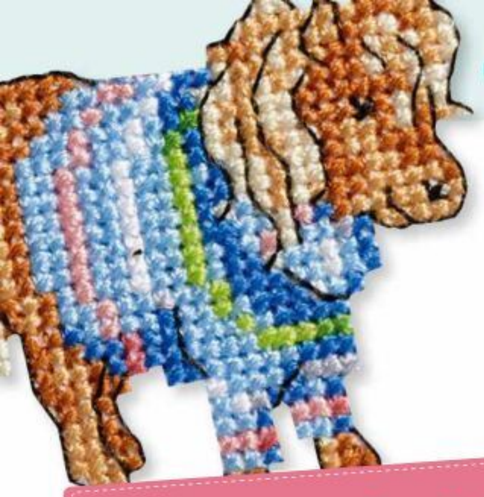


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91 EASY-TO-USE CHARTS TO START TODAY

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Welcome

This month we're bringing you a fantastic collection of wintry designs that will keep you busy once the festive period is over! Amanda Butler's heartwarming scene of geese migrating to warmer regions perfectly captures the cold season (p58). Jenny Van De Wiele's **folk-style winter sampler** awaits you on page 84, or for a quicker stitch try Alyssa Westhoek's **Scandi animals** (p20). Find **thoughtful handmade thank you cards** designed by Nia Rhind on page 36 – choose from three designs to suit the occasion.

Have you heard about the **brand new Paintbox Crafts Threads** launched by LoveCrafts? We've got an exclusive project designed by Cheryl McKinnon using these lovely new stranded cotton threads on page 42.

If you're a fan of romantic vintage style then you won't want to miss Maria Diaz's **chic 1930s couple** – a vision of love's young dream – on page 10 or Jenny Barton's **sensational snow-kissed rose** (p24).

Don't forget to share your stitching with us by emailing **theworldofxstitching@immediate.co.uk** and if you have any stitchy questions, send them our way and our experts will be happy to help!



Hannah

The World of Cross Stitching









Meet some of our designers...



JENNY BARTON
Choose from seven sympathetic designs and send a caring card to a grieving loved one to let them know you're there for them during their time of need (p78).



RHONA NORRIE
Rhona's adorable collection of cosy animals wrapped in winter woollies in this month's Design Library are sure to warm hearts and raise a smile (p47).



MARIA DIAZ
If you're a fan of period dramas such as *Downton Abbey*, you'll love Maria's stylish couple dressed to impress in fashion from the 1930s on page 10.

STITCHING HELP!

www.facebook.com/theworldofcrossstitching

www.instagram.com/worldofcrossstitching

Don't forget to send all your stitchy questions and design requests in to us!

Email us at:
theworldofxstitching@immediate.co.uk

Write to:
Ask the Experts,
The World of Cross Stitching,
Immediate Media Co,
Eagle House, Bristol
BS1 4ST

Send in queries via social media:

We will try and answer your questions as soon as we can, but if you're working to a specific deadline then do let us know!



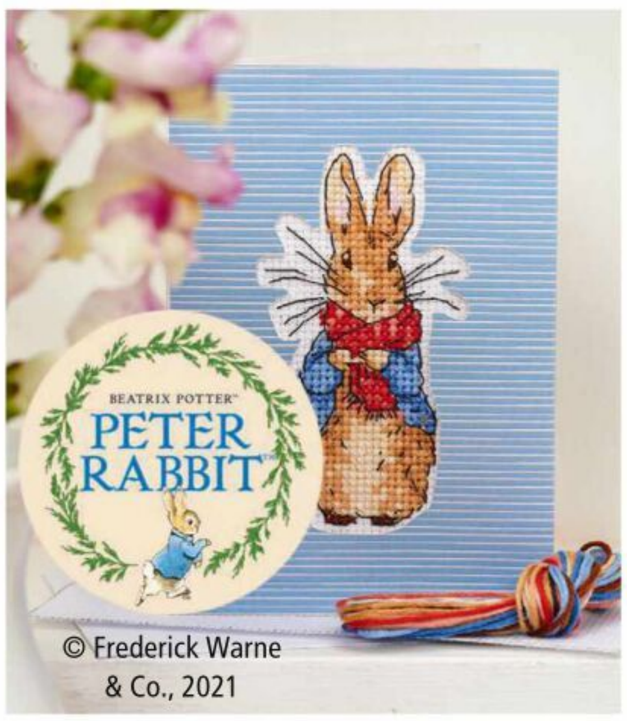
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We bring you all the best projects, advice, news and offers for the month ahead!

YOUR FAB GIFT!

Stitch Peter Rabbit wrapped up warm in his red scarf and send to someone special today.

Turn to page 9



© Frederick Warne & Co., 2021

Gifts available with print edition only. Overseas gift(s) may vary



10 FALL IN LOVE WITH THIS STYLISH COUPLE

Subscribe and save money



Turn to page 44

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Subscribe today and **save 24%**, paying just £28.49 for six issues. Plus, choose your gift – either a set of cushion kits or Anchor thread bundle.

This is an introductory subscription offer available to new UK subscribers only. Offer ends 31 January 2022.

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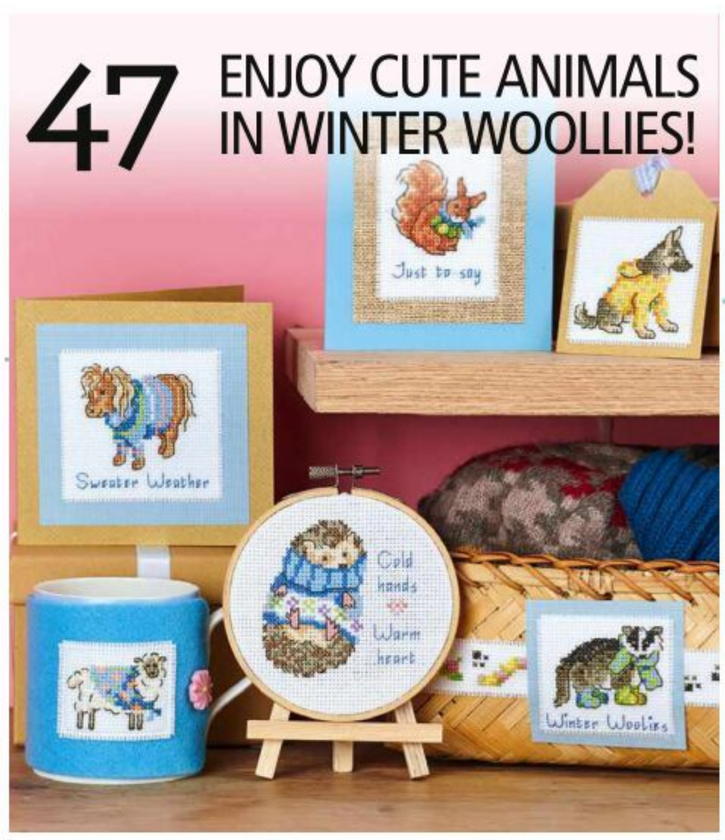
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Much more than a magazine…

APPS TO GO!

Here at *The World of Cross Stitching* we're proud to be online! Download our apps at the Apple newsstand, Google Play, Zinio and Amazon for Kindle Fire.



Be on the panel!

- Get a sneak preview
- Appear in the magazine
- Receive a stitchy gift

Meet our guests

Get to know this month's reader panel, and look out for their favourite projects throughout the issue



Jayne Perkins

works in finance and sales admin and is from Stourbridge

How did you start stitching?

In my teens I helped my mum finish off a tapestry kit and I enjoyed that so much that I looked into other types of sewing and discovered cross stitch. On my honeymoon (of all times) I discovered cross stitch magazines – I've been hooked ever since.

What's your favourite project style and why?

I don't have a fave style. I love all sorts, but I do make lots of cards so small motifs are always best, especially for Christmas cards – I make quite a few each year.



Fave *WOXS* design?

I adore the 'Animal Portraits' by Lucie Heaton from issue 312 (November 2020). I will stitch the robin first as they're a firm favourite for me, and I love to see them in my garden. The hare is really cute too. I also love the way these were mounted on a canvas. I have done it myself once before and really like the way it turned out.



Melina Eastwood

is a project manager from Essex

***WOXS* design you love?**

I adored the 'Woodland Fawn' from issue 311 (October 2021). The autumnal colours are beautiful and it would look great hung on anyone's wall when finished.



What are you stitching at the moment?

I have a new baby sampler for my niece to do and a wedding gift for two close friends who are getting married in 2022.

Tell us about your worst stitching disaster?

I haven't really had one, if I'm honest. The beauty of cross stitching is that if something does go wrong, you can unpick it and start again.

What is your idea of stitchy heaven?

It'd have to be having a whole day off from work, and getting on with stitching my latest project in front of the TV with no interruptions.



Leanne Aslin

is a strategic communications manager from Derbyshire

Tell us about your latest stitching project...

I'm currently working on Tiny Modernist's* 'Haunted Mansion' – I love Halloween so this is right up my street, but I'm a slow stitcher so it'll no doubt take me ages!

Who are your stitching buddies?

I have a cat called Coconut, and it's lovely to stitch with her curled up next to me. I've also recently started a craft group in my village, so I now have crafty friends to stitch with too!

Recent fave *WOXS* design?

The 'Festive House' from issue 312 (November 2021) is definitely calling to me, so maybe I will finally try a full coverage project. I've been too intimidated so far!

What do you love most about cross stitching?

I love that absolutely anyone can do it, and you don't have to be amazingly crafty to pick it up.



We need you!

Email theworldofxstitching@immediate.co.uk to be on the panel – tell us your name, where you're from and include a good quality photo of yourself. Every panellist gets a preview of the magazine and a gift worth around £30!



Gift worth £36.99!

THANKS! This month's panel members will each receive an 'A is for Ark Birth Sampler' cross stitch kit by Historical Sampler Company from LoveCrafts*, which includes everything to complete the design.

*For stockists see page 90

Furry Tales

Collect a chart from the adorable Furry Tales® family, designed by Lucie Heaton

Tooth Fairy Mouse key

Cross stitch in two strands

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira	
∩	blanc	2	2402	white
b	436	1045	2011	tan
9	437	362	2012	light tan
s	739	366	2014	cream
w	754	1012	305	peach
I	775	1031	1001	blue
r	948	892	306	light peach
t	3756	1037	2504	baby blue
◪	3799	236	1713	grey

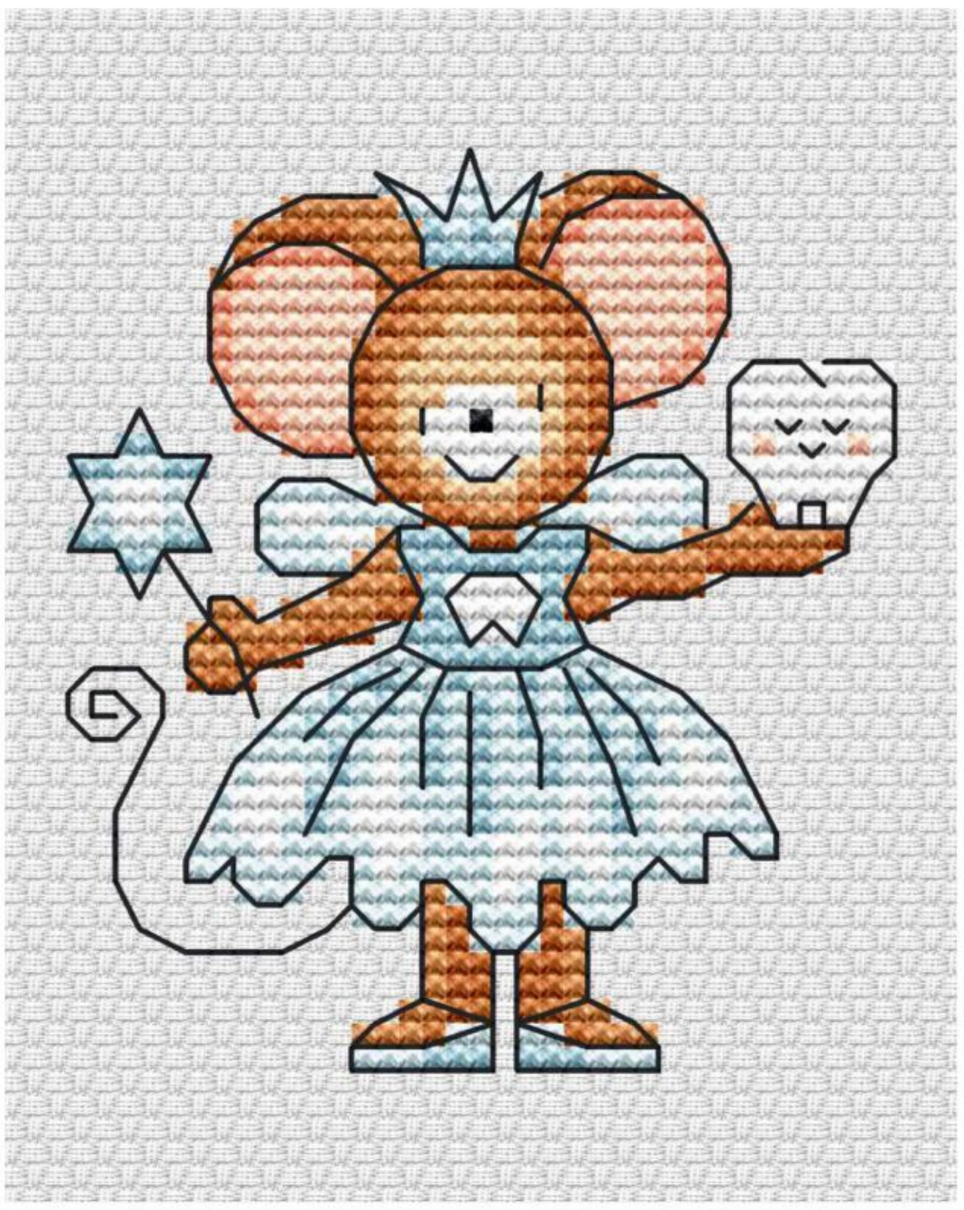
Backstitch in one strand

—	3799	236	1713	grey

STITCH COUNT 39 high x 35 wide

DESIGN AREA 14 HPI (28-count evenweave) – 7x6.5cm (2¾x2½in)

This design was stitched using DMC stranded cotton



Lizzie takes her sacred duties as the tooth fairy very seriously. Dressed in classic fairy attire complete with crown and wings she'll be there to collect little ones' teeth with a wave of her magic wand. Why not stitch this to help encourage children with all-important brushing!

Missed a chart?



ISSUE 314

Lizzie's delighted with a giant cheese gift that's almost as big as she is.



ISSUE 313

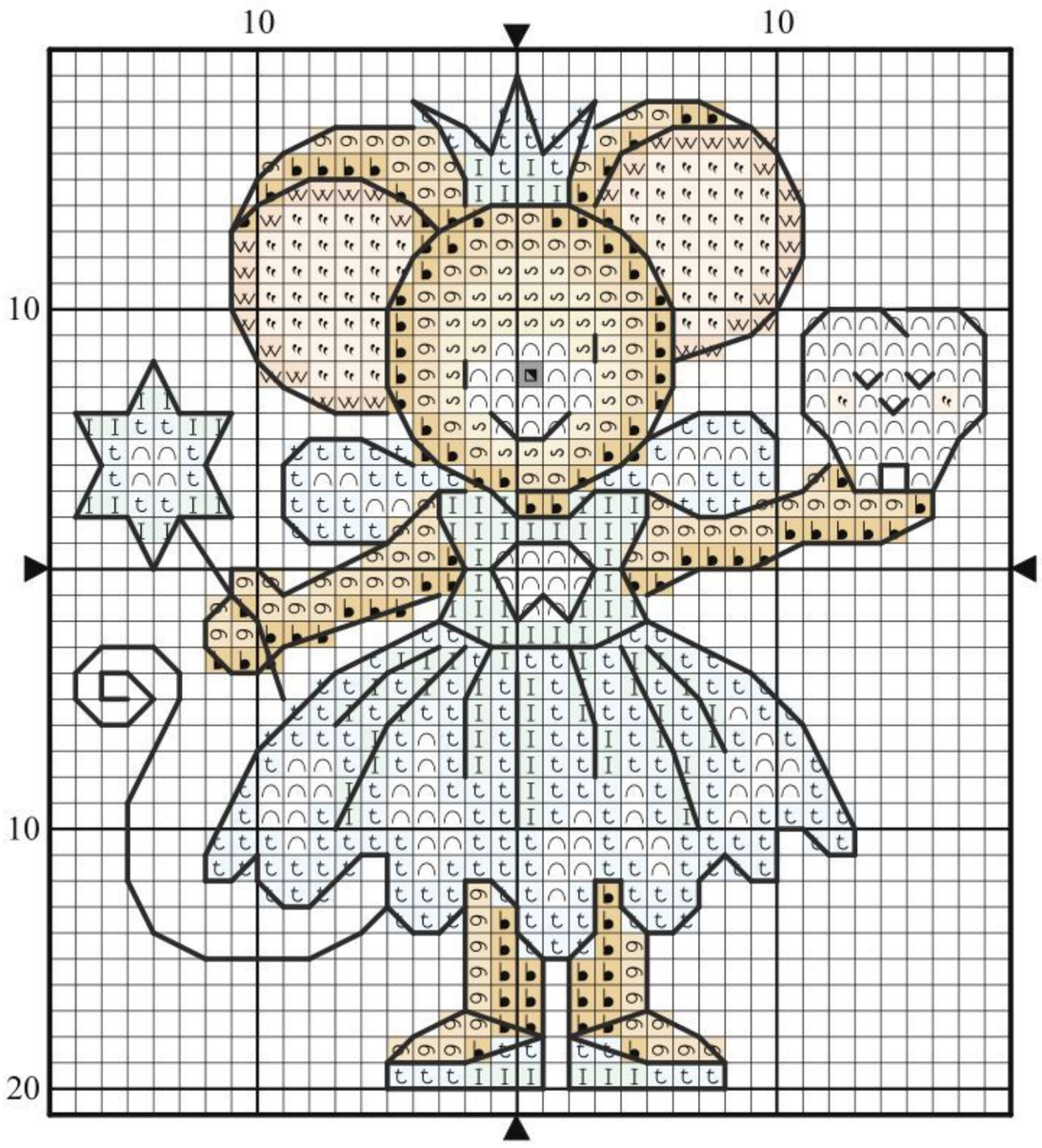
Lizzie's spreading Christmas cheer this year with her giant red glittering bauble.



ISSUE 312

Festive Monty is festooned with holly and wears a big red bow and a Santa hat.

For back issues, call ☎ 03330 162 137 or visit http://bit.ly/1NwX3Rv



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Peter Rabbit™ key

Cross stitch in two strands

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira	
◸	322	131	1004	blue
♥	349	1098	212	dark red
◹	351	10	214	red
◪	352	9	303	light red
◕	433	357	2602	dark brown
N	436	1045	2011	brown
×	437	362	2012	light brown
s	712	926	2101	light cream
b	739	366	2014	cream
A	818	23	502	pink
P	3755	140	1013	light blue

Backstitch in one strand

——	3799	236	1713	grey

French knots in one strand

○	712	926	2101	light cream

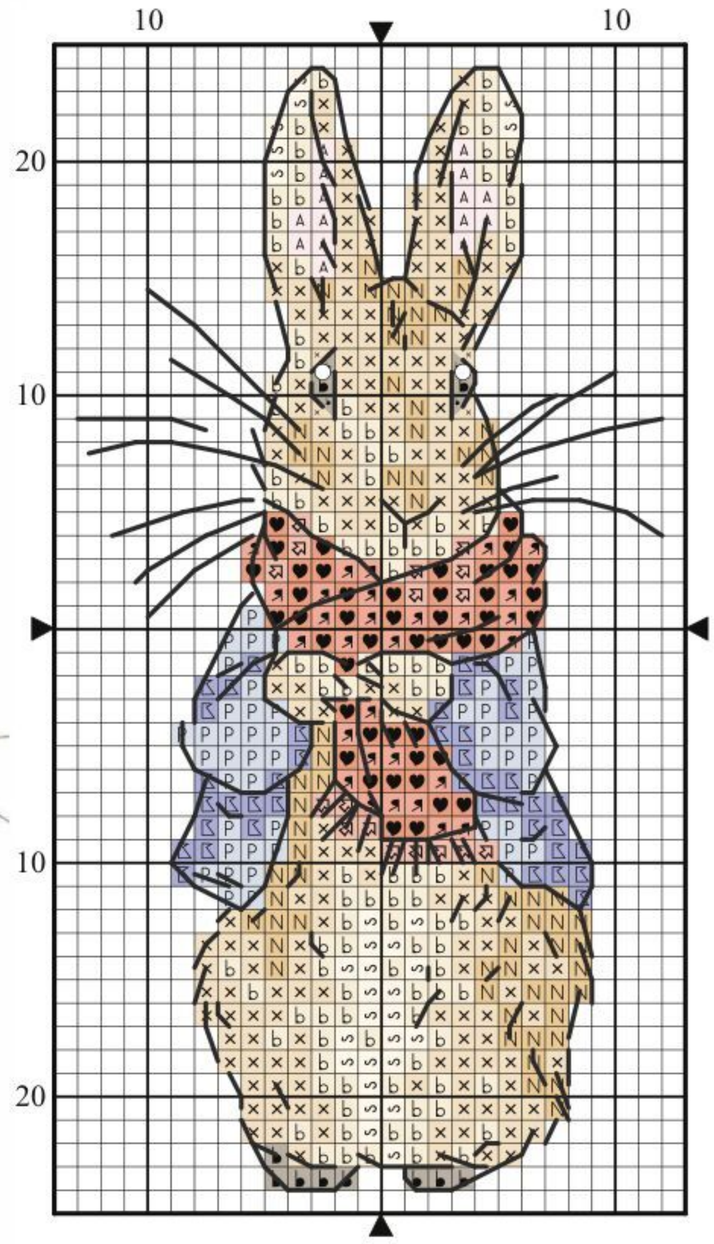
STITCH COUNT 48 high x 25 wide

DESIGN AREA 14 HPI (28-count evenweave) – 8.5x4.5cm (3½x1¾in)

ILLUSTRATION CONVERTED BY Fiona Baker

STITCHED BY Laura Boyter

This design was stitched using stranded cotton from your coverkit



Materials

- White 14-count aida measuring 14x8cm (5½x3in)
- Stranded cotton as listed below
- Printed tri-fold aperture card and envelope

Inside your kit...

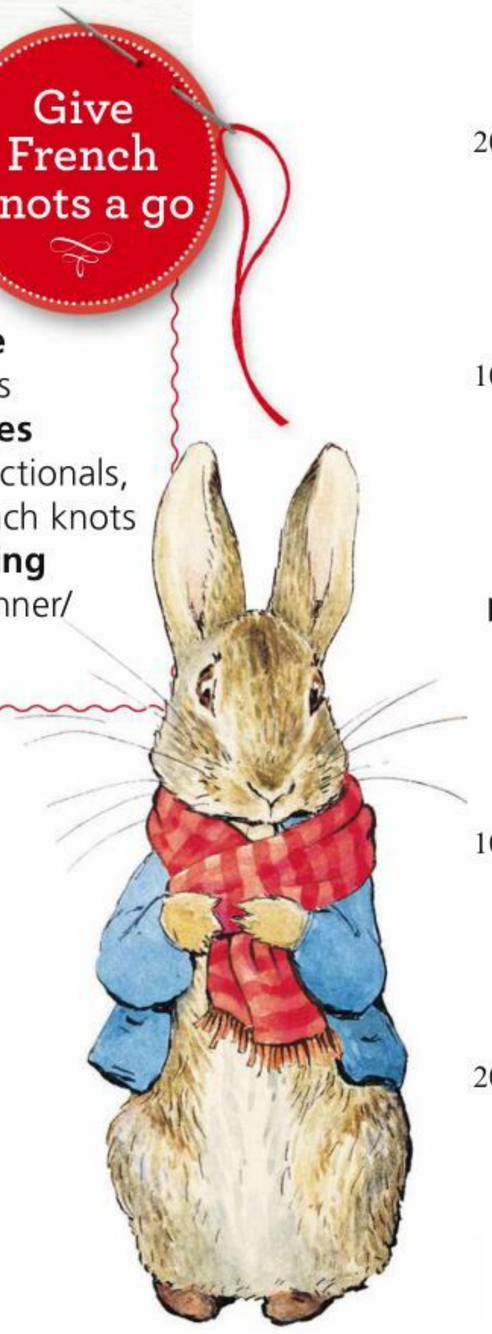
Here are the colours and number of lengths of thread

Blue x2	Light cream x2
Dark red x1	Cream x2
Red x1	Pink x1
Light red x1	Light blue x2
Dark brown x1	Grey x2
Brown x2	
Light brown x2	**Total:** 19 lengths

Give French knots a go

Factbox

- **Stitching Time** Approx. 8 hours
- **Type of Stitches** Cross stitch, fractionals, backstitch, French knots
- **Ease of Stitching** Advanced beginner/ intermediate



DESIGNED BY **MARIA DIAZ**

True romance

Capture a moment in time with this stylish couple as they take a turn around the country garden



Bright young things in a world full of possibilities, this chic couple look like they could have stepped straight from the pages of a novel, or even the set of a stylish period drama like *Downton Abbey*. You can just imagine them stood in the magnificent manicured grounds of the manor house they call home, with all their hopeful dreams for their future together embodied within.

Maria Diaz has managed to capture the style of the era with some sophisticated references to 1930s high fashion. You'll enjoy all the perfectly placed details, such as the gentleman's pocket handkerchief and the lady's fashionable patterned dress paired with pearls. Wearing her elegant overcoat and embroidered hat, her partner is perfectly matched in style in his dapper chequered jacket and fedora. Stitched on evenweave for a soft background finish, the flawless shading and tones bring this scene to life and radiate vintage elegance in every stitch. ➤

Factbox

Add metallic thread

- **Stitching Time**
  Approx. 80 hours
- **Type of Stitches**
  Cross stitch, fractionals, half cross stitch, backstitch
- **Ease of Stitching**
  Intermediate



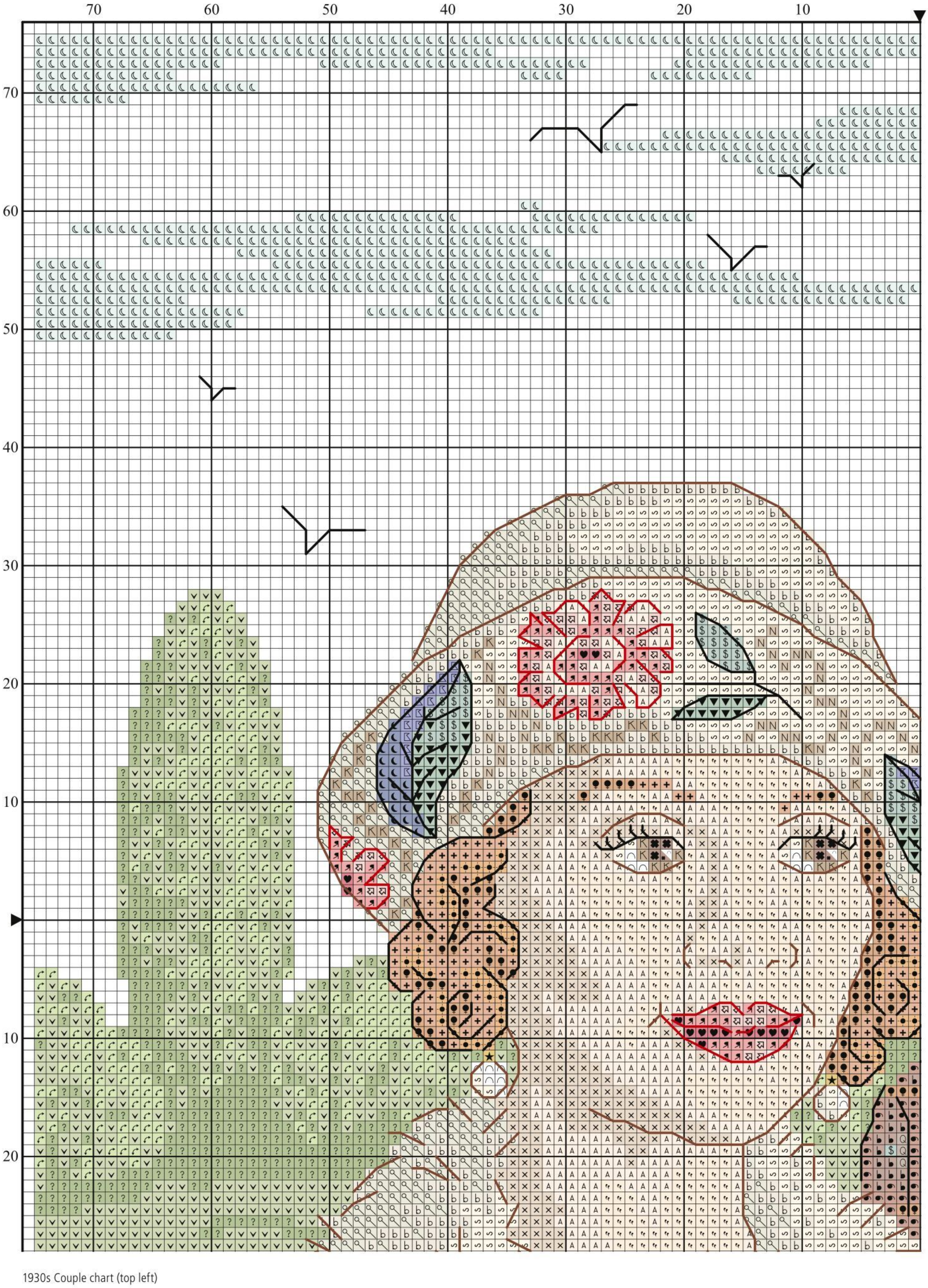
Meet the designer

Maria Diaz

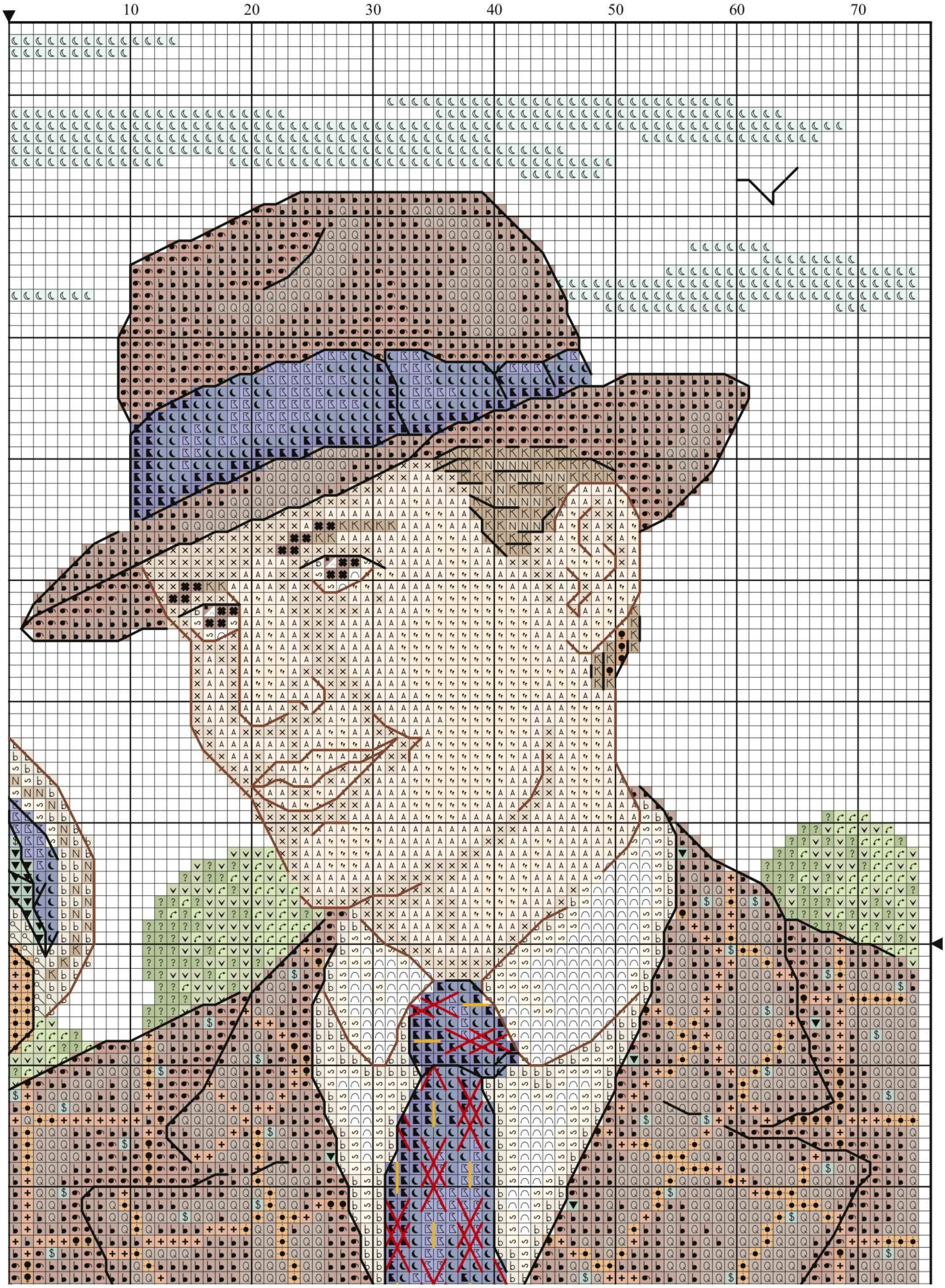
"It's always fun to play with the stylish patterns and textures of this period. I may not have the skill and patience to actually make something up to wear, but I hope you enjoy my cross stitch versions."

VINTAGE STYLE

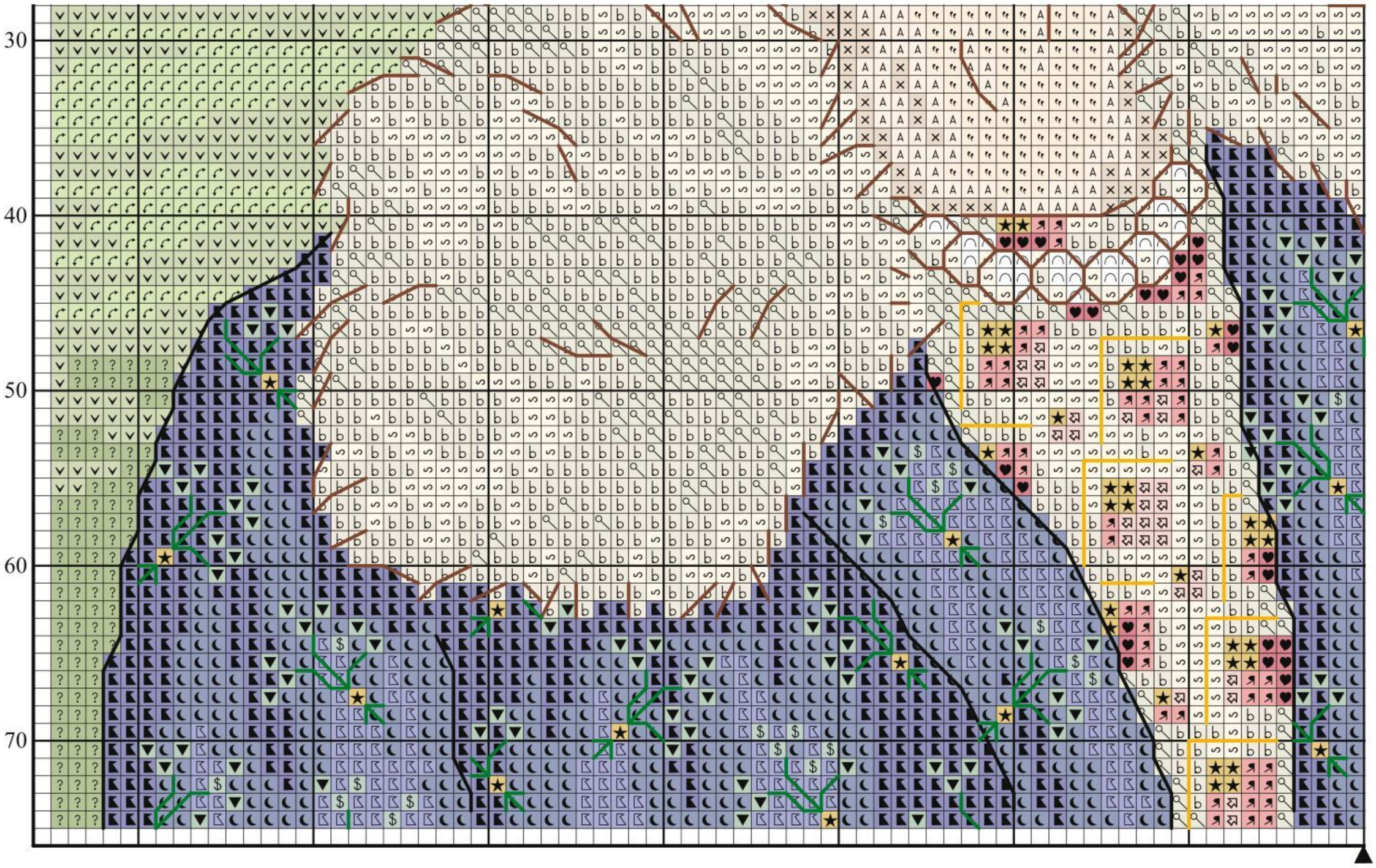
Make the perfect gift for period drama fans and complete the look with an ornate frame



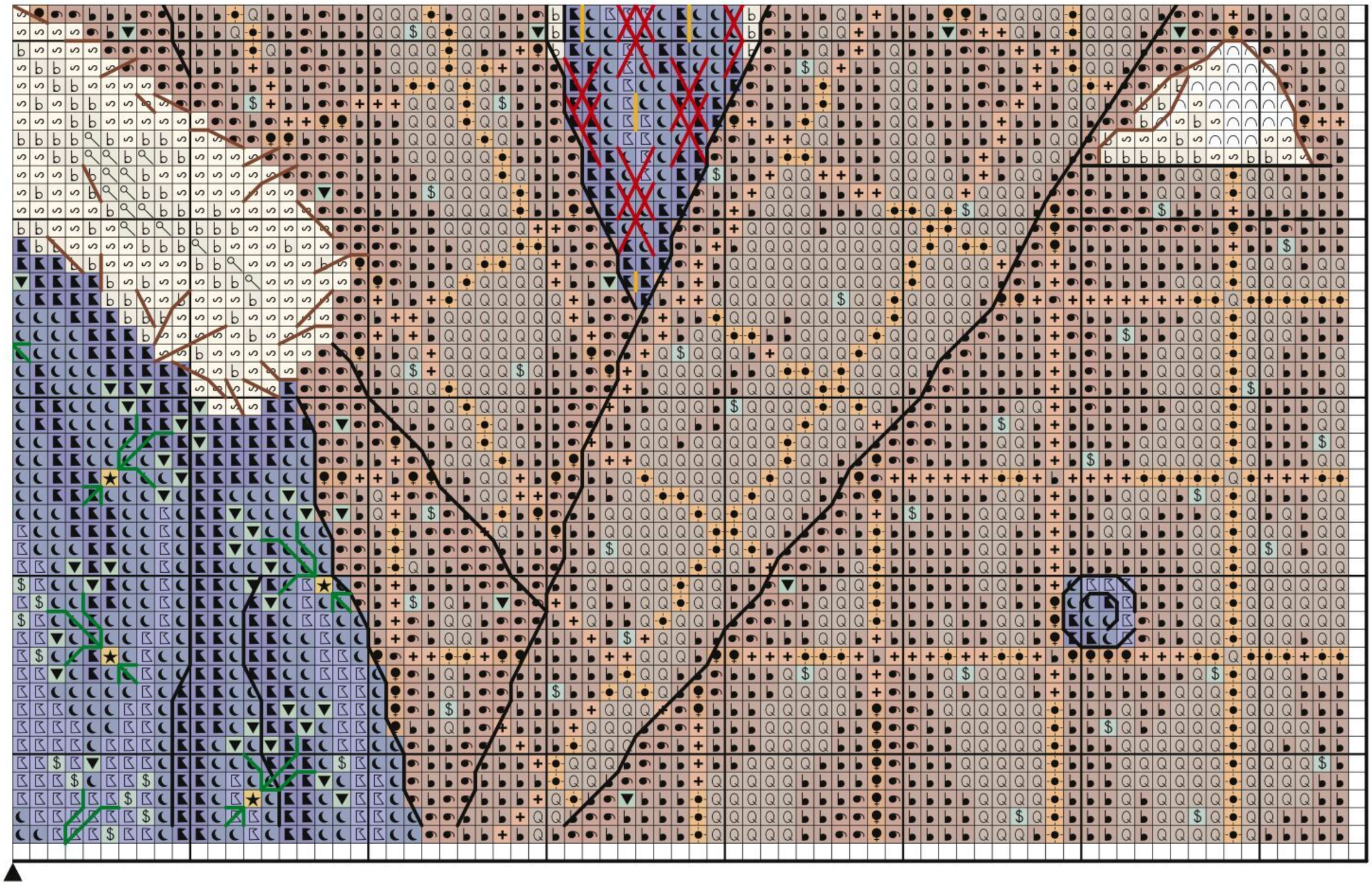
1930s Couple chart (top left)



1930s Couple chart (top right)



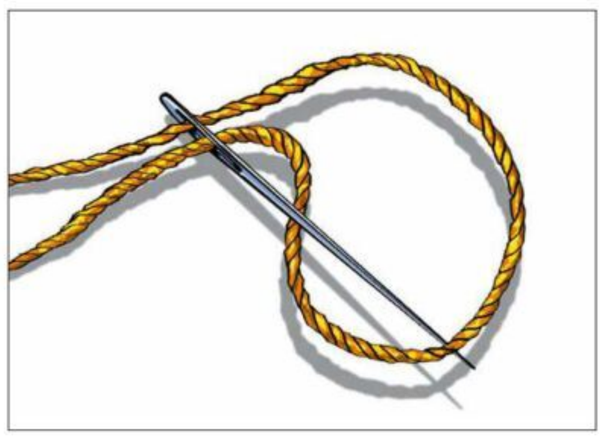
1930s Couple chart (bottom left)



1930s Couple chart (bottom right)

How to... stitch with metallics





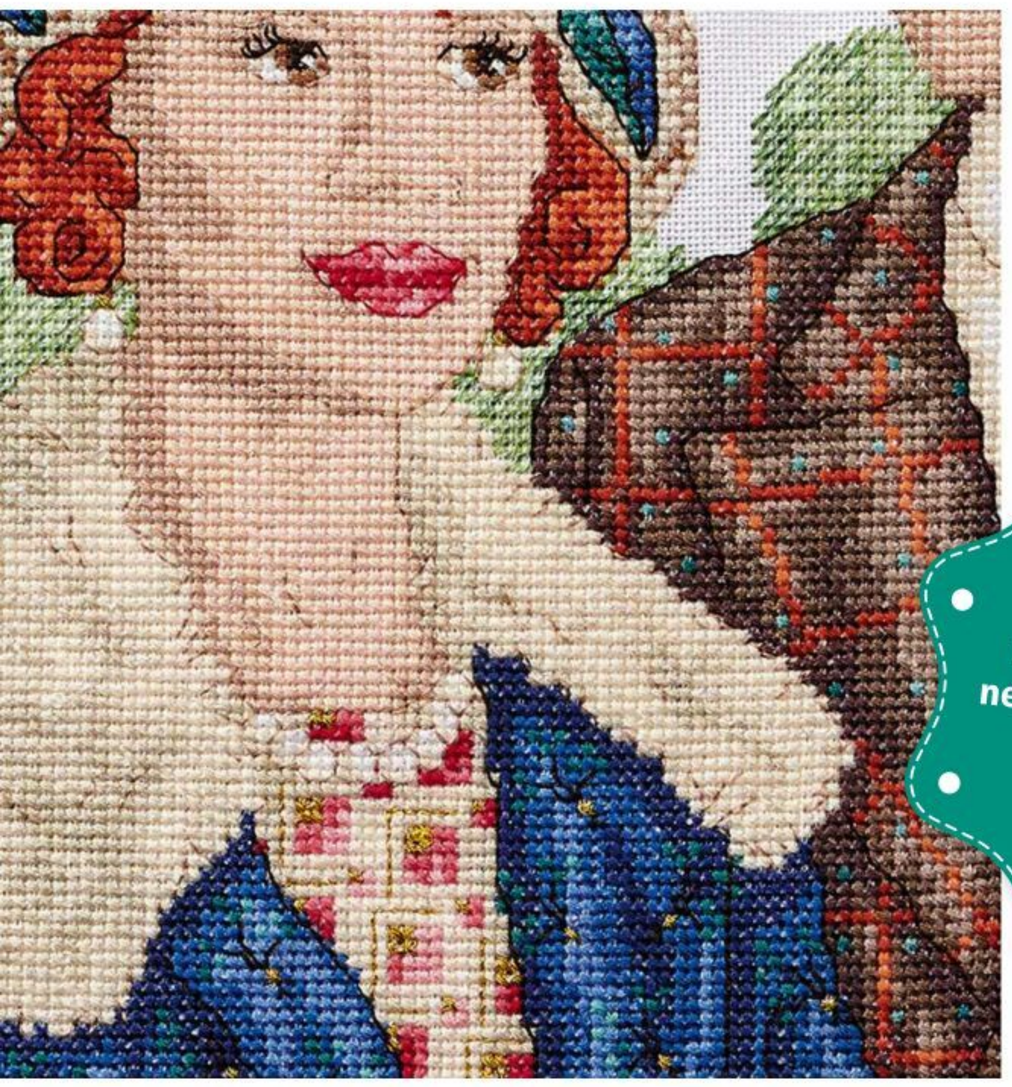
When threading metallic thread, if you are using two strands, cut a single length of thread and fold it in half. Feed the looped end through the eye of the needle and then pass over the point to secure the thread in place. This will keep the thread attached to the needle and prevent slipping. Also use a larger needle than you normally would. The hole in the fabric will be made bigger by the needle and the thread will pass through more easily.

Shopping list

- Zweigart* 28-count white evenweave measuring 43x43cm (17x17in)
- Stranded cotton and metallic thread as listed in the key
- Size 24 tapestry needle
- Frame and mount of your choice with a minimum aperture of 27x27cm (10¾x10¾in)

Thread & fabric cost
Approximately £44

*For stockists see page 90



Jayne
READER PANEL



"This romantic vintage design looks very classy. I love stitching people, especially from a bygone era. Their clothes look so smart, and I love her hat. This would look lovely framed at home."

TOP TIP
Invest in a gold-plated needle – they're smoother to glide through the fabric and should last longer

1930s Couple key

Cross stitch in two strands

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira	
◠	blanc	2	2402	white
Q	07	233	1806	beige
b	08	1050	1905	dark beige
9	09	381	1810	cocoa
☾	312	979	1005	dark blue
◺	322	131	1004	blue
♥	326	59	508	dark pink
↗	335	38	506	pink
◣	336	149	1007	navy blue
🔍	644	830	1814	grey
s	712	926	2101	cream
b	822	390	1908	pearl
N	841	1082	1911	mink brown
●	918	341	314	dark copper
+	920	1004	312	copper
⊙	922	1003	2306	light copper
A	950	4146	2309	peach
✿	3326	36	606	light pink
✖	3371	382	2004	chocolate brown
❧	3774	778	306	apricot
▼	3847	189	1204	teal
$	3849	1070	1109	light teal
K	3862	374	1913	brown
×	3864	376	1910	light brown

Cross stitch in two strands DMC Light Effects

★	E3852			dark gold

Half cross stitch in two strands

↶	164	240	1209	light green
☾	747	158	1104	sky blue
?	987	244	1403	dark green
✓	989	241	1401	green

Backstitch in one strand

—	326	59	508	dark pink
—	841	1082	1911	mink brown
—	3371	382	2004	chocolate brown
—	3847	189	1204	teal

Backstitch in one strand DMC Light Effects

—	E3852			dark gold

STITCH COUNT 150 high x 150 wide
DESIGN AREA 14 HPI (28-count evenweave) – 27x27cm (10¾x10¾in)
SKEINS NEEDED **2x08** (dark beige)
STITCHED BY Angela Ottewell

This design was stitched using DMC stranded cotton and DMC Light Effects on 28-count evenweave over two threads of the fabric

Your letters

We love to see your stitches and keep up with your news, so send your photos, letters and tips today!

Star Letter

ROYAL BLOOD LINE

I was astounded by the beauty of Kareen Taylerson's design of Henry VIII in issue 285 (October 2019). I kept the issue close at hand for months because I couldn't stop looking at the beautiful colours, but I wasn't sure why, as an American, I would stitch this picture. Something else I like to do, besides cross stitching, is research my family history, so I decided to see if Henry VIII was in my family line. I used the Family Tree app and I now know that I'm 70% British, and that Henry VIII married my 13th great aunt, Catherine Parr. How exciting! I was so thrilled with this news that I set out to stitch him right away. Now he'll hang in a place of honour in my home. I would love to stitch a picture of Catherine too.

Jenny Minichino, Utah, USA

Hannah F: *How fantastic to learn this about your family heritage, Jenny. It's just wonderful to be able to use these tools to find out more about our lineage – especially when it's as interesting as this! I'm so glad you found a reason to stitch Kareen's design. The detail is just incredible! I really hope you get to stitch Catherine too.*



✉ **Royal Blood Line**
Jenny's completed this regal stitch from issue 285

Little Dolly

Here's my attempt at the Jack Russell from issue 301's (Xmas 2020) Pet of the Month. Not only was it a brilliant design of the pup it was based on, but it was such an inspiration for me. My friend Martin has a Jack Russell called Dolly, and with just a few changes here and there I was able to change Durene's design to look more like Dolly! I find that one of the great things about Durene's designs is how easy it is to add personal touches.

Deborah Richardson, via email

Lynne: *Durene does a fab job doesn't she. We love that you were able to adapt a Pet of the Month to suit a pet in your life, Deborah. You've done such a lovely job here and I bet Martin was chuffed with this thoughtful gift.*



✉ **Little Dolly**
Deborah made this Pet of the Month stitch her own

Win!

Our Star Letter writer wins two adorable kits designed by Peter Underhill (RRP £19.95), as well as a wonderful new design from Karen Carter (RRP £27.56) from Heritage Crafts*.

MORE: For more details visit www.hcrafts.com



Meet The World of Cross Stitching team...



WRITE TO US AT: Letters, The World of Cross Stitching, Immediate Media Co, Eagle House, Bristol BS1 4ST

Everyone's favourite big cat

Although I love to stitch small projects like cards for friends and family, now and then I need to stitch a large design. This beautiful 'Realistic Tiger' from issue 293 (May 2020) took me three months to finish and was a joy to work on. Now I just have to choose the right frame for this majestic big cat.

Hennie van der Duim, The Netherlands

Fiona: *This has been such a popular project. Designed by the talented Jenny Barton in 2020, it was a firm fave here on the editorial team. We originally had it made up as a cushion finished off with chunky beads and tassels but we've seen it made up and presented in a few different ways now and have been so impressed by all of them. Yours is no exception, Hennie. All of your hard work has certainly paid off – the beautiful creature's eyes are so captivating aren't they. I'm sure you're going to love hanging this up somewhere for everyone to compliment on when they visit your home.*

For anyone after more big cat stitches, you'll be thrilled to know there's another coming soon in issue 316 (February 2022). Turn to page 94 for a sneak peek at a stunning Hannah Dale design.



✉ **Fave big cat**
Hennie can't wait to see this in a frame

BE MINE, VALENTINE

The World of Cross Stitching has never failed me yet, and I enjoyed every stitch of this very beautiful and yet easy to make Valentine's card in issue 303 (February 2021). It also helped to pass the time during the pandemic.

Peggy Thomas, Bristol

Sue: *Thanks for the kind words, Peggy and we're so pleased to hear you enjoyed stitching the card. I hope your Valentine sent you one too!*



✉ **Be Mine, Valentine**
Peggy passed time during the pandemic stitching this romantic card



✉ **Tea time**
Linda found this lovely chart in a charity shop

Tea time

I wanted to show you one of my favourite finds from a charity shop. I love to drink tea, so when I found this Bothy Threads* kit called 'Dictionary of Tea' I was very happy. Someone had started the stitch but had only done about one square inch, and it only cost me a couple of pounds. When I got home, I sorted the threads, got a new piece of material and got started on it myself the very next day.

Linda West, via email

Emily: *What a find, Linda. I love charity shopping almost as much as I love tea and stitching so can certainly see the appeal. My fave has to be the Belgian bun tea pot – what a fun stitch to complete and it's brilliant in the white frame too. I bet it looks great hung up.*

Perfect Present



✉ **Custom hangings**
These cute hangings inspired by *WOXS* ABCs made great gifts for Marion's loved ones

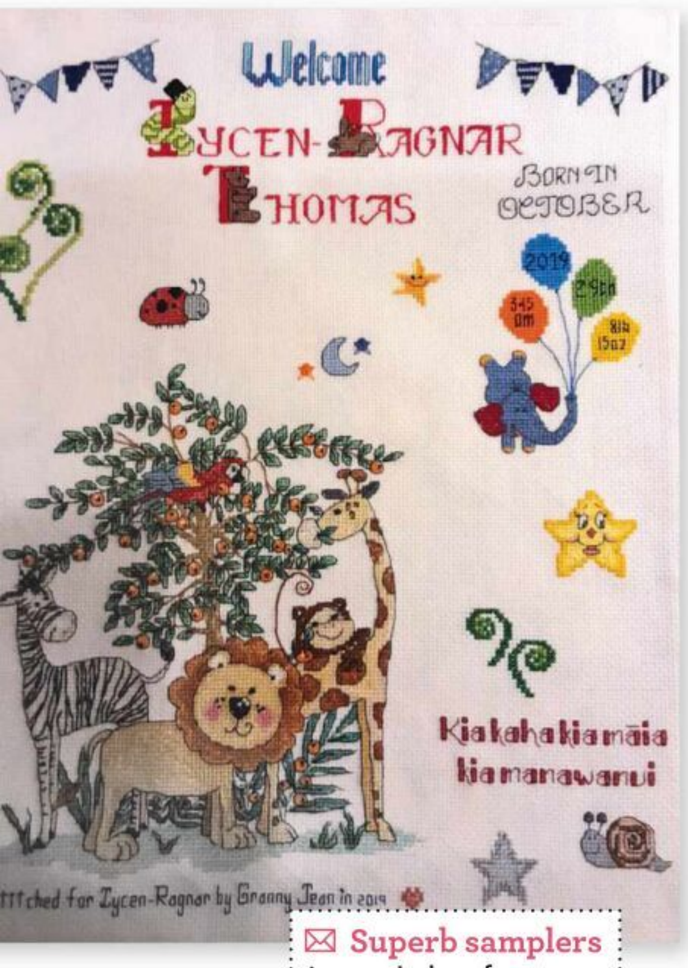
CUSTOM HANGINGS

I didn't know what to give to my great nephew and great niece for Christmas, so I thought I'd make them a hanging for their bedrooms. I went through some back issues of your magazine, found these alphabet charts and got stitching straight away. This was a different sort of project for me, but I was pleased with the end result. Thanks for the lovely charts.

