children



StitchTime
6 hrs
(Each)

StitchList...

Perfect for beginners

- ✕ Whole cross stitch
- ✕ Backstitch

who will feel so proud of their makes! Once they've finished their stitching, help them mount their work in a plain hoop, wound round with bright ribbon. Carry on the cuckoo clock theme with twisted lengths of thread tied round a chunky bead, then finish with a piece of ribbon to hang it up. ●

ShoppingList...

Threads - Stranded cotton as listed in the key

Needle - Size 24 tapestry needle

Fabric - A piece of Zweigart 14-count white aida measuring 18x18cm (7x7in) for each. To buy, call ☎ 0800 013 0150 or visit www.sewandso.co.uk

Extras - 13cm (5in) wooden hoops. To buy, visit www.craftdepartment.com or call ☎ 01539 823 199. Ribbon, beads and cord of choice



Add a quirky touch to a child's room with these awesome mini makes!

CrazyKids

YvetteSays...



Sometimes the most successful designs are the ones that are the simplest,

and I think that's the case here. I love the Alpine styling of these clocks – they're like something out of a fairytale!

Yvette Streeter,
Acting Editor,
Cross Stitch Crazy

Crazy tip!

Give your child a plastic sewing needle to help them avoid pricking their fingers

Cuckoo clocks

✕ Cross stitch in two strands

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
∩	blanc	2	2402
A	605	1094	613
▽	907	255	1308
▢	3760	161	1107
■	3801	1098	411
⦿	3822	295	2510
b	3862	374	1913

✕ Backstitch in one strand

—	blanc	2	2402
—	3801	1098	411

✕ Whole stitches only

Max. stitch count 51(h) x 37(w)
Design area on 14-count fabric
9.5x7cm (3 1/2 x 2 1/2 in)

Stitched by Ruth Murphy

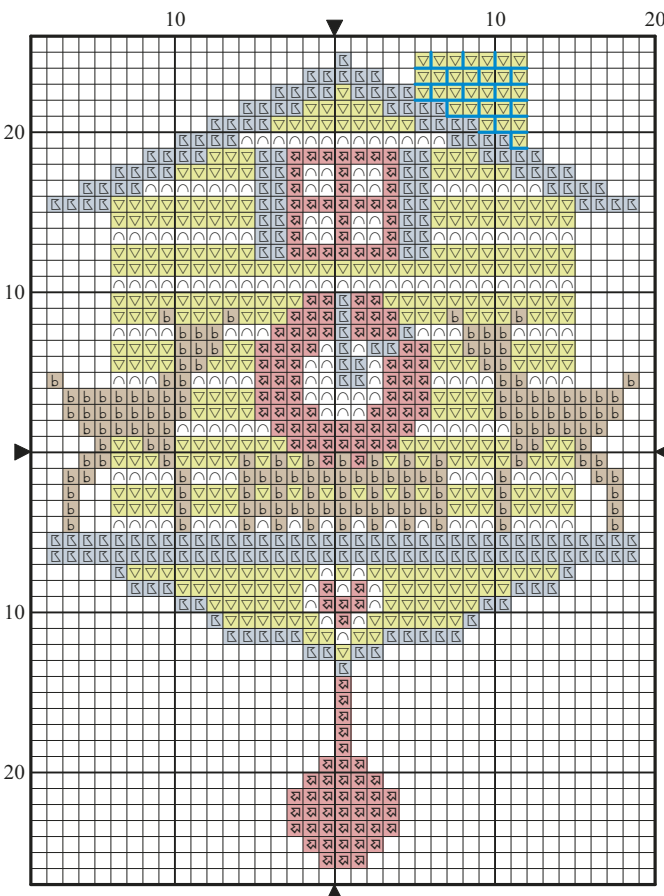
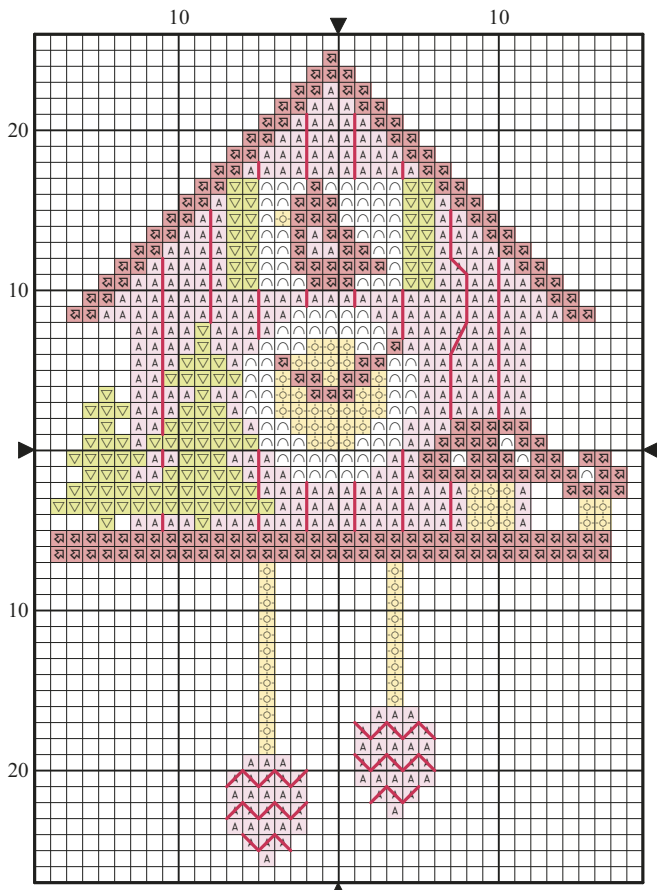
Crazy Kids Stitching

Are you a kid who's mad about cross stitch? Send us a photo and tell us about yourself – if you're featured, you'll win a fab prize!



