No.1 for designs

CrossStitcher

IDEAS • STYLE • INSPIRATION

64 FAB NEW DESIGNS

PERFECT PUFFINS FOR YOUR HOME!









HAVE A WHALE OF A TIME!

Whaley good greetings to stitch **for friends**

MAKE of the month

Time to paws for thought… will you stitch our cat or dog design to make your pet pennant? The results will be purrfect either way!

Designed by: Susan Penny **Stitch count:** 58 high x 56 wide
Design size: 10x10cm (4x4in) **Stitch time:** 6 hours

This design was stitched on 14 count aida fabric.

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
Cross stitch in two strands			
S S	309	039	507
↑ ↑	310	403	black
4 4	434	310	2009
N N	743	030	2294
H H	798	131	911
F F	822	390	2001
Z Z	907	255	1410
+ +	943	189	1203
Backstitch in one strand			
bunting, outlines	310	403	black
cats, dogs	434	310	2009









Customise your pennant further by using your own leftover threads to match the fur patterns of your own pets!

Make a… **pet pennant**

Step 1

START stitching on a 16x12cm (6¼x4¾in) piece of white 14 count aida. Ensure the lower green flag is at the bottom of the design, which should be centrally placed on the fabric, with the stitch at the point in the seventh hole up from the bottom of the fabric.

Step 2

COMPLETE the stitching, then fold the sides of the aida fabric onto the reverse of the stitching, so that the ends of the stitched string, holding the lengths of flags, are just on the reverse side.

Step 3

FOLD the bottom of the aida into a point, so that the green bunting flag at the bottom of the design is in the centre. Press the turnings in place. Catch stitch the seams to the reverse side.

Step 4

PLACE an 11cm (4¼in) length of 1cm wooden dowel on the reverse side of the stitching at the top. Fold over the aida fabric and catch stitch it in place. Loop some baker's twine around the dowel at both ends, and knot.

Next month we have a double project special – turn over to see what's in store...



NEXT MONTH

DOUBLE PROJECT ISSUE!
Your first of three special double project issues – October, November and December will all have two make of the months!

In October you can stitch a festive brooch of Holly the Reindeer, plus the first part of your Christmas Stitch-A-Long mini sampler – with parts 2 and 3 to come in the November and December issues.





ISSUE 349
OCTOBER 2019
On sale
10 September

Welcome

Bringing out the bunting...



WE ARE HANGING OUT the flags this issue – literally! We are old enough (and hope you are too) to remember how you used to be able to buy a souvenir pennant from UK holiday resorts. It was a travelling game to spot the caravans with the most flags in their windows to see who was most well-travelled. A funny thought in these times of jumping on a plane so easily. Our little flags are more for home and to declare your allegiance as a cat or dog lover. Your 'make of the month' (page 2) features two charts so you will able to select the design for you – and join in an age old debate! We still can't decide which side to take...

We're coming into autumn now so we have a fabulous sampler (page 62) in Faye Walsh's series and the thought of longer crafting evenings ahead. With time on our minds we asked Maria Diaz to create a clock sampler for us (page 32). We love all the vintage style clocks she has gathered together. Short of time? (sorry...) then pick your favourite and stitch the hands at a time significant to you, whether it's the time of a birth or another special anniversary.

Happy stitching!

Susan Martin

SUSAN & MARTIN PENNY
EDITORS

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



Mark that special first day in September...



On the box...

Time for some nostalgia with our retro TV test card cushion in our October issue, on sale 10 September.

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

CrossStitcher

Contents

Issue 348 **September 2019**





YOUR CHARTS

16 **Flower Of The Month** Morning glory

18 **Puffin Lovin'** Beautiful sea bird cushion

24 **Home Tweet Home** Create birdhouse gift tags

32 **Time To Time** Classic clocks sampler

37 **Such A Wallflower** Wildflower wall hanging

41 **Whale Wishes** Send giant-sized greetings

49 **Letter Library** Honey bees alphabet

57 **Brand New School** Celebrate a first day at school

62 **Autumn's In The Air** Part 3 of our sampler series

68 **Feline Fancy** Stitch up some cute cat accessories

72 **Ready, Steady, Stitch...** Three designers are challenged to create a design for an autumn brooch

77 **Create A Classic: Unicorn** Use gold beads to finish off your magnificent magical creature in style

EXTRAS

14 **Reader Offer** Exclusive reader bargains

48 **Prize time** Enter our great giveaways to win some fab stitching prizes

85 ***CrossStitcher* SAL** The next part of our stitch-a-long and our beginner's guide to cross stitch

90 **Puzzles** Fill in our crossword for the chance to win a fantastic stitching prize

ON THE COVER

- Perfect puffins **page 18**
- First day at school **page 57**
- Whale of a time **page 41**
- Home tweet home **page 24**
- Autumn dreams **page 62**
- Magical unicorn **page 77**
- Feline fancy **page 68**





EVERY ISSUE

9 **Out there** The latest products

12 **Stitching with** Jess

44 **Subscribe** to *CrossStitcher*

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

60 **We Interview** Ruth Oliver

91 **Next month** in *CrossStitcher*







THE Savvy Stitcher

Try something new every issue

27 Kitchen garden makes
Decorate napkins, a coaster and a pot holder with fun fruit and veg motifs...





THE SAVVY STITCHER
FRUIT & VEG PROJECTS
27

ZWEIGART®
THE needlework fabric



Summer is in the air - who has no desire for the Caribbean with sun, beach and the ocean? Discover the lovley color world of ZWEIGART® fabrics for this summery theme and don´t miss to get a free chart with palm trees at www.zweigart.com!

TROPICAL color world

3835 LUGANA	col.	205	6140
3609 BELFAST	col.	4034	2349
3706 STERN-AIDA	col.	4023	5142
3984 MURANO	col.	2128	6122
3217 EDINBURGH	col.	5146	222

100 % Made in Germany

Be sure to also discover the rest of our unique range of embroidery fabrics in AIDA, Linen and Evenweaves in best ZWEIGART® quality. Happy stitching!

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www.zweigart.com

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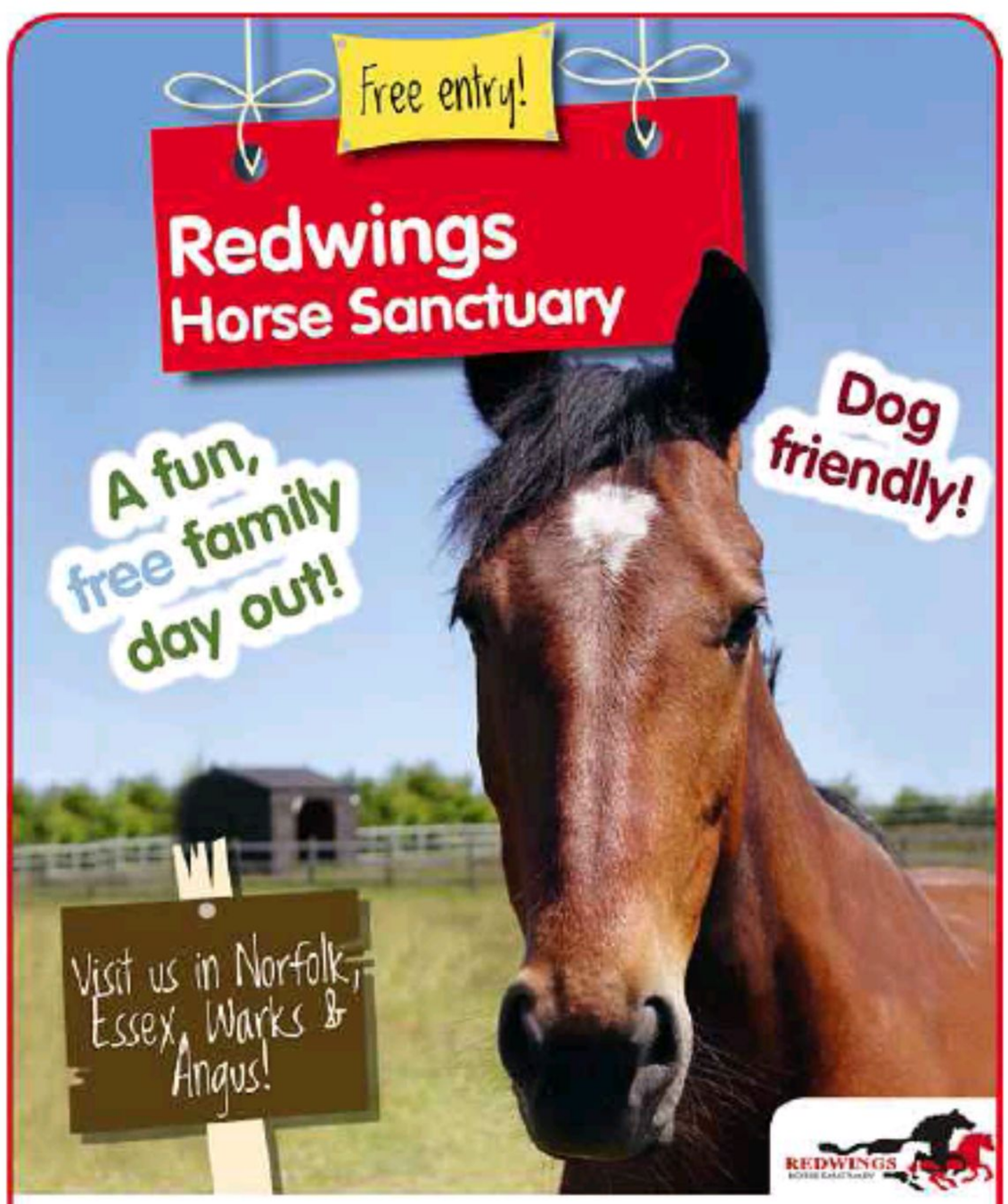


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Outthere

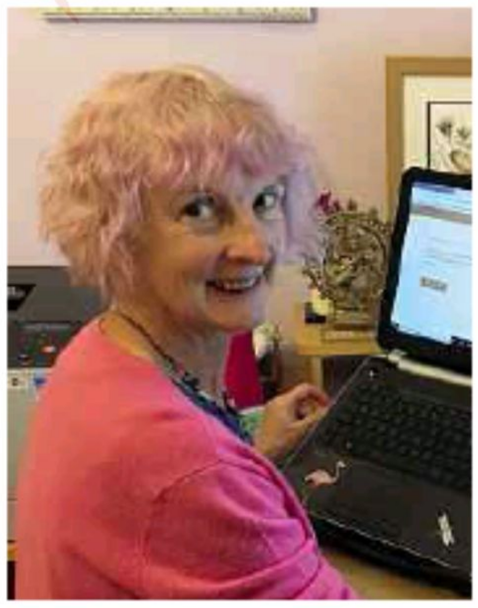
Every month we showcase the latest high street trends, new ideas and inspiring personalities for today's stylish cross stitcher

Back to black

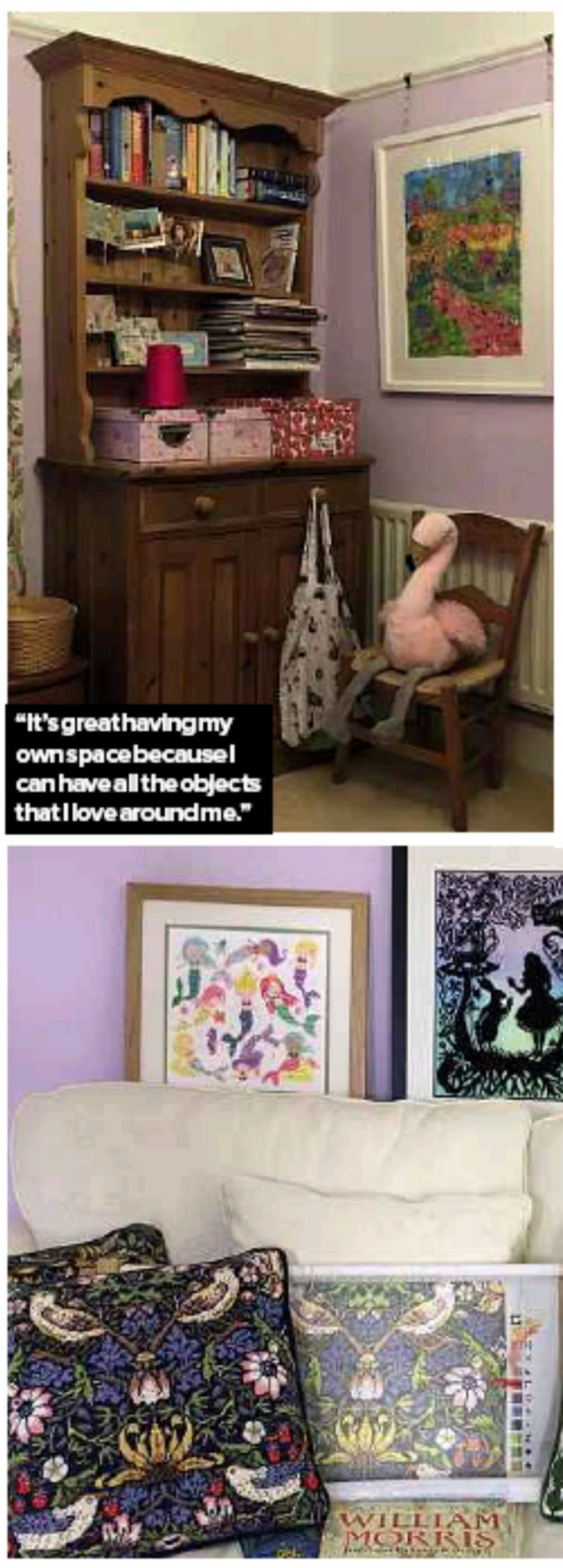
Hawthorn Handmade have added six new embroidery kits to their range, with another six due out this summer. All are wild animal-themed – and there's even a fantasy element with the unicorn too! We particularly love the puffin design as it's a great companion to our cushion on page 18. Each kit retails at £20 and comes with everything you need including pre-printed cotton, 7in embroidery hoop, needle, DMC thread and detailed instructions.
www.hawthornhandmade.com

MY CRAFT ROOM: KATE GOLBY

We get to see a glimpse of a designer's own sewing space…



"Over the last few years I have been increasingly working from home and have finally got my very own craft room! I love it because it overlooks the garden and is warm and cosy and even better, I don't have to tidy them all away at the end of the day. My favourite bit of organisation is my wool rack, where I have a skein of each colour to play with. I have a school report from when I was two years old, saying that I loved colour. Things don't change much do they? Since I spend a lot of time designing on the computer, I have to say my best tools are the laptop riser, my kneeling chair and my daylight magnifying lamp." www.bothythreads.com



"It's great having my own space because I can have all the objects that I love around me."



"As you can see, I go for bright and colourful! I painted the walls purple and bought a psychedelic chandelier."





PURE WILL POWER

TO STITCH or not to stitch? Theres no question in this instance – we know literary lovers will be itching to get started on Caterpillar Cross Stitch's three new designs celebrating the works of William Shakespeare. Choose from quotes To Thine Own Self Be True, The Wren With The Little Quill and Be Not Afraid Of Greatness. Each purchase directly supports the conservation of the Shakespeare properties in Warwickshire through the Shakespeare Birthplace Trust. www.caterpillarcrossstitch.com



JUMPING JELLYFISH!

JEREMY JELLYFISH is the latest kit to surface from Little Beach Hut. Worked to fit a 15.5cm hoop, the kit includes a chart, DMC threads, 14 count aida, size 16 cross stitch needle on a little piece of felt, pattern with colour photo, instructions and the Little Beach Hut cross stitch guide for beginners. It comes in a pretty gift wrapped package including string, flowers, peg and butterflies. www.littlebeachhut.com

STAR TURN

BOBO STITCH have some new cushion cover cross stitch kits in their range, including this pretty Leopard Print Star design. All are available with 28 count linen for the more experienced stitcher or 14 count linen aida for beginners. Both use the same size stitches and are created with gorgeous rustic fabrics which create a high-quality finished cushion. The finished cushion is 35x35cm. bobostitch.co.uk





Sea breeze

FEEL THE sea air as you get crafting with this new Salt Wind range of 100% cotton fabrics by Emily Taylor. Designed as a love letter to maritime Canada, Emily said she wanted to include "laughing gulls... oyster-coloured skies and... the beach's mosaic covering of scallop and mussel shells" among other motifs in her fresh set of patterns and colourways. For UK stockists visit figofabrics.com.

THREE OF THE BEST *Bees*

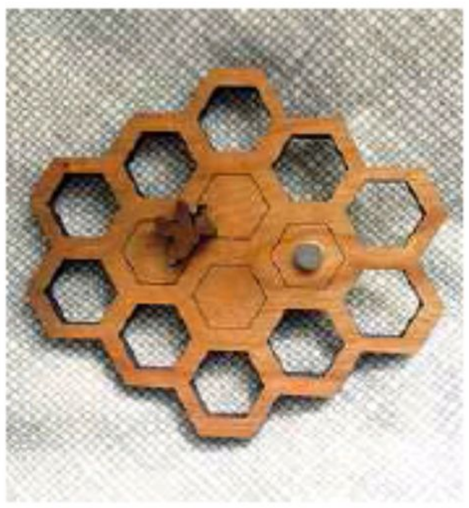
Sweet as honey, our bee motifs on page 49 had us buzzing to the Etsy hive for more crafting ideas...



JUSTCREATECRAFT
This 20mm Ivory Cotton Canvas tape printed with Charcoal Grey and Brown Bee design is just right for crafting and cards in particular.



SAPH1RE
With eight in a pack, these Yellow Black Bee Beehive Nature Garden Insect Craft Buttons all have shanks on the back for sewing.



GIRLONTHEROCKS
Use this gorgeous Honeycomb and Bee Embroidery floss Organiser in wood to keep your threads sorted in style.

TREND SPOTTING

PUFFINS

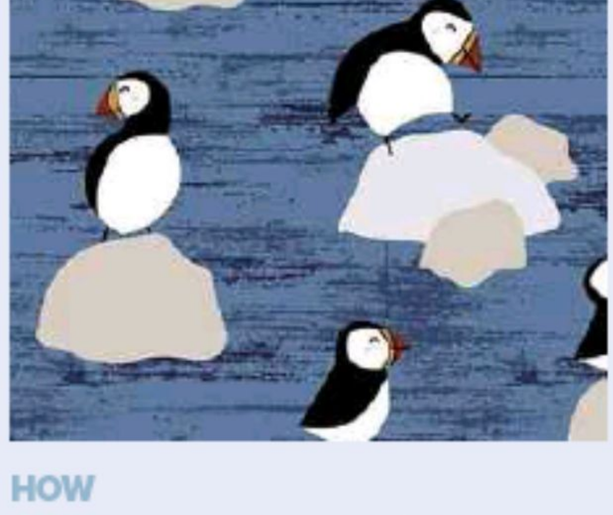
WITH OUR cute cushion on page 18, it's time to pick up another puffin today, with these on-trend treats...



WHO
Textile Heritage are the designers of this traditional-style Puffin Bookmark that's perfect for all of your holiday reading! scottishgift company.com



WHAT
The Scottish Puffin Appliqué kit contains everything you need to make a beautiful, colourful piece of felt art, mounted in a bamboo embroidery hoop. With simple stitches, it's perfect for beginners and youngsters. www.craftykitcompany.co.uk



HOW
Create your own garments with perfect puffin patterns using this Cute Puffins in Blue Cotton Jersey Stretch Fabric. It is ideal for anything that needs a stretch fit! www.jellyfabrics.co.uk

STITCHING WITH JESS



Jessica Savage introduces a brand-new series of samplers to help mind and spirit, stitch by stitch…

Hullo! This month marks the beginning of a new series. I'll be bringing you a set of 'mini sampler' pieces to help keep your mind (and stitching) positive! This theme is close to my heart and, hopefully, will offer you some Zen in this busy world.

I've always been a 'non-stop' kind of person – someone who is always busy and slightly stressed, unable to wind down fully. Can you relate? It's as if I have to add 'breathe' to my 'To Do' list! And because stitching is meant to be my down time, when I make mistakes and have to rip stitches out, I get so very frustrated!

In the past, I've let that pent-up stress fuel me to Get It Done. Remove those stitches, work that extra shift, get overwhelmed with stress and eat my negative feelings rather than forcing myself to stop and reassess.

So, I jumped on the mindfulness band wagon. Mindfulness is the mental practice of being present in the moment without instantly reacting with overwhelm or emotion. It's about being cool, calm, collected, and – most importantly – content.

Now I know that might sound a little 'hippy', but I certainly found that many of my reactions were coloured with things from the past or expectations I had for the future. For example, if I have to remove stitching mistakes, I might be extra annoyed because of the stressful day I'd had. Or perhaps I have a busy week ahead and I really wanted to do some cross stitching and relax right now.

The best thing I can do in that situation is put down my project and breathe. Just concentrating on my breath and working on being in the moment really helps. Sure, it means sitting in my frustration for a minute or so, but it fades quickly. By focusing on the sensation of something as easy and natural as breathing, I can come back to the present moment and realise that it's just a cross stitch and the mistake isn't a personal attack on my stressed mind.

The more I practise focusing on my breathing in times of frustration, the easier it is to let negativity wash off me. Once I'm outside of negative emotion, I can then work on building a more peaceful existence.

Having said that, I don't think I'll ever be free of stitching mistakes; that's just an unfortunate fact of life!

Stitch boldly!

Jess



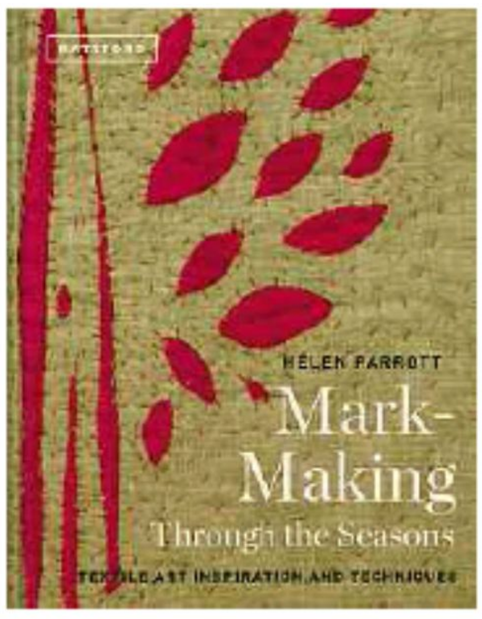


	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
Cross stitch in two strands			
● ●	336	150	1007
▲ ▲	518	1039	1106
◇ ◇	519	1038	1105
● ●	825	142	1011
△ △	3033	391	2001
Backstitch in one strand			
—	518 stars	1039	1106

CRAFTY BOOKSHELF

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

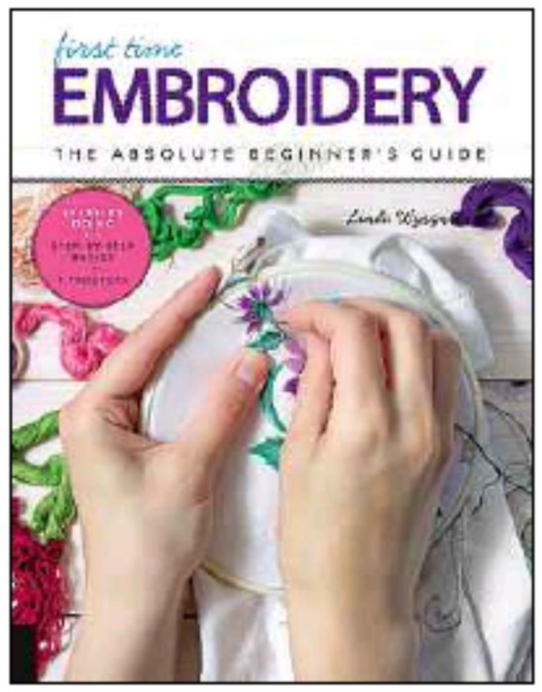
MARK-MAKING THROUGH THE SEASONS



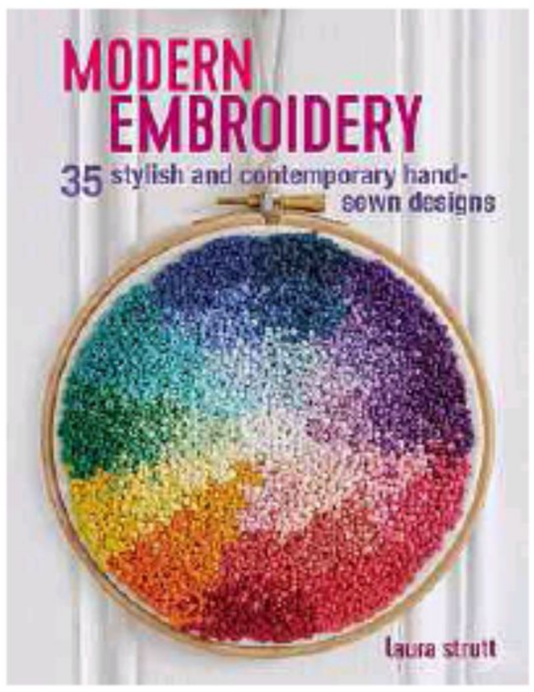
HELEN PARROTT [Batsford]
A creative guide to using seasons and local surroundings as inspiration in textile art. Learn how to look, for example, for the first signs of spring then record its qualities in textiles. This guide is filled with projects and step-by-step instructions to share the basics of hand and machine-stitch techniques, working with free-form stitching, chain stitch and corded quilting, as well as appliqué, blackwork and dyeing.

FIRST TIME EMBROIDERY

LINDA WYSZYNSKI
[Quarry Books]
If you're at the start of your stitching journey, this book may well be worth investing in. This beginner's guide teaches everything you need to know about techniques and includes detailed descriptions of materials and tools. The simple step-by-step instructions include instructions for classic embroidery, crewel and cross stitch – so you can then try embellishing your own projects with your newfound skills.



MODERN EMBROIDERY



LAURA STRUTT [CICO Books]
The modern stitcher will love this new title that aims to provide designs based on current trends, with motifs from cacti to crystals, simple white stitching on coloured cloth, decorative stitches on denim, and mandala patterns as wall art. Laura Strutt provides 35 modern makes and each has full step-by-step instructions, coloured charts where needed, plenty of tips and a techniques section covering all the stitches you will need to know.

SEPTEMBER STASH

OFFER EXTENDED DUE TO POPULAR DEMAND!

This gorgeous pack of midsummer goodies is just right for stitching cards and gifts for seasonal birthdays



Your midsummer stash contains fabric, thread and other stitchy goodies that will give your designs that fresh, bright feel of summer – the perfect treat for yourself!

Each pack contains:

- 6 card-sized pieces of 14 count white Sampedro aida; 15x15cm (6x6in)
- 12 skeins of DMC stranded cotton in summer shades – (155) Lilac, (743) Golden Yellow, (907) Summer Green, (911) Tree Green, (911) Cerise, (943) Teal, (957) Pink, (996) Sea Blue, (3340) Orange, (3805) Geranium Pink, (3839) Lavender Blue and Blanc
- 5 stitchable craft tags with baker's twine
- woodgrain flexi-hoop; 7.5cm (3in) diameter
- Mill Hill beads
- 2 flutterby charms
- 24 and 26 gold tapestry needle
- PLUS a free sheet of 'Hand Stitched By' stickers, for adding to the back of your cards and frames.

Midsummer Stash for £22.50, ref: STASHMID

MORE OFFERS FOR YOU!

Pick up more stitching goodies at great prices and with UK postage of just £1.90...



SAMPEDRO AIDA

Due to popular demand we now offer this aida in a lovely soft cream as well as white. You can buy a FQ (50x80cm) in either colour, which is larger than the normal FQ of aida. Go to Willow Fabrics online to order a larger piece. Mark White or Cream on your coupon.

Sampedro 14 Count Aida FQ for £4, ref: S14FQ



THREAD ORGANISERS

Each thread organiser (one per pack) is 160x48cm (6¼x2in) approx. and is made of 2mm white plastic. The 20 punched holes are 10mm with enough space to write the thread number and chart symbol against each hole. Made from durable plastic they can be reused.

Thread Organisers for £1.20, ref: THREADORG



PETITE SCISSORS & COVER

7.5cm (3in) scissors in Half Gold (with brown leather cover) or Silver Effect (with black cover). Order the cover alone for your own small scissors. For all options indicate the colour required.

Scissor & Cover, Half Gold or Silver for £4.70, ref: PTSCISCV; Cover only, black or brown for £1.45, ref: SCCOV



RECYCLED CARD PACK

These cards are made for us by a UK papermill from recycled paper sourced from the UK/EC. Each cards is 172x126mm (7x5in) when folded, with an aperture of 123x90mm, (4⅞x3½in).

Mixed Pack of 5 Cards (ivory, Pale Blue, Lilac, White) and envelopes for £3.60, ref: ENV001



FLEXI-HOOP PACK

These super-useful flexi-hoops in five colours, are just right for when you need a quick finish. With a 10cm (4in) diameter, when time gets tight and you can't find a card to fit your stitching, these flexi-hoops are quick to assemble, and give a super-neat finish every time. This pack contains five flexi-hoops in Pink, White, Rose Pink, Pale Blue and Wood grain, and you get one of each in your pack.

Mixed Pack of 10cm (4in) Flexi-Hoops for £8.50, ref: FLEXIBPCK



EASY-STITCH RICO BABY BIBS

These gorgeous bibs measuring 23x28cm are easy to stitch and made by Rico. They have a 5x20cm (2x8in), 16 count aida panel across the bottom. Available in white and 100% cotton, they make a great gift for a newborn, or baby up to 6 months. Add a name, initial or a cute design to customise your bib as you wish.

White Rico Baby Bib for £4.25, ref: RICOBIB



AIDA BAND

Aida band is great for making small keepsakes and bookmarks (we used it for the Lavender bookmark on page 31), and this issue we have an offer that is too good to miss! This 5cm (2in) aida band is 100% cotton and has a nice sheen, with either a Pale Blue or Peachy Pink edge. Buy in ½m cuts – if you order multiples, we will cut together whenever possible. While stocks last.

Aida Band for £1.25 per ½m, available in Baby Blue and Peachy Pink, ref: AIDAOFFER



CLEAR FINISHING PACK

This useful pack contains:
✿ 10cm (4in) round coaster ✿ 10cm (4in) square coaster ✿ 7.5x5cm (3x2in) fridge magnet ✿ 5x4cm (2x1½in) rectangular keyring ✿ 3 18x13cm (7x5in) pieces of 14 count white Sampedro aida ✿ a packet of size 24/26 Pony Gold Tapestry needles.

Just add stranded cotton, and you have four fab gifts to stitch for family and friends.

Clear Finishing Pack for £8.25, ref: CLEARFPACK

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WWW.WILLOWFABRICS.COM

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Tel Email

I enclose a cheque for £ _____ made payable to **Penny Creative Media Ltd** with my name and address on the back

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Card No ☐☐☐☐ ☐☐☐☐ ☐☐☐☐ ☐☐☐☐

Expiry date ☐☐/☐☐ Card security code ☐☐☐
(last 3 digits on signature strip)

Signature _____ Date _____

Terms and conditions: If ordering online, use SUMMER19 at checkout to get the lower postage cost. Please note the contract for supply of goods is with Willow Fabrics, tel: 01237 237171. These offers close on 10 September 2019, or before if stocks run out. All goods dispatched by second class post, please allow up to 28 days to arrive. Please supply an email address or telephone number in case we need to contact you about your order. For full terms and conditions see page 88.

DESCRIPTION	PRICE	QTY	TOTAL
MIDSUMMER STASH (STASHMID)	£22.50		
SAMPEDRO AIDA (S14WFQ) COLOUR:	£4.00		
THREAD ORGANISERS (THREADORG)	£1.20		
SCISSORS & COVER (PTSCISCV) COLOUR:	£4.70		
SCISSORS COVER ONLY (SCCOV) COLOUR:	£1.45		
CARD PACK (ENV001)	£3.60		
MIXED PACK FLEXI-HOOPS (FLEXIBPCK)	£8.50		
WHITE RICO BABY BIB (RICOBIB)	£4.25		
AIDA BAND (AIDAOFFER) COLOUR:	£1.25		
CLEAR FINISHING PACK (CLEARFPACK)	£8.25		
PUFFIN CUSHION (PPPUFCH)	£19.00		
CLOCK SAMPLER (PPCLSP)	£25.50		
AUTUMN SAMPLER (PPASAMP)	£39.00		
UNICORN (PPUICRN) FABRIC CHOICE:	£39.00		
UK ONLY POSTAGE	£1.90	1	£1.90
	GRAND TOTAL		£

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

Flower of the Month

MORNING GLORY

Morning glory has pretty tubular star-shaped flowers that only bloom for one day – so here's your chance to capture their beauty in stitches



Project Inspiration

We made our morning glory into a drawstring bag, which we lined with cotton fabric. We left a gap at the top in both side seams, then created a channel between them with two rows of machine stitching, for the baker's twine to pass through. Once threaded through, the baker's twine can be pulled up to close the bag

Materials

- Zweigart White 28 count Cashel, ref: 3281/100; 20x16cm (8x6¼in)
- Size 26 tapestry needle
- Lining fabric; 20x16cm (8x6¼in)
- Baker's twine

Materials available from www.willowfabrics.com

MORNING GLORY

Morning glory flowers bloom and die within a single day – blossoming in the morning and then dying by nightfall. Due to their fleeting nature, in the language of flowers they can often represent unrequited love, but also – because the plant produces new flowers every day – they can symbolise renewal and new love.

Victorian headstones often featured morning glory vines on them to signify mortality, mourning, the shortness of life or resurrection. In Chinese folklore, they represent a single day for lovers to meet. They are also the birth flower for September and the flower is often used to celebrate 11th wedding anniversaries.

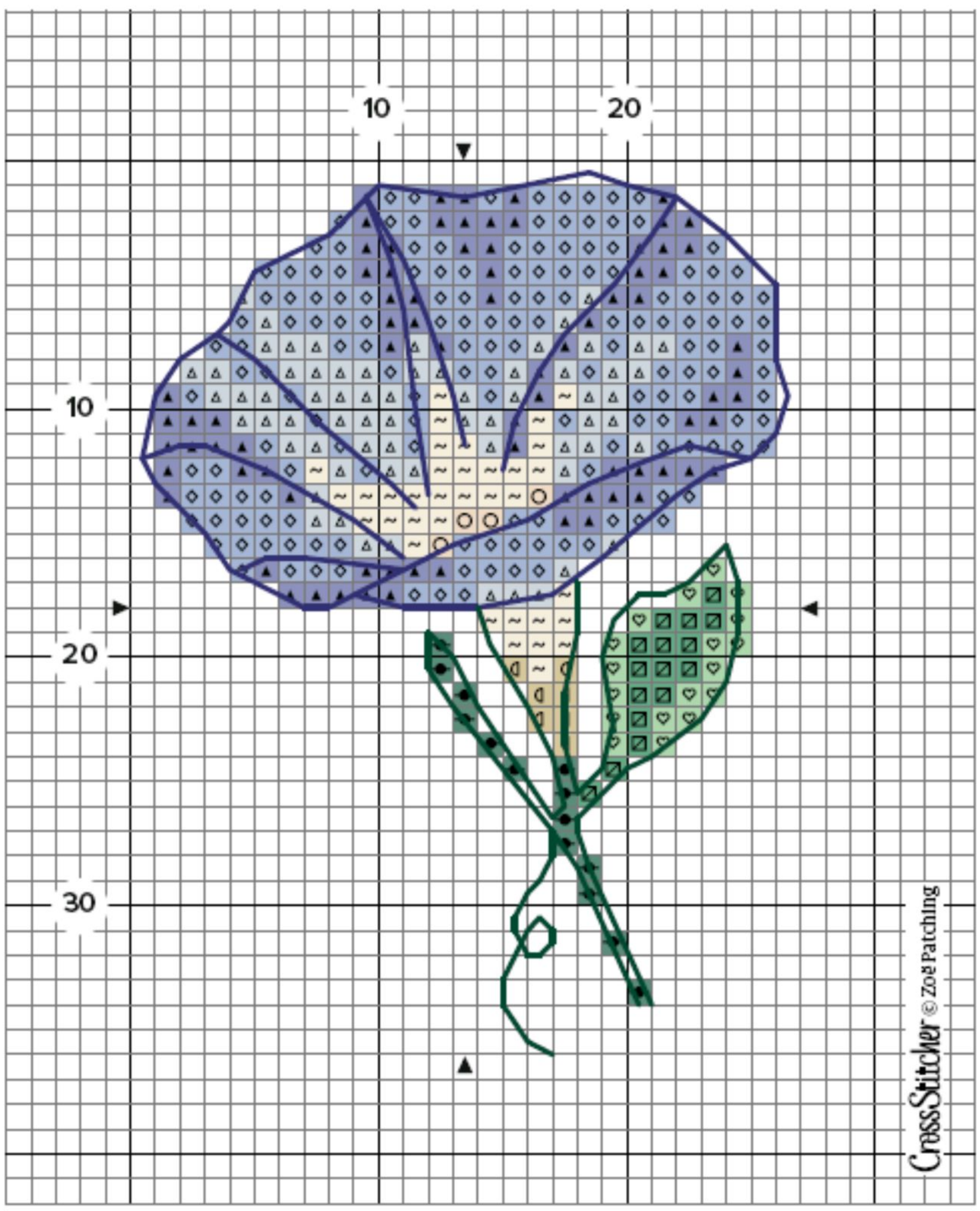


Photo credit: JamesDeMers

Designed by: Zoë Patching
Stitch count: 36 high x 27 wide
Design size: 6.5x4.5cm 2½x1¾in)
Stitch time: 2 hours

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

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
Cross stitch in two strands			
♡ ♡	164	240	1209
○ ○	543	933	1909
◪ ◪	701	227	1305
~ ~	712	926	2101
▲ ▲	798	131	911
◇ ◇	809	130	909
◖ ◖	3046	887	2206
△ △	3753	1032	1710
● ●	3818	211	2704
Backstitch in one strand			
flower	797	931	912
leaves	3818	211	2704



NEXT MONTH...



