

NO.1 FOR STITCHING PLEASURE

CROSS STITCH

March 2017 Issue 272

Collection

STITCHING FAVOURITES: ANIVERSARIES, MONDAY'S CHILD

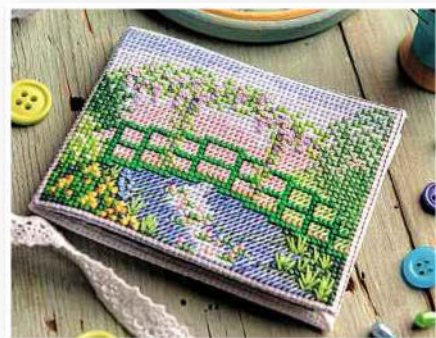


Country Elegance

SPECIAL
COLLECTOR'S
EDITION



Dreaming of spring



Make your own Monet!

GIANT
CHART
INCLUDED



GO GLOBAL!

HOUSE
PROUD

Create a home
for your needles

COSTUME DOLLS
from all around the world



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**FREE
GIANT
CHART!**



Welcome...

It's an incredible honour to be at the helm of Britain's longest-running cross stitch magazine. So it's with a huge lump in our throats that we have to let you know that this edition of Cross Stitch Collection is the very last we will publish.

The publishing industry has changed so much in the last 20 years and of course the internet has transformed cross stitching in many great ways. The downside is that it's easy for people to share our pages online without considering the long-term effects on creative work. But that's a rant for another day!

We want to go out with a bang, so we've packed this issue with the very best designs. From classic spring flowers (page 10) to a giant chart of collectable costume dolls, our designers have created projects that will give you real stitching pleasure, and be treasured for years to come.

We have enjoyed being part of your stitching lives. From those early days when Collection was the only dedicated magazine for cross stitchers, through the exciting years of new magazine launches, and then on to the introduction of new fabric ranges and modern specialist threads, all of which enhance our stitching and make our stashes grow even larger! This magazine has always been a reflection of the amazing designers and beauty in cross stitch, and we have truly enjoyed bringing you some of the very best designs over the years. We don't want to lose touch, so we have our fingers crossed that you'll want to stay part of our stitching family, and join us at our sister mag CrossStitcher (www.crossstitchermag.co.uk).

With love and thanks,

Martin Susan

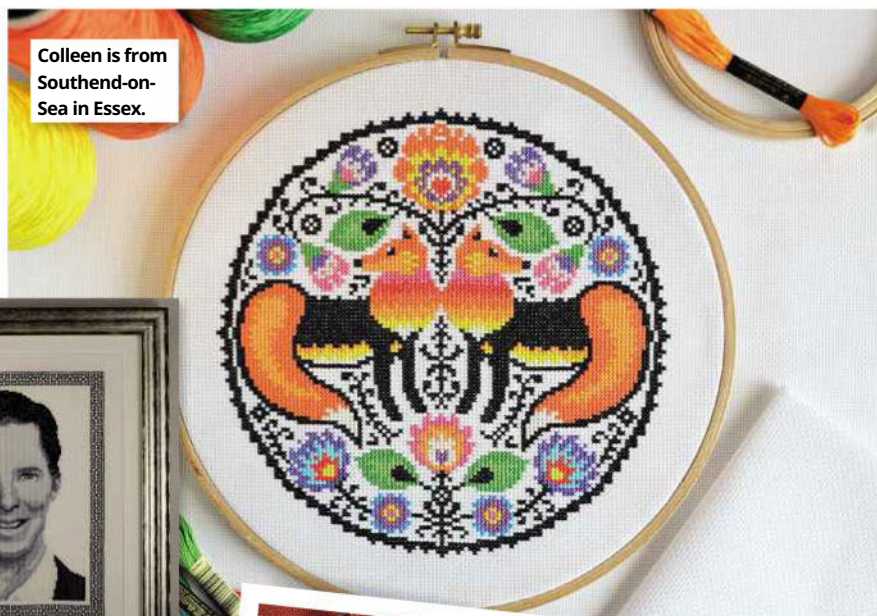
Susan & Martin Penny
Editors

March Collection

Be inspired by new kits, great ideas and more from the vibrant stitching world



Colleen is from Southend-on-Sea in Essex.



Meet the Cumberstitch Queen

Colleen Carrington came to our attention thanks to her colourful designs of foxes, birds and flowers inspired by folk art in her Etsy shop, The World in Stitches. "I like to use these popular, timeless motifs and give them my own twist."

Colleen's true love, however, is creating designs of her favourite celebrities, including a certain A-list actor: "I love Benedict Cumberbatch from Star Trek and Sherlock," she exclaims. "He has a fun personality as well. Who wouldn't be inspired by a talented actor with lovely eyes, who photobombs U2 and gets compared to an otter?"

Her cross stitch designs of the star are now contained within a book, *Benedict Cumberstitch*, published by Kyle Books (www.kylebooks.com). "I had so many ideas I wanted to include,

but we had to make careful choices around copyrights and what would be understood internationally."

When working on new designs, Colleen sits at her desk, listening to audiobooks or the radio. "I love this little space just for me. I stick sketched ideas and notes for ongoing projects on the wall and am surrounded by all sorts of cross stitch paraphernalia."

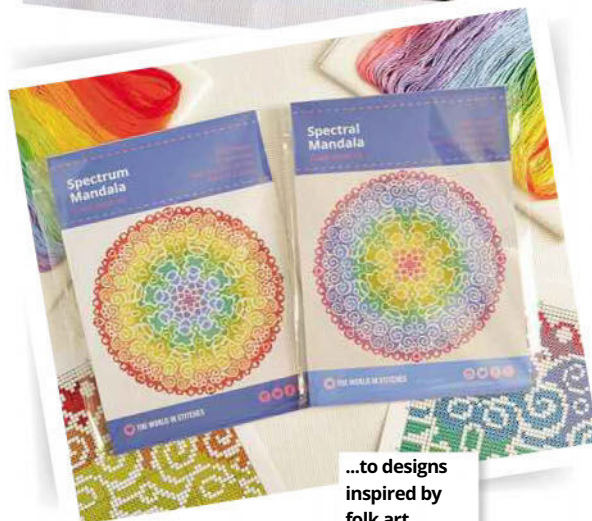
Colleen has also been creating designs for DMC, and recently started selling in local craft retailers. "Hopefully I'll soon have time for some personal projects – I'm working on something life-sized," she says. "I still can't quite believe that people are stitching my designs – it's a dream come true!"

You can find more of Colleen's designs at www.etsy.com/uk/shop/theworldinstitches.



Her projects range from A-list celebs...

©Colleen Carrington/Kyle Books



...to designs inspired by folk art.

Meet... Online stitching stars!

June Peart chats about cross stitch and her beautiful garden at her **Butterfly Wings** blog.

Tell us about yourself:

I live in Devon with my husband. My passions are stitching, knitting and my garden. I'm a mother, grandmother and great-grandmother to my lovely family. We live a very busy life but my favorite time is my home time, doing all the things that make me happy.

When did you fall in love with cross stitch?

I first fell in love with cross stitch at school at the age of five, and again in the 1990s after the loss of one of my daughters. It gave me an inner peace that I was looking for at the time, and that was it, I never looked back.

What sort of things do you most like to stitch?

I love to stitch pretty things, best of all flowers, ladies, and the four seasons. I especially love stitching for Easter.

What's been your biggest stitching challenge?

My main challenge while I'm stitching is not counting my stitches more than once, and when I'm working on a border I never get my stitching to match up, so I always count twice. The only other challenge I have is wondering where to keep all my stash that I've collected over 20 years – it just keeps growing! My husband made me a lovely craft room out of the spare garage, but my stash is still expanding! I just fall in love with so many beautiful charts.



Do you have a piece that you're most proud of?

I'm very proud of the piece of stitching I entered into our garden and craft show. It's from English Roses by Nora Corbett, a much bigger chart but I only stitched the middle part. I'm always trying to find different ways of taking my stitching to another level and with this piece I was so proud of my finish. I won first prize!

Why did you start your blog?

I started blogging about six years ago now, after looking at other stitchers' blogs. I only started to use a computer a little time before I started my blog so this was all so new to me.

Anything to add?

I do love my blog and I have made so many friends and everyone is so nice. So why not join us?



June likes to stitch designs featuring ladies and flowers.

Find June at
www.butterfly-butterflywings.blogspot.com



HOP NO DROP

How adorable is this duo of bunny-shaped needle minders? They're made by Telle Paterson of Nineteenohsix, with a wooden base and felt body, complete with a pretty leaf detail. What a sweet way to keep needles safe between stitching sessions! Telle uses powerful Neodymium Magnets, which are likely to hold onto your embroidery scissors with ease as well. In fact, Telle warns you to be carefully when removing them from your stitching so you don't end up damaging the fabric. "As they're so strong, they can be difficult to separate, so always slide them apart – slliiiiide, no pulling!" she exclaims. The bunnies cost £2.50 each. Choose your favourite and order it from www.Nineteenohsix.etsy.com.

3 of the best... Spring rabbits



Leaping Rabbit, £5.23

Designed by Helen at Bustle & Sew, this colourful rabbit is jumping for joy! Using just four colours, the repeating motif that makes up the rabbit's silhouette is a simple chart with a big impact. We love the shades Helen has chosen, but you could swap them for other colours to match your bunny to your décor, then mount it in a 7in hoop or turn it into a cushion. You can buy the chart from www.bustleandsew.com.



Rabbit and Carrots, £4.92

We love this bunny design, showing a rabbit apparently taking a breather in the midst of a race between rabbits and carrots. There's a hint of Alice In Wonderland about the dreaminess of the design – and every possibility that these carrots may bite back! Stitch it in six seventies shades of fawn, orange, moss-green and brown. The chart is available as a download from www.MedlowStudio.etsy.com.



Portrait of a Rabbit, £3.46

This gorgeously realistic rabbit is designed by Shannon Pomeroy at Pacific Stitchery. With its front paws tucked in so neatly and ears on high alert, it looks ready for anything. Subtly differing shades offer an impression of the rabbit's soft fur that makes us want to reach out and stroke it! The finished size is 9.5x14cm on 14 count fabric. Get it from www.pacificstitchery.etsy.com.

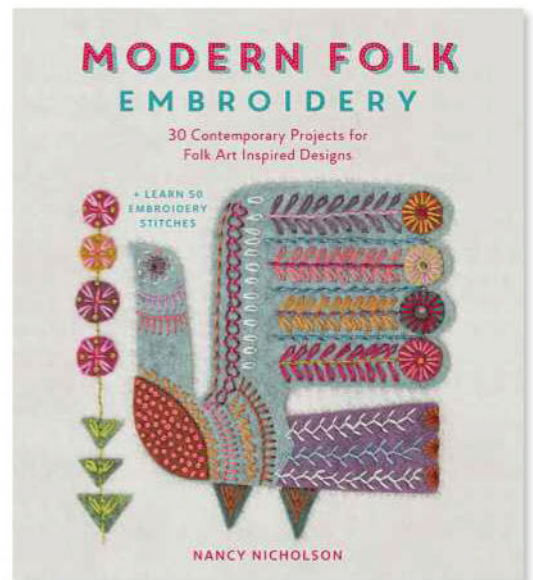


Spring flowers

This beautiful stylised floral design by Jenny Barton could be just the thing to bring some sunshine into your home. It reminds us of a square of English meadow, overflowing with buttercups and celandines! With eight thread shades making up the blossom motifs, it has a lovely traditional feel that would work well stitched onto rustic or cream linen or aida. The chart uses full cross stitch, backstitch and fractionals, so this is a project to take your time over – ensure you stay fully focused throughout to avoid careless mistakes! Comprising 84x84 stitches in all, the finished picture will measure 15x15cm (6x6in) if you use a 14 count fabric. You can buy the chart as a downloadable PDF for £2.99 from www.jbcrossstitch.com.