You are a winner!
Arthur
from Ipswich

"I'm Arthur and I'm seven years old. This is me holding my first ever piece of cross stitching – a peacock that I saw on holiday. My mum loves cross stitching and showed me how to do it."



I'm a
**Crazy
kid
stitcher**

If you're a young stitcher, we want to know why you started stitching, what you're stitching now and who you stitch for. Simply fill in the coupon below and send us a photo of yourself and your stitching. If you're our Crazy kid stitcher, you'll receive a handy pair of Fiskars Animal Scissors!

Name and address:

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I am years old

I'm a kid that's crazy about stitching and here's why...

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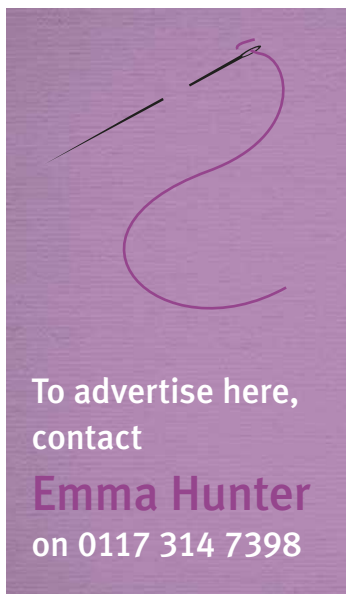
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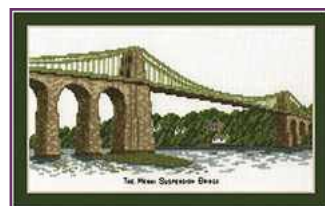
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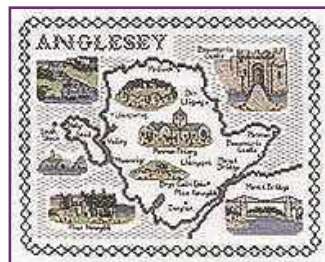
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The MAGniflex lamp from Daylight is a must-have for close-up work. The flexible arm allows the light to be positioned exactly where it's needed, while the clamp lock system can be clamped on to a table, trolley or bed. To order, visit www.daylightcompany.com or call them on ☎ 0208 964 1200. For a chance to win one of four lamps worth £70, text **CSC201DAYLIGHT**, your name, postal address and email address to **87474** (texts will be charged at 50p plus your standard network rate) or label your postcard 'Daylight 201 giveaway'.

Heritage Crafts kits!

We love these beautiful new Silhouette kits from Heritage. The Angler (left) is a peaceful snapshot of a man enjoying his hobby on a quiet morning, while Sunset Stroll (right) shows a man taking a stroll along the beach with his dog. Both designs measure 12.5cm (5in) square and cost £16 each. We have eight sets to give away – to buy, call ☎ 01889 575 256 or visit www.hcrafts.com. For a chance to win, text **CSC201HERITAGE**, your name, postal address and email address to **87474** (texts will be charged at 50p plus your standard network rate) or label your postcard 'Heritage Crafts 201 giveaway'.



8 PRIZES
worth
£256



Stitchrovia kits!

Stitchrovia is well known for its bright and quirky typographic designs, and Emma Congdon has 10 gorgeous Live Simply kits up for grabs, worth £24.99 each. To see the fantastic range of downloadable designs available, check out www.stitchrovia.com. For the chance to win, text **CSC201LIVE**, your name, postal address and email address to **87474** (texts will be charged at 50p plus your standard network rate) or label your postcard with 'Stitchrovia 201 giveaway'.

10 PRIZES
worth
£250



10 PRIZES
worth
£250

Madeira goodies!

Famous for its gorgeous threads and accessories, Madeira is offering 10 readers the chance to win a stitching set including scissors, a thread tidy, five spiral packs of Mouliné, four spiral packs of Mouliné Metallic, five spiral packs of Decora, five spiral packs of Metallic No.10 and an embroidery hoop! For more details on Madeira products, visit www.madeira.co.uk. For the chance to win a pack worth £25, text **CSC201MADEIRA** your name, postal address and email address to **87474** (texts will be charged at 50p plus your standard network rate) or label your postcard 'Madeira 201 giveaway'.

Terms and conditions

*Enter all four competitions with one text charged at £1.50 plus your standard network tariff rate.

For individual competitions, texts are charged at 50p plus your standard network tariff rate.

To enter by post, write your name, address and chosen

competition on a postcard and send to: Cross Stitch Crazy 201, 2nd Floor, Tower House, Fairfax Street, Bristol BS1 3BN. The closing date for entries is 11.59pm on 1st April 2015. Promoter: Immediate Media Company Bristol Ltd. Promotion excludes Immediate Media employees. Open to UK residents only. By entering, you agree to be bound by the rules of the promotion. Only one entry per person, per competition allowed. No

responsibility accepted for lost, delayed, ineligible or fraudulent entries. Winning entries chosen at random from all eligible entries. Winners notified within 28 days of closing date. The draw is final, no correspondence will be entered into. For details of winners, send an SAE within two months of closing date. If any winner cannot be contacted within one month of the closing date, the promoter will offer the prize to a runner-up. The promoter reserves the

right to substitute the prize with one of the same or greater value, with no cash alternative. By entering this competition you agree to receive newsletters, future offers and promotions from Immediate Media Company Ltd and related third parties. If you do not want to receive this information, please add 'NO INFO' at the end of your text message or on your postcard. For customer care issues, call ☎ 0117 927 9009.

TEXT
ALL 201 TO
ENTER ALL
FOUR!*

You can also enter for free online at www.cross-stitching.com/win

Track it Down



Sherlock Anne's on hand to track down the designs you crave. Send her your requests today!

Have a hoot

My sister is expecting her first baby soon, and I'd love to stitch an Owl and the Pussycat design, as this was our favourite nursery rhyme when we were little.

Please can you help me find one, Sherlock Anne?