Marion Kinsman, via email

Hannah E: *Handmade gifts are always the most thoughtful don't you think? I just love how you've customised the alphabets for each child, Marion. I bet the kids were thrilled to open these. You've given me some gift inspo for someone I was struggling to buy for with this letter as well actually. Thanks!*

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Superb samplers
Jean stitches for every new baby in her family

Superb samplers

When I read the query from Kay Jones in issue 304 (March 2021), asking what she could stitch for her new great grandchild, and Hannah E suggested a jungle scene from issue 272 (October 2018), it reminded me that I already used the same chart myself for a new baby.

I like to make a sampler for every new baby in our family and often use a large design and arrange motifs from various sources along with the little one's name to reflect each family's heritage. The attached photo shows what I did with the jungle one.

Jean Hoskins, via email

Hannah E: *This is such a wonderful idea, Jean. I love that you try to incorporate a few designs to suit each family. I wonder how many you've made over the years? I expect they're all treasured family heirlooms. We've got a sampler you might like to use sometime in next month's issue (316, February 2022) too. Designed by Lucie Heaton (see p94) the chart is intended as a special stitch for new adoptive parents and can be used for birth children as well.*

Fantastic fairy

Here's a photo of me holding my work of art. I previously planned to donate my picture to a hospital for sick children, but due to Covid-19 this wasn't possible. I really want to donate it somewhere that supports little ones, because I love them, and because of my disability I've never had my own. I am hoping you will print my picture because this will bring joy to my friends and family, who have assured me that I have artistic talent.

Suzie Bergeron, via email

Emily: *I totally agree with your friends and family, Suzie. You certainly do have a talent and this fairy stitch is absolutely beautiful. I'm sure it will be a much appreciated donation!*



Fab fairy
Suzie intends to donate this stunning stitch to support children



Lovely bunch
We adore Rebekah's bright stitchy gift. Her mother-in-law was thrilled too

LOVELY BUNCH

I just wanted to share the 'Sunny Daffodils' project I completed from issue 292 (April 2020), which I made as a Christmas present for my mother-in-law. I really enjoyed stitching this and she was really pleased with it. It's now hanging in the hallway so everyone can see it when they visit – when we're allowed of course! Thank you for the great projects you provide every month.

Rebekah Smith, via email

Sue: *This looks stunning framed like this, Rebekah. I bet it brightens your mother-in-law's days all year round.*

Sweet Flossie

I hope you're all safe and well. I wanted to share my recent finish. I loved her the moment I saw her in issue 295 (July 2020) and I had to stitch her. I adore the bright colours and that she's a unicorn. I hope you like my stitch.

Marie Mabbett, via email

Hannah F: *We absolutely lover her, Marie. Thanks so much for sharing this fun stitch with us – she's so pretty.*



Sweet Flossie
Marie couldn't resist this Furry Tales unicorn stitch

Subs Stars



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Each month we randomly select three subscribers to win a prize as a thank you

This month's winners are:
- Clare Smith, Cirencester
- Jeni Brown, Peterlee
- Jane Milner, Kidderminster

To subscribe turn to page 44

Prizes every month!

The lucky winners will each get a Bothy Threads 'Love Winter' kit by Kim Anderson, which includes everything needed to complete it. Immediate Media Co, publishers of *The World of Cross Stitching*, Subs Stars giveaway Terms and Conditions: Prizes were dispatched before the on sale date of this issue. There are no cash alternatives. Winning entries will be chosen at random from all current subscribers. The draw is final and no correspondence will be entered into.

WRITE TO US AT: Letters, The World of Cross Stitching, Immediate Media Co, Eagle House, Bristol BS1 4ST

SWEET DREAMS, SLEEPING PRINCESS

Here's my daughter modelling the 'Sleeping Princess' by Mirabilia* which I have been working on since August 2020. The colours really pop and with hardly any backstitch it was a joy to stitch. I can't wait to get it framed.

Diane Loveridge, via email

Fiona: *This is such an incredibly detailed project. Mirabilia are well know for their intricate, ethereal designs and this is no exception. I love the jewel colours, especially all the deep purple shades, and all the embellishments with beads and metallic thread too. What a triumph. Your daughter looks absolutely delighted by it as well. I wonder if she'll allow you to hang it anywhere but her room once it's back from the framer?*



Sleeping princess
Diane's daughter looks delighted by this stunning and detailed stitch

Rainbow unicorn

My nine-year-old daughter isn't one for reading, so I thought it might be nice to stitch her the bookmark from issue 303 (February 2021) to see if it spurs her on a little.

I used to cross stitch when I was about her age, and I picked it up again before lockdown.

Helen Warner, via email

Hannah E: *I'm sure your daughter found this really encouraging, Helen. It would really make me want to read... and cross stitch!*



Rainbow unicorn
Helen stitched this to encourage her daughter

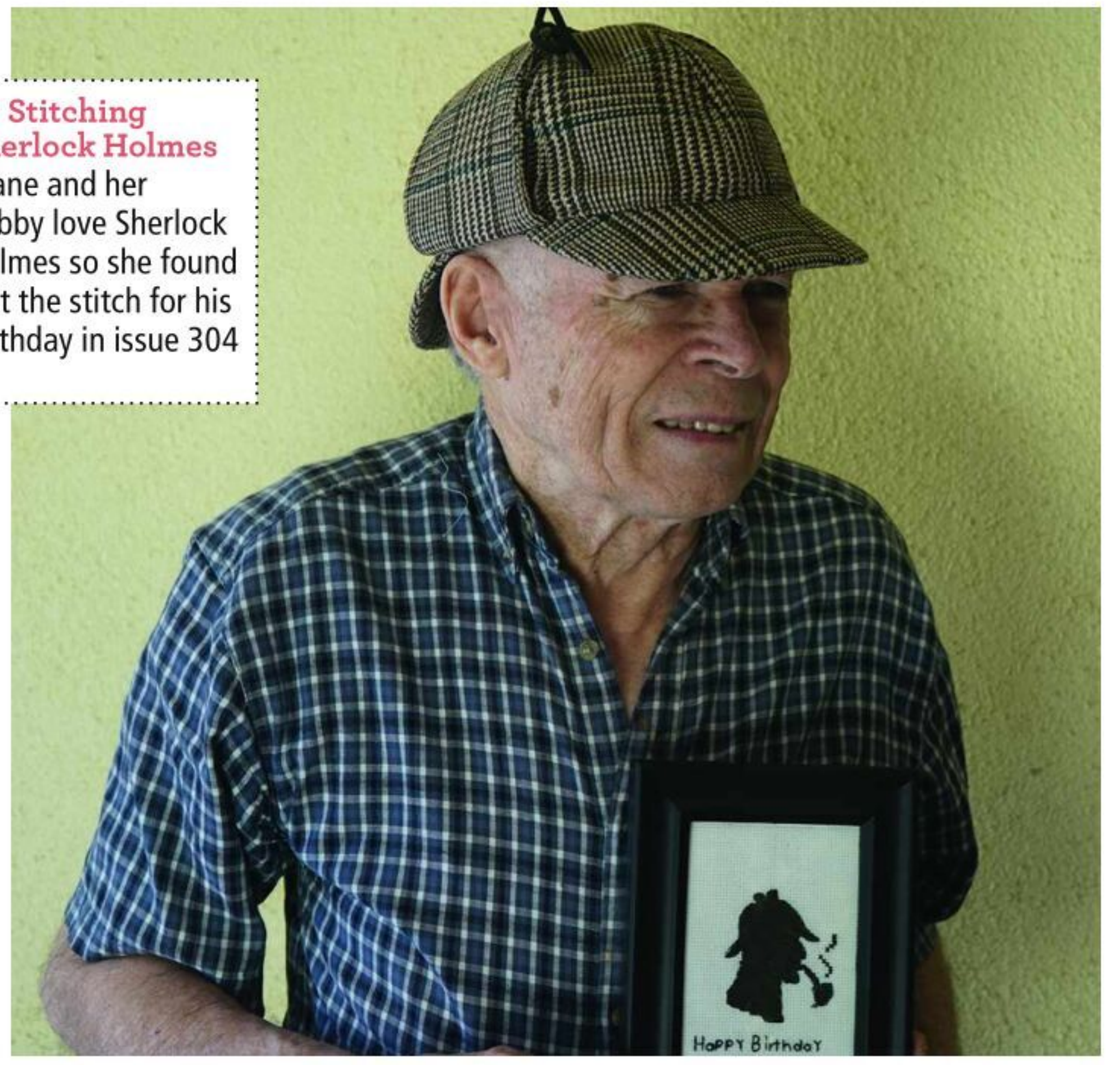
Stitching Sherlock Holmes

My husband and I are huge Sherlock Holmes fans. When I saw Jenny Barton's silhouette of Sherlock in issue 304 (March 2021) I just had to make it for my husband's birthday. Here he is pictured in his deer stalker hat with the stitch, which I framed for his birthday. He bought his hat from Christies, and he gets compliments every time he wears it. I once saw Basil Rathbone in person – he played Sherlock Holmes in the 1940s and 1950s movies!

Diane Cullings, USA

Lynne: *This sounds like it was absolutely the best present you could have found for your husband, Diane. His hat is wonderful too. Thanks heaps for sharing this brilliant photo of him holding his pressie. I bet he was delighted with it.*

We're huge fans of the BBC's Sherlock series here at the mag. Some scenes for series two and three were actually filmed here in Bristol right around the corner from our office, so you can just imagine where we all spent our lunch breaks most of that week!



Stitching Sherlock Holmes
Diane and her hubby love Sherlock Holmes so she found just the stitch for his birthday in issue 304

If you're included in the photo holding your stitching, then we'll boost the size of the prize as it's always lovely to see your friendly faces!

SEND US YOUR NEWS

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***The World of Cross Stitching*, Immediate Media Co, Eagle House, Bristol BS1 4ST**

Get in touch on Facebook, too!



Each letter printed only in *The World of Cross Stitching* and not in any other cross stitching magazines will win a crafty mystery prize!



*For stockists see page 90

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DESIGNED BY **ALYSSA WESTHOEK** OF STITCHONOMY

Wintry wonders

This sweet quartet of Arctic animals is the ideal project to snuggle up and stitch this season



Scandi designs continue to grow in popularity and it's not hard to see why – the pretty graphic patterns are easy to stitch and are a welcome addition to home dècor. This delightful contemporary collection of animals is no exception!

The stylish set is designed by Alyssa Westhoek from Stitchonomy, who's known for her modern take on traditional embroidery. Using whole stitches only and in a colour scheme perfect for this frosty time of year, Alyssa has cleverly shaped traditional geometric patterns to make a fox, owl, deer and narwhal – creatures who all make their home in the snowy landscapes of the Arctic.

While beginners will appreciate the simplicity of the designs, more experienced stitchers will enjoy using dark-coloured aida and completing the set in just a few evenings. Mounted in an embroidery hoop that's painted white for a simple and sleek finish, you'll enjoy finding a home for these modern stitches. We bet you'll stitch a few as gifts too! ➤

Great beginner project

Factbox

- **Stitching Time**
  Approx. 3-5 hours each
- **Type of Stitches**
  Cross stitch
- **Ease of Stitching**
  Beginner



Meet the designer

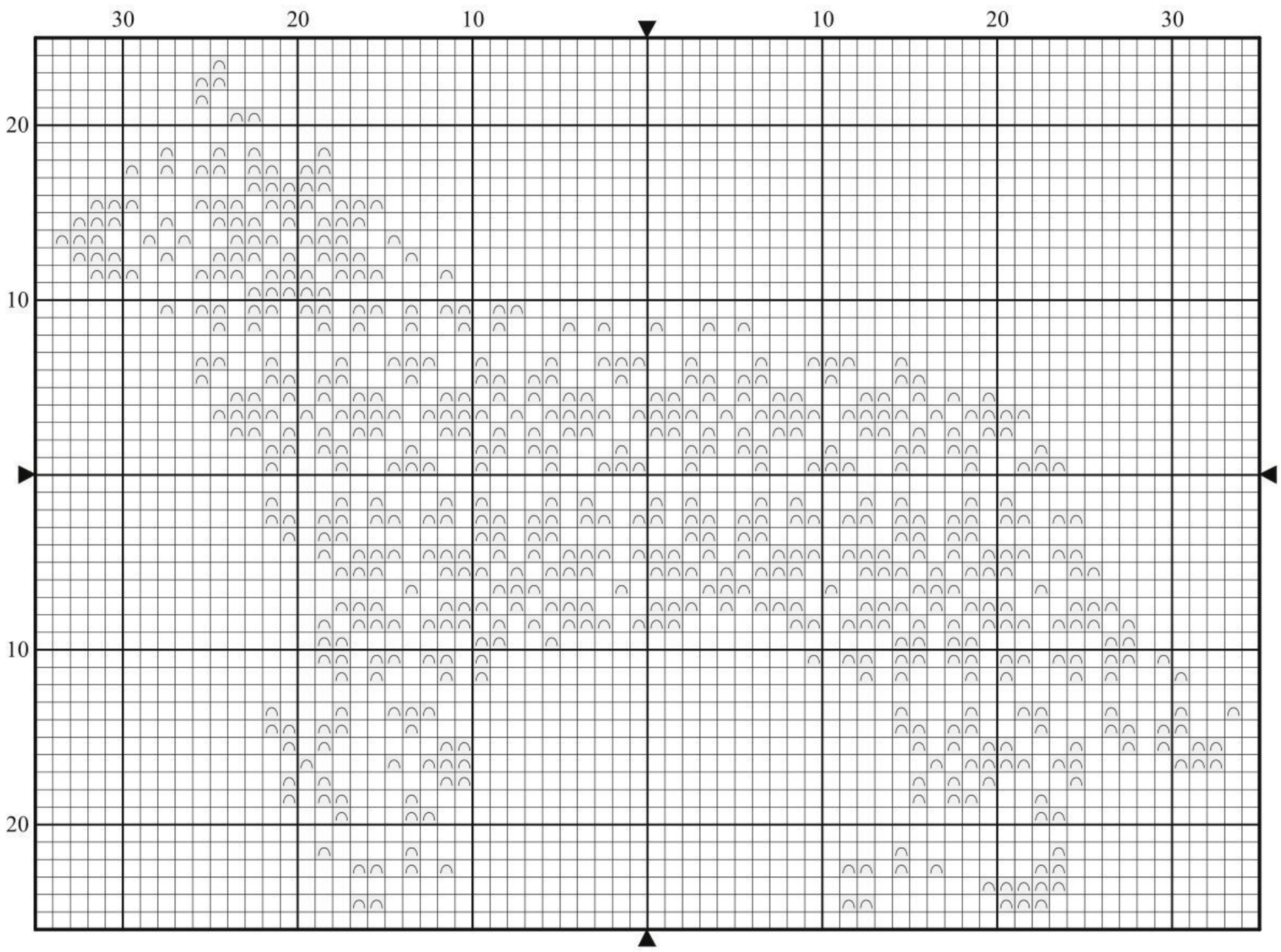
Alyssa Westhoek

"I love designing seasonal cross stitching projects and these cute critters were a joy to bring to life. My favourite design is the narwhal – it's the closest creature we have to a real-life unicorn!"

SCANDI HOME DÈCOR

Go on a journey to the snowy Arctic when you stitch one of these four winter creatures

Project Scandi Animals







Leanne READER PANEL

“I love these pretty Scandi-style patterns. They’re very simple yet effective and the contrast against the navy aida is brilliant. I think these will make great gifts for my friends and family.”

TOP TIP

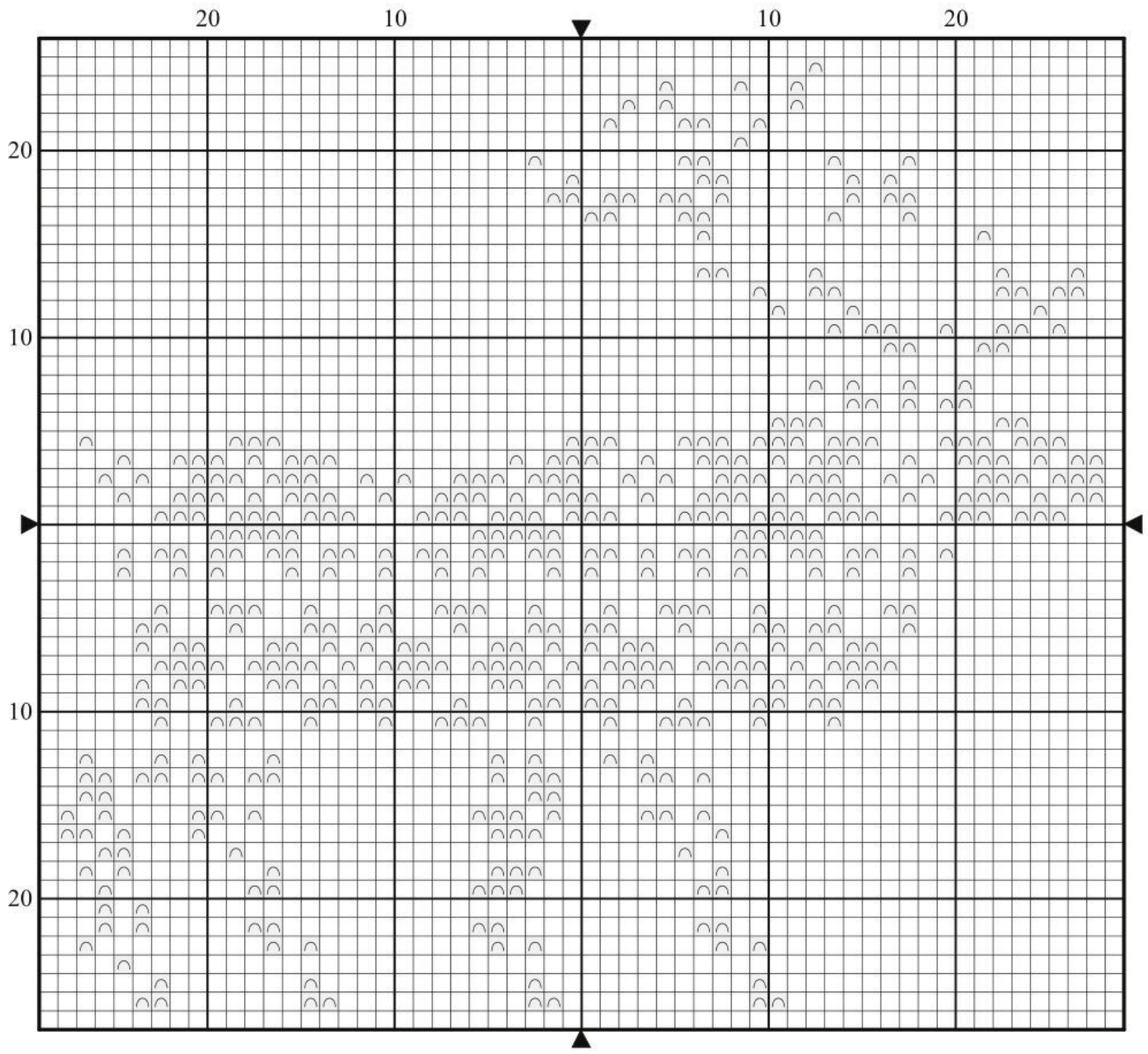
If you’re struggling to see the holes in the navy aida, place a white pillowcase or towel on your lap whilst stitching

Shopping list

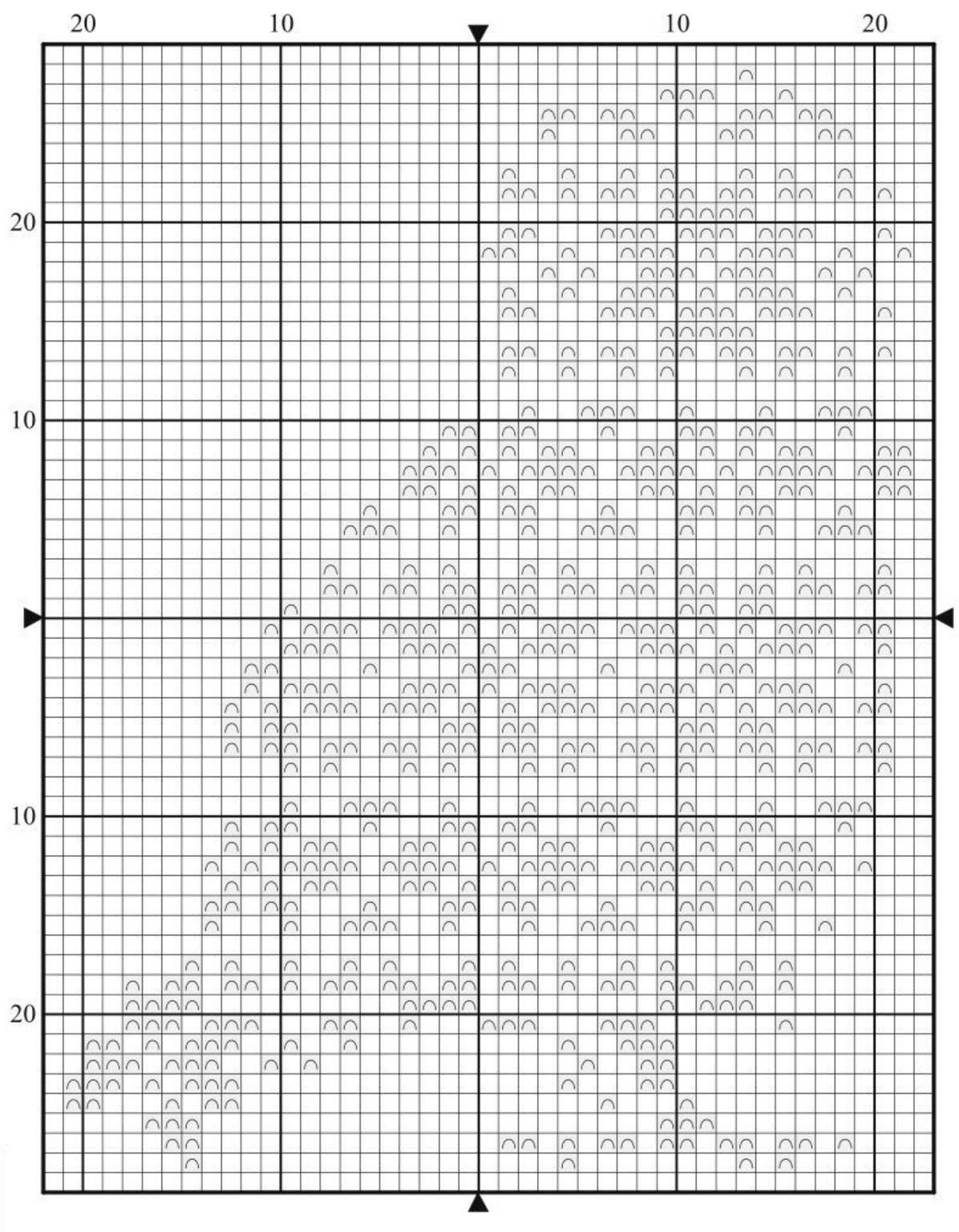
- Zweigart* 14-count navy (589) aida measuring 23x23cm (9x9in) for each design
- Stranded cotton as listed in the key
- Size 24 tapestry needle
- 6in wooden embroidery hoops, white paint and navy felt for backing of your choice from local stores

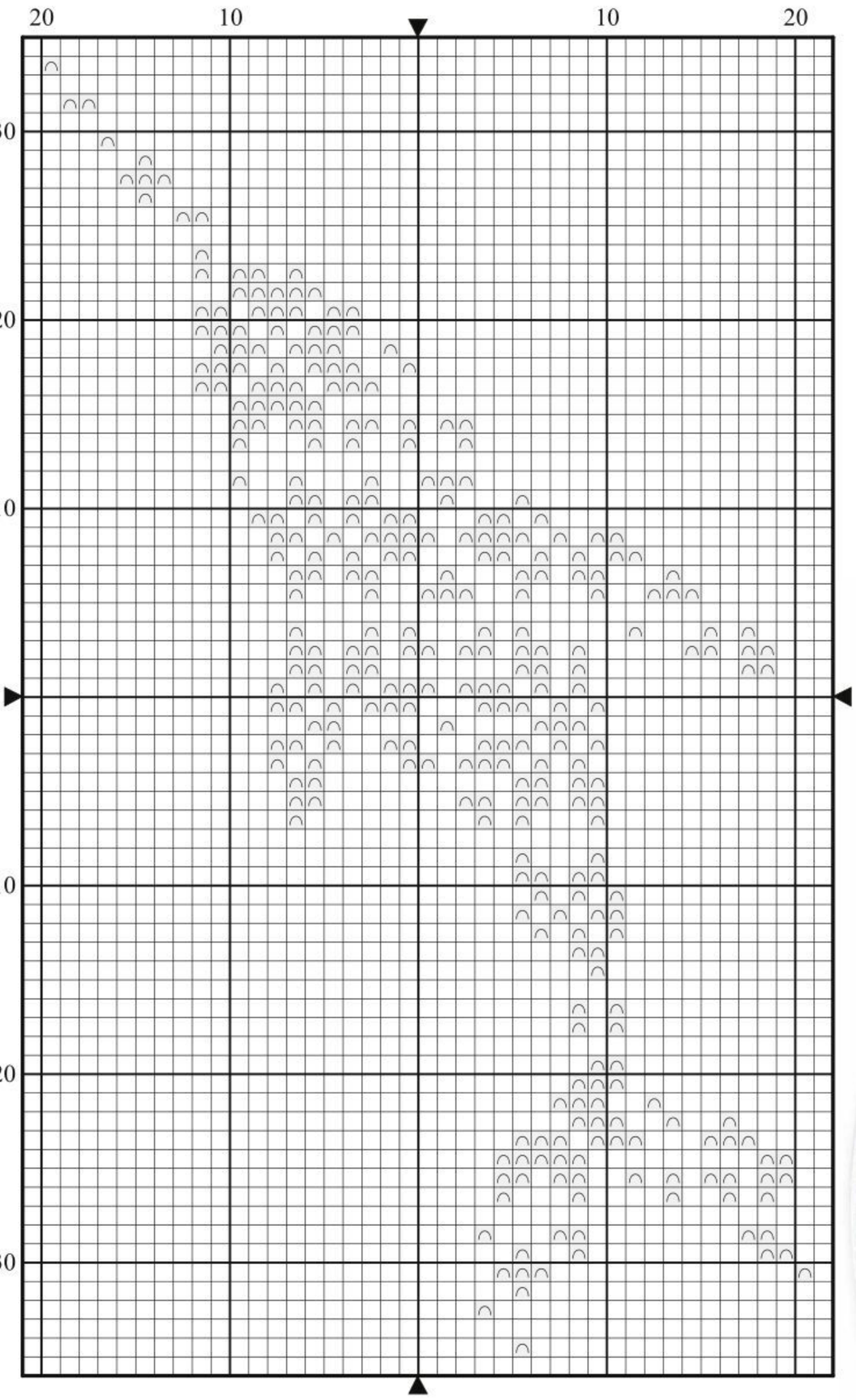
Thread & fabric cost
Approximately £10

*For stockists see page 90









Scandi Animals key

✖ **Cross stitch in three strands**

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira	
∩	blanc	2	2402	white

MAXIMUM STITCH COUNT 69 high x 68 wide

DESIGN AREA 14 HPI (28-count evenweave) – 12.5x12.5cm (5x4¾in)

STITCHED BY Julieanne Charles

These designs were stitched using DMC stranded cotton



www.gathered.how/woxs

DESIGNED BY **JENNY BARTON**

Blooming lovely

Dismiss winter blues with a stunning snow-kissed red rose to add to your stitching pile



Winter can evoke all kinds of images of snow-capped landscapes and cold frosty nights, but nature finds a way to survive even the harshest of conditions and it manages to create spectacular sights like this magnificent red rose. Set against a vintage grey background, the vibrant reds look all the more glorious and would certainly brighten your day, no matter what the weather's doing outside.

The snow-tipped petals and metallic highlights add a sense of magic to this pattern, and with falling snow dotted around the outside it makes an eye-catching scene to stitch. Designer Jenny Barton has created the realistic shading using six shades of red thread, adding a real depth to the botanical splendour. The deep green leaves contrast with this exquisitely.

We've finished it in a simple wooden embroidery hoop painted white for ultimate elegance. Just imagine the look on a loved one's face if you were to gift them this. ➤

Factbox

Stitch on linen

- **Stitching Time**
  Approx. 60 hours
- **Type of Stitches**
  Cross stitch, fractionals, backstitch
- **Ease of Stitching**
  Intermediate

Meet the designer

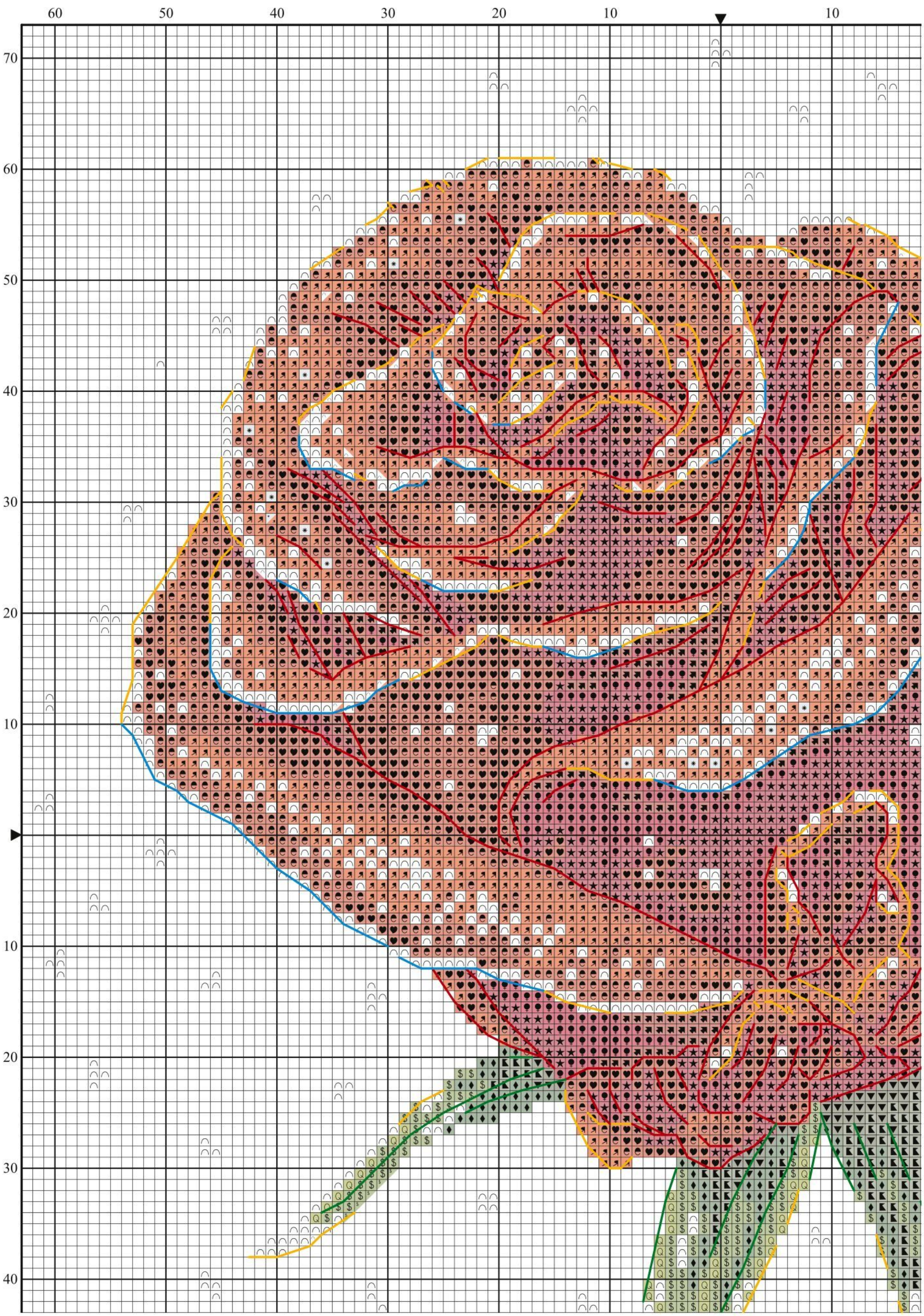


Jenny Barton

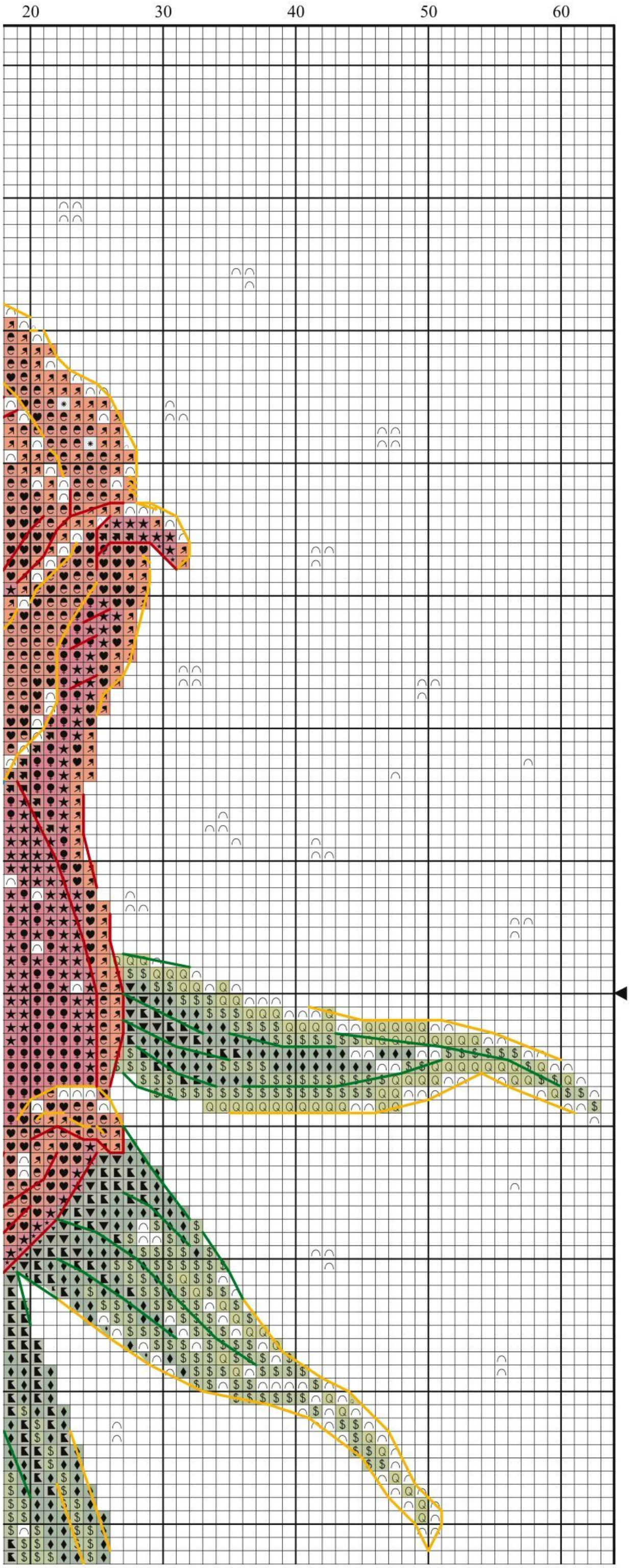
"I'd been looking at some amazing biro drawings on Pinterest and decided to try one for myself. I drew one of my birthday roses and I was so happy with it I was inspired to translate it into cross stitch."

WINTER HOOP ART

Florals aren't just for summer – enhance your winter décor with this vibrant rose on chic grey fabric



Seasonal Rose chart (top left)



Seasonal Rose key

✖ Cross stitch in two strands

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira	
◠	blanc	2	2402	white
*	01	397	1805	grey
♥	304	19	511	cherry red
e	321	9046	510	dark red
↗	666	46	210	red
◥	814	22	601	dark ruby
●	815	44	513	ruby
★	816	1006	512	light ruby
▼	934	862	1506	dark green
◣	936	269	1507	green
♦	3362	263	1601	dark pine green
$	3363	262	1602	pine green
Q	3364	260	1603	light pine green

✖ Backstitch in one strand

—	blanc	2	2402	white
—	815	44	513	ruby
—	934	862	1506	dark green

✖ Backstitch in one strand DMC Light Effects

—	E5200			metallic white

STITCH COUNT 144 high x 125 wide

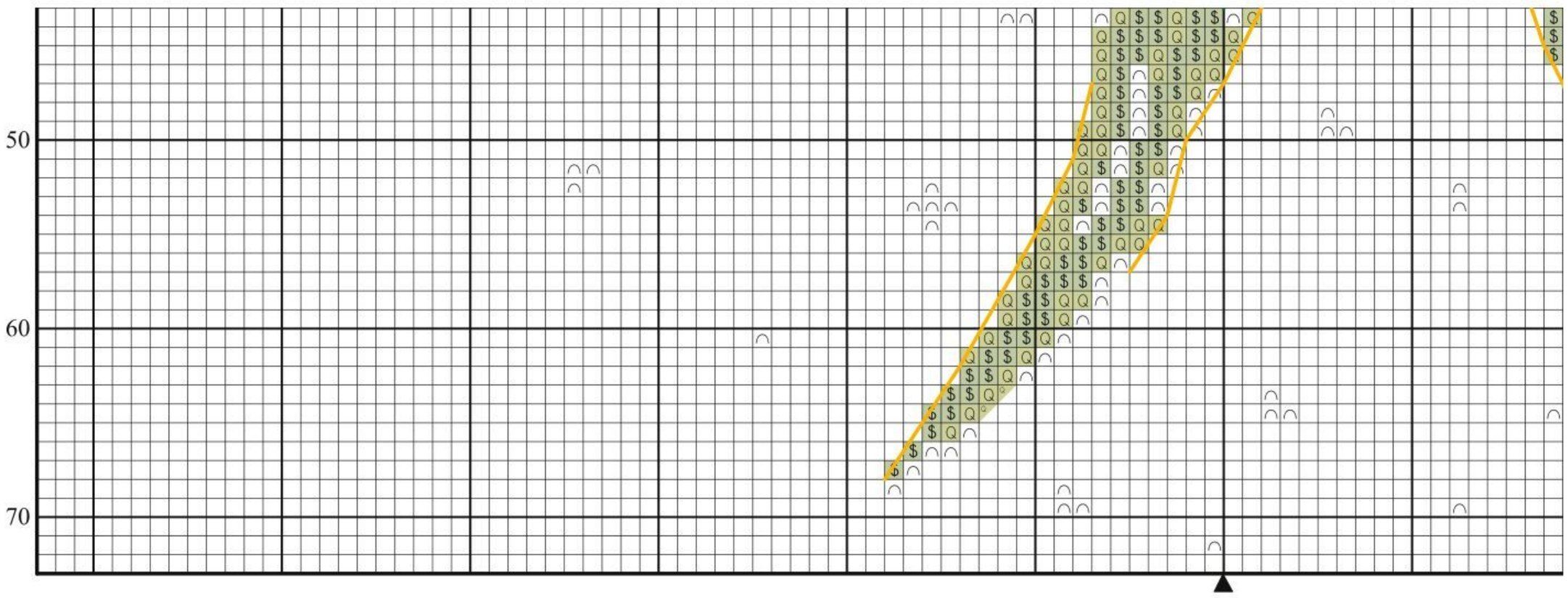
DESIGN AREA 14 HPI (28-count evenweave) – 26x22.5cm (10¼x9in)

STITCHED BY Jessica Zwerdling-Wilkins

This design was stitched using DMC stranded cotton and DMC Light Effects on 28-count evenweave over two threads of the fabric



Seasonal Rose chart (top right)

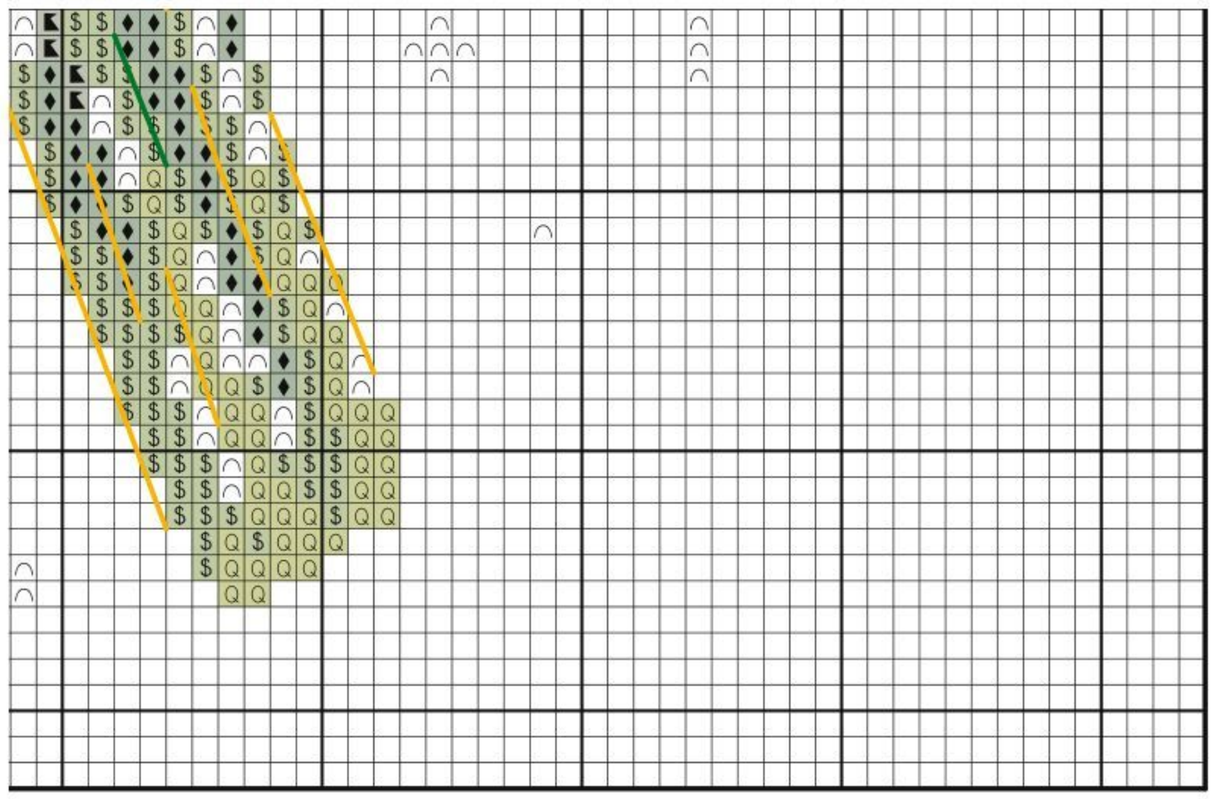


Seasonal Rose chart (bottom left)

Melina READER PANEL



"What a beautifully detailed rose. It's a true symbol of love and perfect for this time of year. I think I'd stitch this and then frame in classic dark wood to help make the deep red shades used for the petals really pop."



Seasonal Rose chart (bottom right)



TOP TIP

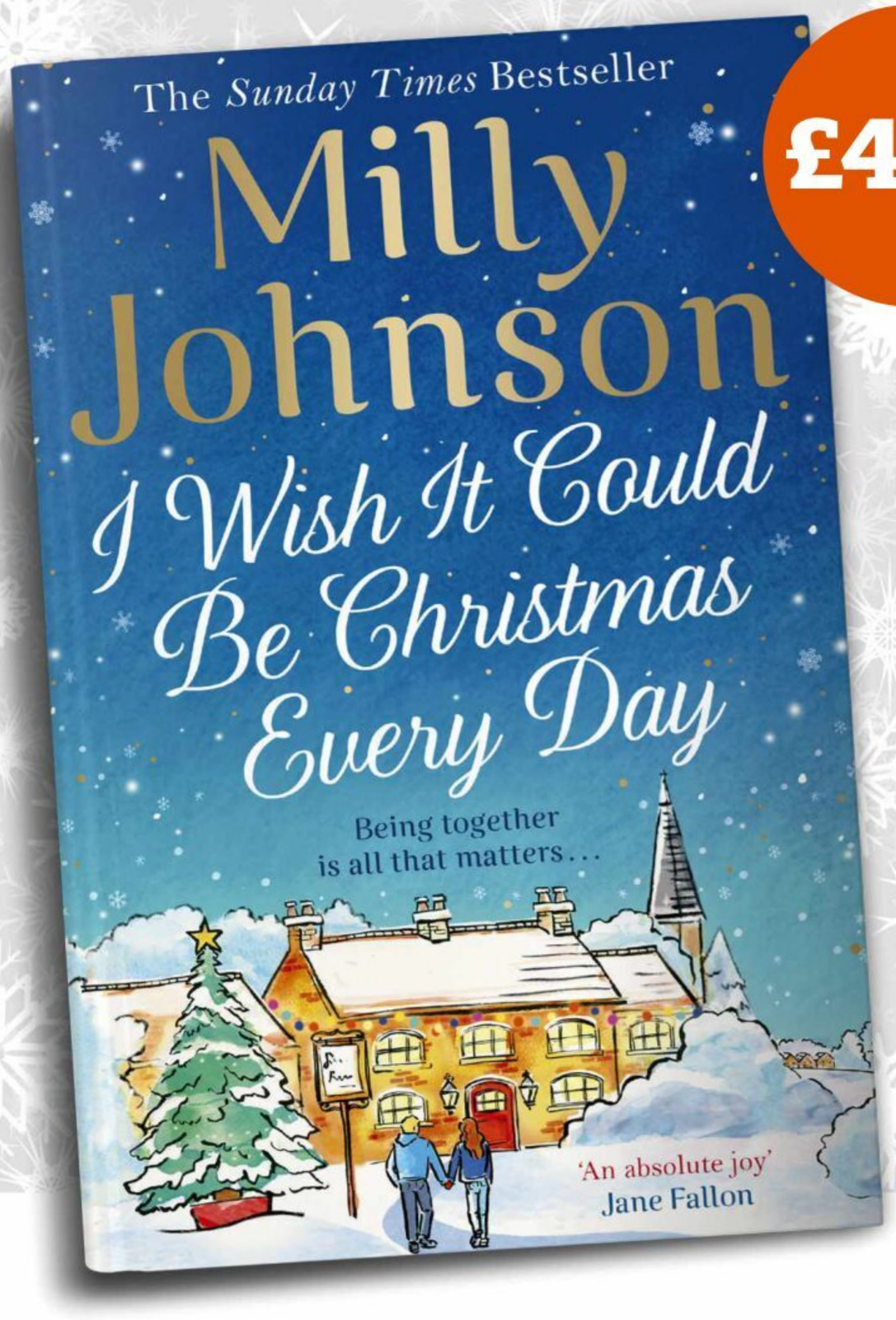
Use thread conditioner on the DMC Light Effects thread to make it easier to stitch with

Shopping list

- Zweigart* 28-count vintage grey (1079) cashel linen measuring 33x33cm (13x13in)
- Stranded cotton and metallic thread as listed in the key
- Size 24 tapestry needle
- 10in wooden embroidery hoop, white paint, white felt for backing and ribbon of your choice from local stores

Thread & fabric cost
Approximately £30

*For stockists see page 90



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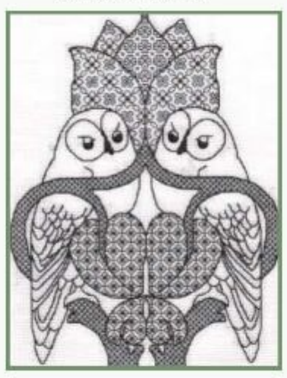
Pitt & Pat



Celebrating with Pitt & Pat
Kit £18 Chart £6.50

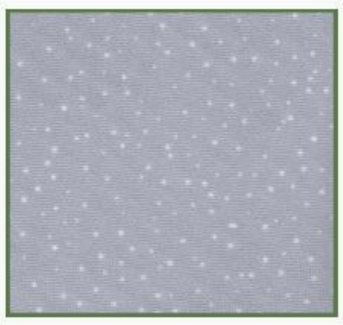
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Fiona Baker

Our Senior Technical Editor Fiona is ready to solve stitching dilemmas and answer technique questions



Heather Nugent

Heather is a cross stitch designer and multi-crafter – she'll help you transform your stitching into finished items



Hannah Erskine

A lifelong stitcher, our Charting Assistant Hannah can answer any chart or stitching related questions



Jenny Barton

Design pro Jenny has been creating projects for us for years and is ready to take on your design challenges



Hannah Fletcher

All set to hunt down those elusive charts and products, Hannah's here to find shopping answers that you need

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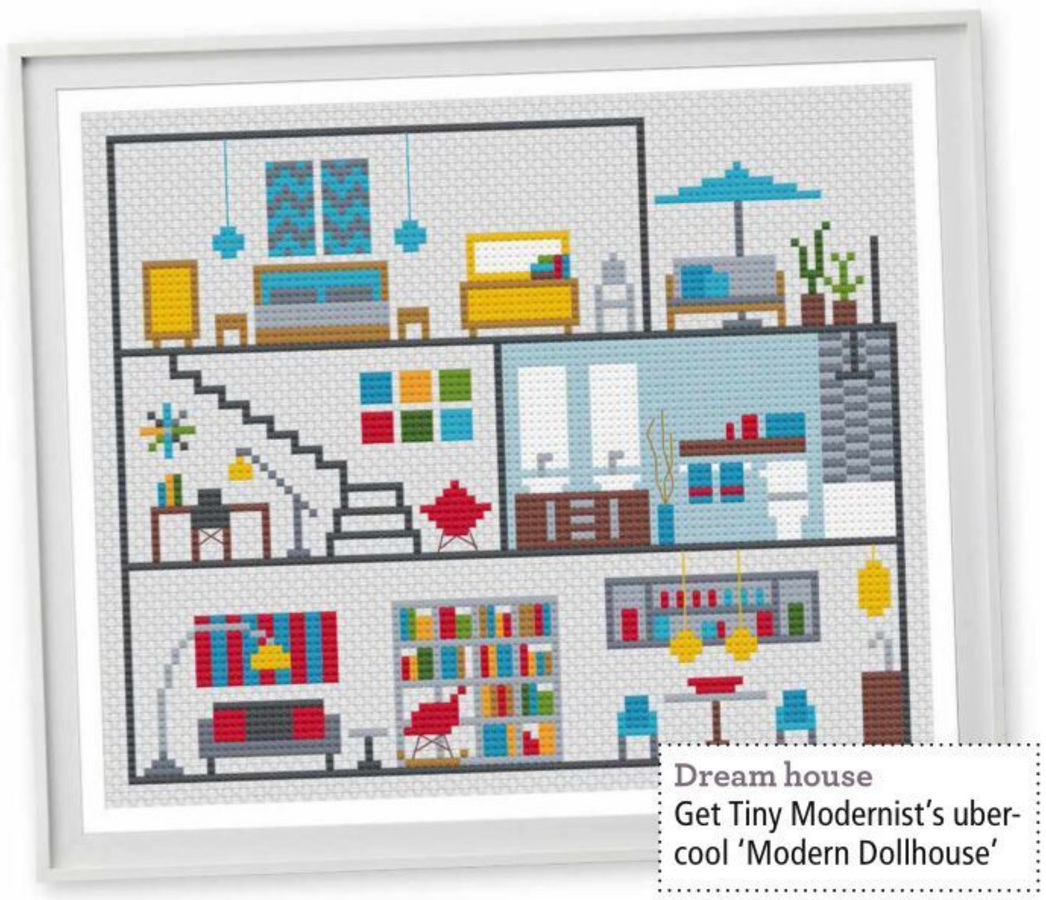
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Quench your thirst with a selection of coffee designs



Dream house
Get Tiny Modernist's uber-cool 'Modern Dollhouse'

Dream house

Q I'm looking for a modern doll's house design. Can you point me in the right direction?
maywahsiew, via Instagram

A **Hannah F:** This stylish 'Modern Dollhouse' PDF from Tiny Modernist* looks like a fun stitch with its mid-century charm and cool details throughout. Costing around. £4.95 ($6.75) you'll receive the instant download via email link after purchase, so you can print it at home or stitch from your device. The PDF comes with an easy-to-read full-colour pattern, DMC and Anchor thread key and basic directions to get started. The finished piece has a design area of approx. 15x18cm (6x7in) when stitched on 14-count fabric and it uses just full cross stitches and backstitch to build the scene, making it great for beginners or those looking for a relaxing project. It would look great stitched on coloured fabric too, to add another pop of colour to the unstitched areas and create a great bespoke piece to display. You could even customise the thread colours to suit you.