CHRYSANTHEMUM

Don't miss our October issue, on sale 10 September.

PUFFIN LOVIN'



PUFFIN LOVIN'

Welcome to project puffin! These birds are the focus of our cushion, which shows off our bold, bright repeat pattern

CrossStitcher PROJECT PACK

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



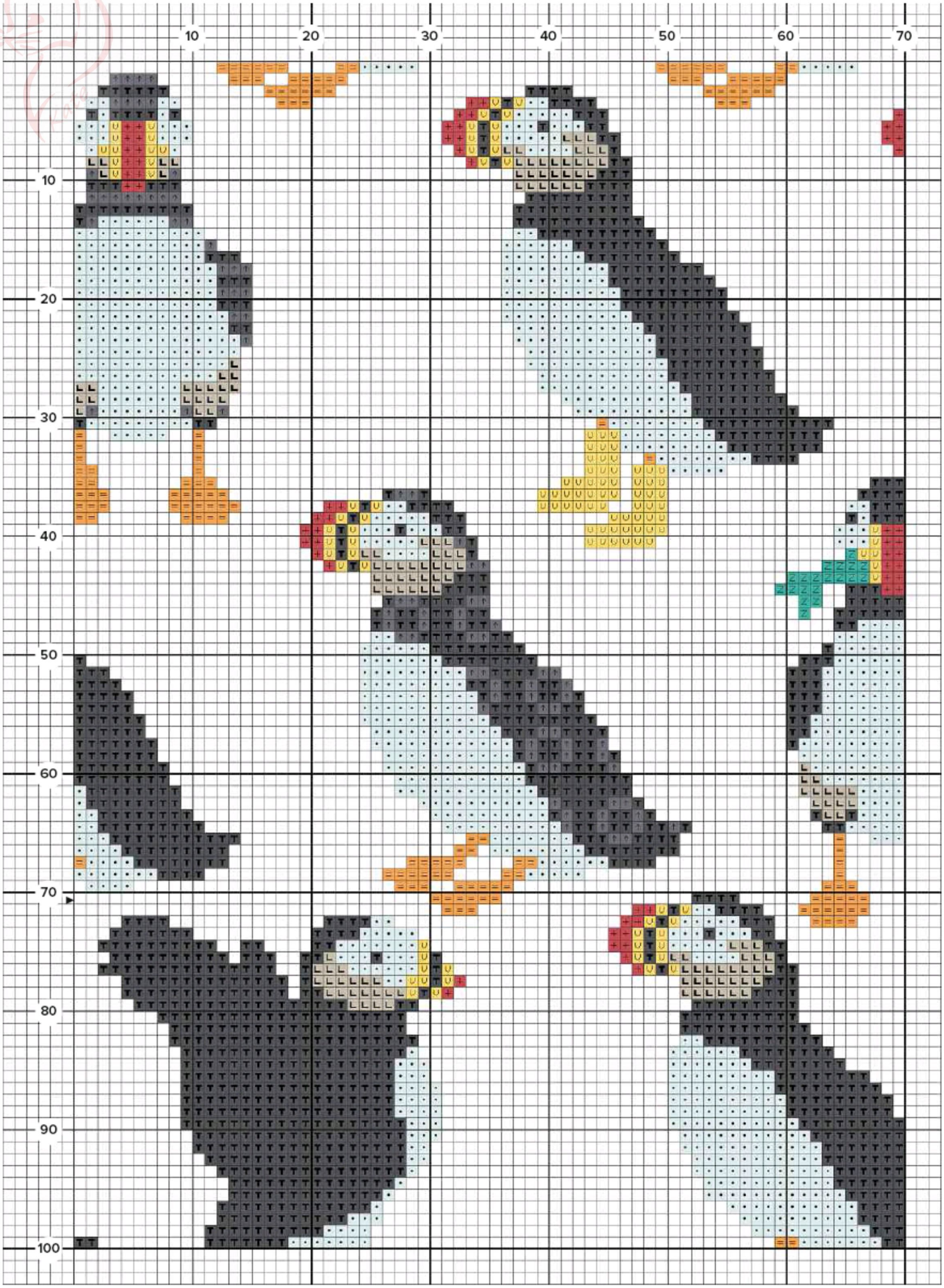
Your materials pack contains:

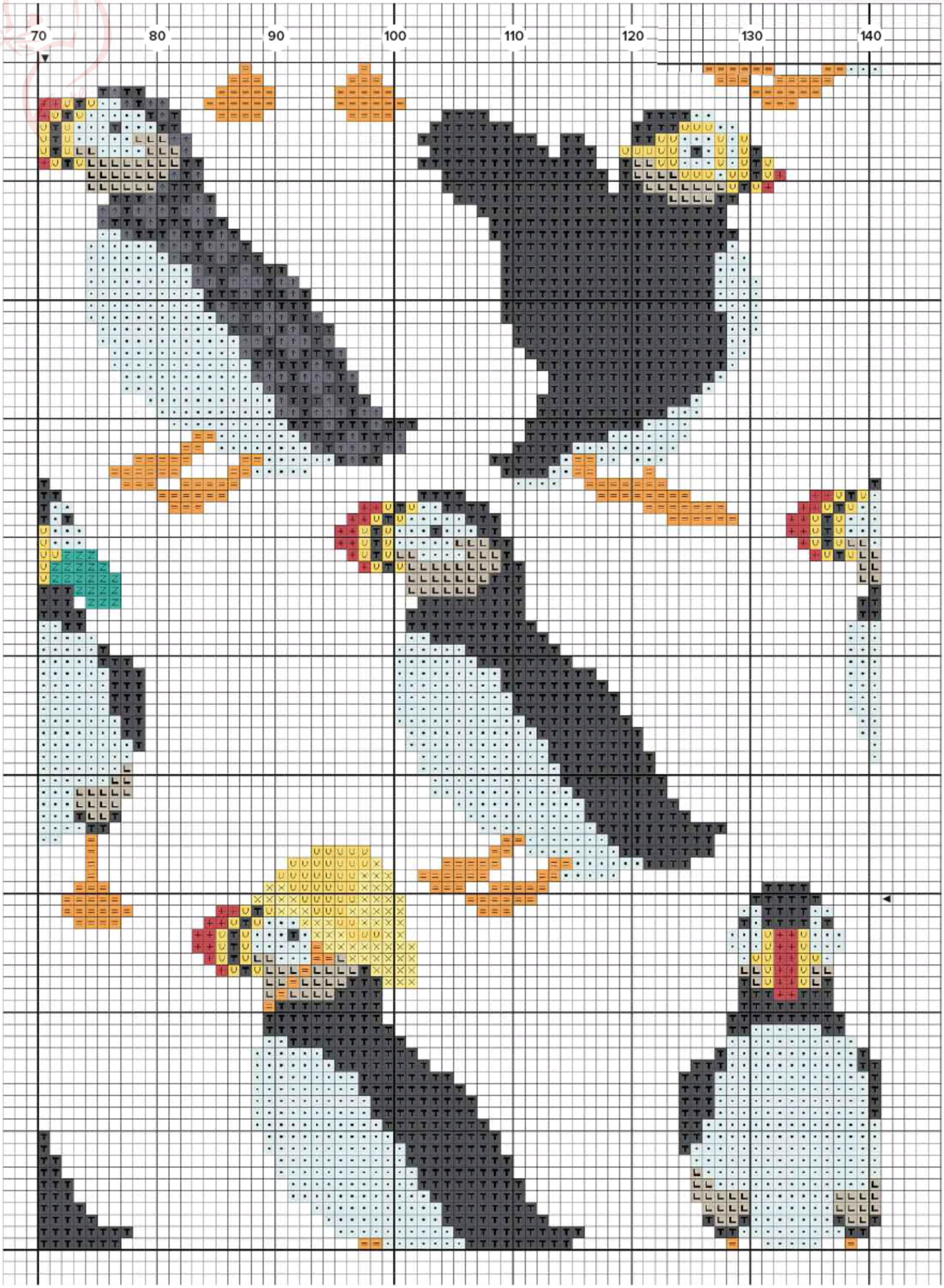
- Zweigart 14 count aida In Royal Blue
- Skeins of DMC stranded cotton
- Two gold-plated tapestry needles; size 24 and size 26

NOTE: the edging strips, cushion back and cushion pad are not included in the pack.

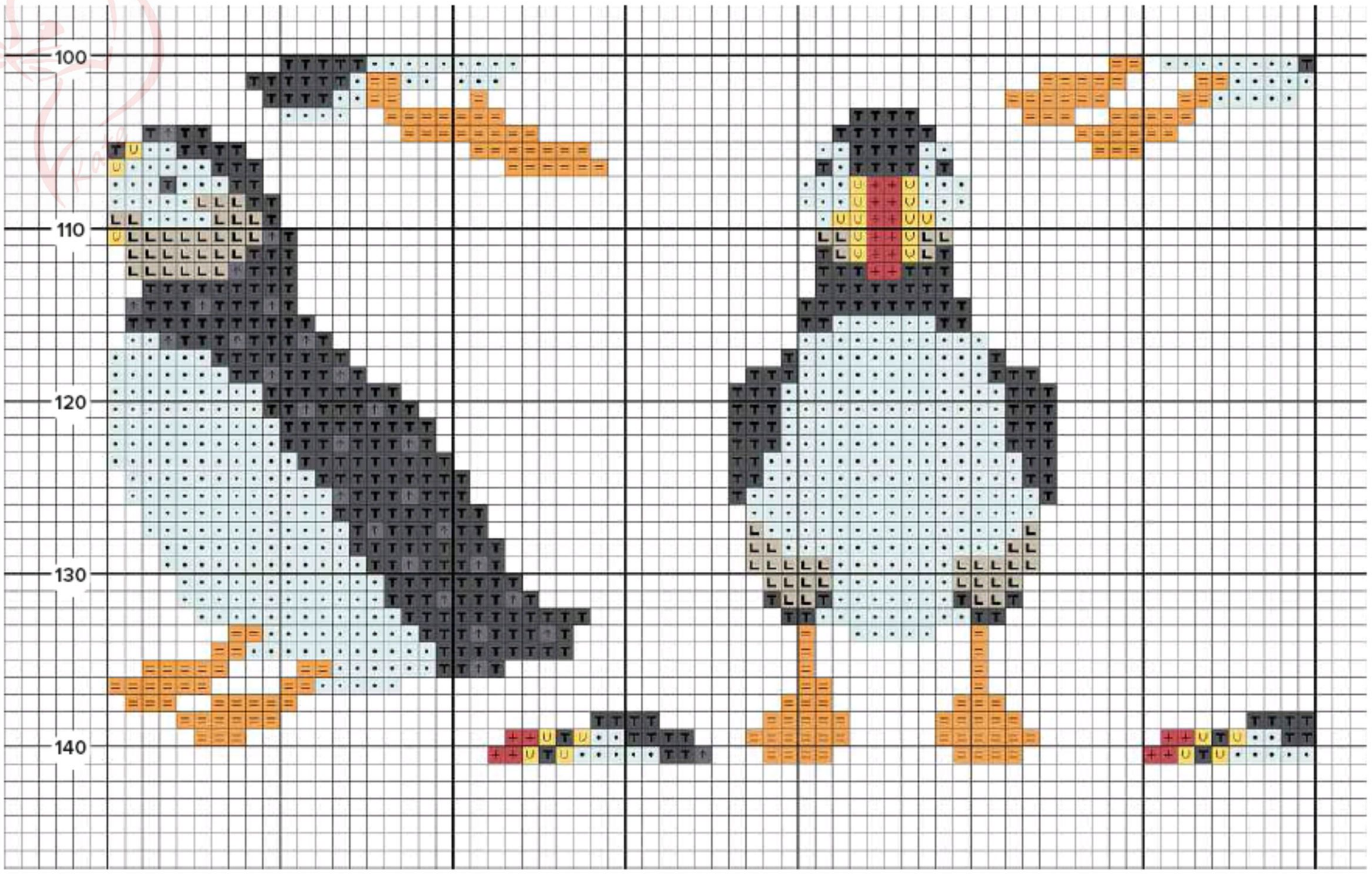
How to order: Go to www.willowfabrics.com to order your project pack at the *CrossStitcher* reader price of £19, plus P&P.

PUFFIN LOVIN'



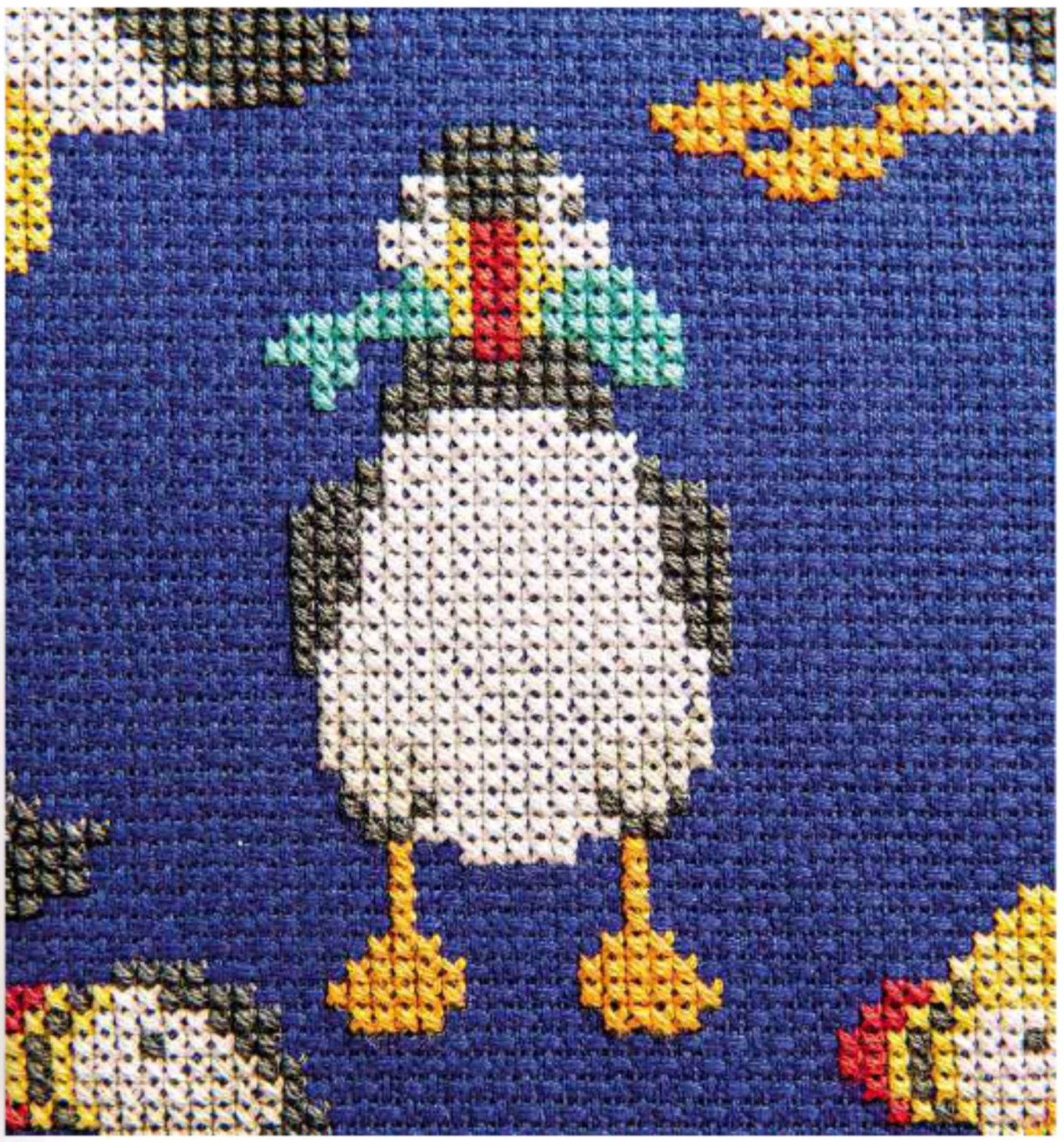

70
80
90
100
110
120
130
140

PUFFIN LOVIN'



Designed by: Rebecca Spencer
Stitch count: 141 high x 141 wide
Design size: 26x26cm (10¼x10¼in)
Stitch time: 27 hours

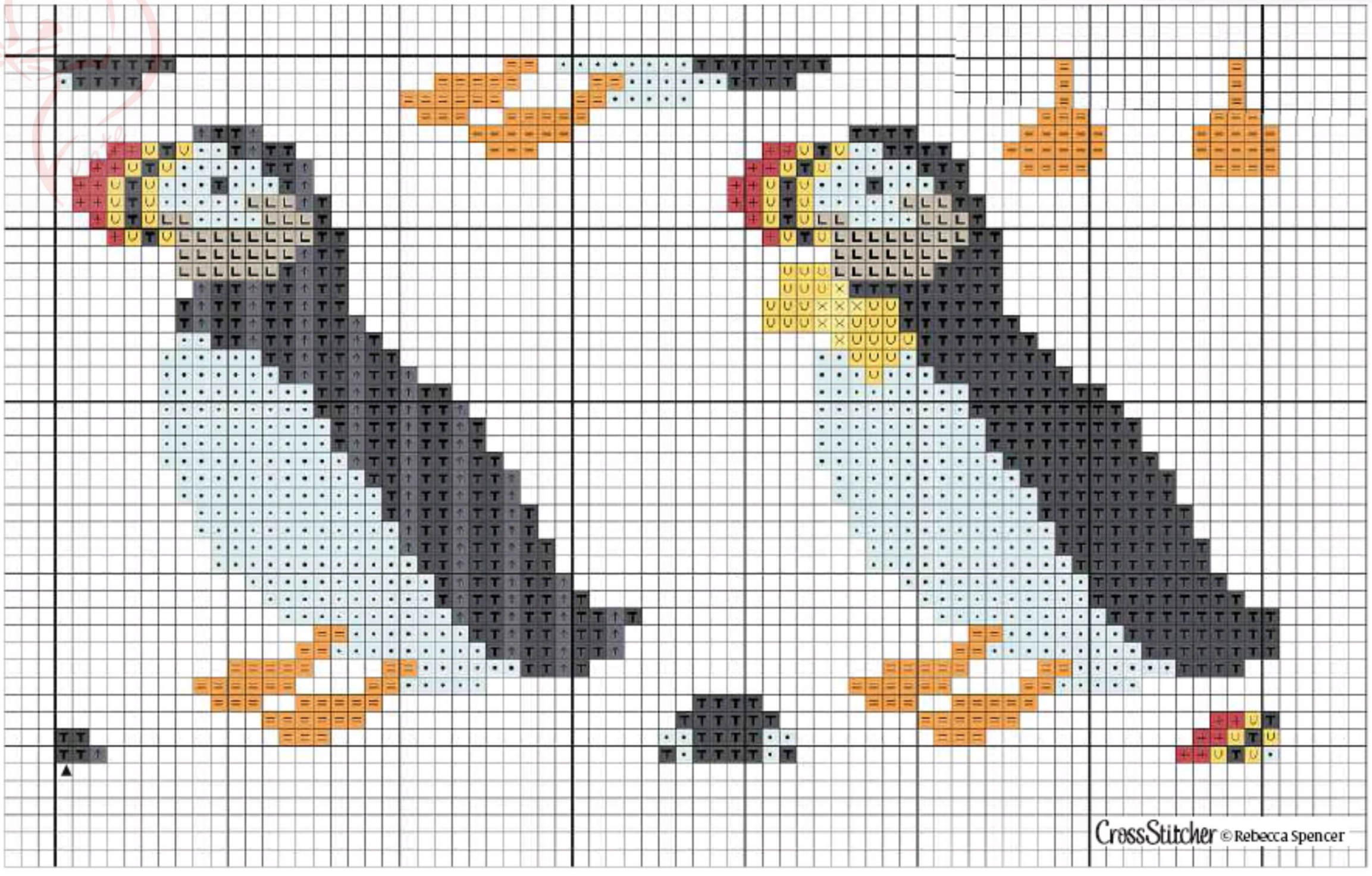
This design was stitched on 14 count aida fabric.



Materials

- Zweigart Royal Blue 14 count aida, ref. 3706/0567; 36x36cm (14x14in)
- Stranded cotton as listed in the key
- Size 26 tapestry needle
- Backing fabric; 43x43cm (17x17in)
- Cushion front edging strips; 43x10cm (17x4in) x 4 strips
- Cushion pad; 40.5x40.5cm (16x16in)

Materials available from www.willowfabrics.com



Place a pillowcase or white sheet on your lap while you're stitching so it's easier to see the holes in the royal blue aida that you are working on

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
Cross stitch in two strands			
↑ ↑	317	400	1714
+ +	349	013	212
= =	741	304	201
U U	743	030	2294
X X	744	301	112
Z Z	958	187	1114
L L	3024	397	1901
T T	3799	236	1713 (3)
• •	B5200	001	white (2)

(2) indicates more than one skein is required

Make a... **cushion**

Step 1

COMPLETE the stitching then cut the fabric to 28x28cm (11x11in), with the design in the centre.

Step 2

ROUGHLY position the edging strips around the central stitched panel, so that they meet at the corners. When you are happy, cut the corners to 45 degrees, then join the corners with a 1.25cm (½in) seam allowance. Place the stitched panel behind the assembled corners so that the design shows through the window. Turn under the edges of the assembled corner section around the window, so that they just touch the design. Pin, then top stitch using a sewing machine, attaching the assembled corners to the aida. Press.

Step 3

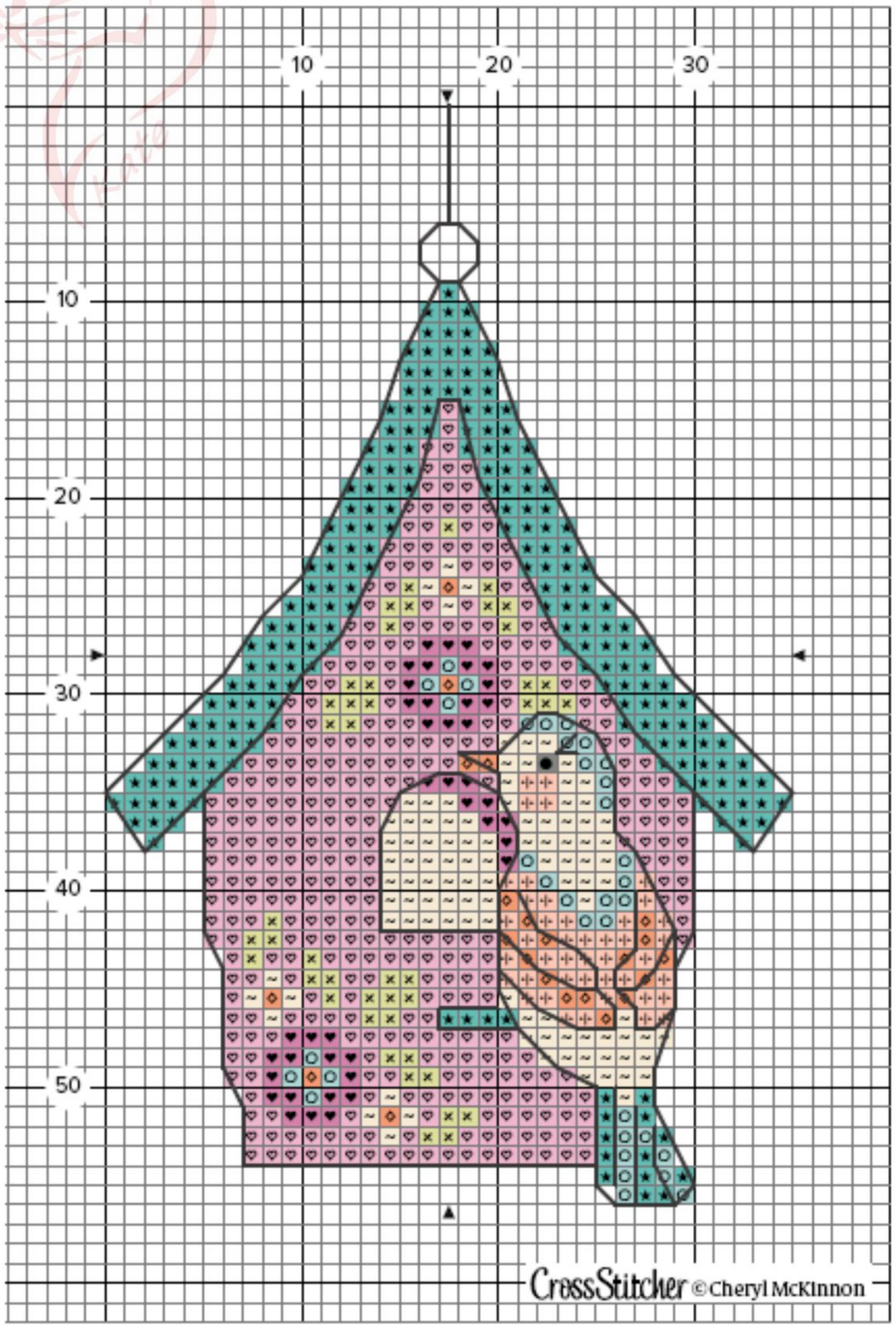
PLACE the cushion front right-sides together with the backing fabric. Pin, then machine stitch around the edge with a 1.25cm (½in) seam allowance, leaving a gap for turning.

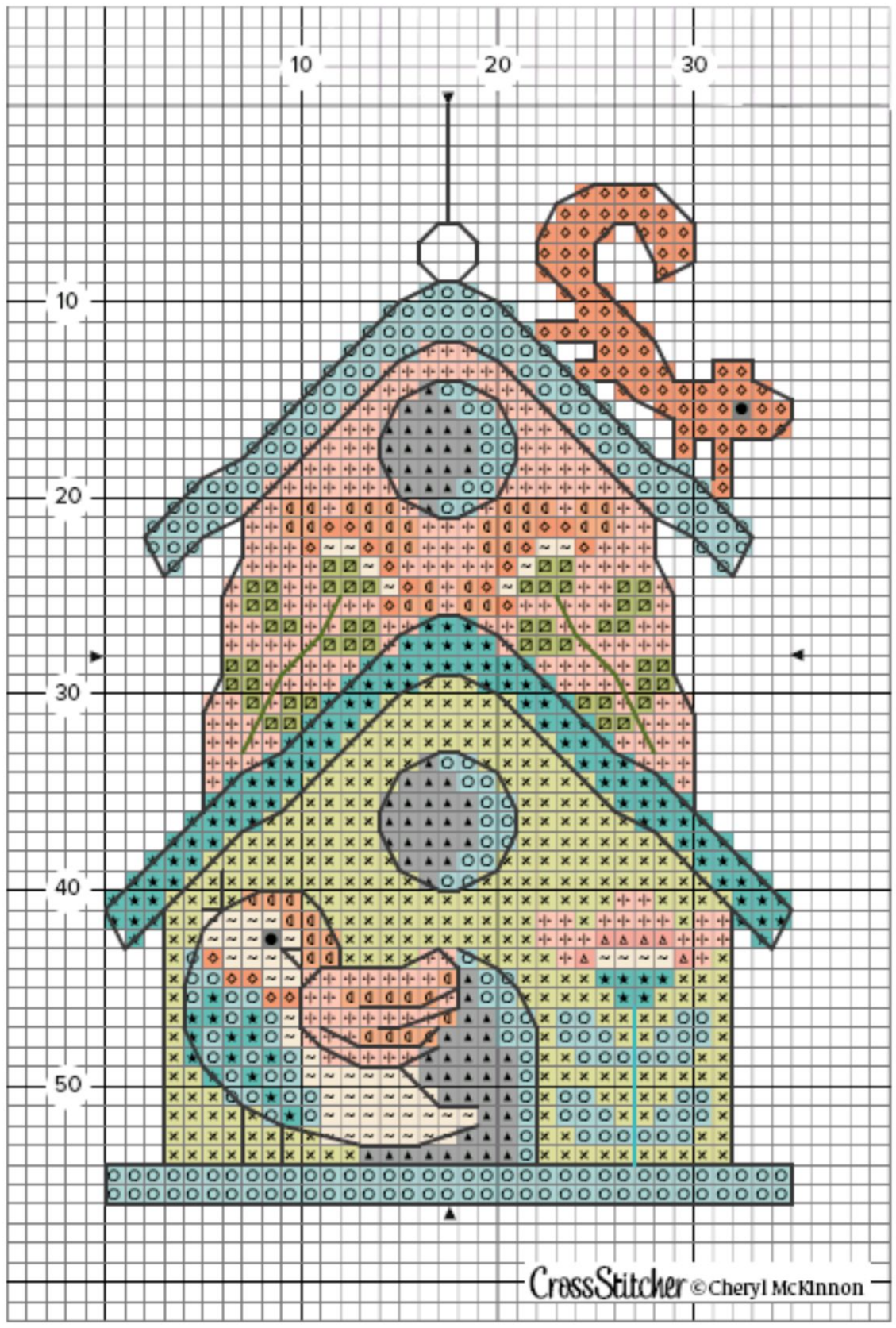
Step 4

TURN to the right side, insert the cushion pad and sew up the gap with small, neat stitches.

Home Tweet Home

Put a feather in your cap and stitch our pretty birdhouse tags ready for birthday gifts – your recipients are sure to love them!





Designed by: Cheryl McKinnon
Stitch count: 56 high x 35 wide
Design size: 10x6.5cm (4x2½in)
Stitch time: 8 hours (each)

These designs were stitched on 14 count aida fabric.

If you prefer you can get some card tags and attach the designs as a patch – just ensure each tag is big enough for the design

Materials

- Zweigart Vintage Sky Blue 14 count aida, ref: 3706/5139; 15x10cm (6x4in) x 4 pieces
- Stranded cotton as listed in the key
- Size 24 tapestry needle
- Backing fabric; 15x10cm (6x4in) x 4 pieces
- String for tags

Materials available from www.willowfabrics.com

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
Cross stitch in two strands			
× ×	165	278	1414
⊠ ⊠	166	280	1501
▲ ▲	169	849	1802
△ △	352	009	303
·|· ·|·	353	006	303
● ●	535	1041	1809
◇ ◇	721	324	308
◖ ◖	722	323	307
★ ★	958	187	1114
○ ○	964	1092	1112
♥ ♥	3607	087	708
♡ ♡	3609	085	710
~ ~	ecru	387	ecru
Backstitch in one strand			
arch	166	280	1501
outlines	535	1041	1809
flower	958	187	1114

Make a... tag

Step 1

COMPLETE your stitching, then make a template using the tag shape supplied below. Place the template on the wrong side of the stitching, and with the design in the centre, make a pencil line around the outside transferring the shape to the back of the fabric.

Step 2

PLACE the right sides of the tag and the backing fabric together and stitch around the edge following the pencil line, but leaving the bottom open.

Step 3

TRIM away the excess seam allowance, and turn the tag to the right side. Sew up the bottom edge, using small, neat stitches.

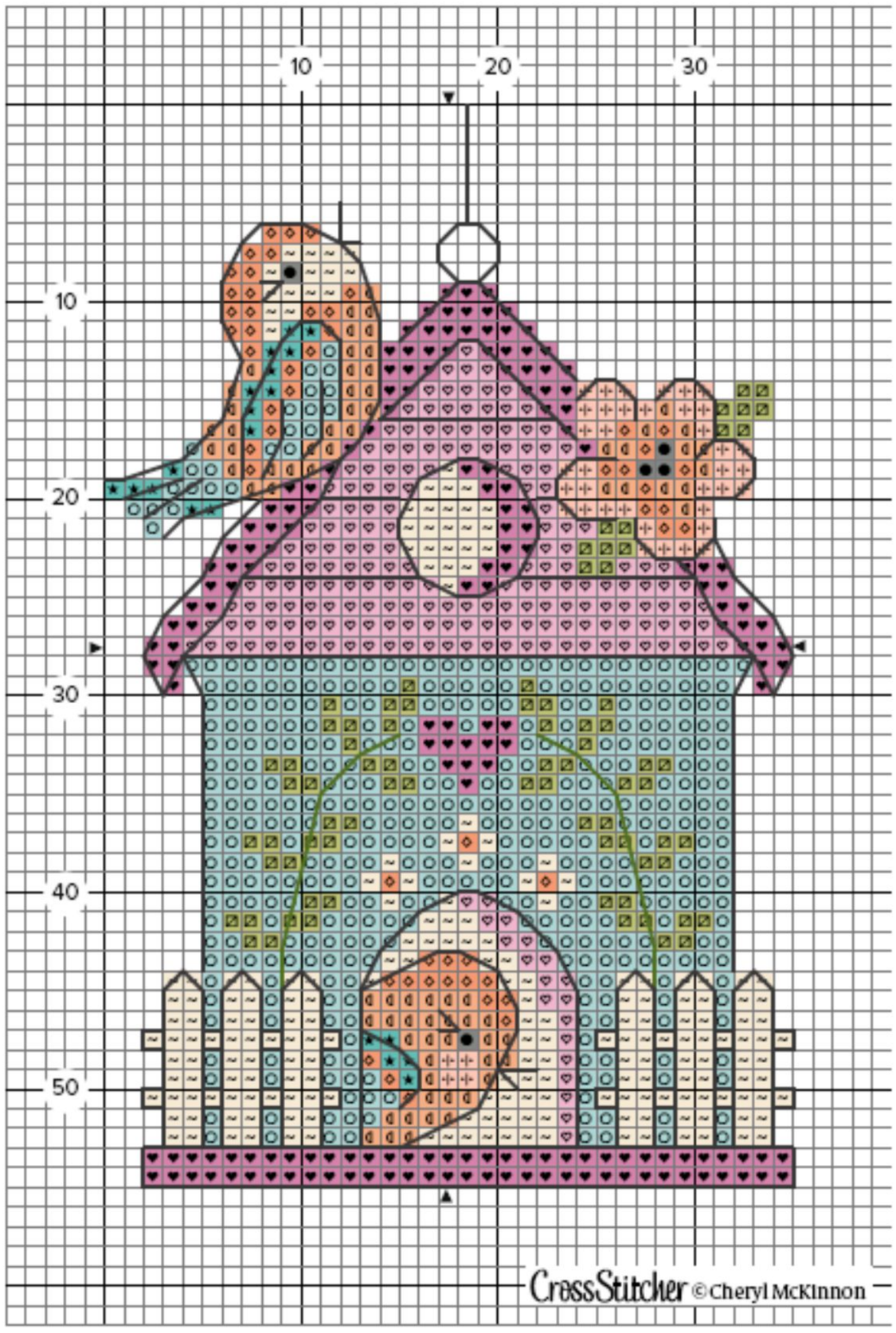
Step 4

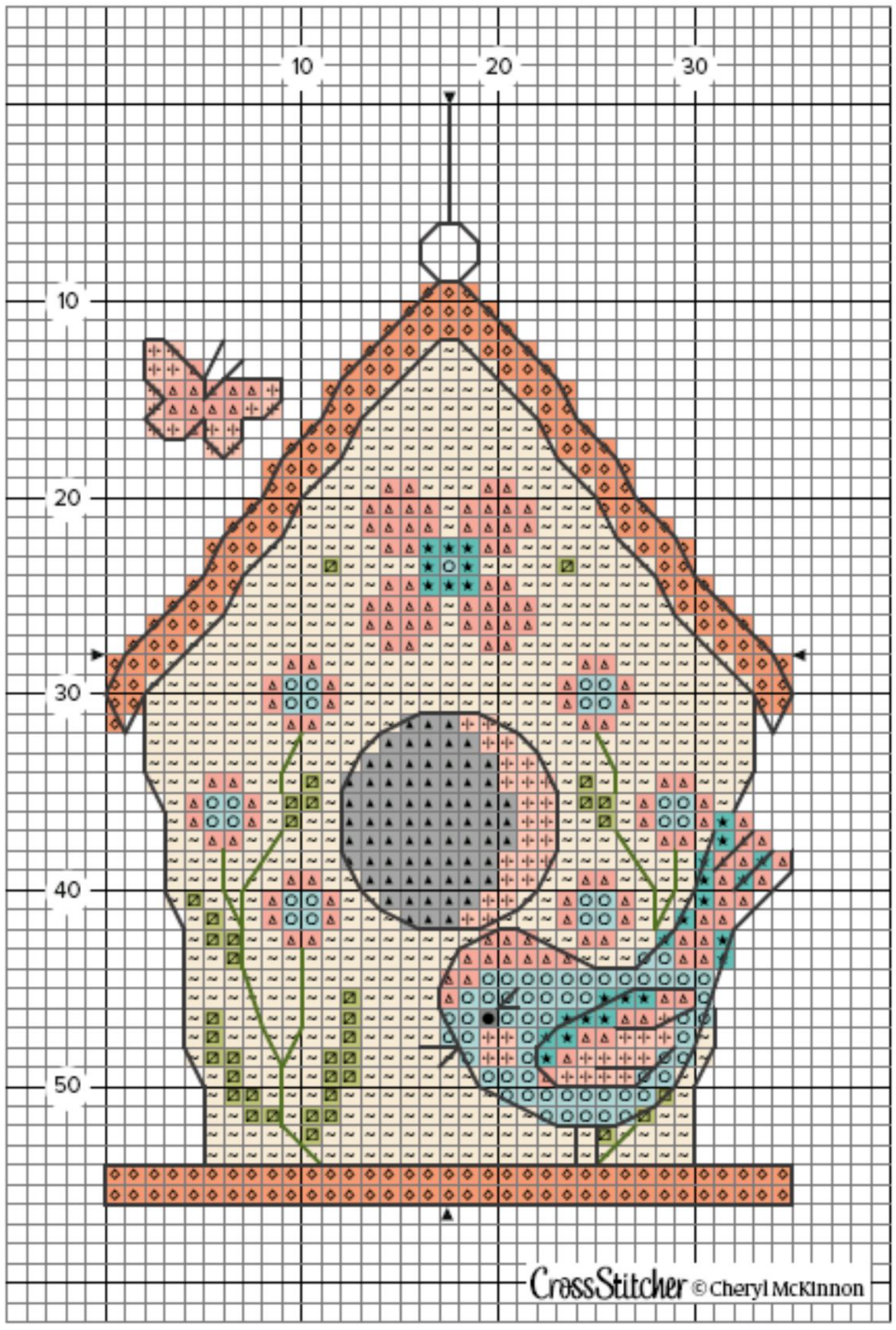
USE a large needle or sharp point to make a hole in the fabric, at the top of the tag, through one of the aida holes. Move the needle around until you stretch the hole and it is large enough to thread the string through. Thread with string and tie to your parcel.