Anne Bartnett, South Shields

Of course, Anne! I think you'll like this adorable Owl and the Pussycat scene by Vanessa Wells for Goldleaf Needlework. The circular shape lends itself perfectly to being personalised, as you can add the baby's name and birth details underneath



once they've arrived. The design measures 16.5x15.5cm (6½x6in) and is available to buy as a kit for £18 or a chart for £6.50. Visit www.goldleafneedlework.co.uk or call ☎ 01482 571 120 to buy.

Speedy stitches

My son, Callum, turns 21 in May and I'd love to stitch him a Ferrari design as I'm going to surprise him with a track day as a gift. Could you help me find the right design please, Anne?

Helen Dickson, Taunton

What a fun idea, Helen! Stitchtastic offer a great selection of car designs. Red Ferrari (below left) is a lifelike design that costs £24.95 for the kit, or £6.95 for

the chart. Or if you think he would prefer a fun, cartoon-style design, how about their Ferrari Marinello Caricature (below right)? A kit costs £29.95 or a chart costs £10.95. Make sure you frame your chosen Ferrari in a bright red frame to finish it off perfectly! To buy, go to www.stitchtastic.com or call ☎ 0114 383 0333.



Track it down for me...

Please find the following design for me – I'm crazy for it! (Continue on another sheet if necessary)

The design I want and why

.....

.....

.....

My name and address.....

.....

.....

Email

Tel.....

Send to: **Track it down**, Cross Stitch Crazy, Immediate Media Company Origin Ltd, 2nd Floor, Tower House, Fairfax Street, Bristol BS1 3BN. Please include one request per coupon. Do use a photocopy if you don't want to cut up your magazine. You can also send an email straight to Sherlock Anne at: trackit@cross-stitching.com

Cupcakes and kittens

My hubby and I foster rescue cats and I also run a cake business from home, so we're used to having our hands full! I'd love to stitch a fun design featuring cats and a cake, but I'm not sure if such a thing actually exists!

Kat Carter, Norfolk

You sound like a busy lady! I think this Tea Time design will be just the thing and it only measures 15x25cm (6x10in), so it shouldn't take you long to stitch. I love the idea that the kitties are helping themselves to tea and cake, and the pretty bunting adds a lovely finishing touch. The RRP for this design is £26.99 – find your local stockist at www.dmccreative.co.uk or by calling ☎ 0116 275 4000.





Down on the farm

Tractors fascinate my grandson! I've stitched him a fun cartoon tractor before but he prefers the old-fashioned ones. I remember seeing a sampler of different traditional tractors but I can't for the life of me think who made it or where I saw it. Please help!
Barbara Bennett, Coventry

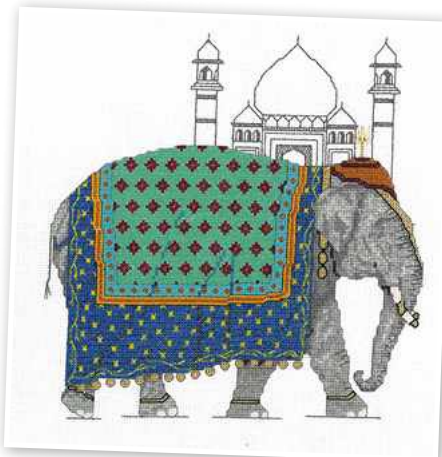
Was it this charming Antique Tractors sampler from Permin, Barbara? Featuring nine different vehicles, this large design measures 44x64cm (17½x25in) so it'll be a lengthy project to work on, but I'm sure your grandson will adore the finished piece. The RRP for this realistic stitch is £65, and to find your nearest stockist, you can email sales@mwfabrics.co.uk or call on ☎ 07983 020 189.

Elegant elephant

Please can you recommend a stylish elephant design? My mum adores them and I'd like to surprise her on Mother's Day.

Lindy McAllister, Fife

I've found lots of fun designs but I think you'll like this eye-catching Ceremonial Elephant kit by Sarah May Designs. It's worked on 14-count antique white aida and uses brightly coloured and gold metallic threads to create the animal's



exquisite blanket. To buy this wonderful kit for £26.30, visit www.choicesembroidery.co.uk or call ☎ 01529 461 056.

Chart choice

This month: *Fantasy figures*

From fairies to unicorns, dragons to mermaids, we round up the most enchanting fantasy charts

Making waves

£9.86, Ocean Unicorns from Kustom Krafts www.sewandso.co.uk ☎ 0800 013 0150
Based on artwork by Sharlene Lindskog-Osorio, this striking design is a magical scene that'll be a joy to stitch. The chart is worked in 41 thread shades, so if your stash isn't plentiful, you may find it more cost effective to buy the kit for £31.46.



Enchanting sea creature

£11.50, Mystical Mermaid by Joan Elliott www.polstitchesdesigns.co.uk
☎ 0800 772 3615

We're big fans of Joan Elliott's magical designs and this mermaid is certainly no exception! The large design measures 68.5x45.5cm (27x18in) when stitched on 28-count evenweave, is worked in stranded cotton and metallic thread, and decorated with a flourish of seed beads.



Beautiful beast

From £6, Purple Dragon Moon by Celtic Rose Needlecraft www.celticroseneedlecraft.com
☎ 01246 620 107

We love the palette of purple, blue and smoky grey shades used to bring this breathtaking dragon to life. Choose from two sizes measuring 116x170 stitches or 158x230 stitches, depending on how much time you have to work this enchanting dragon.



Make a wish

£13.05, Dawn the Fairy Spirit of Grace by Passione Ricamo www.sewandso.co.uk
☎ 0800 013 0150

This beautiful design is worked in 32 shades of cotton and embellished with pink, white and black metallic thread, plus two shades of seed beads. Work the design on hand-dyed fabric to give your stitching an extra-special touch!



Arts and Crafts

I'm a big fan of the 19th century textile designer William Morris. Has any of his work ever been converted into cross stitch?