Cracking the chart key

Q I'm really interested in stitching 'Wallace and Gromit™' from issue 307 (June 2021). I have only ever stitched kits before so am unsure as to how much cotton I will need. The design states three skeins of copper so does that mean I will only need one skein of each other colour? Thank you for your help.
Sharon Standley, via Facebook

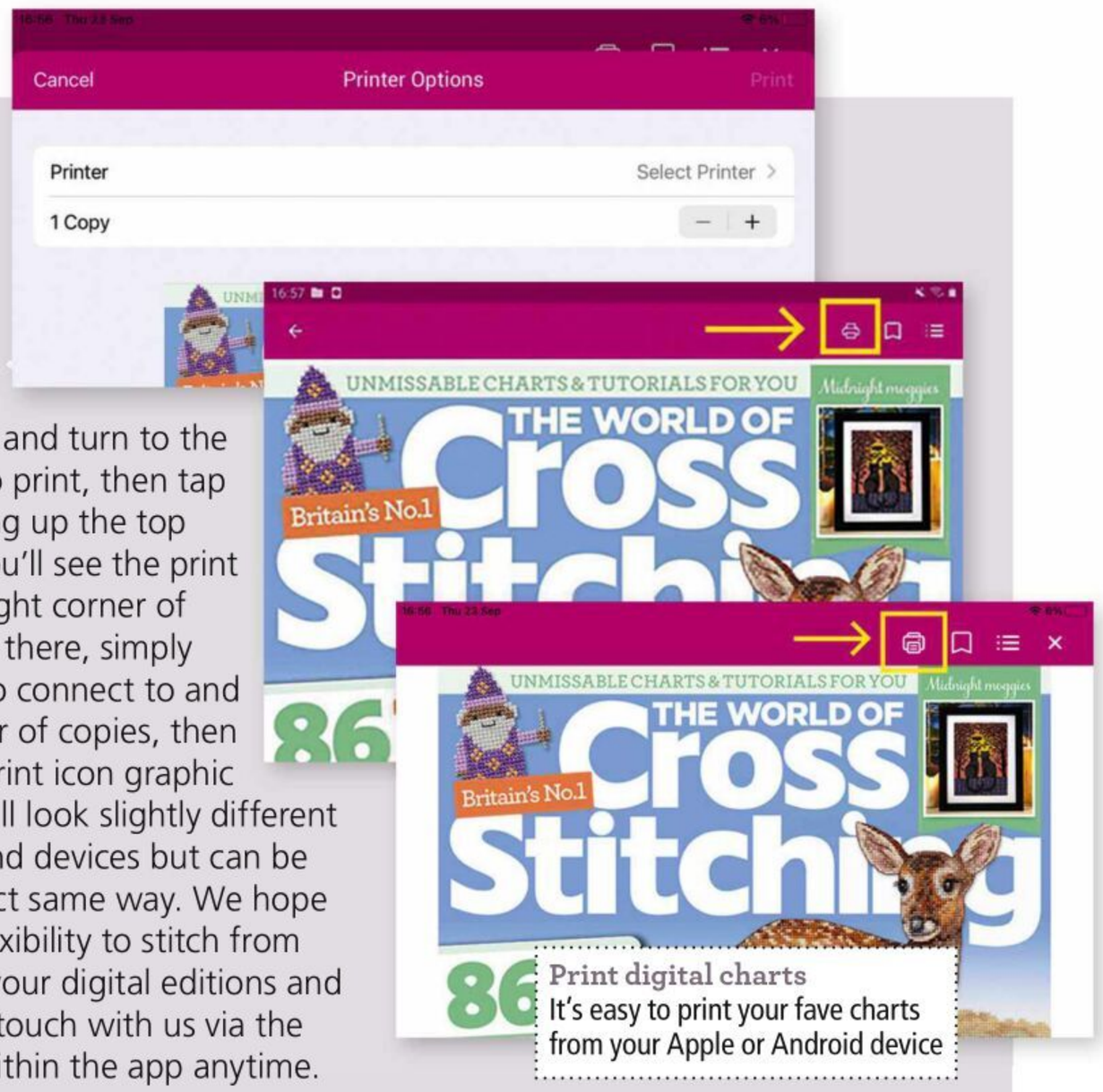
A **Fiona:** That's correct, Sharon – if more than one skein is needed, we list extra quantities in the information at the bottom of our keys, which are recorded in the thread brand we stitched the model in, but can easily be swapped to your brand of choice by looking up the conversions within the key. Enjoy stitching this design – it's sure to look smashing, as Wallace would say! You may also enjoy our newest Wallace and Gromit™ design in issue 314 (Xmas 2021). Why not stitch the pair? ➤



Cracking the chart key
We list the quantities of extra skeins in the information at the bottom of chart keys if you need more than one

In the spotlight

DIGITAL PUBLISHING TEAM



Print digital charts
It's easy to print your fave charts from your Apple or Android device

Print digital charts

Q I have difficulty working from a screen. I have some back issues in the app, but wondered can I print the charts?
Jacky_crafts, via Instagram

A **Digital Publishing Team:** You sure can! This feature was missing for a very short time during recent upgrades but it is now working as before – just make sure you're running the most up-to-date version of our app. We support both Apple and Android devices with our *The World of Cross Stitching* app, which can be downloaded from the Google Play or Apple Store. To print pages, make sure you're in the desired issue and turn to the page you wish to print, then tap anywhere to bring up the top menu bar and you'll see the print icon in the top right corner of the screen. From there, simply select a printer to connect to and enter the number of copies, then tap 'print'. The print icon graphic and menu bar will look slightly different between apps and devices but can be found in the exact same way. We hope you enjoy this flexibility to stitch from paper copies of your digital editions and please do get in touch with us via the support menu within the app anytime.



Darling duck
Download issue 244 via the *WOXS* app

Wrendale's darling duck

Q I'm desperate for a back issue of the edition with the Wrendale Designs duck – any idea where I can find one?
stemandstitches, via Instagram

A **Hannah E:** Wrendale's handsome mallard duck pattern appeared in issue 244 (2016), and whilst sadly out of print, you can still download the digital edition via our app for both Apple and Android devices. If you prefer a paper copy, however, why not try checking for secondhand sellers on marketplace websites – just remember that the sale of individual patterns torn or photocopied from our magazine is illegal, but you're welcome to buy and sell the complete issue from reputable sellers. Or, why not ask the great community of stitchers on our Facebook group: cross-stitching.com – someone might just have a spare copy they no longer want and are willing to post to you. Good luck tracking it down!

Where to begin...

Q I have a project that I got as a gift. It has options for starting in the middle or on the upper left side. How much of a border should I leave if I want to start on the left?
Clara Hughes, via Facebook

A **Fiona:** The border measurements will always depend on how big the design area of the pattern and the fabric is. Kits usually come with a piece of fabric that's just big enough for the design and a small border around the outside, so you'd need to make sure your starting position allows you to fit the entire design on. Cutting your own piece of fabric is more flexible, but to avoid error we'd recommend you begin your stitch from the centre of the pattern and fabric wherever possible.

The wheels on the bus

Q I'm wondering if you've published any whimsical school bus motifs?
Sara Leskey-Stacey, via Instagram

A **Hannah E:** American school buses are so distinctive although we've not featured them regularly in our magazine. I did, however, find this small motif as part of the 'Back to school' Design Library in issue 205 (2013), designed by Jenny Barton. The set includes a variety of great designs to stitch for students and teachers alike, with 41 charts to pick from. This bus design measures 5x7.5cm (2x3in), making it perfect for a small good luck card on a child's first day, or perhaps even as a birthday greeting or thank you for their bus driver. You could easily alter the figure's hair or skin tones to make it personalised for your recipient. It's the only bus in this set, but you could also combine it with other related motifs, and you can download a digital back issue.



The wheels on the bus
Find this bus motif in our 'Back to School' Design Library in issue 205

Wishes granted



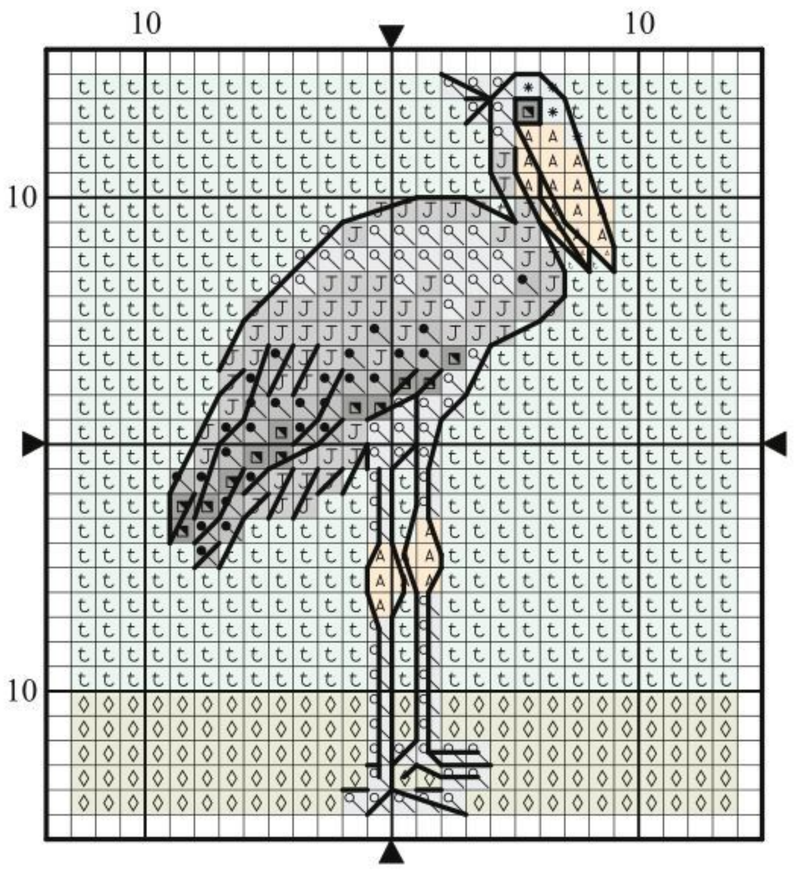
Request a design and our resident design expert, Jenny, might just chart it for you…



The dance of the crane
Jenny's designed this distinctive East-African bird for Sandra

Q Hello, I wonder if you can help me. I'm trying to get a realistic pattern or kit depicting a shoebill crane. I'll be most grateful for any help or advice that you can give.
Sandra Heath, via email

A **Jenny:** I'm happy to design one of these for you, Sandra. They're such incredible birds – did you know they can grow up to five-feet tall with an eight-foot wing span? I've kept the chart simple using whole stitch and backstitch in eight shades, and it should make a perfect card.



Crane key

✖ Cross stitch in two strands

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira	
*	01	397	1805	very light grey
↖	02	398	1709	light grey
J	03	399	1802	grey
●	04	235	1801	dark grey
◥	413	236	1713	very dark grey
◊	523	859	1511	green
t	775	1031	1001	blue
A	945	881	2309	peach

✖ Backstitch in one strand

——	413	236	1713	very dark grey

STITCH COUNT 30 high x 27 wide
DESIGN AREA 14 HPI (28-count evenweave) – 5.5x5cm (2¼x2in)

This design was stitched using DMC stranded cotton

Please note: Jenny can only fit in fairly small designs and for copyright reasons she is unable to chart logos, or characters from films and TV.

Pup portrait

Q I'm looking for a cross stitch pattern of a boxer dog – please help.
shelbypietruszka, via Instagram

A **Hannah F:** You're in luck! We featured a boxer dog as the Pet of the Month in issue 229 (2015), designed by Durene Jones. You can download a digital edition of the issue via our app and enjoy the pattern right away. You could swap out like-for-like shades too, if you've got a specific colouring in mind.



Pup portrait
Durene Jones designed this lovable boxer dog for issue 229 (2015)



Send strength and love
Check out page 78 of this issue for sympathy cards

Send strength and love

Q I love making cards for family and friends but can't find any with religious pictures, such as a cross or church, for sympathy cards after the loss of a loved one. Can you help?
B Mitchell, via email

A **Hannah F:** We certainly can help – turn to page 78 of this issue to find our thoughtful set of sympathy cards, designed by Jenny Barton. Whilst this versatile set covers a broad range of styles, among them you'll see one featuring a cross. I hope these are of interest to you and offer the range you're looking for, and that they will, of course, bring some comfort to the recipients after their loss.

STITCHING HELP!

Don't forget to send all your stitchy questions and design requests in to us!

Email us at:
theworldofxstitching@immediate.co.uk

Write to:
Ask the Experts,
The World of Cross Stitching,
Immediate Media Co,
Eagle House, Bristol
BS1 4ST

Send in queries via Facebook too:



We will try and answer your questions as soon as we can, but if you're working to a specific deadline then do let us know!

Friendly advice

facebook

We asked our Facebook fans how they plan for the exciting stitchy new year ahead – here's what they said…



✖ **Katie Boyd:** I keep a list of all the projects that I intend to gift and try my hardest to prioritise those first.

✖ **Debbie Webb:** I tidy my craft room and bag up WIPs in case I want to do them later (never happens). I then buy lots of new kits!

✖ **Stephanie Johnson:** I have a stitching diary where I log my progress on a monthly basis. At the end of the year I write up two lists: one of WIPs I'm carrying into the new year with a minimum goal for each project, and one of projects that are ready to start. It helps me focus and tackle those pieces first.

✖ **Emma Rose Watson-Horsewood:** I have a diary with special dates in such as birthdays and anniversaries and start dates for any projects I intend to stitch and give as gifts.

✖ **Cassie Ruth:** I mark on my calendar when *WOXS* is due, then I mark off any birthdays through the year, plus special occasions (anniversaries, weddings, births etc). After that I check my log book to see how many DMC threads are missing from my stash so I can re-purchase them. Next, I review my fabric box and hopefully I'm then ready for the next year of stitching.

✖ **Julie Cooper:** In late December I start to stitch birthday cards for the coming year. Some designs are chosen for special people, and other designs because I just like them. About March/April time I start thinking about and stitching Christmas cards. I also stitch bigger projects during the year.

Find us on Facebook and join in with the chat. If you're lucky, your tip might appear here! Just log on to www.facebook.com/TheWorldofCrossStitching and hit 'like' at the top of the page!

TECHNIQUE FOCUS

THE WORLD OF Cross Stitching KNOW-HOW

Let's look at overstitch

Q I'm currently working on the 'Christmas Village Part One' from issue 312 (November 2021). Can I ask what is meant by overstitch? You mention needing to overstitch the exposed edges but I have never done this kind of detail before. I'm looking forward to putting it all together but scared I will do it all wrong.
Jennifer Cleave, via Facebook

A **Heather:** Fear not, Jennifer – overstitching is just a form of whipstitching, except it's used to cover the edges of the plastic canvas instead of joining pieces together. It's used as a decorative finish, and in this case we've done it on the edges of roofs and around the bottom of each building.

To overstitch, pick out the shade of thread next to the row you're intending to overstitch, then secure it at the back by running it under a few other stitches or leave a tail end of thread to catch your overstitches under. We recommend using three strands for good coverage. Bring your needle up through the hole at one end, wrap it around the outside edge and then back up again through the next hole – this creates a slightly diagonal stitch, as pictured.

To work out which pieces or edges to overstitch we suggest checking the photos of our finished designs. It's much easier to do before assembly, but if you're unsure, leave it until the end at which point it's more obvious which edges are left exposed, although it can be a little more awkward to stitch.



Let's look at overstitch
A form of whipstitch used for a decorative finish

QUICK Q&A

C an you tell me the correct DMC* shade for 19 Apricot used in the 'Steampunk Clock' by Susan Bates from issue 303 (February 2020)?
Pamela Meyer, via Facebook

Hannah E: *DMC thread shade 19 is actually one of the 35 new colours launched a couple of years ago, so this is the correct shade listed. You'll find it available from the official DMC website, as well as other suppliers or local stockists. If your preferred store doesn't currently sell it, ask if they can order some in.*



New threads
See page 90 for information on DMC and other stockists

I am enquiring about any model stitching opportunities you may have available? I have previously stitched several pieces for another UK publication and recently stitched a model piece for another designer.
Emily, via email

Hannah F: *Thank you for your interest. I'm afraid this is a popular position and we have around a five-year waiting list, so unfortunately we're no longer accepting new applicants at present.*

Design round-up

Coffee collection

We've hand-picked a selection of kits & charts to give coffee lovers the stitchy buzz they're after

GREAT VALUE

INSTANT FIX

This motto from Cross Stitch Wonders (available as a PDF at LoveCrafts*) is sure to make a good few stitchers chuckle. Celebrate coffee, cross stitch and naps, though don't despair if coffee isn't your preferred beverage – five different drink options including beer, tea, wine and cocktails are provided. It's a great-value option for stitching for pals with different tastes.

Stitch count: 100 wide x 90 high, 18x16.5cm (7¼x6¾in) on 14-count aida





VINTAGE STYLE

COFFEE TIME



For something a bit more traditional, we rate this beautiful piece by RIOLIS, available from Stitcher*. Packed with detail, an array of colours and variety of stitches, it'll keep even experienced stitchers enthralled. The kit contains 14-count flaxen aida, threads, a needle, colour chart and instructions.

Stitch count: *165 wide x 116 high, 30x21cm (11¾x8¼in) on 14-count aida*

Prices and info correct at time of printing

FEMININE FLORALS

ALL SHE WANTS

This colourful design from Plastic Little Covers* features sweet floral motifs alongside modern type, and makes a fun stitch for coffee lovers. It comes with a needle, a clear colour chart and 12 pre-sorted thread colours which really pop on the white aida. Plus, it's also available with the word 'cuppa' instead of 'coffee' for those tea fans in your life.

Stitch count: *112 wide by 98 high, 18x16cm (7x6¼in) on 16-count aida*



RETRO REVIVAL

COFFEE FIRST

Available as either a kit (£17.50) or a chart (£7.50), this sampler from Little Dove Designs* is the perfect choice for lovers of retro style! It uses just whole cross stitches and some backstitch, so is ideal for beginners. The kit features a lovely sage-green 14-count aida, which makes a nice alternative from white and works with the mid-century feel of the piece. It'll look fab in the kitchen, finished with a wooden frame.



Stitch count: *81 wide x 95 high, 14.5x17cm (5¾x6¾in) on 14-count aida*

*For stockists see page 90

DESIGNED BY **NIA RHIND**

Say it with stitches

You'll never be short of a way to show your gratitude with this handy set of pretty card designs



Start your new year by making a perfect token to show your appreciation for a special present you received or an act of kindness that really touched you. Simple to whip up and pop in the post box, let these sincere messages do the talking with sweet motifs to show how grateful you are. Saying thank you means so much more when we put pen to paper, and these are sure to be warmly received with their pretty pastel tones and warm words.

Nia Rhind has created three adorable patterns in her signature style to choose from, making them a versatile set for sending your thanks in winter, as well as one that can be easily customised to use throughout the year. Designed with whole stitches and backstitch only, these are great for beginners and more advanced stitchers alike – the only question is deciding which one to stitch first! Once complete, mount in a coordinating handmade aperture card, or simply patch onto a store-bought card for a quick finish. ➤

Fractional free

Factbox

- **Stitching Time**
  Approx. 8-12 hours each
- **Type of Stitches**
  Cross stitch, backstitch
- **Ease of Stitching**
  Beginner



Meet the designer

Nia Rhind

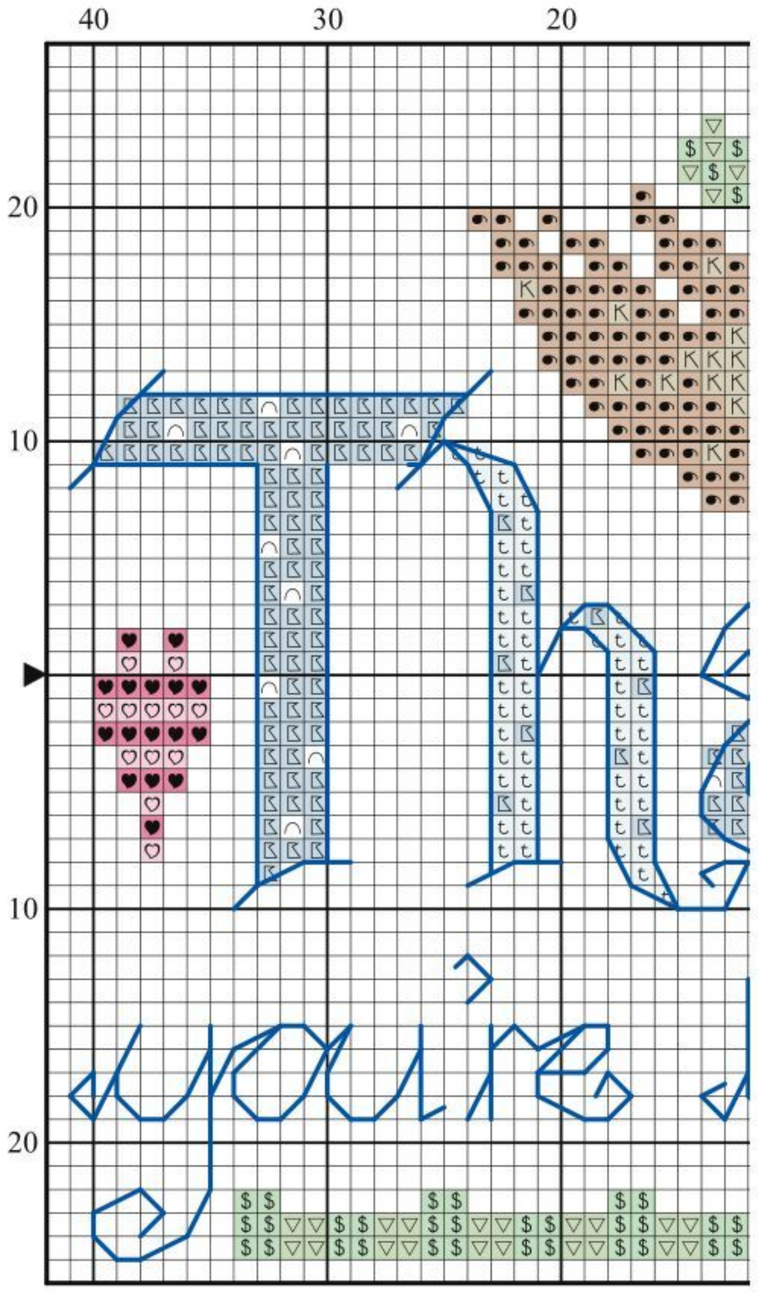
"Friendly robins and an abundance of iced cupcakes inspired the wintry pastel shades used on these fun thank you cards. They're a lovely way to show your appreciation to your friends and family."

WEEKEND STITCHES

Send a cheery handmade greeting in the post to brighten someone's day

Project Thank You Cards





Thanks chart (left)





Shopping list

- Zweigart* 14-count white aida measuring 23x15cm (9x6in) for each design
- Stranded cotton as listed in the key
- Size 24 tapestry needle
- Aperture cards of your choice from local stores or handmade from cardstock

Thread & fabric cost
Approximately £26

*For stockists see page 90

TOP TIP

Add embellishments such as beads, sequins or small buttons for an extra special flourish on these greetings





Thanks chart (right)

Thank You Cards key

✖ Cross stitch in two strands

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira	
∩	B5200	1	2401	white
▽	563	208	1207	pine green
♡	604	55	614	pink
●	632	936	2311	brick red
☼	745	300	111	yellow
◺	813	140	910	marine blue
K	840	1084	1912	beige
$	992	1072	1202	green
◥	3799	236	1713	grey
3	3825	336	302	peach
♥	3831	1006	507	raspberry pink
t	3841	9159	1001	baby blue
●	3853	1003	311	dark apricot
☆	3855	311	2513	apricot

✖ Backstitch in one strand

——	336	149	1007	blue
——	632	936	2311	brick red

MAXIMUM STITCH COUNT 81 high x 82 wide
DESIGN AREA 14 HPI (28-count evenweave) – 14.5x15cm (5¾x5¾in)
STITCHED BY Pat Cook

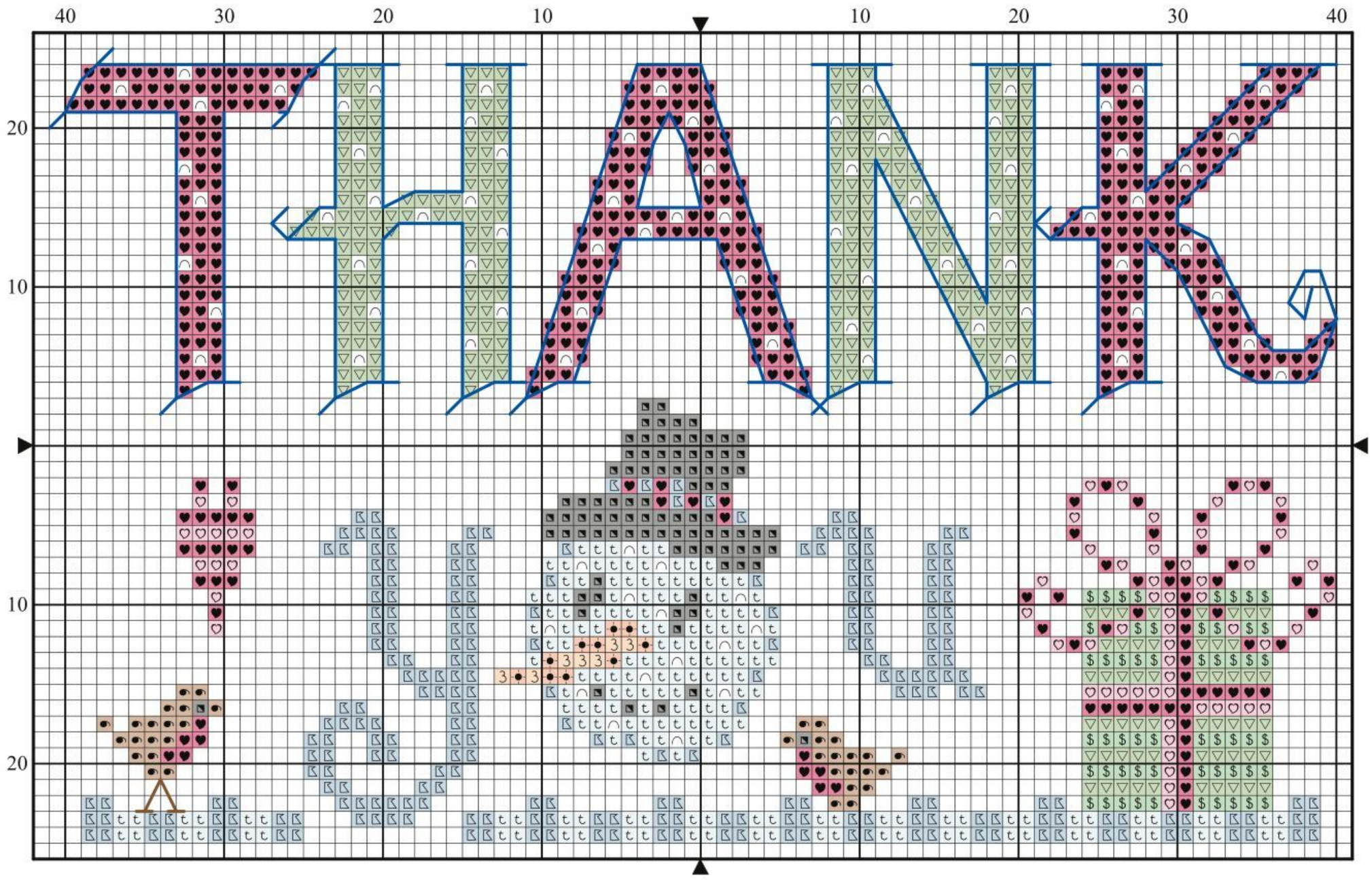
These designs were stitched using DMC stranded cotton



Leanne READER PANEL

“These ‘Thank You Cards’ are so cute! I’ve stitched something by this designer for my mum before and she loved it, so I’ll probably have to stitch a card for her now too, just to say thanks to her for being so fab!”





Our Best Buys

All the hottest cross stitch must-haves for your shopping list, plus an exclusive offer to make your pennies go further...

We all stitch on

THE WORLD OF Cross Stitching PICK OF THE MONTH



We all stitch on
Get these iconic new The Beatles cross stitch kits at Hero Collector*

BEATLEMANIA

Inspired by some of The Beatles' most iconic visuals, Hero Collector*, an imprint of Eaglemoss, have released a new range of official The Beatles cross stitch kits. The fab four designs named 'Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts' Club Band Drum', 'The Beatles Portholes', 'The Yellow Submarine' and 'Magical Mystery Tour Bus', are set to be a huge hit with music lovers and stitchers alike. In a range of sizes, with prices from £24.99-£44.99, kits include a cross-stitch hoop and all the tools, guides and materials for creating these bright and playful patterns. We're particularly fond of the vibrant colours and contemporary designs and we're confident fans of The Beatles will adore them too.



PARTY TIME

We couldn't be more delighted by the stunning new addition to John Clayton's 'Elegance Collection' at Heritage Crafts*, 'Stella' (JLSL1550). Dressed in a dazzling blue dress and sipping on a cocktail Stella looks to be enjoying the kind of New Year party we've all dreamt of for a while now! Available in your choice of fabric, the kit is 40x16.5cm (16x6in) and includes all that you'll need to complete it.

5 fab finds... for a stitchy new year Get yourself



Bags of room
Get a double-sided blue satchel storage box from Creative Options*.



Be prepared
Get all your stitch done with a digital planner from Mestitchulous*.



Needle Little Love
We just adore Fat Quarter Shop's* nifty pink magnetic needle case.



A place for everything
Store your stash in a DMC thread box from Maries Cross Stitch*.

NEW YEAR, NEW STITCH

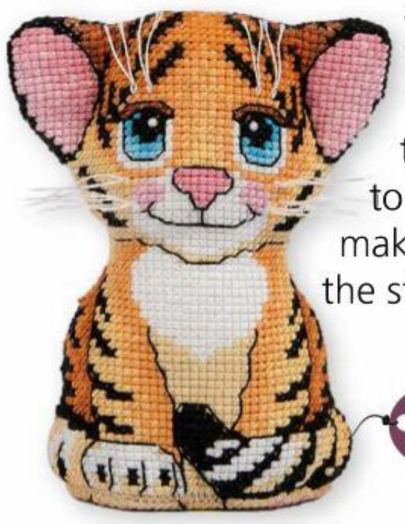
LET'S GET PHYSICAL

New kid on the block Vivid Stash* have a bright new range of stitches with a workout theme to keep us motivated this year. With graphic designs and a trendy retro vibe, this Etsy retailer prides themselves on cross stitch patterns "designed for the bold". With PDF charts featuring a range of inspirational quotes to get you motivated to stick with your resolutions for 2022, we think these designs make great gifts for fitness fans too. Ideal for stitchers of all abilities and based on DMC colours, the clear charts are available to download so you can make a start right away.



YEAR OF THE TIGER

We're huge fans of fun new making-up ideas so we're thrilled to discover PANNA's* new 3D stitchy toy 'Little Tiger' (IG-7327). Perfectly timed for 2022, the tiger is a symbol of energy and strength, and this adorable creature is bound to be well received by kids and adults alike. The kit includes everything that you'll need to complete the make, including the stuffing.



MIRACLES TAKE TIME

Bring a favourite fairy tale to life in stitch with this dazzling design from Bothy Threads*. Inspired by the beloved folk tale *Cinderella*, 'On the Stroke of Midnight' is designed for stitchers looking to showcase their skills. Stitched on pale blue aida and featuring full cross stitch, fractionals, backstitch, lazy daisy stitch as well as French knots, the finished piece will be around 37x27cm (14x11in). Kits include 14-count Zweigart aida, pre-sorted stranded cottons, a needle, stitch diagram and instructions.



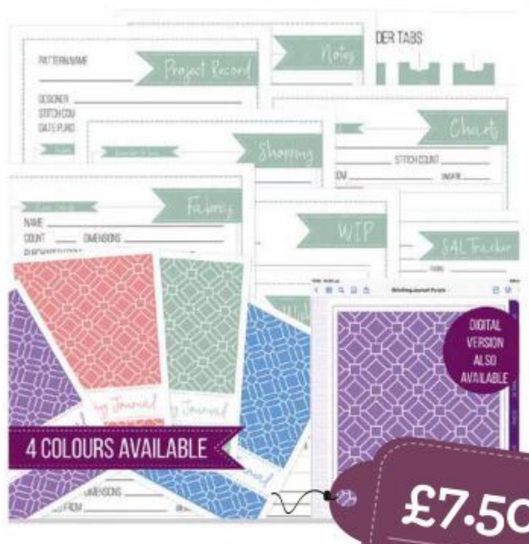
READER OFFER

Start your new year with the magical 'Wind Moon Fairy' cross stitch kit from Past Impressions*. This ethereal beauty with flowing gown and locks is 38x25.5cm (14x10in) when finished. The kit comes with 16-count dove grey aida, stranded cotton thread, a needle, a clear chart and instructions.

We're thrilled to offer *The World of Cross Stitching* readers a 20% discount using the code **WOXS315** online at www.past-impressions.co.uk for a limited time.

Prices and info correct at time of printing

organised for 2022



Make it happen
Download Peppermint Purple's* journal to schedule your stitches.

STITCH YOUR TRIBE

A new addition to bookshelves that's recently caught our eye is *Pixl People: Cross-Stitch Your Favourite People* by John-Michael Stoof. Published by Schiffer Publishing and available in hardback from Waterstones*, this superb resource for stitchers includes more than 3,000 templates including body types, skin tone combinations, hairstyles, outfits, hobbies, pets, career accessories, facial expressions and even zodiac signs! A great intro to stitch for beginners, as well as a must-have for those with experience, we can't wait to get our hands on a copy so we can start stitching all the people we love most.



*For stockists see page 90



Winter beauty
Save 20% off this 'Wind Moon Fairy' kit from Past Impressions*

All you need is love

Stitch a stunning floral design for someone you adore using LoveCrafts' new Paintbox Crafts Threads





Get yours

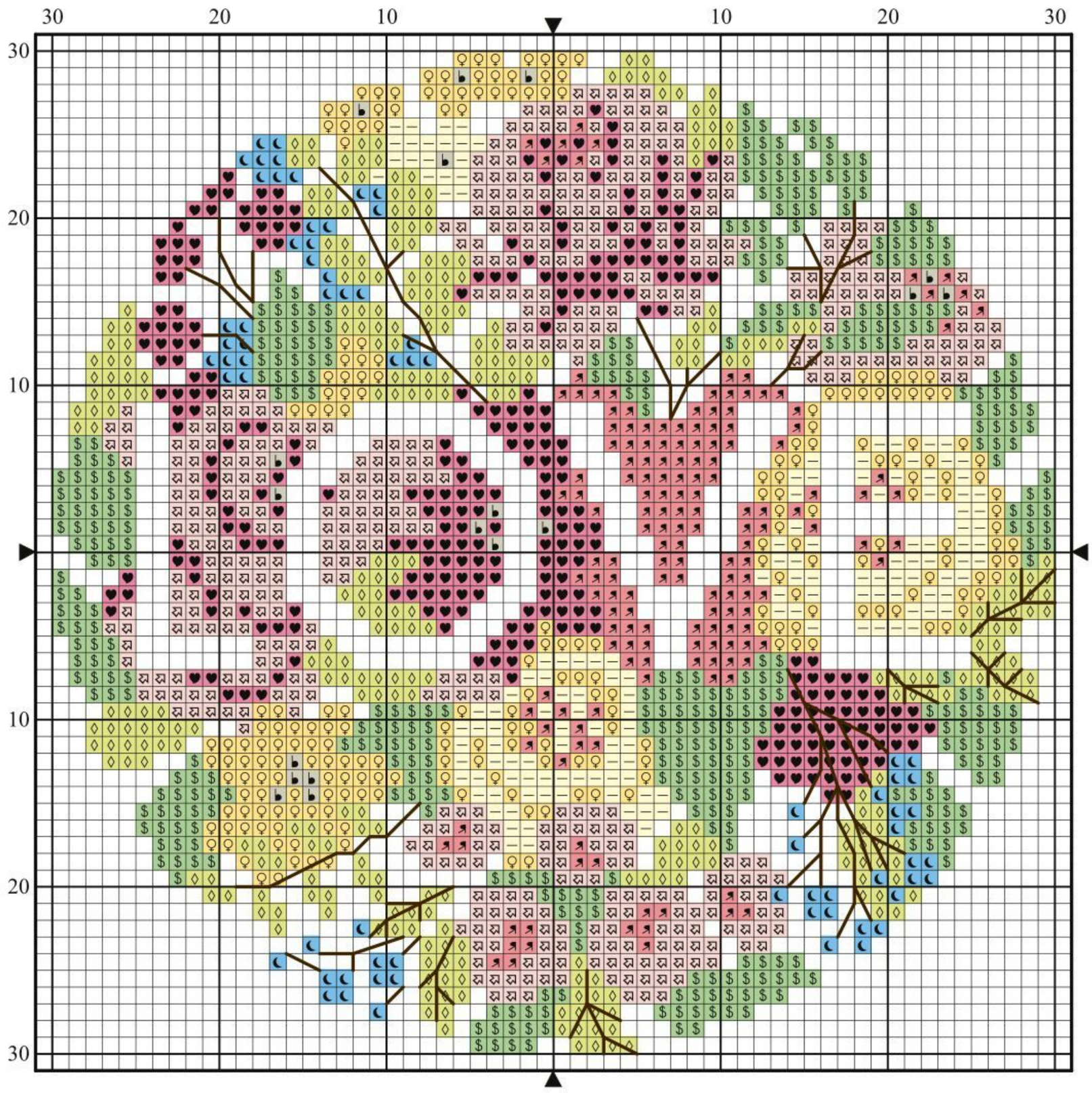
Exclusive to LoveCrafts, Paintbox Crafts brings you a kaleidoscope of threads in 200 unique shades. Perfect for all your stitchy projects, these skeins are 100% Egyptian cotton and come in earth-friendly recycled packaging. Get a single skein for £0.69, or colour packs from £9.99-£99. Get yours now at www.lovecrafts.com



DESIGNED BY

Cheryl McKinnon

"It was such a thrill to be asked to come up with a design using these fabulous new threads. The range of shades was so inspiring for this vibrant floral stitch to start a bright new stitchy year."



TOP TIP

Always pull out strands one by one from the length of thread and then smooth them together before threading your needle





Floral Hoop key

✖ Cross stitch in two strands

	Paintbox Crafts	
↗	0002	rose red
♥	0006	hot pink
♀	0007	sunshine yellow
☾	0009	wave blue
$	0017	watercress
◊	0020	houseplant
♭	0065	coffee bean
–	0177	lemon water
ঋ	0198	rosy cheeks
✖ Backstitch in one strand		
—	0065	coffee bean

STITCH COUNT 60 high x 60 wide

DESIGN AREA 14 HPI (28-count evenweave) – 11x11cm (4¼x4¼in)

This design was stitched using Paintbox Crafts stranded cotton threads

Britain's No.1

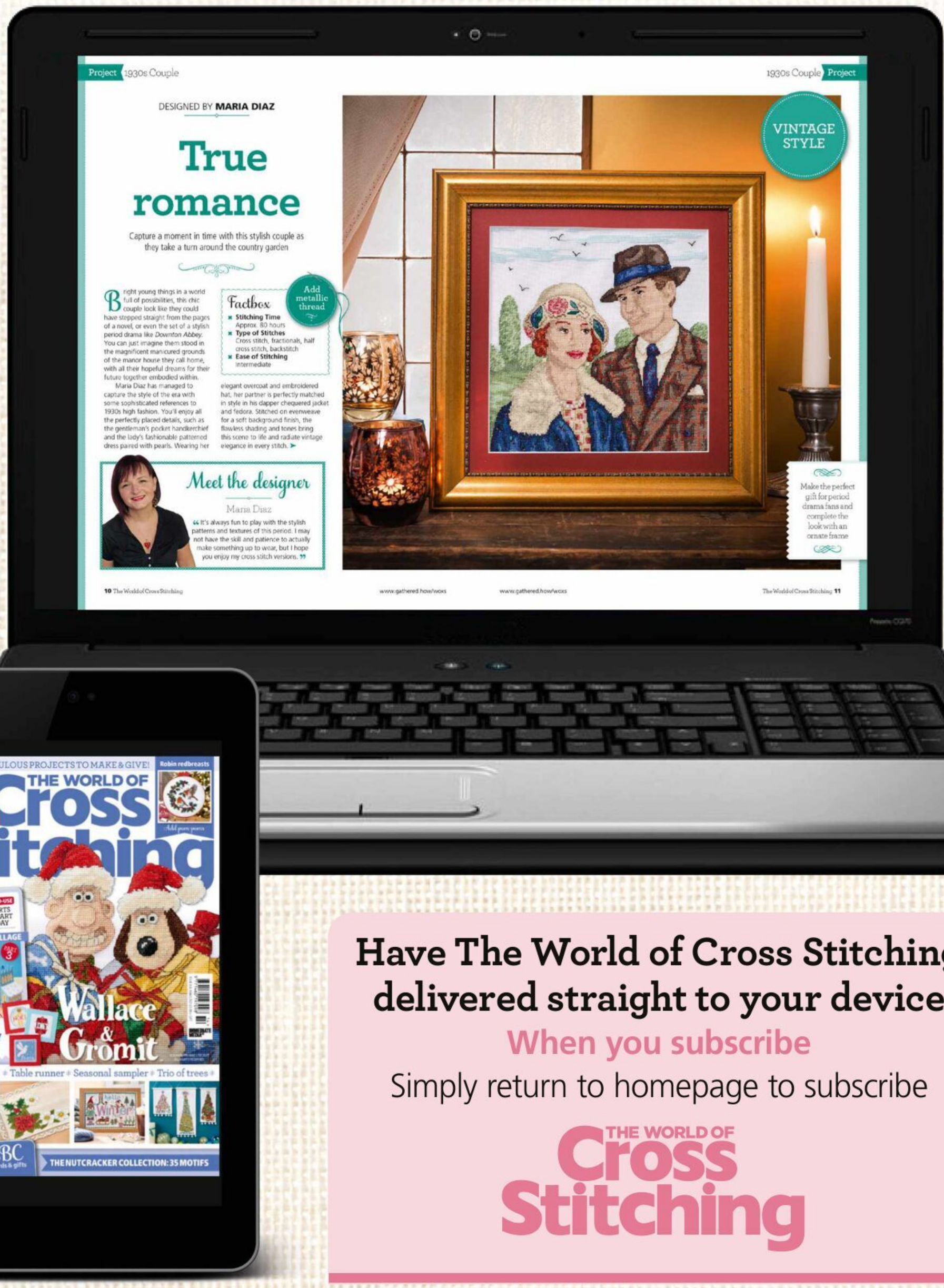
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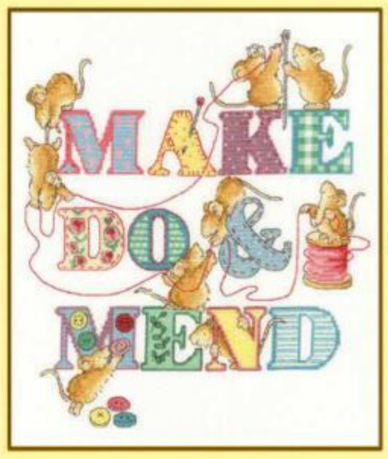
Available on the App Store

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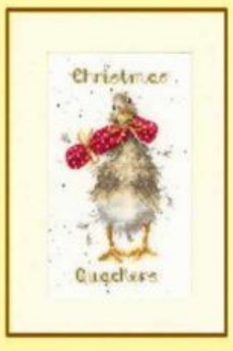




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Aurora Crafts



New exclusive Christmas Cross Stitch Designs available in both kit and digital chart download.
See all our designs and shop online at: **auroracrafts.co.uk**

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Please make all cheques payable to R P LAMBE

C.B.K. Designs



A lovely kit for the more experienced stitcher and shows the Red Arrows in break sequence with smoke. The kit includes 16 HPI Aida, pre-sorted DMC threads, needle, computer generated chart and cross stitch instructions. The kit only uses full cross stitches. The finished size is 45.7 x 30.3 cm and costs £20.90 including postage and packing in the UK.

11 Ripley Road, Worthing, West Sussex BN11 5NQ

01903 501462 | cary@cbkdesigns.co.uk | www.cbkdesigns.co.uk

Winter woollies

STITCH COSY CREATURES WRAPPED UP WARM FOR CHILLY WEATHER!

32 ANIMAL IDEAS















Find badgers in boots, squirrels in scarves and ponys in pullovers designed by Maria Diaz to bring joy to all

✖ 32 quick-and-easy motifs ✖ Maria Diaz's design inspiration ✖ Stitches for every skill level
✖ Helpful tips and advice ✖ Unique present ideas for your special someone



SQUIRRELS IN SCARVES

Make a darling just-because greeting. Stitch a squirrel (22), and note using the ABC (24 and 25), back with hessian-effect patterned paper and patch onto a card.



BADGERS IN BOOTS

For storing winter woollies, we recommend adorning a basket with a friendly badger (20) mounted on card that's patched on to a complementary border (14) stitch.



HANSOME HEDGEHOGS

Presented in a simple wooden hoop and displayed on a mini easel a sweet snuggled character will brighten someone's day – we particularly love this hedgehog (16).



HOUNDS WITH HOODS

Stitch this pup in a fetching dotty rain coat (4) to make an extra-special gift tag. Fray your finished stitch using tweezers and affix to kraft card then finish with ribbon.



DAPPER DOGS

How about a personalised pressie? This cutie in an oversized scarf (19) looks so friendly mounted on fun checked card and affixed onto a plain notebook.



BIRDS WITH BOAS

For quick-finish custom gift wrap we love the adorable singing bird (30) patched onto a hessian-effect patterned paper tag using acid-free double-sided tape.



SHEEP IN SHAWLS

It turns out you can beat a hot brew on an icy morning – just add a mug hug. Cut your sheep stitch (10) to size, and sew onto blue felt finished with a fun floral button.



PONYS IN PULLOVERS

Send warm fuzzy feelings during the colder months by stitching the pony motif (8). Fray one block of aida around the edge, mount on paper and affix to a card.

*For stockists, see page 90

My inspiration

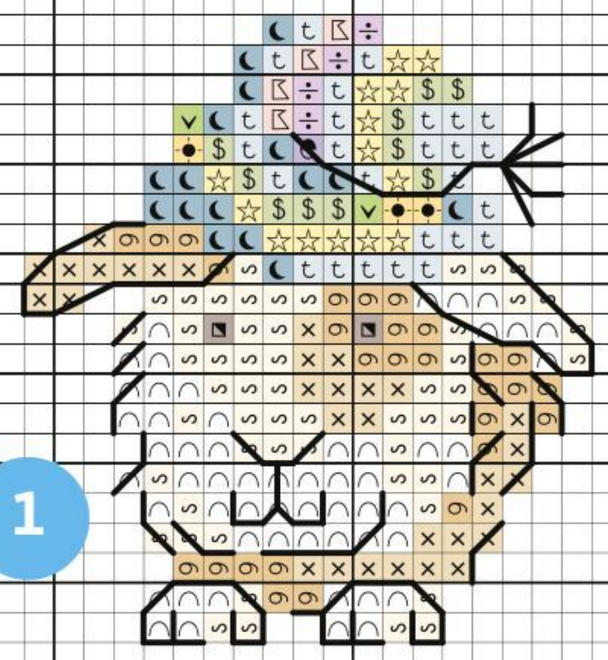


“Is there anything you’d rather do than pop on some knitwear and cuddle up with your four legged or feathered chum on a dark winter evening? This collection is a great excuse for all those animal lovers to stay inside and stitch during colder months.”