Get your folk on

Modern Folk Embroidery by Nancy Nicholson is filled with techniques and tips to suit all your embellishment needs. With a full guide to stitches (we've rather fallen for twisted chain stitch), plus a range of 30 inspired projects by folk art, from nifty bottle-cap pin cushions to cushions to craft bags, it will ease you into a new assortment of skills to enhance your cross stitch arsenal. We love the emphasis on slowly hand stitching each item, and the gorgeous photography in folksy hues (think primary shades that have been through the wash a few times). Even better, the finished projects are sweet enough to sort out plenty of birthday gifts well in advance. Get your copy from www.interweavestore.com for £14.99.



Puppy power

It's always fun to find novel ways to keep your stitching threads neat and ready to work with, and Flossy the Dachshund is cuter than most! Missy Kulik from Sugar Cookie is the artist behind the canine creation, as well as a whole menagerie of other animal-shaped thread bobbins, including llamas, sheep and even a unicorn! Each one is drawn by Missy, then cut from birch wood. The dachshund measures about 3½in (9cm) long and 1¼in (3cm) tall. He wins our vote for being extra adorable, with a tummy long enough to hold a full skein of thread. You can buy yours for £9.86 from www.sugarcookie.etsy.com.

A top-down view of a wooden surface covered with various sewing supplies. In the center, a small, rectangular needle case made of light-colored fabric is displayed, featuring a colorful cross-stitch design of a two-story house with a red roof, pink windows, and green bushes. The case is resting on a blue fabric with white polka dots. To the right, a spool of teal thread sits on a white fabric with pink floral patterns. Several buttons in various colors (blue, pink, green) are scattered around. A blue ribbon with white polka dots is draped across the bottom. A small, green, heart-shaped pin is also visible. The overall scene is a collection of sewing-related items arranged artistically.

Needle house

.....
Give your needles a grand home with
our elegant house needle case designed
by Shannon Wasilieff
.....

How to stitch

You will need...

Zweigart 32 count Belfast linen platinum, ref: 3609/770, 14.5x10.5cm (5¾x4¼in) for house cover; 12.5x9cm (5x3½in) for needle pad

Stranded cotton as listed in the key

Size 26 tapestry needle

Backing fabric 14.5x10.5cm (5¾x4¼in) for house cover and 14.5x10.5cm (5¾x4¼in) x 2 for lining; 12.5x9cm (5x3½in) for needle pad

Lightweight wadding 12.5x9cm (5x3½in)

Beads large x 2

Ribbon 33x1cm (13x¾in)

Stitching the design

FOLD the fabric both ways to find the centre and start stitching here. Use two strands for the cross stitch, one for the backstitch and French knots.

Make a house needle case

1 **PLACE** the bottom edge of the stitching and a piece of lining fabric right-sides together – the bottom of the house will be facing the centre seam. Stitch this seam with a 1.25cm (½in) seam allowance. Join the backing fabric to the lining fabric in the same way, and then press the seams flat.

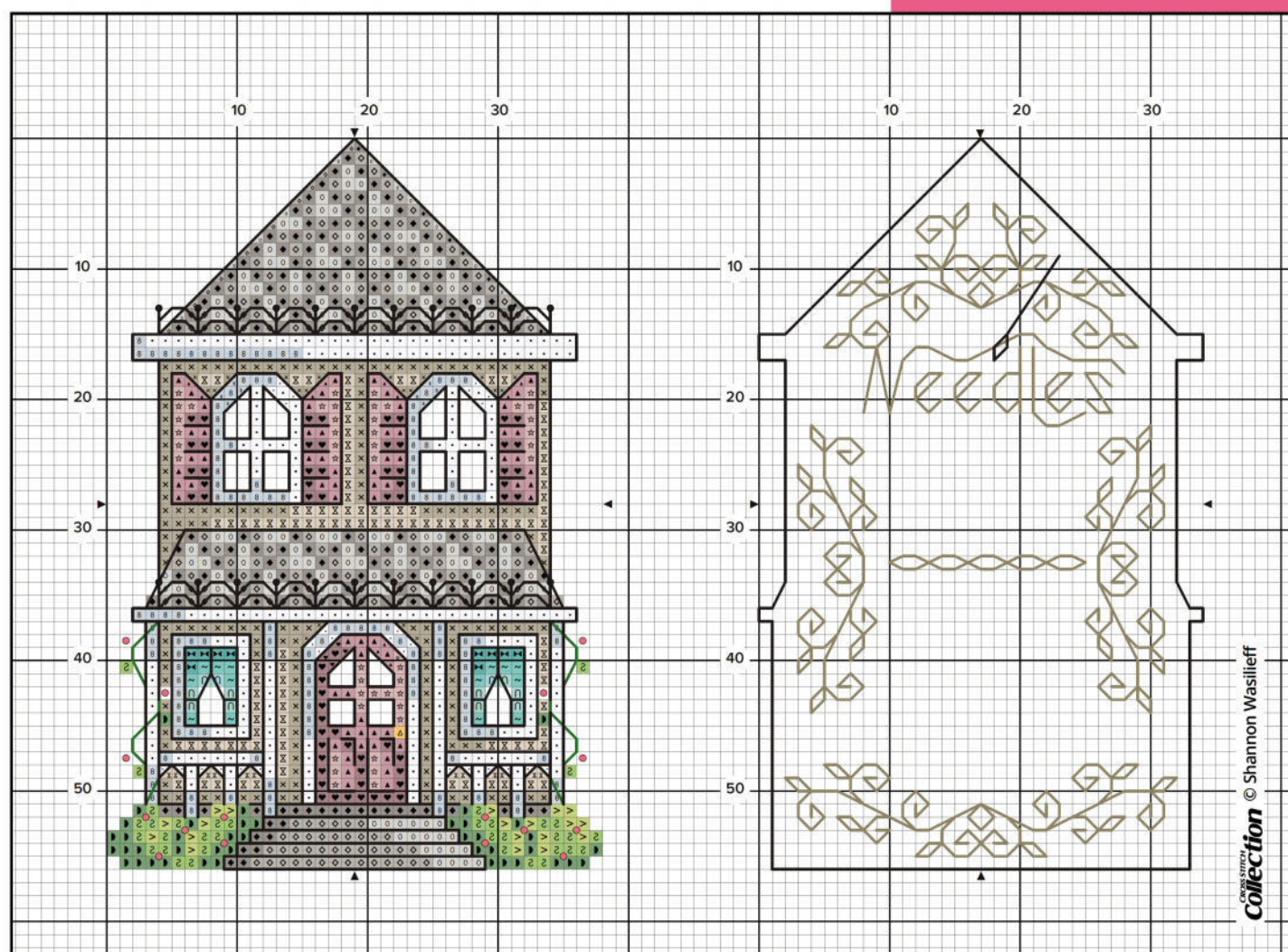
Use large beads to pull your needle pad in and out of the cover.

2 **PLACE** the assembled pieces right-sides together, so the backing fabric is against the stitching, and the lining fabric pieces are together. Stitch around the edge with 1.25cm (½in) allowance, leaving a small gap in the centre on the top and bottom edges, and a larger gap on the side seam of the two lining fabrics pieces – this will eventually slide inside the cover and hide the gap. Trim the seams and clip the corners, then turn to the right-side. Press flat and sew up the gap. Push the lining inside the cover.

3 **ASSEMBLE** the pad by placing the stitching and backing fabric right-sides together, with the wadding behind the lining. Sew around the edge, leaving a small gap in the centre on the top and bottom seam, and a larger gap in one side seam. Trim the seam allowance, clip the corners and turn to the right-side. Sew up the gap in the side seam.

4 **THREAD** the ribbon through a large-eyed needle. Start at the bottom of the pad, go up through the hole in the bottom, up through the pad, out of the top, up through the cover, and then out of the hole at the top. Add a bead at the top of the ribbon, and with the pad just outside the cover, add a bead to the bottom of the ribbon, making sure it is fully extended. Cut off any excess. Add stitches to close the gap around the ribbon at both ends of the pad.





© Shannon Wasilieff
Collection

Needle house

DMC Anchor Madeira Colour

Cross stitch in two strands

▲ ▲	316	1017	809	antique mauve
◆ ◆	646	858	1181	med grey
◇ ◇	648	900	1814	beaver grey
△ △	742	303	114	lt tangerine
☆ ☆	778	969	808	mauve
◐ ◐	905	257	1412	dk parrot green
◑ ◑	907	255	1410	lt parrot green
~ ~	959	186	1113	seagreen
∩ ∩	964	1092	1112	lt seagreen
× ×	3032	903	2002	dk khaki
⊗ ⊗	3033	391	2001	lt mocha
o o	3072	847	1805	light grey
♥ ♥	3726	1018	810	antique mauve
8 8	3753	1032	1710	lt antique blue
✂ ✂	3812	188	2706	dk seagreen
> >	3819	278	2703	lt moss green
• •	b5200	001	white	bright white

DMC Anchor Madeira Colour

Backstitch in one strand

—	905	257	1412	dk parrot green
				greenery
—	3032	903	2002	dk khaki
				inner decoration
—	3371	382	2004	dark brown
				outlines

French knots in one strand

● ●	899	052	505	med rose
				roses
● ●	3371	382	2004	dark brown
				roof decoration

Stitched using DMC threads on 32 count evenweave over two threads of fabric.

Stitch count: 56hx38w each part

Design size: 9x6cm (3½x2¼in) each part

Stitch time: 6hrs

Collection makes...

NEW HOME Stitch the house design and mount into an aperture card to celebrate a loved one's new home.

MENDING KIT To make a gift for someone who is just moving out on their own, stitch the needle case and pop it into a tin with a few other sewing essentials.

KEY SAFE Stitch the house and put it in a small wooden frame – attach some cup hooks to the bottom for a place to keep your house keys to hand.



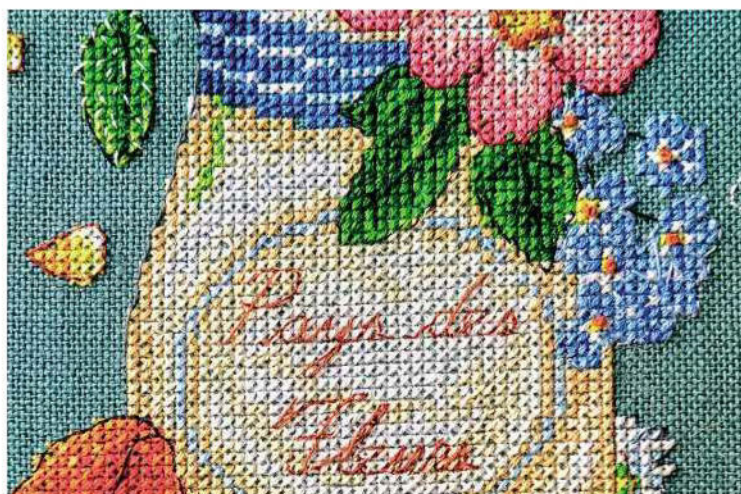
Meet the designer...