Template

Enlarge your template by 200%





HARVEST TABLE

Use our quick-stitch veg motifs to make yourself some colourful napkins.

Stitching inspiration from the kitchen garden

Susan Penny harvests show-stopping fruit and veg to create a tasty set of table settings and kitchen accessories...



VEGETABLE POT

How cute are these stitched carrots? They perk up a pot holder instantly.



ICE & A SLICE

Enjoy late summer meals outdoors with our adorable apple coaster – why not stitch a complete set?

September is harvest time, when our gardens are filled with delicious produce. Our three projects in this issue feature fruit and vegetables, and make great gifts or can be used to add colour to your own kitchen. Our napkins are quick to stitch, plus our pretty and very useful pot holder can be coordinated with your kitchen, and will made a great house warming gift for a friend. Finally, our apple coaster is perfect for adding colour and fun to your drinks party. Have fun creating seasonal projects for your kitchen table...

MAKE AN... APPLE COASTER

Use a felt backing to make this fruity coaster with ease.

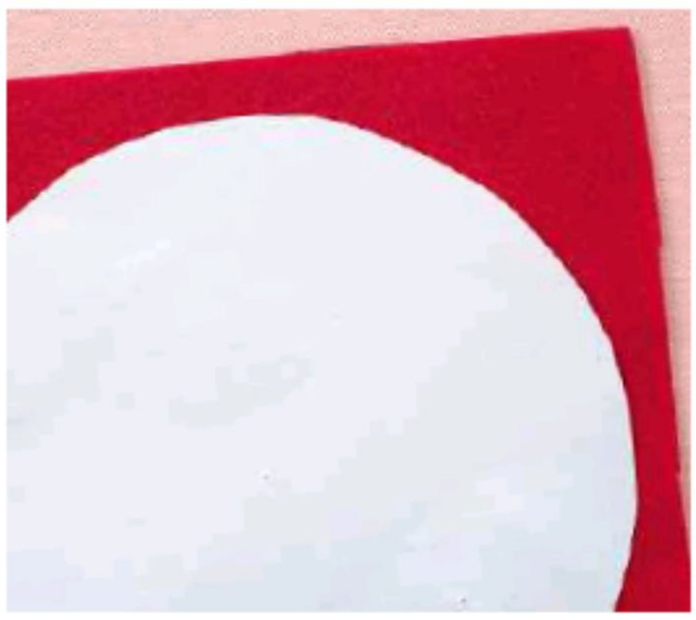


Step 1



MAKE a circular paper template with a diameter of 9.5cm (3¾in) . Cut out and place on your stitched apple. With the apple in the centre, draw around the circle and then carefully cut out.

Step 2



CUT a 11cm (4¼in) circle from red felt, making a paper template in the same way as before. Add fabric glue or fray check to the edges of the aida, and then leave to dry overnight.

Step 3



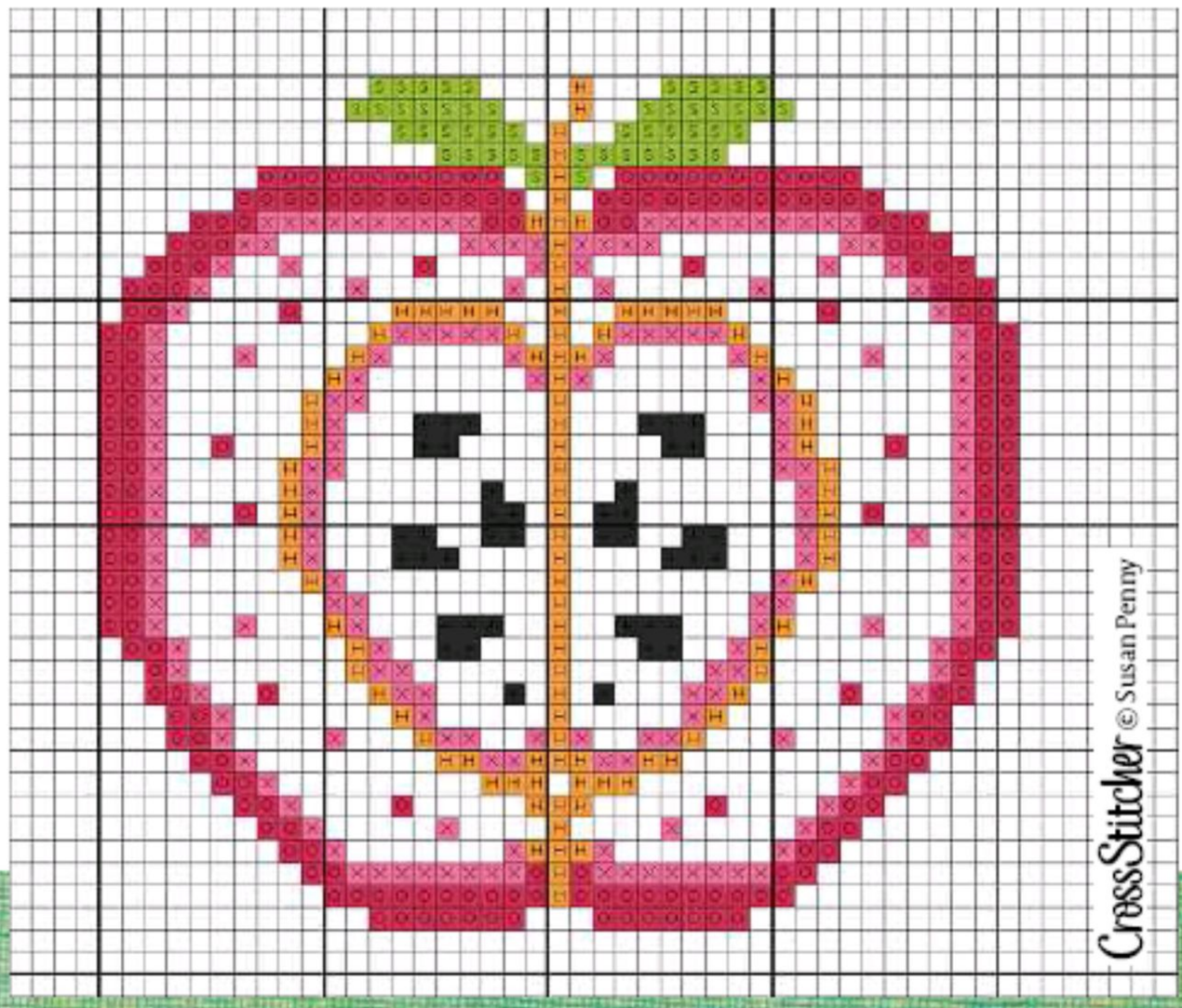
PLACE the aida in the centre of the felt. Adjust the position of your stitching until the apple is exactly in the centre of the felt circle. Carefully pin and then tack in place.

Step 4



THREAD your needle with one strand of red stranded cotton, and then carefully and neatly stitch the aida to the felt around the edges using blanket or running stitch.

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
Cross stitch in two strands			
+ +	310	403	black
× ×	603	052	701
○ ○	666	046	210
I I	699	923	1303
▲ ▲	701	227	1305
U U	704	256	1308
H H	741	304	201
S S	907	255	1410
– –	912	209	1213
L L	3685	1028	602
Backstitch in one strand			
—	310	403	black
—	603	052	701
—	890	683	1314



MAKE A... NAPKIN

Each napkin is created using a simple mitred border.



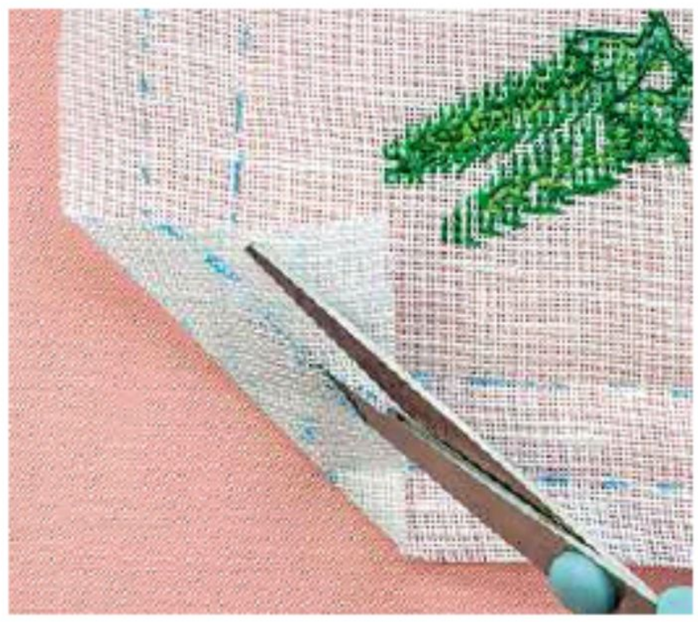
The coaster and pot holder are stitched on white 14 count aida and the napkins on white 28 count Cashel, available from Willow Fabrics – see page 14

Step 1



CUT a 33cm (13in) square of Cashel linen, and stitch the design in one corner, positioned with room for the hemming. Fold the edges of the fabric over by 1.25cm (½in), twice, pressing firmly in place. Unfold.

Step 2



FOLD over the corner, so that the fold will be against the finished napkin corner point. Carefully snip off the excess fabric, so that the cut edge will be inside the assembled corner when finished.

Step 3

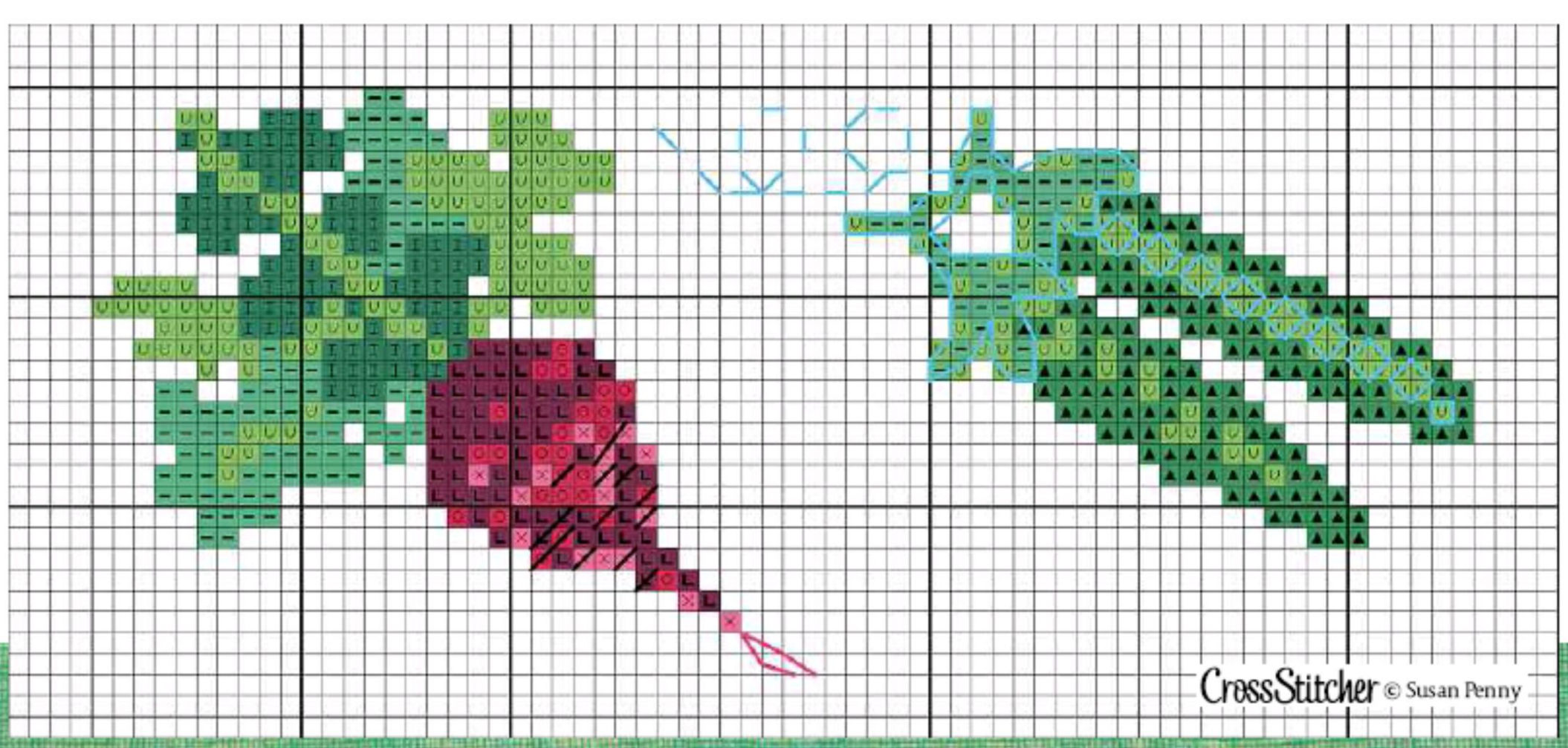


REFOLD the corner neatly, before folding in the sides. Press to create a nice, sharp corner. Fold the side seam over twice. Pin then tack in place, then press well. The mitred corners should fit together without a gap.

Step 4



MACHINE stitch around the inner side of the napkin edge. For decoration, make a second row of machine stitching against the outer edge. Your napkin is now complete and you can make a complete set if you wish.

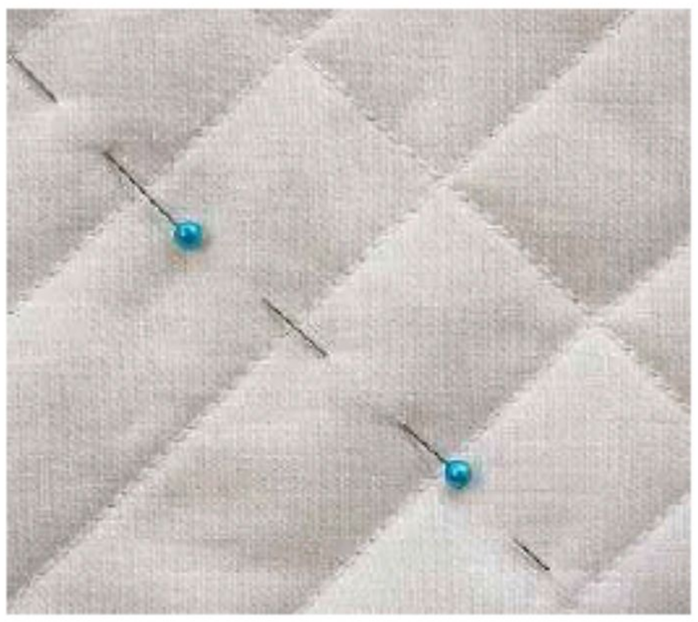


MAKE A... POT HOLDER

Create a quilted pot holder with carrot motifs.



Step 1



CUT a 20cm (8in) square of wadding and sandwich it between the front and back layers of some cotton fabric. Machine stitch through all layers creating a grid pattern – this will hold your wadding in place.

Step 2



SNIP your stitched aida to fit across the bottom right corner of your quilted wadding – make sure it covers more than half of the wadding. Attach bias binding to the long inner edge, as shown in the main picture.



WILLOW FABRICS

www.willowfabrics.com

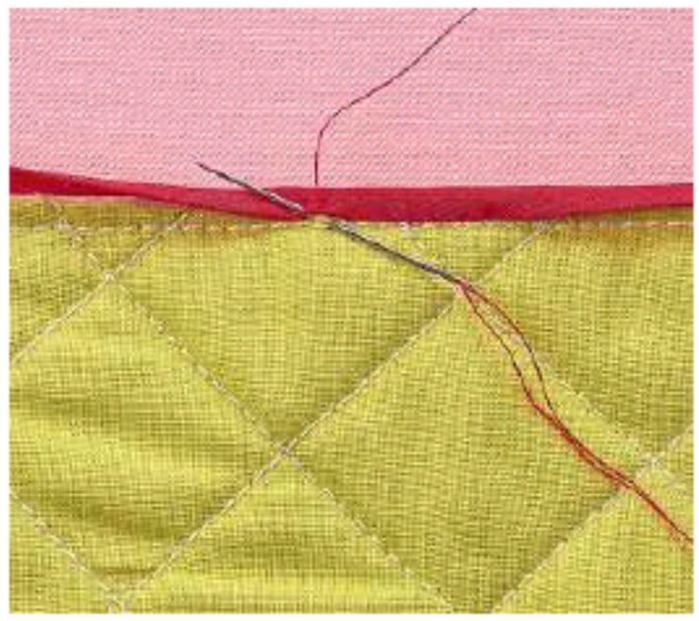
Visit this popular online haberdashery for all the stitching fabric, thread and accessories you'll ever need, including the materials for these projects.

Step 3

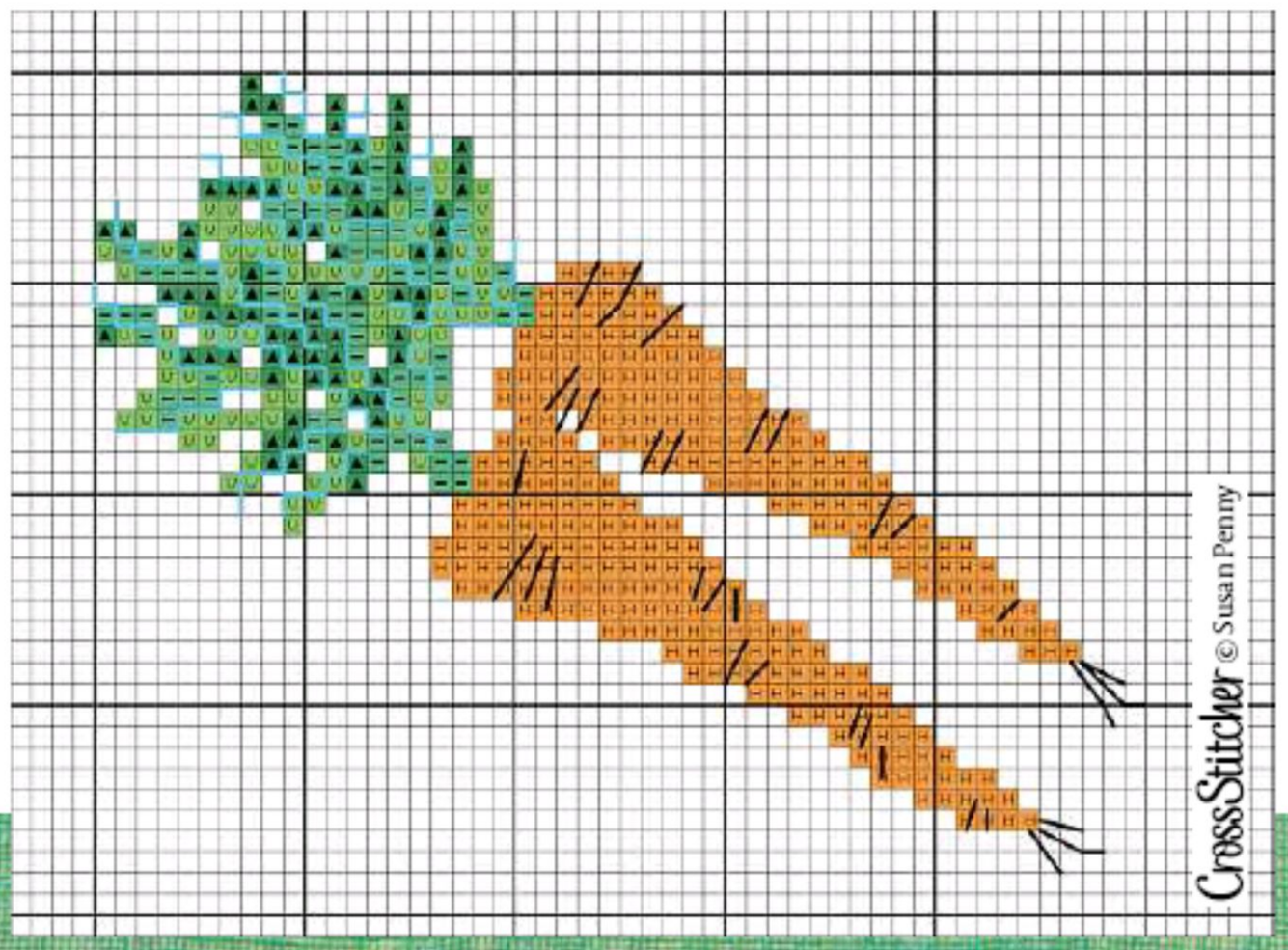


PLACE the stitched aida on top of the quilted wadding. Pin in place. Next, pin a short folded length of bias binding in the top corner, to make a loop for hanging. Machine stitch bias binding around the outer edge.

Step 4



TURN the binding over to the reverse side, and then attach it to the back using small, neat catch stitches. You may need to trim away some of the seam allowance to get it to fit neatly. Your pot holder is now complete.



All the motifs can be mixed and matched to use on whichever accessories you prefer



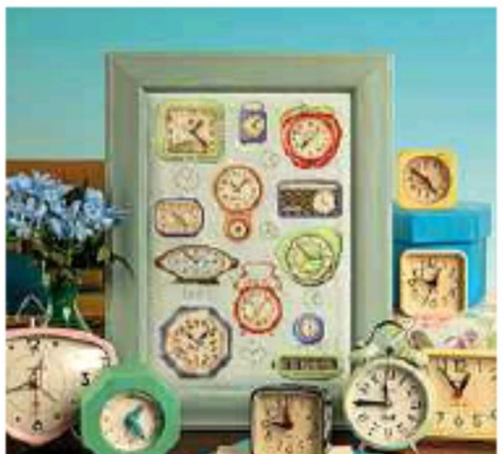


TIME TO TIME

Whatever makes you tick we think you'll enjoy a trip down memory lane with our sampler chock-full of classic clocks!

CrossStitcher PROJECT PACK

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

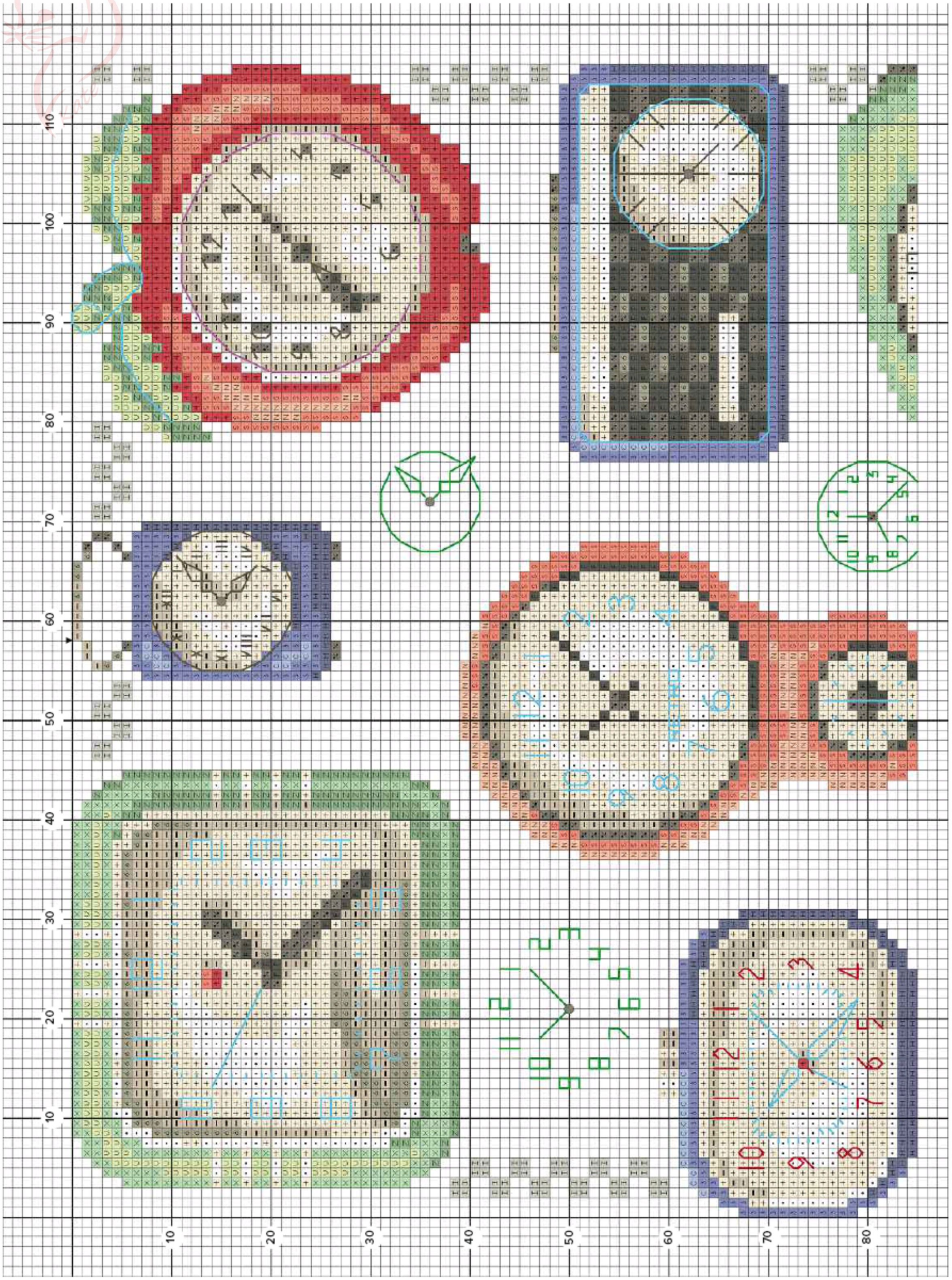


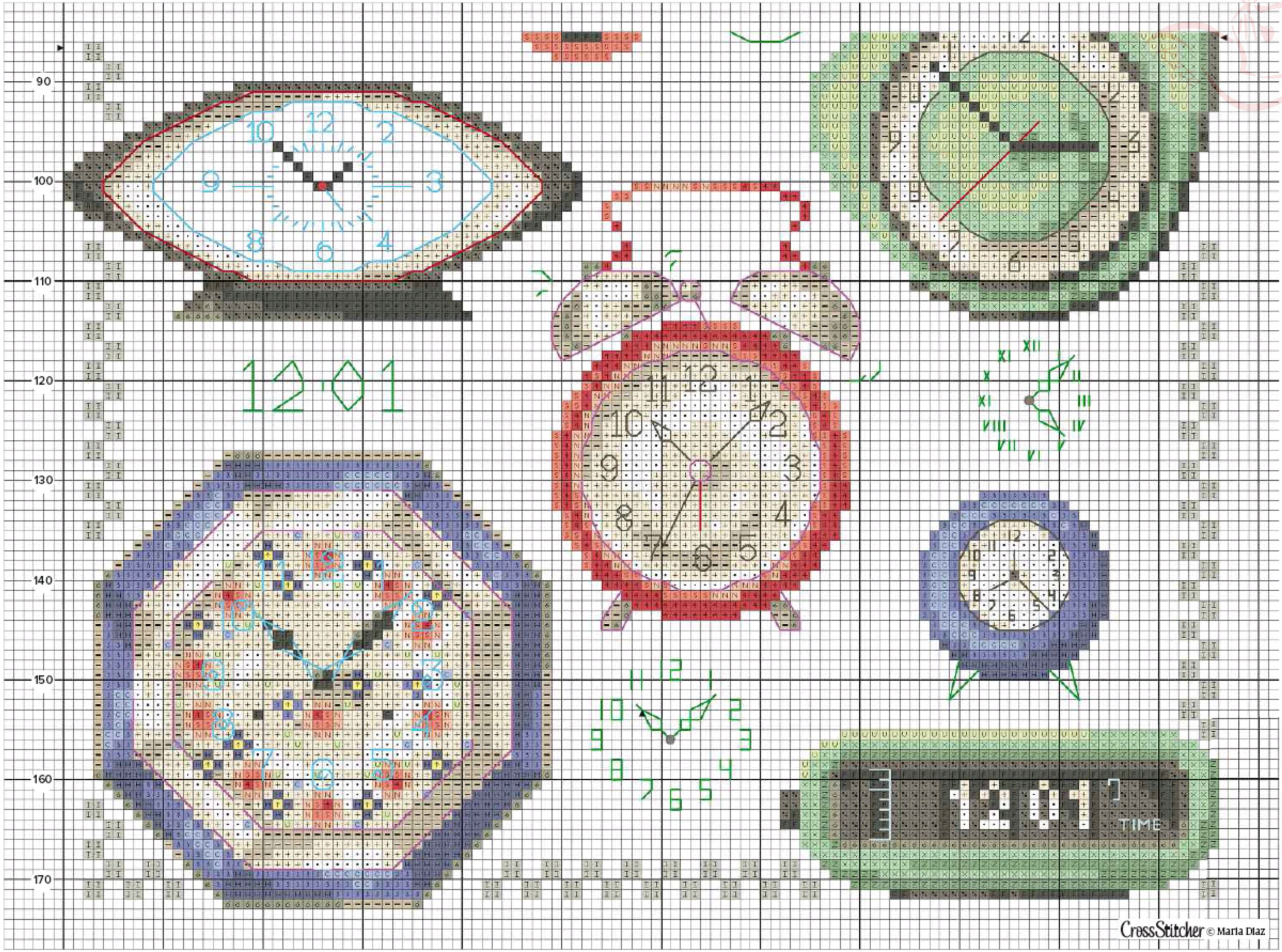
Your materials pack contains:

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

How to order: Go to www.willowfabrics.com to order your project pack at the *CrossStitcher* reader price of £25.50, plus P&P.

TIME TO TIME




90
100
110
120
130
140
150
160
170
12:01
TIME
CrossStitcher © Maria Diaz

TIME TO TIME

Designed by: Maria Diaz
Stitch count: 173 high x 116 wide
Design size: 27x18.5cm (10½x7¼in)
Stitch time: 56 hours

This design was stitched on 32 count evenweave over two threads of fabric.



How to... frame a picture

Step 1

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

Step 2

PIN around the entire perimeter and check you are happy with the positioning of your design, then turn over to the reverse. Use double-sided tape to secure the fabric excess around all four sides.

Step 3

SECURE the fabric edges with masking tape and remove the pins. Position your stitching in the frame and back with a second piece of mount board. Seal the edges with more masking tape to finish off.

For a 3D effect, you could add small buttons or beads to the centre of each clock, where the hands meet

Materials

- Zweigart Turquoise With Splash 32 count Murano, ref: 3984/5429; 46x38cm (18x15in)
- Stranded cotton as listed in the key
- Size 26 tapestry needle
- Frame with a 29x20cm (11½x8in) aperture
- Mount board to fit frame

Materials available from www.willowfabrics.com

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
Cross stitch in two strands			
X X	013	206	1210
U U	014	259	1604
H H	161	176	906
4 4	350	011	213
S S	352	009	303*
N N	353	006	303*
Z Z	368	214	1310
– –	644	830	1907
% %	646	858	1181
+ +	712	926	2101 (2)
↑ ↑	727	293	102
F F	844	1041	1810
6 6	3023	899	1902
3 3	3072	847	1805
C C	3839	176	902
I I	3840	117	907
• •	blanc	001	white

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
Backstitch in two strands			
646 numbers, details	646	858	1181
Backstitch in one strand			
350 numbers, hands	350	011	213
646 small faces, numbers	646	858	1181
844 faces, details	844	1041	1810
3023 faces, bells	3023	899	1902
blanc details	blanc	001	white
French knots in two strands			
350 centres	350	011	213
646 centres	646	858	1181

(2) indicates more than one skein is required

*See 'The Key' on page 86.

SUCH A WALLFLOWER!

For a stunning floral display look no further than our pretty petal-filled wall pennant from Rico

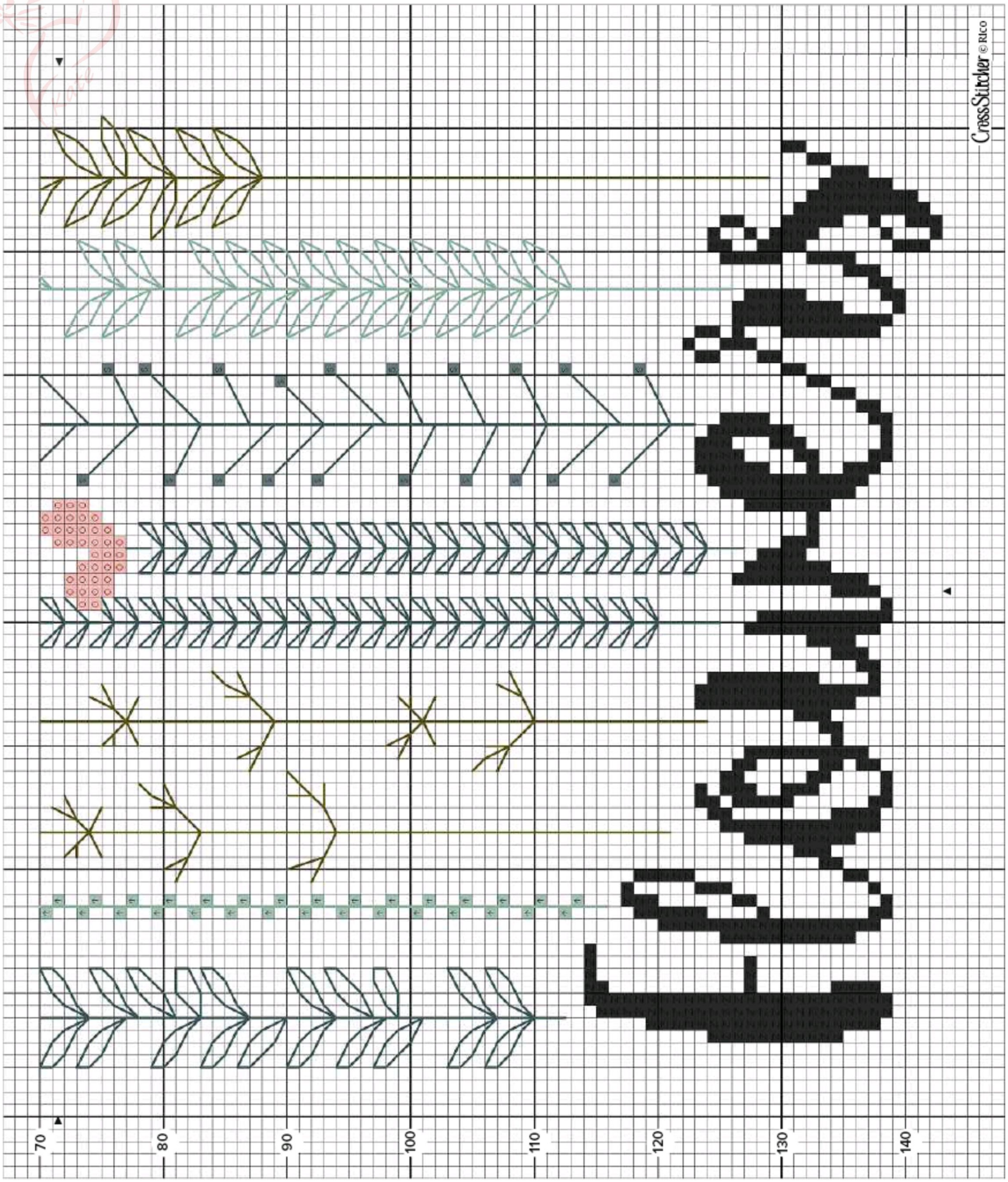
SUCH A WALLFLOWER



Designed by: Rico **Stitch count:** 143 high x 85 wide

Design size: 26x15.5cm (10¼x6in) **Stitch time:** 35 hours

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



Rico poster hangers are available from
www.willowfabrics.com

SUCH A WALLFLOWER

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
Cross stitch in two strands			
Z Z	310	403	black
+ +	335	038	506
U U	402	347	2307
H H	722	323	307
I I	732	281	1612
X X	745	300	111
O O	761	024	404
– –	899	052	505
S S	3768	779	1714
↑ ↑	3813	875	1111
= =	3859	1007	2310
Backstitch in one strand			
flowers	722	323	307
foliage	732	281	1612
flowers	899	052	505
foliage	3045	888	2103
foliage	3768	779	1714
foliage	3813	875	1111
foliage	3859	1007	2310



Materials

- Zweigart White 28 count Cashel, ref: 3281/0100; 50x26cm (20x10in)
- Stranded cotton as listed in the key
- Size 26 tapestry needle
- Backing fabric; 50x26cm (20x10in)
- Skein of tapestry wool for tassel
- Wooden poster hanger; 21cm

Materials available from www.willowfabrics.com

Make a… pennant

Step 1

COMPLETE your stitching, then place your design right-sides together with your backing fabric. Mark your stitching line on the reverse side of the fabric, 2.5cm (1in) in from the edge of the fabric. At the bottom, draw a point – start tapering down from just below the stitched word Flowers, and ending at the centre bottom, 2.5cm (1in) from the edge of the fabric.