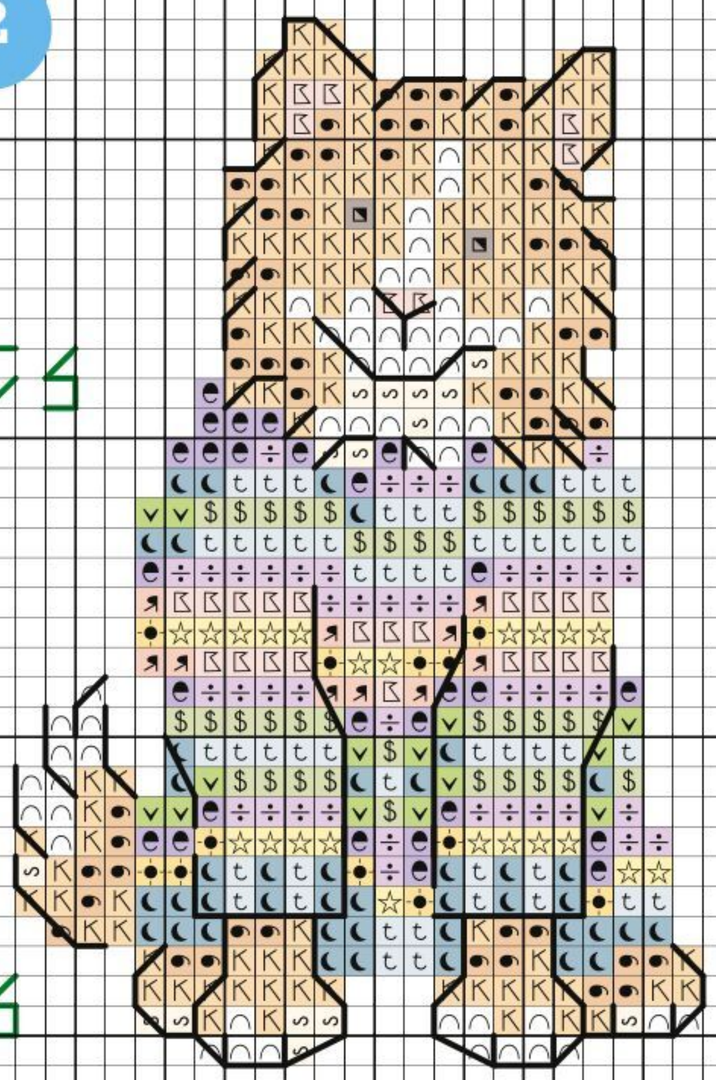
MARIA DIAZ, DESIGNER

Meow Moments & Cosy Cuddles

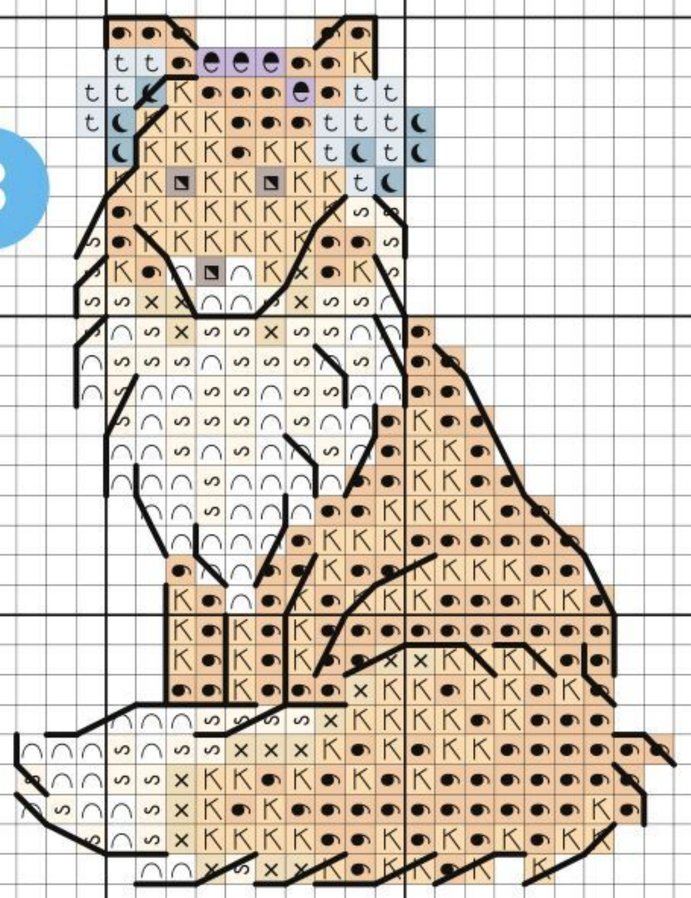
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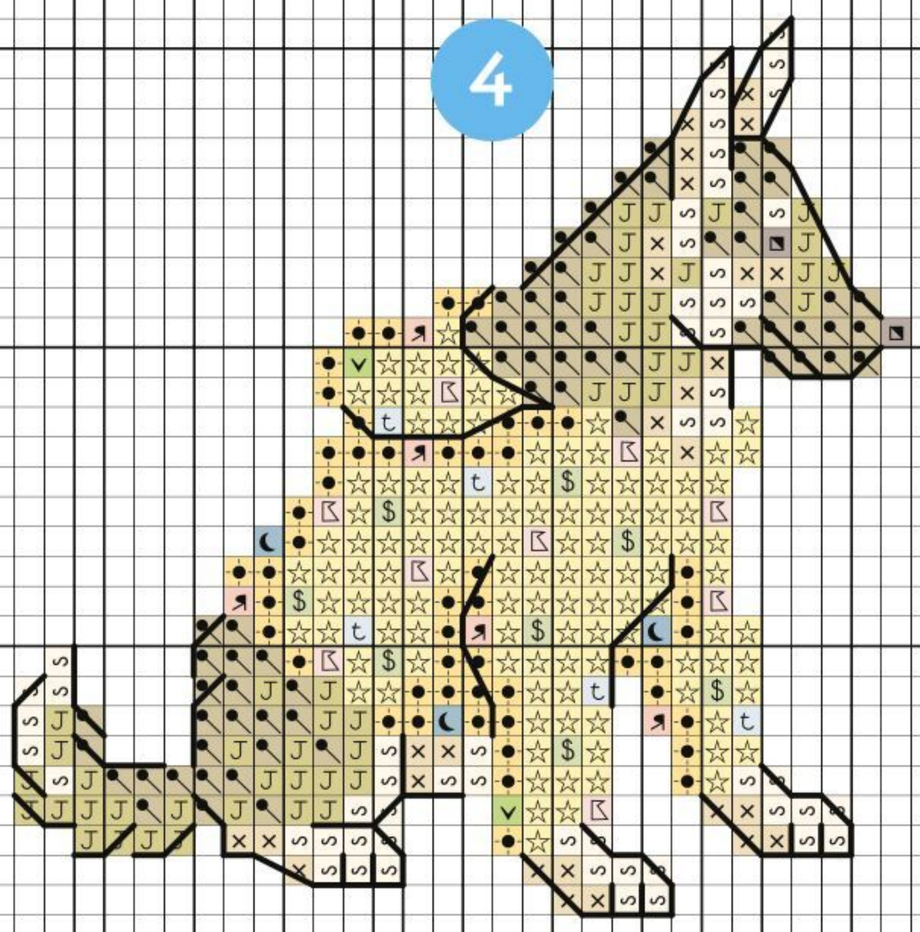
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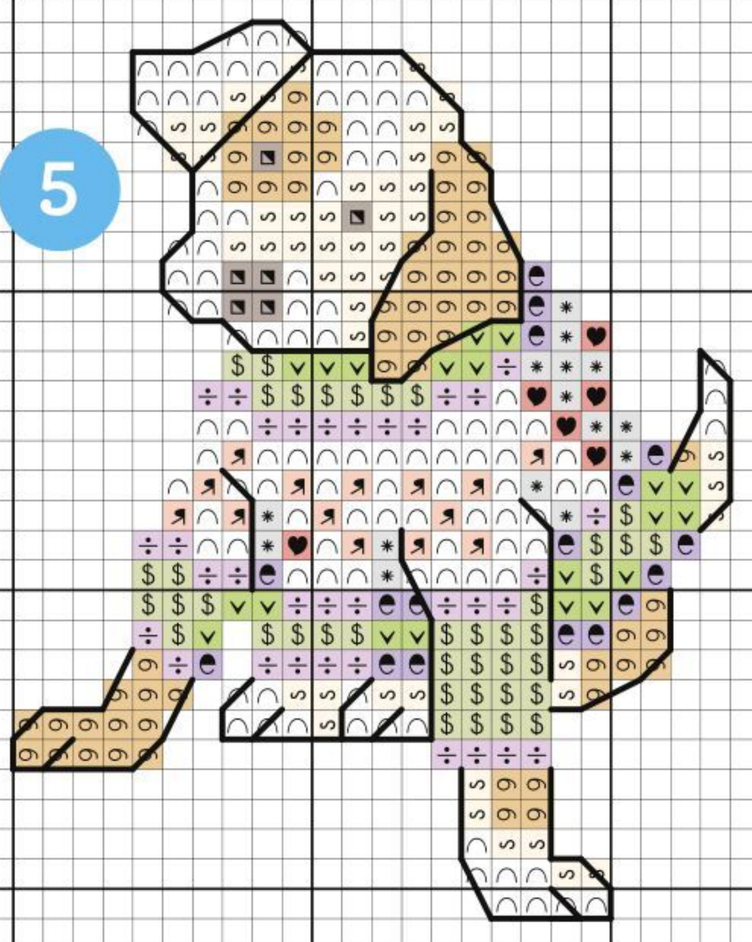
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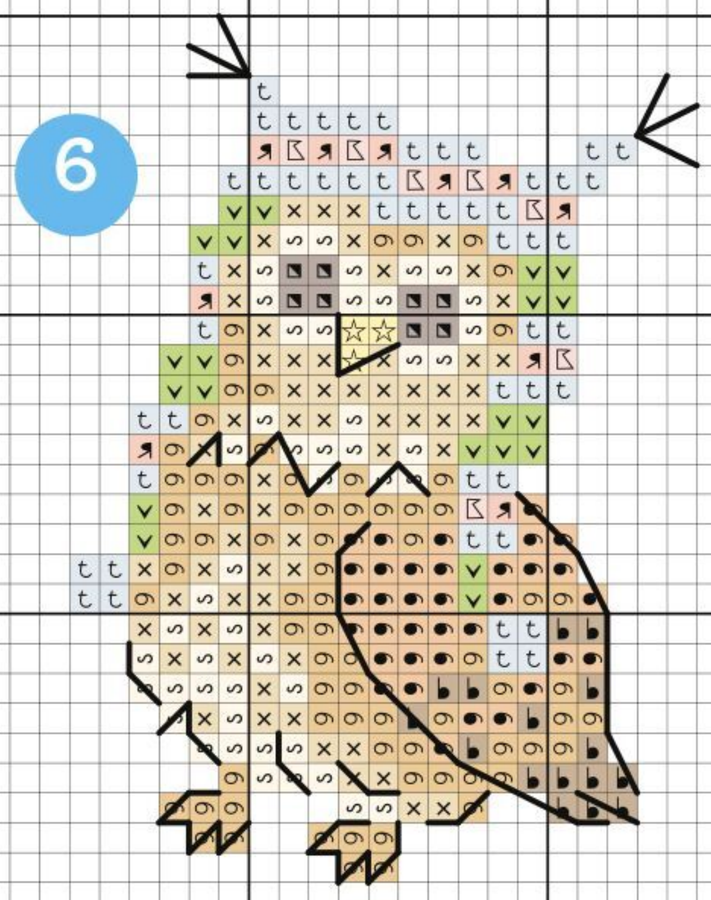


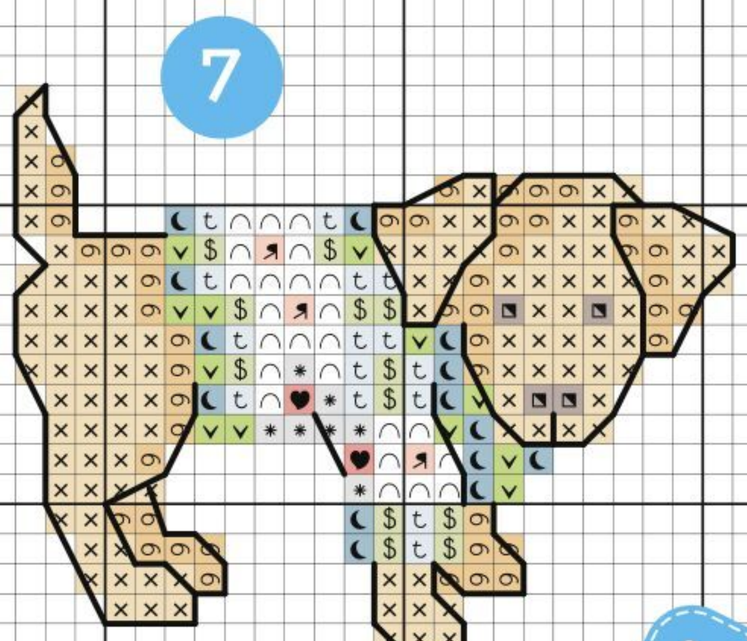
4



5







Winter Woollies key

Cross stitch in two strands

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira	
◠	B5200	1	2401	white
$	16	254	1308	pistachio
÷	209	98	803	lilac
K	402	1047	2307	light ginger
*	415	398	1802	grey
9	436	1045	2011	tan
↖	640	393	1905	dark stone grey
v	703	238	1307	green
s	712	926	2101	cream
●	725	305	113	yellow
☆	727	293	112	light yellow
×	738	367	2013	light tan
↗	760	1022	405	pink
◺	761	1021	404	light pink
☾	826	146	906	blue
t	827	160	1013	light blue
◹	844	1041	1809	smoke grey
J	3023	899	1813	stone grey
♥	3328	1024	406	dark pink
◓	3746	1030	2702	purple
◔	3776	1048	2306	ginger
b	3862	374	1913	beige

Backstitch in one strand

—	703	238	1307	green
—	826	146	906	blue
—	844	1041	1809	smoke grey
—	3328	1024	406	dark pink

French knots in one strand

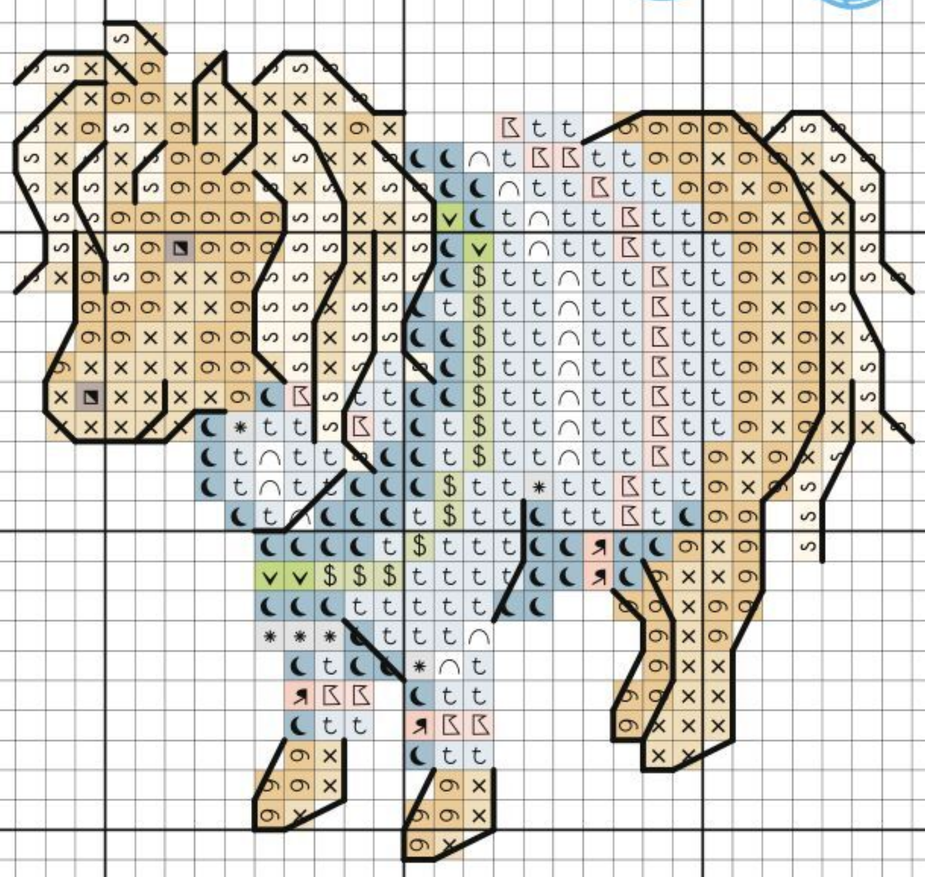
○	B5200	1	2401	white
●	844	1041	1809	smoke grey

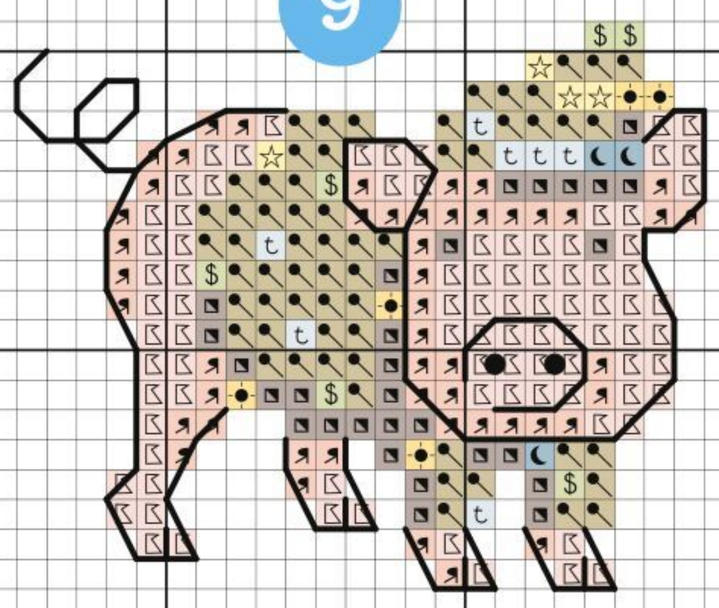
STITCHED BY Judy Davies

These designs were stitched using DMC stranded cotton

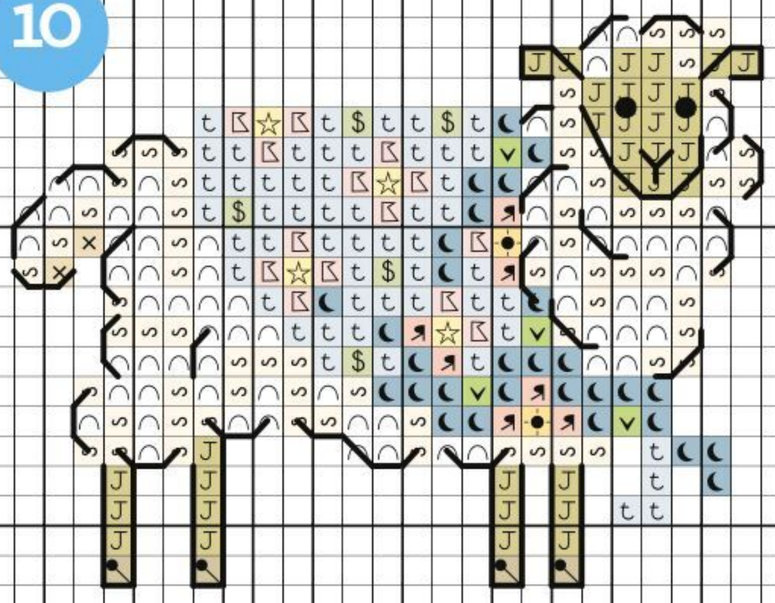
TOP TIP

If your chart gets wet, leave it to dry naturally on top of a fluffy towel and then press flat under the weight of some books

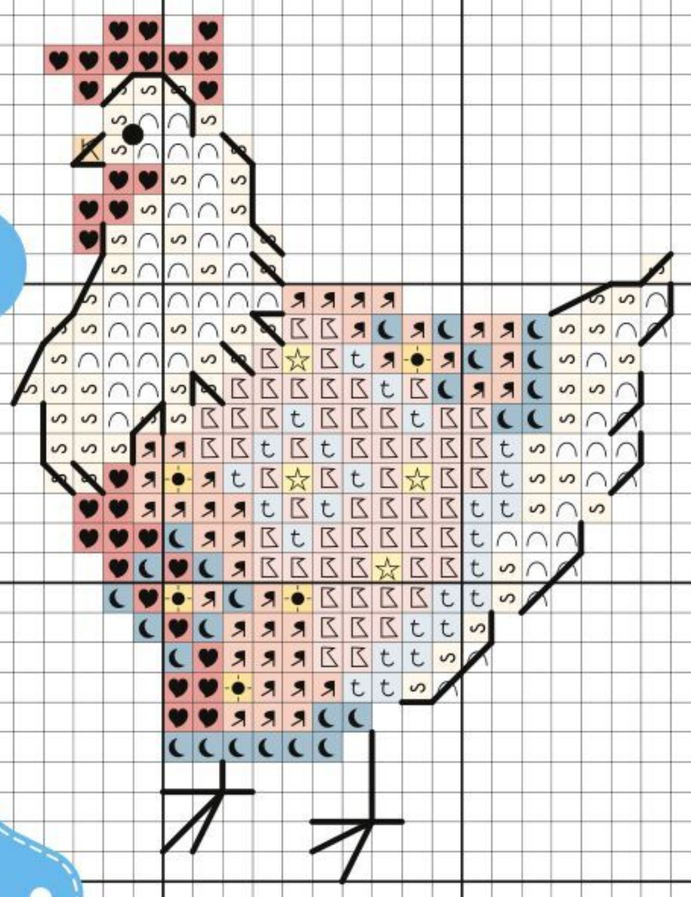




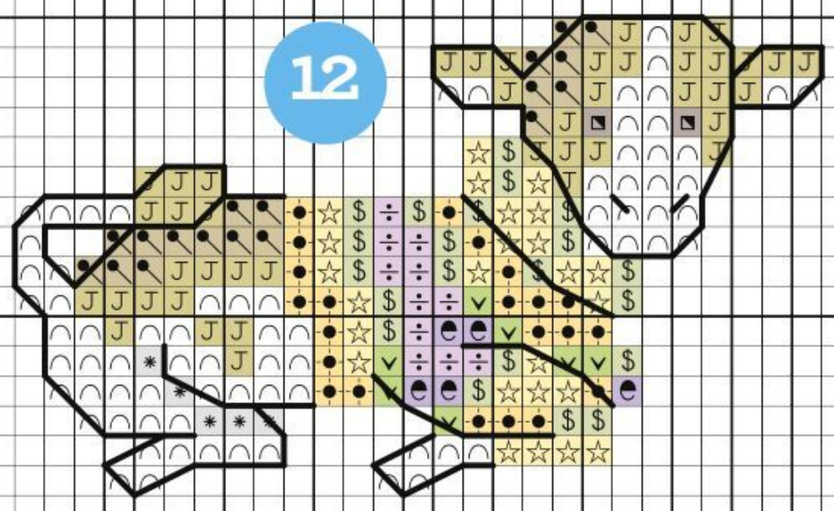
10



11



12



TOP TIP

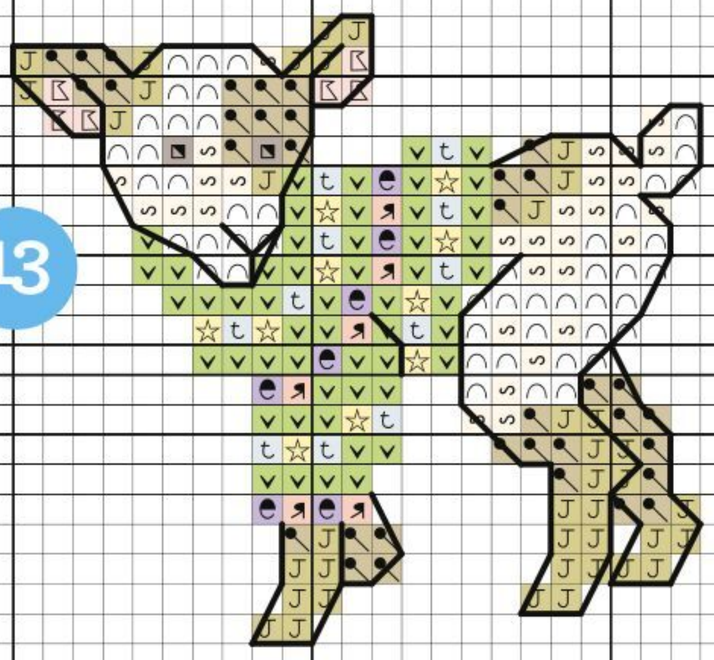
Make sure the top arms of your crosses all lie in the same direction for a consistent finish



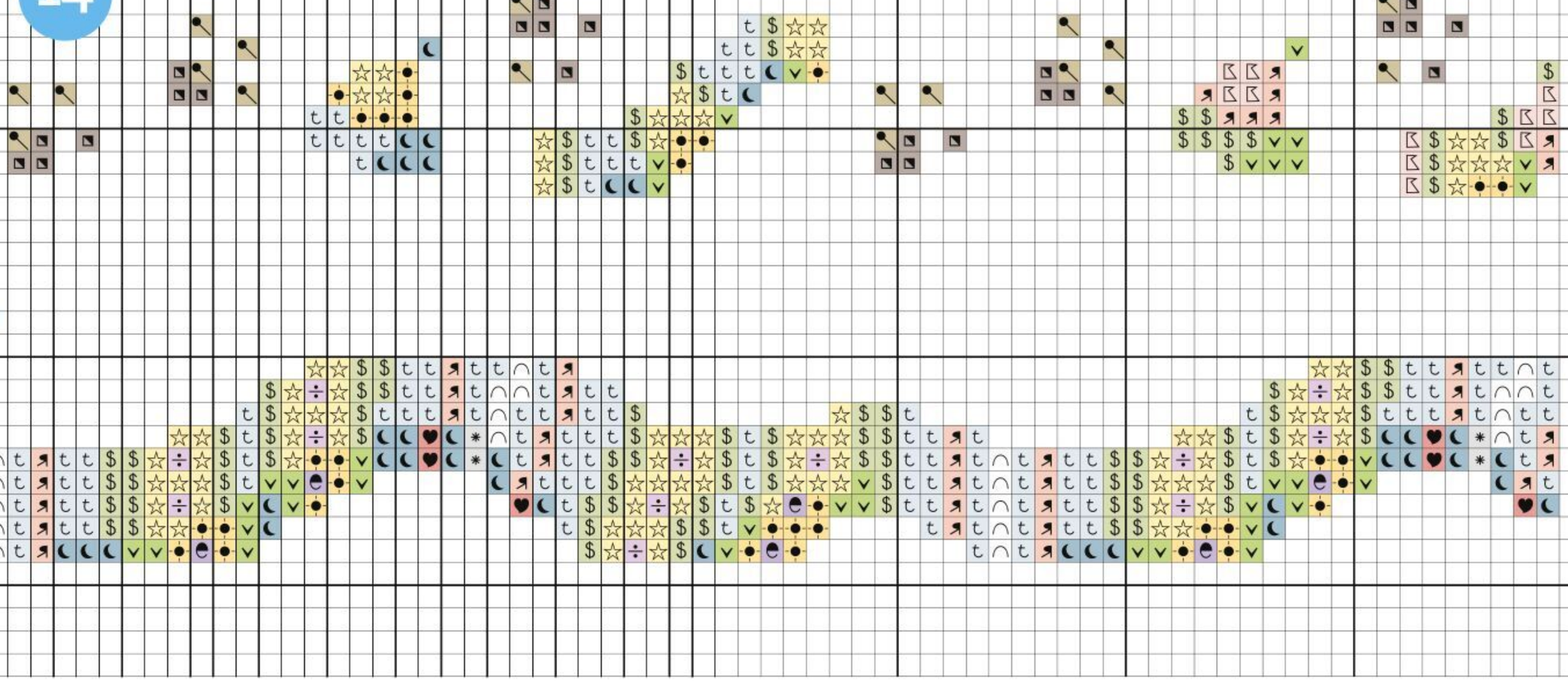
“These make me smile – I just love the idea of a creature in a cardi! I’m going to have a go at a few of these on colder evenings when I can’t bring myself to go outside. Maybe I’ll even make myself a mug hug.”

HANNAH, CHARTING ASSISTANT

13



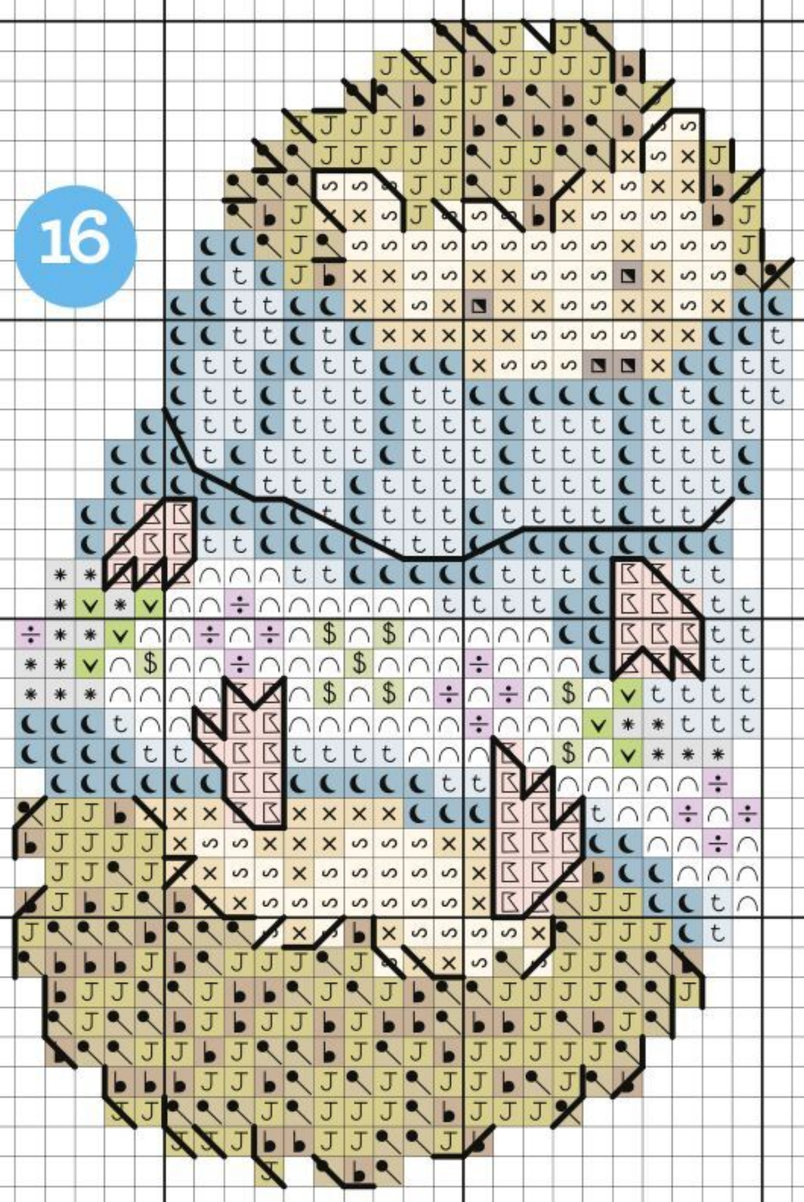
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15

MAKE FAB GIFTS FOR ANIMAL LOVERS

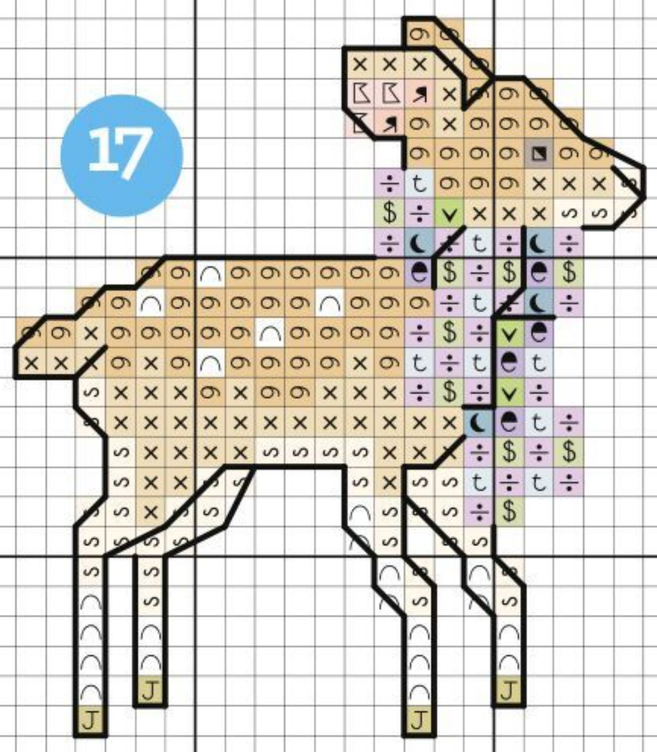
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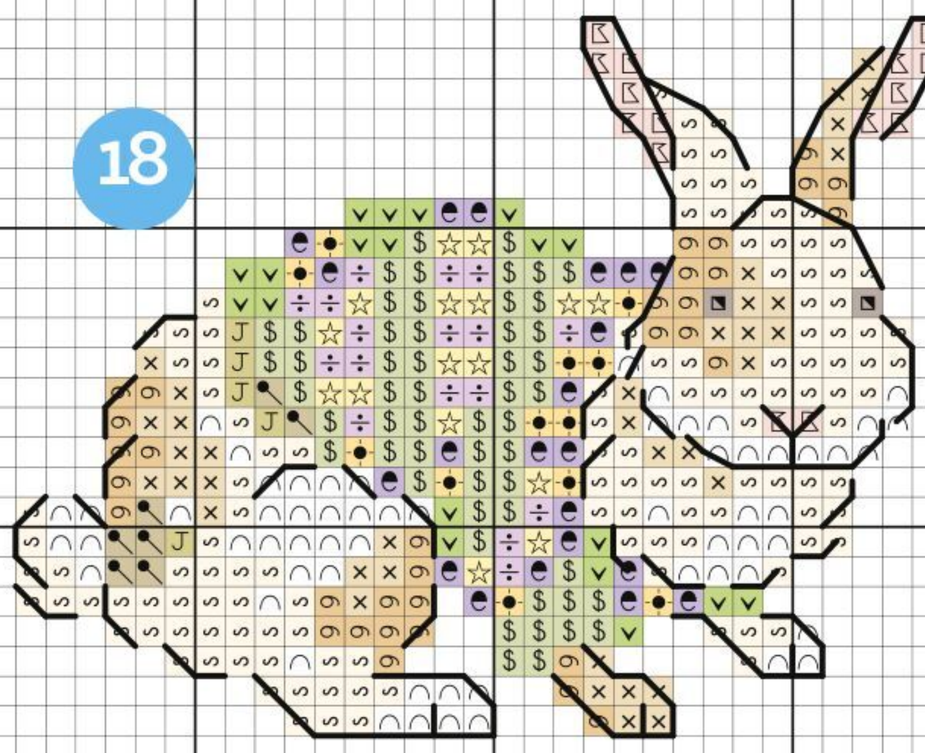
Cold hands

Warm heart

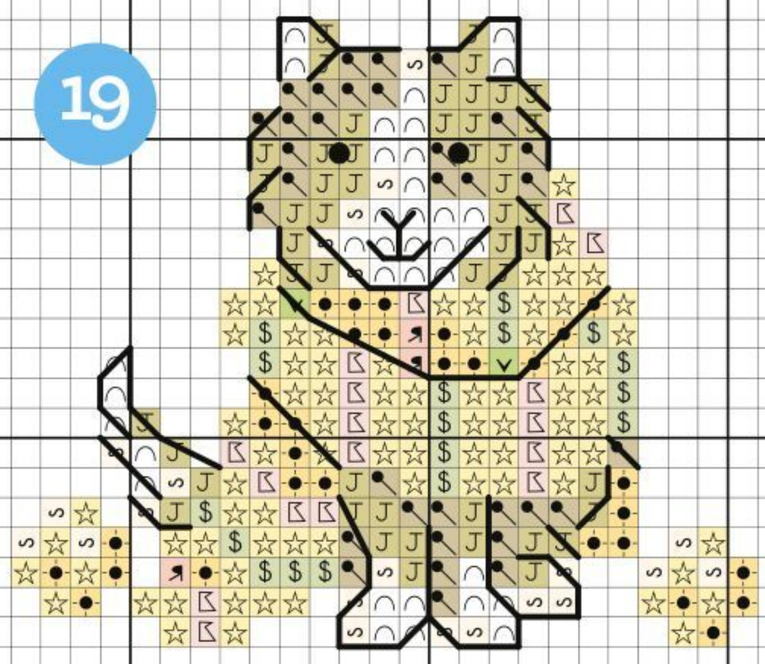
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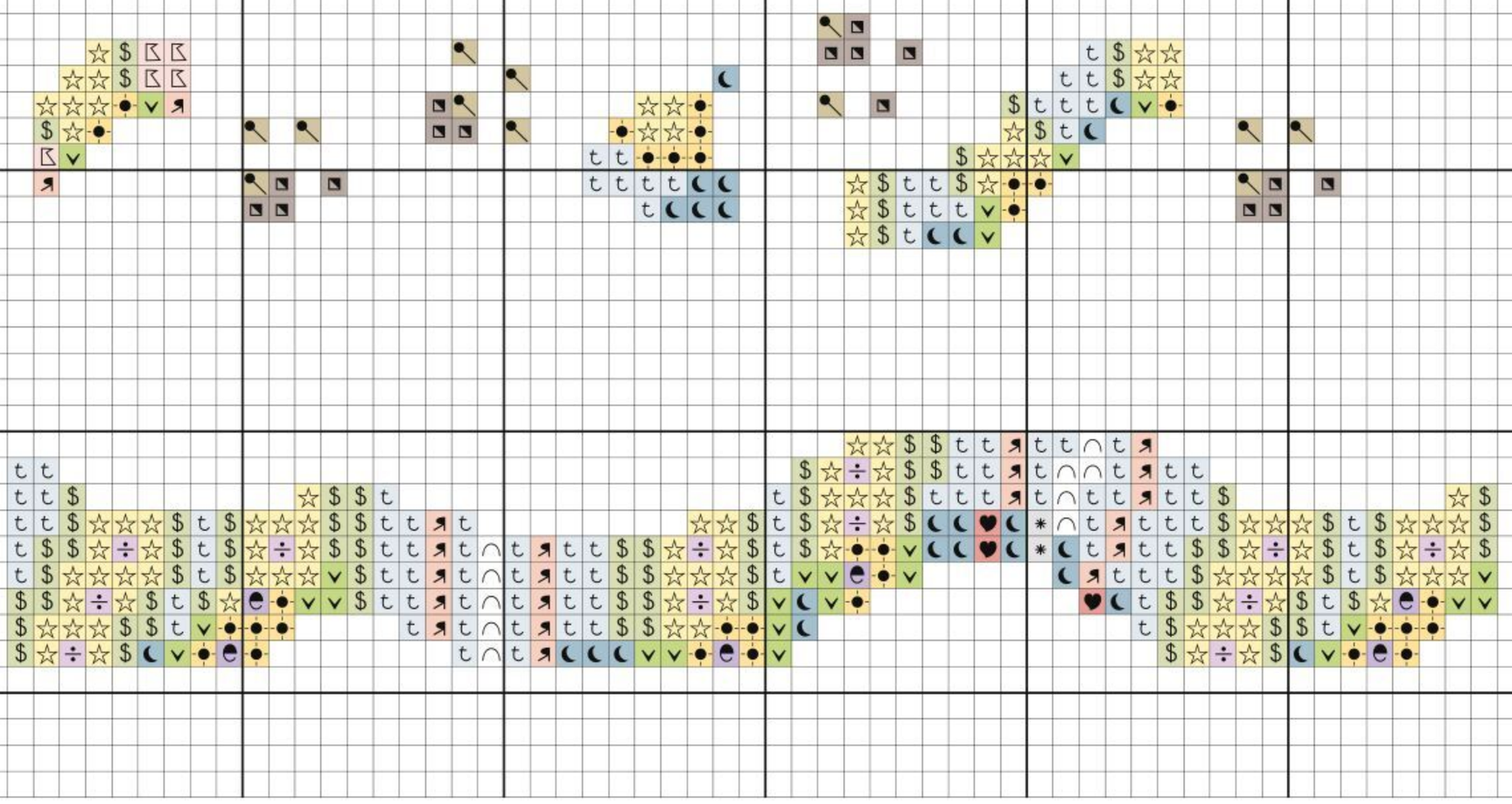


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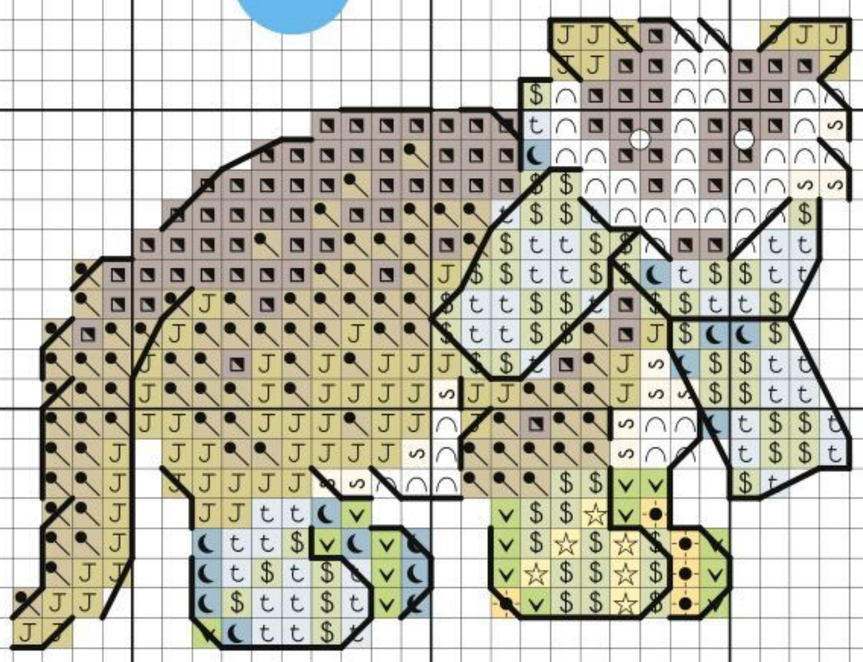
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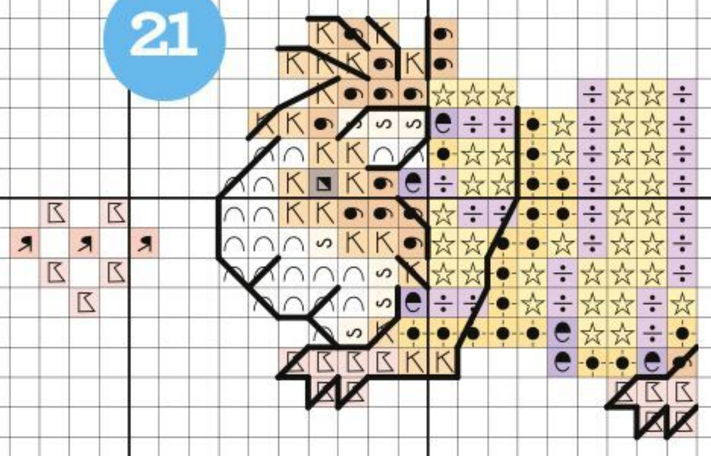


YOUR CUT OUT AND KEEP SECTION

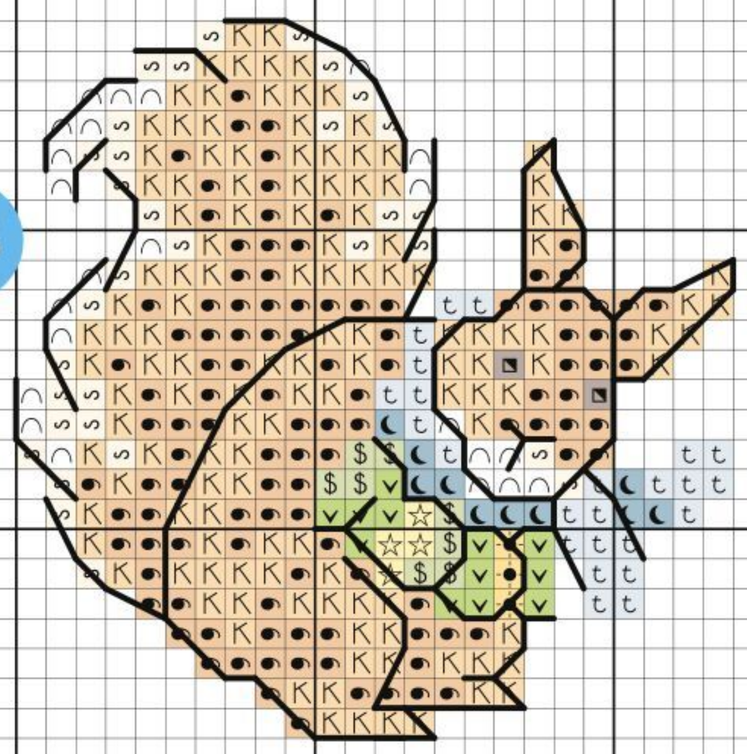
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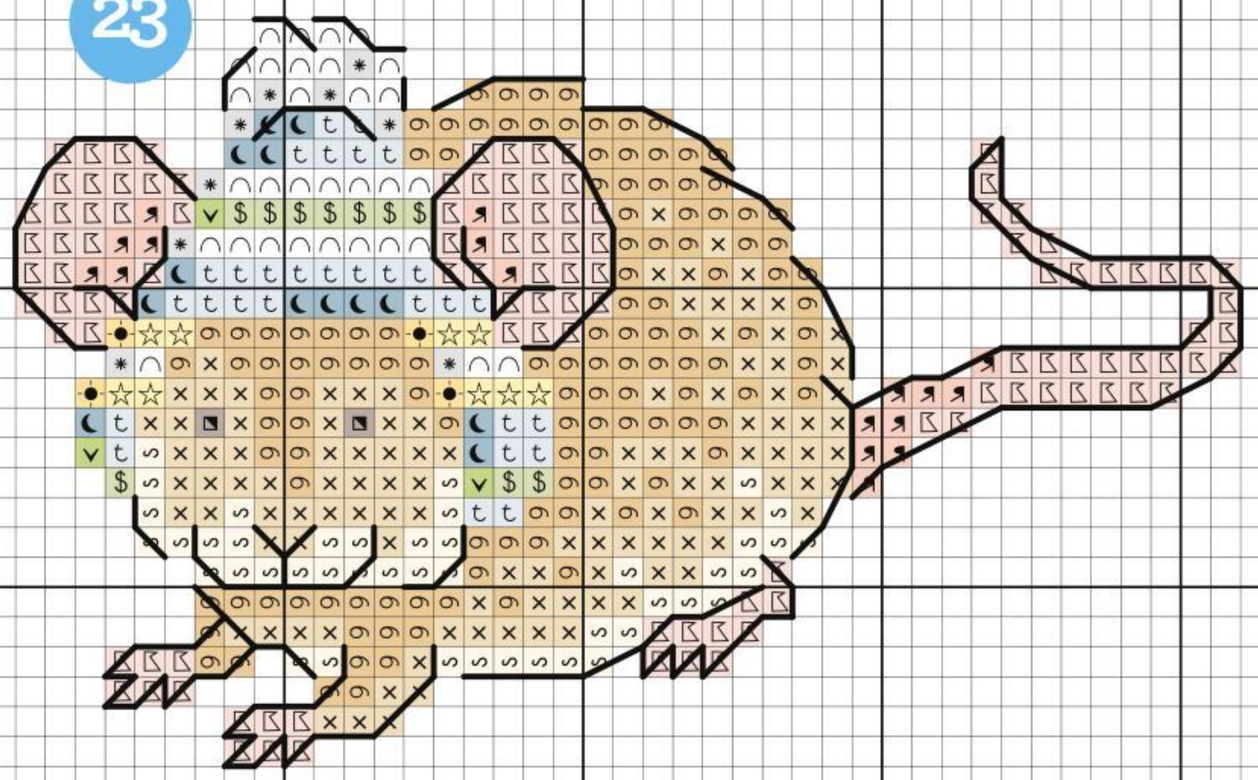
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22



23



24

A B C D E F G H I J K L M

N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

25

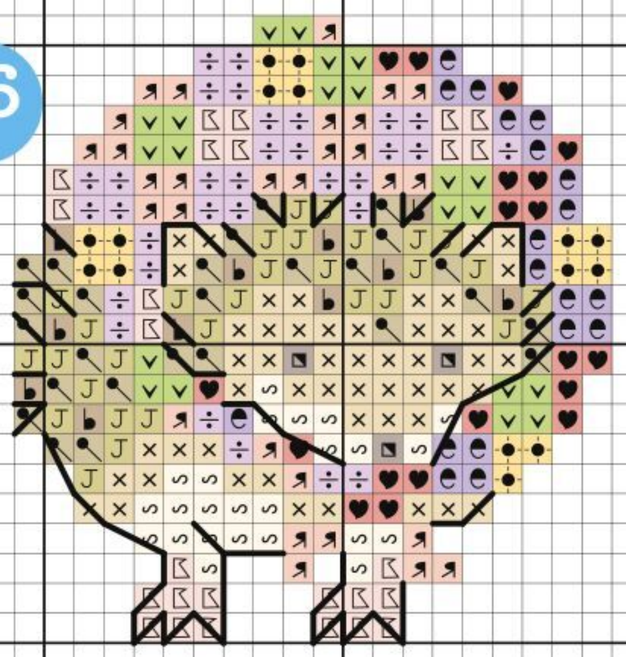
a b c d e f g h i j k l m n

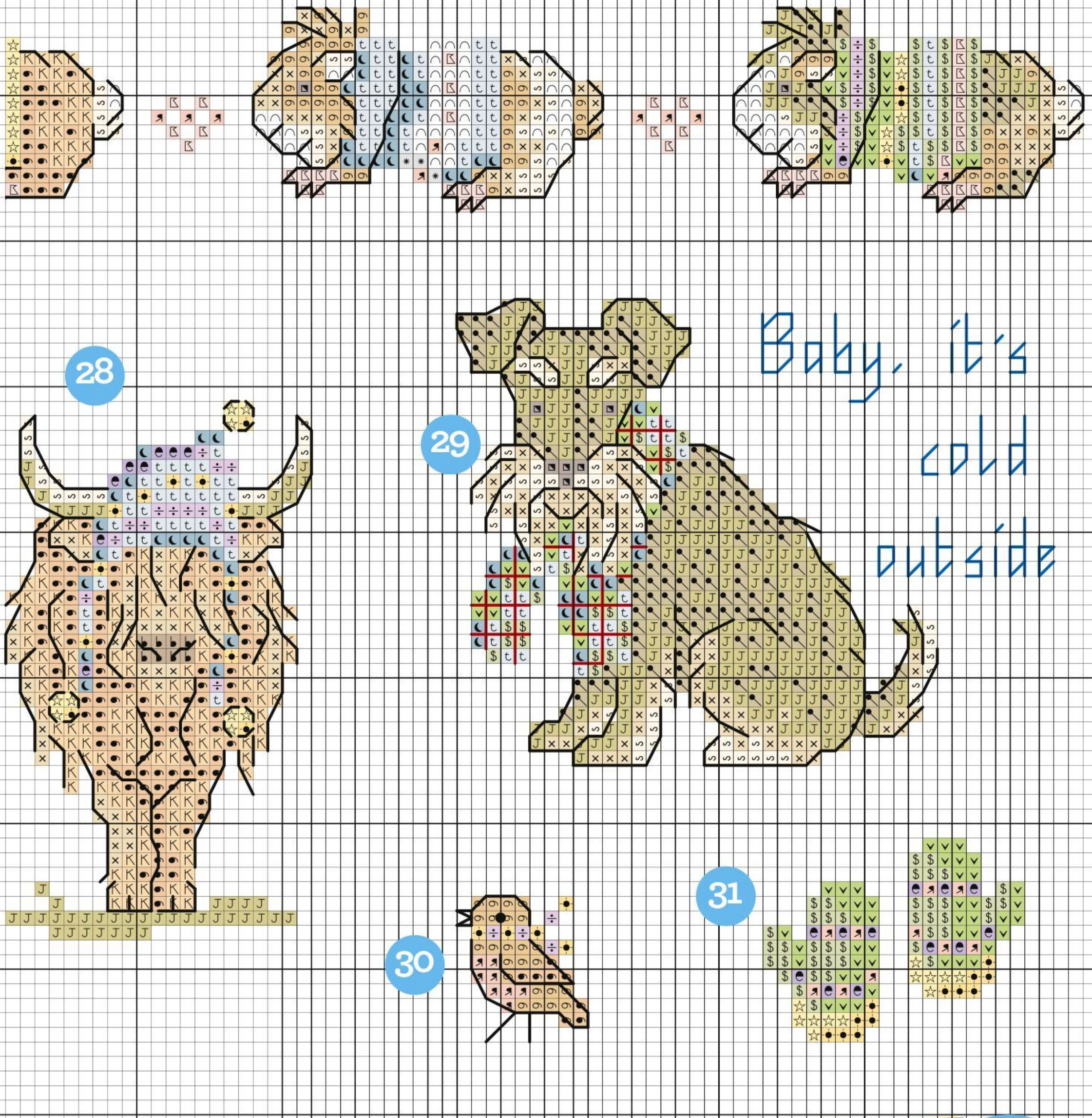
o p q r s t u v w x y z

27

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0

26







NEXT MONTH: CIRCUS!

If you're a fan of trips to the fun fair or you long to pack a bag and run away with the circus, you'll love our next Design Library – a celebration of these beloved pastimes! Get to the shops on 28 December to pick up your copy of issue 316, or subscribe and the issue will be delivered to your door. Find this month's money-saving subscription offer on page 44.



Turn to page 44 to subscribe

LEARN... QUEEN STITCH

Faby's masterclass

Discover new techniques every month with our resident stitching expert, Faby Reilly





Designed for stitchers eager to master new techniques and set themselves regular and fun new challenges, welcome to this month's workshop, which focuses on queen stitch – a traditional stitch that forms a pretty diamond shape. I've loved using it for this 'Happy New Year' design and hope you will too. I aim to cover a wide variety of styles and themes each issue and the patterns are small enough to be stitched over a weekend or in between larger projects. My patterns are simple to follow, and I'll always be sure to give you lots of clear step-by-step instructions for any special stitches. I wish you all a very happy and stitchy 2022, and I hope you get to celebrate in style!

Happy New Year key

✖ Cross stitch in two strands

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira	
∩	blanc	2	2402	white
☼	677	886	2207	sand
★	740	316	204	orange
●	741	304	202	light orange
–	746	275	2511	cream
⚲	762	234	1804	grey
K	3045	888	2103	dark straw
×	3046	887	2206	straw

✖ Cross stitch in one strand *RG Treasure Braid

☆	PB03			gold
*	PB04			silver

✖ Backstitch in one strand

—	3371	382	2004	brown

✖ Backstitch in three strands

—	3045	888	2103	dark straw

✖ Queen stitch in one strand *RG Treasure Braid

—	PB03			gold

STITCH COUNT 58 high x 58 wide

DESIGN AREA 14 HPI (28-count evenweave) – 10.5x10.5cm (4¼x4¼in)

STITCHED BY Faby Reilly

This design was stitched using DMC stranded cotton and *Rainbow Gallery Treasure Braid on 28-count evenweave over two threads of the fabric



TOP TIP

If you want to stitch this design without trying queen stitch, simply replace these stitches with gold sequins





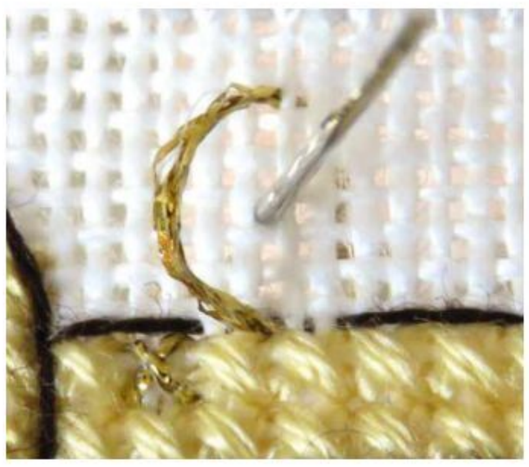


Adorn your stitches

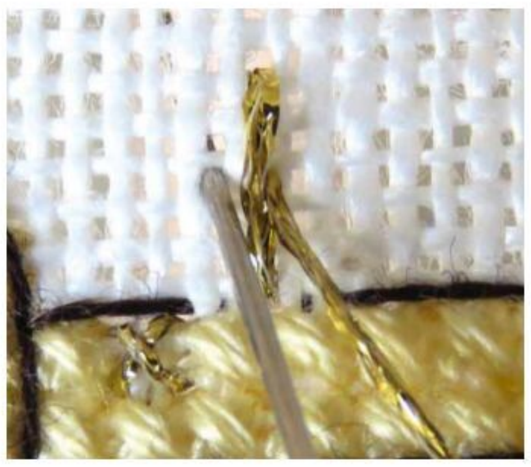
Factbox

- **Stitching Time** Approx. 11 hours
- **Type of Stitches** Cross stitch, backstitch, queen stitch
- **Ease of Stitching** Advanced

How to... do queen stitch



1 Bring the needle out at the bottom tip of the stitch and push it back through the fabric at the top of the stitch. Before tightening the loop of thread, bring the needle back up in the centre of the stitch.



2 Tighten the thread until it's flat against the fabric with a slight curve where it's pressing against the trailing thread. Then, push the needle back through the fabric one strand to the left, tacking the first vertical stitch in place.



3 Repeat steps 1–2 to create two more vertical stitches with tacking stitches joining onto the left of the first vertical stitch.



4 Once the three left-hand side vertical stitches are completed, repeat the process to create three vertical stitches on the right-hand side until the queen stitch is complete.

DESIGNED BY **AMANDA BUTLER**

Come fly with me

Take to the skies with a pair of majestic Canada geese and go on an epic journey in stitches

With the colder months upon them, these sublime birds are heading south for their annual migration to enjoy warmer regions. Canada geese are well known for their distinctive markings and can be seen flying in V-shape formations. They're certainly a sight to behold in their vast numbers, primarily seen in skies across North America. This duo look like they're just starting out on the journey, and they're inviting you along for the ride as you stitch them in all their wonder.

Amanda Butler has used 27 shades – and some blending – in cross stitch, half stitch and backstitch to recreate the delicate plumage of the striking creatures, as well as the delightful snowy landscape below. The pink sunset dazzles as it adds a contrasting splash of colour in the background of this gentle scene.

Displayed in a bronzed-effect frame, and hung for all to see you'll get a thrill every time you look upon this incredible view of wild beauty. ➤

Factbox

- **Stitching Time**
  Approx. 90 hours
- **Type of Stitches**
  Cross stitch, half cross stitch, blending, backstitch
- **Ease of Stitching**
  Intermediate/advanced

Try blended threads





Meet the designer

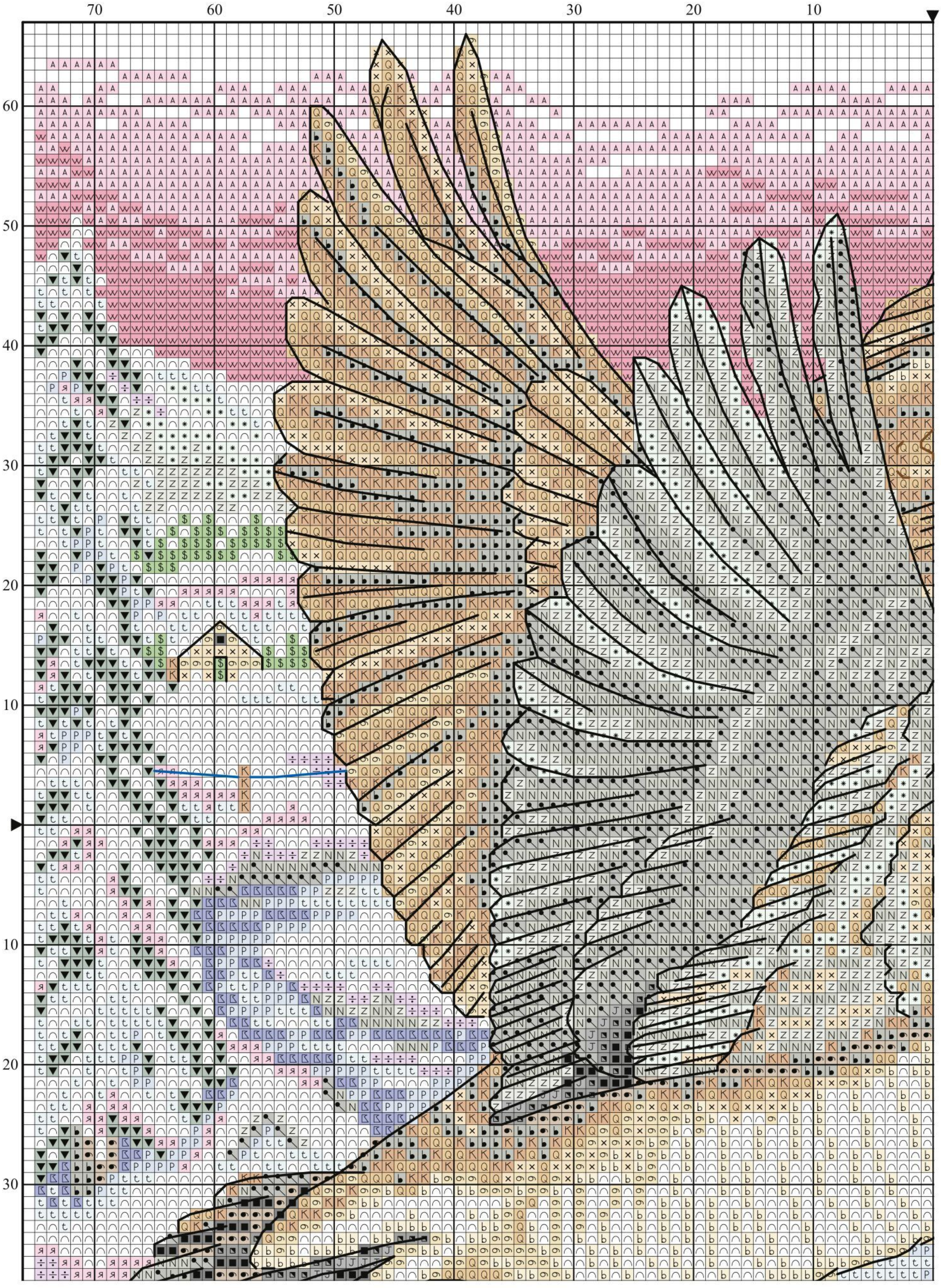
Amanda Butler

"It's wonderful to watch Canada geese flying through the winter sky, chattering away to themselves as they go. This design encapsulates a moment of peace and tranquillity, transporting the viewer."