Amanda Butler

The inspiration for my design came from a visit some years ago to the Victoria and Albert Museum in London, which holds a large collection of lovely Victorian botanical illustrations. The design brings together a mix of Victorian heritage and a more contemporary feel through the centrally-placed still life, which is surrounded by a botanical study of nature's floral splendour. The scene evokes a tranquil memory of sitting in a field making a daisy chain. The heat of the sun warms my face while a gentle summer breeze blows the country flowers into a merry dance. The lively flowers move across the landscape displaying a vast array of colours as they carry along a scent explosion.

Country flowers

Capture the bounty of a walk through a wildflower meadow with our stunning design by **Amanda Butler**



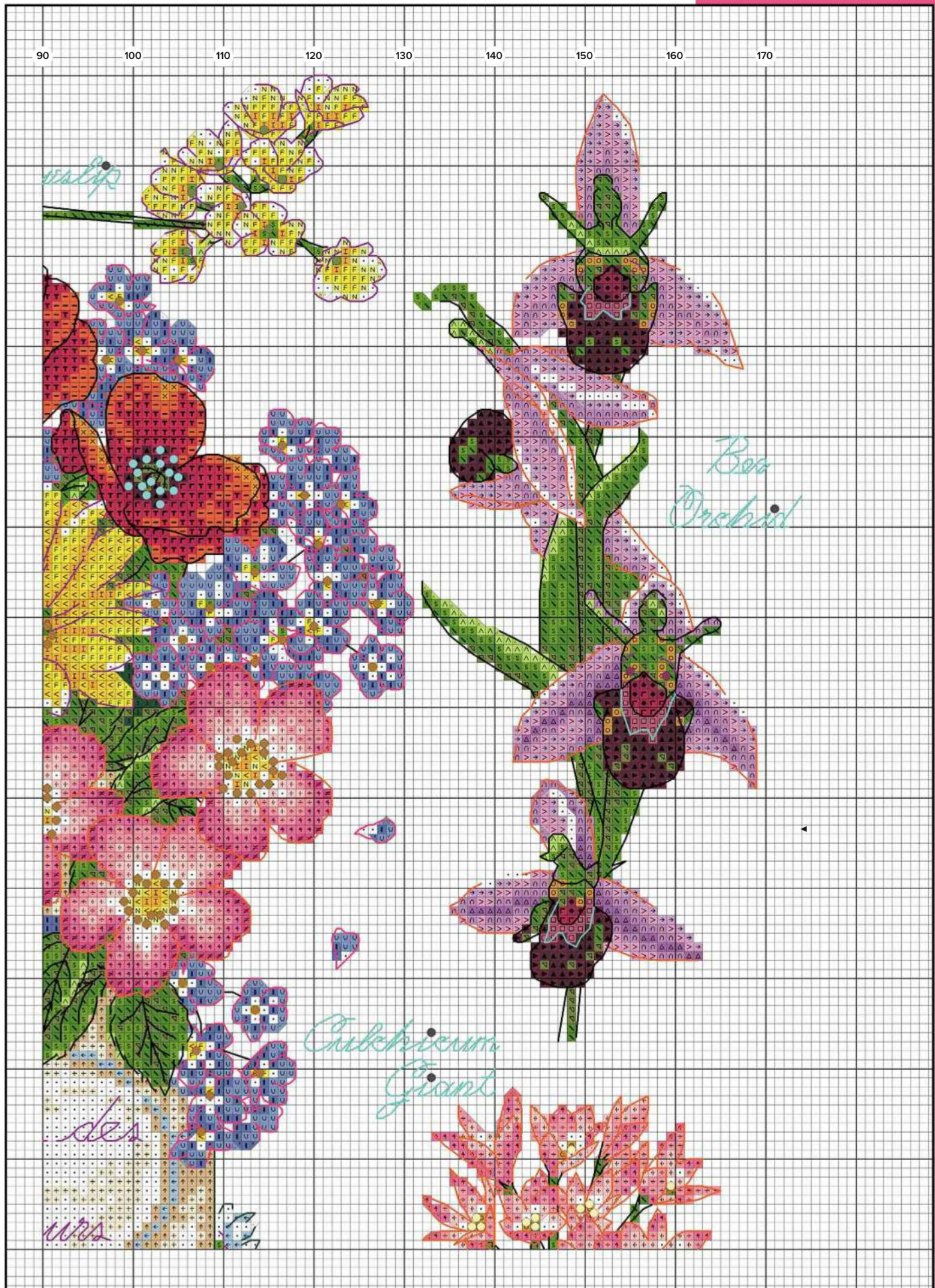
Our gorgeous flower picture celebrates the delicate opulence of British wildflowers. Some of the flowers are displayed in the style of Victorian botanical drawings, complete with gorgeous lettering to identify the flowers, whilst others have been brought to life in a casual flower arrangement. We think this stunning picture would look great displayed in a country kitchen.

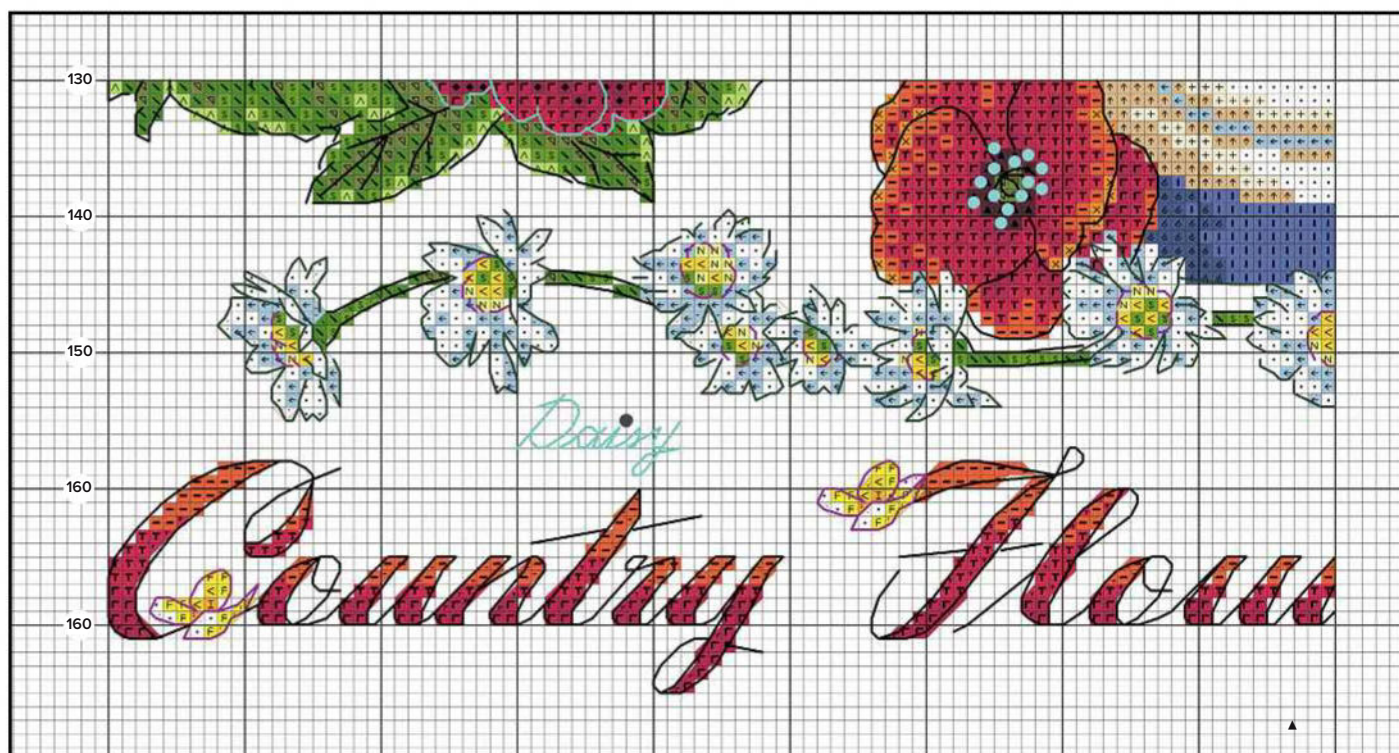
This is an ambitious project, with blended threads, plus lots of backstitch and French knots to keep you on your toes. Count carefully over the unstitched areas to make sure all your flowers and lettering end up in the right place.

Stitch summer memories with our
gorgeous country meadow design









Make it yours

You will need...

Zweigart 28 count Cashel Amsterdam blue,
ref: 3281/674, 51x51cm (20x20in)

Stranded cotton as listed in the key

Size 26 tapestry needle

Frame with a 37x37cm (14½x14½in) aperture

For stockist details see page 59

Stitching the design

FOLD the fabric both ways to find the centre and start stitching here. Use two strands of stranded cotton for the cross stitch and also a blend of two colours for some of the flowers. The back stitch is worked in one strand, and the French knots in two.

Stitch the individual flower designs as sweet greetings cards.

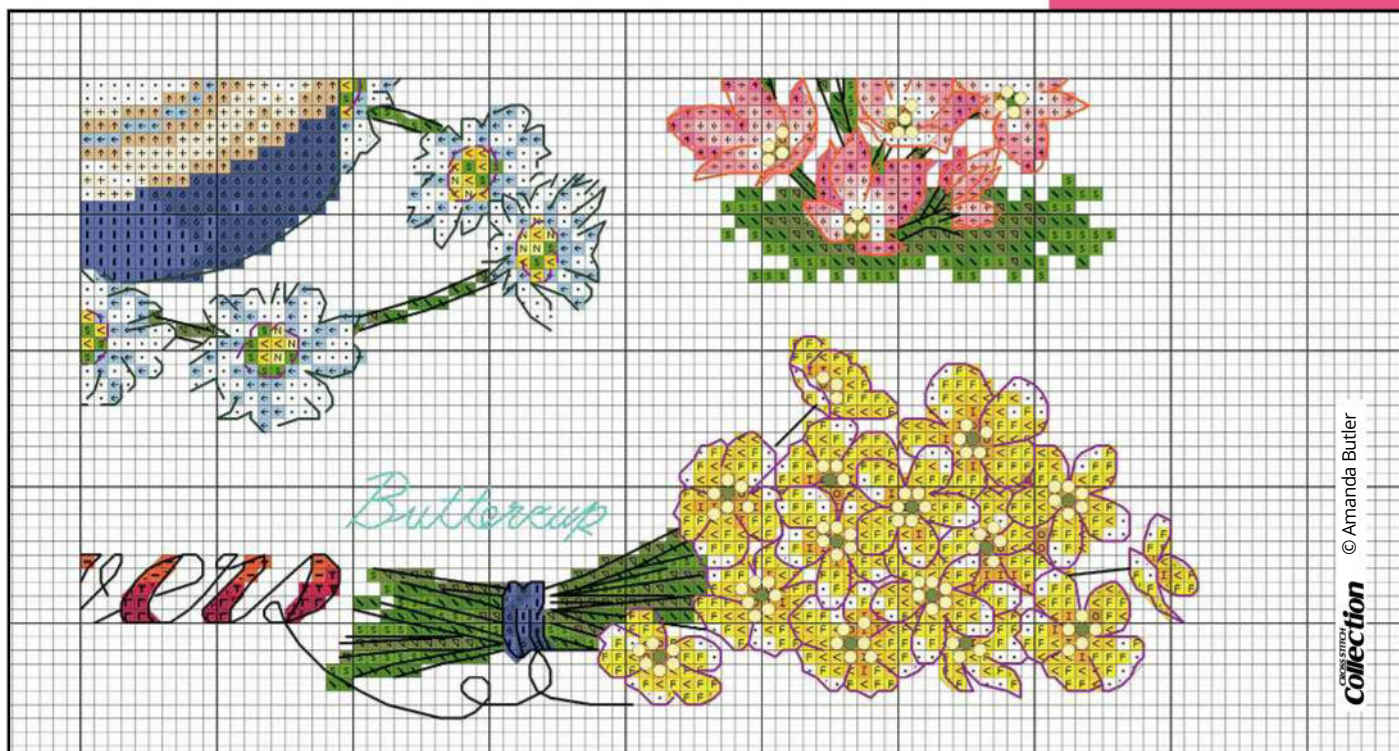


Country flowers

DMC Anchor Madeira Colour

Cross stitch in two strands

H H	155	1030	902	m dk blue violet
Δ Δ	208	111	804	v dk lavender
∩ ∩	209	109	803	dark lavender
→ →	210	108	802	med lavender
F F	307	289	104	lemon
● ●	310	403	black	black
Γ Γ	321	019	510	xmas red
⌘ ⌘	333	110	903	dk blue violet
< <	444	297	106	lemon
N N	445	288	103	lt lemon
≠ ≠	602	063	702	m cranberry
4 4	603	052	701	cranberry
— —	608	332	206	bright orange
T T	666	046	210	bright red
+ +	712	926	2101	cream
↑ ↑	738	361	2013	v lt tan
× ×	741	304	201	med tangerine
I I	742	303	114	lt tangerine
○ ○	783	306	2211	med topaz
I I	798	131	911	dk delft blue
U U	799	136	910	med delft
▶ ▶	814	045	514	dk garnet
◆ ◆	816	1005	512	garnet