Step 2

MACHINE stitch the layers together, leaving the top edge open. Turn in the raw edges at the top, press, then machine stitch closed.

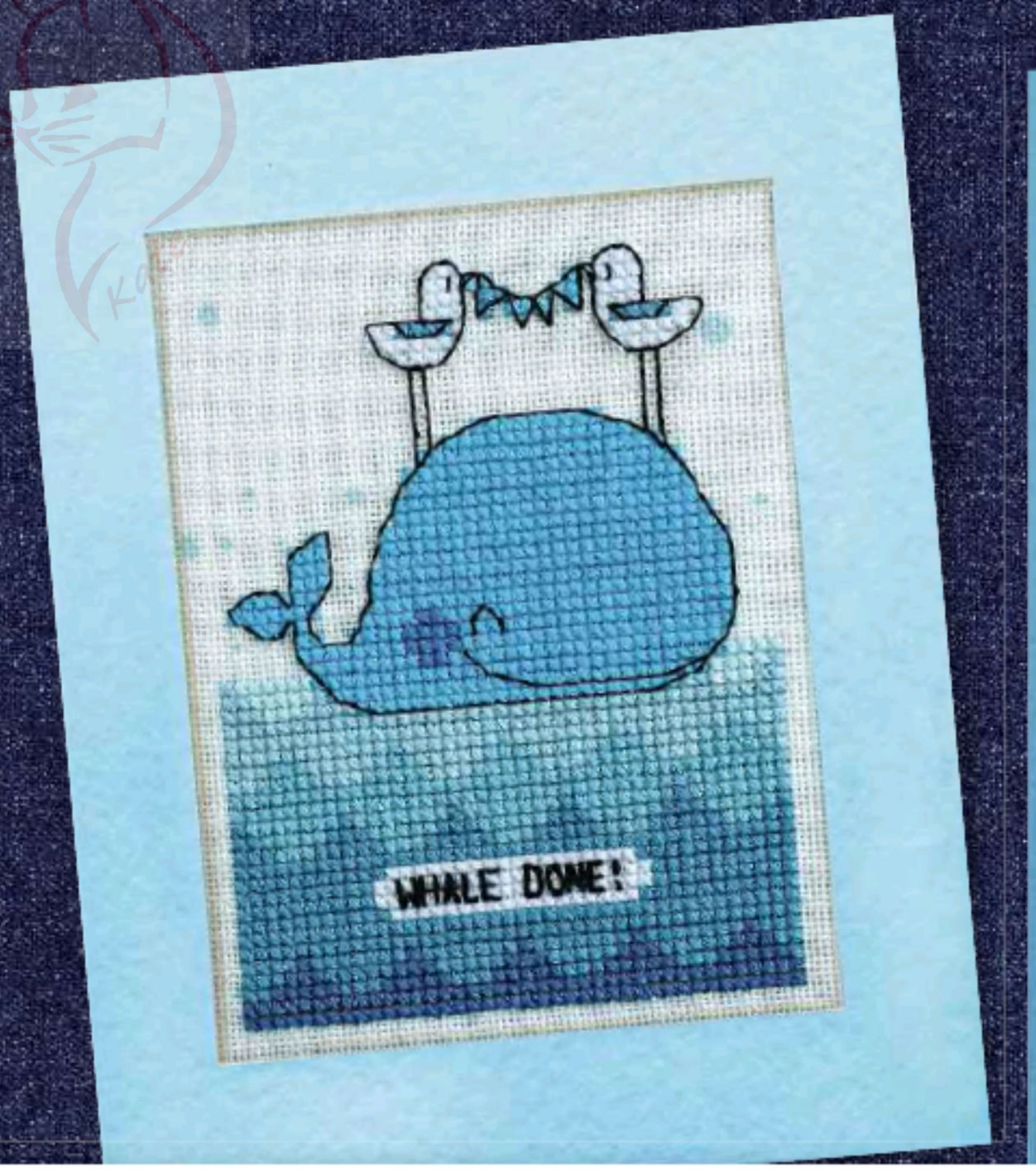
Step 3

MAKE a tassel with a skein of tapestry wool, and attach to the bottom of the pennant. The pennant can then be hung using a poster hanger.



BACK TO NATURE

Our pretty flower pennant comes from Rico's *Crafted Nature* chart booklet (No. 166) which features floral designs worked in stranded cotton and sparkling metallic yarns and even wool. There are patterns for embroidering blankets, rugs, placemats, pillows, wall hangings, embroidery pictures and tea towels, with something for all skill levels. For UK stockists visit www.rico-design.de/en/home.





Whale Wishes

Whale, whale, whale! We've some whaley fun ways to send best wishes here – with four fab designs to choose from…





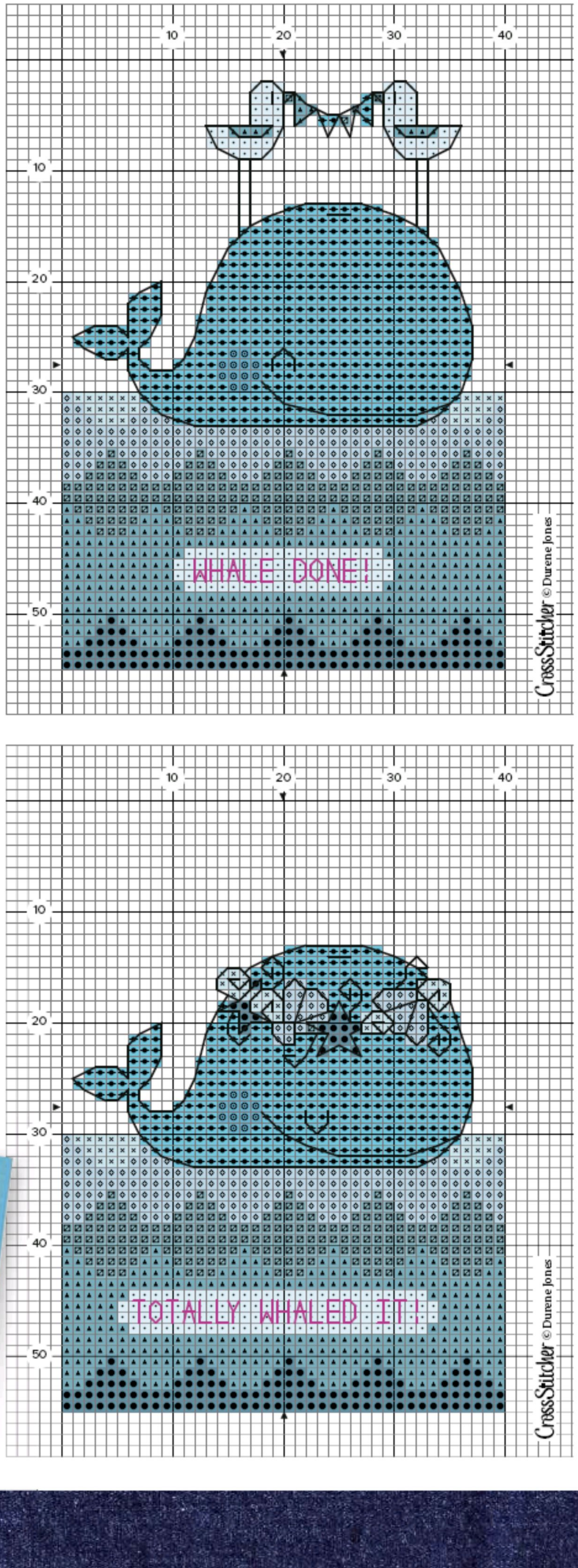
WHALE WISHES

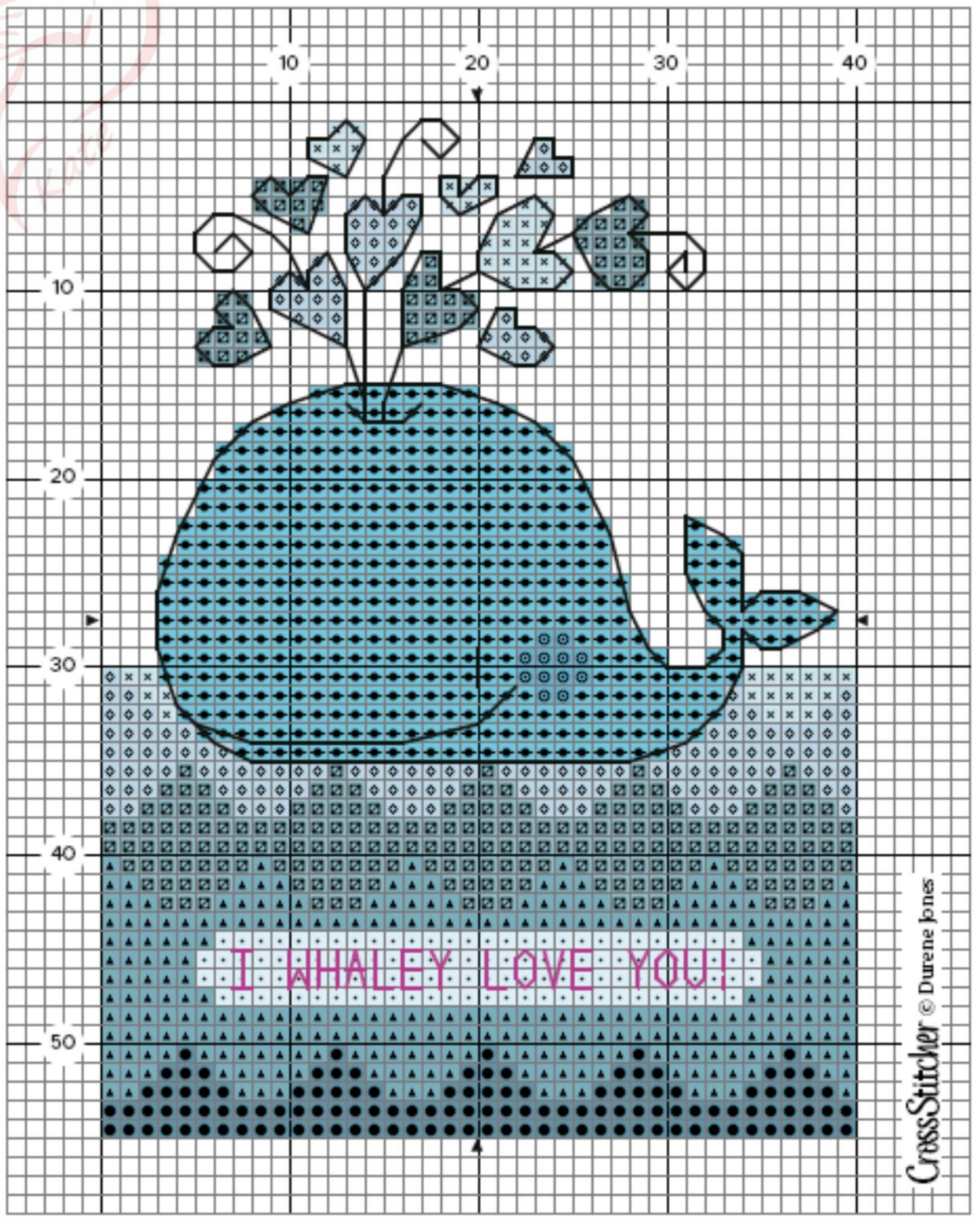
Designed by: Durene Jones
Stitch count: 55 high x 40 wide
Design size: 8x6cm (3¼x2¼in)
Stitch time: 7 hours each

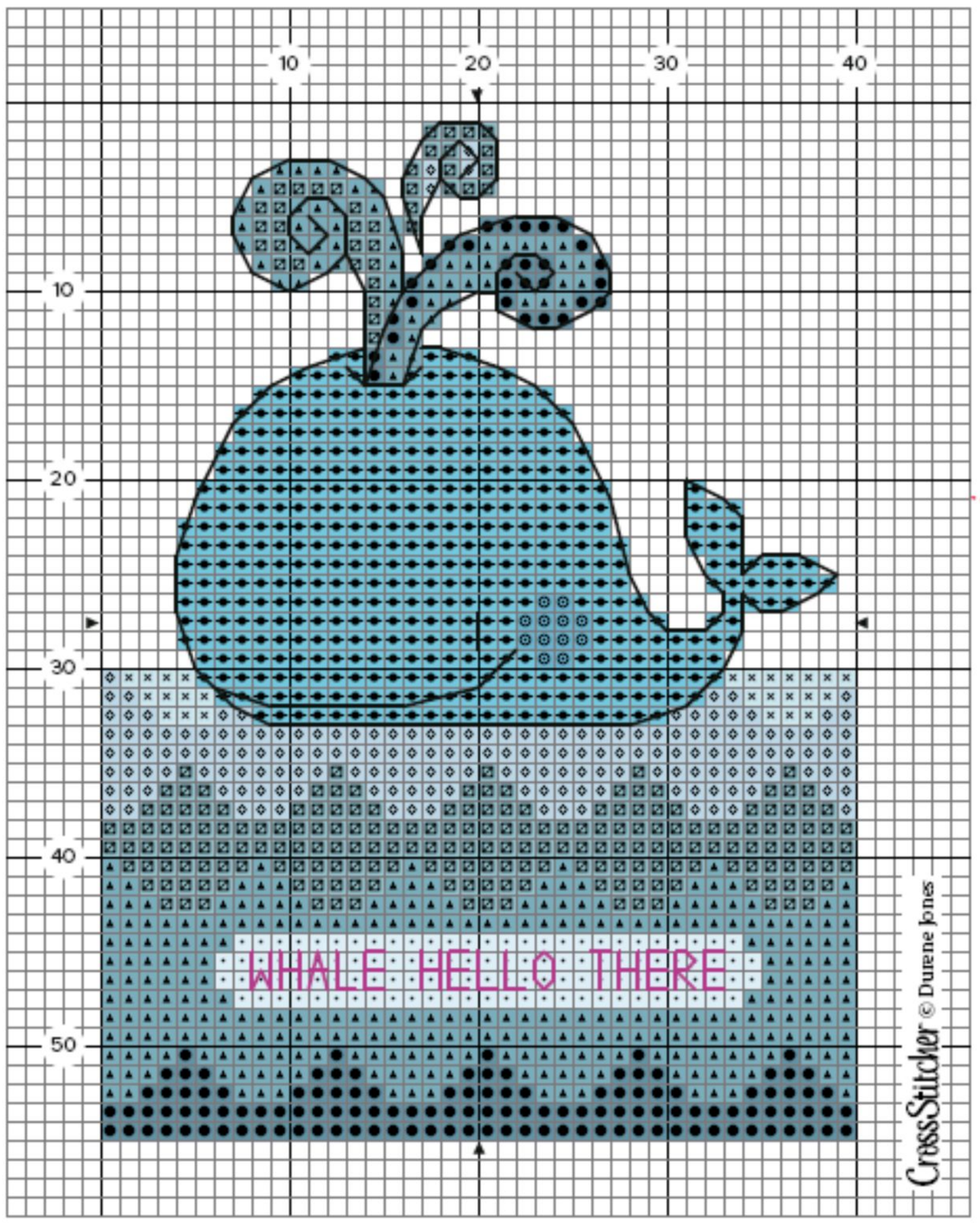
These designs were stitched on 32 count evenweave over two threads of fabric.

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
Cross stitch in two strands			
× ×	747	158	1104
▲ ▲	807	1039	1109
◇ ◇	3761	928	1014
● ●	3765	169	2506
◪ ◪	3766	167	1111
⊙ ⊙	3844	410	1103*
●- ●-	3846	433	1103*
· ·	B5200	001	white
Backstitch in two strands			
—	310 words	403	black
Backstitch in one strand			
—	310 outlines	403	black

*See 'The Key' on page 86.







Make an… aperture card

Step 1

WORK using two strands of stranded cotton for the cross stitch, one strand for the backstitch and two for the lettering.

Step 2

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

Step 3

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

Step 4

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

Step 5

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

Use our suggested fabric to feature readymade splashes in the backgrounds of your cards

Materials

For each card

- Zweigart Light With Turquoise Splash 32 count Murano, ref: 3984/1299; 15x12.5cm (6x5in)
- Stranded cotton as listed in the key
- Size 26 tapestry needle
- Card blank with a 10x7cm (4x2¾in) rectangular aperture

Materials available from www.willowfabrics.com

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Overseas readers see page 87

*Available on iPad and iPhone

CrossStitcher

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Needles & Notions

Your stitching, top tips, online chat and more!

Pro Tip

Top designers share their favourite stitching tips

"Use a bigger needle for metallics"



Lucie Heaton

"When stitching with metallic thread use a needle one size bigger than usual, for example a size 26 cross stitch needle is usually used on 14 count fabric – go up to a size 24 needle for metallic thread, this will help to make a slightly bigger hole for the thread to slide through."

www.lucieheaton.com

FIRST PAST THE POST!



Kim Crossley was the first to send us a pic of her finished balloon card from issue 347 – she wins a selection of DMC stranded cotton skeins in 20 colours of her choice from Willow Fabrics. The first person to stitch and send us a pic of their pet banner from this issue to crossstitcher@dennis.co.uk will also win this great prize!





I really enjoyed making this free card (issue 347) on holiday in Devon. I added my own embellishments and created a wall hanging.
Lisa Berry, Thatcham



This is my springtime sampler. I thought that it would be nice to do a set of seasonal cushions. The summer sampler is under way!
Yaina Davies, by email



Hello! I've really enjoyed stitching this lovely llama card that came free with issue 344 of CrossStitcher. Thanks!
Anna Sweeney, by email

Cool for school

Dear *CrossStitcher*,

I teach children between 8-12 years to cross stitch, this I do in the elementary school of my daughter (my daughter left this school last year but I still enjoy doing this).

They all have to start with the basics, they all start with making a bookmark with four types of different stitches with cotton on 14 count aida, they finish it with half crosses around the stitches and they fray the bookmark. At a certain moment I had kids, girls and boys (!) coming to me for the second time so I had to come up with something new. I purchased wooden pendants and fake leather bracelets, but now after four years I am running out of my stock. So, when I saw your house keyring (issue 343) I had to think of 'my kids' straight away.

I copied your pattern to Excel and chose one single colour for the grass, house and roof to make it easier. When stitching my sample, and timing how long it took me, I decided the fence and the backstitches had to go out so I put some crosses in a different colour in the grass to look like they are flowers. I finished my sample just before the last lesson of this school year and asked the group of kids, I had 12 this time, if they liked it. They all liked it so I said this is what experienced kids, which you are all after now, can make next year when they choose to embroider. You can pick your own colours for the house, door and roof and I have two types of ribbon for you to choose and four colours of felt for the backing.

Francisca den Otter
The Netherlands



My finished keyring.



My idea adapted from the free kit.



One of the kids I teach holding his work, the bookmark, very proudly.

"OVER TO YOU..."

We asked our fans on Facebook, "How organised are you when stitching?"

YULA OLIEL I keep my DMC threads on clothes pins, sorted by number. It makes it very easy to prepare for each new project. I use biscuit tins to hold the threads for a project.

JENNY DONNELLY-THOMPSON Start off with good intentions... always descends into lost threads and lots of stress.

CHRIS MATTHEWS I always mark my chart with highlighters in several colours. I keep my threads on bobbins in numerical order in a cabinet, and transfer them to a compartmented box during the project, so I can cut the length required at the time.

GINGER VASSAR AVERY It depends on how complicated or large the chart is. The smaller charts I don't mark. Larger ones I mark with friction highlighters that will disappear with heat.

RACHAEL SKINNER If it's a small kit just thread organising is enough but larger projects calls for photocopying and a pencil as I've been caught out with pattern disappearing on a crease that has a hole!

JACKIE CLEVEN OLTROP I make a royal mess with my bobbins while I work on a project, but then clean them up, only to make the same mess all over again with the next one.

LIZ CULLEN Each of my WIPs has the required threads in a small bag, with cut lengths on a thread card. I also keep a pair of scissors with each WIP, so I can 'grab & go' if I want to. I only mark off large patterns. But I just go with the flow in terms of which WIP I pick up to work on each evening.

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



Here are all the kits I've done from your magazine. Really enjoyed doing them and look forward to more.
Nicola Sycz, by email



Here's my balloon card from issue 347. I thoroughly enjoyed stitching it. This will be perfect for my teenage son's birthday.
Sumona Acharya, by email

Stay in touch...

crossstitcher@dennis.co.uk

CrossStitcher, PO Box 172, Northam, EX39 9DY

@XStitchmagazine

pinterest.com/xstitchmagazine

STITCHING PRIZES FOR YOU!

CrossStitcher PRIZE TIME!

We've got some great cross stitch giveaways up for grabs – make sure you enter today for your chance to win!

Giveaways open 13 August – 9 September 2019

£41 of prizes



Bright Ideas fabrics

Perfect for those summer projects, Bright Ideas fabric from Charles Craft will make a pretty backdrop for that holiday stitching. Each is 38x45cm (15x18in) with an RRP of £4.59 and available from www.willowfabrics.com. We have three sets of Grasshopper, Lemon Twist, and Polar Ice Blue 14 count aida to give away – each pack is worth over £13.70. For a chance to win some, **enter by post to the address below, labelling your entry 'BRIGHT IDEAS GIVEAWAY XST348'.**

£48 of prizes

The Misfit kits

Just added to the Simply Heritage range of whole-stitch only designs, The Misfit by Peter Underhill is ideal for beginners or a 'quick stitch' for the more experienced cross stitcher! Each kit contains Zweigart fabric, DMC stranded cottons, a needle, clear charts and instructions. With a design size of 9.5x11.5cm it is available with an RRP: £12.05 from hcrafts.com. We have four kits to give away. **Enter by post to the address below, labelling your entry 'MISFIT GIVEAWAY XST348'.**



£66 of prizes



Bebunni kits

If you like your bunnies fluffy with huge ears, then Daisy is perfect for you! Each Bebunni kit contains 14 count white Zweigart aida, pre-sorted stranded cottons, sparkly thread, needle, stitch diagram and instructions. Expect cross stitch, backstitch and just a few fractionals. Its finished size is 16x22cm and it has an RRP £21.99, available from www.bothythreads.com. We have three to give away. **Enter by post to the address below, labelling your entry 'DAISY GIVEAWAY XST348'.**

Embroidery books

Kazuko Aoki shares her newest collection of exquisite designs inspired by her very own kitchen garden. From humble tomatoes and radishes to show-stopping figs and Brussels sprouts, this collection features over 30 designs. Instructions and templates for all designs are included, along with personal embroidery tips and expert advice from the author. *Embroidered Kitchen Garden* is published by Search Press and available from www.searchpress.com for £16.99. We have three copies to give away. **Enter by post to the address below, labelling your entry 'KITCHEN GARDEN GIVEAWAY XST348'.**



£51 of prizes

HOW TO ENTER

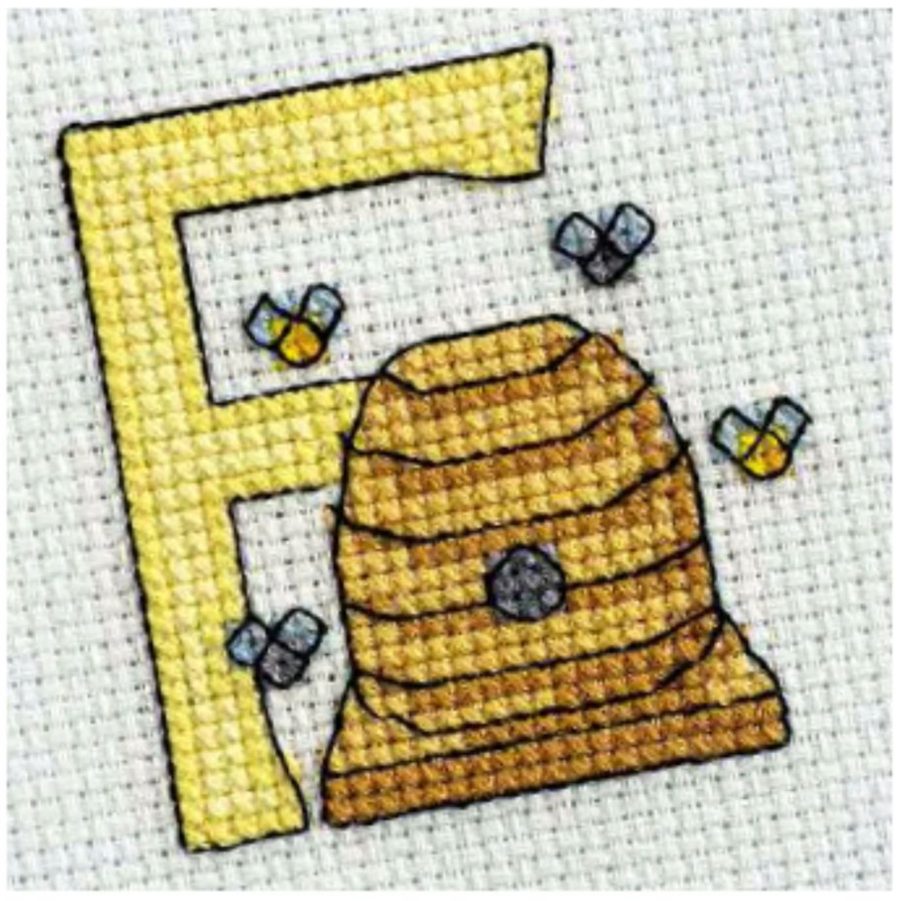
Write your name and address on the back of a postcard or stuck-down envelope together with the name of the giveaway(s) you are entering and send to: *CrossStitcher*, PO Box 172, Northam, EX39 9DY.

Competitions open 13 August – 9 September 2019. For competition terms and conditions go to page 88. You may enter multiple prize draws on one postcard.

Letter LIBRARY

BEES

We're buzzing to show you this month's alphabet – our bee letters and numbers are as sweet as honey!



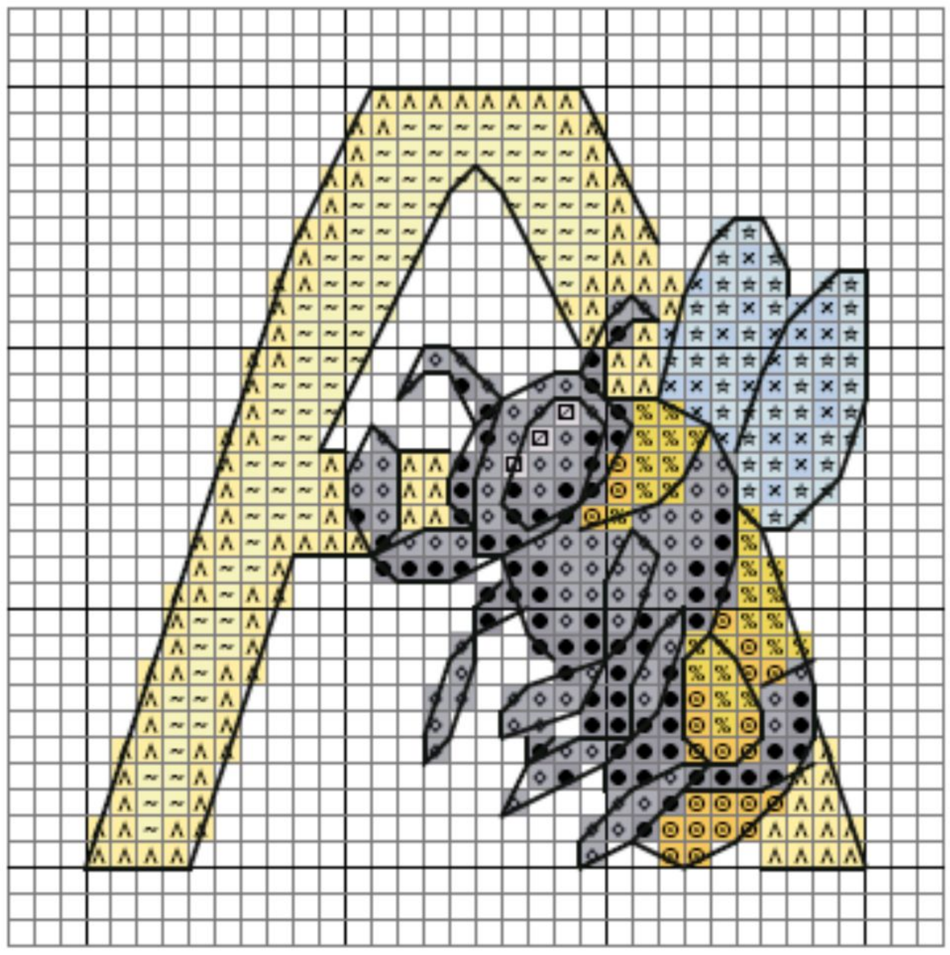


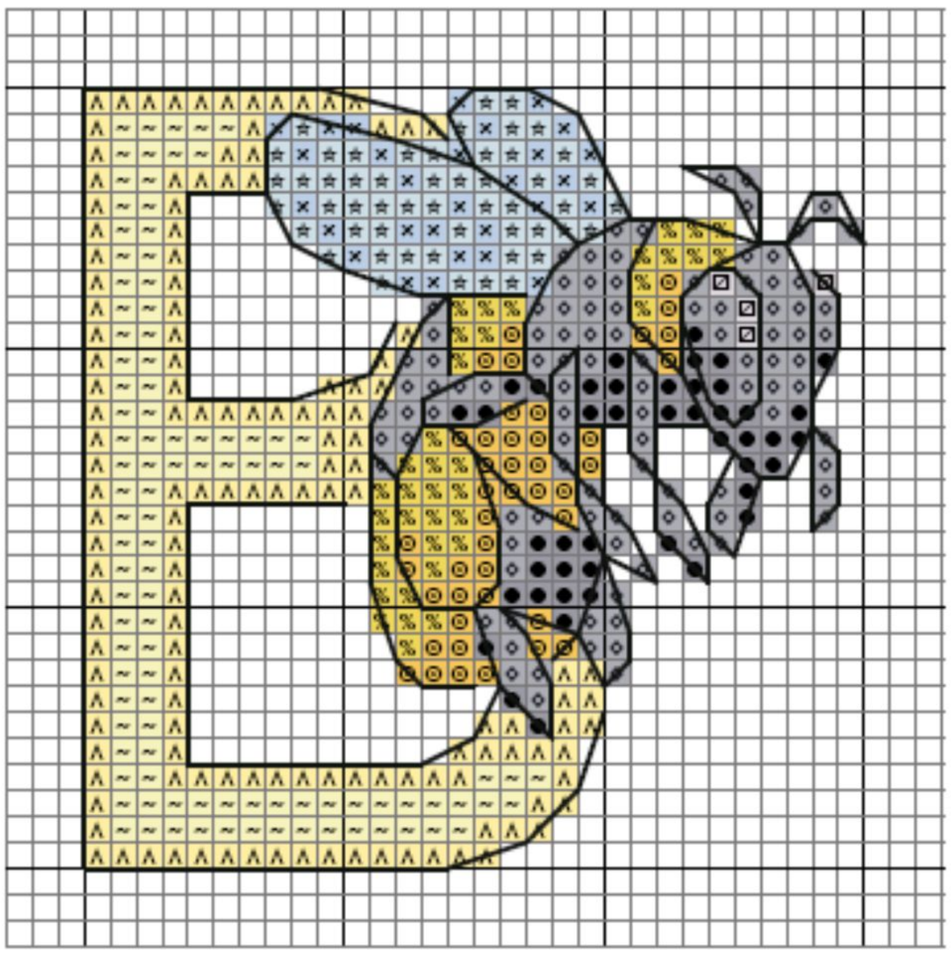


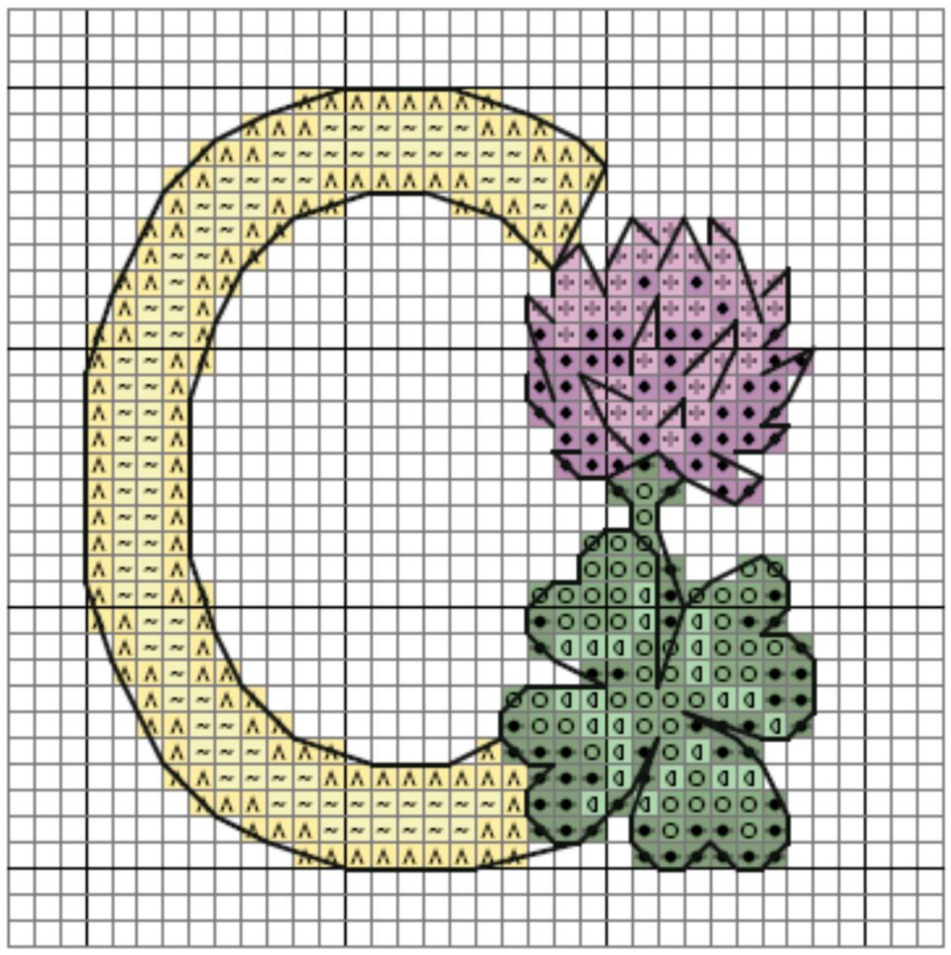
Each month we publish a new letter and number set based on a theme, designed for you to cut out and keep for when you need it

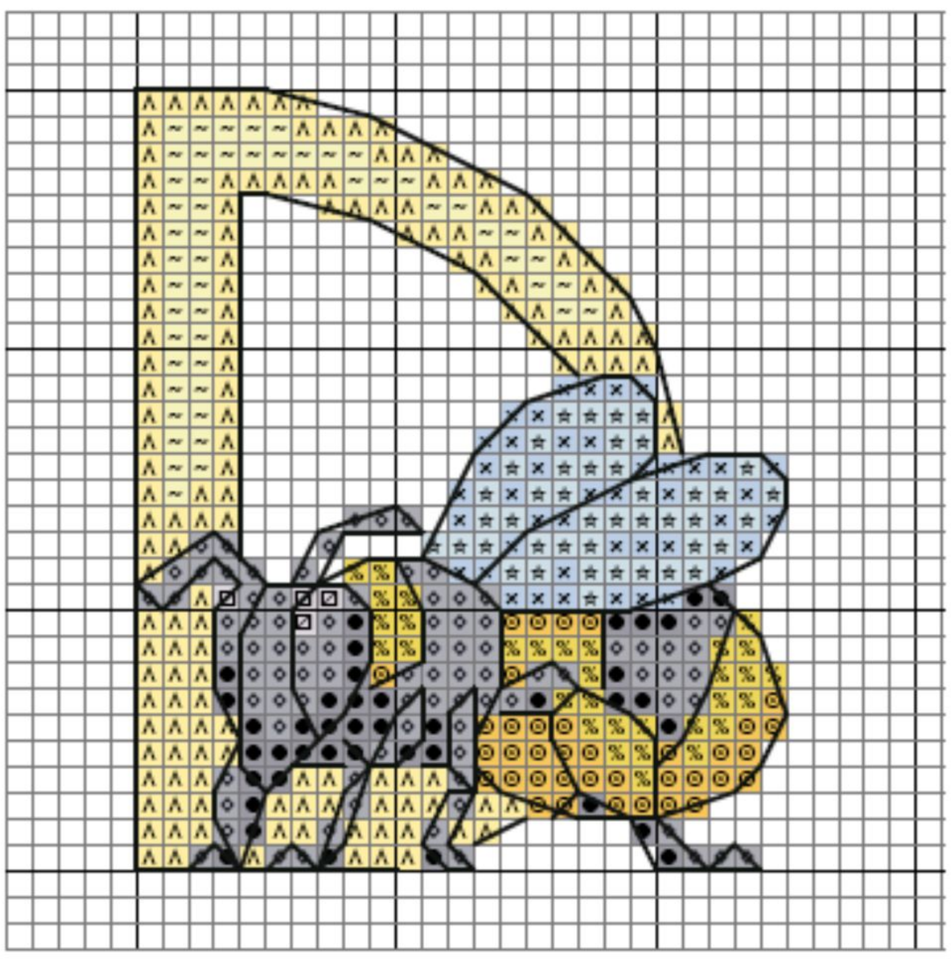
What a bee-autiful alphabet we have for you this month! Not only do our letter and number sets feature honey bee motifs, they also include items associated with them. So we have honey drizzlers, flowers which bees love and more! You're all set for the sweetest projects this September, and these are perfect for any occasion. Time to get buzzy!