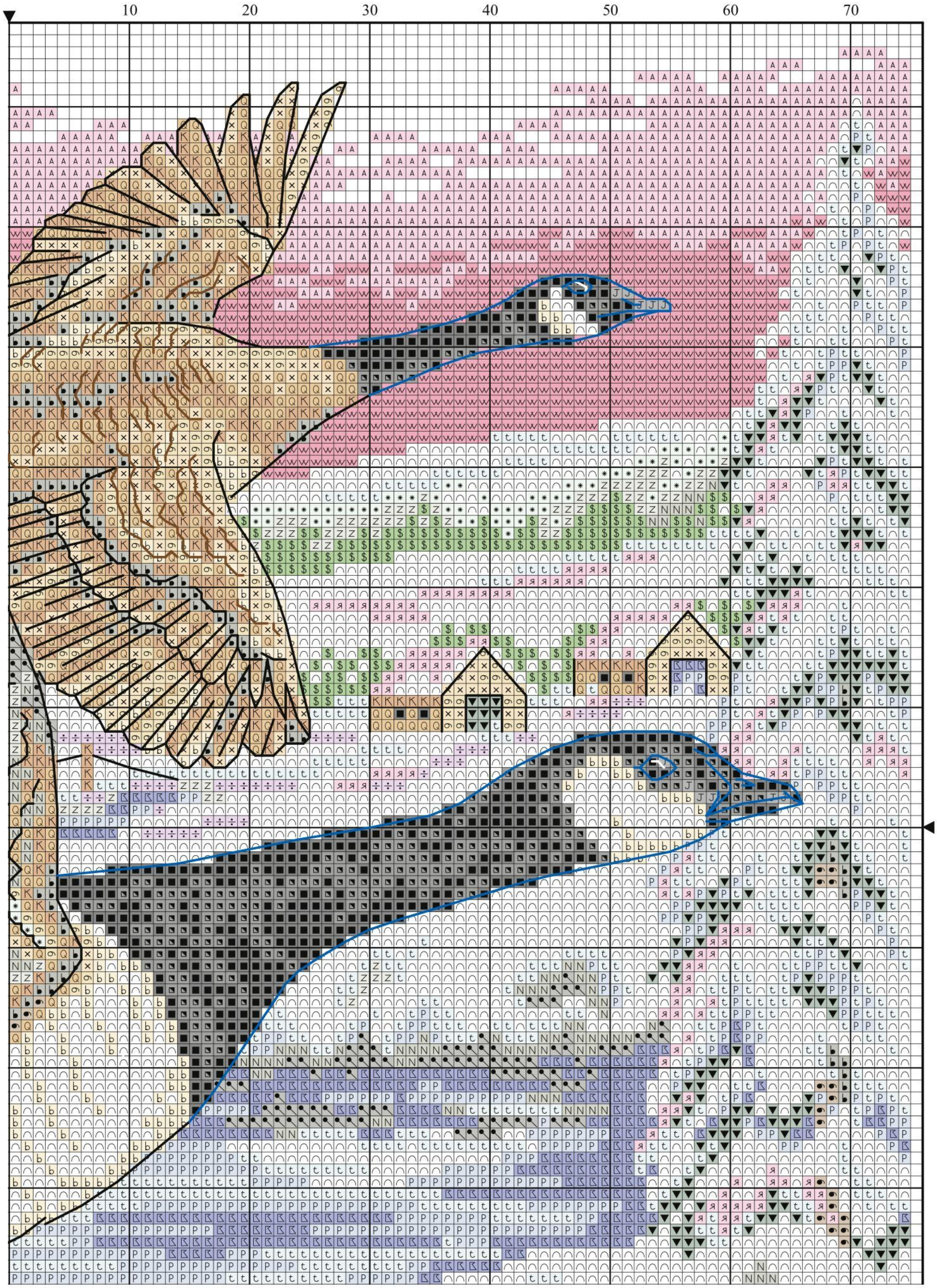
THE WORLD OF Cross Stitching

STITCHER'S CHALLENGE

Take a gander at this heart-warming scene to stitch and display at home this winter



Migrating Geese chart (top left)



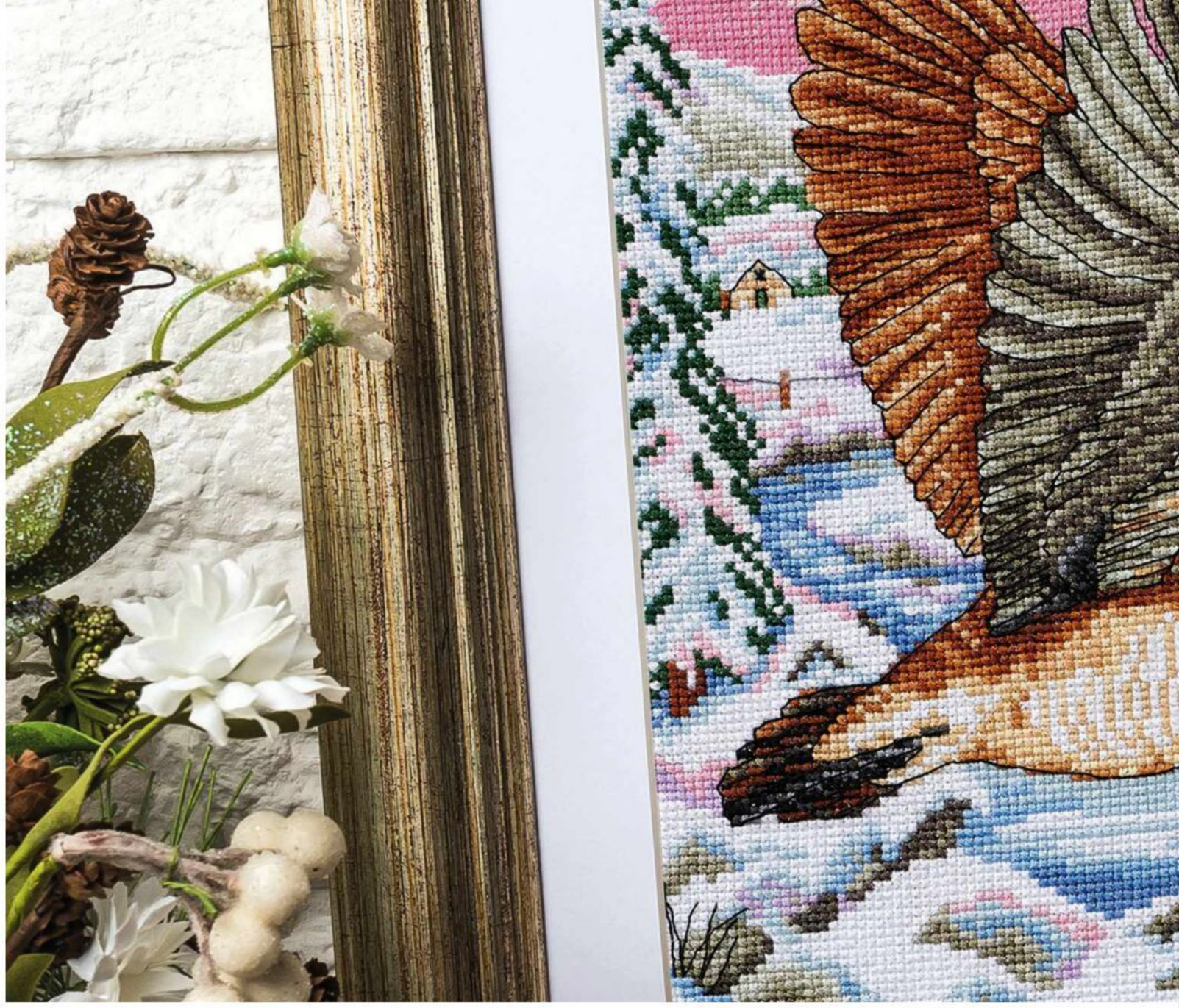
Migrating Geese chart (top right)

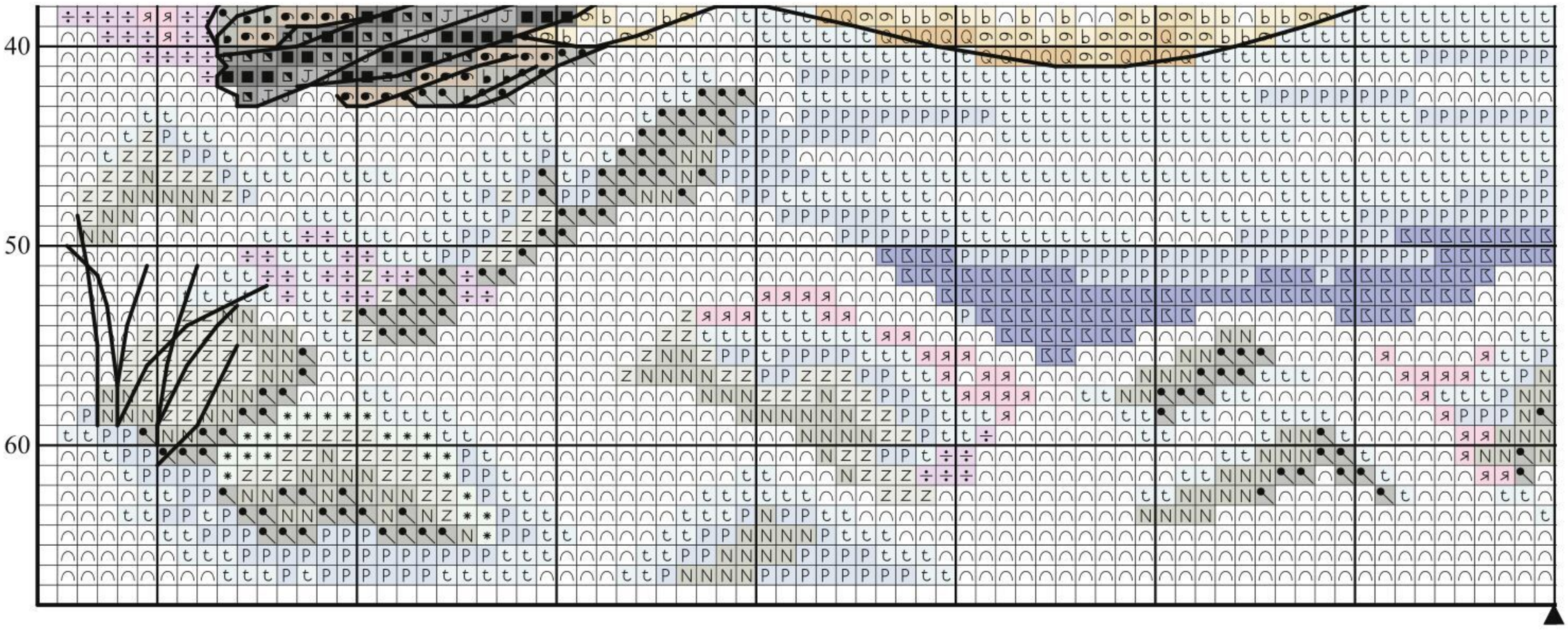
Project Migrating Geese



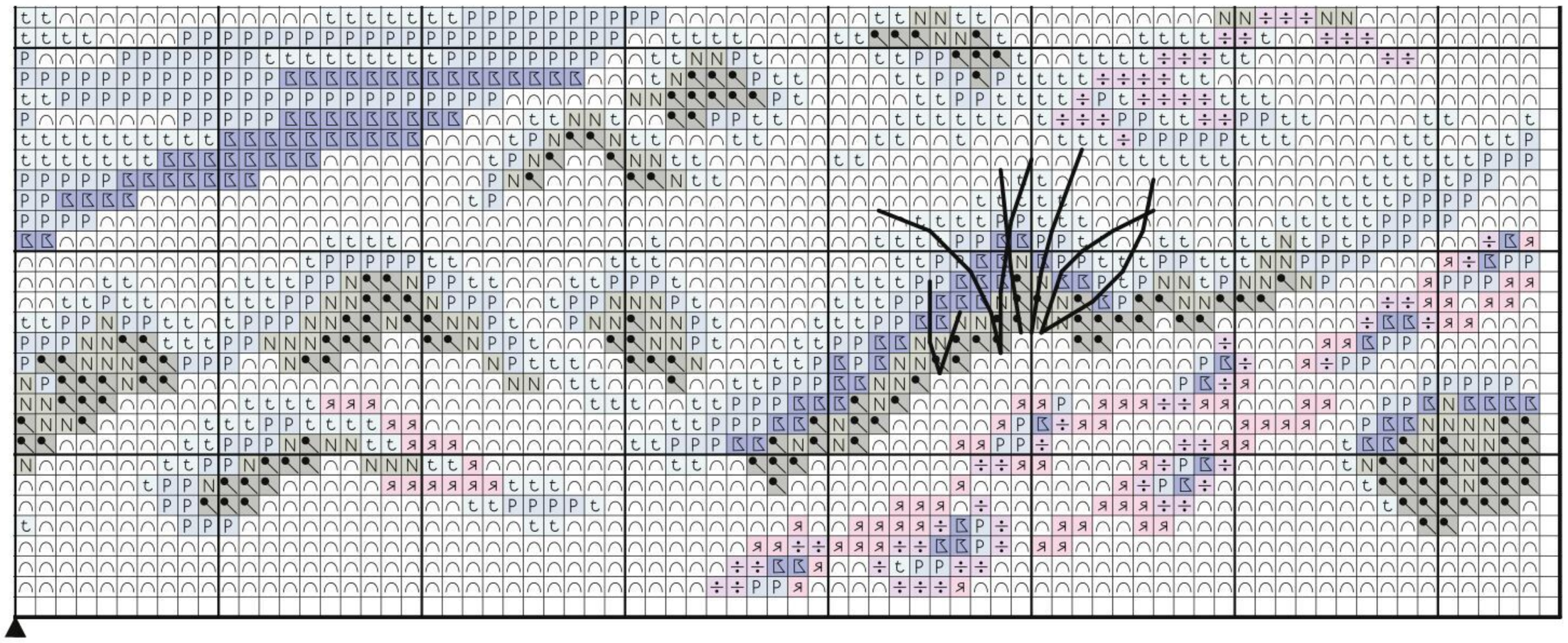
“I enjoyed watching skies full of geese flying in their distinct V-shapes in Canada, so I’m going to stitch this to remind me of an amazing trip”

FIONA, SENIOR TECHNICAL EDITOR

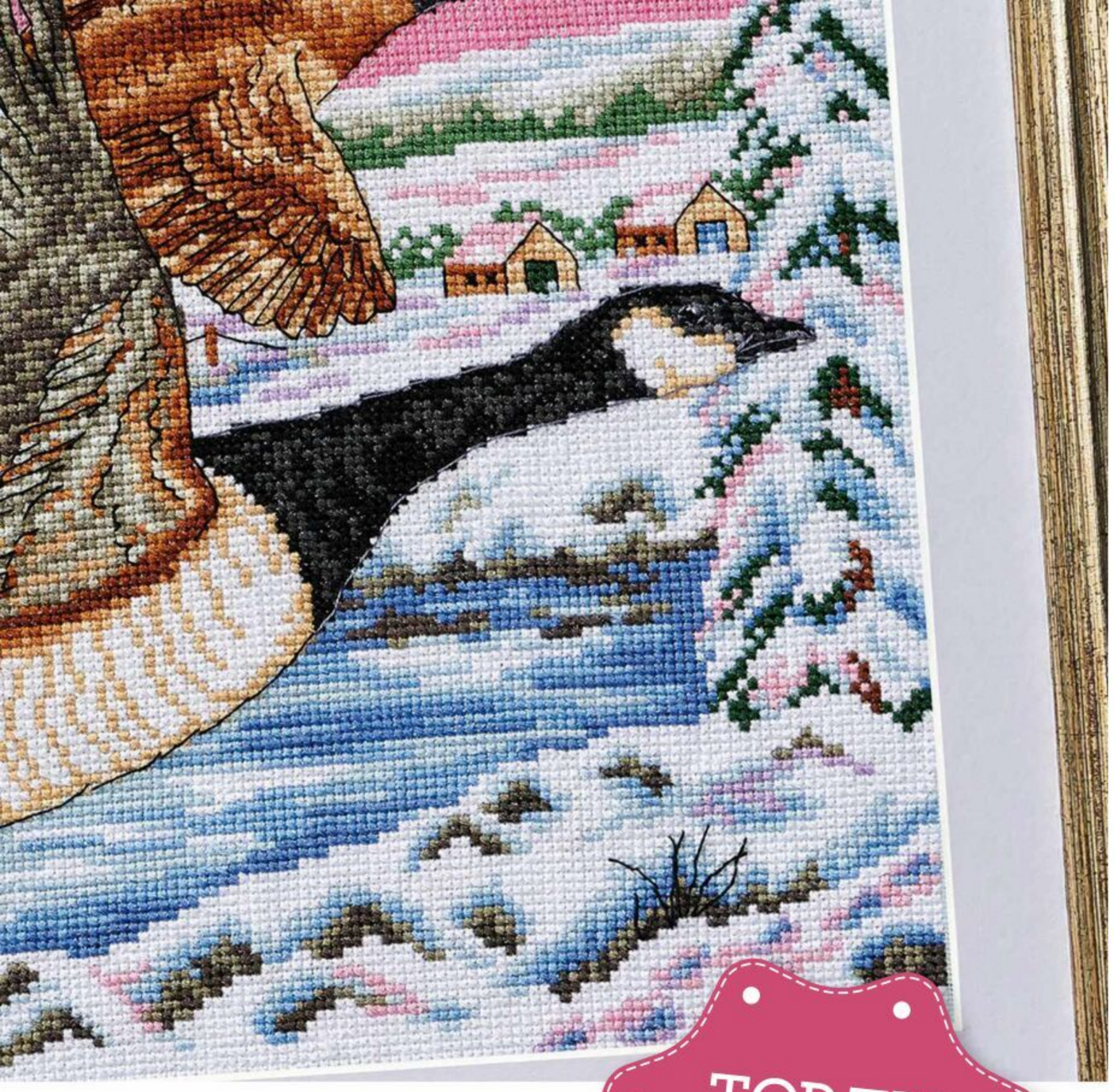




Migrating Geese chart (bottom left)



Migrating Geese chart (bottom right)



TOP TIP

For blended threads use one strand of each shade as listed, twist them together and stitch as normal

How to...

tackle larger projects if you're a beginner

This design is sizable and uses half stitch and backstitch as well as blending, so we have recommended it for experienced stitchers. However, as the design doesn't use fractionals, it could be suitable for a less experienced stitcher who is looking for a bit of a challenge. If you're not sure whether you're ready to take it on, why not stitch just the front goose on its own for practice? If you manage it without any trouble, there's nothing to stop you carrying on and stitching the whole of Amanda's charming design.

Shopping list

- Zweigart* 28-count ice blue (550) evenweave measuring 39x42cm (15¼x16½in)
- Stranded cotton as listed in the key
- Size 24 tapestry needle
- Frame and mount of your choice with a minimum aperture of 24x27cm (9½x10¾in)

Thread & fabric cost
Approximately £45

*For stockists see page 90

Migrating Geese key

Cross stitch in two strands

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira	
◠	B5200	1	2401	white
÷	210	108	802	lilac
■	310	403	2400	black
▼	319	212	1313	dark green
◺	322	131	1004	dark blue
$	367	217	1312	green
J	414	235	1714	grey
◗	433	357	2602	very dark tan
K	434	310	2009	dark tan
×	437	362	2012	very light tan
Я	605	1094	613	light pink
N	646	8481	1812	dark ash grey
9	738	367	2013	cream
b	739	366	2014	light cream
●	801	359	2007	brown
◥	844	1041	1809	smoke grey
*	3072	847	1805	petrol grey
P	3755	140	1013	blue
◹	3799	236	1713	charcoal grey
t	3841	9159	1001	baby blue

Cross stitch in one strand of each

Q	435	1046	2010	tan
	436	1045	2011	light tan
Z	647	1040	1813	ash grey
	648	900	1814	light ash grey

Half cross stitch in two strands

W	603	55	505	pink
A	605	1094	613	light pink

Backstitch in one strand

═	B5200	1	2401	white
═	310	403	2400	black
═	317	400	1819	dark grey
═	938	380	2006	dark brown

STITCH COUNT 133 high x 150 wide

DESIGN AREA 14 HPI (28-count evenweave) – 24x27cm (9½x10¾in)

SKEINS NEEDED **4xB5200** (white), **2x3841** (baby blue)

STITCHED BY Donna Simmerson

This design was stitched using DMC stranded cotton on 28-count evenweave over two threads of the fabric



Jayne READER PANEL

"This is a perfect winter landscape. I love birds and enjoy feeding the ones that visit our garden, but I've always had a soft spot for Canada geese. In school I remember making a clay tile with a goose etched on it."

DESIGNED BY **FIONA BAKER**

Stacks of style

Stitch a decorative matryoshka doll in calm winter hues and master some new techniques along the way

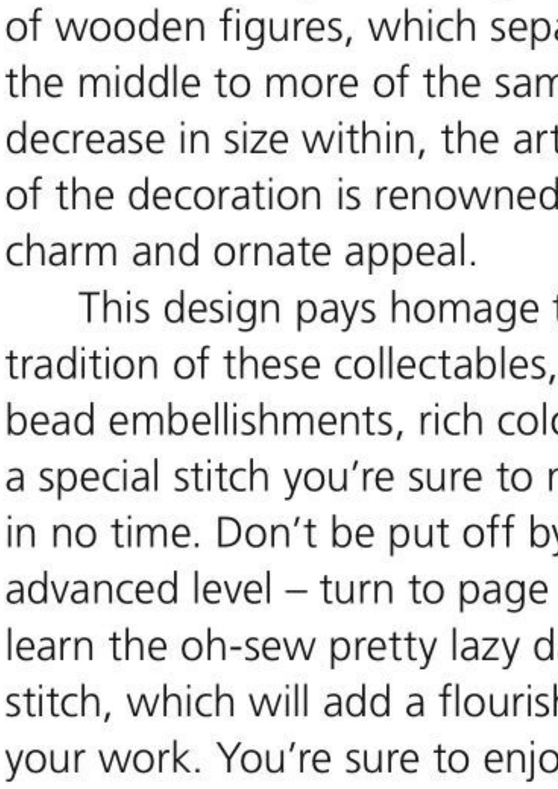
This traditional Russian nesting doll (also known as a babushka or matryoshka doll) is dressed in an elaborate wardrobe of cool frosty colours. Normally consisting of a set of wooden figures, which separate in the middle to more of the same that decrease in size within, the artistry of the decoration is renowned for its charm and ornate appeal.

This design pays homage to the tradition of these collectables, with bead embellishments, rich colours and a special stitch you're sure to master in no time. Don't be put off by the advanced level – turn to page 68 to learn the oh-sew pretty lazy daisy stitch, which will add a flourish to your work. You're sure to enjoy the challenge as well as the blackwork-style features, swirling snowdrops, as well as seed and pebble beads for this fashionable figurine's ensemble. The corner borders set inside an ornamental silver frame make for the perfect display that holds timeless style to be treasured for always. ➤

Factbox

Decorate with beads

- **Stitching Time**
  Approx. 40 hours
- **Type of Stitches**
  Cross stitch, backstitch, lazy daisy stitch, beads
- **Ease of Stitching**
  Advanced



Meet the designer

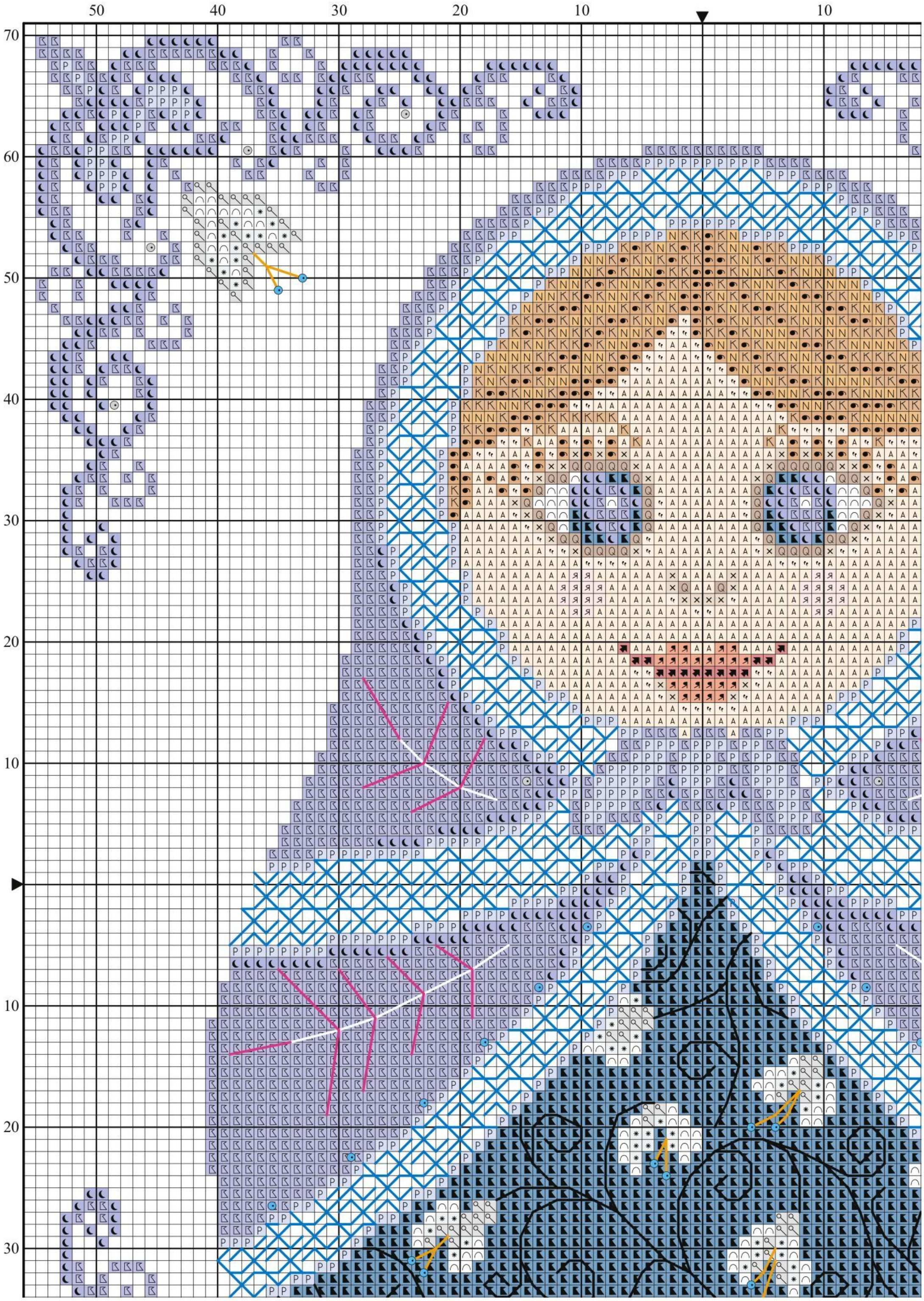
Fiona Baker

"I loved coming up with this design, and couldn't resist some blackwork patterns to represent the intricate artistry on these traditional dolls. The pebble beads were fun to add as a new embellishment too."

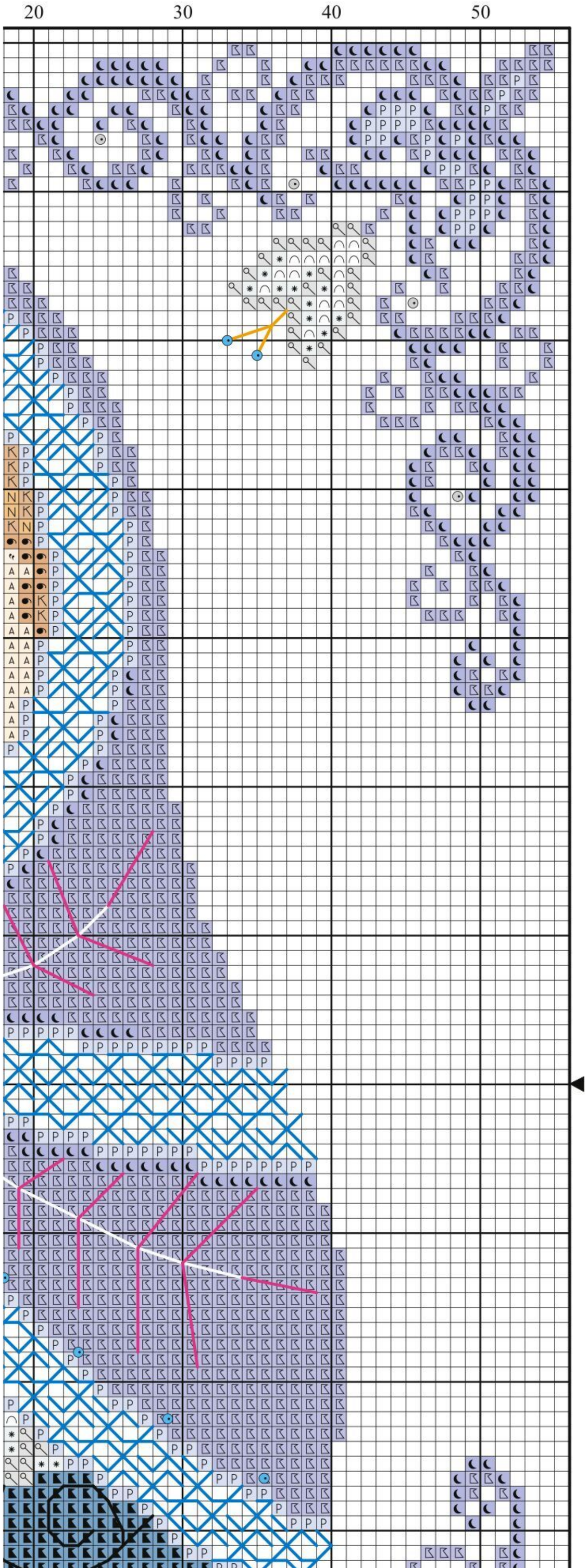




Children and adults alike will love the playful charm and delightful detail on display



Russian Doll chart (top left)



Russian Doll chart (top right)

Russian Doll key

Cross stitch in two strands

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira	
◠	B5200	1	2401	white
◥	350	11	213	red
⚲	415	398	1802	grey
*	762	234	1804	light grey
◣	796	134	914	blue
◤	817	13	210	dark red
◟	950	4146	2309	peach
K	976	1001	2010	ginger
N	977	1002	2302	light ginger
Я	3713	1020	502	pink
A	3774	778	306	apricot
◖	3826	1048	2306	dark ginger
◗	3838	176	2702	dk lavender blue
◺	3839	175	902	lavender blue
P	3840	130	907	lt lavender blue
Q	3863	379	1912	beige
×	3864	376	1910	light beige

Backstitch in one strand

⟋	415	398	1802	grey
⟋	796	134	914	blue

Backstitch in two strands

⟋	B5200	1	2401	white
⟋	415	398	1802	grey

Lazy daisy stitch in two strands

⟋	B5200	1	2401	white

Mill Hill beads

●	02010			ice
●	05021			silver pebble

STITCH COUNT 140 high x 110 wide

DESIGN AREA 14 HPI (28-count evenweave) – 25.5x20cm (10x7¾in)

SKEINS NEEDED **2x796** (blue), **2x3839** (lavender blue)

STITCHED BY Laura Boyter

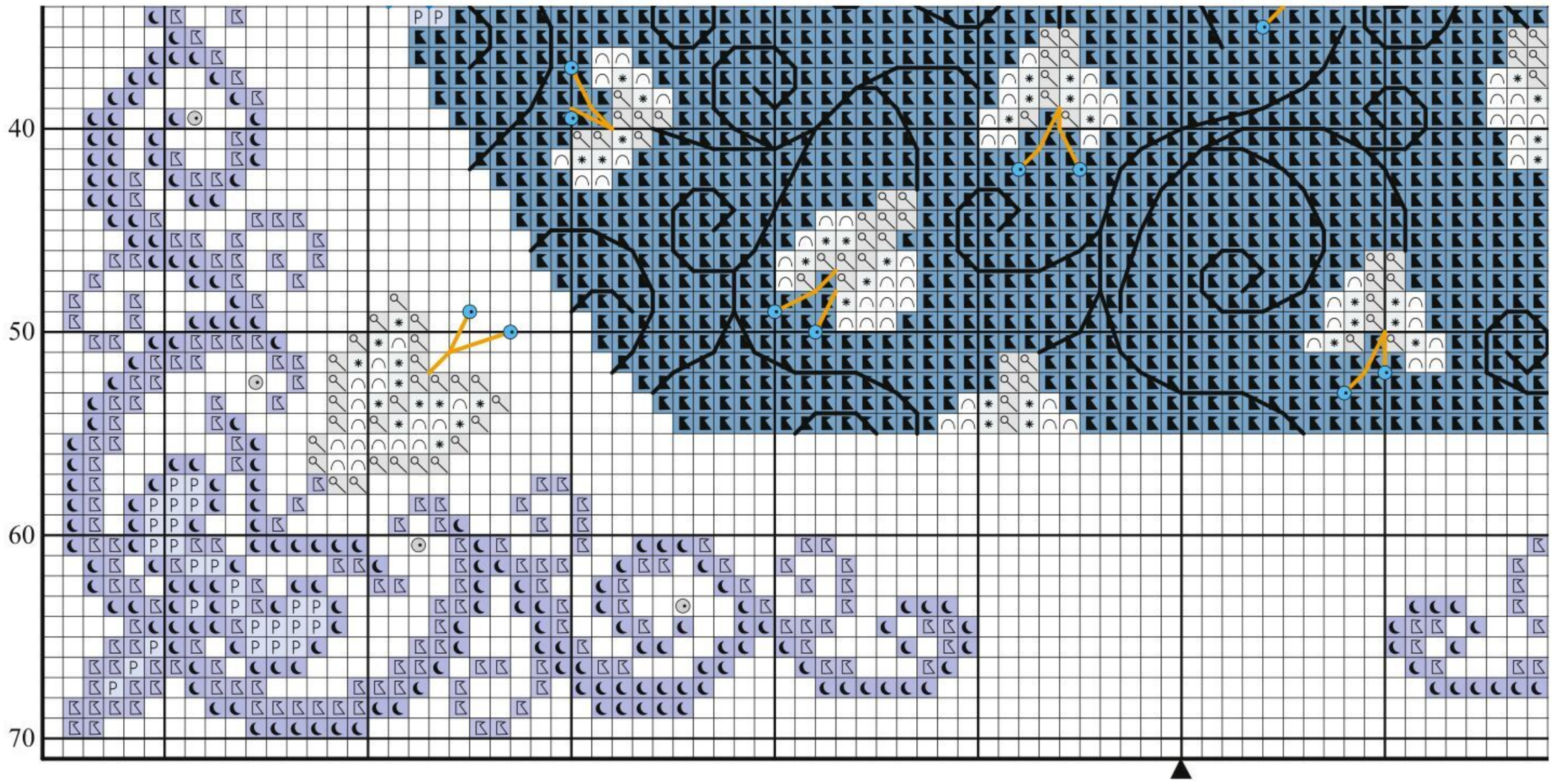
This design was stitched using DMC stranded cotton and Mill Hill seed and pebble beads

Shopping list

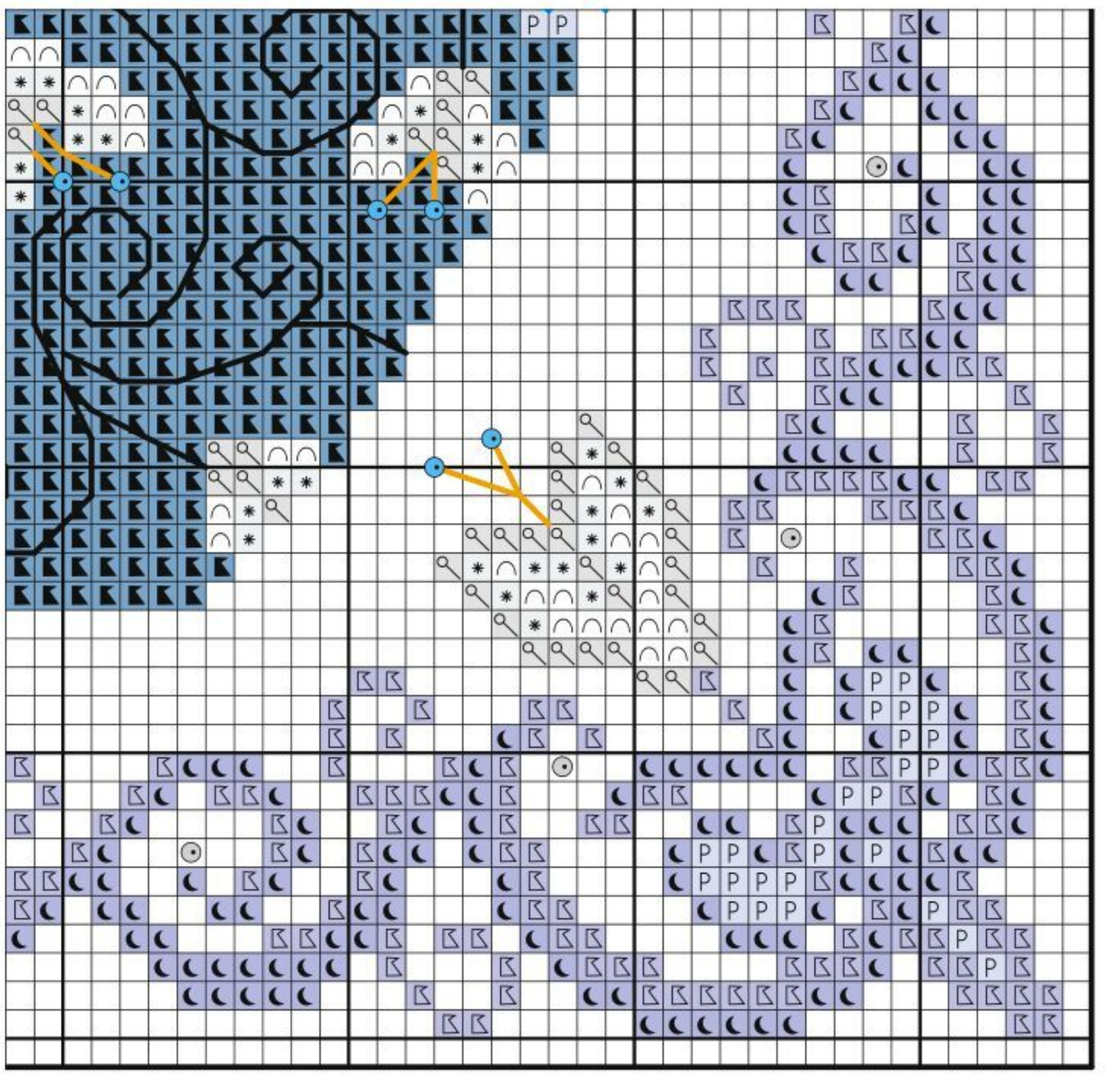
- Zweigart* 14-count white aida measuring 44x38cm (17¼x15in)
- Stranded cotton as listed in the key
- Mill Hill* seed and pebble beads as listed in the key
- Size 24 tapestry needle; beading needle
- Frame of your choice with a minimum aperture of 29x23cm (11½x9in)

Thread & fabric cost
Approximately £32

*For stockists see page 90

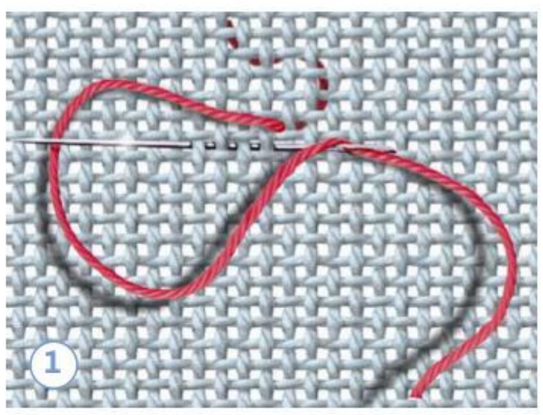


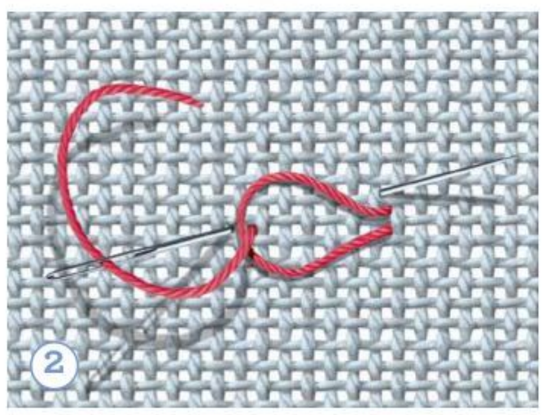
Russian Doll chart (bottom left)



Russian Doll chart (bottom right)

How to... do a lazy daisy stitch





Traditionally formed in a circle to create a flower, here it's been used to construct individual petals along the length of a backstitched stem as a decorative feature.

1 Secure the thread at the back of your work (note this pattern uses two strands of white thread, so you should use the loop method to ensure both strands have the same tension). Bring your needle up at the point of your lazy daisy stitch where it attaches to the backstitch 'stem', then take it back down through the fabric just next to where it came up, but not the exact same hole – don't pull the thread all the way through to the back, leaving a loop on the front of your fabric.

2 Bring your needle back up where you want the tip of your petal to be, as indicated by the length of the line on the chart. Take your needle back down over the thread loop to create a tiny anchoring stitch, and then gently tease into shape.

3 Repeat steps 1 and 2 for each petal, securing the thread at the back of your work between each one.

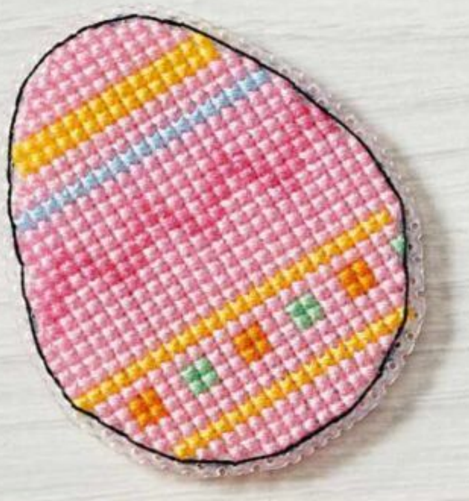
TOP TIP

When working with beads, spread a towel over your lap so you can easily catch any that fall

Melina READER PANEL



"This just makes me want to know what family of treasures would be kept inside this matryoshka doll. The detail and colour palette are perfect for this little Russian beauty."





EASILY UPDATE YOUR INTERIOR



Shopping list

- Zweigart* 14-count white aida measuring 20x37cm (7¾x14½in) for the main sign
- 14-count plastic canvas measuring 8x8cm (3¼x3¼in) for each motif from Lakeside Needlecraft*
- Stranded cotton as listed in the key
- Size 24 tapestry needle
- Sticky-backed hook and loop strips of your choice from local stores
- Frame of your choice with a minimum aperture of 7x24cm (2¾x9½in)

Thread & fabric cost
Approximately £28

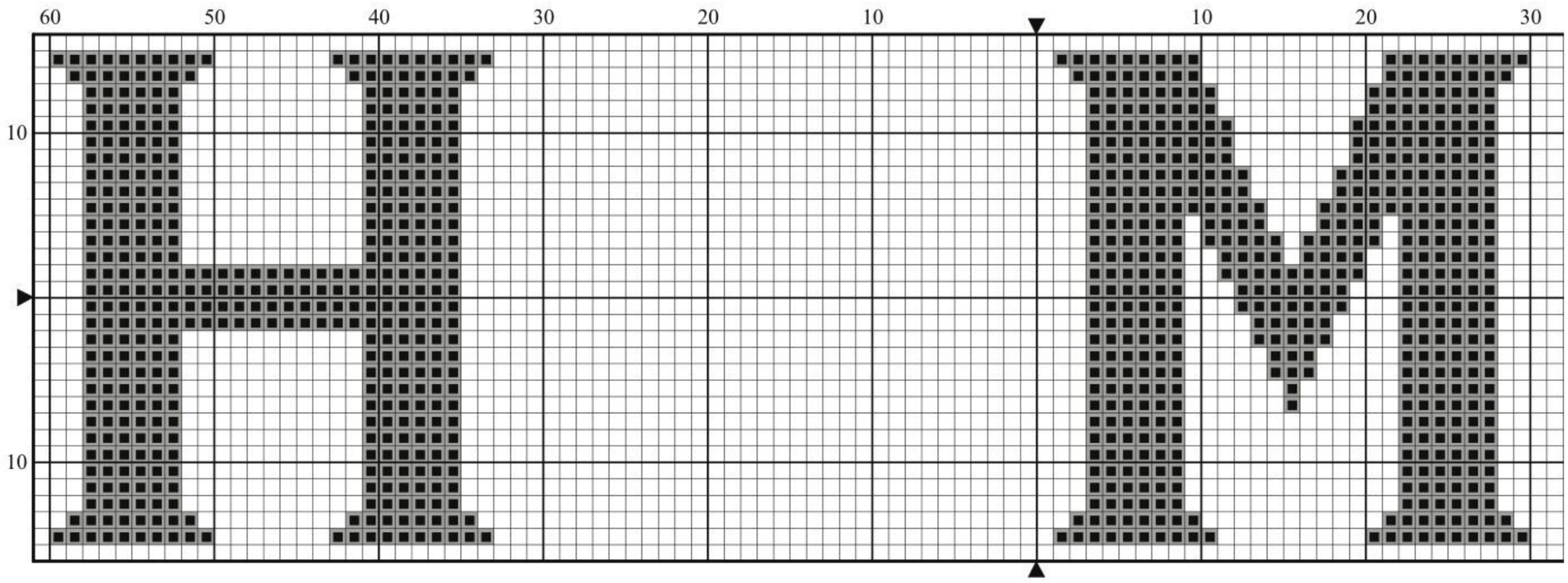
*For stockists see page 90

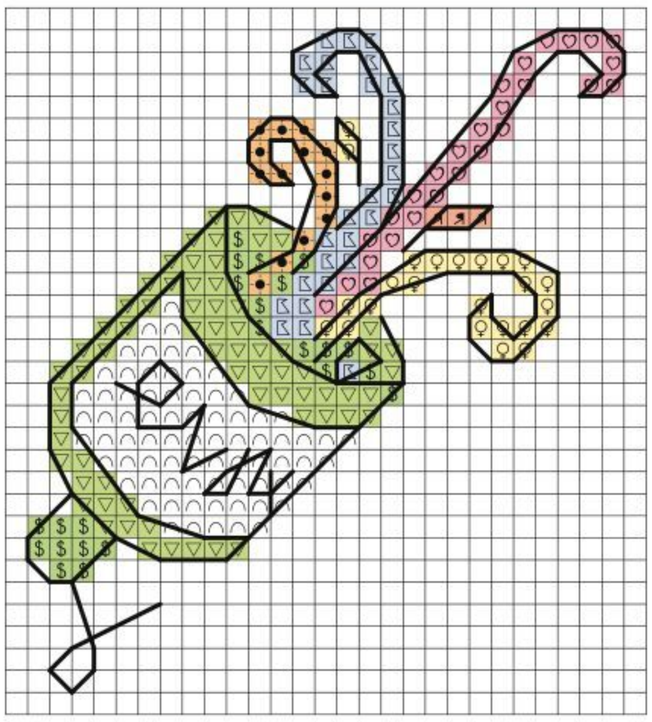
DESIGNED BY **HEATHER NUGENT**

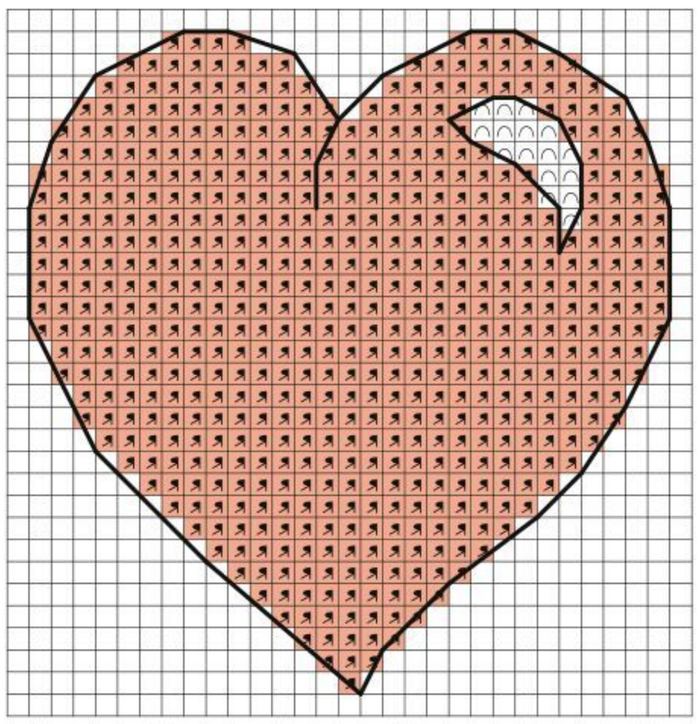
‘O’ so versatile

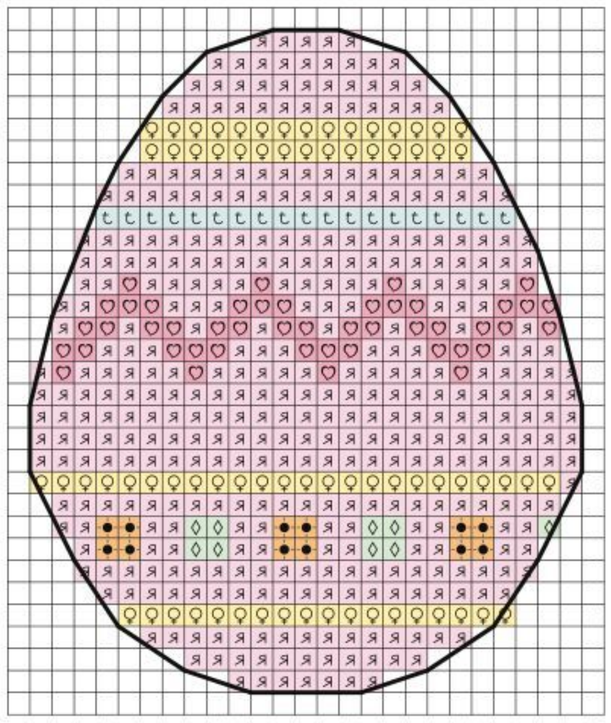
Make a stylish hanging you can change throughout the year, with an upgrade to dècor, or to suit your mood