Jo Dinton, Leamington Spa

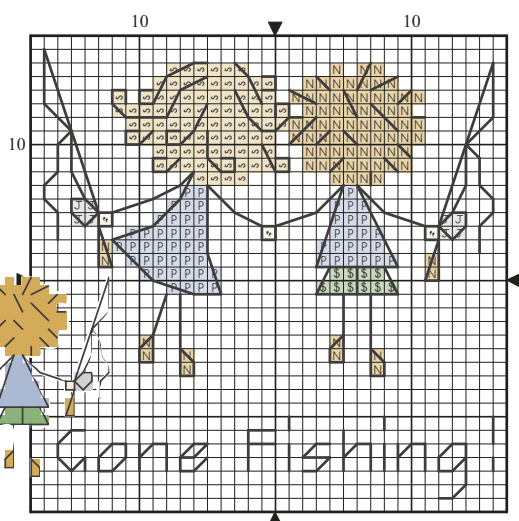
There are a fair few cross stitch kits featuring William Morris's designs available to buy online, but my favourite is this pair from Bothy Threads. The Strawberry Thief (left) and Bird (right) patterns both translate beautifully into cross stitch and have timeless appeal. Both designs are simple to stitch, and are worked mainly in whole stitches with a small amount of backstitch to add detail. To buy for £27.49, go to www.bothythreads.com or call ☎ 01900 828 844.



Challenge

Lucie

Crazy designer Lucie Heaton loves to bring your ideas to life, so send in yours today!



Gone fishing

✳ Cross stitch in two strands

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
J	415	398	1802
N	436	1045	2011
S	738	367	2013
P	799	145	910
\$	912	209	1213
re	948	892	306

✳ Backstitch in one strand

—	3799	236	1713
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✳ Whole stitches only

Stitch count 33 (h) x 33 (w)

Design area on 14-count fabric
6x6cm (2 1/4 x 2 1/4 in)

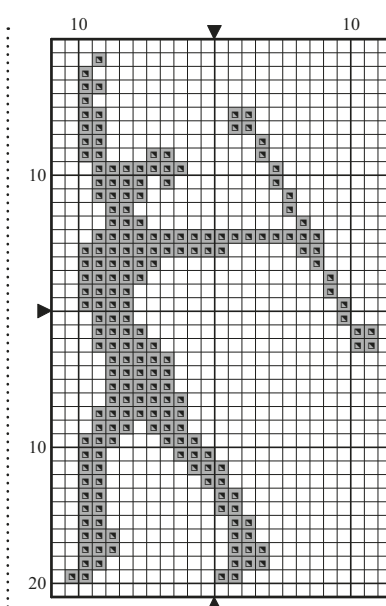
Great catch

Hi Lucie, please could you chart me a design of a man and a woman fishing? I've recently started going course fishing with my husband and absolutely love it, but can't find any designs of couples fishing.

Debbie Butler, East Sussex

How lovely to discover a joint passion, Debbie. I hope this happy couple walking off into the sunset with their fishing rods fits the bill for you. Happy stitching!

Lucie



Gymnast

✳ Cross stitch in two strands

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
■	3799	236	1713

✳ Whole stitches only

Stitch count 39 (h) x 23 (w)

Design area on 14-count fabric
7x4cm (2 3/4 x 1 1/2 in)

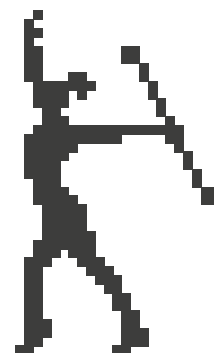
Pass the baton on

I'm looking for a chart of a baton twirler in silhouette with her hand in the air, and wondered if you could help, Lucie? I need to stitch it for each of my nieces, as they're both baton twirlers!

Julie Grice, by email

This lady looks very graceful with her baton – I hope you and your nieces like her.

Lucie



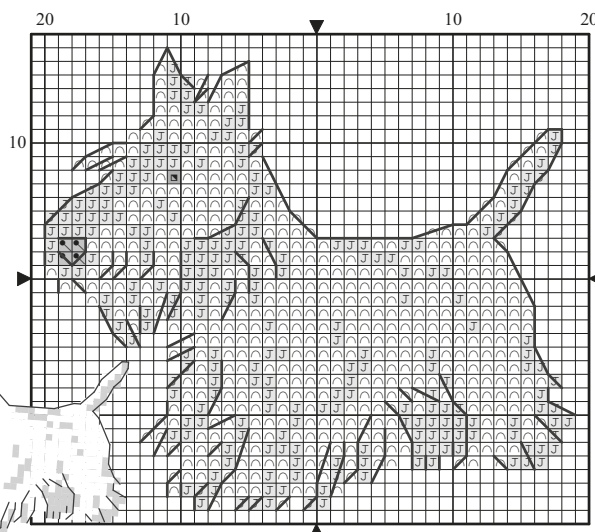
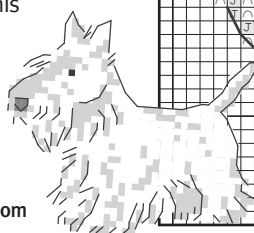
Best friends

I'd be so grateful if you could chart a white Scottie dog for me, Lucie. I've got a little Scottie called Arthur, and seeing as he's my best friend, I'd like to capture his likeness in stitches!

Mark Dickens, Taunton

This little Scottie looks delighted to meet you, Mark!

Lucie



Scottie dog

✳ Cross stitch in two strands

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
○	blanc	2	2402
●	414	235	1714
J	415	398	1802
■	3799	236	1713

✳ Backstitch in one strand

—	3799	236	1713
---	------	-----	------

✳ Whole stitches only

Stitch count 34 (h) x 39 (w)

Design area on 14-count fabric
6x7cm (2 1/2 x 2 3/4 in)

Birthday wishes

My gran is going to be 90 this year, and I'd love to stitch her a card. I've searched high and low for a Happy 90th Birthday chart and simply can't find one. Can you help me, Lucie?