© Amanda Butler
Collection

DMC Anchor Madeira Colour

Cross stitch in two strands

	824	143	1010	v dk blue
	890	683	1314	v dk green
	905	257	1412	dk parrot green
	906	256	1411	med green
	963	023	608	v lt dusty rose
	3325	129	1002	lt baby blue
	3609	085	710	v lt plum
	3687	076	604	mauve
	3708	031	408	melon
	3746	1030	903	dk blue violet
	b5200	001	white	bright white (2)

Cross stitch in a blend of two strands

	310 + 814	blend
	704 + 907	blend
	904 + 3345	blend
	3350 + 3803	blend

Backstitch in one strand

	300	357	2304	dk mahogany
				words, flower centres
	310	403	black	black
				poppies, stems, leaves

DMC Anchor Madeira Colour

Backstitch in one strand

	814	045	514	dk garnet
				orchid, foxglove, culchicum
	963	023	608	v lt dusty rose
				forget-me-nots
	3799	236	1713	dk pewter grey
				daisies
	b5200	001	white	bright white
				names

French knots in two strands

	400	351	2305	ginger
				dogroses, forget-me-nots
	445	288	103	lt lemon
				culchicum, buttercups
	704	256	1308	bright lime
				poppies
	814	045	514	dk garnet
				foxglove
	906	256	1411	med green
				cowslips
	b5200	001	white	bright white
				i dots

Stitched using DMC threads on 28 count evenweave over two threads of fabric.

Stitch count: 175h x 154w

Design size: 31 x 30.5cm (12 1/4 x 12 in)

Stitch time: 94hrs

Make a pot
pourri pouch for
your wardrobe
and decorate with
the buttercups.



Meet the designer...

Jenny Barton

I was born on a Friday so naturally Friday was the first part of my design to be sketched! With 3 parrots at home, I certainly had them in mind whilst working on this part of my design!

One of the trickiest parts of the design to work on was Thursday's child.

I struggled a little to convey the child on the scooter having 'far to go' in a small space. Hopefully, with the street sign pointing towards home in one direction and a refreshing ice pole in the other I managed to achieve the look I wanted!

I made my design fun and up to date, to be stitched as an alternative to a more traditional birth sampler.

Each design could also be stitched as a card and, with a mixture of boys and girls, I hope there's something to suit everyone.

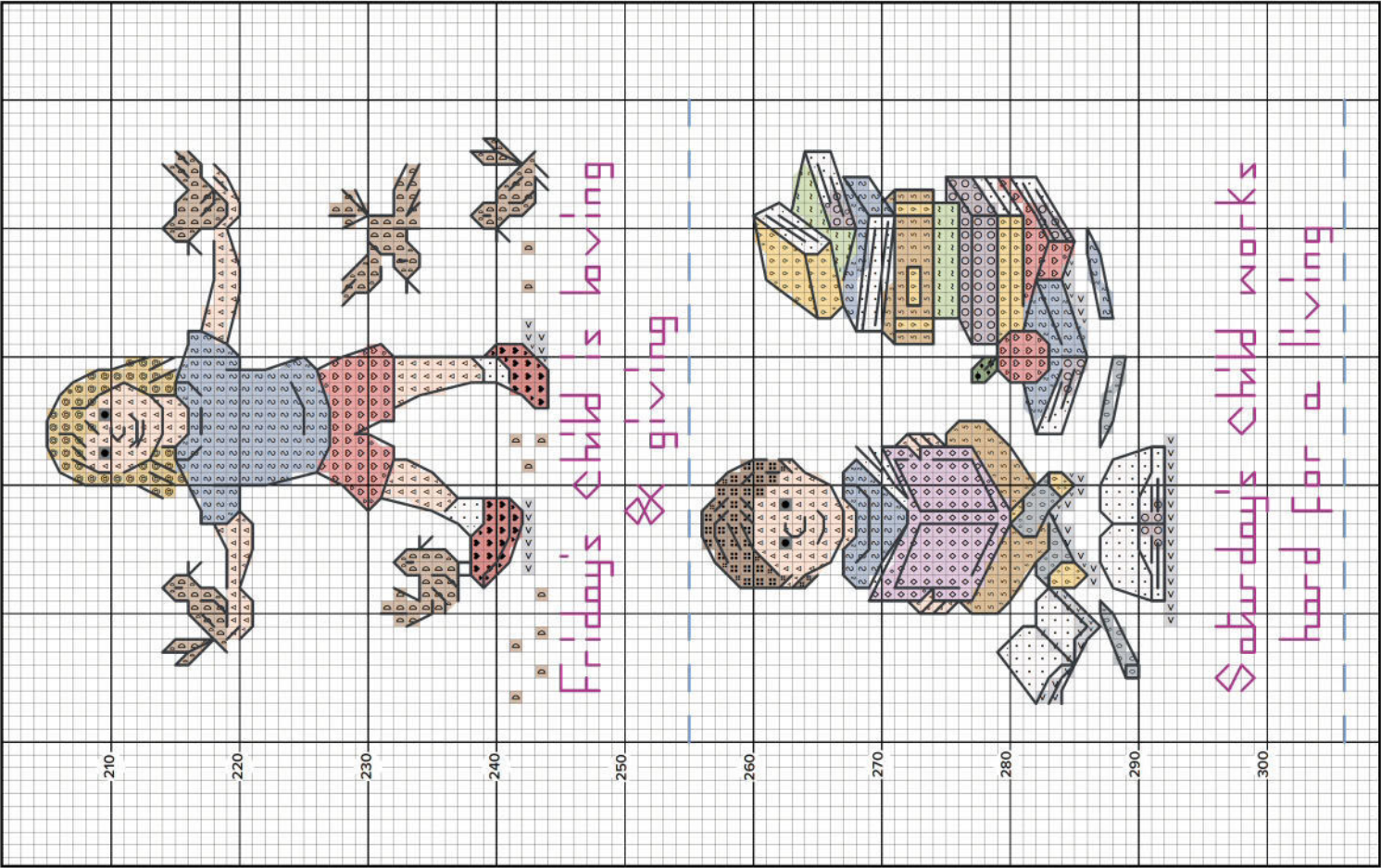
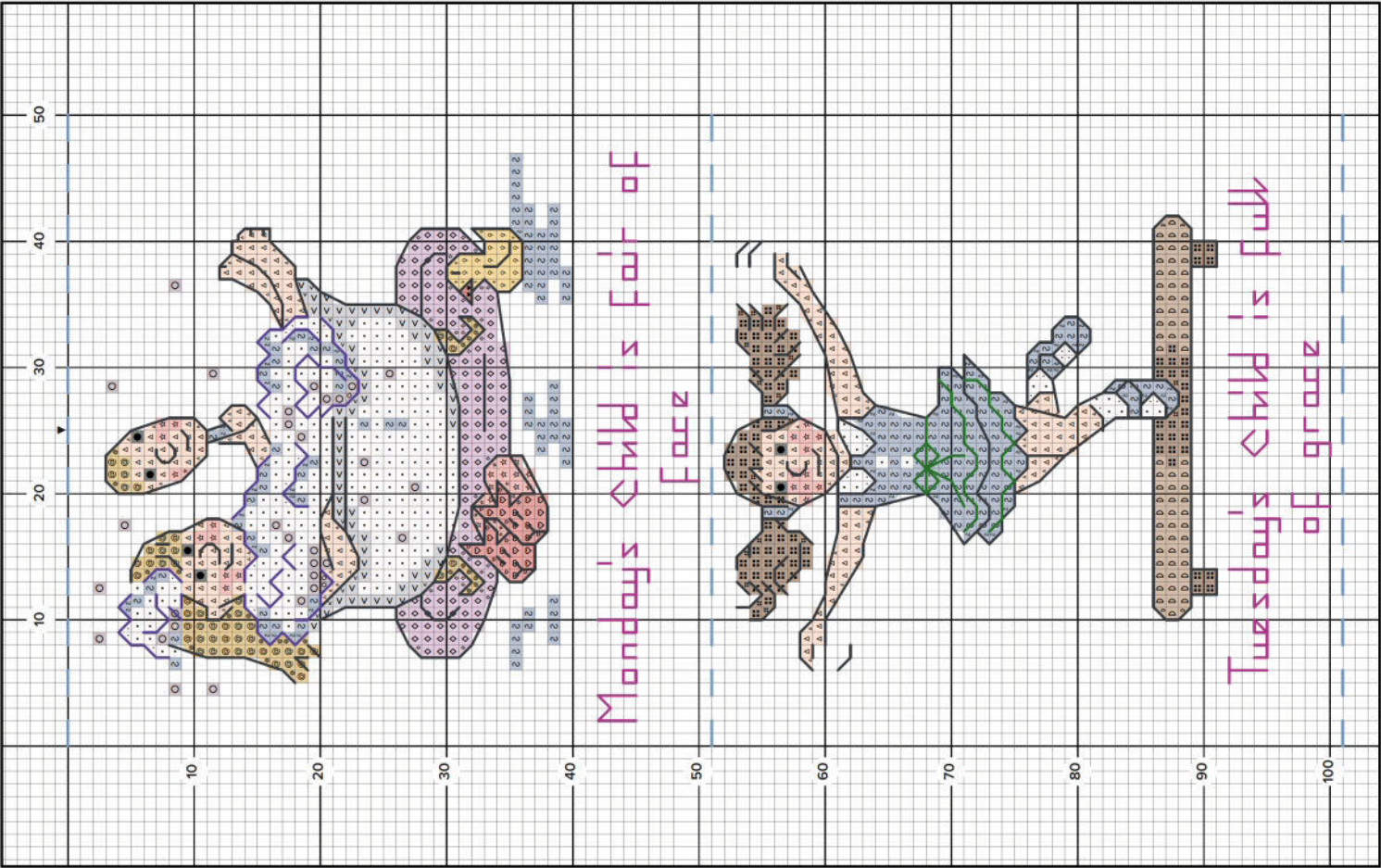
Monday's child