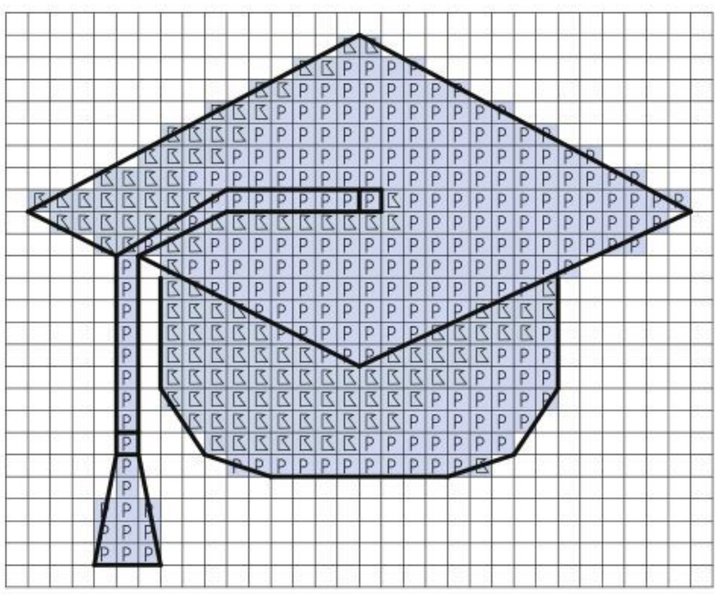
www.gathered.how/woxs

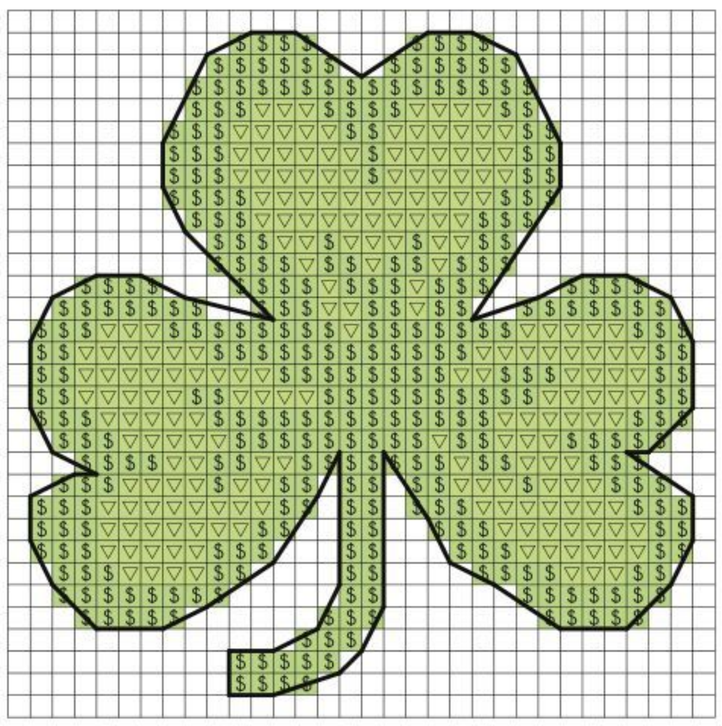

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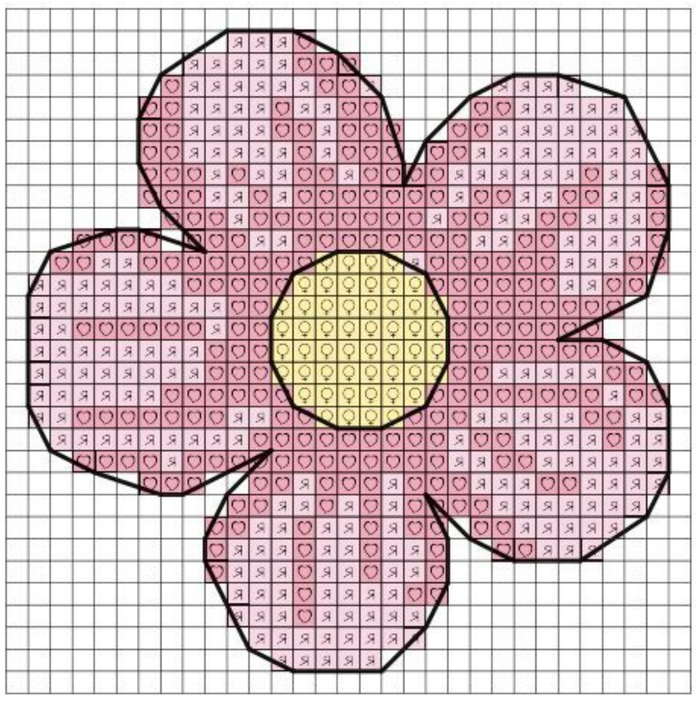


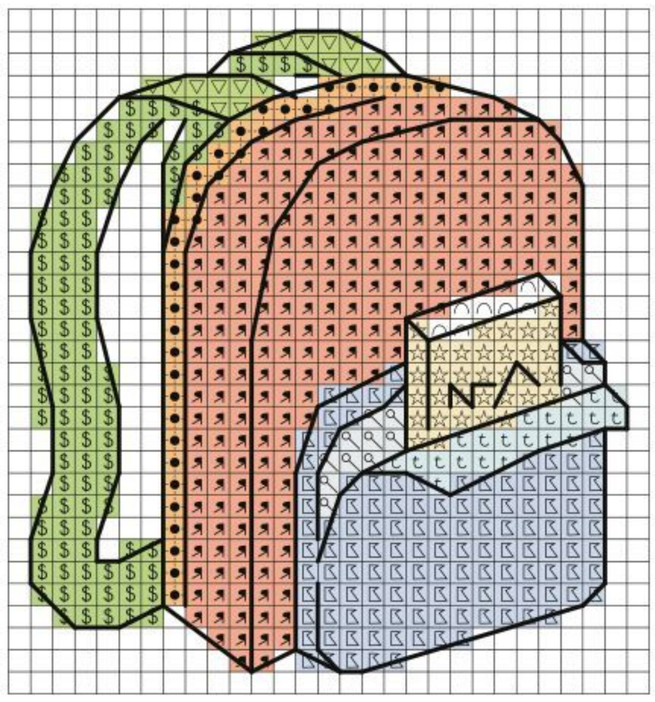


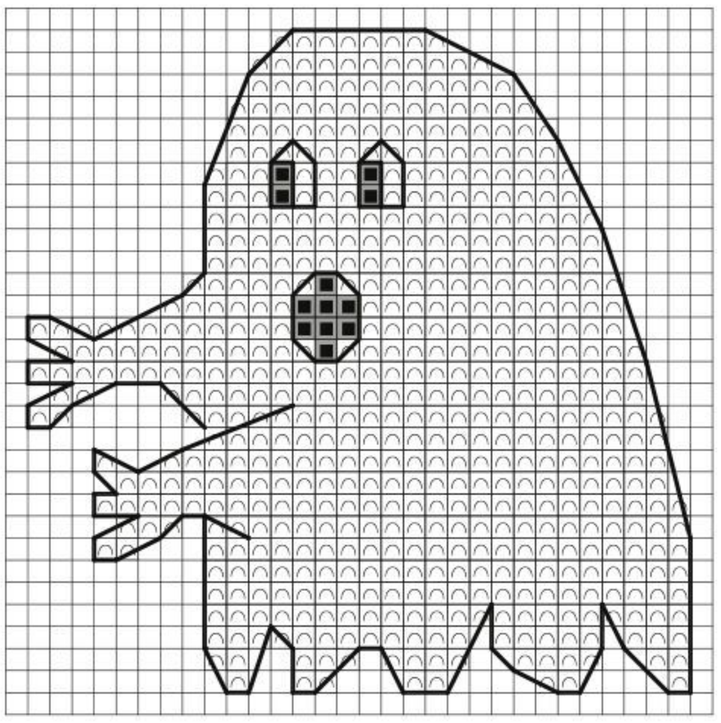


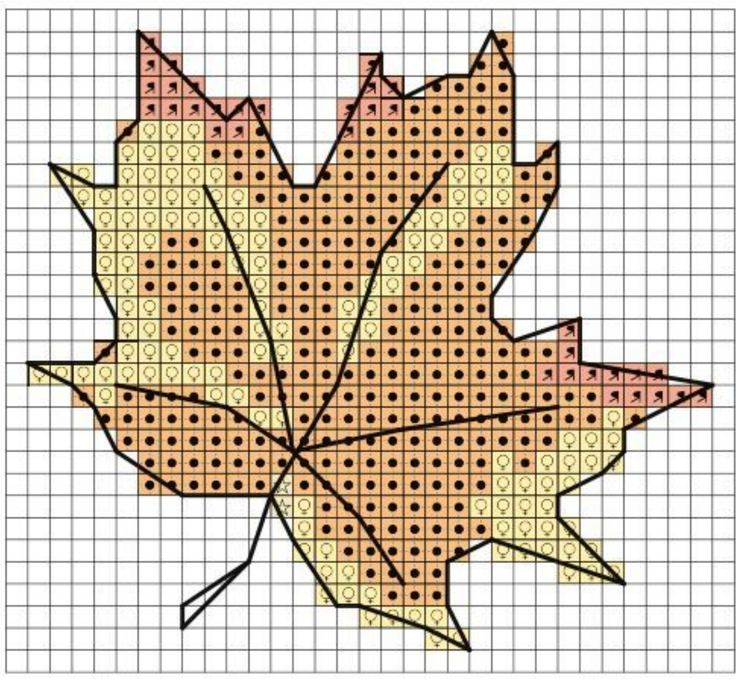


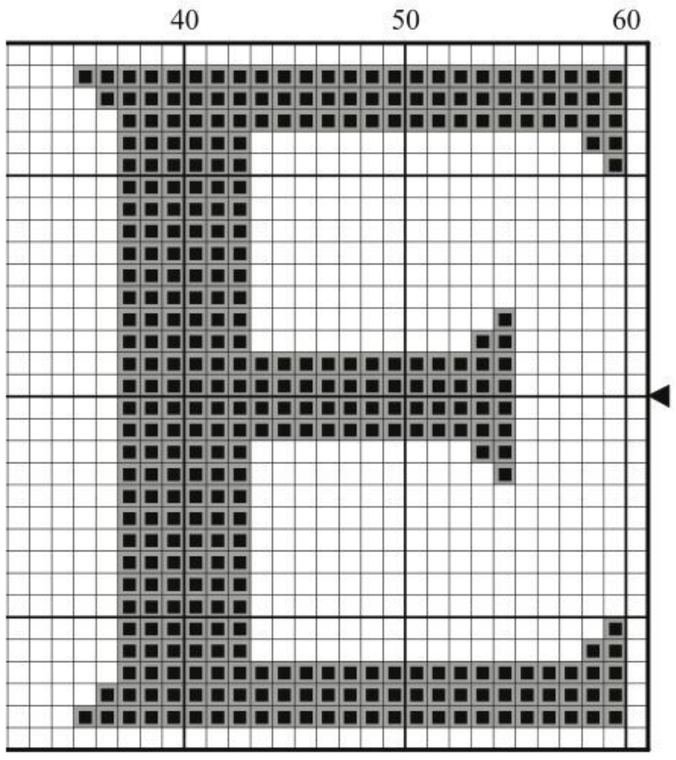






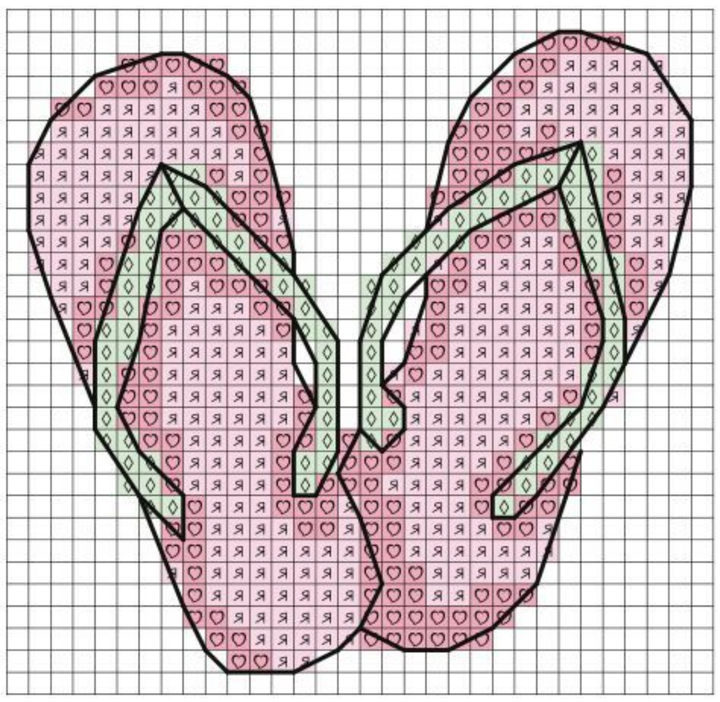


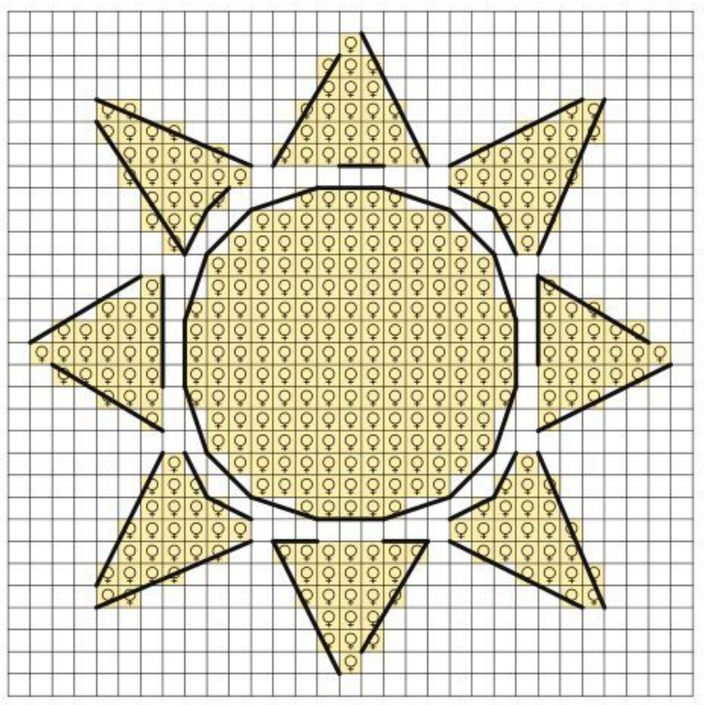












Jayne
READER PANEL



“What a clever idea. You could use these charts to make something similar using the word ‘love’ too. I would love to make this into a hanging ornament for on a door so I could change the ‘O’ each season.”

Home ABC key

Cross stitch in two strands

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira	
∩	B5200	1	2401	white
?	12	279	2703	lime green
◤	22	1014	2502	brick red
■	310	403	2400	black
◥	350	11	213	red
⚲	415	398	1802	grey
♡	603	55	505	pink
я	605	1094	613	light pink
☆	676	891	2208	sand
$	702	226	1306	green
▽	703	238	1307	light green
s	712	926	2101	cream
♀	726	295	109	yellow
●	741	304	202	tangerine
◸	799	145	910	blue
P	809	130	909	light blue
◊	954	203	1207	mint green
t	3761	928	1001	sky blue

Backstitch in one strand

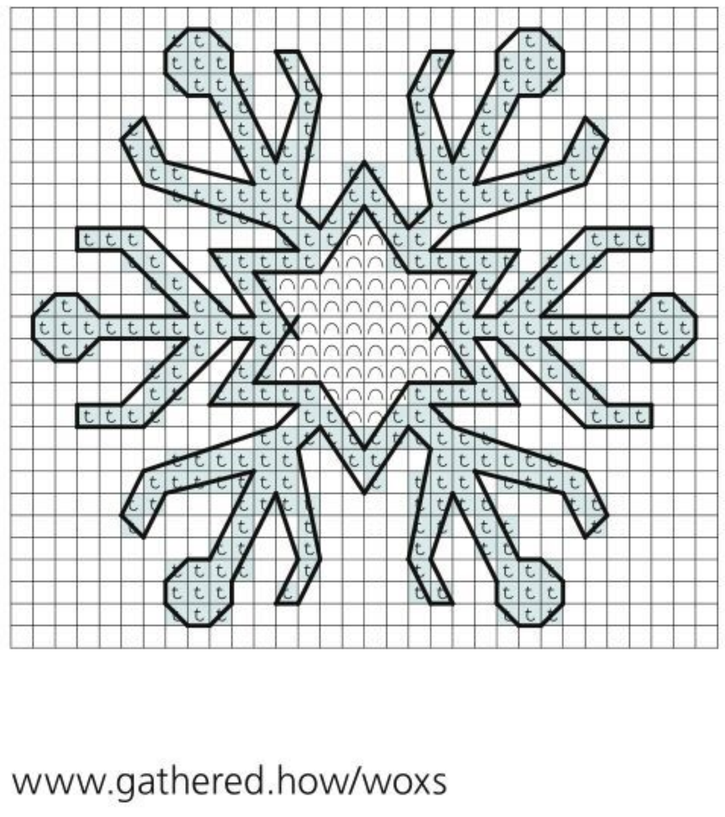
——	310	403	2400	black
——	350	11	213	red

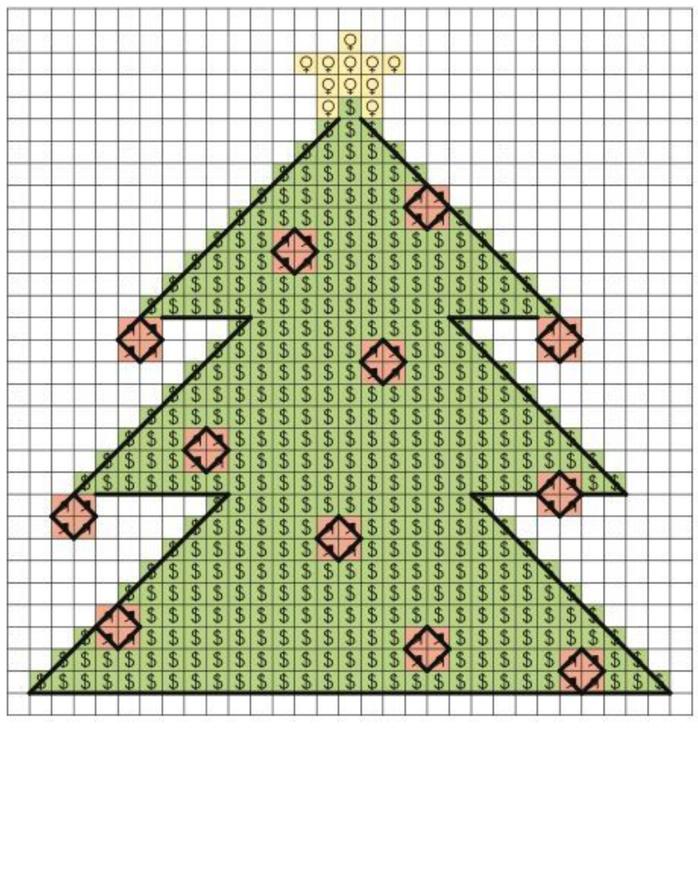
MAXIMUM STITCH COUNT 31 high x 120 wide

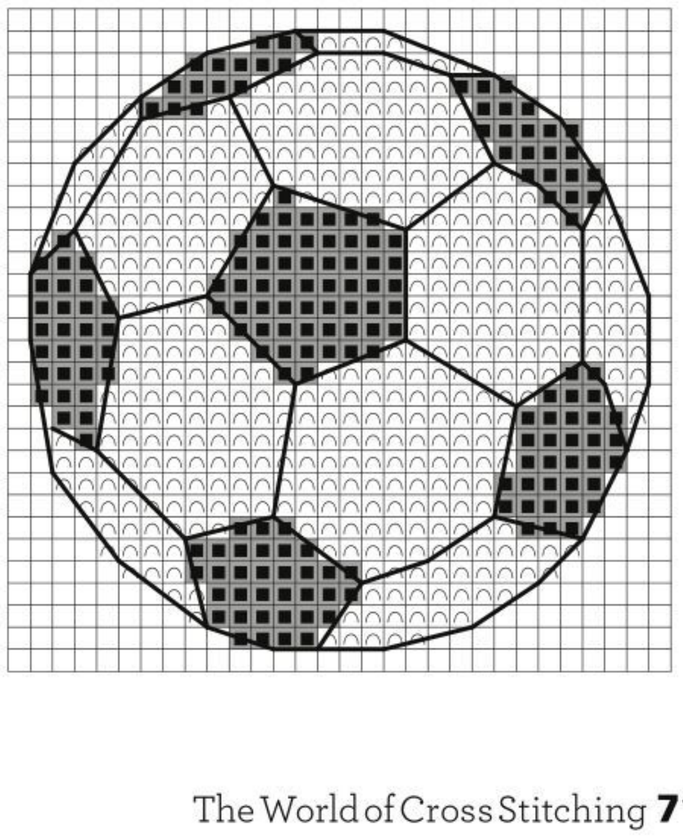
DESIGN AREA 14 HPI (28-count evenweave) – 5.5x22cm (2¼x8½in)

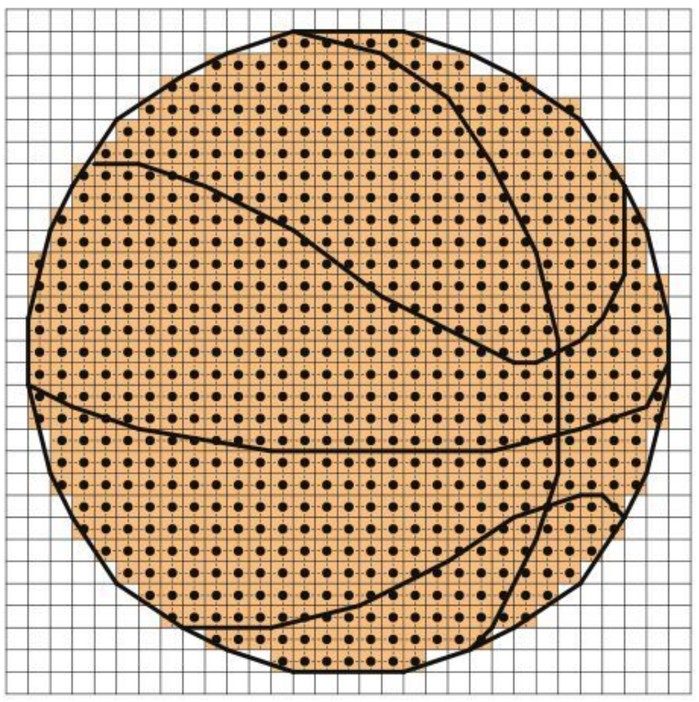
STITCHED BY Ruth Murphy

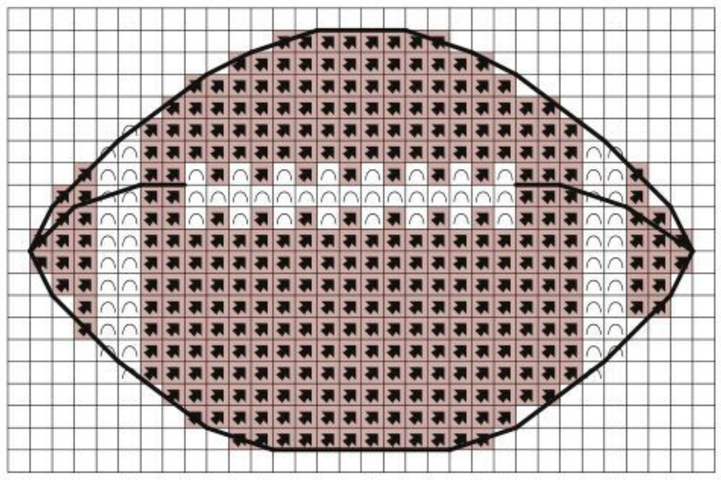
These designs were stitched using DMC stranded cotton

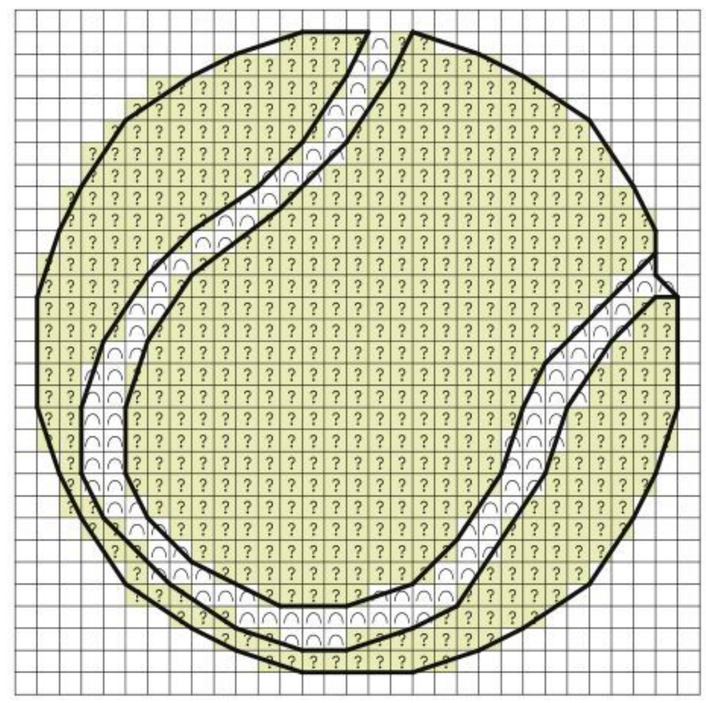


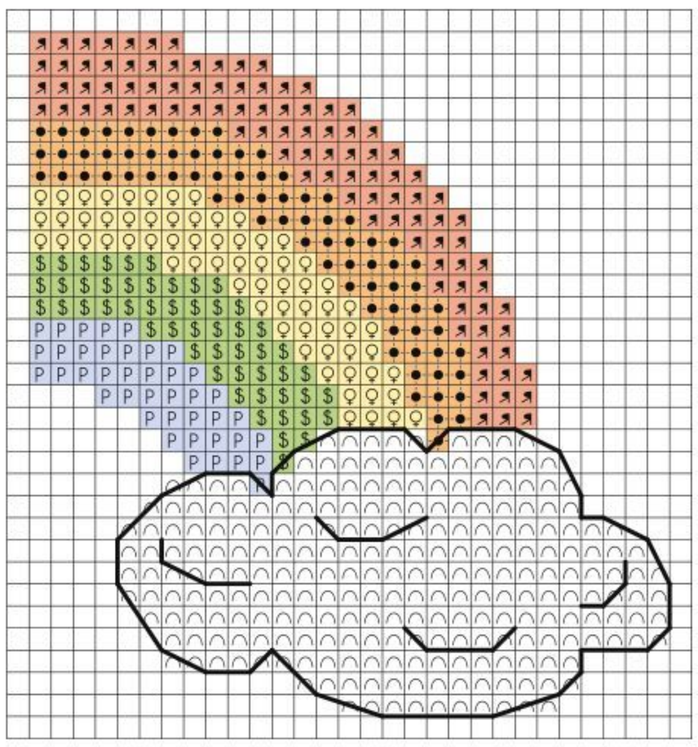


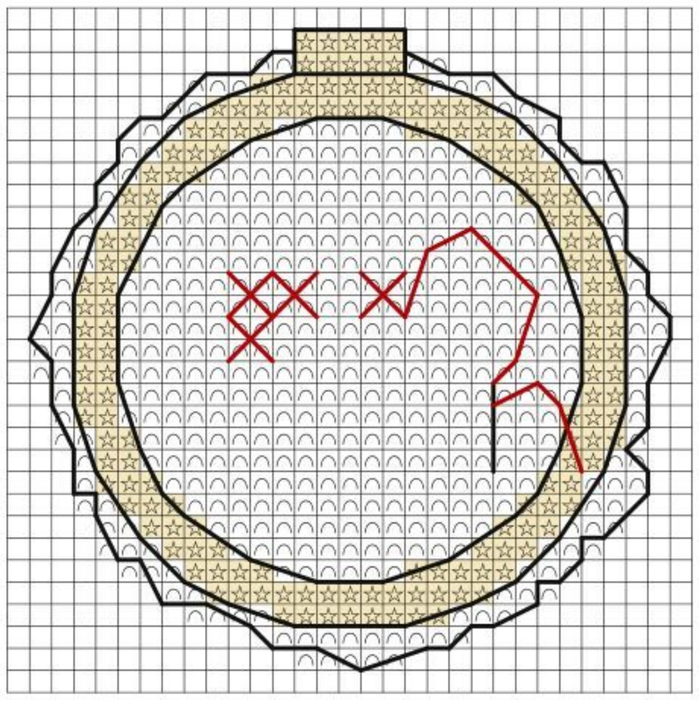










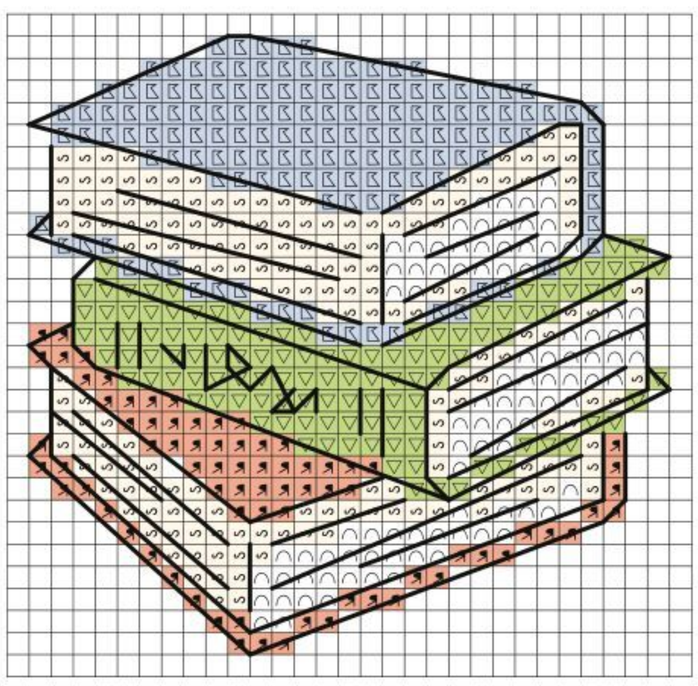


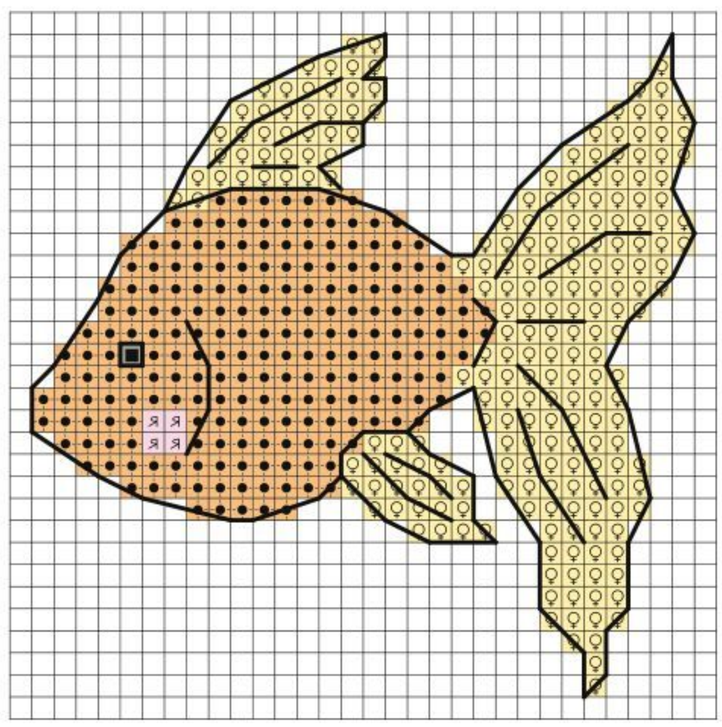
Fun making-up idea

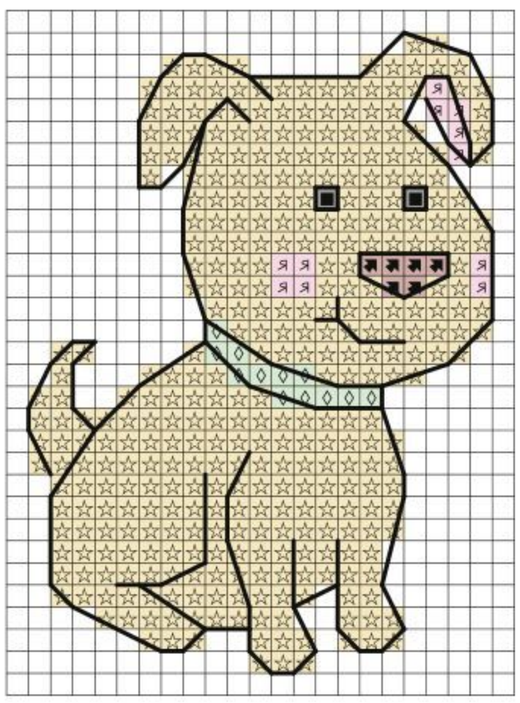
Factbox

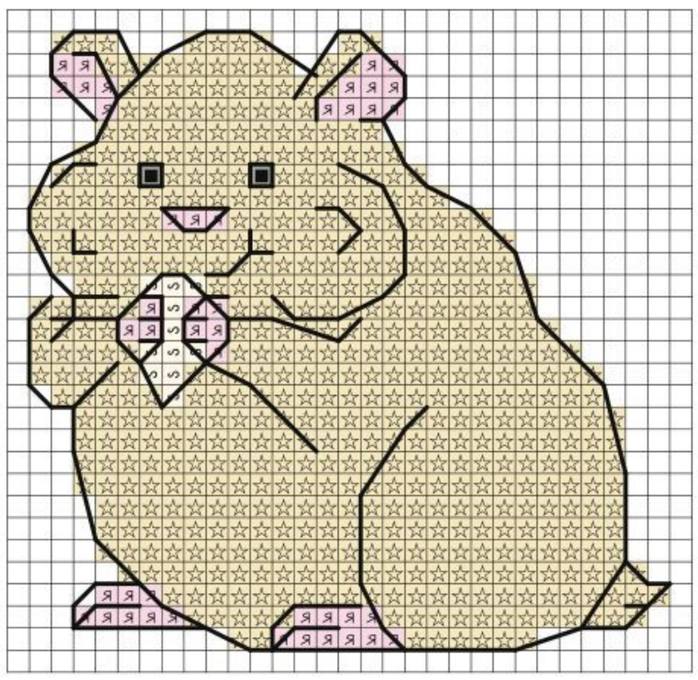
- **Stitching Time**
  Approx. 3-5 hours each motif
- **Type of Stitches**
  Cross stitch, backstitch
- **Ease of Stitching**
  Beginner

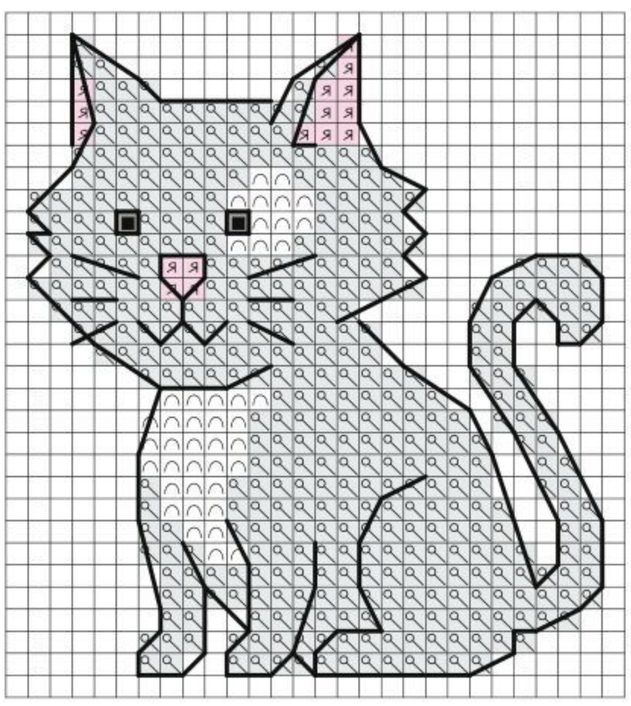


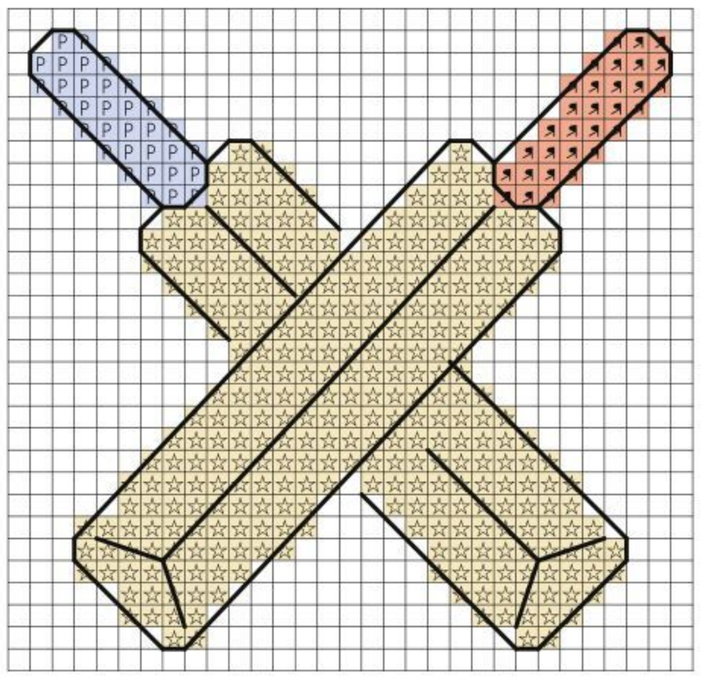


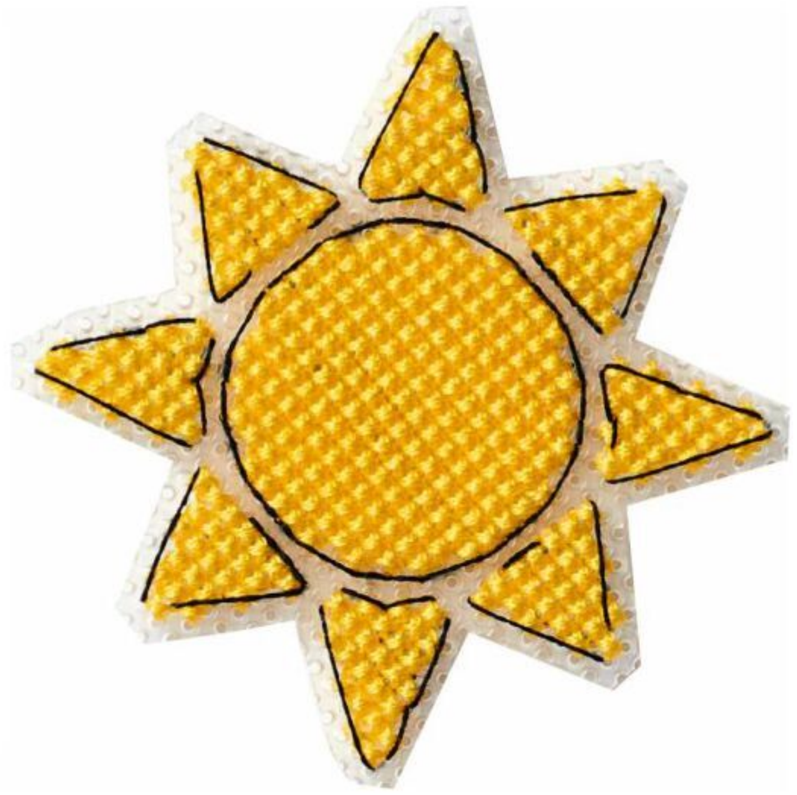


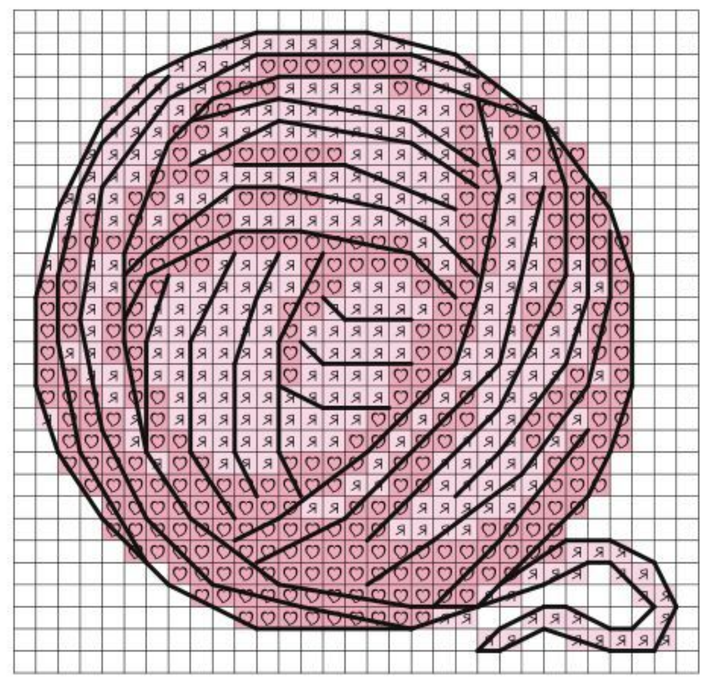


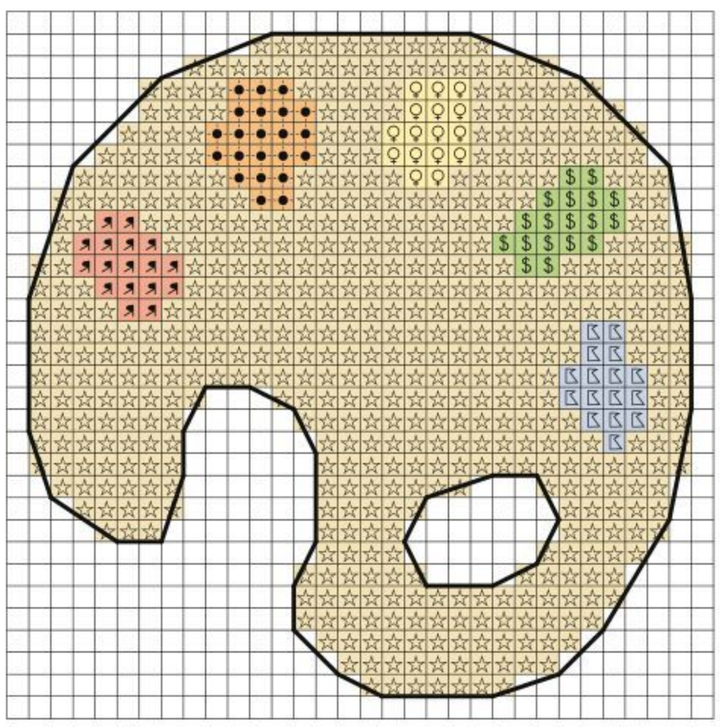


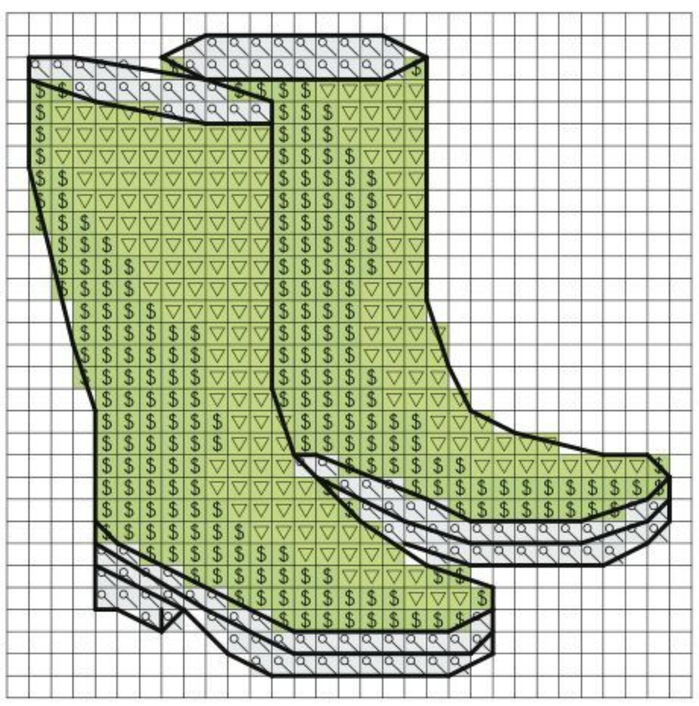


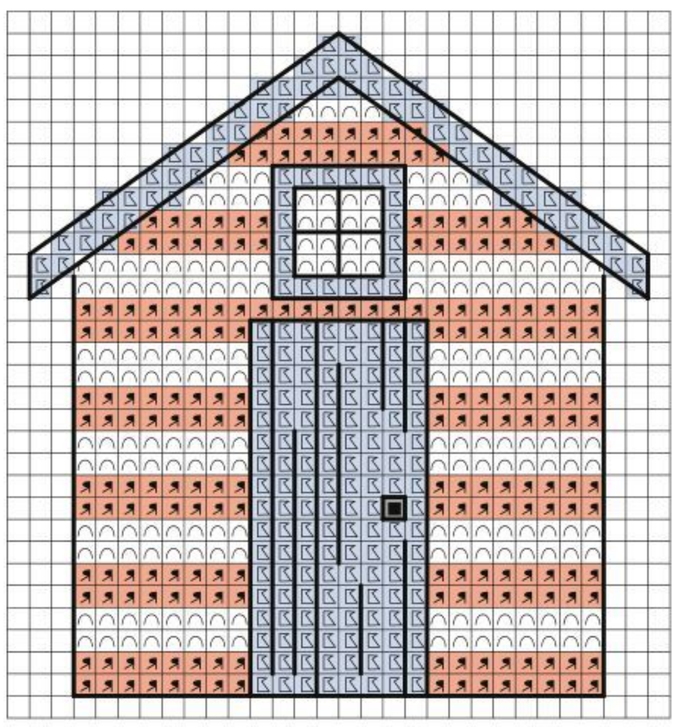


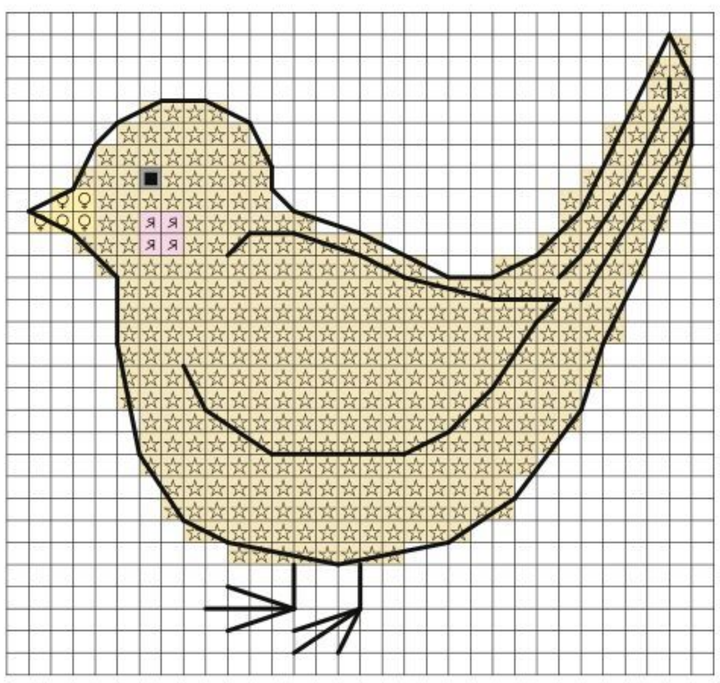


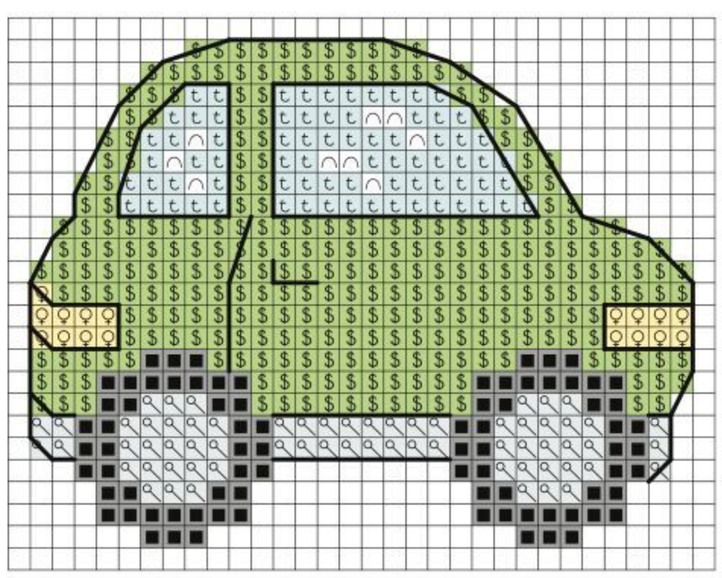


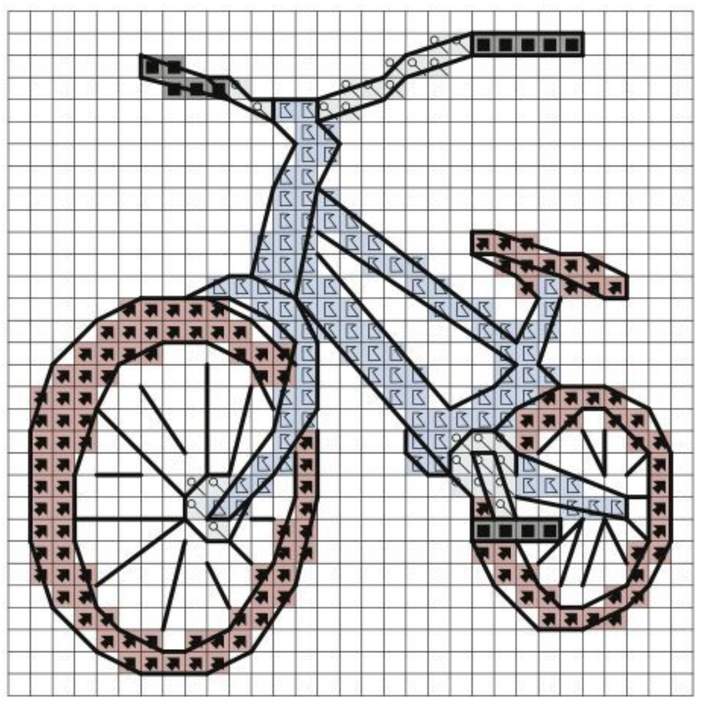


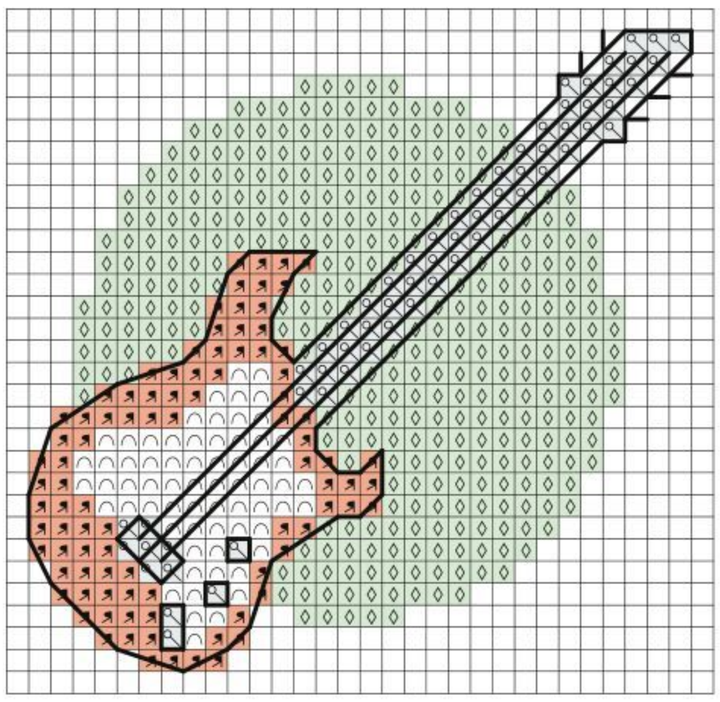












How to... stitch and make up

Stitch the main sign on aida using the chart on pages 70-71 and frame it. You can then stitch your chosen 'O' motifs on plastic canvas and cut them out ensuring you leave a one square border (be careful not to snip into any holes containing stitches). Attach one side of sticky-backed hook and loop strips to the back of the plastic canvas and the other to the space in the framed design where the 'O' should be.

Then you can interchange the motifs for marking events, holidays or daily activities!

One hundred days

Student **Tom McCormick** uses cross stitch to explore design, typeset and inclusivity

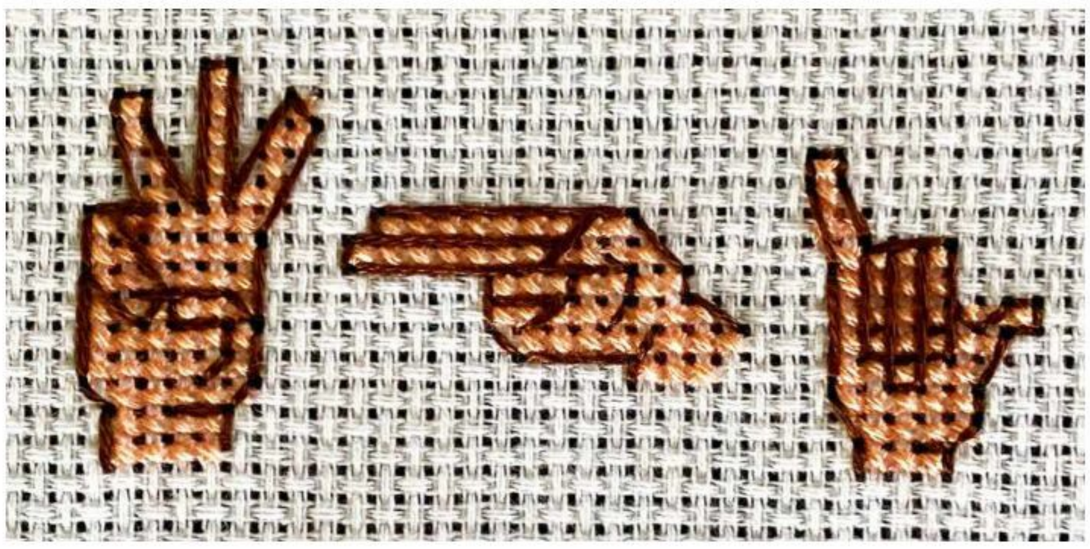


Regular readers will already be aware of just how obsessed this editorial team is with all things stitch. We love to learn about our talented worldwide community of crafters, so our interest was piqued when US-based Tom McCormick, who's studying for a master's in branding at the School for Visual Arts (SVA) in New York, got in touch.

With a reputation for being leaders in the education of artists, and alumni that include Academy-Award winners, Emmy-Award winners, and Grammy winners as well as Guggenheim Fellows, the SVA is the first to offer this kind of branding programme in the US. According to chair, Debbie Millman, this one-year course "provides an innovative look at the relationship between design, branding, science and strategy, and focuses on how students can use learned skills to generate and sustain new market opportunities."