Cathy Baker,
Tunbridge Wells

Here's a simple design you can adapt for any birthdays you have coming up, Cathy. Happy 90th to your gran!
Lucie



90th birthday

✳ Cross stitch in two strands

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
∩	blanc	2	2402
♥	602	57	702
✱	603	55	505
W	604	26	614
♀	726	295	109
☾	798	131	912
P	799	145	910

✳ Backstitch in one strand

—	3799	236	1713
---	------	-----	------

✳ Whole stitches only

Stitch count 40 (h) x 40 (w)
Design area on 14-count fabric
7.5x7.5cm (2³/₄x2³/₄in)

Full house!

Please could you design me a chart that relates to bingo, Lucie? My friend and I play bingo every Sunday, and as her birthday's coming up soon, it would be lovely to stitch her a card.

Mrs Jennings, County Durham

Has this hit the jackpot for you? I hope your friend enjoys a birthday win!
Lucie



Bingo birthday card

✳ Cross stitch in two strands

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
∩	blanc	2	2402
e	553	98	712
♥	602	57	702
☼	725	305	113
\$	912	209	1213
☒	996	433	1103
■	3799	236	1713

✳ Whole stitches only

Stitch count 35 (h) x 38 (w)
Design area on 14-count fabric
6.5x7cm (2¹/₂x2³/₄in)

Bear and hedgehog

✳ Cross stitch in two strands

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
q	318	399	1801
J	415	398	1802
b	437	362	2012
W	604	26	614
—	727	293	112
s	738	367	2013
■	3799	236	1713

✳ Backstitch in one strand

—	3799	236	1713
---	------	-----	------

✳ Whole stitches only

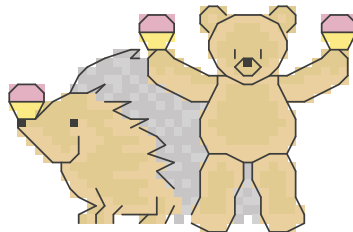
Stitch count 26 (h) x 40 (w)
Design area on 14-count fabric
5x7.5cm (1³/₄x2³/₄in)

Balancing act

My loves are baking, hedgehogs and teddy bears. So could you please chart me a hedgehog with a cupcake, or a teddy with a cupcake, or better still, all three together?

Lindsey Groom, South Africa

How about this, Lindsey!
Lucie



I challenge Lucie...

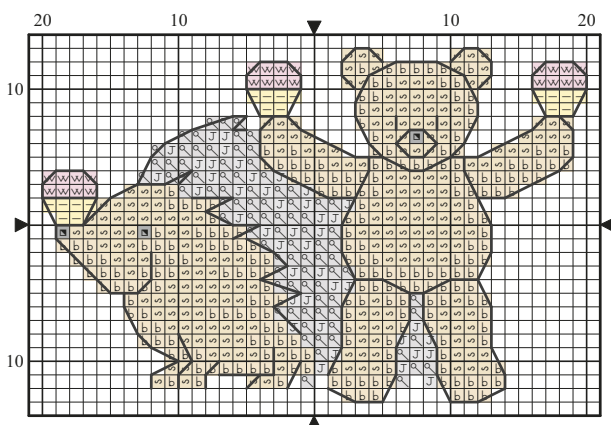
If there's something you would like to have charted, challenge me, Lucie, and I'll come up with the goods. Please note, I can only fit in fairly small designs and for copyright reasons I'm unable to chart characters from films and TV – but go on, make it something crazy!

My chart request

I'd like this chart because

Your name and address

Fill in and cut out this coupon (or photocopy it) and send it to:
Challenge Lucie, Cross Stitch Crazy, Immediate Media Company Bristol Ltd, 2nd Floor, Tower House, Fairfax Street, Bristol BS1 3BN, or email: challengelucie@cross-stitching.com



In crazy next month

On sale from 19th March

Baby love

Lesley Teare's
gorgeous birth
sampler makes
a treasured gift
for new arrivals



FREE
FLORAL HEART
FRAME KIT!*

*Free gift available with print edition only

All this



Out on the wing

An elegant stitch to herald summer

Beautiful bunting

These woodland friends will
look fab in a child's bedroom

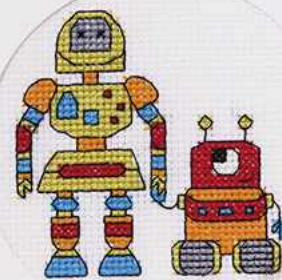


Fun at the fair

Enjoy a temptingly sweet stitch with this cute panda by Helz Cuppleditch



Helz



Colourful cards

Quick-stitch robots kids'll love

and more in issue 202

Pretty patchwork

Make purses, pincushions and more with these super squares



Travellers' tales

Dramatic cityscapes from Jody Rice

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Contents are subject to change.

Cross stitch made easy



"Welcome to cross stitch! You'll soon learn how it's done – my guide here tells you everything you need to know to get started"

With Anne MacGregor

How to use our charts and keys

We're sure you'll want to start stitching our gorgeous designs straight away. Here's how to follow our charts and keys...

Reading a chart

► Our charts are printed in both colour and symbols. Each square on a cross stitch chart contains a symbol, and each symbol corresponds with one stitch. The key that accompanies the chart will tell you what colour thread each symbol corresponds to, so you know which one to thread your needle with.