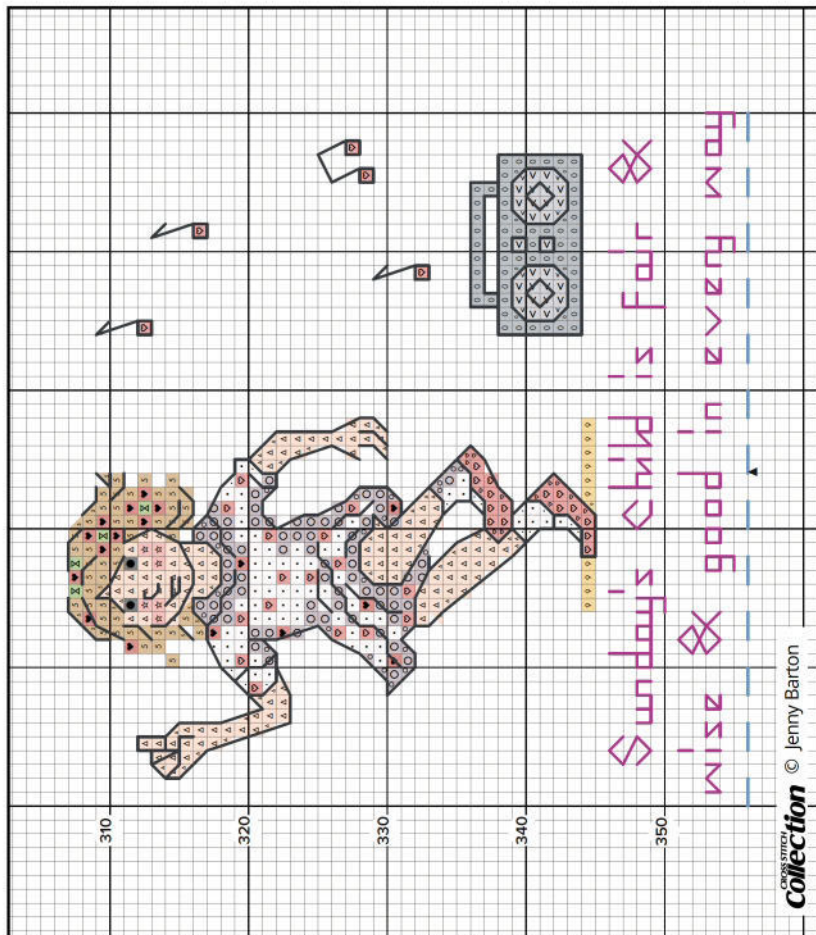
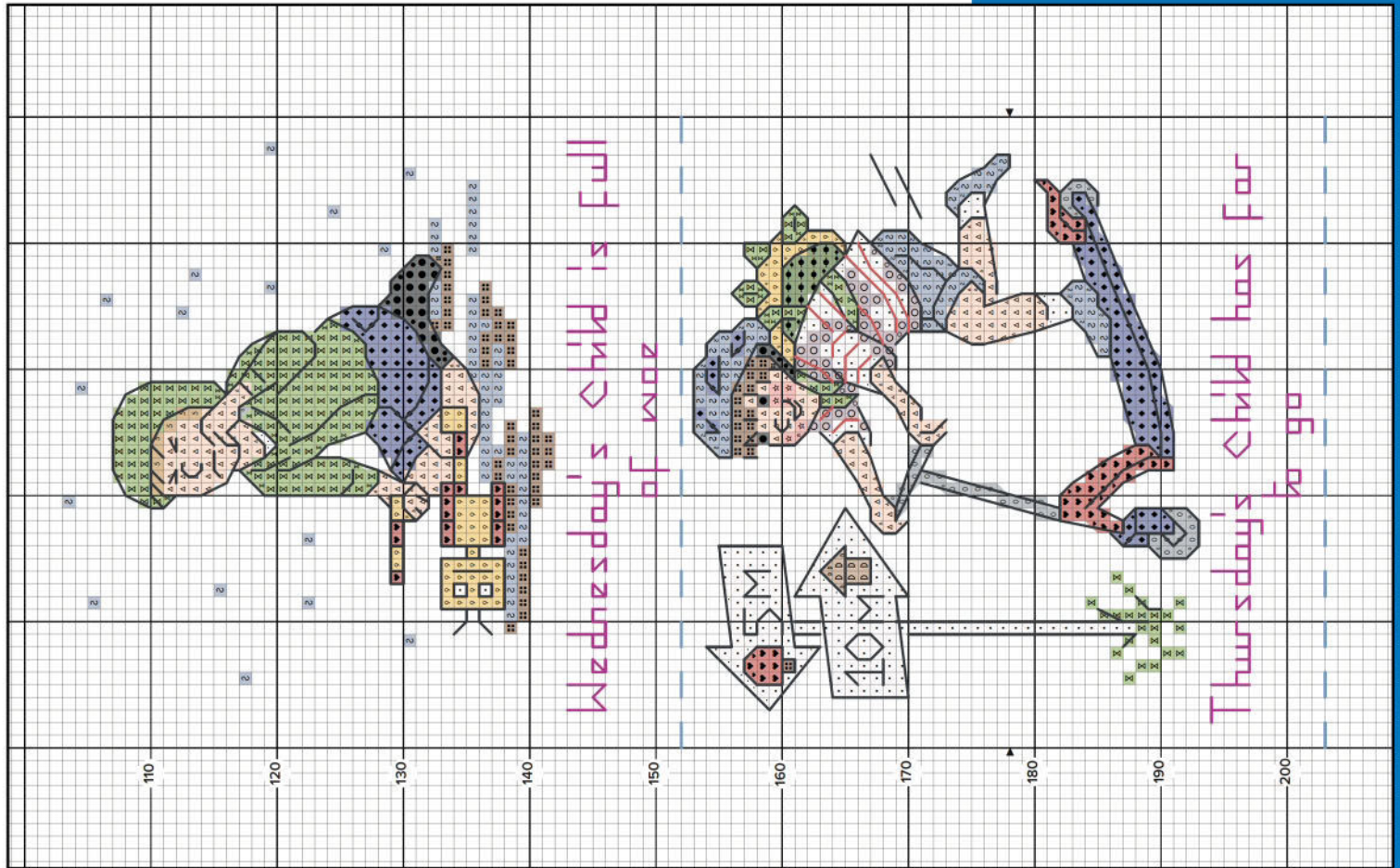
Stitch our fun design by **Jenny Barton** as an alternative to a traditional baby sampler



When looking at a tiny baby, it's fun to wonder who they might be as they grow up, which might explain the popularity of this traditional rhyme! Jenny's lovely design has put fresh faces to all of the days of the week so that a new generation of children can enjoy finding out their day of birth and discovering if they are fair of face or full of woe! Our easy making-up instructions show you how to make this cheerful sampler into a wall hanger, complete with a bright border to complement your finished stitching.

A collection of colorful children's toys is displayed on a wooden surface. In the foreground, a red double-decker bus with 'HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT, LONDON' written on its side sits next to several wooden blocks, including a red one with a house shape and a green one with a heart shape. A small doll with a yellow head and pink body stands on a yellow base. A crocheted sock with a floral border and a cartoon character design is prominently featured. The sock has a series of illustrations and text: 'Monday's child is fair of face' with a girl jumping, 'Tuesday's child is full of grace' with a girl sitting, 'Wednesday's child is full of woe' with a girl running, 'Thursday's child has far to go' with a girl walking, 'Friday's child is loving & giving' with a girl holding a book, 'Saturday's child works hard for a living' with a girl holding a book, and 'Sunday's child is fair & fine & good in every way' with a girl holding a book. The background is filled with more toys, including a red and white striped bag, a blue and white striped bag, and a red and white striped bag. The overall scene is bright and cheerful, representing a variety of children's products.







Pick a bright cotton fabric as a border for your finished stitching.

Make it yours

You will need...

25 count Dublin linen antique white, ref: 3604/101, 80x14.5cm (31½x5¾in)

Stranded cotton as listed in the key

Size 26 tapestry needle

Vilene iron-on firm 80x14.5cm (31½x5¾in)

Cotton fabric 80x17.5cm (31½x7in)

For stockist details see page 59

Stitching the design

FOLD the fabric both ways to find the centre and start stitching at this point. The cross stitch is worked in two strands and the backstitching in one strand for the detail, and two strands for the words.

Make a wall hanger

1 **IRON** Vilene onto the back of your stitching. Place the stitching and cotton fabric right-sides together – the cotton fabric will be wider than the linen. Stitch the side seams together with 1.25cm (½in) turnings, forming a tube. Turn to the right-side and iron the stitching flat – you will have a small border of cotton fabric down the right and left hand sides of the stitching.

2 **TURN** over the top of the stitching and fabric by 1.25cm (½in) and then fold inside the fabric tube. Press flat, pin and then slip stitch the top closed. Repeat for the bottom.

3 **HANG** your wall hanging using poster hangers or add two fabric tabs to the top and then thread a length of bamboo through the tabs. Attach a length of string or ribbon to hang.

Monday's child

DMC Anchor Madeira Colour

Cross stitch in two strands

2 2	157	130	907	pale blue
◇ ◇	211	342	801	lt lavender
~ ~	369	1043	1309	lt green
● ●	413	401	1713	dark pewter grey (2)
0 0	415	398	1803	pearl grey
5 5	437	362	2012	lt tan
@ @	676	891	2208	med yellow
♥ ♥	760	1022	405	salmon
☆ ☆	761	024	404	lt dusty pink
< <	762	234	1804	v lt pearl grey
■ ■	841	1082	1911	lt beige brown
D D	842	1080	1910	v lt beige brown
△ △	948	1011	306	v lt peach
● ●	3347	266	1408	yellow green
⊗ ⊗	3348	264	1409	lt yellow green
♥ ♥	3712	1024	405	m dusty pink
◆ ◆	3839	176	902	lavender blue
9 9	3855	311	2013	lt autumn gold
○ ○	3743	869	2611	lt antique violet
■ ■	blanc	001	white	white

Backstitch in one strand

—	413	401	1713	dark pewter grey
	outlines			
—	3712	1024	405	m dusty pink
	details			
—	3743	869	2611	lt antique violet
	bubbles			
—	blanc	001	white	white
	details			

Backstitch in two strands

—	413	401	1713	dark pewter grey
	words			
—	3755	939	909	baby blue
	borders			

This design was stitched on 25 count evenweave over two threads of fabric.

Stitch count: 357hx50w

Design size: 69x10cm (27¼x4in)

Stitch time: 27hrs

Tip... Avoid trailing threads

Bright threads and white linen mean it's important to keep your stitching neat.



Blushing bride

Our gorgeous bride designed by **Durene Jones**
is larger than life thanks to her puffy handkerchief skirt

How to stitch it

You will need...

Zweigart 28 count Cashel pale blue, ref: 3281/513, 38x28cm (15x11in)

Stranded cotton as listed in the key

Size 26 tapestry needle

Ladies handkerchief

Frame with a 29x20cm (11½x8in) aperture

For stockist details see page 59

Stitching the design

FOLD the fabric both ways to find the centre and start stitching here. Use two strands of stranded cotton for the cross stitch and one strand for the half-cross stitch. The back stitch is worked in one and two strands, and the French knots in two.

Swap thread shades for the flowers to match the bridal colours.

Adding the skirt detail

1 **ONCE** the stitching is complete, use sharp scissors to cut the fabric just below the bride's waist, following the blue cutting line on the chart. You should take care not to cut through any stitches. Use a small line of fabric glue along the cut edges to stop them fraying.

2 **FOLD** the handkerchief until you are happy with the shape – you can press in the folds or leave, to give a flouncy feel to the shirt. Take the pointed end of the folded handkerchief and thread through the slit cut in the fabric. Attach to the reverse side of the stitching with fabric glue or a few stitches.