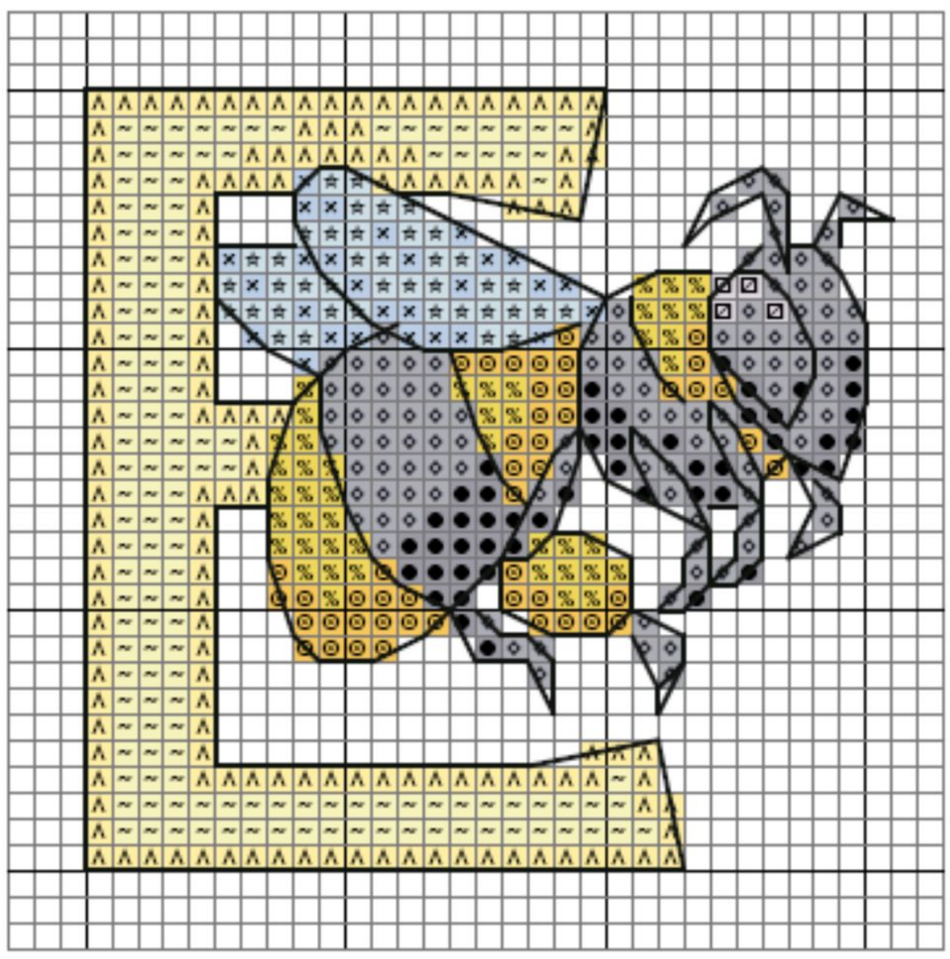
Designed by: Fiona Crouch

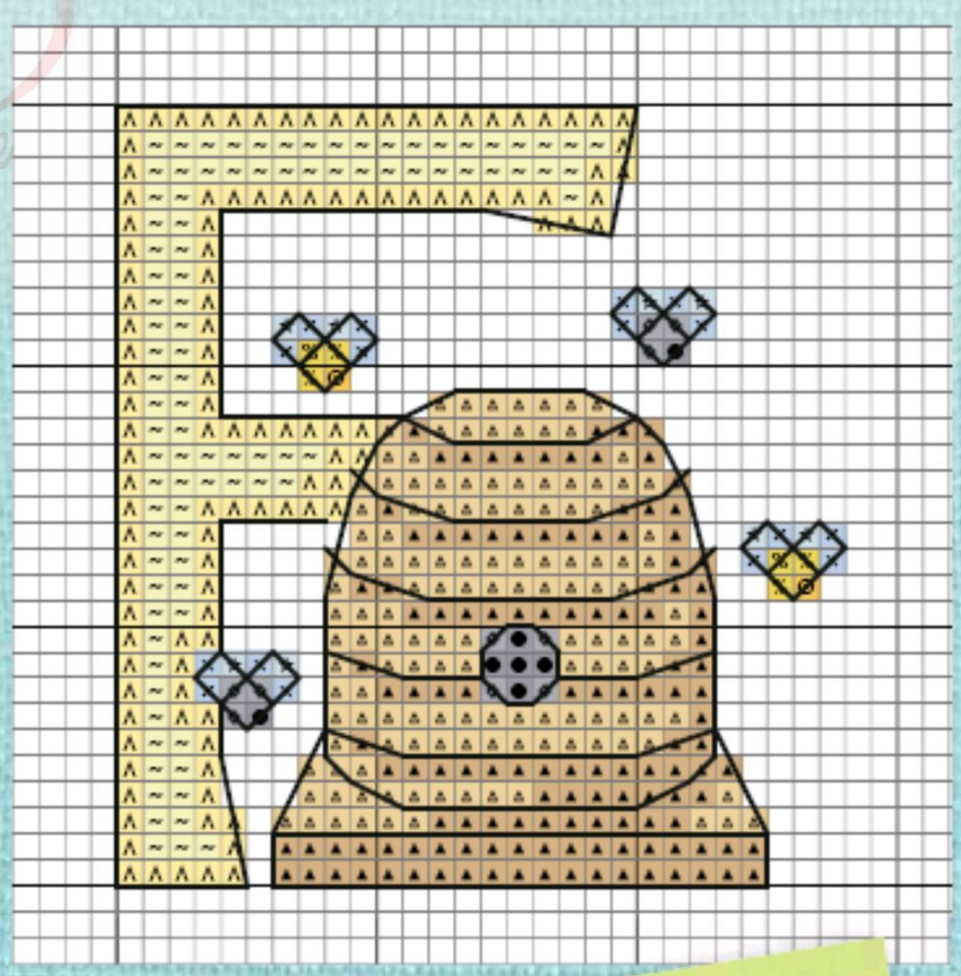


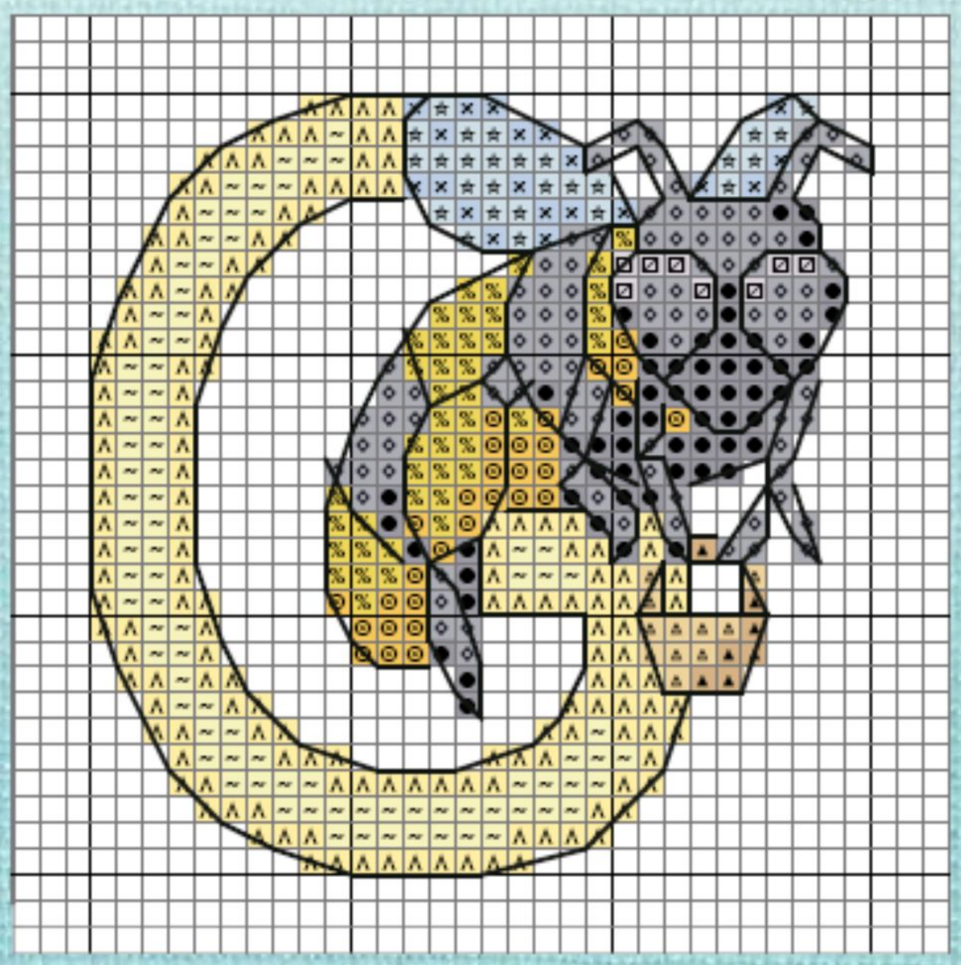




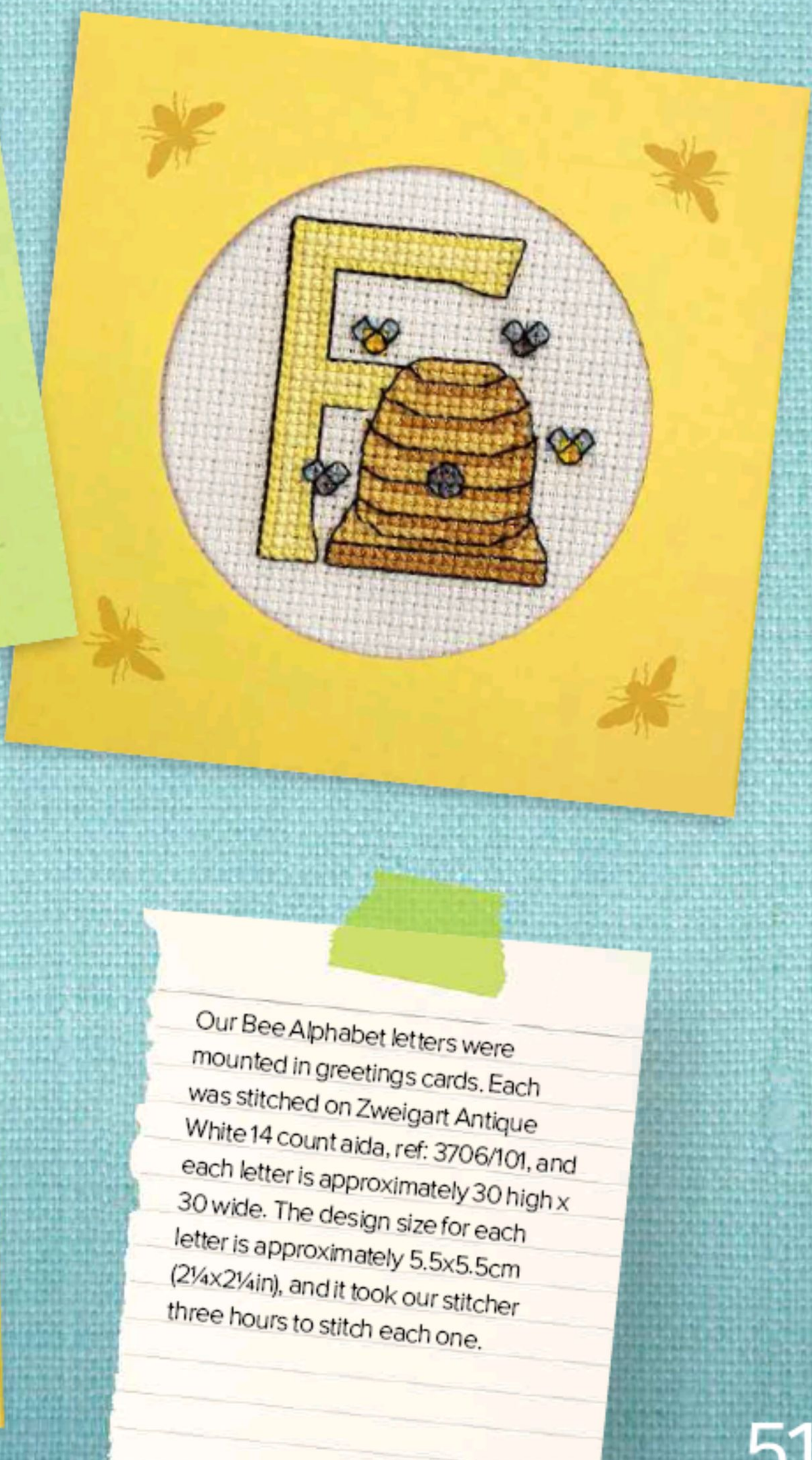




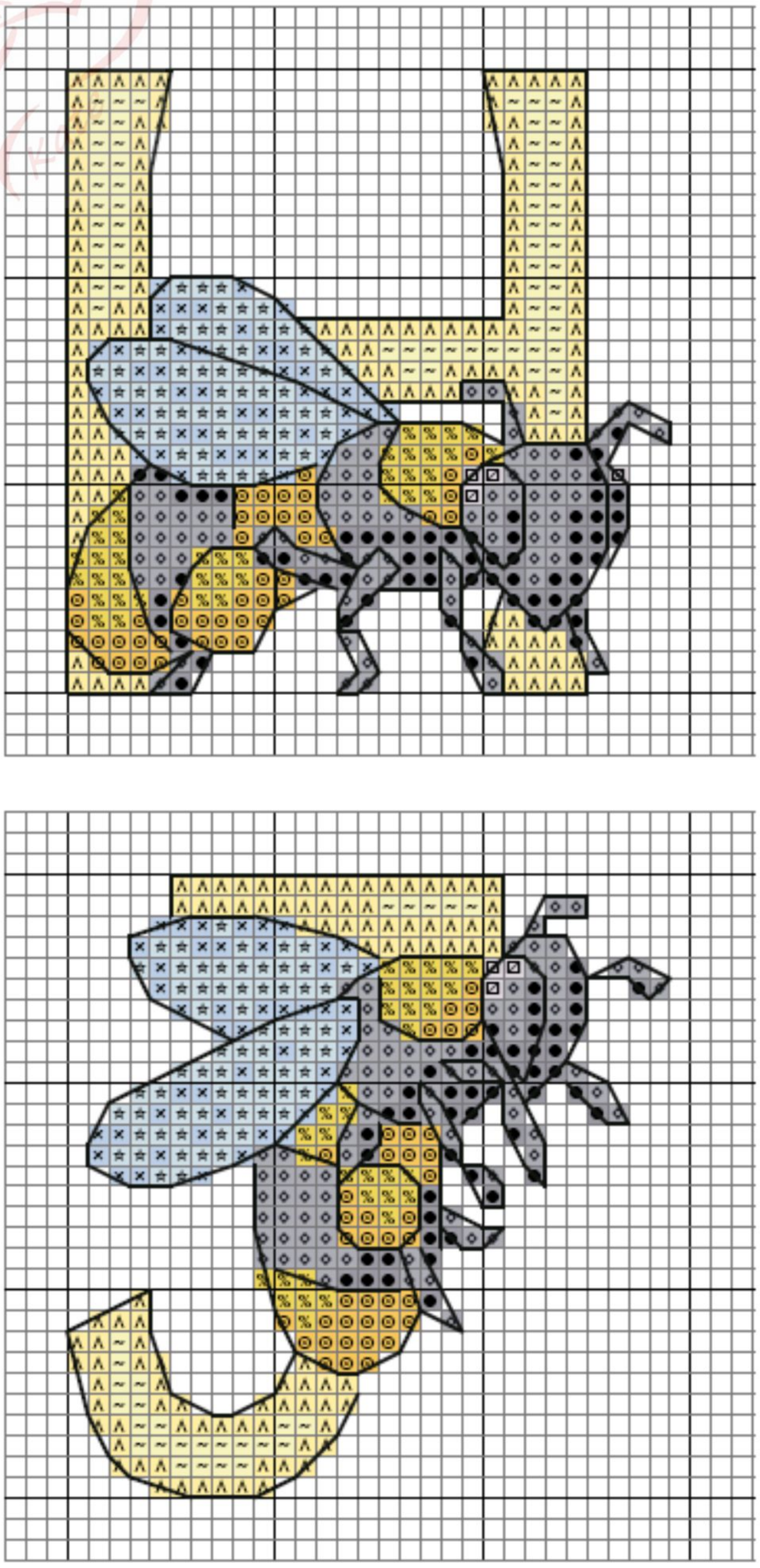


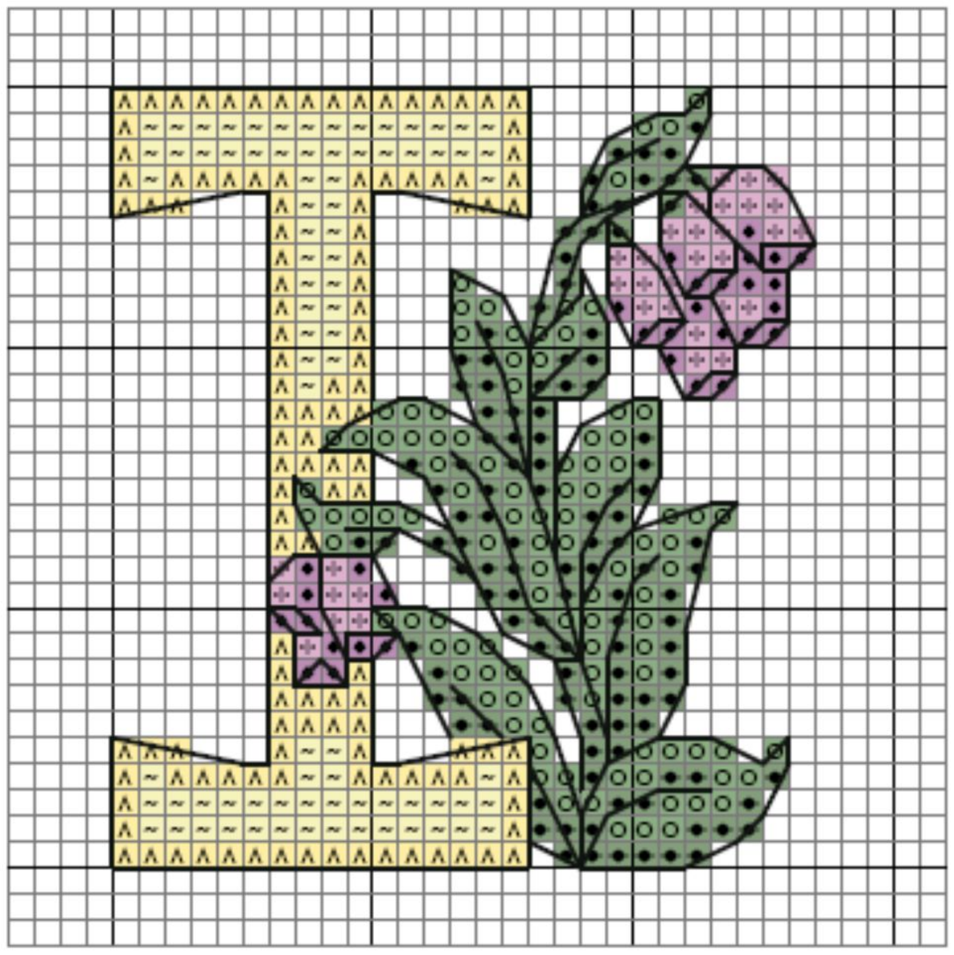


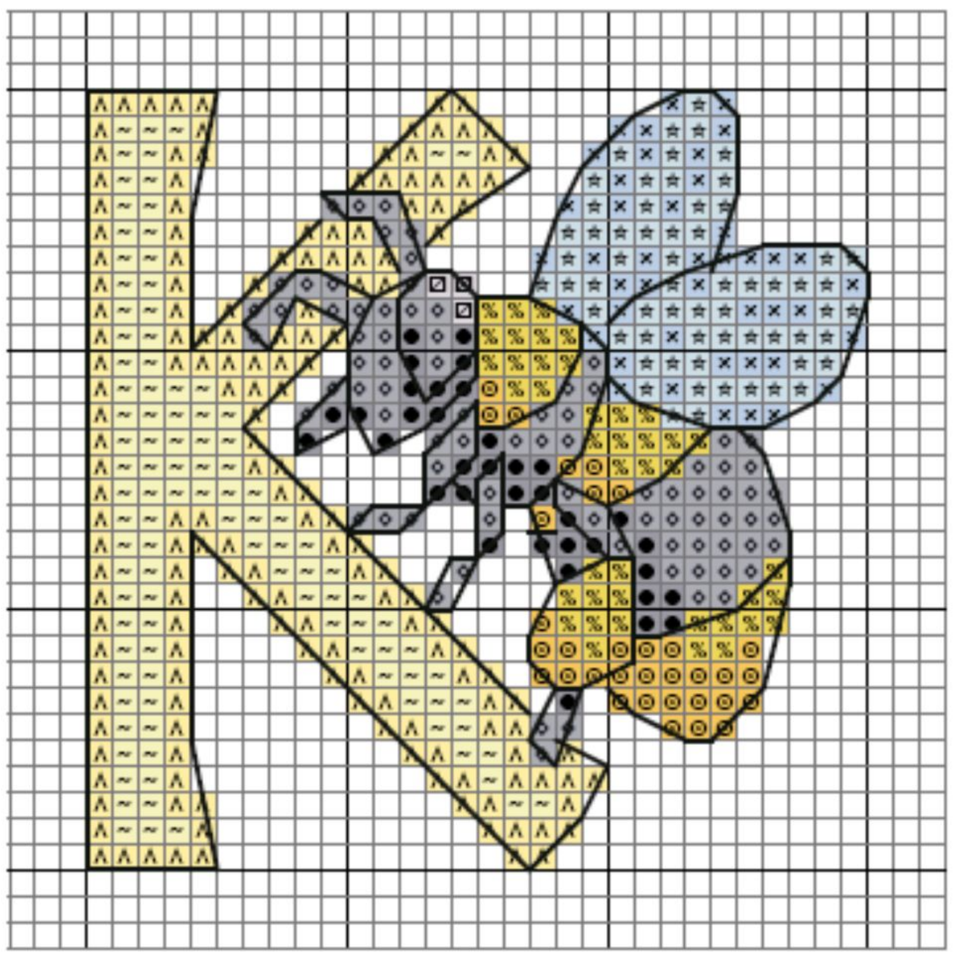


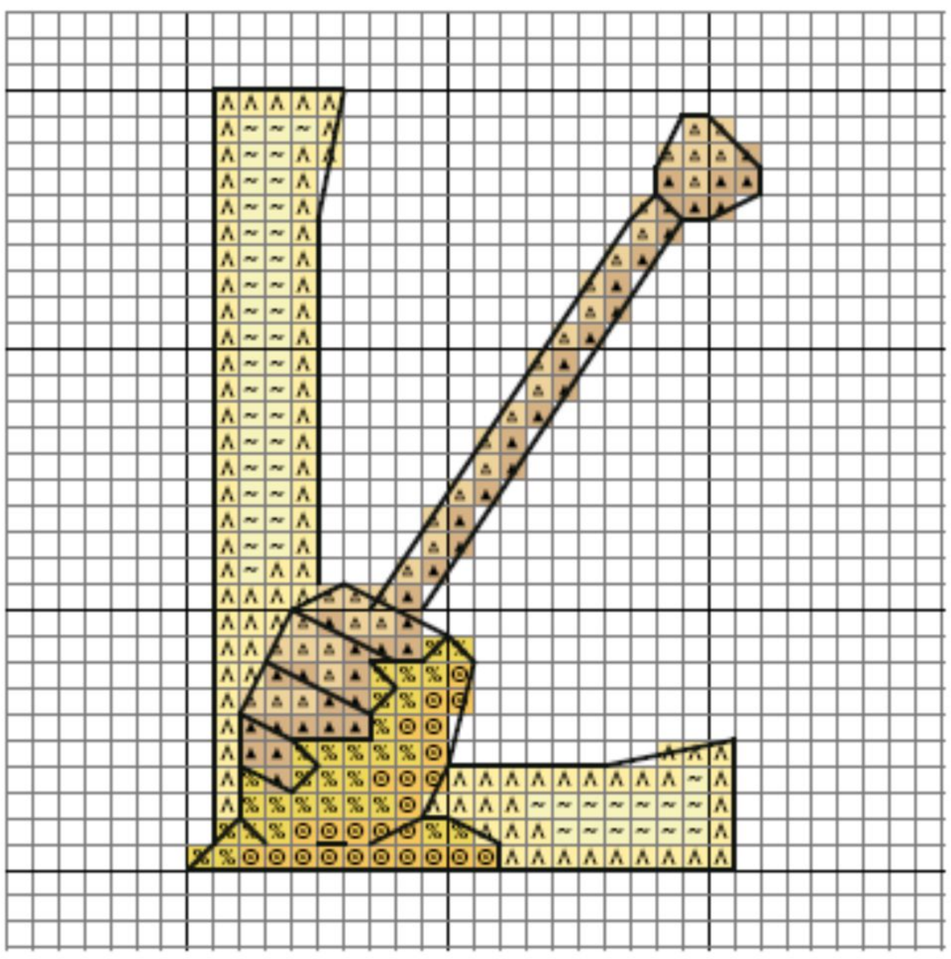


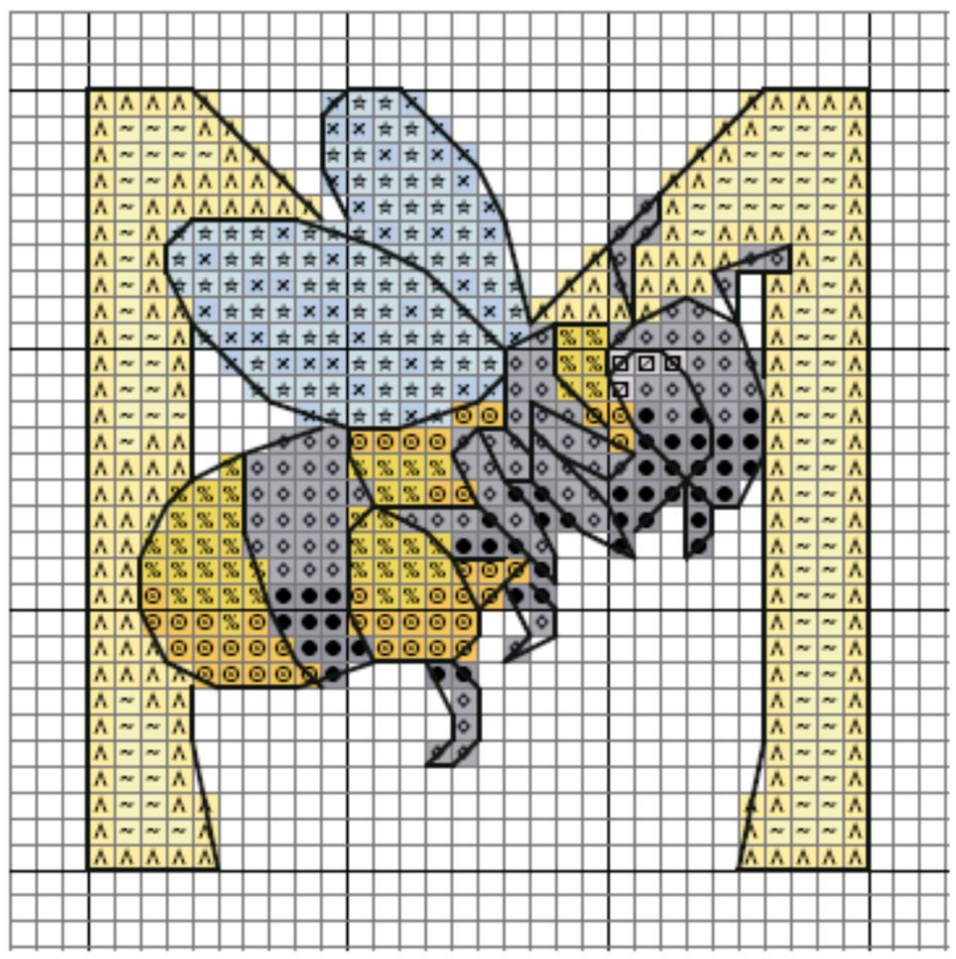
Our Bee Alphabet letters were mounted in greetings cards. Each was stitched on Zweigart Antique White 14 count aida, ref: 3706/101, and each letter is approximately 30 high x 30 wide. The design size for each letter is approximately 5.5x5.5cm (2¼x2¼in), and it took our stitcher three hours to stitch each one.