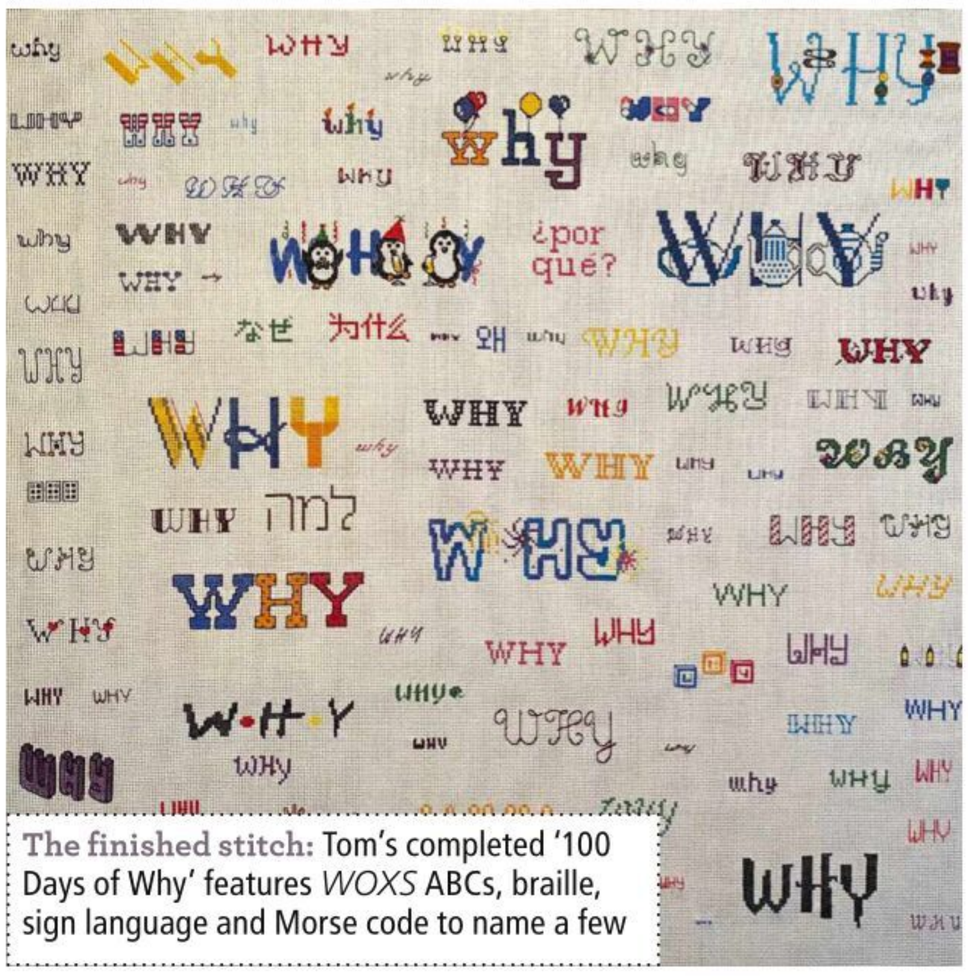
Question everything: Tom cross stitched the word 'why' every day for 100 days as a reminder to us all to stay inquisitive



During Tom's enrollment on this course, he was asked to complete a 100-day project that involved committing himself to a single creative endeavour. Tom, who used cross stitch alphabets to spell out 'why' 100 times and named his project '100 Days of Why', says, "I chose cross stitch because I want to become a more proficient stitcher. It has also allowed me to examine design, typeset, inclusivity, and patternmaking… '100 Days of Why' reminds us to question everything."

We were proud to hear that Tom had even made use of some of his *WOXS* ABCs for the project, which won the 100-Day Award as well as an award for academic excellence! Can you spot some of them in the images? In addition to our alphabets, you'll see Tom also included braille, sign language and Morse code.

When chatting to Tom more about his stitchy passion, he told us that though his mum and grandmother were both avid stitchers, he'd been stitching for just five years himself, after taking a class in Brooklyn on a whim. He says part of his attraction to stitch is because he, "love[s] that you see results immediately, if incrementally. And in a world of chaos, you can have control over something (or, at the very least, rip it out and start over)." He also told us he's "very

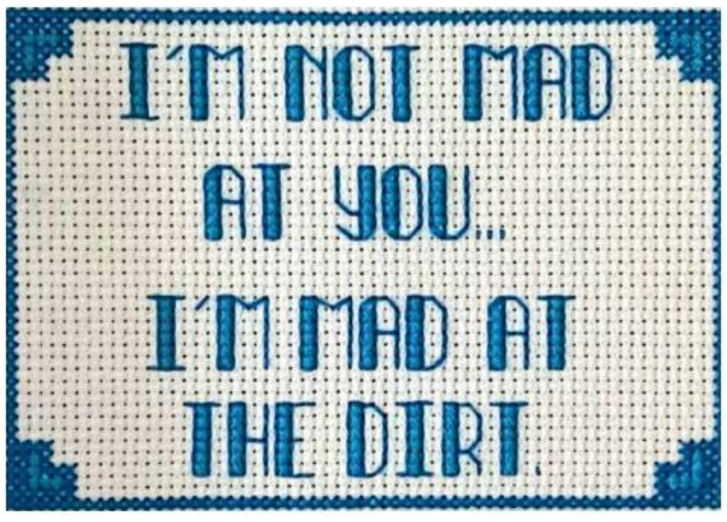


The finished stitch: Tom's completed '100 Days of Why' features *WOXS* ABCs, braille, sign language and Morse code to name a few

"I love that you see results immediately, if incrementally. And in a world of chaos, you can have control over something (or, at the very least, rip it out and start over)."



Just our type: Tom's favourite stitchy subject is movie quotes like the bold one below from *Mommie Dearest* which has a real deco feel to it



grateful to have supportive family and friends who get a kick out of my [stitching] too." One of Tom's proudest achievements in stitch is, in fact, 'A Charlie Brown Christmas' project that he completed to gift to everyone in his immediate family. He told us, "We all go different places for Christmas so each of us having the same cross stitch feels like a way to connect."

Tom's favourite subject to stitch is movie quotes or as he puts it, "clever sayings that make a statement. 'I'm not mad at you, I'm mad at the dirt' from *Mommie Dearest* is one of my favourites." His hobbies also include gardening, crochet, knitting as well as baking, and when growing up in Philadelphia he would give tours of historic sites dressed in period clothing. He's got a pretty impressive CV too, having worked as an executive assistant on Wall Street, for Martha Stewart, and at Nickelodeon.

Since embarking on his master's in branding, however, Tom has realised he's "a lifelong student who will continue to seek knowledge." He took a short break from cross stitch after completing the '100 Days of Why' and is now starting to work on gifts for friends and family. He also intends to tackle a family coat of arms.

We'll certainly be keeping an eye on Tom's future ventures and can't wait to see what he's up to next. ✖

MORE: Follow @tomtomcrafts on Instagram to see the full set of 100 stitches or visit his Etsy page at www.tomtomcrafts.etsy.com.

Maries
CROSS STITCH



Valentine's Day Gift Cross Stitch Kit by Artibalt
AB-SLETI932 - **£10.79**



Spring Awakening Cross Stitch Kit by Oven
AB-OV-S885 - **£19.79**



Spring Composition Cross Stitch Kit by Oven
AB-OV-S952 - **£26.99**



Vase of flowers Counted Cross Stitch Kit
by Lanarte GBPN-0164074 - **£50.14**



Some Bunny To Love Cross Stitch Kit By
Bothy Threads BTXAJ3 - **£17.99**



Happy Valentines Day Cross Stitch Kit by
Artibalt AB-SLETI983 - **£18.89**

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Free UK Postage On Orders Over £40.00. Google Star Rating of 4.7 ★★★★★

Pet of the month

We know you're huge fans of pets, so have us design a cross stitch of a beloved animal!





Design my pet!

Q Would you be able to help me stitch the newest addition to our family, please? Phoebe is a miniature chocolate dachshund, and she is the reason all my projects are now taking longer than usual! She just loves attention and interrupts my stitching.
Rob Mitchell, via email

A **Durene says:** Phoebe looks like a real cutie, Rob! I bet you really enjoy giving her lots of love, despite the fact she distracts you from your stitching! Dogs really are such a fun addition to the family.

I've used six shades of brown and ginger to create Phoebe's beautifully glossy coat, with some backstitch in dark brown to add definition. Her eyes are two white French knots, to give her an alert, playful expression. I've then used two shades of green for the background, and made it up with a complementary green felt to create a mini hanging, but it's easy to swap these – perhaps with the colours of Phoebe's lead or blanket. As the design uses mostly whole stitch and backstitch it shouldn't take you too long to stitch – if Phoebe will let you get on with it!

Shopping list

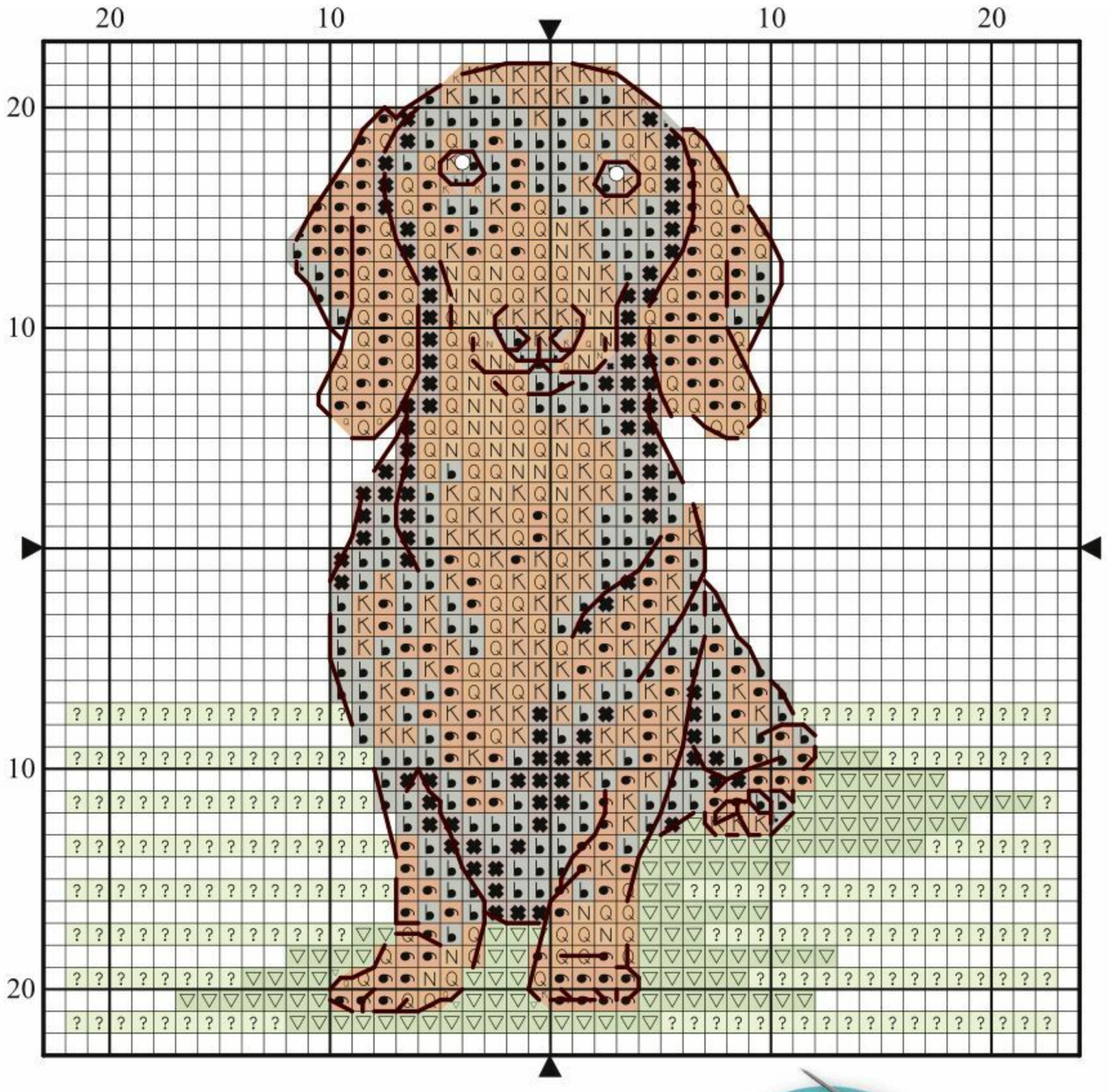
- Zweigart* 14-count white aida measuring 15x15cm (6x6in)
- Stranded cotton as listed in the key
- Size 24 tapestry needle
- Felt, medium-weight iron-on interfacing, wooden dowel rod and ribbon of your choice from local stores

Thread & fabric cost
Approximately £16

*For stockists see page 90

Fun facts about dachshunds

- **The word 'dachshund' is** German for badger dog. Bred for hunting, their narrow bodies allowed them to crawl into setts.
- **Want to see some** dachshunds racing? Head to California for the annual Wienerschnitzel Weiner National races to see them in action!
- **These pups are known** for being courageous and brave and defending their loved ones – so they can make really excellent watchdogs!



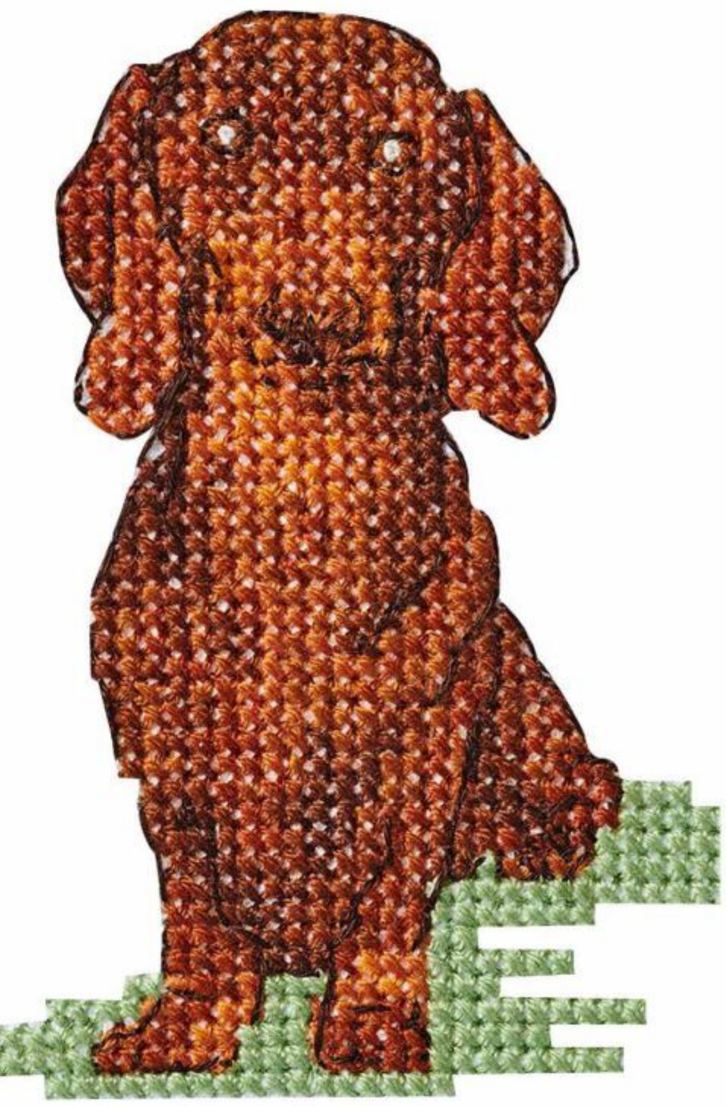
Factbox

Adapt colours to suit you

- **Stitching Time**
  Approx. 7 hours
- **Type of Stitches**
  Cross stitch, fractionals, backstitch, French knots
- **Ease of Stitching**
  Intermediate

TOP TIP

Work in good natural daylight or use a daylight bulb to help distinguish between similar colours



Dachshund key

Cross stitch in two strands

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira	
▽	368	214	1310	green
?	369	1043	1309	light green
b	433	357	2602	dark tan
K	434	310	2009	tan
✖	898	360	2006	brown
◔	975	355	2303	dark ginger
N	976	1001	2010	light ginger
Q	3826	1048	2306	ginger
Backstitch in one strand				
—	3371	382	2004	dark brown
French knots in one strand				
○	blanc	2	2402	white

STITCH COUNT 44 high x 45 wide

DESIGN AREA 14 HPI (28-count evenweave) – 8x8cm (3¼x3¼in)

STITCHED BY Judy Davies

This design was stitched using DMC stranded cotton

More pet ideas

Love lizards?



Check out this detailed design by Lynnette Shelley from GeckoRouge*. Stitched on 28-count evenweave the finished design is 19.5x19.8cm (8x8in). Kits are available with your choice of fabric, however, and include an easy-to-read black and white pattern, pre-sorted DMC threads in 64 shades, a needle and instructions from £54.48.

Paw-trait

Get a 'Custom Cat Portrait' chart from Etsy shop StitchBox Design*, from around £8.29. Choose the background, then customise the pattern with your cat's colouring and name. The finished stitch will be approx. 17.75x20cm (7x8in), and there are options for similar canine designs too.



Huggable hamster

Dressed for a chilly day and happily hoarding snacks for later it's hard not to fall for this little ray of sunshine. 'Hamster and Mandarins' from our friends at PANNA* is 14x18cm (5½x7in) and costs around £13.30. You'll enjoy bringing this character to life in 23 soft winter shades.



Prices and info correct at time of printing

DESIGNED BY **JENNY BARTON**

Lean on me

Let the people you really care about know that you're there for them in their time of need

During difficult times, our friends and family keep us going. Knowing you're loved can be the best comfort of all, but it can be hard to find the right words to help others in their time of need. When someone you care for is grieving the death of a loved one it's so important to acknowledge their pain and offer your heartfelt condolences. One way to show compassion is, of course, with a card, so Jenny Barton's designed a set that includes Christian designs as well as some simple non-secular options.

At 10x10cm (3¾x3¾in) these can be stitched in a weekend and are perfect for those with a little experience. You'll use 25 soft thread shades to work cross stitch, fractionals, backstitch and French knots in this set of seven designs, but don't be put off if you're new to stitch – simply select one of the less complex options such as the dove, angel wings or praying hands. ➤

Stitch in no time

Factbox

- **Stitching Time**
  Approx. 6-10 hours each
- **Type of Stitches**
  Cross stitch, fractionals, backstitch, French knots
- **Ease of Stitching**
  Advanced beginner/ intermediate





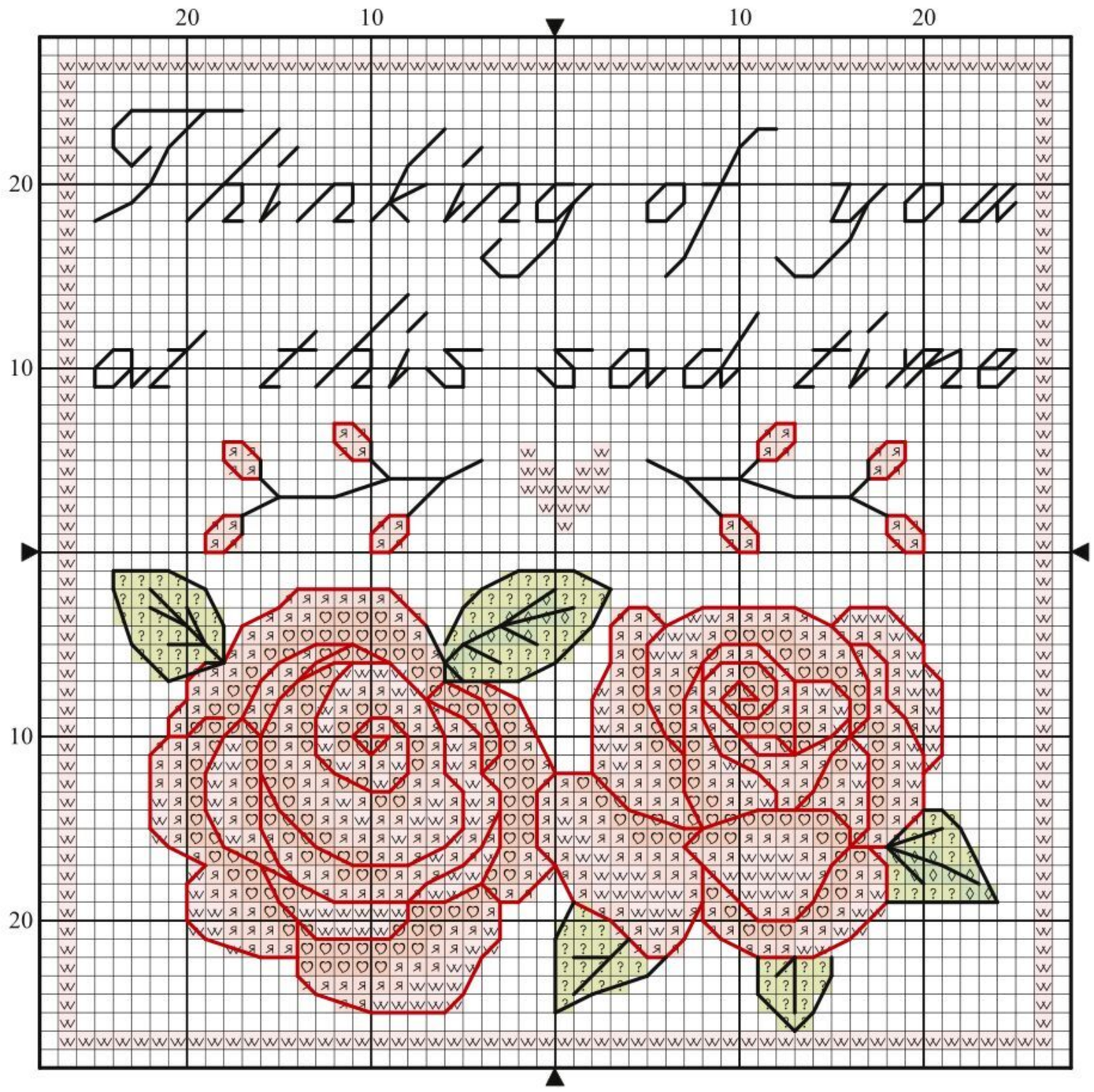
Meet the designer

Jenny Barton

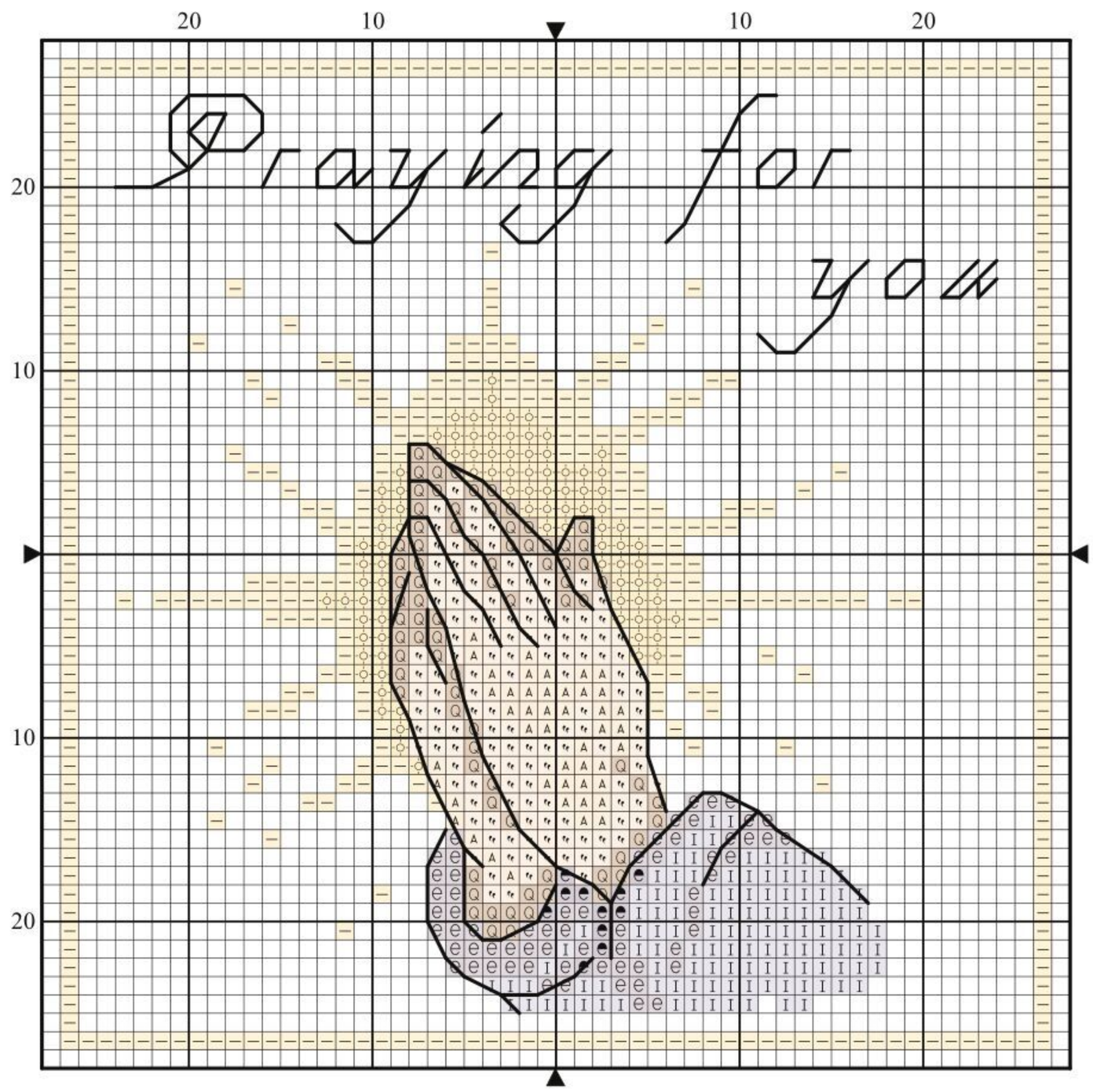
"It can be hard to find sympathy cards that express what you want to say and as stitchers I think it's really wonderful to use our craft for all occasions even the painful ones. Kind words are such a comfort."

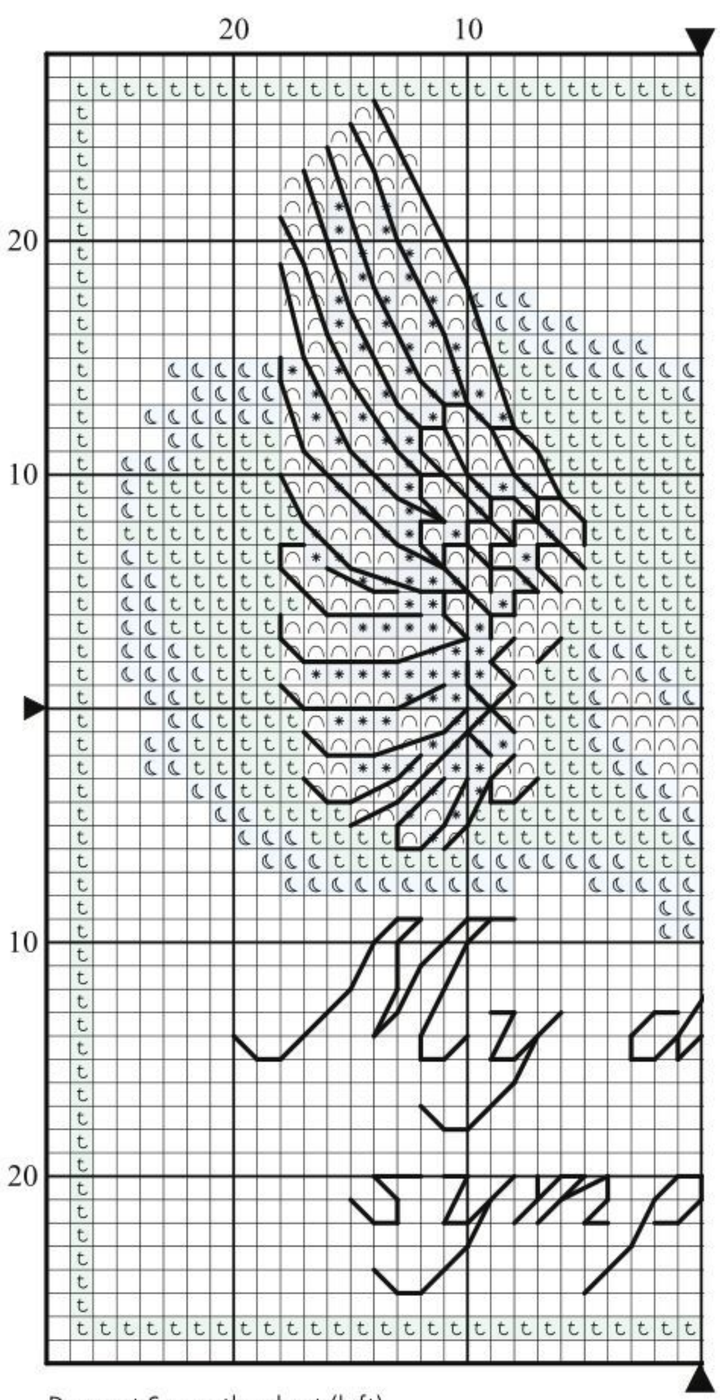
COMFORT LOVED ONES

Stitch one of these seven caring cards to offer solace to someone special during tough times

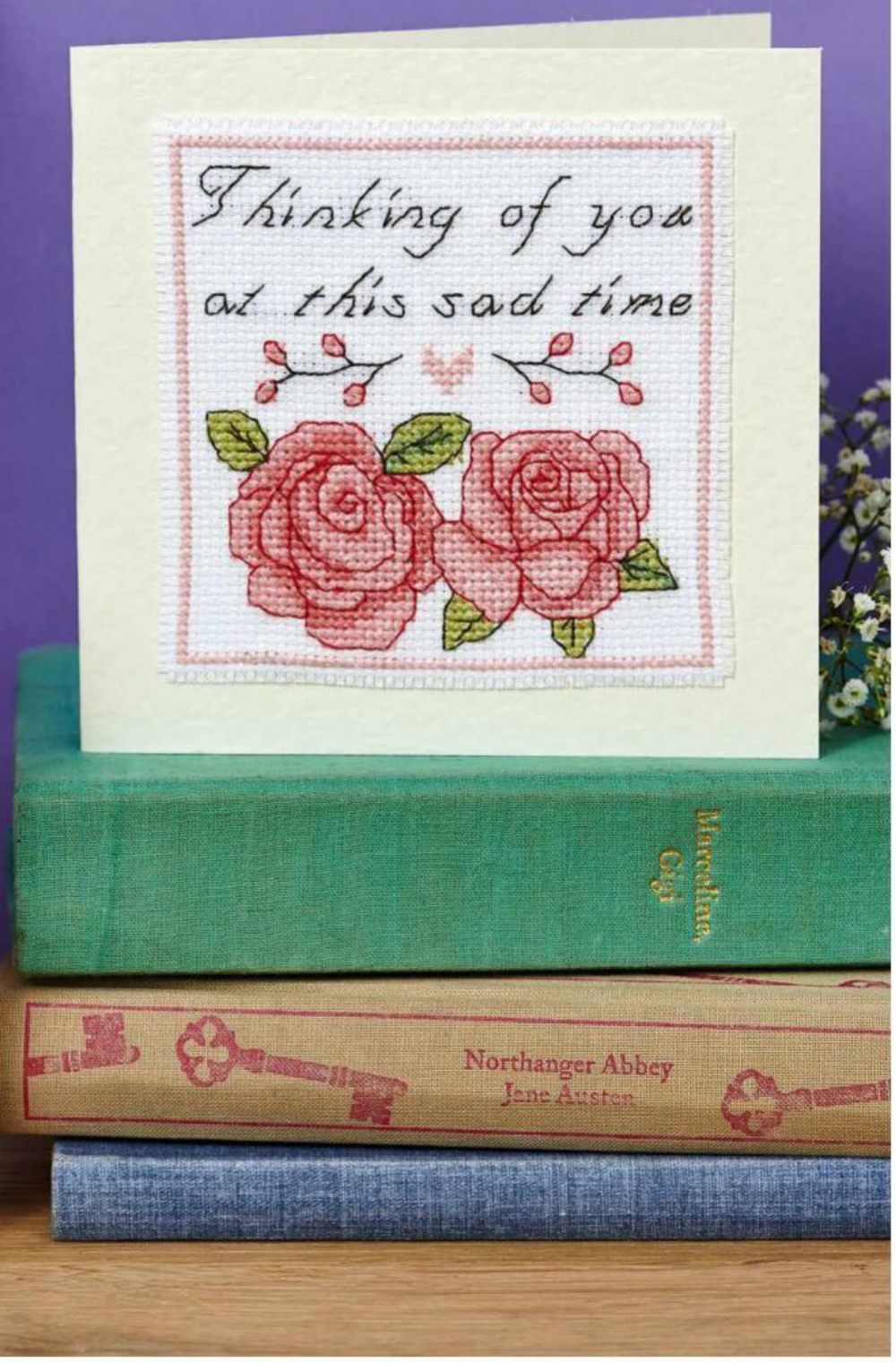


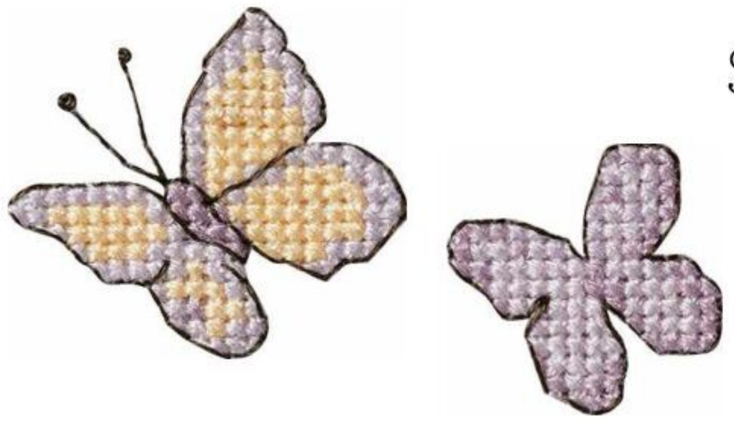


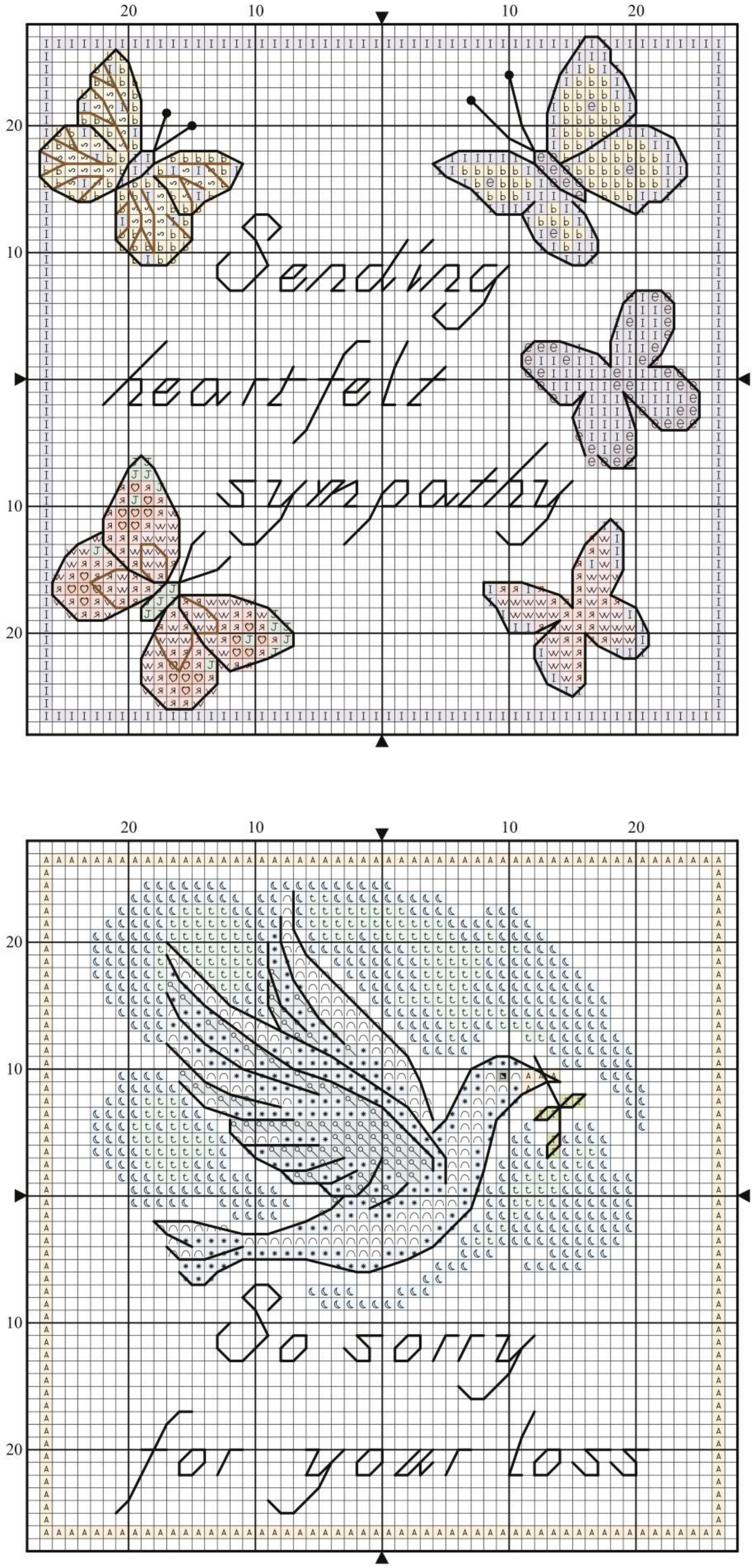




Deepest Sympathy chart (left)







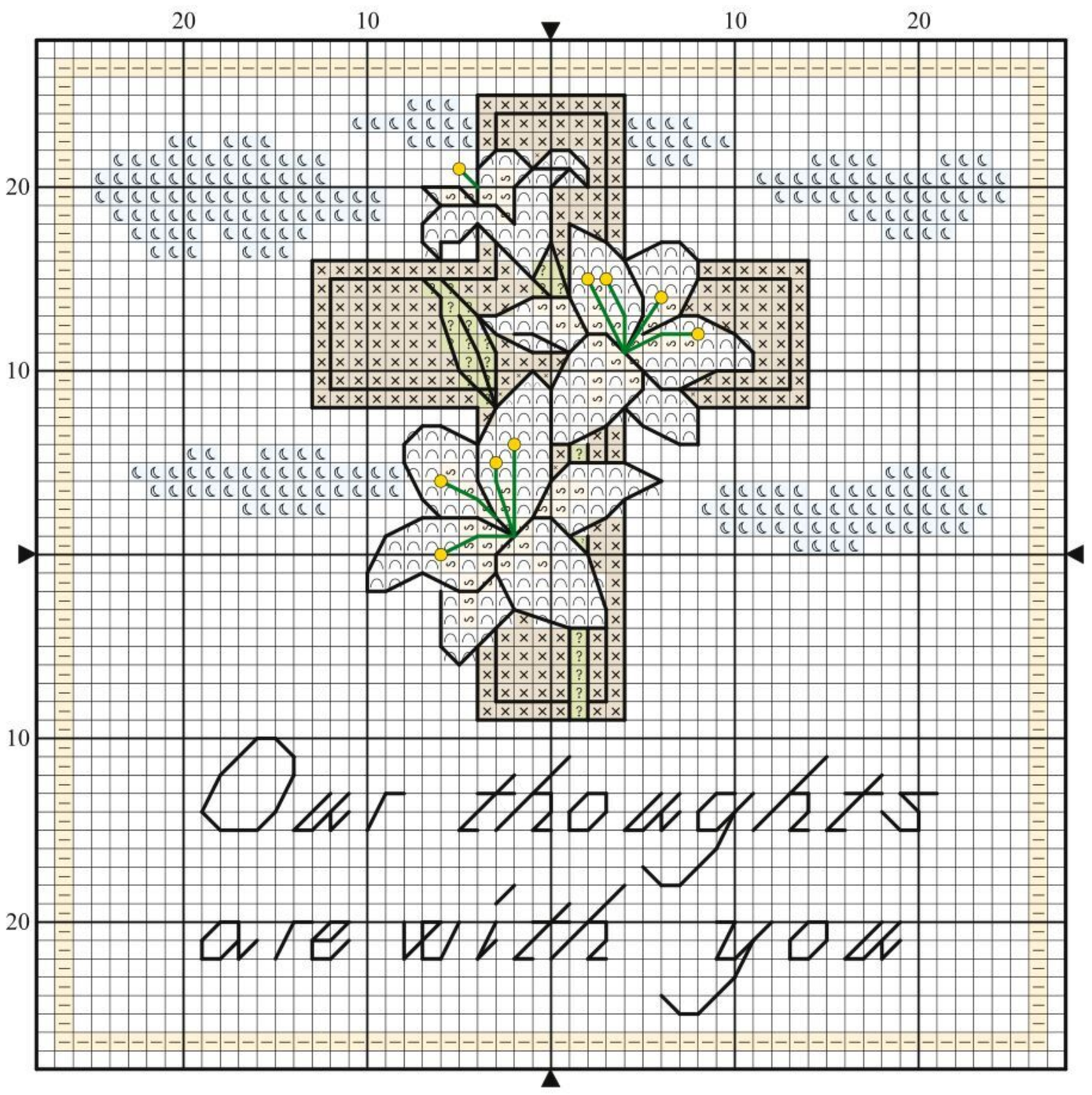
Deepest Sympathy chart (right)





Melina READER PANEL

“I can’t think of a better way to tell someone you’re thinking about them than to send a personal, hand-crafted card. These would be quick to make and are much more thoughtful than a shop bought card.”



Sympathy Cards key

Cross stitch in two strands

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira	
◠	blanc	2	2402	white
◊	368	214	1310	green
✎	415	398	1802	grey
J	647	1040	1813	ash grey
ᔕ	712	926	2101	light cream
b	739	366	2014	cream
☼	745	300	111	yellow
♡	760	1022	405	dark pink
Я	761	1021	404	pink
*	762	234	1804	light grey
t	775	1031	1001	blue
N	841	1082	1911	brown
×	842	1080	1910	light brown
◥	844	1041	1809	smoke grey
❦	950	4146	2309	peach
e	3041	871	806	dark mauve
e	3042	870	2612	mauve
Q	3064	883	2312	beige
?	3348	264	1409	grass green
w	3713	1020	502	light pink
I	3743	869	2611	light mauve
☾	3756	1037	2504	baby blue
A	3774	778	306	apricot
—	3823	386	2512	light yellow

Backstitch in one strand

—	347	1025	407	red
—	647	1040	1813	ash grey
—	844	1041	1809	smoke grey
—	3348	264	1409	grass green

French knots in one strand

●	745	300	111	yellow
●	844	1041	1809	smoke grey

STITCH COUNT 54 high x 54 wide

DESIGN AREA 14 HPI (28-count evenweave) – 10x10cm (3¾x3¾in)

STITCHED BY Stephanie D’este

These designs were stitched using DMC stranded cotton

Shopping list

- Zweigart* 14-count white aida measuring 18x18cm (7x7in) for each design
- Stranded cotton as listed in the key
- Size 24 tapestry needle
- Square single-fold cards of your choice from local stores

Thread & fabric cost
Approximately £38

*For stockists see page 90

Enter to win!

PRIZES worth £1,364!

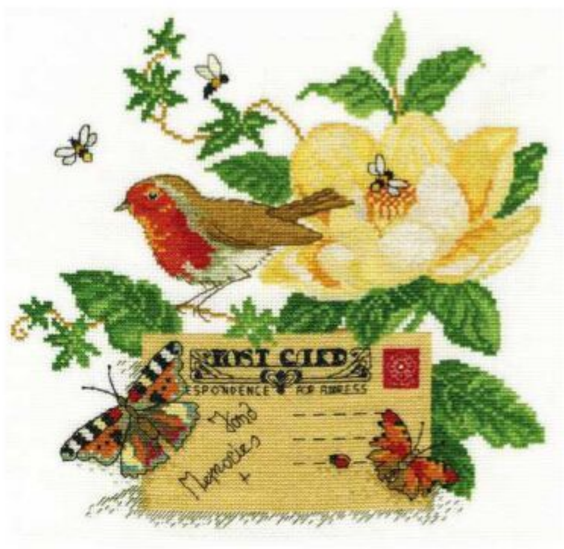
Each month we have four fab giveaways for readers with loads of prizes up for grabs

PRIZES WORTH £287.88

Red red robin

12 UP FOR GRABS!

Did you know that Victorian postmen were nicknamed 'robins' because of their red uniforms? It's therefore very appropriate that the robin in this pretty DMC* 'Robin Cross Stitch Kit' is sitting atop a postcard! This vintage-style stitch (RRP £23.99) is full of delightful details to bring to life, including buzzing bees and fluttering butterflies and it comes with 14-count aida, DMC threads, a needle, chart and instructions. If this has inspired you to stitch more kits featuring fauna and flora, check out the DMC website for more charming designs.



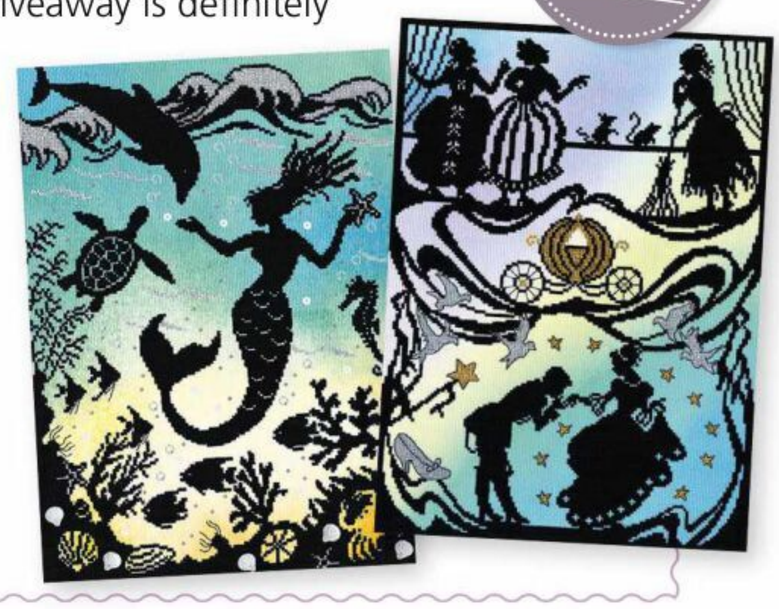
TO ENTER **Visit our website www.gathered.how/woxs**

PRIZES WORTH £543.84

FAIRY TALES HAPPILY EVER AFTER

Bothy Threads'* kits are always enchanting – and these two are no exception! 'Cinderella' and 'Mermaid Cove' (RRP £33.99 each) are silhouette designs stitched on colourful printed Zweigart 14-count aida and finished with beautiful details such as metallic threads, tiny shells and sequins. Each comes with everything you need to stitch it, including a needle, chart and stitch diagram. This giveaway is definitely one for lovers of happy endings – we have eight sets of both kits available to win. And for more dreamy designs, check out Bothy Threads' website.

8 UP FOR GRABS!



TO ENTER **Visit our website www.gathered.how/woxs**

PRIZES WORTH £310

So mice to greet you!

Check out these super sweet designs from LoveCrafts*. Creative World of Crafts' 'Mouse Warming Party' and 'Love Letters' are just the projects for lovers of cute characters as they feature some seriously adorable mice – check out the tiny bows on their tails! With everything you need to stitch the design, these kits are ideal for beginners and we're giving away 12 sets of both designs. If you're looking for more cross stitch inspiration, have a browse at the excellent selection on the LoveCrafts website.

12 UP FOR GRABS!

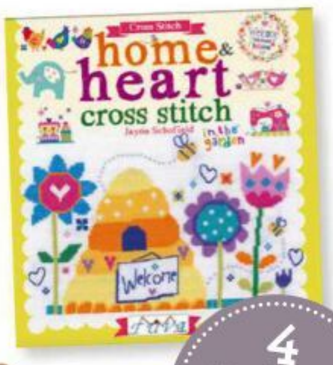


TO ENTER **Visit our website www.gathered.how/woxs**

PRIZES WORTH £231.92

In the frame

Take your stitching to the next level with a Lapman frame from Siesta Frames* and help give your projects a professional finish. This 12in frame with 9in rollers (RRP £46.99) also comes with its own case so you can keep your stitching dust-free in between sessions. As well as the frame, we're giving away a copy of Tuva Publishing's* *Home & Heart Cross Stitch* by Jayne Schofield (RRP £10.99), which features a range of sweet designs to stitch – perfect for trying out your new frame!



4 UP FOR GRABS!



TO ENTER **Visit our website www.gathered.how/woxs**

TO ENTER:
Visit our website, www.gathered.how/woxs and select the Competitions tab.
Closing date for all entries: 15 December 2021
Please note that you can no longer enter by post or text message.

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*For stockists see page 90

DESIGNED BY **JENNY VAN DE WIELE**

Miniature marvels

Use your stitching skills to create a beautiful folk-style sampler that's sure to be treasured forever



It's winter in the village and the pond has frozen over, attracting skaters to spin across the ice and show off their favourite tricks. Two children have built a jolly snowpal and are now enjoying a snowball fight, while horses clop across the ground and a mother takes her baby out to wonder at the snowy landscape…

There's so much detail to enjoy in Jenny Van De Wiele's miniature world, from intricate buildings and people to the border of poinsettia and pine boughs. You'll love working on each of the gorgeous motifs – our favourite is the church with its golden bell and tiny wreath on the door!

The 28-count linen in a beautiful smokey shade gives this project a real heritage feel. The fabric choice is also ideal if you're looking to stretch your skills and stitch on evenweave for the first time. A stylish old-gold frame complements the colour palette, but you could also turn your sampler into a lovely cushion to adorn a favourite armchair during winter months! ➤

Factbox

Packed with cute detail

- **Stitching Time**
  Approx. 35 hours
- **Type of Stitches**
  Cross stitch, fractionals, backstitch, French knots
- **Ease of Stitching**
  Intermediate



Meet the designer

Jenny Van De Wiele

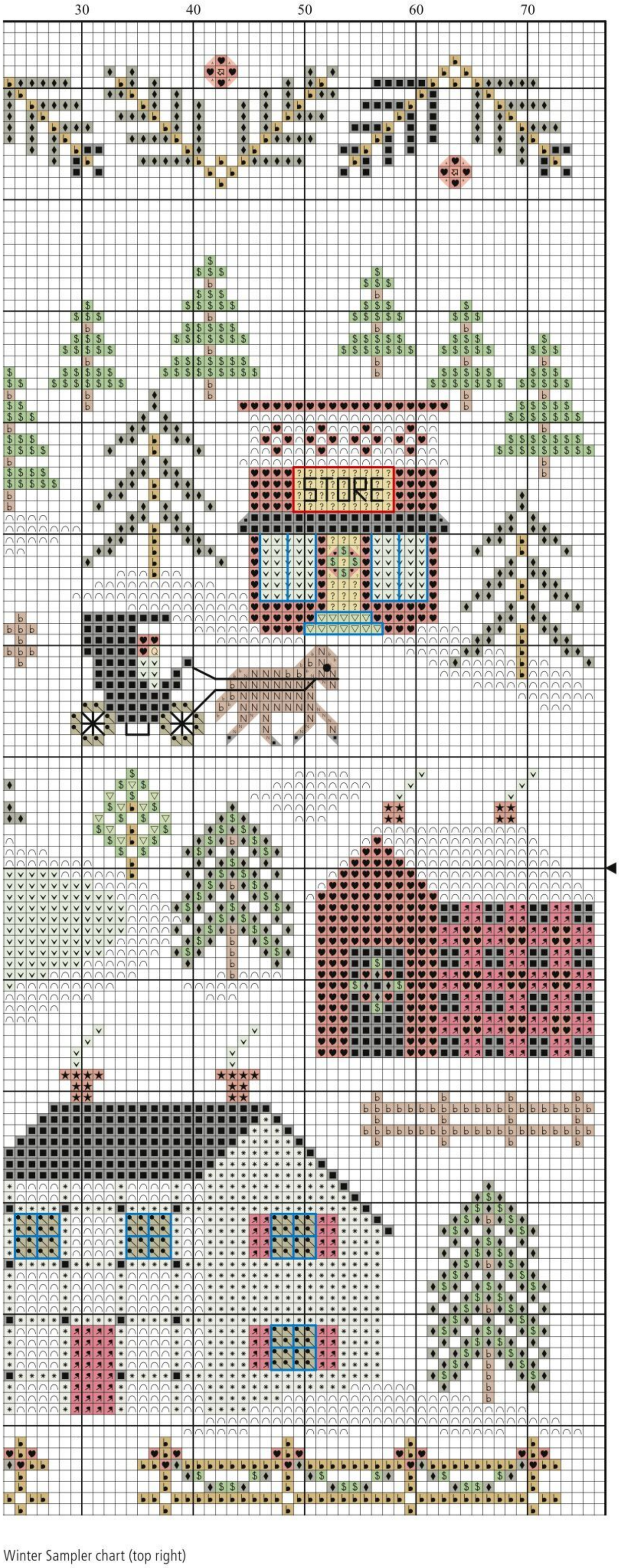
"It was so much fun to design my very own winter village and bring it to life with the buildings and people. It's amazing how much detail you can create using just tiny squares!"