3 **Frame** your stitching in the usual way. To stop the handkerchief moving, catch-stitch the edges to the fabric, leaving the bottom open.

Blushing bride

DMC Anchor Madeira Colour



Cross stitch in two strands

	310	403	black	black
	420	375	2104	hazelnut brown
	422	943	2102	lt brown
	471	265	1501	lt avacado
	472	253	1414	avacado green
	602	063	702	m cranberry
	603	052	701	cranberry
	605	074	613	lt cranberry
	712	926	2101	cream
	822	390	2001	dk ecru
	869	944	2105	dk hazelnut brown
	945	881	2313	tawny
	3770	1009	978	v lt tawny
	3828	373	2104	lt hazelnut brown
	b5200	001	white	bright white

Half cross stitch in one strand





	b5200	001	white	bright white
---	-------	-----	-------	--------------

Backstitch in one strand


	309	039	507	dk rose
				eyes
	310	403	black	black
				flowers

DMC Anchor Madeira Colour



Backstitch in one strand

	642	392	1906	dk beige grey
				tiara
	838	1088	1914	dk beige
				hair, face detail
	937	268	1504	m avacado
				leaves
	b5200	001	white	bright white
				border, arm


Backstitch in two strands

	b5200	001	white	bright white
				veil

French knots in two strands

	603	052	701	cranberry
				decoration
	b5200	001	white	bright white
				decoration

Cutting line

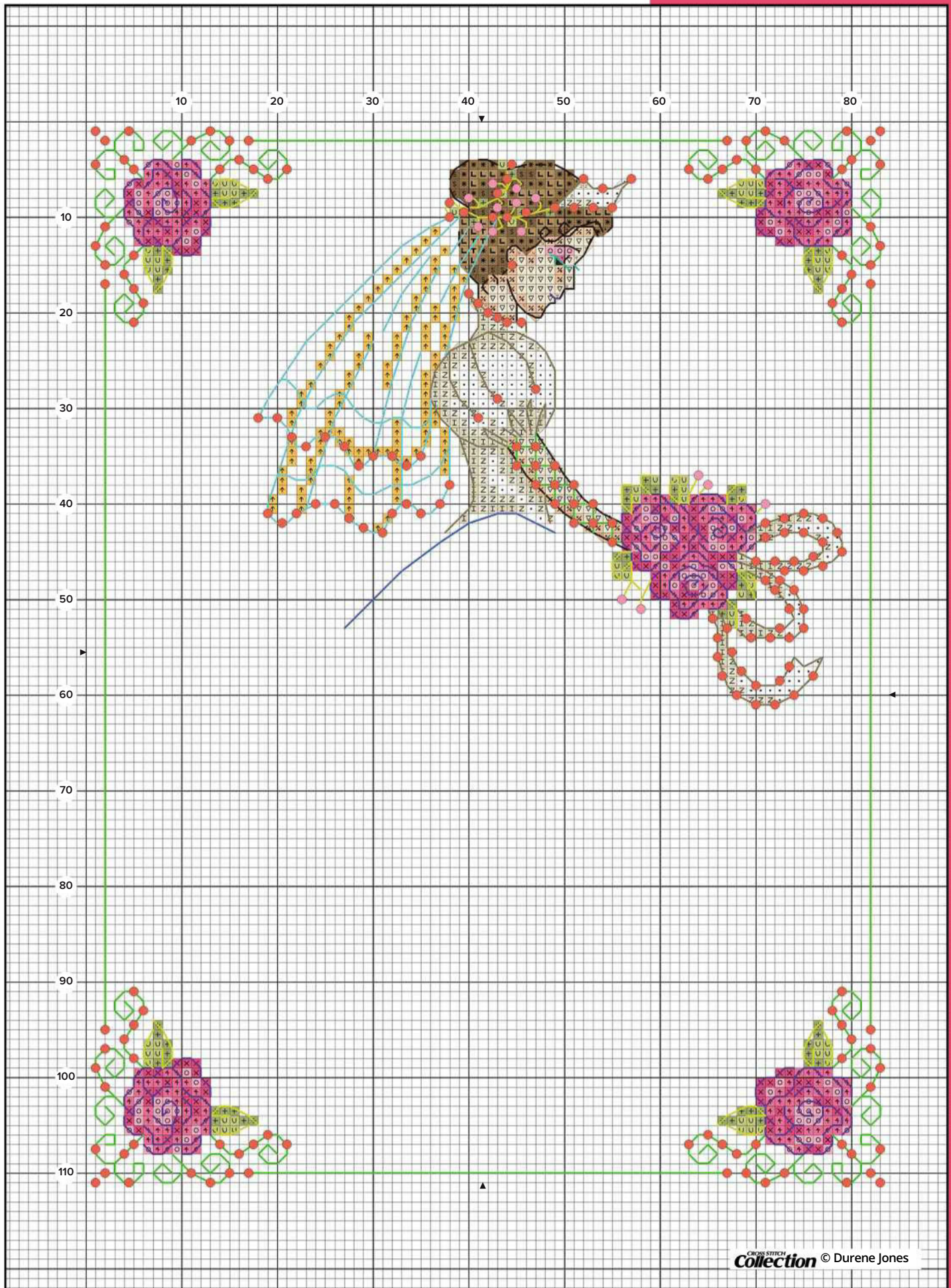
				slit for handkerchief
---	--	--	--	-----------------------

Stitched using DMC threads on 28 count evenweave over two threads of fabric.

Stitch count: 112hx84w

Design size: 19x14cm (7½x5½in)

Stitch time: 13hrs





Meet the designer...

Susan Bates

For my spring sampler I was inspired by antique band samplers that have their motifs arranged in a horizontal format, but I also decided that I'd like to break up some of these horizontal areas by having some parts laid out in an informal patchwork style, to add a bit of variety to it. Antique samplers often use a house as their focal point and I wanted mine to have this too, as a house is a lovely symbol of safety and comfort. I've also included some spring motifs like lambs, daffodils, and bunny rabbits. Spring is a time of new growth and renewal, so I decided to include an inspiring and uplifting text which reflects this idea, so that even after a long winter we know that warm, bright days are coming.

Spring sampler

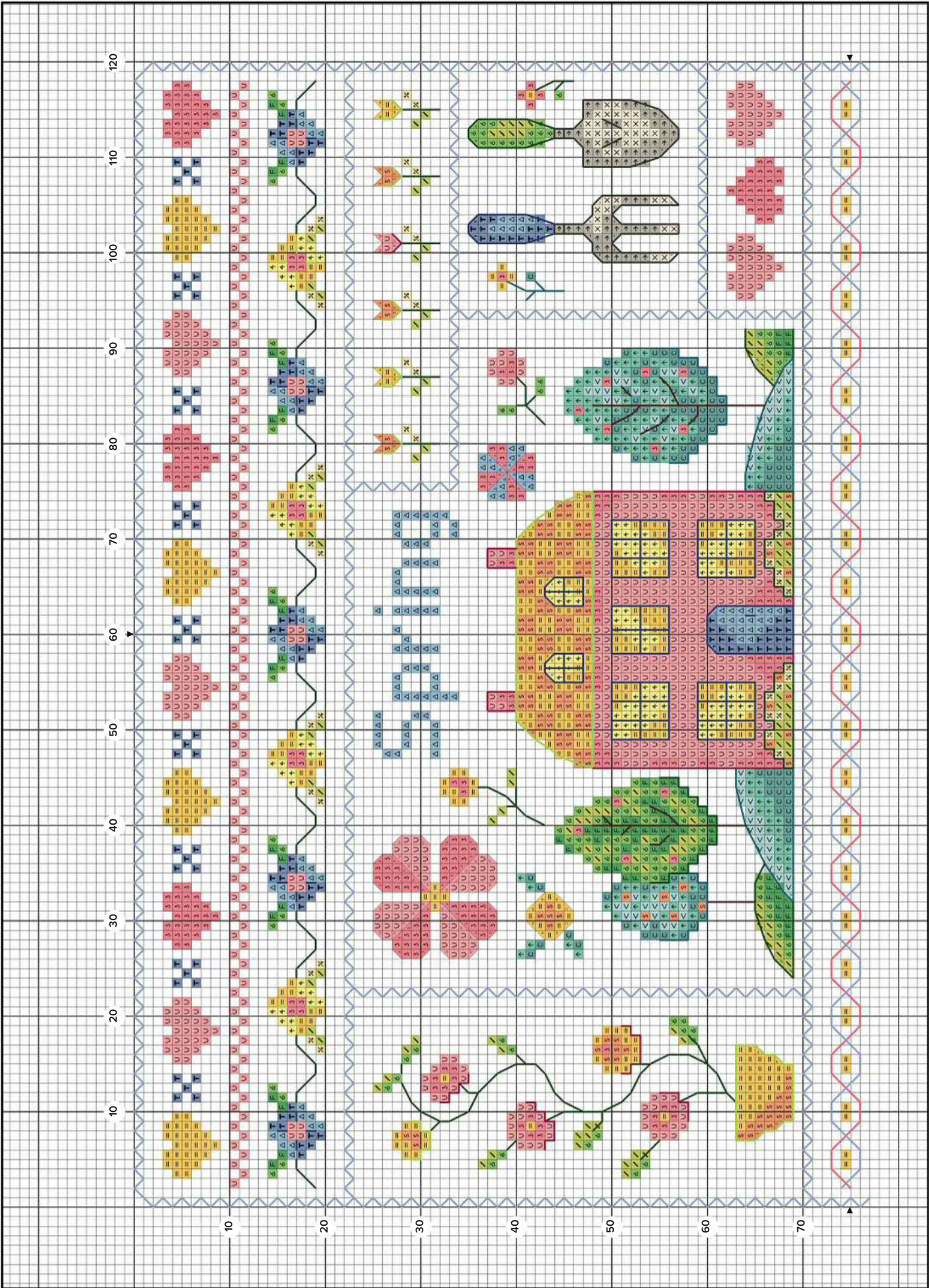
Welcome warmer days with our delightful spring sampler designed by **Susan Bates**