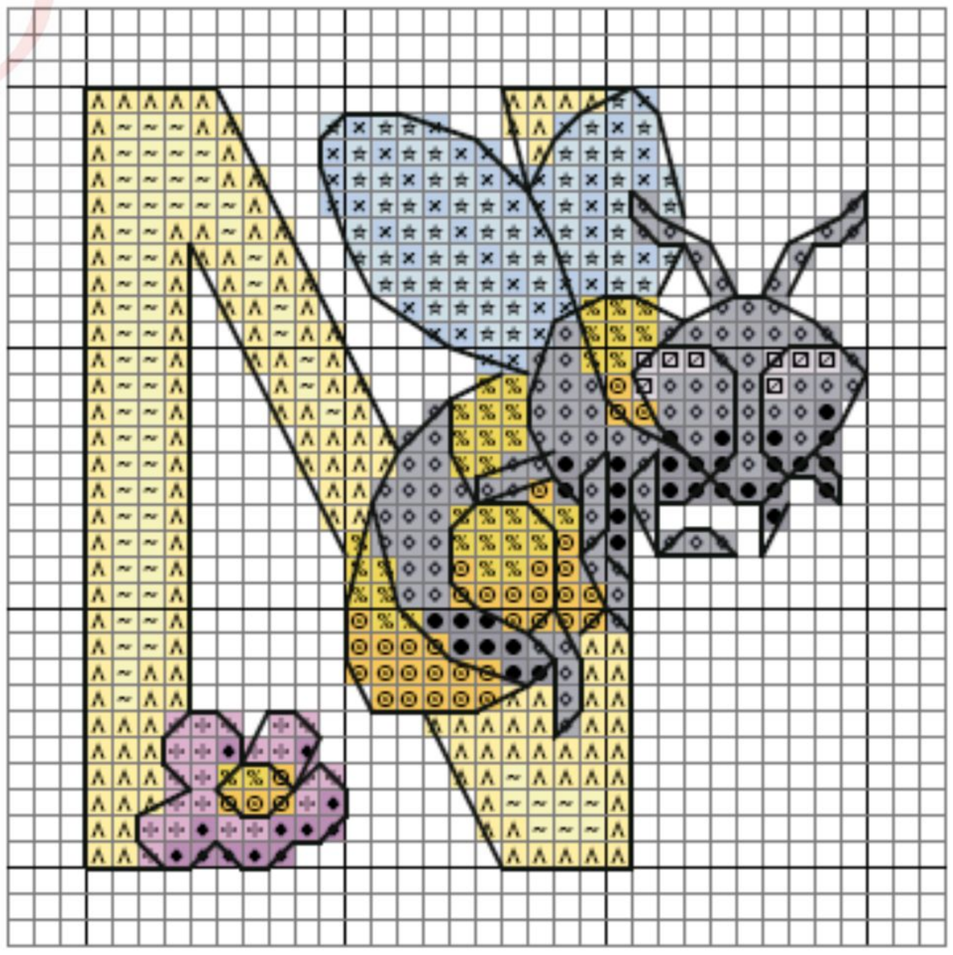


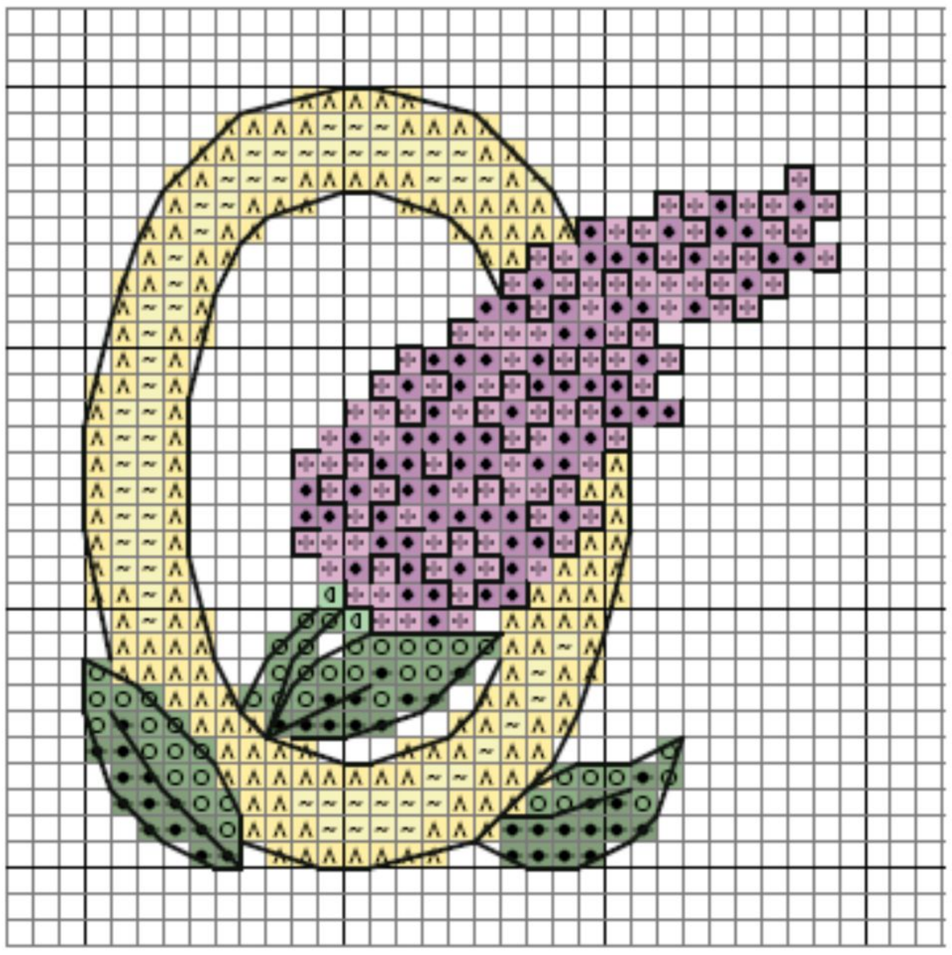


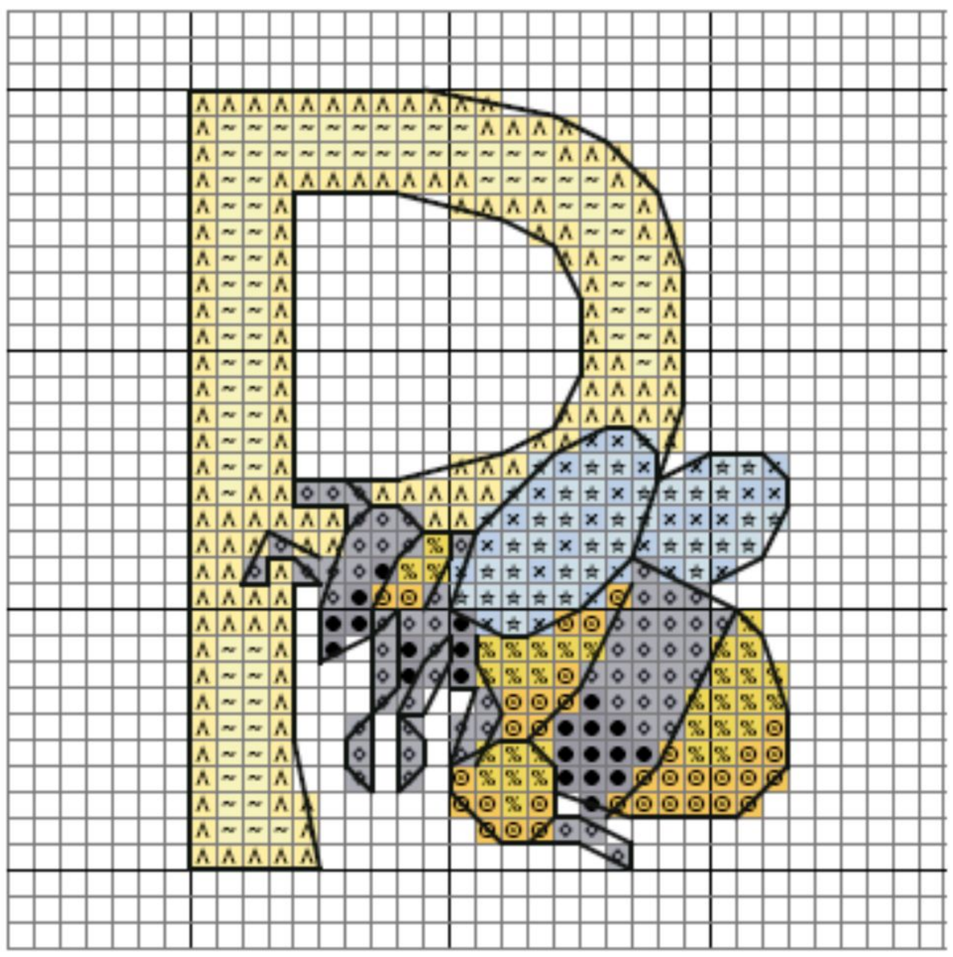


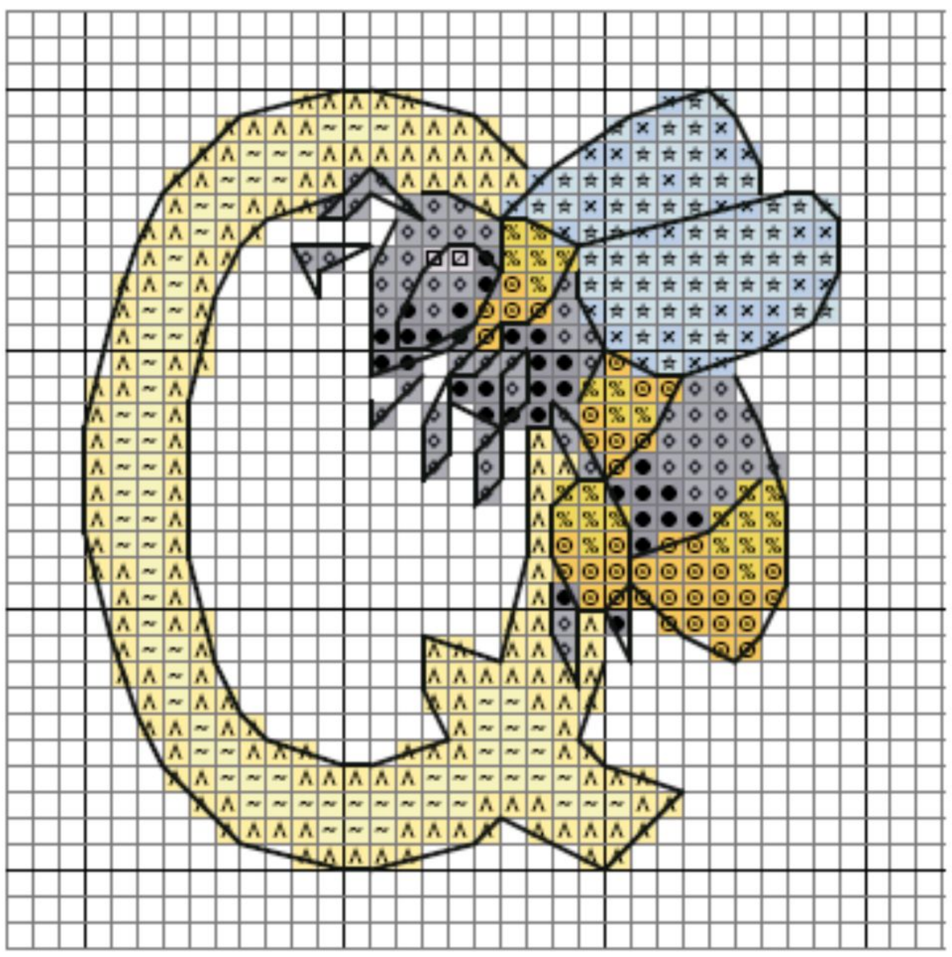




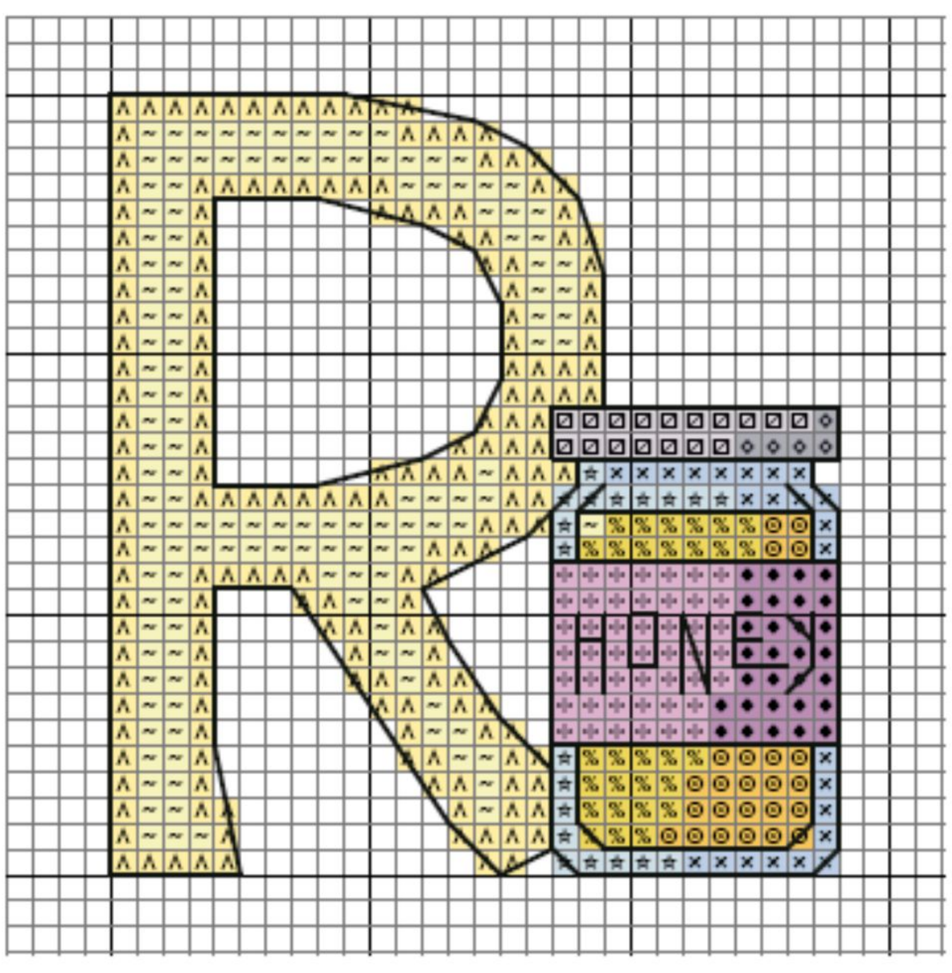


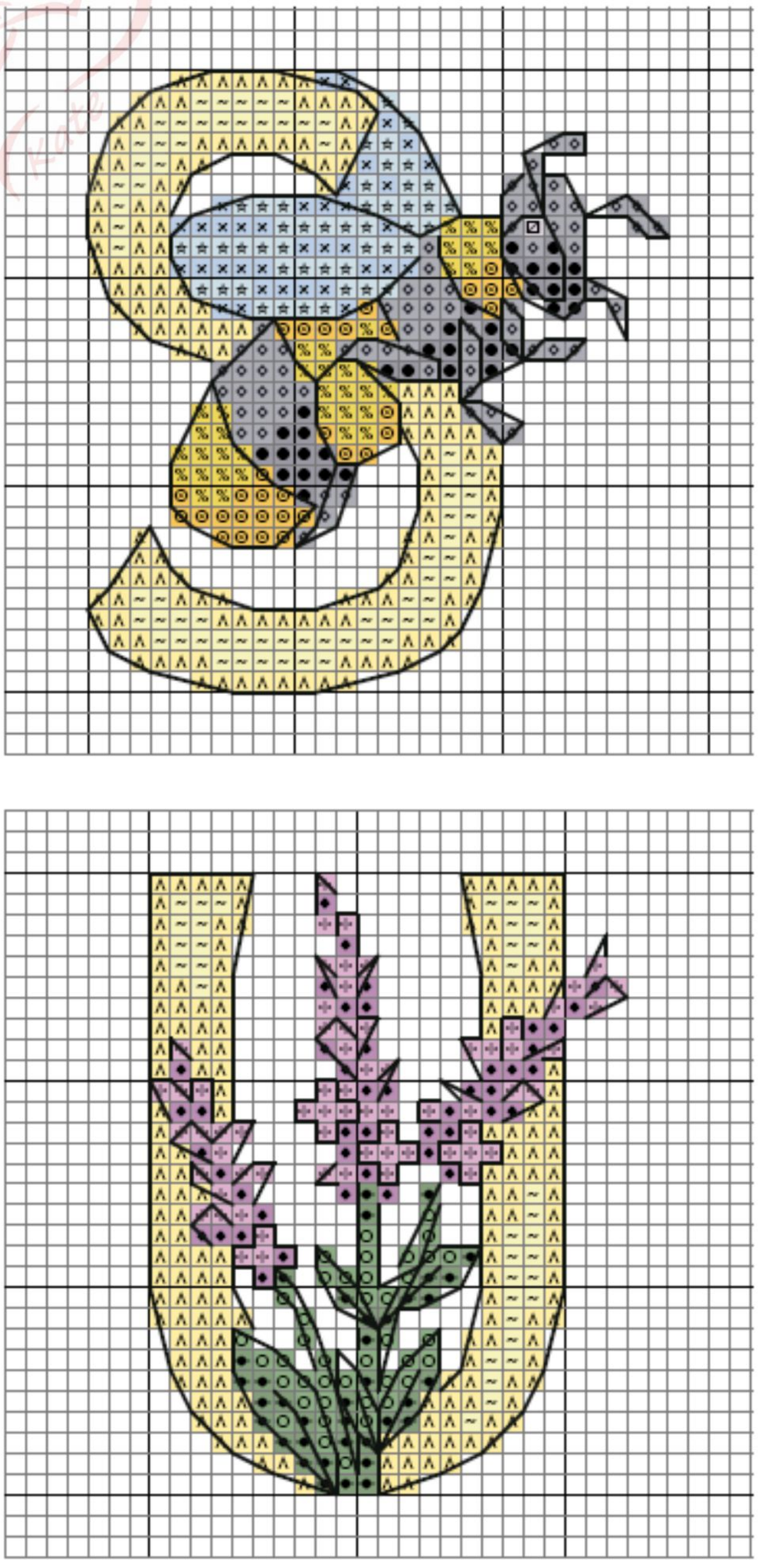


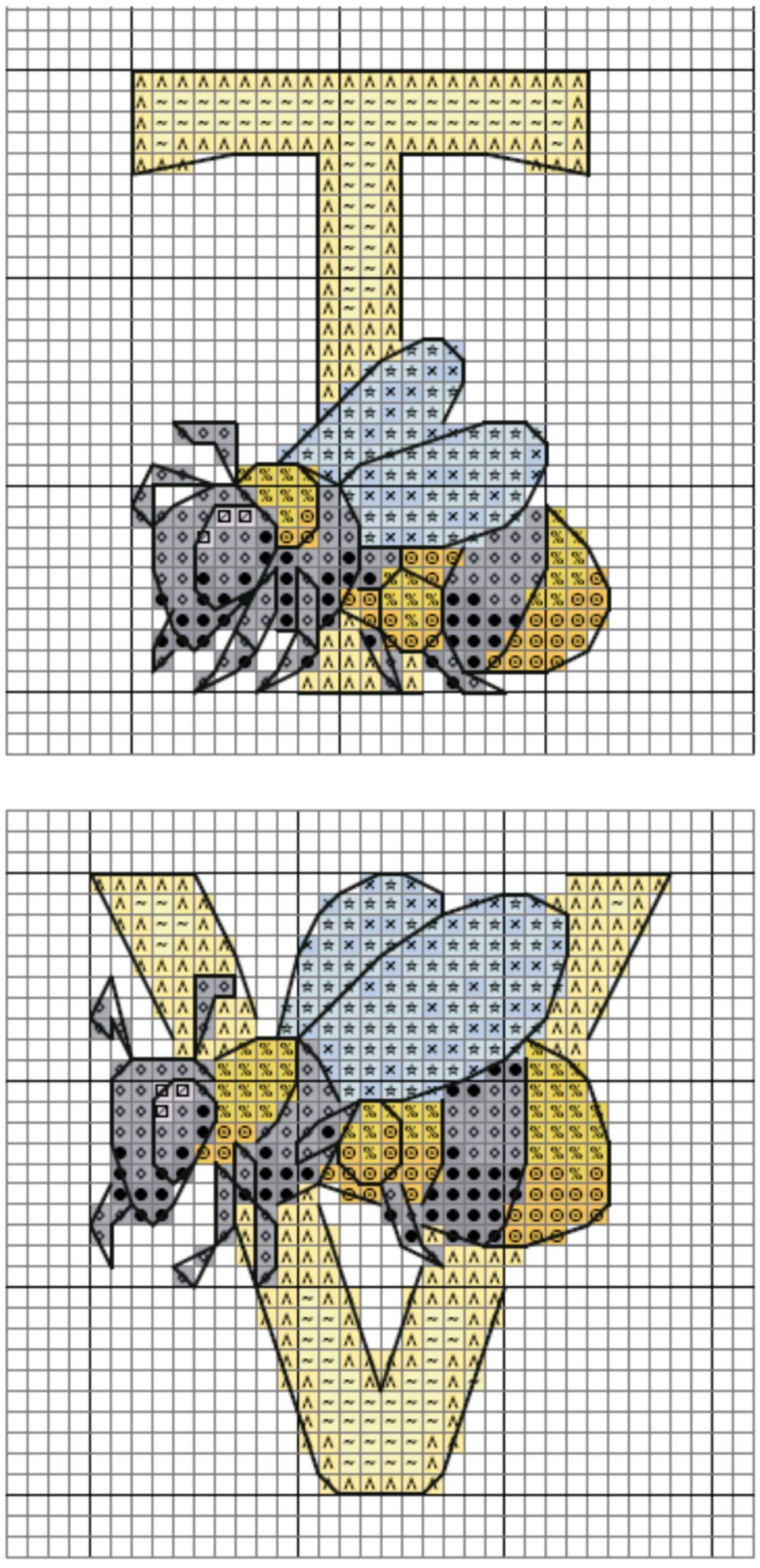


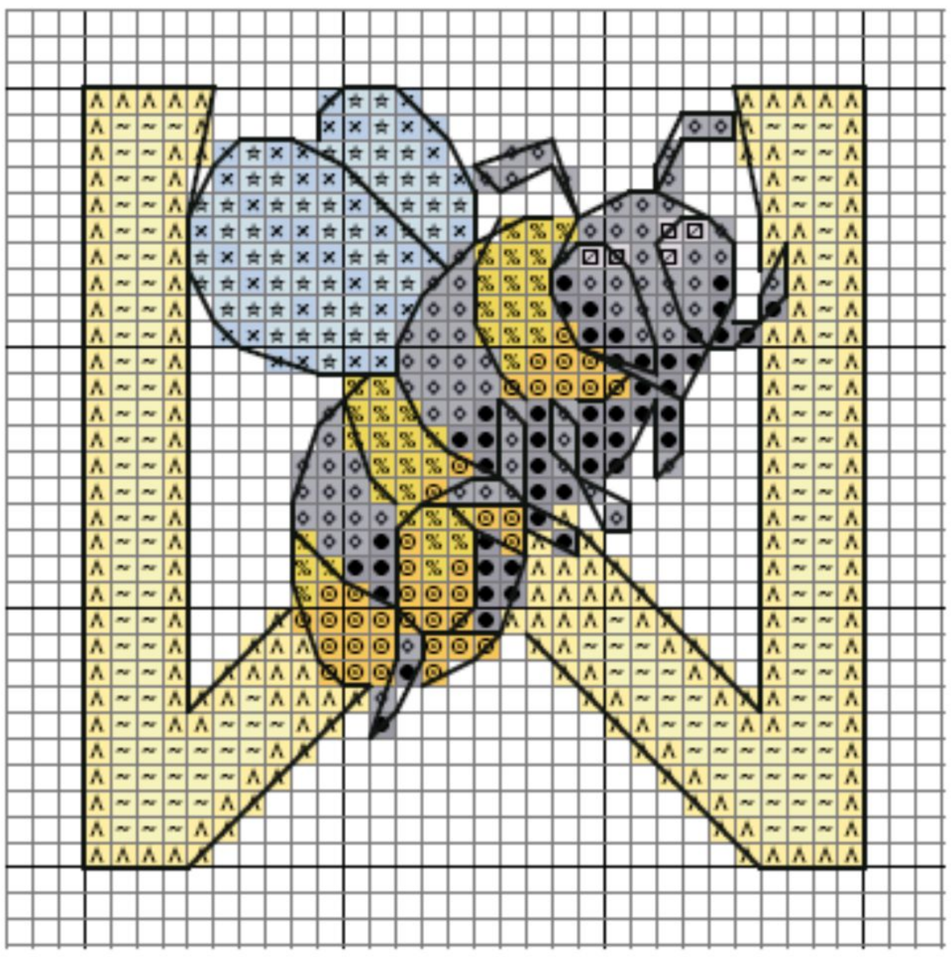












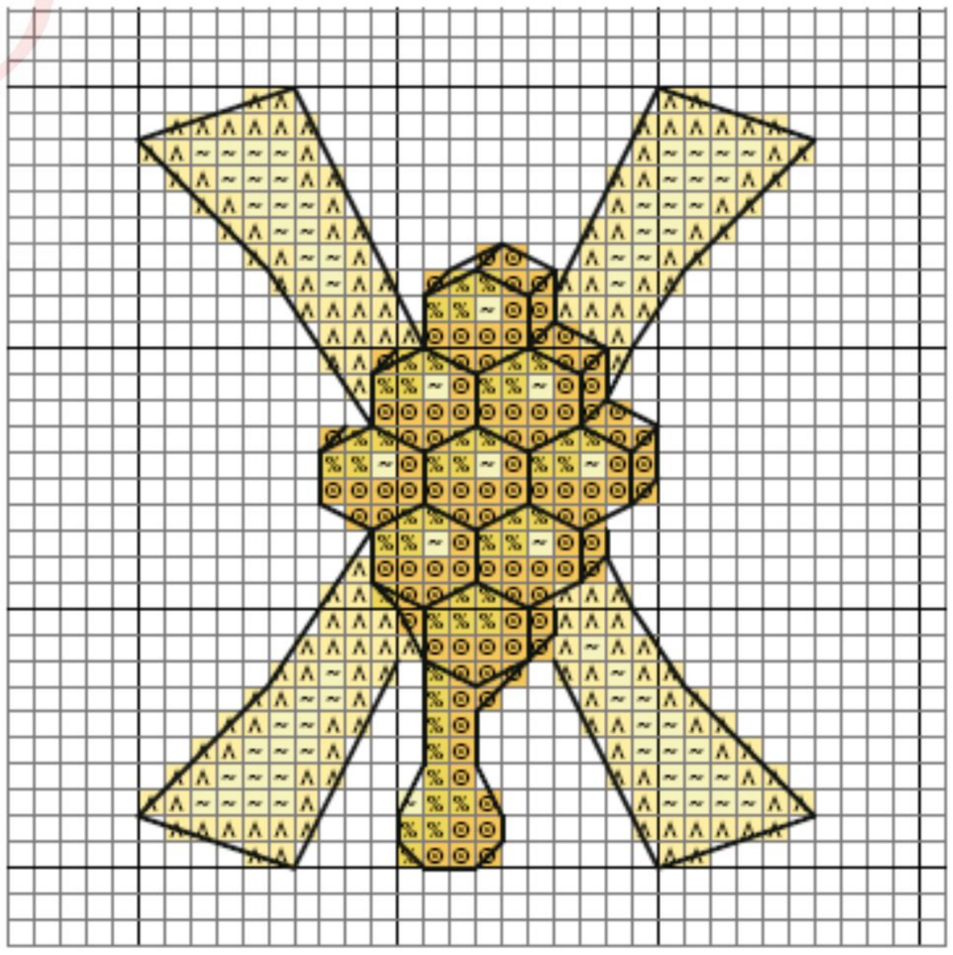
More to make...

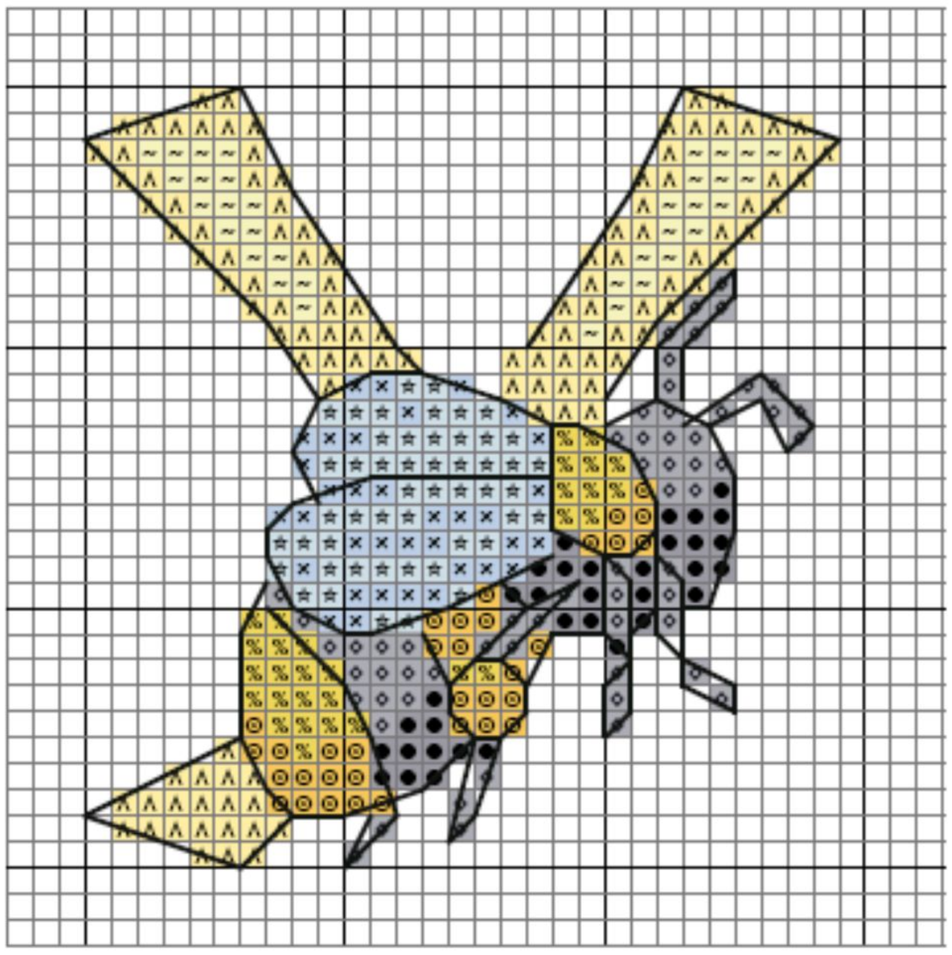
Mix and match your letters to create more beautiful bee projects. Here are some ideas to get you started...

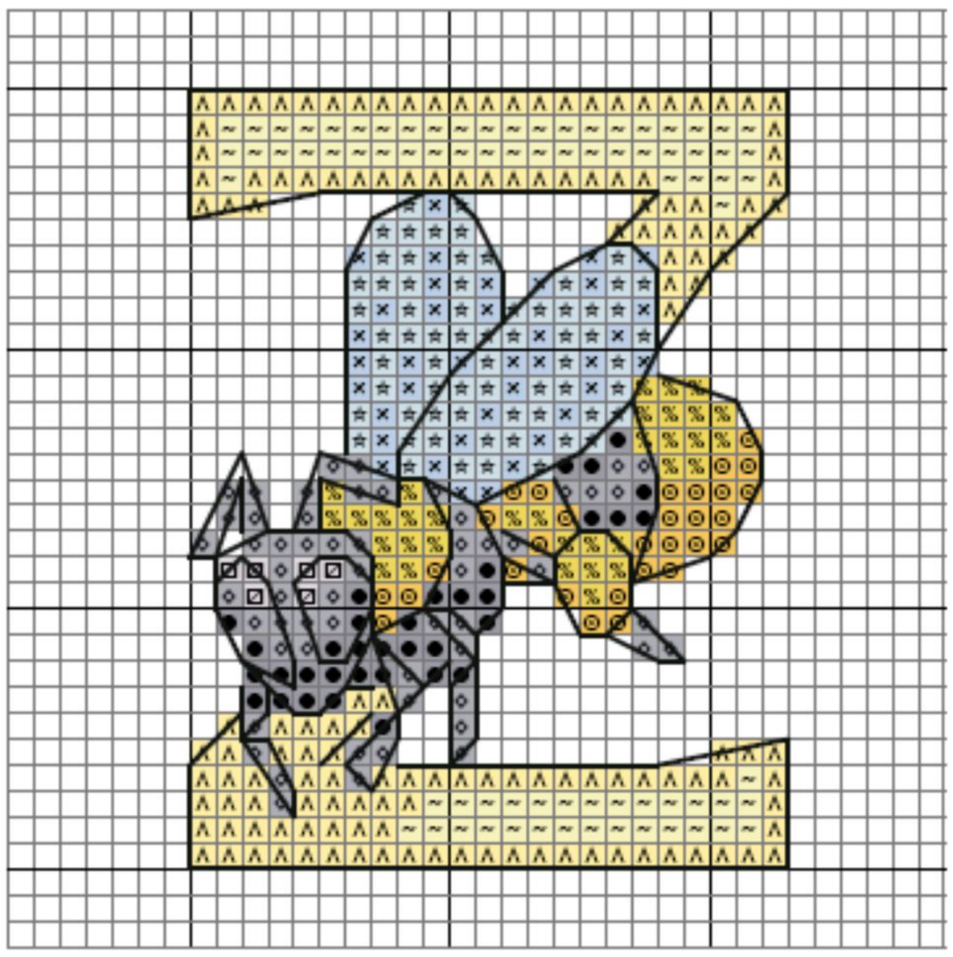
1 Stitch the initial of your recipient to add as a patch to a gift tag to go with a present of a jar of homemade honey.

2 Work a bee initial onto a child's cotton summer hat, using waste canvas.

3 Stitch individual bees to spell out a name on bunting flags, to make a garden decoration for a late summer birthday.



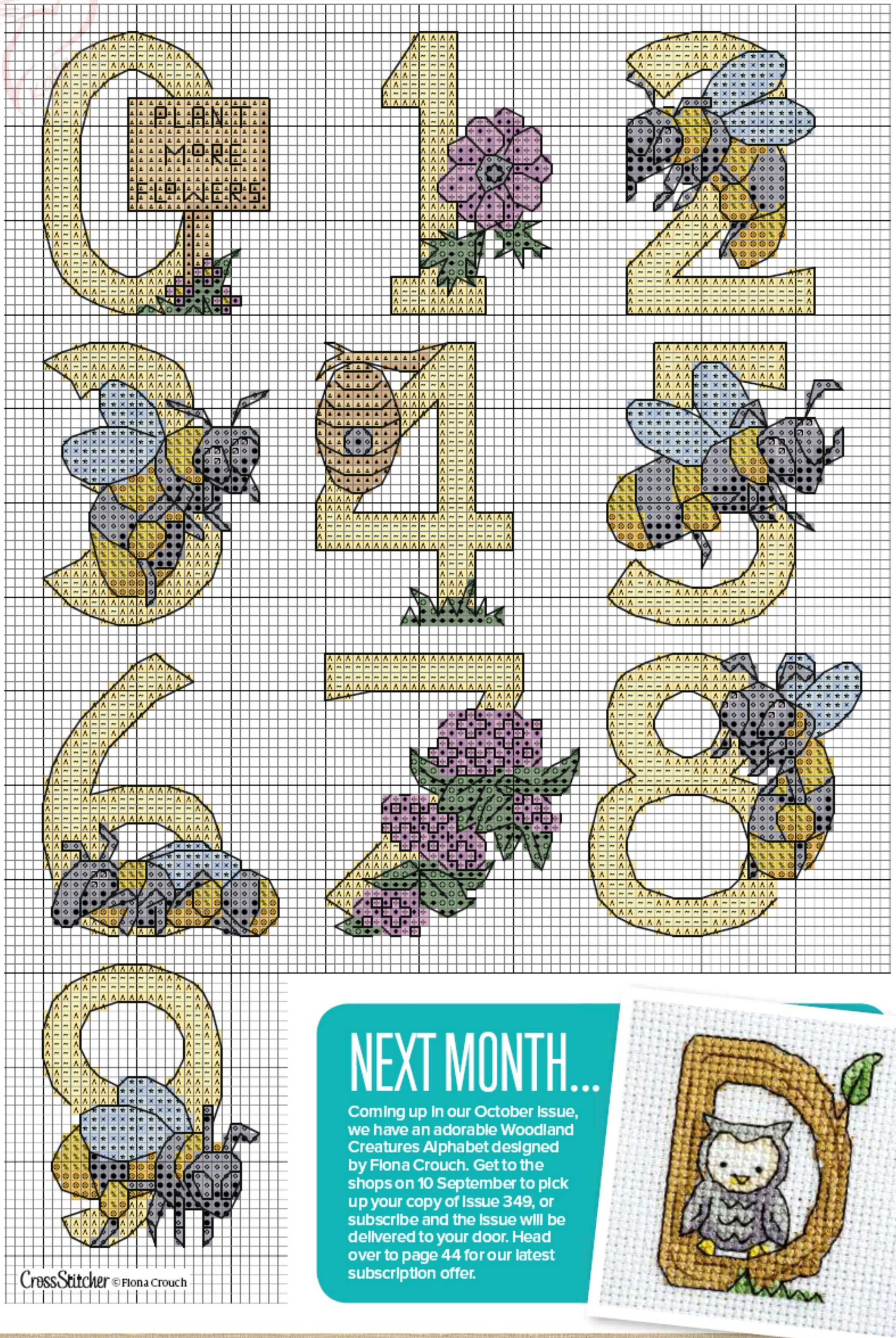




Why not try using an iridescent or metallic thread shade to stitch the bees' wings?

The letters can be any colour you choose, so are perfect for using up leftovers in your stash!

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
Cross stitch in two strands			
	164	240	1209
	318	399	1802
	414	235	1801
	444	297	106
	553	098	712
	554	097	711
	676	891	2208
	727	293	102
	729	890	2209
	762	234	1804
	775	1031	1001
	972	298	107
	987	244	1403
	988	243	1402
	3078	292	102
	3325	129	1002
Backstitch in one strand			
	310	403	black
	outlines, details		



NEXT MONTH...

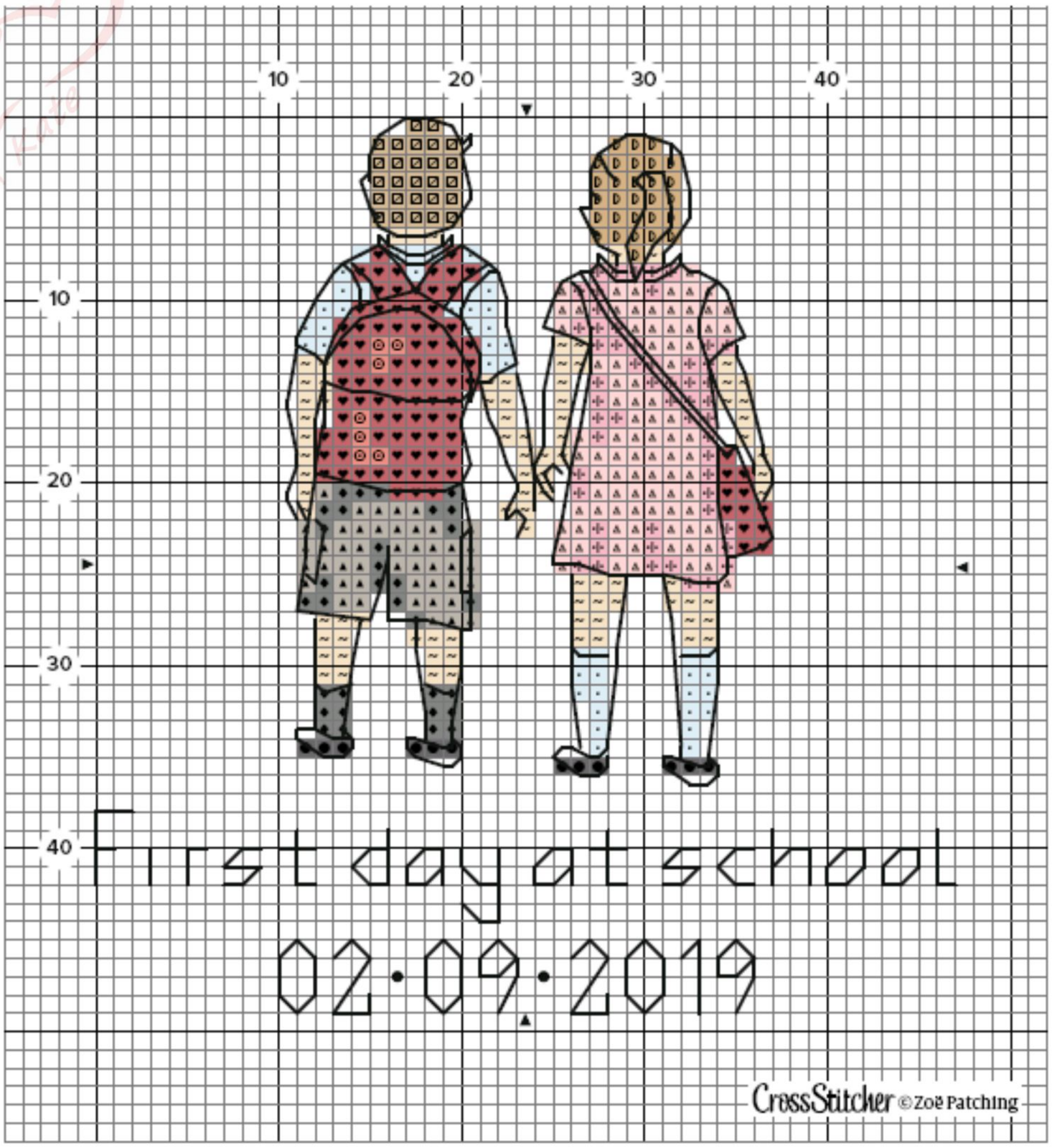
Coming up in our October issue, we have an adorable Woodland Creatures Alphabet designed by Fiona Crouch. Get to the shops on 10 September to pick up your copy of Issue 349, or subscribe and the issue will be delivered to your door. Head over to page 44 for our latest subscription offer.





Brand New School

Help a little one make those steps to school with pride, with our sweet picture that marks the date of their very first day



Designed by: Zoë Patching Stitch count: 49 high x 47 wide
Design size: 9x9cm (3½x3½in) Stitch time: 20 hours

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

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
Cross stitch in two strands			
● ●	310	403	black
⊙ ⊙	351	010	214
⧄ ⧄	422	943	2102
◆ ◆	535	1041	1809
▲ ▲	648	900	1814
D D	729	890	2209
♥ ♥	817	013	211
~ ~	951	1010	2308
△ △	3713	1021	501
·|· ·|·	3716	025	606
· ·	blanc	001	white
Backstitch in one strand			
—	310	403	black
	outlines, words		
French knots in one strand			
●	310	403	black
	dots		

How to... stitch the hair

Step 1

STITCH using two strands for the cross stitch and one for the backstitch. Use the numbers chart to add a date, and the alphabet chart to add a saying, school name or name. If you are going to create hair using special stitches, complete the cross stitch for the girl, but the boy should be worked in Turkey stitch shown below.

Step 2



WORK rows of Turkey stitch where the cross stitched boy's hair would be. Make each stitch, leaving a loop. Use sharp scissors to cut through the loops, and trim the hair down to the correct length.

Step 3



WORK on the girl's hair by working long loop knots around the outer edge of her head. Pull the ends together into a pony tail and secure by wrapping a length of red stranded cotton around like a hair band. Secure with a knot.