Where to start

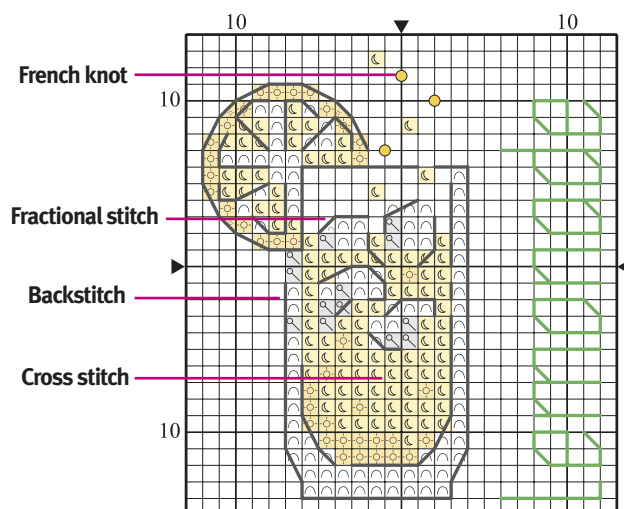
► The centre of most cross stitch charts is specially marked. This is the best place to start stitching, so you end up with the design stitched in the middle of the fabric. The centre of our charts is where the heavy vertical and horizontal lines intersect. To find the centre of your fabric, fold it in half horizontally, open it up and fold it vertically. When you open the fabric again, you'll find the creases mark the centre.

Following our keys

► All of our Crazy charts have keys that tell you how many strands of thread to stitch in (most thread is six-stranded), the thread numbers needed, the size of the design and whether there are backstitch lines, French knots or fractional stitches. The thread numbers listed in the first column of the key refer to the brand that we've used to stitch the design. Conversion numbers for two other brands of threads are given. These are not always exact equivalents, but are the closest match available.

Finding what you need

► Each of our projects includes a shopping list, telling you what type and size of fabric you'll need. It also tells you what size frame and mount you'll need to finish it off. If we've made anything out of the ordinary from our stitching, we'll tell you what you need to recreate it.



Symbol and colour that corresponds to the chart

Type of stitch and number of strands

Stitch count – how many stitches high and wide the design is

Lemonade

✕ Cross stitch in two strands

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
⌒	B5200	1	2401
⌘	415	398	1802
⊙	725	305	113
☾	727	293	112

✕ Backstitch in one strand

—	413	236	1713
—	701	227	1305

✕ French knots in two strands

●	725	305	113
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✕ Contains fractionals

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The three main brands of thread we use. The first column is always the one that we've used to stitch the design

Thread number represented by the symbol

Design area – what the design will measure when stitched on the specified fabric

Perfect for beginners

Small, quick-to-stitch designs, such as the lemonade opposite, are ideal to try if you're new to stitching. For lots more simple designs, take a look at these:

► **PAGE 16**
April panda

► **PAGE 20**
Birthday gift ideas

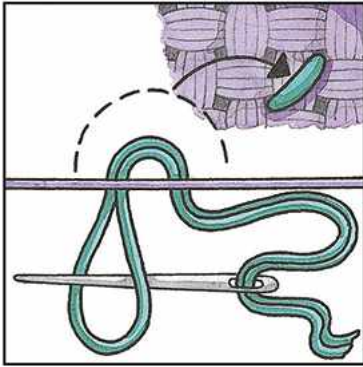
► **PAGE 41**
Garden birds abc

► **PAGE 51**
Easter bunny cards

► **PAGE 68**
Kids' cuckoo clocks

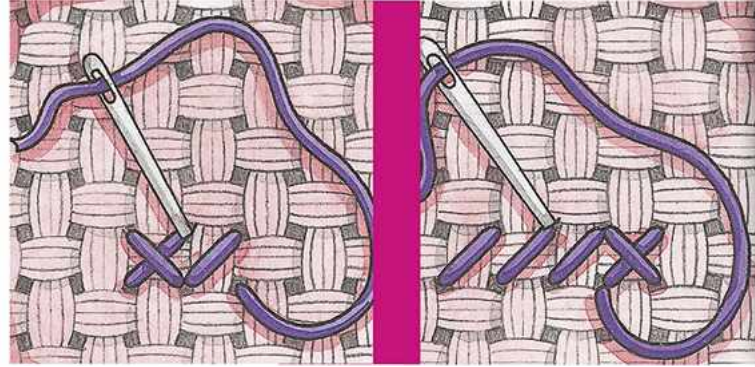
Cross-stitching.com
The non-stop stitching site

Don't forget to log on to our website, Cross-stitching.com, to check out video tutorials, handy tips and much more!



Starting your thread

► The following can only be done with an even number of strands. Cut thread to twice the length you need. Separate one strand and double it over. Thread the needle with the ends, forming a loop. Bring the needle up through the fabric. As you take it down, pass it through the loop and pull firmly.

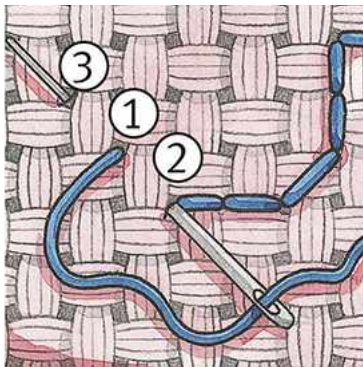


Cross stitch

► Make a cross stitch for each symbol on the chart. Bring the needle up at the bottom left corner of a square and down at the top right corner. This is a half cross stitch. Bring the needle up again at the bottom right corner and back down at the top left. This is a completed cross stitch.

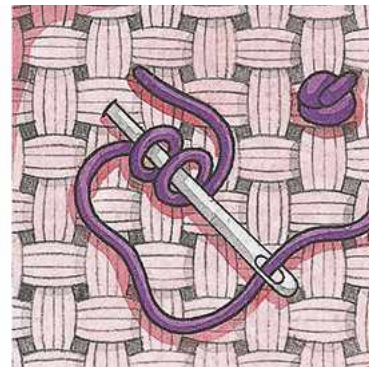
TIP Work each stitch in the same order so the top arms of your cross stitches lie in the same direction.

TIP Working a row of half cross stitches, then completing the cross stitch on the return journey, is a quick way to work; especially when stitching blocks of colour.