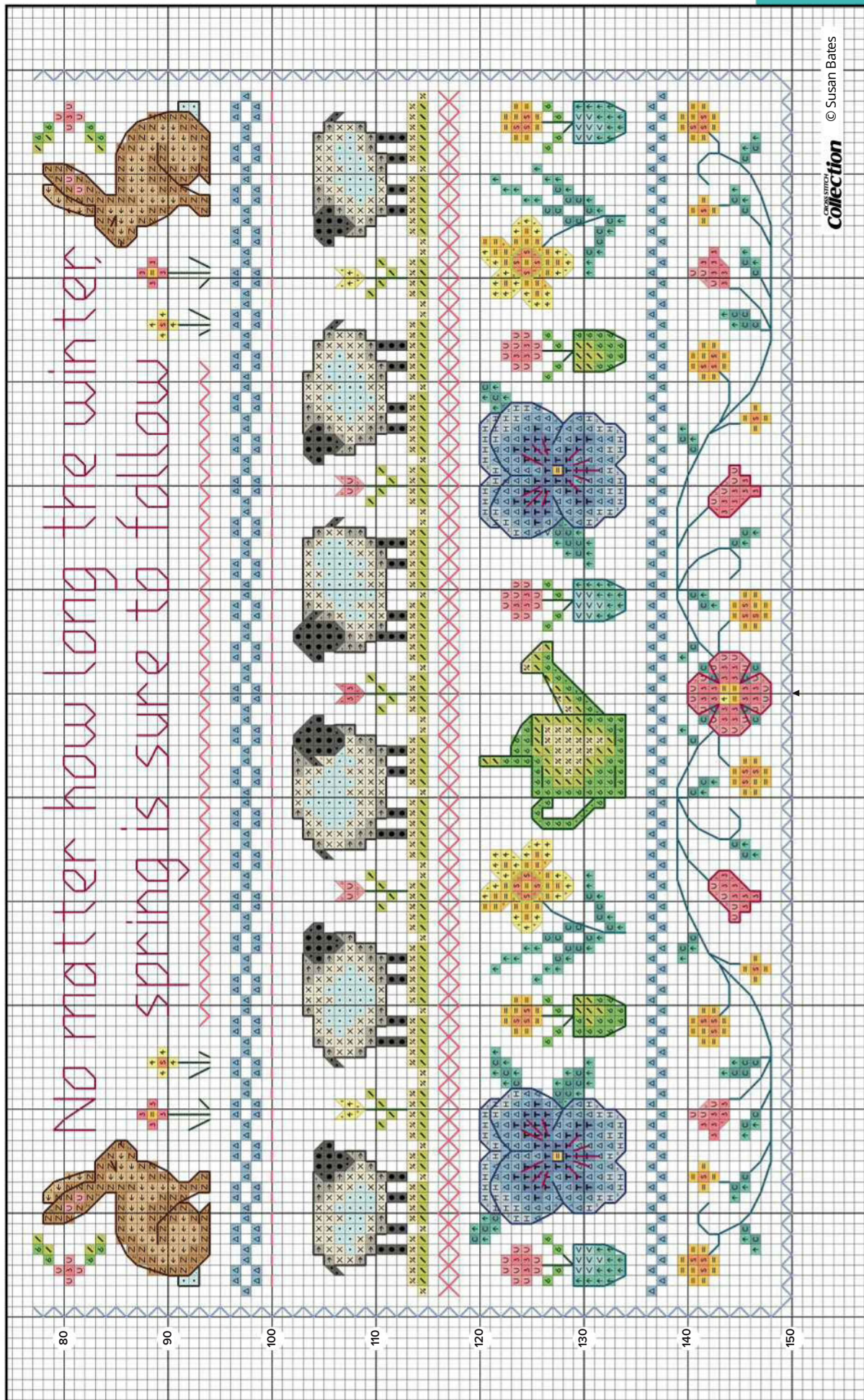


Our bright spring sampler is an updated take on traditional band samplers. Its uplifting message and vibrant palette of lovely fresh shades of yellows and pinks with lots of green will be sure to brighten your mood as you stitch. The sampler is full of fun motifs that would make lovely cards or bookmarks for any spring birthdays this year. Each area of motifs is separated by backstitch and zigzag patterns, to add further colour and detail. These patterns can be used as simple borders to finish off other designs. ➤



*Stitch your way
into spring with our
bright sampler*





© Susan Bates
Collection

Collection makes...

SPRING BAND Stitch a joyful cake band for your simnel cake by picking your favourite motif and stitching onto a linen band.

NEW START Celebrate a new home by making a card with the house design, flanked by trees.

GARDEN TOOLS Give the gift of a few garden tools and your favourite seeds. Present in a fabric gift bag with the trowel and fork motif stitched on the front.



How to stitch

You will need...

Zweigart 28 count Quaker cream, ref: 3993/0222,
40.5x33cm (16x13in)

Stranded cotton as listed in the key

Size 26 tapestry needle

Frame with a 29x23cm (11½x9in) aperture

For stockist details see page 59

Stitching **the design**

FOLD the fabric both ways to find the centre and start stitching here. Use two strands of stranded cotton for the cross stitch, and one for the backstitch.

*“A house is a lovely
symbol of safety
and comfort”*



Spring sampler

DMC Anchor Madeira Colour

Cross stitch in two strands

	162	159	903	v lt blue
	334	977	1003	baby blue
	435	1046	2010	med brown
	437	362	2012	lt tan
	519	1038	1105	sky blue
	535	1041	1809	ash grey
	648	900	1814	beaver grey
	677	886	2207	lt yellow
	702	239	1306	kelly green
	704	256	1308	bright lime
	722	323	307	spice orange
	727	293	102	v lt topaz
	743	030	2294	yellow
	899	052	505	med rose
	993	1070	1201	lt aquamarine
	3326	036	504	dk dusty pink
	3811	1060	1101	lt turquoise
	3819	278	2703	lt moss green
	3848	1074	1108	m teal green
	ecru	387	ecru	ecru
	blanc	001	white	white

Backstitch in one strand

	312	979	1005	navy blue	large flowers
	334	977	1003	baby blue	borders
	535	1041	1809	ash grey	outlines
	801	359	2007	m brown	outlines
	899	052	505	med rose	dividers
	920	1004	312	v dk russet	roof, flower detail
	986	246	1404	dk forest green	foliage, pots
	3350	059	603	dk dusky rose	words, flower
	3808	1068	2507	dk turquoise	foliage, pots

Stitched using DMC threads on 28 count evenweave over two threads of fabric.

Stitch count: 150hx120w

Design size: 27x21cm (10½x8¼in)

Stitch time: 33hrs



Tip... Easter tree

Stitch some motifs from our design and back with Vilene. Attach ribbon and hang from a branch in a tall vase.



Danielle lives and works in Cape Town, South Africa.



Urban beauty

Artist **Danielle Clough** loves nothing better than stitching with vivid threads onto some truly unconventional surfaces. *Judy Darley* finds out more.

As an artist with a deeply rooted love of doodling, discovering embroidery was a moment of sheer serendipity for Danielle Clough. She'd found photography, fashion design and video art all presented her with ways to explore and present ideas, but embroidery offered a far more vivid form of expression.

She says: "I found embroidery through a sequence of mistakes and opportunities. My mother taught me to sew and while studying I would make plush toys for friends. I would stitch basic details onto these toys.

One day, bored at my weekend job, I found a needle, thread and scrap piece of felt at the bottom of my bag from the toys. I 'doodled' a rabbit with the thread, and was hooked."

Danielle was convinced that she'd invented a brand new art form. "I kept doing these 'thread-sketches' and only later realised it was embroidery and had in fact been around for centuries. My poor ego! I feel lucky to have stumbled onto the art form by accident."

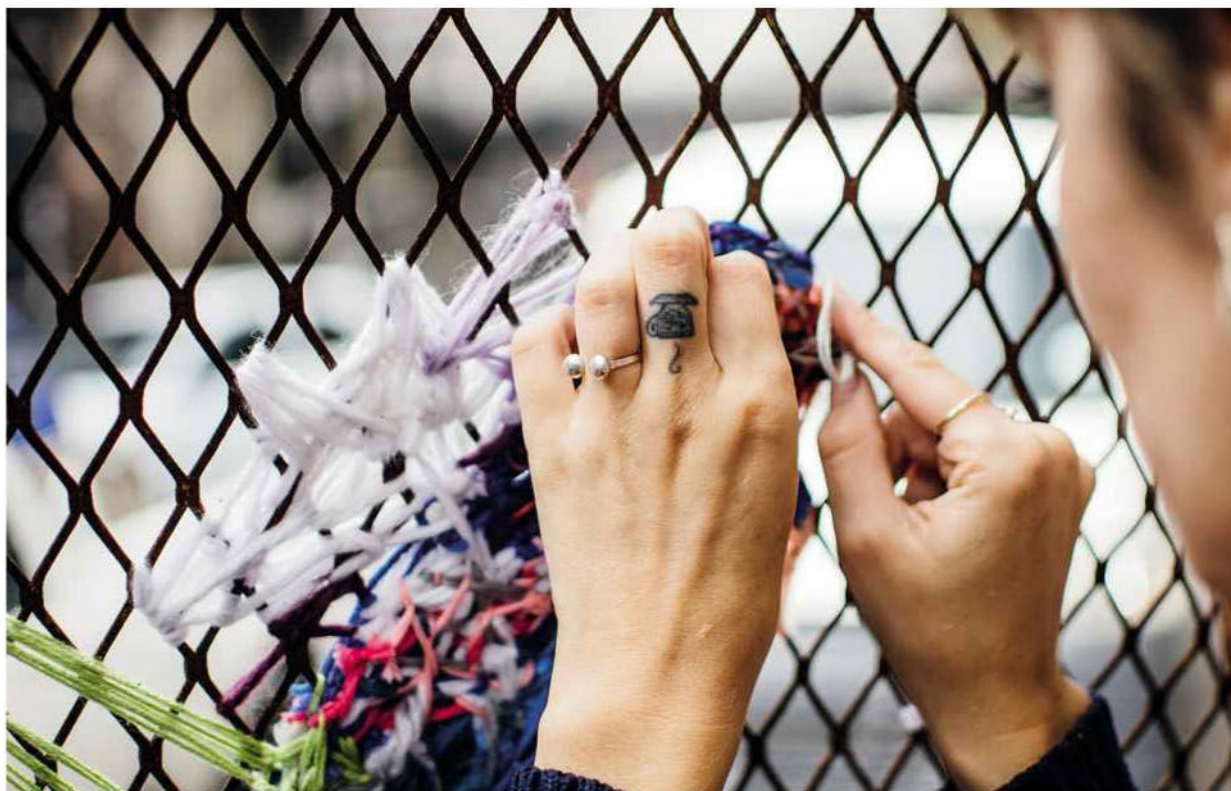
While the intricacy of her artwork has intensified with time, Danielle explains that her embroidery style

"has always looked much like it does now, just simpler. I didn't start traditionally, so it just developed slowly from the initial 'doodle'."

This freedom has allowed Danielle to retain an experimental approach, not least when it comes to choosing what to stitch on next. Her work caught our eye not only because of the vivid colours and stunning designs, but because she really does stitch on the most unlikely surfaces.

Take, for instance, the humble squash racket. In Danielle's hands they transcend their sports-based destiny to become canvasses for





All images © Danielle Clough/portrait by Tyler B Murphy

Above: Danielle's artwork for the United Nations.

Below: Her studio is full of "strange knick-knacks".

intricate embroidered works of art. "I took it as a challenge and wanted to figure out how to interpret my style onto them," she says. "The subject matter started with flowers because I figured it would be the easiest thing to experiment with and I became hooked on the colour and depth possibilities."

Other projects, such as celebrity portraits or disconcertingly-lifelike animal studies, are awarded pride of place in vintage picture frames.

Today Danielle works mainly from a small studio space in Cape Town, South Africa, where she lives. "I have a wall full of kitsch tapestries and lots of tools and boxes of art supplies," she says. "I have all sorts of strange knick-knacks, because you never know when you want to make pompom socks or paint a picture of a weasel with chop sticks..."

Despite being happy to go wherever commissions take her, Danielle hasn't actually moved too far from her beginnings, having grown up in the suburbs of Cape Town before studying at the fantastically named Red and Yellow School of Logic and Magic.

Studying art direction and graphic design equipped her to think on larger scales with ease, as well as offering her plenty of creative possibilities. "I think that's really important today, where you don't have to do or be one thing, and your job title can change from week to

week to constantly grow your 'database' of skills," Danielle says.

"The course was very practical and I was able to experiment with design, photography and craft in my school projects." Other advantages included having the room to play with and develop different skills. "The course was based in advertising so it gave me an understanding of marketing," Danielle says. "With art direction, it made me a part of all the components that are involved in a creative process, from concept to execution, so I gained a practical ability to have an idea, execute it,

take a photo and put it in a layout, for example."