Change the thread colours of both the uniforms and the hair colour to personalise your picture further

Use the steps opposite to create the special stitches to make the children's hair





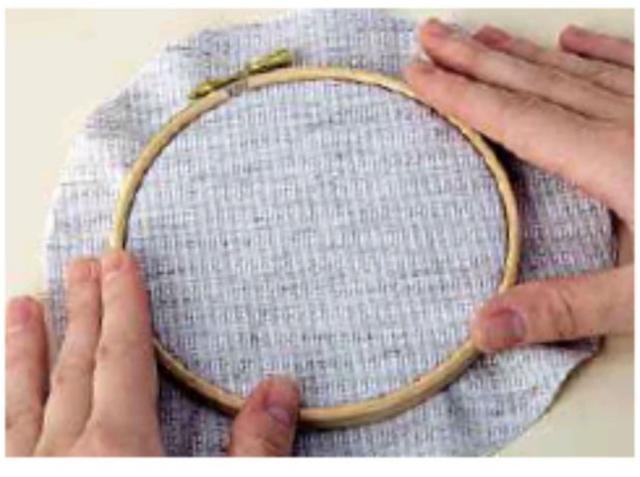
Materials

- Zweigart White 28 count Cashel, ref: 3281/0100; 23x23cm (9x9in)
- Stranded cotton as listed in the key
- Size 26 tapestry needle
- Wooden embroidery hoop, 5in

Materials available from www.willowfabrics.com

How to… frame your work in a hoop

Step 1



TRIM your stitching and a fabric piece into a circle slightly larger than your hoop. Place the inside hoop beneath the two pieces and the outer hoop on top. Centre and press over your work. Pull taut and tighten the screw.

Step 2



TURN your stitching to the reverse and cut a piece of felt to fit inside the inner circle. Place the felt inside the hoop. You can use a bit of fabric glue to keep it in place. The felt will pad your stitching, and stop anything showing through.

Step 3



USE a glue gun or double-sided tape to begin attaching the first layer of fabric, pulling taut as you go. Repeat for the second layer. Cut a second felt layer to fit over the back of your hoop. Secure with glue or small, neat stitches.







An interview with...

Ruth Oliver

The founder of online crafty emporium The Make Arcade tells us about how she balances her buzzing business with life as a busy mum

Interview by ***Katie Allen***

Whether it's rainbows, watermelons or retro cassette tapes, The Make Arcade's fun cross stitch designs are just the thing for an intro to the craft – or a satisfying make for seasoned crafters to try. With her devotion to cake and 'Feel Good Crafting', we loved chatting to designer Ruth about all things stitch...

You describe yourself as a "lifelong crafter" – what is the first thing you remember sewing?
When I was about eight I remember being able to use my mum's sewing machine (she made her wedding dress on it). I made some hair scrunchies: it was the 90s after all!

Can you tell us a bit about your career path so far?
My study path was creative, I loved



artistic subjects at school and studied Art and then Fashion Design. I specialised in products and accessories. I then worked in Product Design, which was office based, so not something I enjoyed, so I switched careers and worked for a designer milliners. This was fully hands-on and working with loads of textures and materials, I loved it!

When did you start The Make Arcade and what inspired you to do it?
After the birth of my second son, going back to work wasn't really going to work for us as a family. So after lots of little creative adventures which involved making things to sell at craft fairs, I decided to have a go at setting up my own thing. A bit of a revolution was happening around craft and sewing thanks to things like *The Great British Sewing Bee* on TV, so I set up The Make Arcade to teach sewing and craft workshops. The kits were always the grand plan and they followed soon after!

What sort of things have you learned along the way?
Our recent growth has made us more streamlined and organised – we had



All of Ruth's kits are hand produced in her studio in Salisbury.



The Make Arcade's website includes Ruth's blog and free patterns.



> "Our kits are aimed at modern and creative people, whether a complete beginner or a pro crafter"



to learn that quickly, as things get out of control! We work quite far in advance now – in June, we wrapped up our Christmas collection as we know that crafters like to start early!

What are your favourite things about running your own business?

I love the flexibility. I drop off and pick my children up from school every day and work around them in the holidays. Taking a cheeky morning off in the week is my decision and always feels like a real treat! The hard bits are making the decisions, keeping on top of admin and not switching off – businesses can be so needy.

Who are your kits aimed at, and do you design them all yourself?

Our kits are aimed at modern and creative people – whether a complete beginner or someone who is a pro crafter. They are easy to accomplish and fun projects.

I design all the kits, from the initial idea to the packaging and instructions. The most brilliant thing about designing and manufacturing them in our studio means we can react to trends or shelve anything that misses the mark. A new cross stitch kit can be designed, sampled and be on sale on our website in under two weeks!

Stitching messages and slogans seems to be very popular at the moment – why do you think that might be?

I think that an affirmative slogan or fun motto is just a step away from the more traditional 'Home Sweet Home' or Biblical quotations that people would have cross stitched as heirloom pieces years ago. A fun slogan is a modern twist on this, and can take pride of place in the home.

Can you tell us a bit more about your philosophy about "making time for making" as a self-care idea?

Between working and being a mum there is not massive amounts of time left to do things, but I try to make time for walking and reading. Most importantly, I try and do something hands-on and creative every day – whether baking, drawing with the kids, gardening or a few rows of cross stitch. If there are things that can be DIY'd we do them – my husband, sons and I just made and furnished some pallet furniture for the garden – that was a very satisfying project!

What's the crafty scene like in Salisbury, can you give us any tips?

We have a couple of good fabric shops and creative groups. The Fisherton Mill Gallery is a great spot for anyone visiting Salisbury, there are lots of craft and design studios, art exhibitions, workshops and an amazing café.

What's your favourite snack of choice when you're crafting?

On our craft kit boxes we always list 'tea and cake' in the list of things you'll need to get started on one of the projects. So I'll go for that – specifically one of my eldest son Sammy's lovely bakes!

www.themakearcade.co.uk

Autumn's IN THE AIR

The leaving are turning and it's a bumper harvest in the fields – must be time for our latest seasonal sampler…



CrossStitcher PROJECT PACK

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



Your materials pack contains:

- Zweigart 32 count Murano in Sage Green
- Skeins of DMC stranded cotton
- Two gold-plated tapestry needles; size 24 and size 26

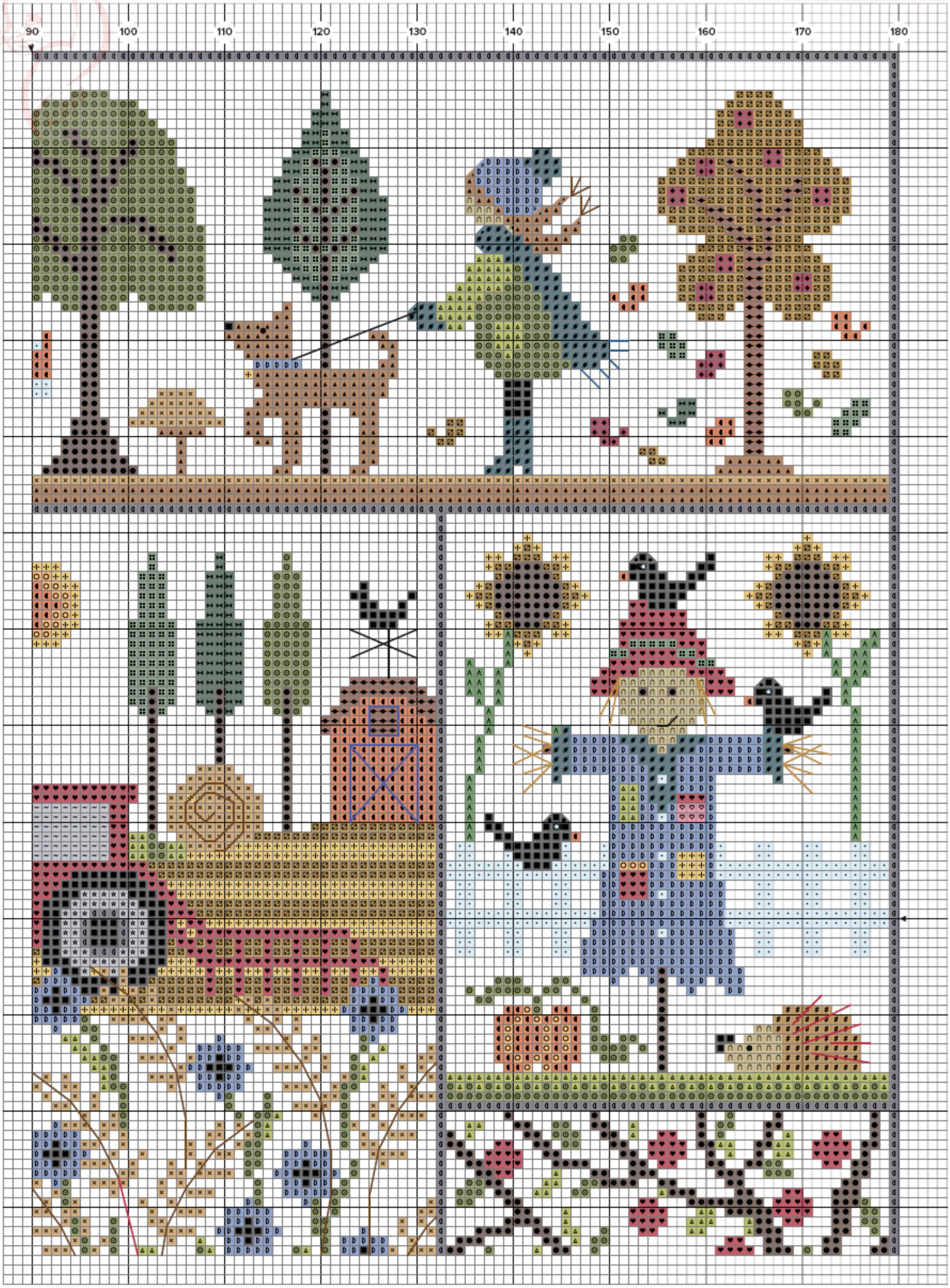
How to order: Go to www.willowfabrics.com to order your project pack at the *CrossStitcher* reader price of £39, plus P&P.

PART 3



AUTUMN'S IN THE AIR




90
100
110
120
130
140
150
160
170
180

AUTUMN'S IN THE AIR



If you're in the USA or Canada, you could leave the two outer bunting flags blank and then stitch FALL across the central flags instead of autumn

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
Cross stitch in two strands			
	166	280	1501
	310	403	black
	317	400	1714
	319	218	1313
	320	215	1311
	321	019	510
	327	100	805
	415	398	1803
	498	1005	511
	581	280	1609 (2)
	597	1064	1110
	598	1062	1111
	720	326	309
	729	890	2209
	780	309	2214

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
Cross stitch in two strands			
	782	308	2212
	799	136	910
	898	360	2006
	905	257	1412
	975	371	2303
	3046	887	2206
	3687	076	604
	3688	066	605
	3808	1068	2507
	3821	305	2510
	3852	307	2509
	3854	313	2301
	B5200	001	white
Half cross stitch in two strands			
	415	398	1803

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
Backstitch in one strand			
	310	403	black
	banner, details		
	729	890	2209
	scarecrow		
	780	309	2214
	hedge		
	975	371	2303
	hedge, apples		
	3808	1068	2507
	scarf		
	B5200	001	white
	words, details		
French knots in one strand			
	310	403	black
	eyes		
	898	360	2006
	eyes		
	B5200	001	white
	eyes		

(2) indicates more than one skein is required



TURN TO PAGE 36 TO LEARN HOW TO FRAME YOUR PICTURE

Designed by: Faye Walsh
Stitch count: 180 high x 180 wide
Design size: 28x28cm (11x11in)
Stitch time: 80 hours

This design was stitched on 32 count evenweave working over two threads of fabric.



Materials

- Zweigart Sage Green 32 count Murano, ref: 3984/6083; 50x50cm (19½x19½in)
- Stranded cotton as listed in the key
- Size 24 tapestry needle
- Frame with a 32x32cm (12½x12½in) aperture
- Mount board to fit frame

Materials available from www.willowfabrics.com

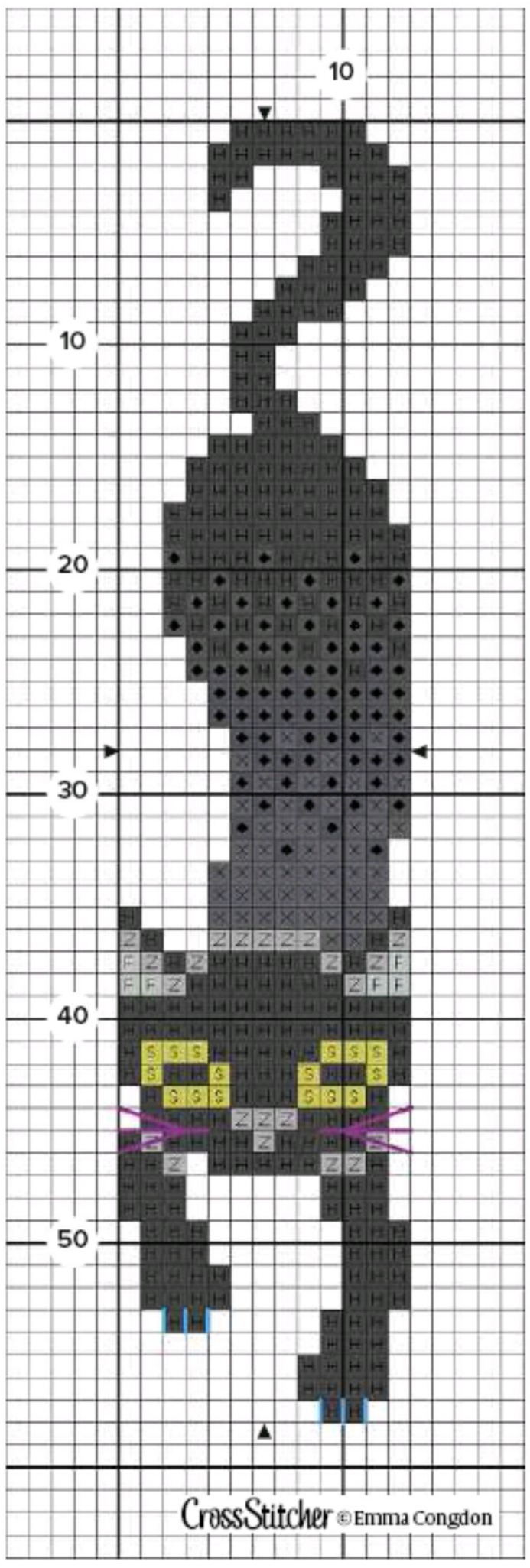
PART 1

Feline Fancy

Our new two-part series of accessories really is the cat's whiskers with some sleek, chic feline friends decorating a purse and cute key fob

Designed by: Emma Congdon





Stitch count: 58 high x 13 wide
Design size: 9.5x2cm (3¾x¾in)
Stitch time: 1¼ hours

This design was stitched on 14 count aida fabric.

Make a… key fob

THREAD the stitched aida band through the split ring. Bring the ends together, and cut the aida band to the required length for your key fob. On the wrong side, stitch the ends of the aida band together. Fold over twice, then slip stitch together to neaten.

If you prefer, you could not attach the key fob, adding a tassel, to create a cute cat bookmark instead!

Materials

For the key fob

- White edged aida band; 2.5cm (1in) x 30cm (12in)
- Stranded cotton as listed in the key
- Size 24 tapestry needle
- Split ring; 3.5cm (1½in)

Materials available from www.willowfabrics.com

Make a... purse

Step 1

COMPLETE your stitching, then place the black and white stitched cats right-sides together, and stitch down the centre seam, with a 1.25cm (½in) seam allowance.

Step 2

FOLD over the top of the stitched aida onto the wrong side by 1cm (⅜in). Press the fold in place. Working from the outside of the purse, place the fold on top of the closed zip, so that the seam is up against the teeth on one side of the zip, and spaced equally in the centre of the fabric. Using white sewing thread, make a row of machine stitches across the aida, close to the zip.

Step 3

ATTACH the backing fabric in the same way as the aida, to the other side of the zip – remember to fold down the top on the fabric, and this time opening the zipper before stitching.

Step 4

WORK on the wrong side and sew down the side seam, across the bottom, and up the other side seam of the purse, starting and finishing just before the zip at both ends. Trim away any excess seam allowance, and then clip the bottom corners before turning to the right side. Sew a bow to the top of the centre seam for decoration.





Materials

For the purse

- Zweigart Black 14 count aida, ref. 3706/720; 16.5x15cm (6½x6in)
- Zweigart White 14 count aida, ref: 3706/100; 16.5x15cm (6½x6in)
- Stranded cotton as listed in the key
- Size 24 tapestry needle
- Backing fabric; 16.5x27cm (6½inx10½in)
- White zipper; 23cm (9in)

Materials available from www.willowfabrics.com

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
Cross stitch in two strands			
↑ ↑	001	234	1804
Z Z	003	399	1802
S S	734	279	1610
H H	310	403	black
X X	413	401	1713
F F	928	274	1709
◆ ◆	3799	236	1713

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
Cross stitch in two strands			
• •	B5200	001	white
Backstitch in two strands			
claws	B5200	001	white
Backstitch in one strand			
whiskers	310	403	black
whiskers	B5200	001	white

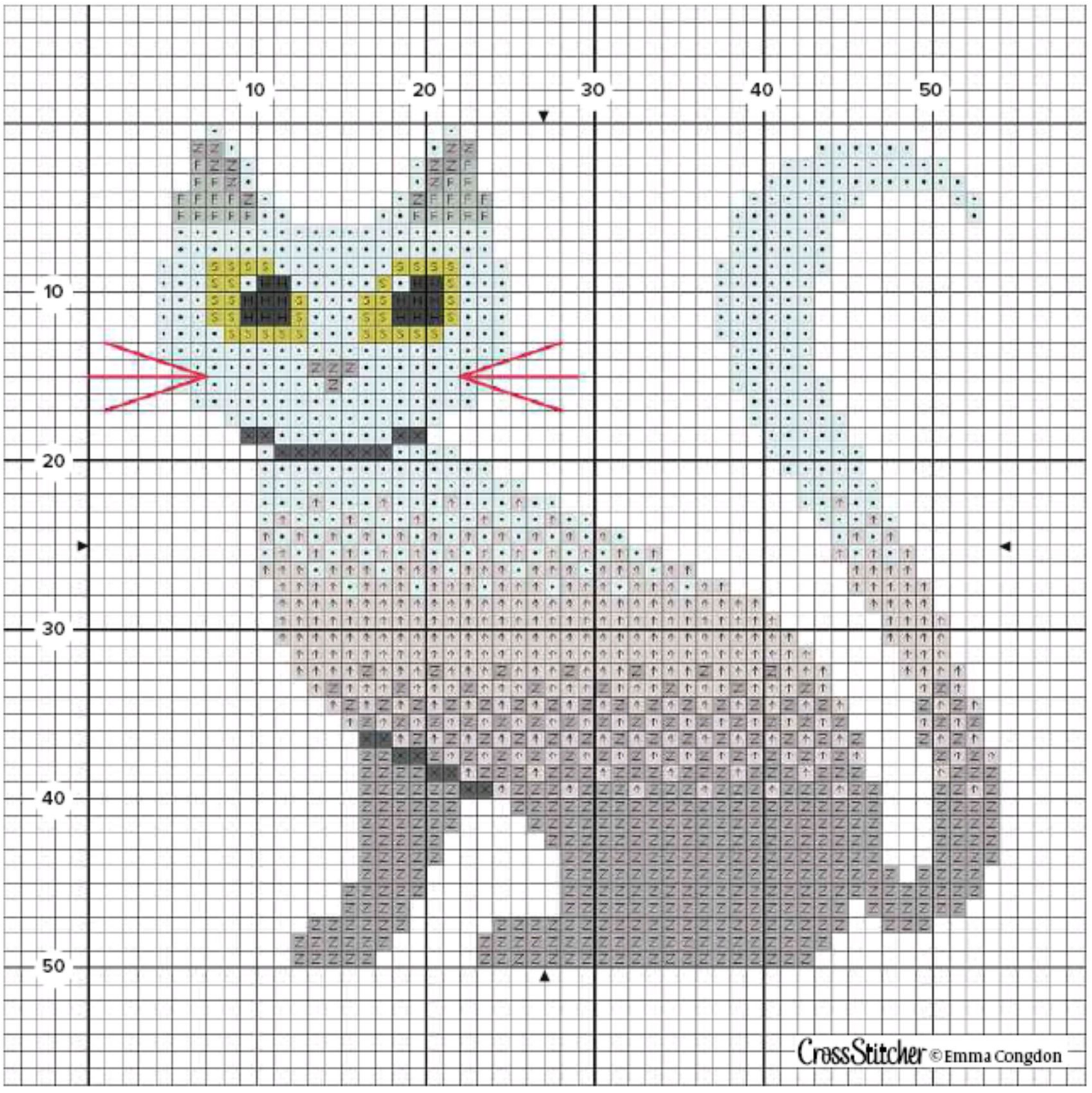
Keep an eye out in future issues for part 2 of this set, with a project for matching tote bag and phone case!

Use up a short length of ribbon from your stash to create a bow to finish your purse in style



Stitch count: 50 high x 54 wide each cat
Design size: 9x10cm (3½x4in) each cat **Stitch time:** 10 hours

This design was stitched on 14 count aida fabric.



Ready, steady, stitch!

We've challenged three designers to use only the materials given to them to create a design for an autumn brooch. Read on to see how they got on...



THE CHALLENGE
- 14 count plastic canvas
- Six shades of stranded cotton (shown above)
- Brooch back
- One mystery ingredient of your own choice

THE RULES
- Create a brooch with an autumn feel
- The design area is 45 x 45 stitches
- Only the materials above can be used
- Be creative as possible!

Welcome to this month's challenge! Autumn's just around the corner and we wanted our designers to celebrate the season with a wearable item. We asked them to create a brooch stitched on plastic canvas, but they could only use the materials listed on the left, as well as a mystery item of their own choice. Take a look at their results below – we've featured a chart for each one so you can stitch your favourite! We hope this will inspire you to join in too – turn the page to see what our challenge will be for November – we've listed everything you need to take part.

KERRY MORGAN... SQUIRREL



"Autumn always makes me think of leaves and so I wanted to try and incorporate them into a design in an interesting way; so I used them to create the squirrel's tail. I opted for white seed beads as my mystery item for the spots on the toadstools."

JANE PRUTTON... FOX

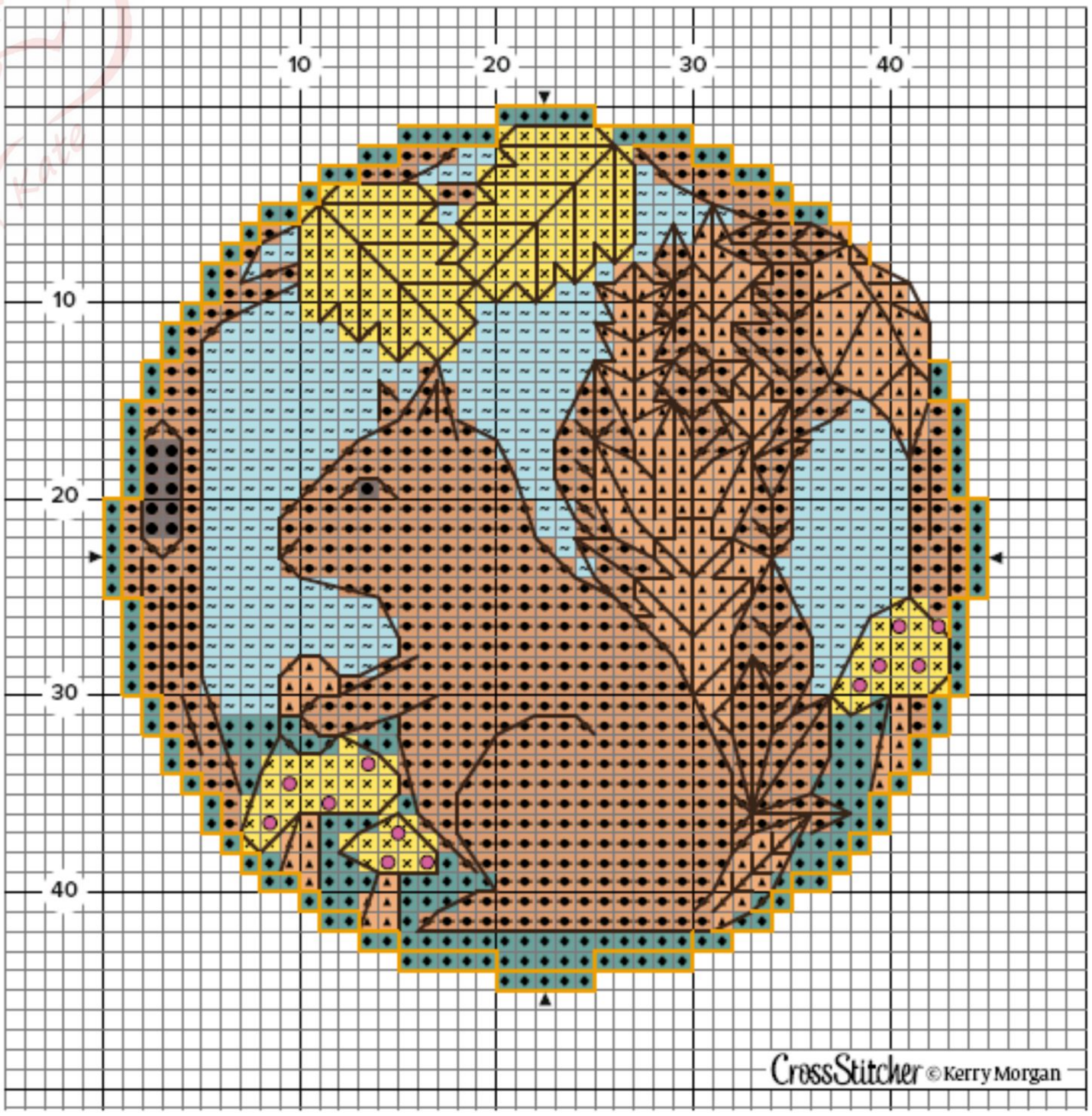


"I love creating things in felt so when I designed this fox badge I knew it had to have felt leaves. Nor could I resist using some DMC Etoile thread for a sparkly tail end. I know this is technically two mystery items but I just couldn't help myself! Enjoy stitching yours!"

EMMA CONGDON... BIRD



"Autumn colours are wonderful to work with lots of rich browns and orange tones. These tones work especially well in mid-century designs, so I've taken inspiration from the Fifties and Sixties to create an autumn bird brooch. He has leaves for wings and lots of autumnal detail. For my mystery item I've added a simple gold bead for his eye to add a little glint."



Make a… **brooch**

Step 1

START stitching in the centre of the plastic canvas, taking care to finish your thread ends securely. Use two strands of stranded cotton for the cross stitch, apart from the squirrel, where the teal stranded cotton background is in one strand. The backstitch is worked in one strand.

Step 2

SEW white seed beads to the toadstools on the squirrel brooch, a gold seed bead for the bird's eye, and felt leaves and an acorn to the fox – use the template provided to cut out each leaf shape from felt, adding a few running stitches in dark brown for detail. Stitch or glue the leaves to the front of the fox brooch.

Step 3

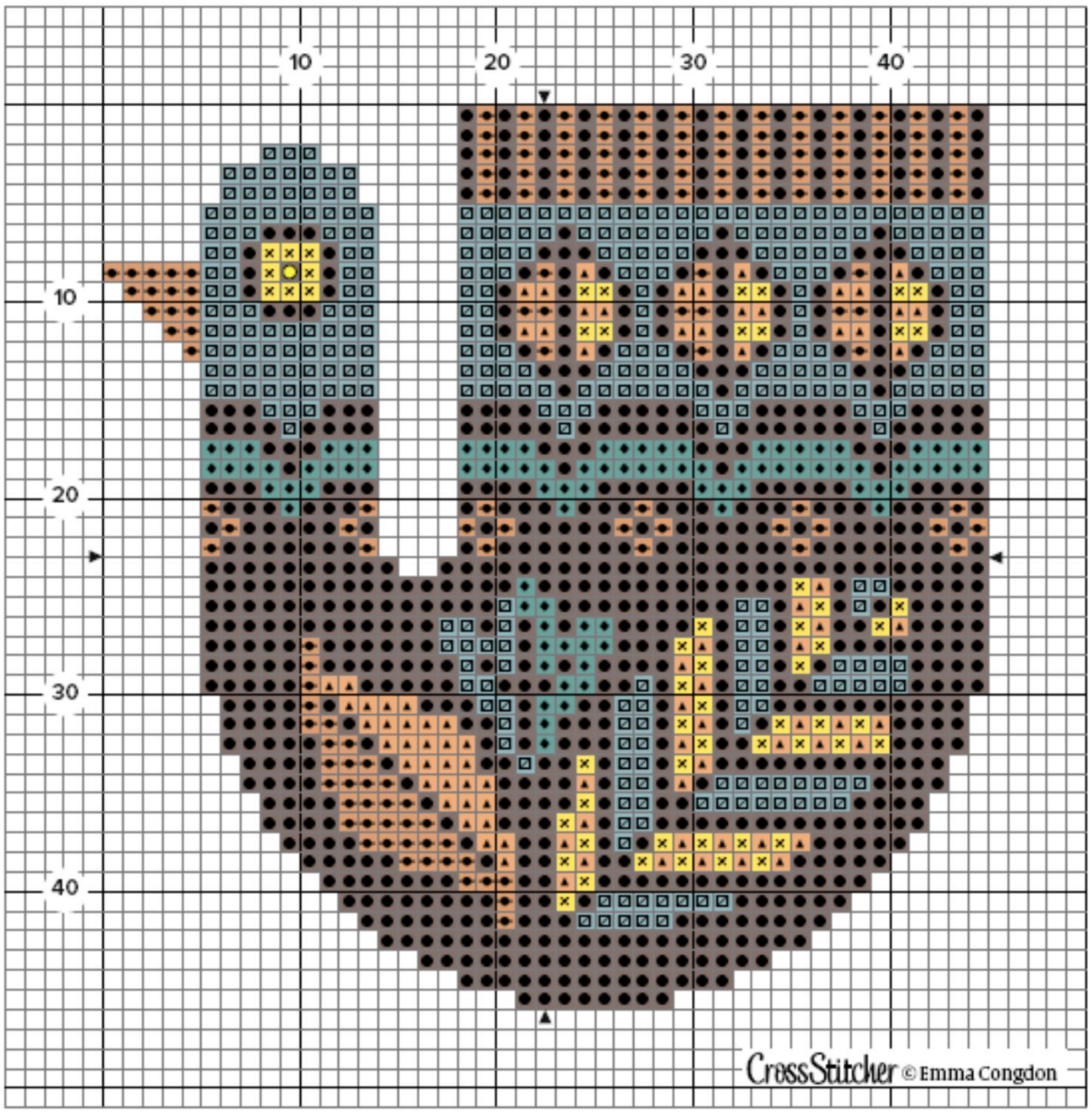
COMPLETE your stitching then cut around your design, one square outside the stitching – use small, sharp scissors, taking care not to catch any threads. Place each shape on some coloured felt, and then cut out. Using fabric glue, attach the felt shapes to the back of each brooch.

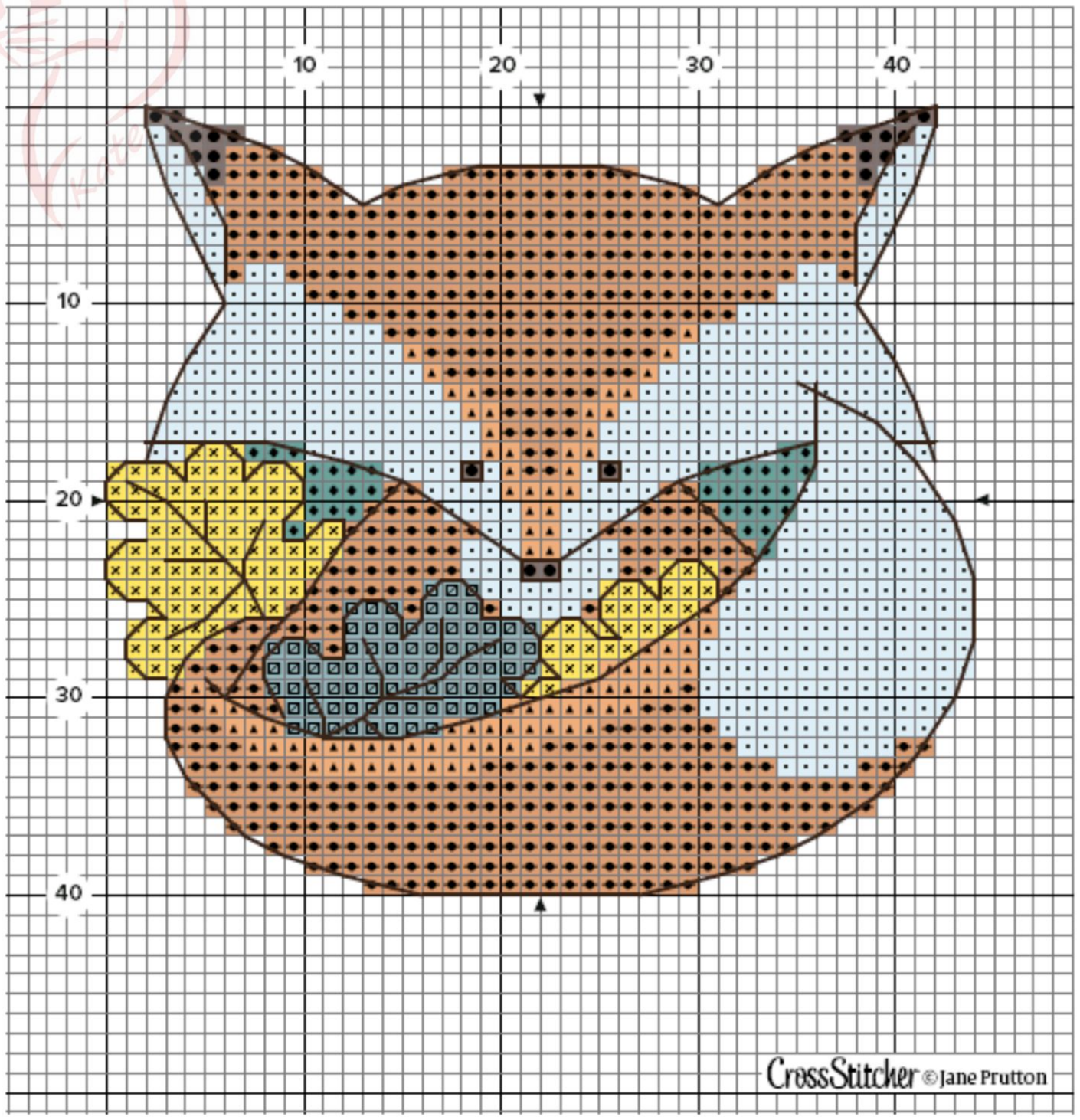
Step 4

SEW a brooch back to the felt on the back of each design.



You can buy the brooch backs, plastic canvas and felt for this challenge from www.willowfabrics.com





	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
Cross stitch in two strands			
⊘ ⊘	597	1064	1110
● ●	898	360	2006
× ×	973	290	105
▲ ▲	977	1002	2301
◆ ◆	3848	1074	1108
● ●	3853	1003	311
· ·	Cblanc Étoile		
Cross stitch in one strand			
~ ~	597	1064	1110
Backstitch in one strand			
—	898	360	2006
	outlines		
—	973	290	105
	squirrel border		
Attach beads with cotton			
●●	gold		
	bird's eye		
●●	white		
	toadstools		

SEE YOUR WORK HERE!

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

November issue 350 challenge:

Please create a luxury Christmas card, featuring at least three of the star buttons available from www.willowfabrics.com. The buttons vary from 5mm (2 stitches) to 10mm (4 stitches) in diameter.

Materials and rules:

- 14 count white aida
- Max. stitch count: 50h x 50w
- Six shades of DMC stranded cotton; Bright Canary (973), Dark Burnt Orange (900), Burnt Orange (947), Light Seagreen (964), Dark Seagreen (958) and Dark Aquamarine (991)
- Aperture card
- Mystery item of your choice

Although we are not judging your designs, this is a stitching challenge, so please make sure the design is your own work, and not taken from another source.







Did you know that European forests, which provide wood for making paper and many other products, have been growing by over 1,500 football pitches every day!

Love magazines? You'll love them even more knowing they're made from natural, renewable and recyclable wood.