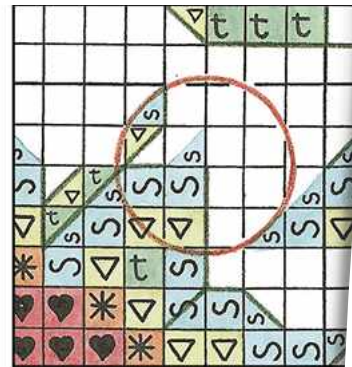
Backstitch

► Backstitch is shown by a coloured line and is added to stitching to create detail. Work the backstitch over individual blocks on aida, or pairs of threads on evenweave. Bring the needle up through the fabric at 1 and take it down at 2, up at 3 and so on, so that you are working back on yourself.



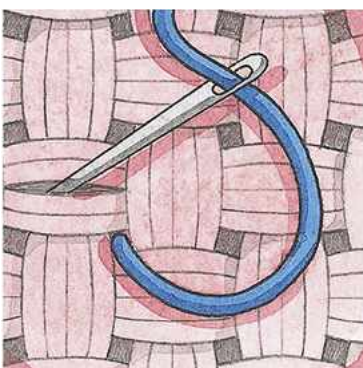
French knots

► French knots appear as dots on your chart. Bring the needle up through the fabric, hold the thread down with your left hand and wind it round the needle twice. Still holding the thread taut, take the needle down one thread or part of a block away. Pull through until a neat knot is formed.



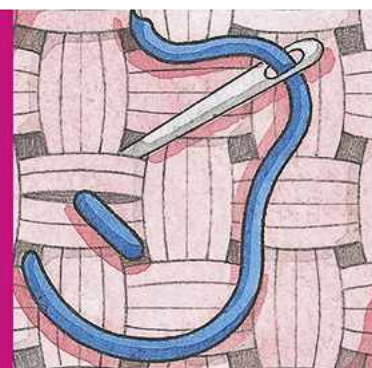
Spotting fractionals

► A fractional stitch is represented on a chart by a smaller version of the main symbol, in a corner of the square. It will show you which corner the fractional stitch should occupy. Quarter and three-quarter stitches are shown in the same way on your chart.



Fractional stitches

► To make a quarter stitch, bring the needle up at the corner of a square and take it down through the centre, halfway across the diagonal, splitting the aida block. To turn this into a three-quarter stitch, make a half cross stitch across the other diagonal of the square. This creates a half cross stitch



across the quarter stitch. If you have to make two fractional stitches back-to-back in the same square, you'll need to decide which is a quarter stitch and which is a three-quarter stitch. Usually, the three-quarter stitch is made in the foreground colour of the design.



Finishing your thread

► Once you've finished stitching, finish off your threads by running your needle through the back of several stitches that you've already completed. Snip off the ends neatly with a sharp pair of embroidery scissors, as close to your fabric as possible.

AFGHAN – a woollen blanket or rug with areas for cross stitching

AIDA – the most common cross stitching fabric, made up of blocks of weave

AIDA BAND – a strip of aida with a decorative edge, used to adorn towels, bookmarks, etc. Comes in various widths

APERTURE – the space through which a design is shown (mainly on cards and in frames)

BEADING NEEDLE – a long, fine needle that slides easily through seed and bugle beads

DESIGN AREA – the measurement of the finished design, depending on the count of fabric used

EVENWEAVE – fabric made from evenly-spaced woven threads. It's softer and more flexible than aida

FABRIC COUNT – the number of holes per inch on your fabric. The higher the number, the finer the fabric is

FABRIC SIZE – the size of fabric needed for the design, including allowance for framing

FRACTIONAL STITCH – stitches made from a quarter or three-quarters of a cross stitch

HALF STITCH – the first arm of the cross. Used to give a less dense stitch to lighter areas

HOOP – a plastic or wooden frame that holds your fabric taut while you stitch on it

JOBELAN – a specific type of evenweave fabric

KEY – a list of all the threads and stitches used in a design, and their respective chart symbols

LONG STITCH – long backstitches that extend over larger areas of the fabric, to depict sky or grass etc

PERFORATED PAPER – toughened paper, perforated with tiny holes

PETIT POINT – tiny stitches, one quarter the size of a cross stitch, for detailed areas of stitching

PLASTIC CANVAS – a plastic alternative to fabric, ideal for making decorations and bookmarks

SAMPLER – traditional stitching, demonstrating a variety of stitches

SATIN THREADS – silky threads that add a subtle sheen

SKEIN – an 8m length of stranded cotton, divisible into six strands

STITCH COUNT – the number of stitches (vertical and horizontal) that make up a design

STITCHING OVER TWO – term used to describe stitching over two threads on evenweave fabric

WADDING – padding used to add depth to stitching when it's mounted inside cards

WASTE CANVAS – loosely woven fabric, held together with soluble glue. Often used to add designs to clothes and softer fabrics

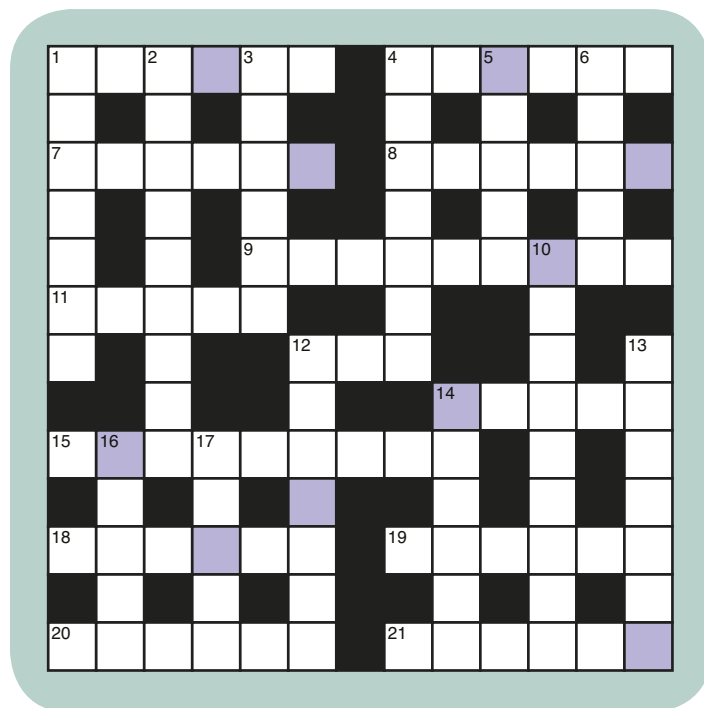
WHOLE STITCH – a complete cross stitch as opposed to half, quarter and three-quarter stitches