A STITCH TO CHERISH

Recreate this wonderland in stitch to add cosy charm to your interior décor this winter



Winter Sampler chart (top left)



Winter Sampler chart (top right)

Winter Sampler key

✖ Cross stitch in two strands

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira	
∩	blanc	2	2402	white
b	167	373	1607	tan
■	310	403	2400	black
♦	319	224	1313	dark green
♥	347	1025	407	salmon red
◪	351	10	214	coral
A	352	9	303	light coral
$	367	217	1312	green
▽	368	214	1310	light green
↖	645	273	1811	smoke grey
*	648	900	1814	ash grey
Q	738	367	2013	cream
b	801	359	2007	brown
↗	815	44	513	ruby
?	834	874	2510	olive green
v	3813	1042	1701	mint green
★	3830	5975	401	rust red
N	3863	379	1912	beige

✖ Backstitch in one strand

—	blanc	2	2402	white
—	310	403	2400	black
—	347	1025	407	salmon red

✖ French knots in one strand

●	310	403	2400	black
●	801	359	2007	brown
●	834	874	2510	olive green

STITCH COUNT 150 high x 151 wide

DESIGN AREA 14 HPI (28-count evenweave) – 27.5x27.5cm (10¾x10¾in)

SKEINS NEEDED **2xblanc** (white)

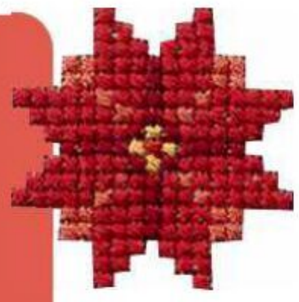
STITCHED BY Rachael Moore

This design was stitched using DMC stranded cotton on 28-count evenweave over two threads of the fabric



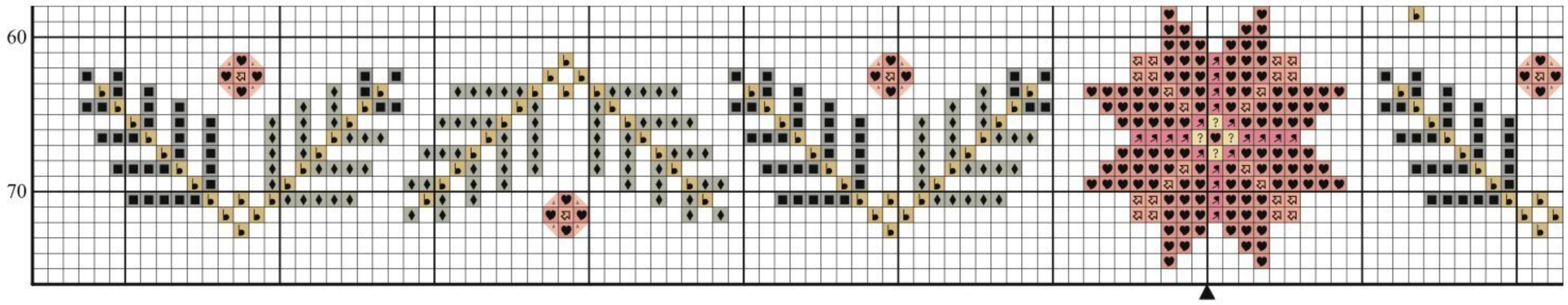
Shopping list

- ✖ Zweigart* 28-count smokey pearl (778) linen measuring 45x45cm (17¾x17¾in)
- ✖ Stranded cotton as listed in the key
- ✖ Size 24 tapestry needle
- ✖ Frame and mount of your choice with a minimum aperture of 29x29cm (11½x11½in)



Thread & fabric cost
Approximately £36

*For stockists see page 90



Winter Sampler chart (bottom left)



Winter Sampler chart (bottom right)



TOP TIP

If you don't want to stitch on 28-count linen, you could use 14-count aida instead – the design area will remain the same



Leanne READER PANEL

"This gorgeous sampler is so cosy and wintry. I'd really like to stitch this and bring it out every year! It reminds me of winters in Austria, where I lived for a short while, and ski trips, which I have fond memories of."

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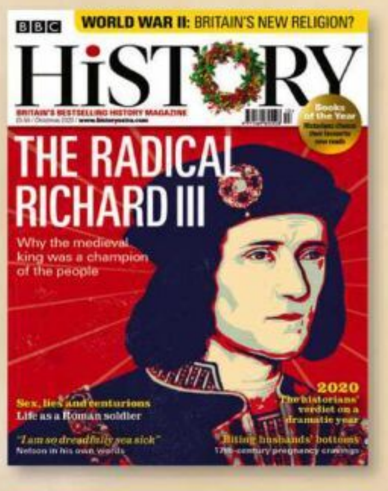
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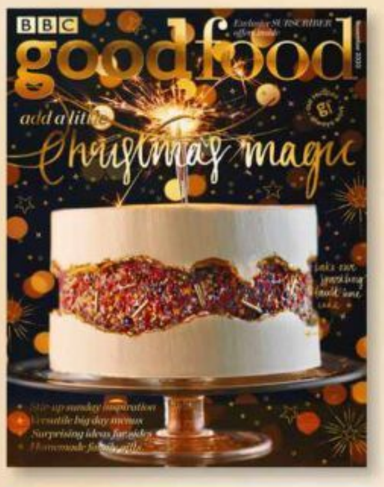
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Wallace & Gromit are ready for the grand day! Enjoy part four of our seasonal sampler series and deck your halls with stunning tree hangings. There are quick-stitch mosaic tree decorations and a Design Library inspired by *The Nutcracker*. You'll also find a stunning poinsettia table runner to dress up your table, traditional greeting cards, a festive ABC and winter robins.
EXCLUSIVE GIFT: 3D Christmas elf decoration



✖ Issue 313, Dec

Forever Friends™ calendar, Santa and his little helpers, dalmatian cards, bicycle greetings, Kids' Nativity, festive fairy, retro baubles, snowpal stocking



✖ Issue 312, Nov

Merry mice gift tags, Margaret Sherry snowpal, a festive manor house, part 1 of our 3D village SAL, clever advent calendar, Diwali cards and Thanksgiving ABC



✖ Issue 311, Oct

Rockin' robins card kit, enchanting woodland fawn, harvest basket, autumn sampler, nesting hedgehog, boho cards, spook-tacular bunting and constellation ABC



✖ Issue 310, Sept

Afternoon tea card kit, Country Companions™ pals, herbal tea sampler, patchwork turtle, monster cards, tranquil garden, baking motifs, craft ABC and calming canvases



✖ Issue 309, Aug

Home sweet home kit, retro ice cream van, boho florals, Polaroid-style picnic scene, realistic elephants, kids' bookmarks, magical mermaid and nautical ABC



✖ Issue 308, July

All-occasion gift tags, fantasy dragon, fruity beach accessories, Belle & Boo sea adventure, vibrant summer sampler, crafty pincushions and sunny Greek taverna

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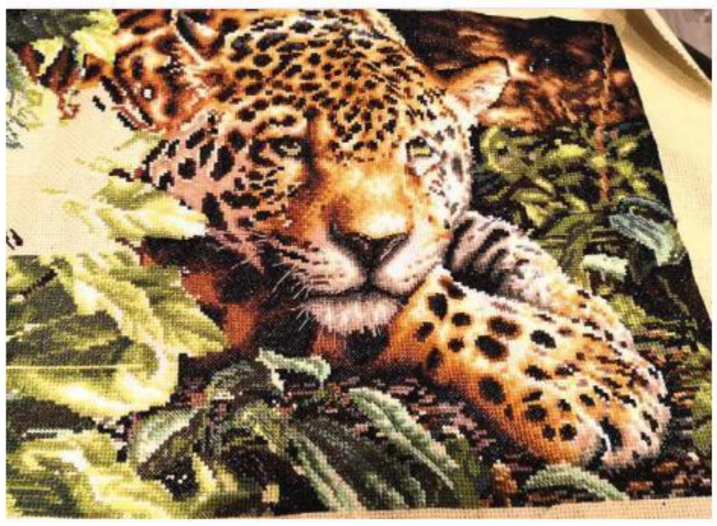
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Online news

Explore a world of cross stitching without leaving the house – we've found the websites, communities and charts you'll love!

Share your stitches

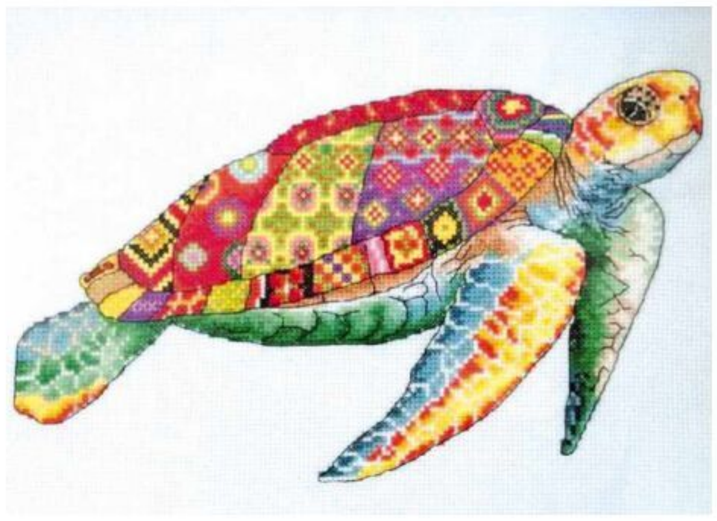
Enjoy a round-up of our fave makes from across our social community



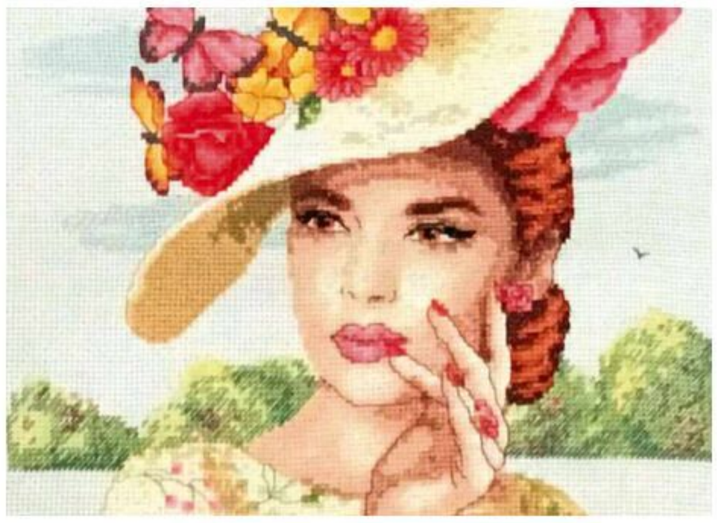
"Getting back into my leopard project." We really can't wait to see the finished stitch. Keep up the hard work. **Sarah-Jane Foxen, via Facebook**



"Another cute little cupcake card. Hadn't realised how long it's been since I made one." How pretty is this stitch. **somerset.stitches, via Instagram**



"I fell in love with this as soon as I saw it, and the very next day I had my threads and fabric ready to start." **thecraftyghetto, via Instagram**



"Enjoyed stitching this lady by designer Maria Diaz. I will be framing her this weekend." This is a truly stunning finish! **Linda West, via Facebook**

Websites you'll love

Next time you log on, check out these amazing stitchy sites



Bookmark **The Frosted Pumpkin Stitchery's** (www.thefrostedpumpkinstitchery.com) guide to customising skin tones in stitches. The easy-to-use colour chart in DMC thread shades allows you to easily tailor patterns to represent your friends and family.



If you're on the hunt for truly personal patterns make sure you visit **PuntAGOpetitePattern** (www.puntagopetitepattern.etsy.com) on Etsy. Specialising in custom family or pet portraits, created using your own photos from £34.36, you can perfectly capture your faves in stitch.

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Date for your diary



To celebrate their 150th anniversary the Royal School of Needlework have announced the opening of a unique exhibition at the Fashion and Textile Museum in London, which will run from 1 April until 4 September 2022. Featuring collaborations with big names, commissions produced for royalty, and the work of talented students, the exhibit showcases the organisation's remarkable history.

MORE **www.royal-needlework.org.uk**

Free download

Check out this adorable 'Hot Cocoa' freebie from *Country Living* magazine (www.countryliving.com/diy-crafts/a6380/cross-stitch/). It's warmed us up just thinking about it and there are lots of other designs too, including a vintage dresser, cars and animals as well as food and seasonal stitches for occasions such as Easter and Christmas.

MORE **Finds other free cross stitch patterns on our website at www.gathered.how/woxs**



Next month in

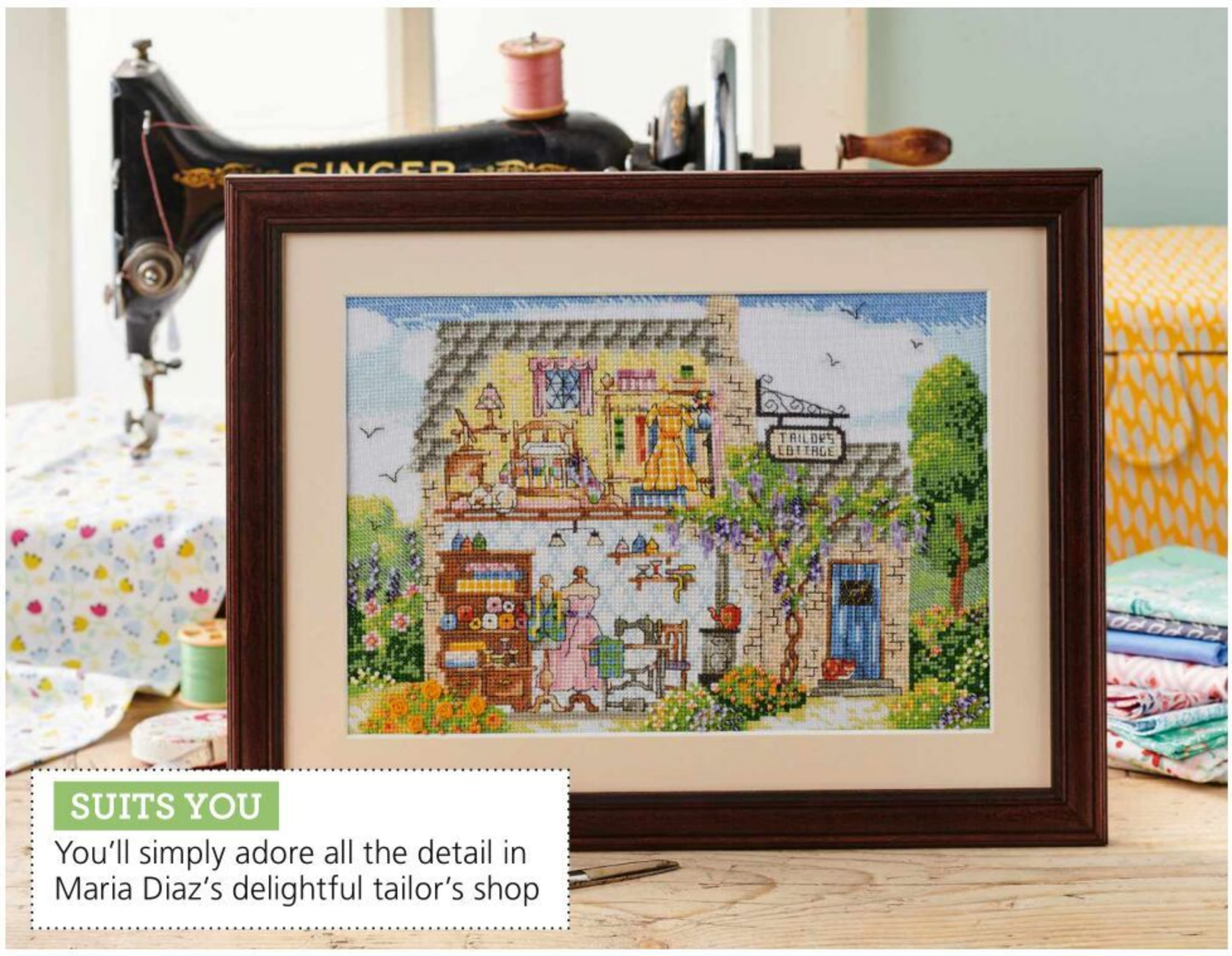
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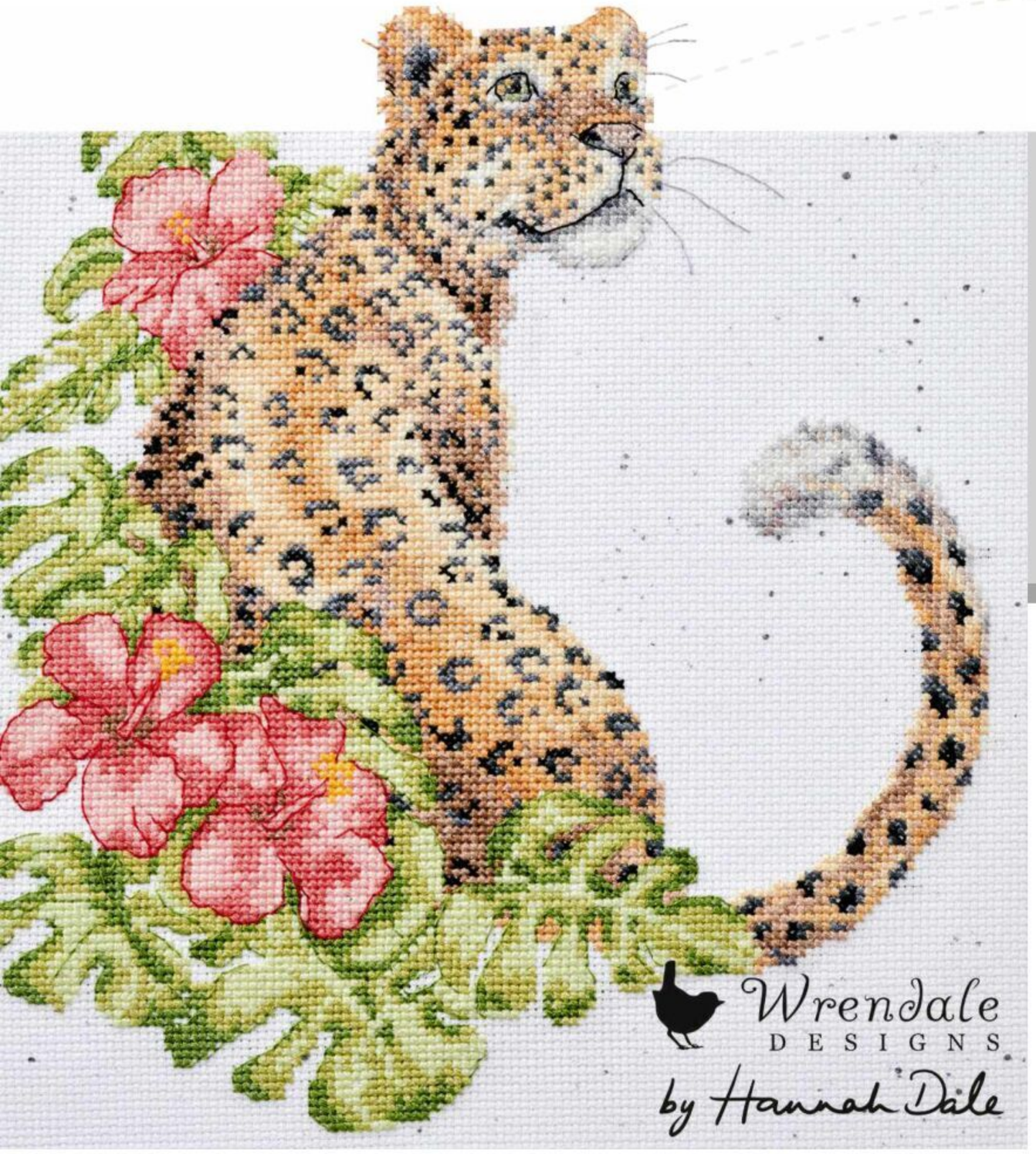
Send stunning messages to show your affection in ten different dialects



BE MINE

Jenny Barton's sweet stitches will make great gifts for your Valentine

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A purr-fect pawtrait

THE WORLD OF Cross Stitching EXCLUSIVE

You'll be absolutely wild about Hannah Dale's majestic leopard in her tropical habitat stitched on speckled fabric

HELLO TIGER

A fierce new stitch for the Chinese New Year





WEAR YOUR HOBBY

Find six charming charts for making the most adorable floral stitchy accessories

PLUS MUCH MORE

- Stitch Gail Bussi's intricate birdhouses for your tweetheart
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Beginners' Guide

How to...

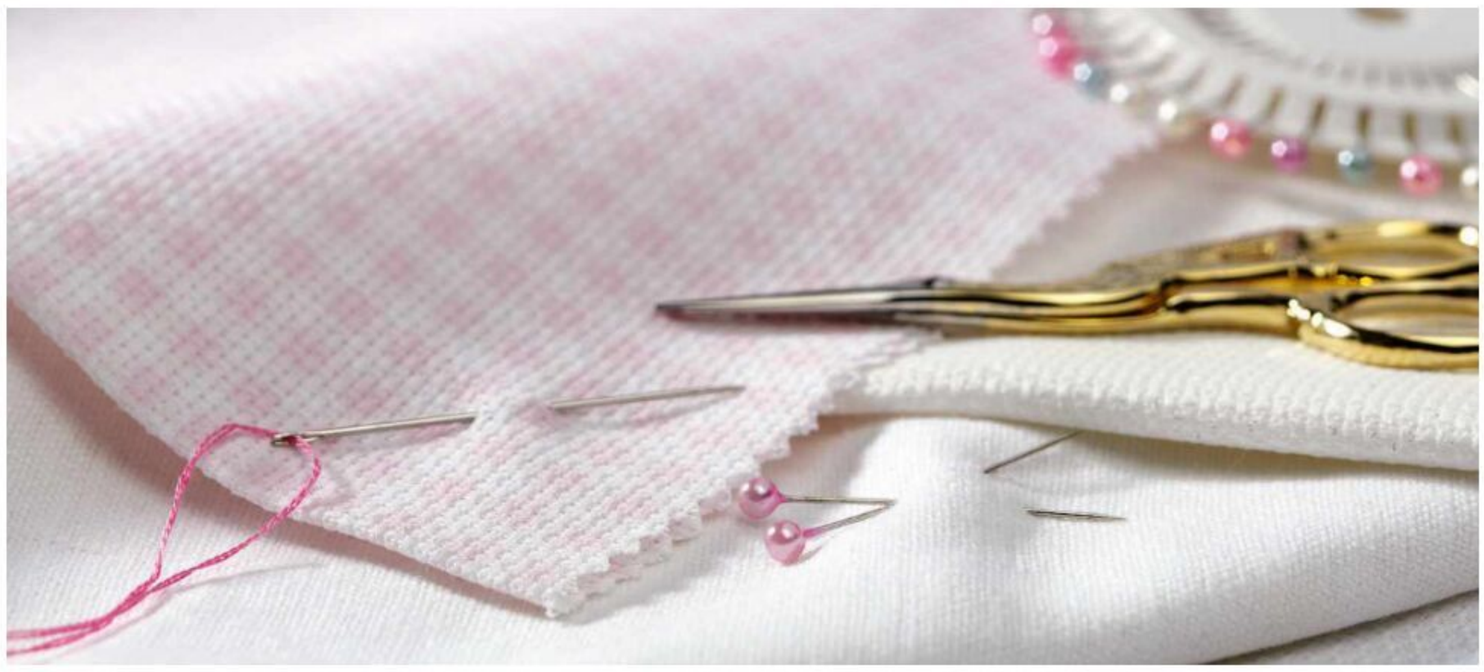
Beginner? Follow Fiona's guide to instant stitching success!



Stitching's a breeze! Let Senior Technical Editor Fiona show you how it's done in this reference guide

CHOOSE YOUR ESSENTIALS...

Start with these must-have items



1 FABRICS

Begin with either aida or evenweave.

Aida is best for beginners, with regular woven blocks and obvious holes. It's stiffer than evenweave, but will soften slightly as you work. The most common fabric is 14-count aida. It's harder to work fractional stitches on aida, as you'll need to make an extra hole in the fabric, in the centre of the aida block.

Evenweave is a lovely fabric to work on when you have a little more experience. The fibres aren't woven in blocks as with aida, so it's softer and the fine weave has more threads-per-inch – the most commonly used is 28-count. One stitch is usually worked over two threads of the fabric so it has an equivalent design size to 14-count aida. Cross stitching fractional stitches is easier on evenweave, as there's a central hole spare so you don't need to split a block as you do for aida.



Fabric choices: aida (left) with obvious holes is better for beginners. Evenweave (right) has a finer weave.

2 THREADS

You'll need ***stranded cotton*** – this coloured thread comes in 8m skeins and is made up of six strands. The count of your fabric will determine the number of strands you use in your needle. Typically for 14-count aida you'll use two strands for cross stitch and just one strand for backstitch. This is indicated in the key or instructions for your project. There are three main brands – DMC, Anchor and Madeira – which are all smooth and easy



to stitch with, and are colourfast to 95°C. Cheaper brands are available, but they're less durable and may not be colourfast.

3 NEEDLES

To cross stitch, use a ***tapestry needle***, which has a blunt tip and larger eye than a regular sewing needle. It easily passes through the fibres of aida and evenweave. Different needle sizes are available, with varying lengths and widths, so choose the best for your fabric – see our handy guide. Other needles are useful too…try a fine beading needle for adding bead accents. You may also prefer a sharp-tipped embroidery (or crewel) needle to split aida blocks when stitching fractional stitches.

Tapestry needle	Aida	Evenweave
	6-count	
	8-count	
	11-count	22, 25 & 27-count
	14-count	28-count
	16-count	32-count*
	18-count	36 & 55-count

18 20 22 24 26 28

*Also includes 22-count hardanger

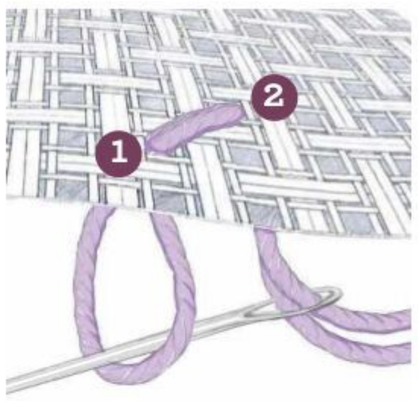
START CROSS STITCHING...

Make sure you hit the mark the first time every time with our top tips!

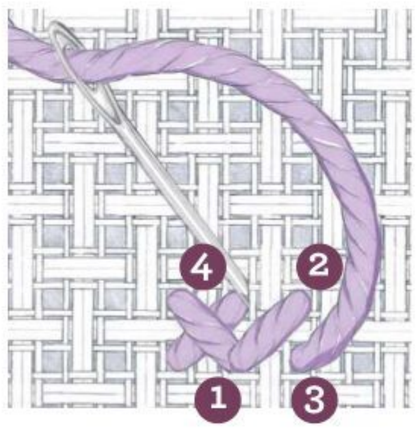
- **Choose your project...** Use the Factbox guide in every one of our projects, to make sure you choose the right level for you. Absolute beginners should aim for a design without fractional stitches.
- **Buy your materials...** Use our shopping list for each project, which specifies everything needed, like size of fabric and finishing materials. Using another fabric with different HPI (holes-per-inch), will give a different finished size of design. Calculate your fabric requirements like this: stitch count divided by HPI of new fabric choice = new size in inches. Add at least 10cm (4in) on each dimension to allow for mounting, or less for cards.
- **Get ready...** We always recommend starting in the centre of a design and working outwards. Our charts are marked with two centre arrows so find a symbol close to the centre and begin there.
- **Get set...** Find the corresponding centre of your fabric by folding in half and half again. The point where the folds cross corresponds to the centre so this is where your central stitch should go.
- **Get stitching...** Begin your stitches in two strands of thread. Use a loop start, as it's the neatest way to get going. It uses one double-length (80cm) strand with both ends threaded together. See our diagrams for how to stitch. Finish threads by weaving the leftover tail under a few stitches at the back.

How to stitch

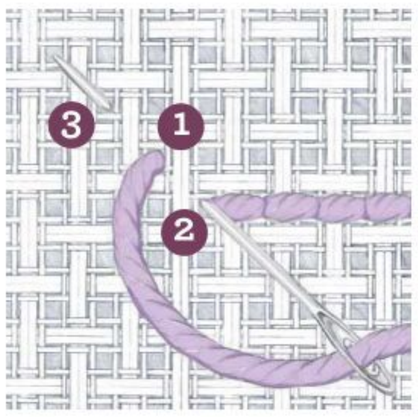
Tackle the basic stitches in our charts…



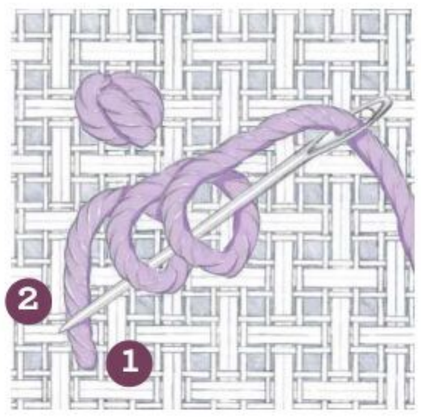
Loop start With both ends of a strand threaded, bring your needle up (1), leaving a loop at the back. Work the first arm of your stitch (2) & secure it by passing your needle through the loop.



Cross stitch Bring your needle up at the bottom left corner (1) & down in the top right (2) for the first arm of your stitch. Work the second arm, coming up in the bottom right (3) & going down in the top left (4).



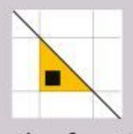
Backstitch Add detail and definition. Bring your needle up at (1) & down at (2), come up again at (3), then back down at (1) & so on, to direct each stitch 'back' towards the line of the growing backstitch.



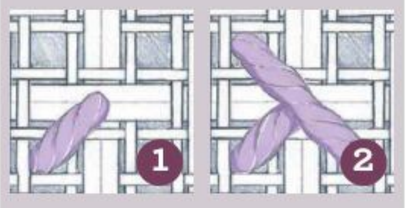
French knots Easy with practice – come up in the fabric (1), keep the thread taut & wrap twice around the needle. Push the needle down, close by, but *not* in the same hole (2). Split the aida block for a neat knot.

FRACTIONAL STITCHES

Fractionals let you create rounded edges

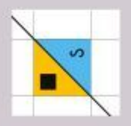


Quarter
The chart shows which corner has the fractional. Bring the needle up in that corner and down in the centre of the square, halfway across the diagonal (diagram 1).

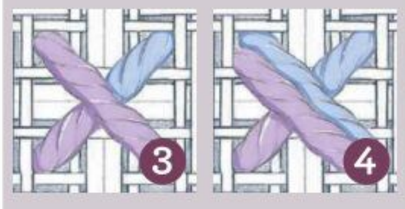




Three-quarters
Work a quarter stitch, then a half stitch across the other diagonal arm of the square as in diagram 2. Like quarters, three-quarter stitches can face any direction.



Two symbols
When two symbols share a square, work a fractional in each colour. Decide on the quarter stitch for the background colour, then a three-quarters stitch for the main one (diagram 3).

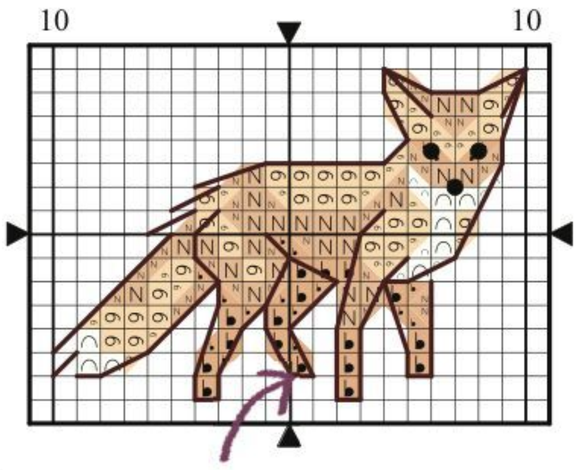




Back-to-back
For a stronger outline, work a three-quarter stitch in each colour, stitching them back-to-back (diagram 4). Make sure that the two half stitch arms lie neatly parallel to each other.

How to read our keys

Clear symbols, colours & all the info you need!



Symbols
Look for a symbol close to the chart centre – the arrows on our charts easily show the centre so you won't need to count! Find this symbol in the key. The codes in that row show which thread shades to use for cross stitching blocks with this symbol.

Thread brands
The thread shades are listed in separate columns for the different manufacturer brands of thread. For best results, you should stick to one manufacturer for the whole of a design.

Backstitch & French knot shades
The shades used for these are listed under the cross stitch symbols. The number of strands needed for these can vary, so make sure you check how many to use, as it's specified in the key.

Fox key

✖ Cross stitch in two strands

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira	
N	976	1001	2010	ginger
b	3826	1048	2306	dark ginger
9	3827	311	2012	light ginger
∩	3865	2	2403	white
✖ Backstitch in one strand				
—	3371	382	2004	brown
✖ French knots in one strand				
●	310	403	2400	black

STITCH COUNT 14 high x 20 wide
DESIGN AREA 14 HPI (28-count evenweave) – 2.5x3.5cm (1x1½in)

This design was stitched using DMC stranded cotton

Stitch count & design area
This indicates the finished size of your design – in stitches and on a particular fabric. HPI stands for holes-per-inch.

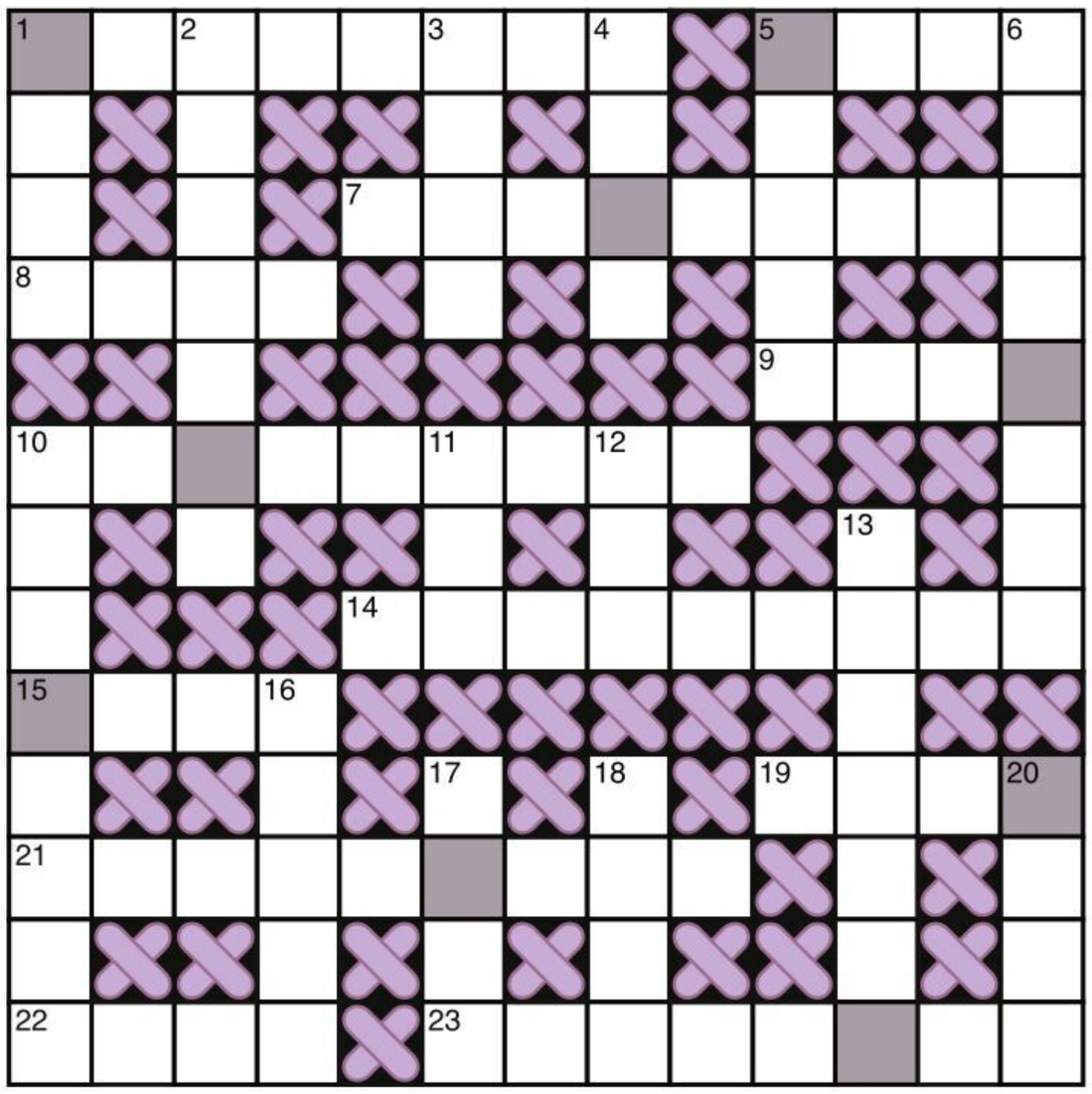
Jargon buster!

Use our A–Z of cross stitch to know what's what…

Afghan – a woollen blanket with areas inset for cross stitching, often used for baby designs
Aida band – a narrow strip of aida, available in varying widths, & finished with a decorative edge
Aperture – a hole through which a design is seen in cards & frames
Backstitch – used to add detail & definition. See how to stitch it in our diagram above!
Beading needle – a longer, finer needle than a tapestry needle, used for adding seed beads to a design
Counted stitches – embroidery stitches worked on counted, or evenly woven, fabrics like aida & evenweave. Cross stitch is the most basic counted stitch
Floss – USA term for stranded cotton
Fractional stitches – made from either a quarter or three-quarters of a cross stitch, these allow you to create rounded edges. See how to make these in our diagrams above!
Half stitch – made up of only one half (one arm) of a cross stitch, it gives less dense coverage so an overall lighter effect in the design
Hoop – a wooden or spring-mounted plastic circular frame that holds your fabric taut while working a design
Longstitch – long backstitches, crossing larger fabric distances
Metallic threads – similar to stranded cottons, these have a metallic finish for shine and sparkle
Perforated paper – toughened paper with a tiny grid of holes, which can be stitched on instead of fabric
Plastic canvas – plastic alternative to fabric that won't fray when you cut it
Skein – an 8m length of stranded cotton, divisible into six separate strands
Soluble aida – temporary fabric which, like waste canvas, is used to add cross stitching to non-counted fabrics & then dissolved away in water afterwards
Stitching over two – term used to describe stitching over two threads of the weave of an evenweave fabric
Variegated thread – specific type of stranded cotton, in which the colour changes along the length of the thread for a shaded effect
Waste canvas – loosely woven fabric held together with soluble glue. Used to add designs to clothing & other non-counted fabrics before being moistened & the fibres withdrawn with tweezers

Take a break!

Put down your needle and pick up a pen to complete our crossword and Sudoku puzzles



Solve the clues then rearrange the letters in the shaded squares to spell the name of a winter ski resort (9)

ACROSS

1 Unit of weight (8)
5 Lighting fitment (4)
7 Part of a staircase (9)
8 Neaten (4)
9 Ballet skirt (4)
10 Holiday for newly-weds (9)
14 Fleeting (9)
15 Hint (4)
19 Snake sound (4)
21 Juicy fruit (9)
22 Sixty minutes (4)
23 Pessimistic (8)

DOWN

1 Use needles and wool (4)
2 Touchdown (7)
3 Street (4)
4 Numerous (4)
5 Trouble persistently (5)
6 Deep wine-red colour (8)
10 Fragrant spring flower (8)
11 Sound made by a cow (3)
12 Single (3)
13 Pasta dish (7)
16 Go in (5)
17 Small short-tailed bird (4)
18 Cosy and warm (4)
20 Rescue (4)

Enter to win!

Once you've completed the crossword or Sudoku, send in your answers (see below for details) for the chance to win an original Furry Tales print of Monty Mouse plus a limited-edition Titch chart, both by Lucie Heaton.



To enter by post: Write your name, address and your crossword or Sudoku answer on the back of a postcard or stuck-down envelope and send it to: Crossword/Sudoku WOXS315, *The World of Cross Stitching*, Immediate Media Co, Eagle House, Bristol BS1 4ST. For full terms and conditions, turn to page 83. Please note that you can no longer enter by text message. **Closing date:** 14 December 2021.

Fill the grid so each row, column and 3x3 box has numbers one to nine. Send us the numbers in the shaded squares to enter the competition.

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

ISSUE 314 SOLUTION: ACROSS: 1 Coasters, 5 Cage, 7 Before, 8 Ginger, 9 Embellish, 11 Great, 12 Pit, 14 Alike, 15 Greyhound, 18 Mirage, 19 Nimble, 20 Felt, 21 Basement. **DOWN:** 1 Cabbage, 2 Affluence, 3 Turret, 4 Suggest, 5 Canal, 6 Guess, 10 Invisible, 12 Proverb, 13 Dessert, 14 Advice, 16 Raise, 17 Yeast. **SOLUTION: PRANCER**

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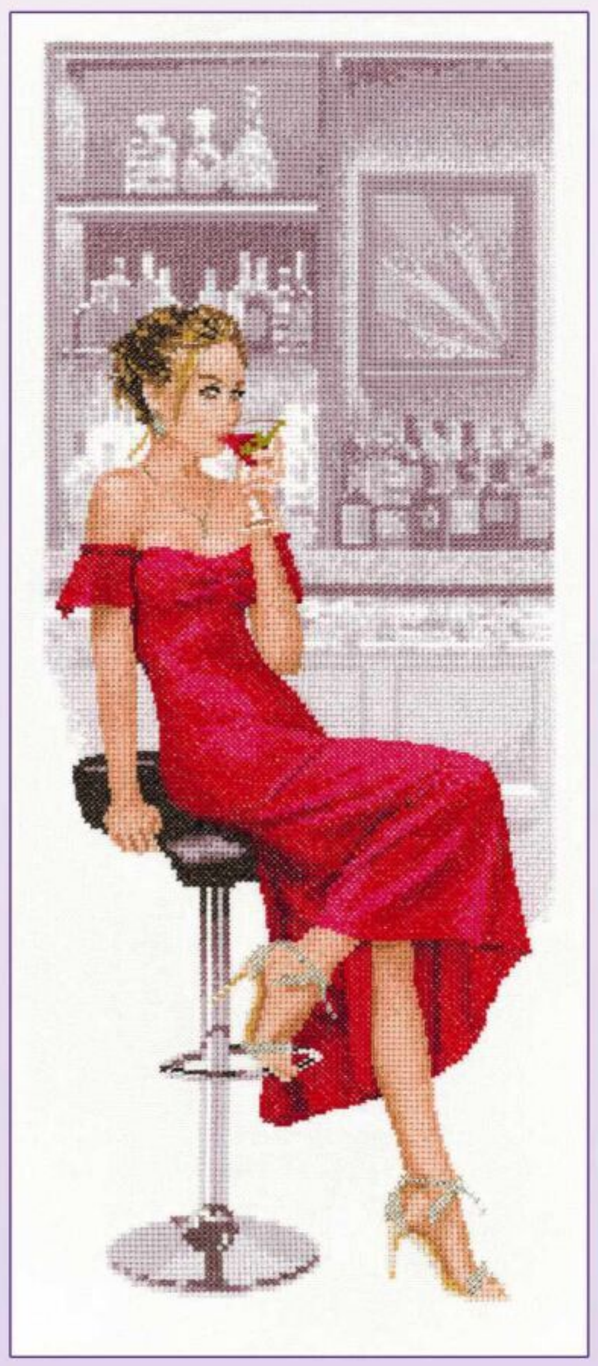
Working with talented artists to produce beautiful counted cross stitch designs



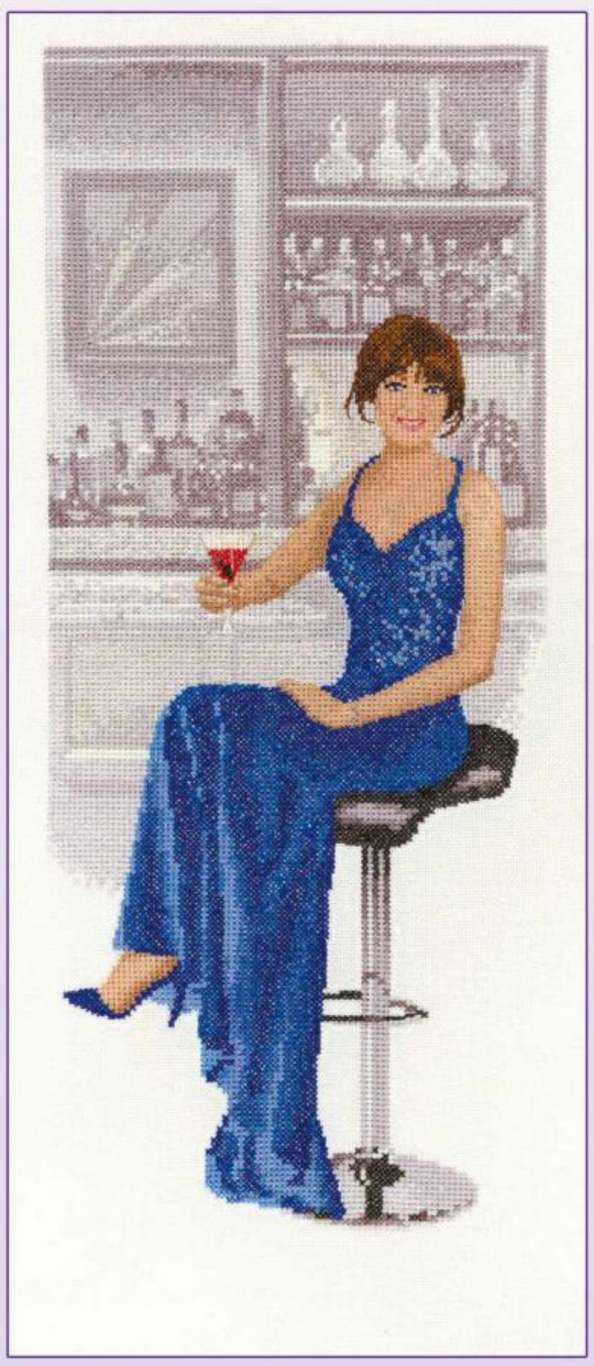
I Wouldn't Change You - 19.5 x 15cm
by Peter Underhill



Together Forever - 17.5 x 13cm
by Peter Underhill



Paula - 16.5 x 40.5cm - *by John Clayton*



Stella - 16.5 x 40cm - *by John Clayton*



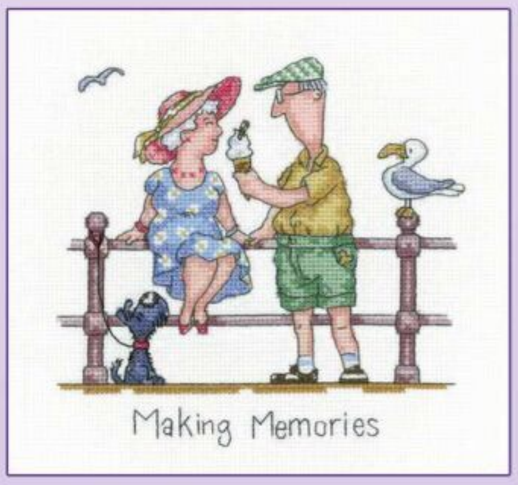
The Two of Us - 17.5 x 14.5cm
by Peter Underhill



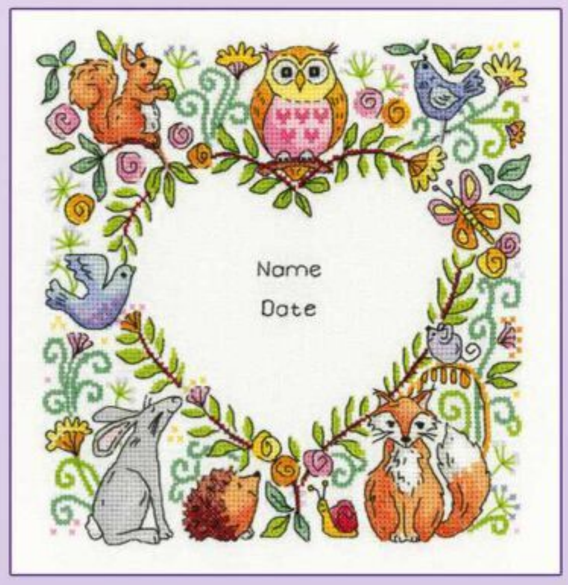
Tea for Two - 21.5 x 13cm
by Peter Underhill



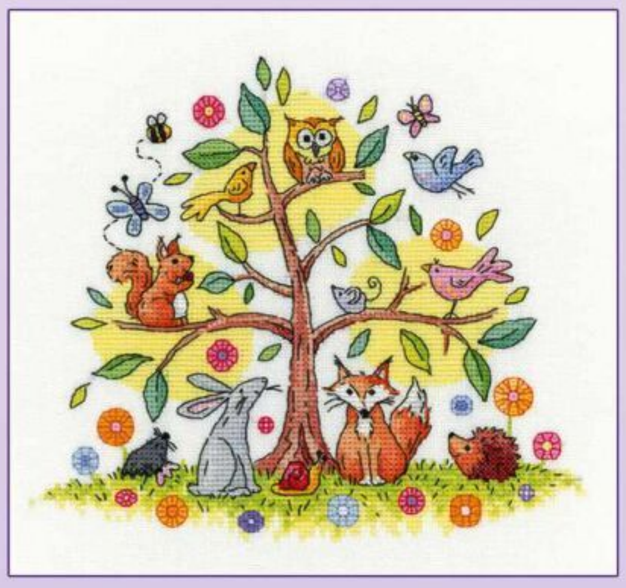
Golden Years - 17.5 x 14cm
by Peter Underhill



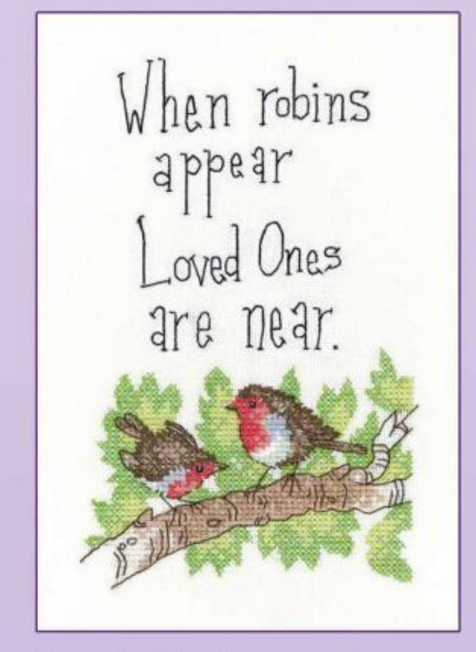
Making Memories - 16.5 x 15.5cm
by Peter Underhill



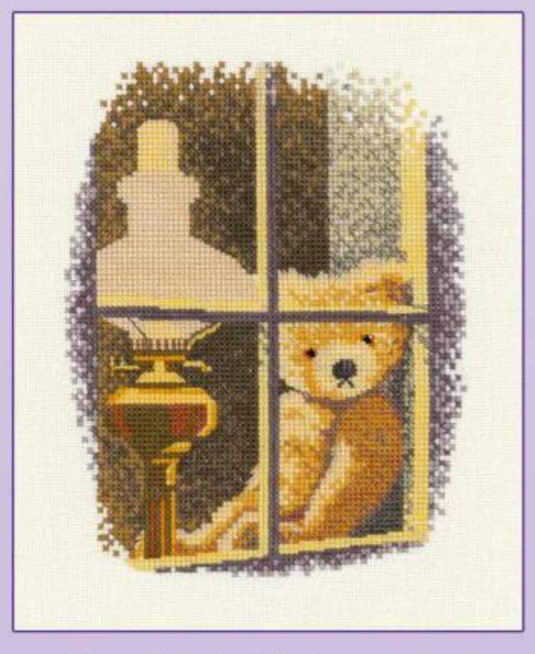
Celebration - 19.5 x 20cm - *by Karen Carter*



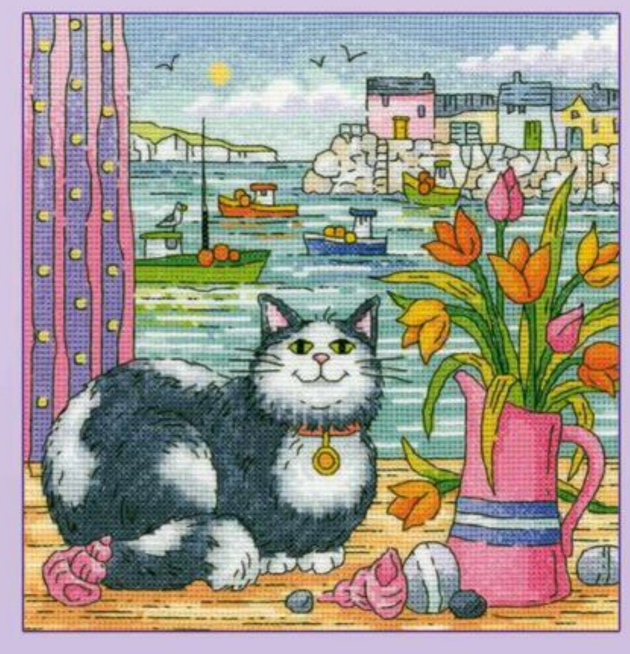
Tree of Life - 20 x 17.5cm - *by Karen Carter*



When Robins Appear - 10.5 x 17cm
by Peter Underhill



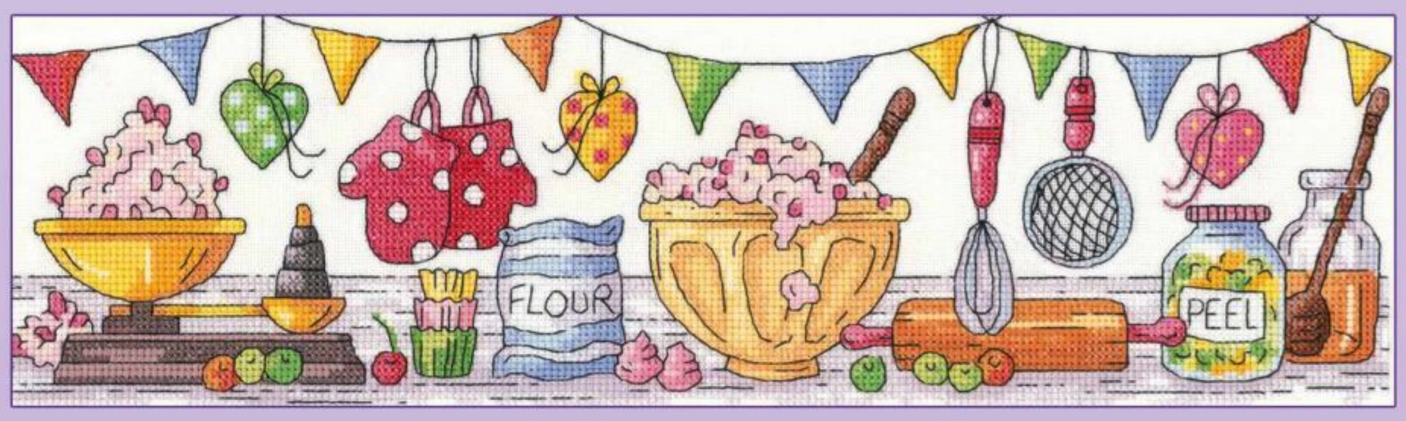
William in the Window - 14 x 18cm
by John Clayton



Harbour View - 20.5 x 21.5cm - *by Karen Carter*



Island View - 20.5 x 21.5cm - *by Karen Carter*



Ready, Steady, Bake! - 37.5 x 10cm - *by Karen Carter*

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