UNFAO, Global Forest Resources Assessment 2005-2015

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TWO SIDES



CREATE A CLASSIC: *Unicorn*

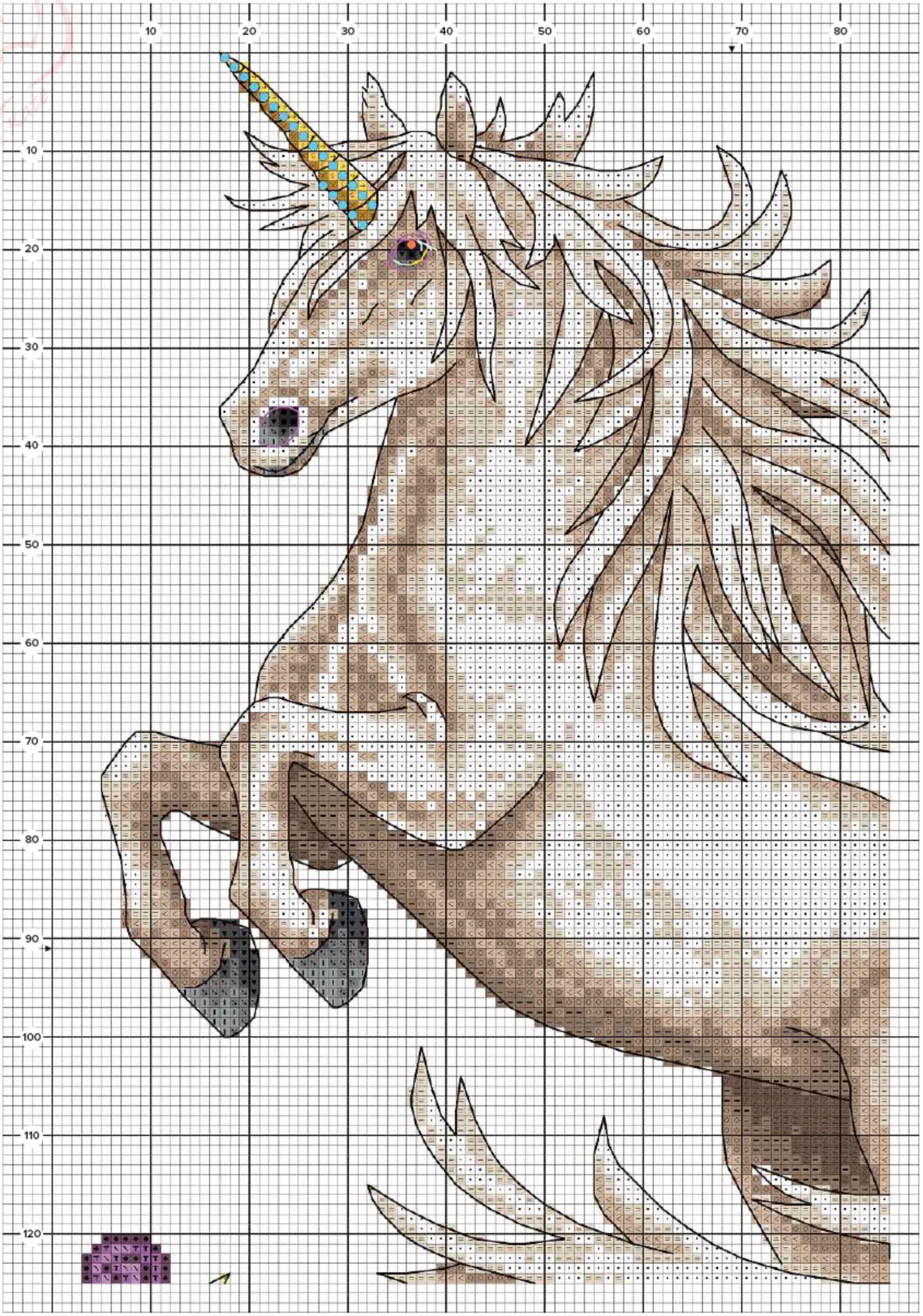
Use French knots, gold beads and plenty of floral details to bring this magnificent, magical unicorn to life in stitches

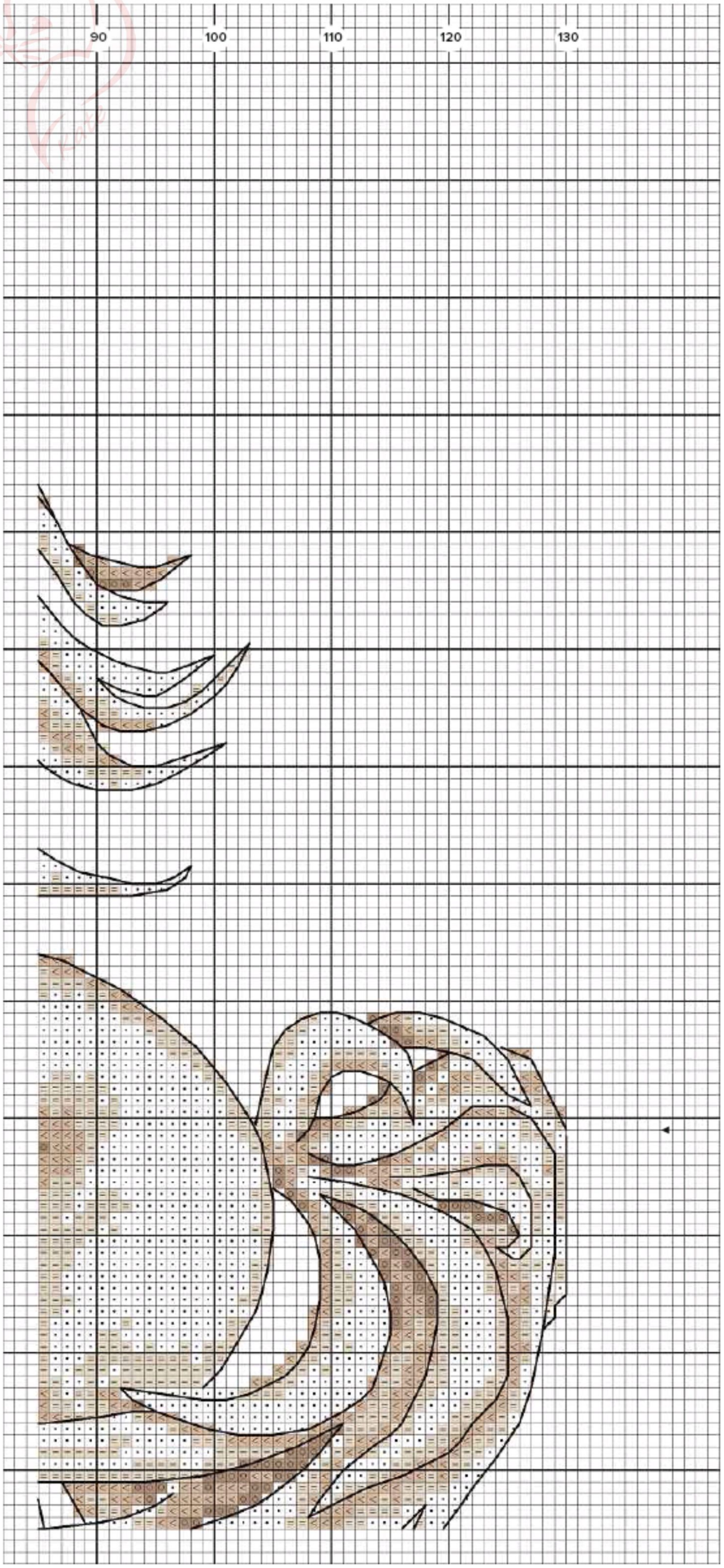


Certain projects always create excitement, and we know that unicorn designs are always very popular! We like to think that this time our unicorn design truly is the ultimate chart you can find – with a floral flourish and a shimmering gold horn – our handsome unicorn is sure to be a real talking point once up in your home. As it's a longer project you can enjoy taking your time working every stitch as you bring him to life.



UNICORN

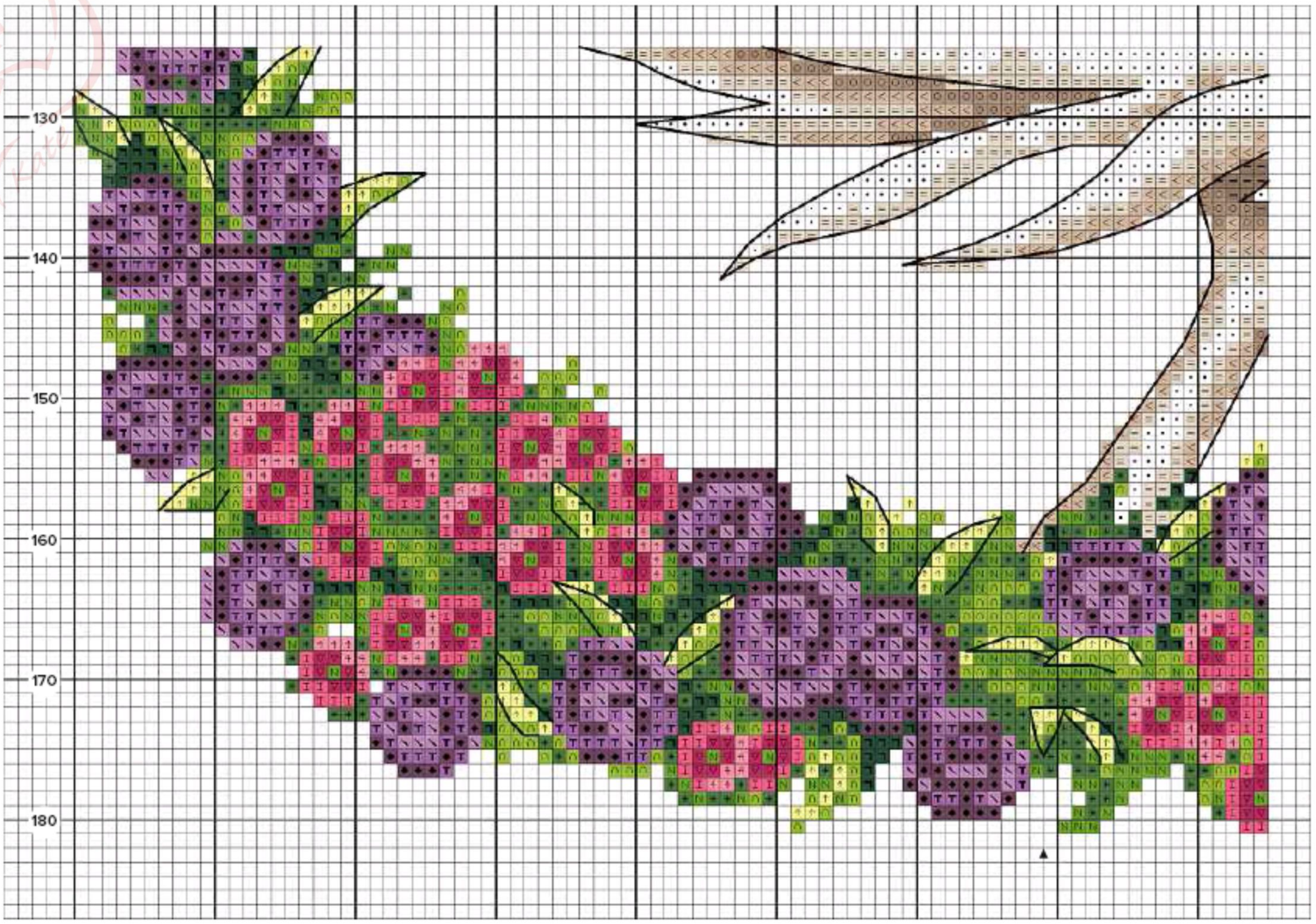




	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
Cross stitch in two strands			
I I	169	849	1802
T T	208	111	804
\ \	209	109	803
▽ ▽	309	039	507
■ ■	310	403	black
% %	317	400	1714
↑ ↑	445	288	103
→ →	726	305	109
S S	743	030	2294
X X	782	308	2212
Z Z	839	1086	1913
– –	840	1084	1912
○ ○	841	1082	1911
< <	842	1080	1910
⌐ ⌐	890	683	1314
* *	904	258	1413
N N	906	256	1411
∩ ∩	907	255	1410
I I	956	041	611
4 4	957	031	612
▼ ▼	3799	236	1713
◆ ◆	3834	100	805
= =	3866	926	1908 (2)
• •	B5200	001	white (2)
Backstitch in one strand			
310 nose, eye	310	403	black
317 eye detail	317	400	1714
890 leaves	890	683	1314
938 outlines	938	381	2005
B5200 001 eye detail	B5200	001	white
French knots in one strand			
B5200 001 eye	B5200	001	white
Attach beads with cotton			
gold horn			gold

(2) indicates more than one skein is required

UNICORN



Designed by: Amanda Butler Stitch count: 182 high x 138 wide
Design size: 31.5x24cm (12¼x9½in) Stitch time: 68 hours

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

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

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



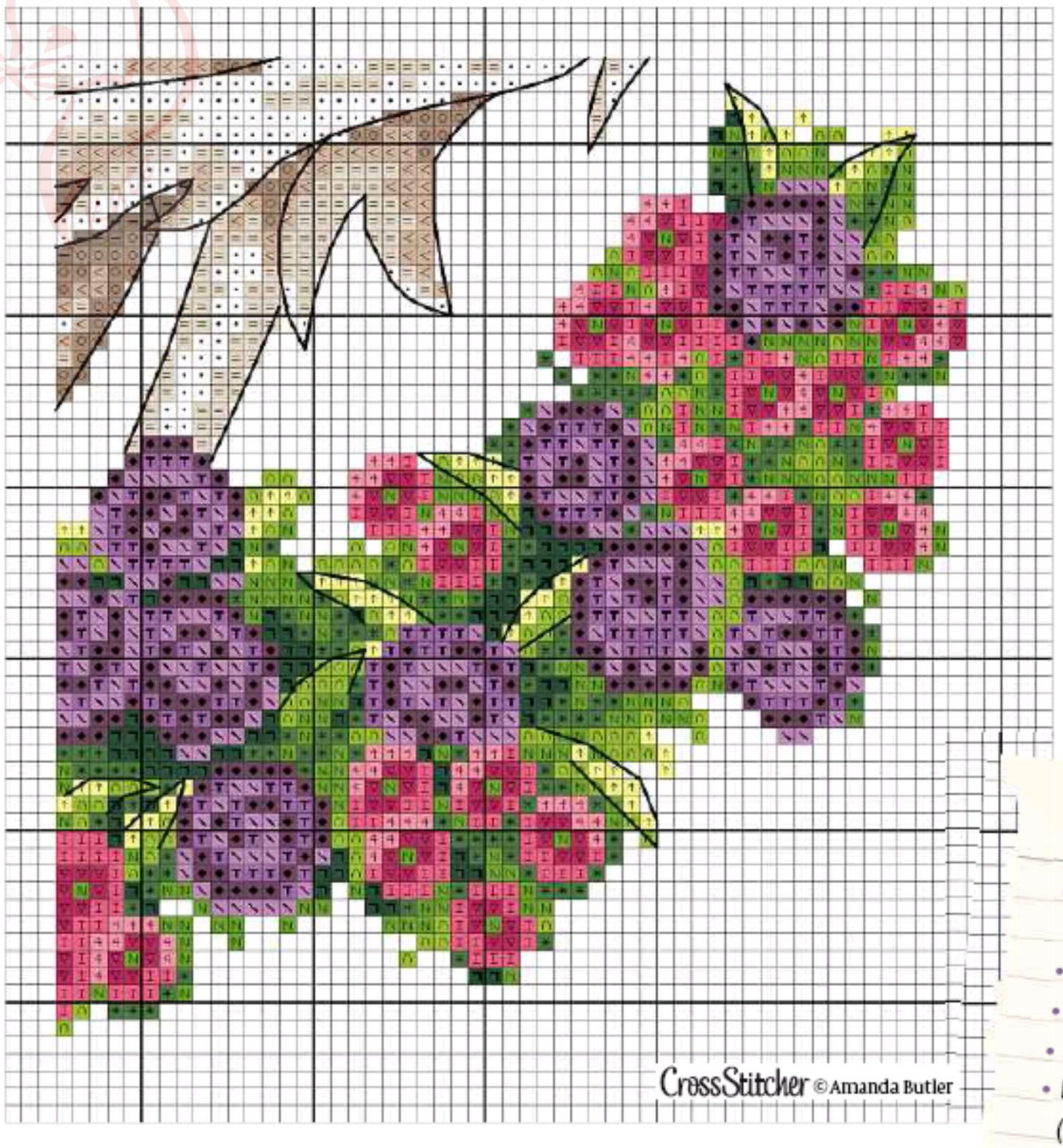
GOLD BEADS FOR SPARKLE:
As a stunning focal point, a unicorn's horn is always going to look magnificent but ours stands out even more thanks to the addition of gold beads stitched along it.



BACKSTITCH DETAILS FOR DEPTH:
To contrast with the unicorn we'd included plenty of floral areas, which look realistic thanks to the selective use of backstitch to pick out certain areas such as the leaves.



FRENCH KNOT FOR A 3D EFFECT:
There's just one French knot in this design! It's been cleverly used to give the eye of our unicorn a reflection which makes it look three dimensional and clear.





Materials

- Zweigart Raw Linen 28 count Cashel; 50x46cm (19½x18in)
- Stranded cotton as listed in the key
- Gold beads
- Size 26 tapestry needle
- Frame with a 33x27.5cm (13x10¾in) aperture
- Mount board to fit frame

Materials available from www.willowfabrics.com

With large areas of stitching to cover, you'll find it easier to keep track by crossing off the chart as you go

TURN TO PAGE 36 TO LEARN HOW TO FRAME YOUR PICTURE

CrossStitcher PROJECT PACK

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



Your materials pack contains:

- Zweigart 28 count Cashel in 100% Raw linen **OR** 14 count aida 100% Natural linen
- Skeins of DMC stranded cotton
- Gold beads
- Two gold-plated tapestry needles; size 24 and size 26

How to order: Go to www.willowfabrics.com to order your project pack at the *CrossStitcher* reader price of £39, plus P&P. Please state whether you would like Cashel or aida in your pack.

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CrossStitcher

STITCH-A-LONG

FAIRYTALE FAVOURITES: GRETEL



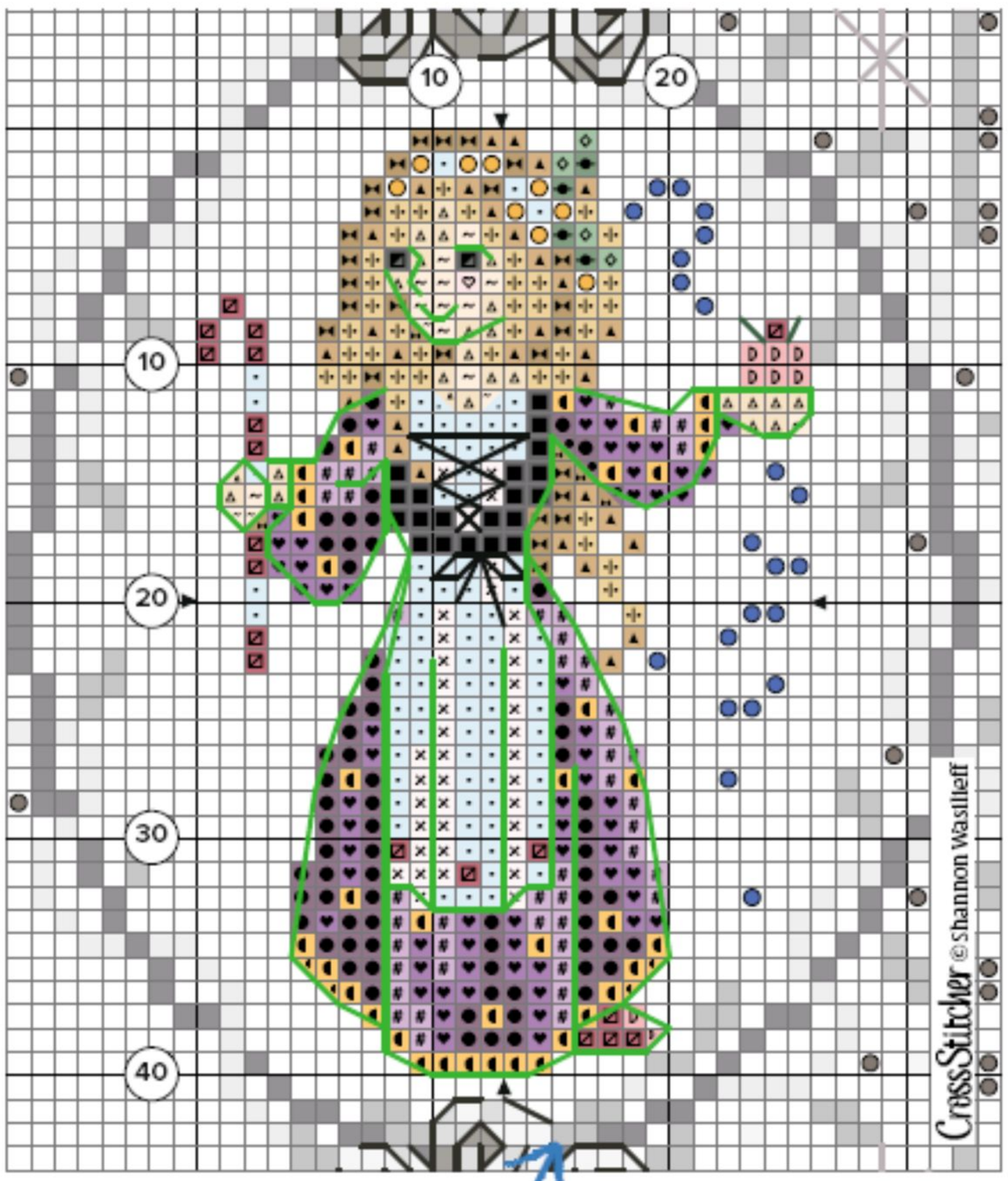
Welcome to our 2019 stitch-a-long. Designer Shannon Wasilieff has created a stunning 'Fairytale Favourites' SAL – and will be unveiling a new character each month. In this issue we give you your next character to fill your border frame from the January issue…

FAIRYTALE STITCH-A-LONG

Here is the ninth of our characters, Gretel, from Hansel & Gretel, who fits into the right-hand position on the third row of your stitched grid. Over the year we'll bring you twelve designs that together will become a complete design, finishing with the December 2019 issue.

Designed by: Shannon Wasilieff
Stitch count: 40 high x 26 wide
Design size: 7.5x4.5cm (3x2in)
Stitch time: 4 hours

This design was stitched on 14 count aida fabric.



THE KEY

ALL THE symbols that appear on the chart are listed in the key with their corresponding thread codes beside them. The key also tells you the different stitches used in the design. The closest column of thread codes listed next to the chart symbols is the thread brand that's used in the design. Similar colour matches are listed alongside it. Where no close match can be found, you may have to use a different brand of thread for that shade.

THE CHART

EACH square on the chart represents a single cross stitch. Start from the centre of the design and your fabric. The centre of our charts are indicated by arrows at the designs' edges. To find your fabric's centre, fold it in half and into quarters.

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
Cross stitch in two strands			
♥ ♥	208	111	804
# #	210	108	802
⊠ ⊠	309	039	507
■ ■	310	403	black
● ●	327	100	805
⊷ ⊷	367	217	1312
◇ ◇	368	214	1310
·|· ·|·	676	891	2208
▲ ▲	729	890	2209
♡ ♡	819	271	501
△ △	951	1010	2308
D D	3326	036	504
◪ ◪	3371	382	2004
~ ~	3770	1009	978
⋈ ⋈	3829	901	2210
× ×	3865	002	2402
· ·	B5200	001	white
◖ ◖	Kreink #4 braid		0002

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
Backstitch in one strand			
▬	310 bodice	403	black
▬	367 leaves	217	1312
▬	3371 outlines	382	2004
Attach beads with cotton			
●●	Mill Hill 02010 pixie dust		
●●	Mill Hill 02011 hair detail		

Note: the greyed out stitches are to position the design within the border

HOW TO JOIN OUR STITCH-A-LONG

IN THIS YEAR'S stitch-a-long we're unveiling a chart from January to December, starting with the border in January, then twelve characters designs over the coming year, with a character plus six small bonus designs to fit between the framework in the summer issue. As you add to your design you'll start to see your design come to life, with a new character appearing each issue.

To join our SAL, you'll need a fat quarter 50x55cm (19½x21½in) of Zweigart Nougat 14 count aida, ref: 3796/3021, plus to complete the border which appeared in the January issue (339) of *CrossStitcher*, Kreinik #4 braid in colour 0002 HL, and gold seed beads (700 qty) of your choice. The design size will be 207 stitches high x 131 stitches wide, which gives you a finished size of 38x24cm (15¼x9½in).

Join our special *CrossStitcher* SAL Facebook group at www.facebook.com/groups/CrossStitcherSAL to get regular posts from Shannon, the *CrossStitcher* team, and other stitchers working on the SAL. Don't worry if you missed previous issues – back issues of *CrossStitcher* are available from www.willowfabrics.com.

BEGINNERS START HERE...

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

THE ESSENTIAL KIT YOU'LL NEED TO START STITCHING

NEEDLES

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

EMBROIDERY SCISSORS

Embroidery scissors are an absolute must-have. Keep yours sharp by only using them to cut threads.

STRANDED COTTON

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

HOOPS AND FRAMES

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

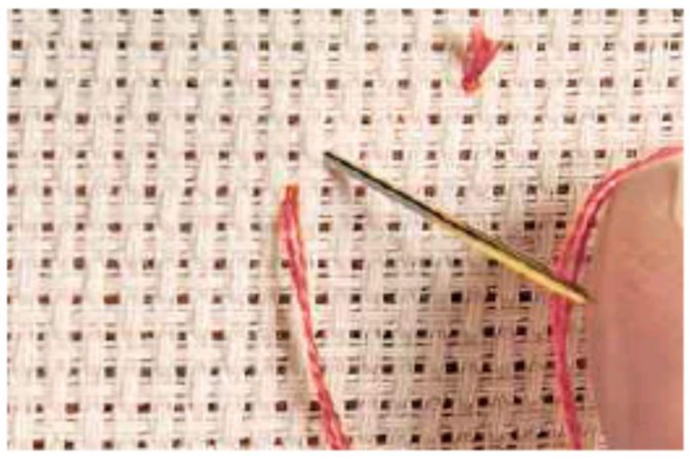
FABRICS

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

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

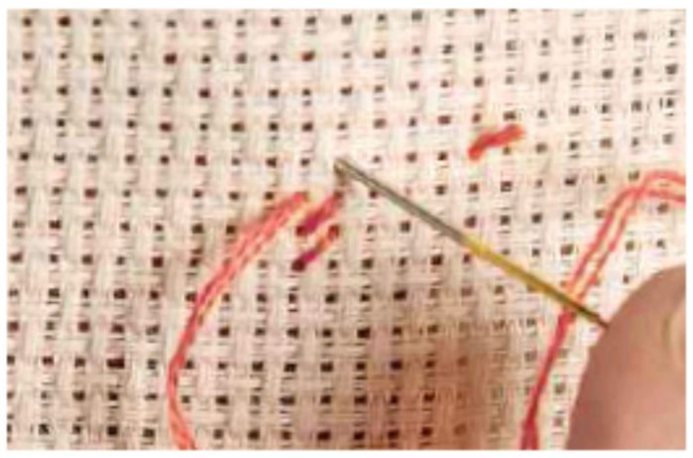
Start stitching... on aida

Step 1



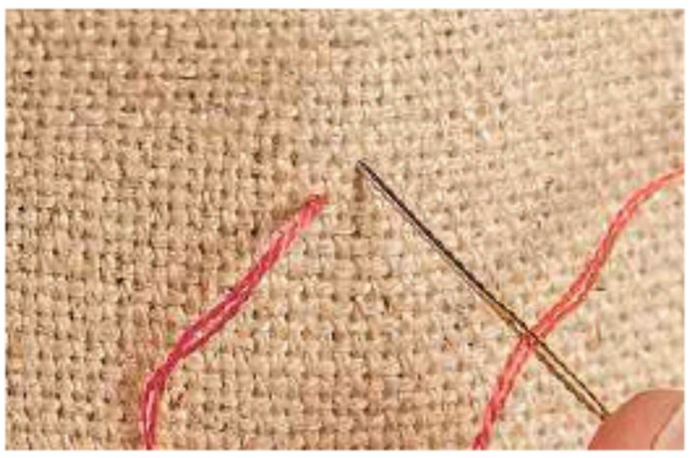
CUT a 40cm thread length, and thread your needle with two of the six strands. Knot one end and start with a waste knot (opposite). Make a diagonal half cross stitch across a single aida block.

Step 2



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

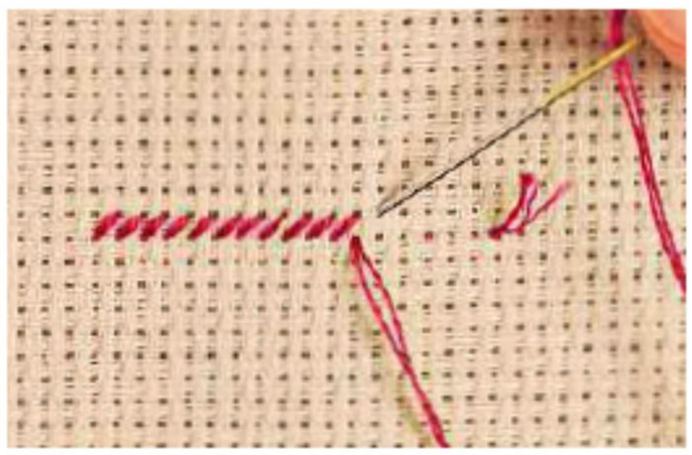
and... on evenweave



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

STARTING A THREAD

1. Away waste knot



KNOT one end of your thread and take it down through the front of your fabric, 2cm from your starting point.Bring it back up to the front of the fabric to make your first stitch. Begin stitching your design, making sure you stitch over your starting thread with each stitch. Once you're happy that your starting thread is secure, snip off the knot. To secure your thread when you've finished stitching, weave it through the back of your stitches.

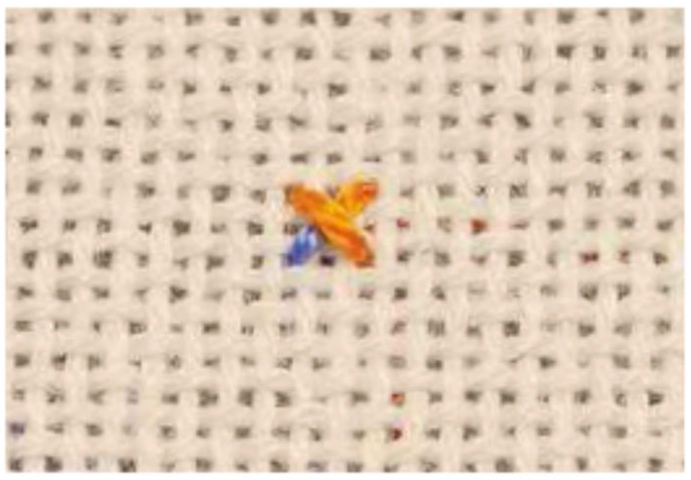
2. Loop knot



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

FRACTIONALS

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



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

ADDING BACKSTITCH OUTLINES & DETAILS

Step 1



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

Step 2



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

FRENCH KNOTS

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

Step 1



BRING your needle up at your starting point and wrap your thread once or twice around the needle. Use one strand for a small knot and two for a chunkier knot. Hold your thread end firmly and take your needle down, ever so slightly away from where you came up. Slide the twisted thread down the needle, so it rests on the fabric's surface.

Step 2



FEED the needle gently through the fabric. Try to keep your thread as taut as possible to prevent the knot becoming loose. Gently pull your thread through to tighten the knot, so that it sits neatly on the surface. Keep practising your French knots until you are happy you have perfected the technique.

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Here you can post pleas for help, find a home for your spare stash, or track down penpals and clubs in your area – all absolutely free!



My name is Anita Morris. I would be thrilled if anyone can help me with what I am looking for. I am after issue 245, October 2011 of *CrossStitcher* as I want to stitch the reindeer cake band pattern in it – I think it was a free gift with purchase of the magazine.

If you can help, please contact me at the email address below.

Many thanks,

Anita Morris

Email: anitamorris1969@gmail.com



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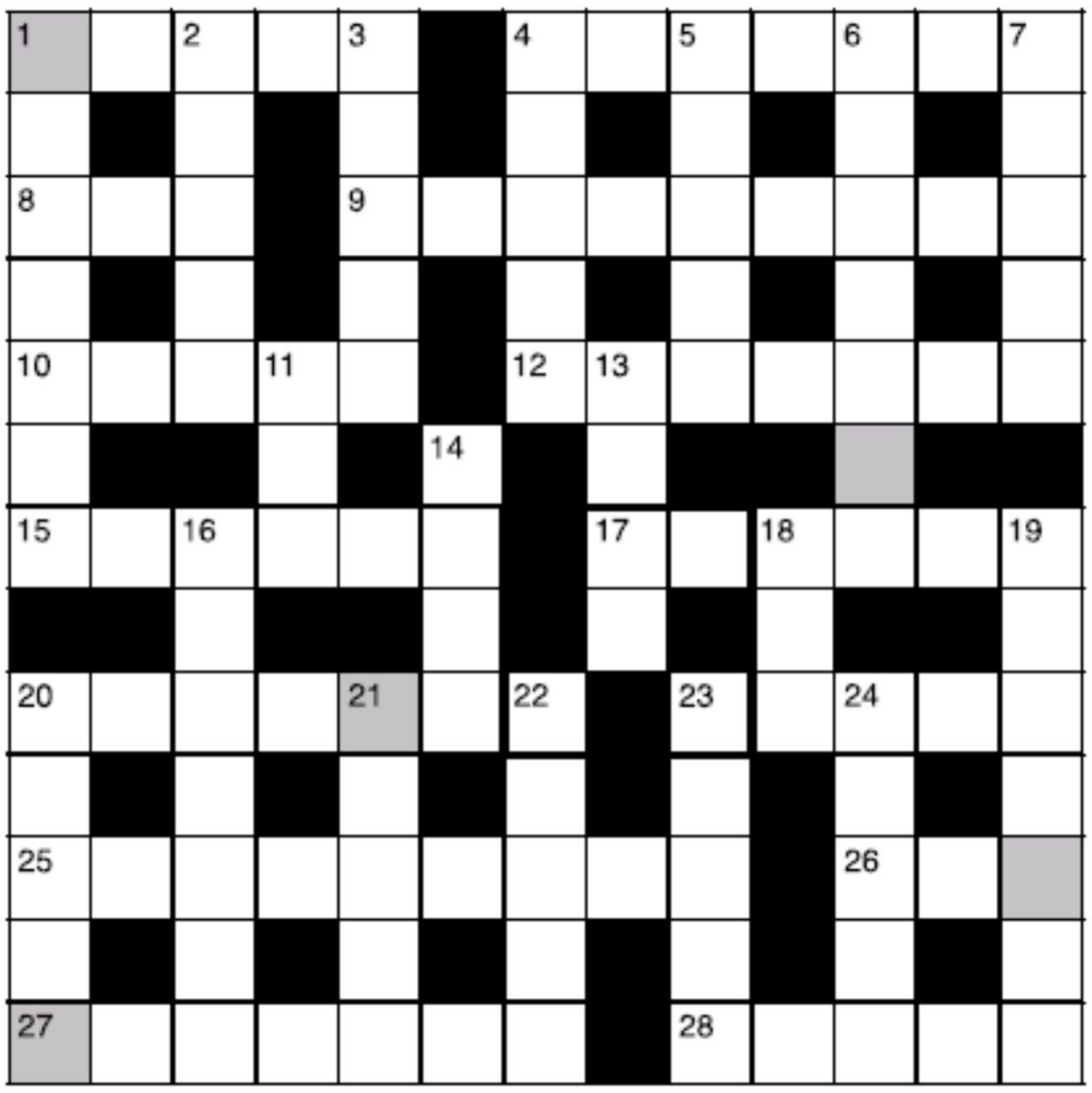
Prize crossword

Across

1 Frequently (5)
4 Decorative effect in a stitching project (7)
8 --- *Gear*, TV motoring programme (3)
9 Large juicy tropical fruit (9)
10 Meat and vegetable-filled pastry (5)
12 Barbecue snacks (3,4)
15 Vast desert (6)
17 Climb (6)
20 Mild perfume (7)
23 Start (5)
25 Sport played with a shuttlecock (9)
26 Hawaiian garland (3)
27 People belonging to the king or queen's family (7)
28 Useful or valuable thing or person (5)

Down

1 Eight-legged sea creature (7)
2 Small savoury Spanish dishes (5)
3 Diaper (5)
4 Long wooden seat (5)
5 Modify, alter (5)
6 Make better (7)
7 Estimate (5)
11 Assam, Early Grey, eg (3)
13 Egg-shaped (4)
14 Continuous strand of twisted threads (4)
16 Vacation (7)
18 Snooker rod (3)
19 Tooth specialist (7)
20 Tree trunk tossed in Scottish Highland games (5)
21 Cooking device that radiates heat downwards (5)
22 Place of access (5)
23 Fabric with a low stitch count (5)
24 Respiratory organs of a fish (5)



Winning word clue: **Sixth sign of the Zodiac with a maiden as its symbol (5)**

HOW TO ENTER

Win!



COMPLETE the crossword and rearrange the letters in the shaded boxes to make up a winning word. Write your winning word and 'Crossword 348' on the back of a postcard or stuck-down envelope, adding your name, address and email address and post it to: *CrossStitcher*, PO Box 172, Northam, EX39 9DY

Competition open:
13 August – 9 September 2019

For full terms and conditions, see page 88.

YOUR PRIZE Our winner will receive this new whole stitch design just added to the Karen Carter 'By the Sea' range from Heritage Crafts. This pretty kit includes Zweigart fabric, DMC stranded cottons sorted onto numbered cards, a needle, clear charts and instructions. It has a design size of 20.5x20.5cm with an RRP of £29.95, available from www.hcrafts.com.

SUDOKU

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

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

Issue 346's winning word: **WIMBLEDON**

In your October

CrossStitcher

Switched on ideas for autumn projects!

NO.1 FOR DESIGNS



ISSUE 349
OCTOBER 2019

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- Create a **spooktacular Halloween house** in 3D
- **On-trend leaf motif** table runner and coasters set
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NO.1 FOR DESIGNS



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