Teabreak



Complete the crossword and rearrange the letters in the coloured squares to spell out a type of cake (10). Once you've completed the puzzle, send us your answer* for a chance to win this gorgeous Vintage Crafts Deluxe Sewing Set from Dotcomgiftshop, worth £14.95! To order, visit www.dotcomgiftshop.com or you can call them on ☎ 0208 746 2473.

TO ENTER: *Text CSC201XWORD followed by your answer, name, email address and postal address to 87474. Texts will be charged at 50p plus your standard network rate. For full terms and conditions turn to page 73. To enter by post, send your answer, name and address on a postcard to: Crazy 201 Crossword, Cross Stitch Crazy, 2nd Floor, Tower House, Fairfax Street, Bristol BS1 3BN. The closing date for entries is 1st April 2015.



Across

- 1) Baked pie crust (6)
- 4) Scottish textile pattern (6)
- 7) Sponge, jelly and custard dessert (6)
- 8) Make a financial gain, benefit (6)
- 9) Small sugar-topped fruit-filled roll (6,3)
- 11) Compass point (5)
- 12) Chum, good friend (3)
- 14) Loft space (5)
- 15) Brightly coloured chewy sweet (9)
- 18) Thrifty, prudently sparing (6)
- 19) Delighted, exceedingly happy (6)
- 20) Part of a song that is repeated (6)
- 21) Gorge, ravine (6)

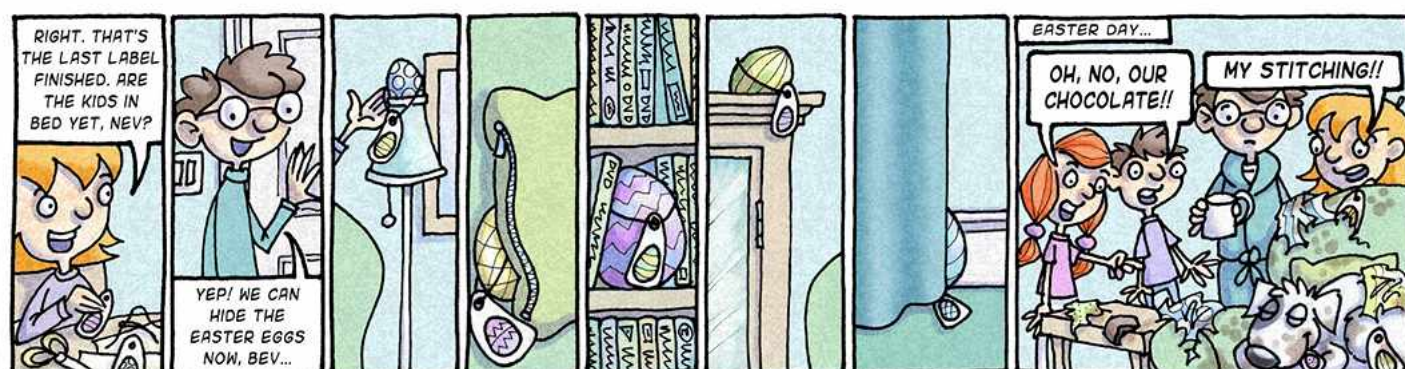
Down

- 1) Tolerant and understanding (7)
- 2) Sponge wrapped around jam or cream fillings (5,4)
- 3) Spicy condiment such as chutney (6)
- 4) Representative, average (7)
- 5) Spacious (5)
- 6) French word for farewell (5)
- 10) Fairy cake with sponge wings (9)
- 12) Small rounded stones (7)
- 13) Rank of authority, level of command (7)
- 14) Soft fluffy yarn (6)
- 16) Third planet from the sun (5)
- 17) Light beer (5)

Celeb wordsearch solution

The missing word is
Cookbooks

The Buttons... Bev, Nev and co will have you in stitches! By Rhys Reed



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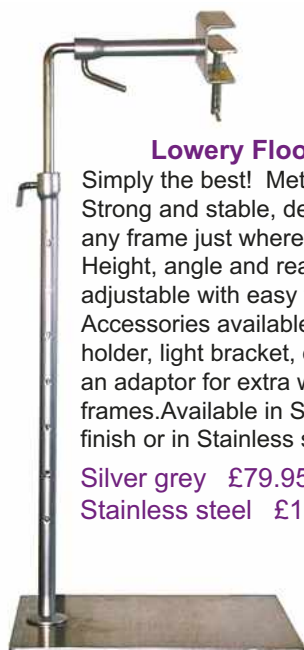


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3¾" - 4½"	91 - 105mm	Size 5

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Choose from:-

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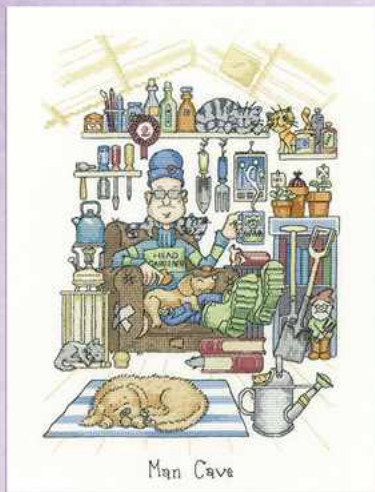
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