Figuring out where ideas spring from isn't easy,

Danielle admits. "It's hard to say, as it's mood or project dependant," she says. "I'm most easily inspired when I have free time, and then it can be anything really, from a colour to tools. Inspiration is a weird force and hard to quantify. It's like a strong flash of energy, or a warm

"I became hooked on the colour and depth possibilities"





Above: Embroidered shoes commissioned by Gucci.

feeling from a song you love, but it can leave as fast as it arrived. I think what's more important to nurture is what motivates you."

It's an instinctual methodology that's clearly paying off, as Danielle's creations shimmer with lustrous colour and texture that beg to be touched. Climbing up wire fences like exotic trellises, they lift sombre surroundings into miniature pockets of paradise.

Recent commissions have included exquisitely embroidered sneakers for Gucci's #24HOURACE campaign, complete with fuzzy pom-poms on the laces, and a project called Borders and Boundaries for the United Nations.

Danielle explains that these opportunities have come about "mainly through exposure on Instagram", the photo-based social media app.

She says that there are inevitably added challenges to any project like this. "I think the stigma from high profile jobs creates an added pressure, and I'm harder on myself

because I don't want to make mistakes," she adds. "That said, there seems to be a new wave

of thought that brands have adopted when working with creatives, which is amazing. I feel like they are realising that if people are creating work with freedom, the outcome is

"Embroidery has a slow rhythm that I find... meditative"

better and more authentic. Both of those jobs were like that, and were unbelievably kind and supportive with what I did."

More recently, she travelled all the way from Cape Town to Bristol, south-west England, to get involved in Europe's biggest street art festival.

"I found out about Upfest from a girl who emailed me through Facebook, and suggested I give it a try," she says. "The day before applications closed, I applied, and at the time I had never done a street art piece. They accepted me and I had a few months to figure out how



Danielle gives old rackets a new life with stitching.

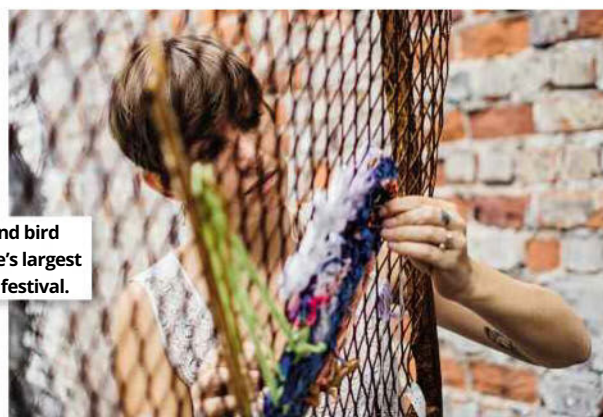
it could be done. I met the girl who suggested I do it there, and she was amazing. That was definitely a highlight, realising how small and accessible the world can be."

Upcoming adventures remain intriguingly hush-hush. "I'm working on a secret project, with an amazing person from a country far away from me. That's about as much as I can say right now."

Danielle says that beginning work on a new embroidered artwork is a fresh experience every time. "Each piece is different," she says. "I mainly work from my own photographs and either paint it first with ink or of work directly from the photo. Recently, I've been enjoying



Flowers and bird
for Europe's largest
street art festival.



All images © Danielle Clough

“I basically just freestyle with long and short stitch”

doing really colourful portraits from black and white photographs.”

For Danielle, the pleasures of embroidery encompass the need to take a breath and slow down for a while. “Embroidery has a slow rhythm that I find almost meditative,” she says, “and with the colour selection, it’s like a gentle indulgence in colour. I basically just freestyle with long and short stitch, and I love to add detail with French knots.”

As her profile has risen and clients have flocked, Danielle has been able

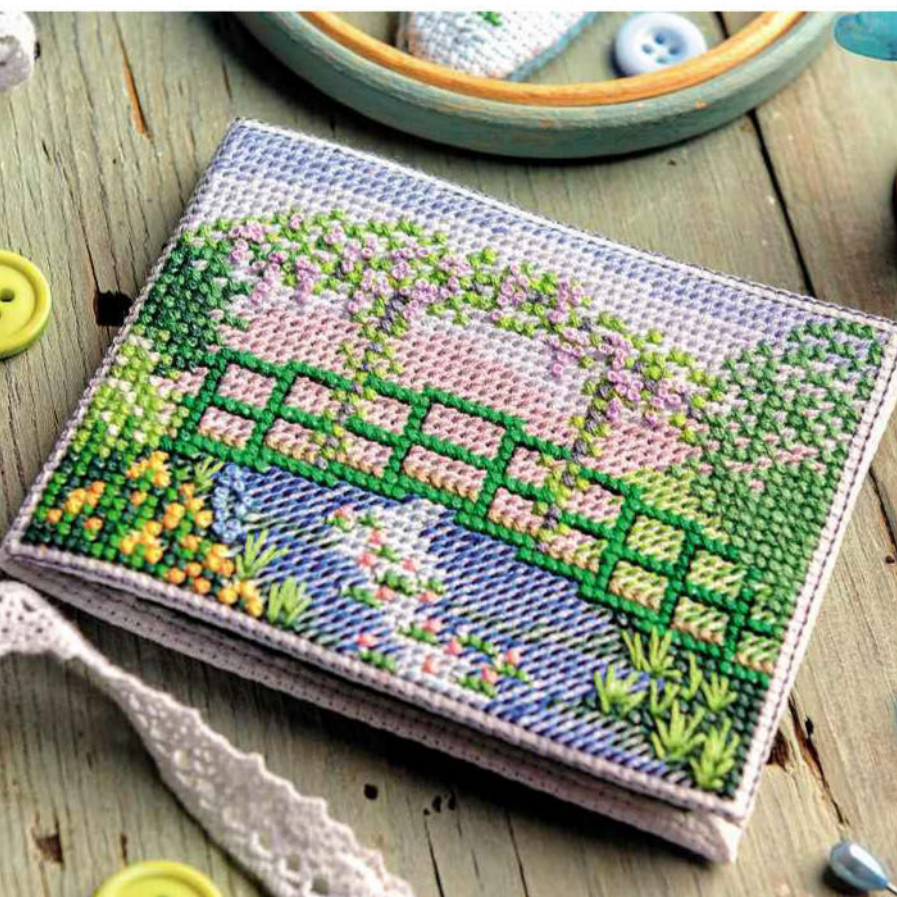
to draw back from her other work to concentrate on her first love, stitching, professionally. “At the moment my embroidery work has become my main focus, which is nice – it means that the digital and photography work gets to be the hobby because there is less pressure on it,” she says, and smiles. “I think it’s important to keep something that’s just for fun.”

Find out more about Danielle’s latest work and read her blog at www.danielleclough.com.



Water lilies

Add a touch of Impressionist tranquility
to your stitching kit with our sewing tools
designed by **Meg Evershed**



Our stunning needle book and scissor case are inspired by the famous bridge and water lilies in Monet's beautiful gardens at Giverny in Normandy.

The needle case is worked in cross stitch and half cross stitch, with backstitch for details. French knots are used to add flowers to the scene and half cross stitch is used for the sky, water and background landscape.

The scissor case is worked in cross stitch, with half cross stitch for the water and backstitch for definition.

*Bring the beauty
of Monet's lilies
to your craft kit*



Stitch the needle case

Give the pair of tools to a friend who loves stitching and art.

You will need...

- 14 count aida** light white, 11x24cm (4¼x9½in)
- Stranded cotton** as listed in the key
- Size 24** tapestry needle
- Green felt** for the case lining 7.5x11cm (3x4¼in)
- White felt** for the pages – 13x12cm (5¼x4¾in) each
- 7 mesh plastic canvas** 8x21cm (3x8¼in)

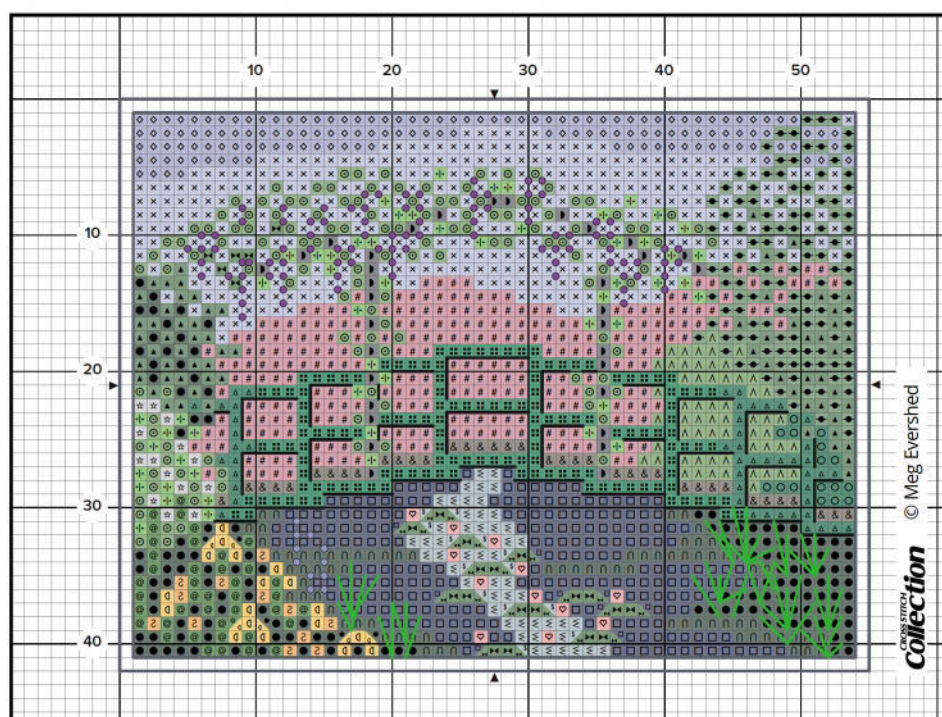
Stitching the design

MAKE sure the stitching for the needle case front is on the right hand side of the fabric, leaving a border around the design. Complete all the cross stitch and half cross stitch in two strands, the backstitch in one and two strands, and the French knots in two.

How to make the scissor case

1 CUT two pieces of plastic canvas 20x26 squares or 7.5x10cm (3x4in). Lay the stitched aida right-side down on the table, and place the plastic canvas pieces on top with a 6mm (¼in) gap between the pieces at the spine. Fold the fabric margins over onto the plastic canvas, and lace to hold the fabric in place.

2 TRIM the green felt to fit right across both pieces of plastic canvas, big enough to cover all the lacing but slightly smaller than the case size. Cut the white felt pages slightly smaller than the green felt. Lay these on top of the green felt and then stitch down the spine, through all layers. Catch stitch the green felt to the aida margins, using small, neat stitches. Fold the finished case in half. ➤



Tip... Double sided sewing accessories

We have given instructions for making up the needle and scissor case with stitching on just one side, but you could also make them double sided by stitching the design twice. For the needle case, you will need to work your second piece of stitching adjacent to your first, with a 6mm (¼in) gap between.

Stitch the bridge scene as a framed picture.

Water lilies

DMC Anchor Madeira Colour

Cross stitch in two strands

	317	400	1714	pewter grey
	320	215	1311	green
	367	217	1312	dk green
	500	683	921	dk blue green
	646	858	1181	med grey
	699	923	1303	xmas green
	700	228	1304	bright xmas green
	704	256	1308	bright lime
	725	306	808	m lt topaz
	762	234	1804	v lt pearl grey
	905	257	1412	dk parrot green
	987	244	1403	dk forest green
	989	241	1401	forest green
	3354	074	606	lt dusty rose
	3752	1033	1001	lt blue
	3854	313	2301	med autumn gold

Half cross stitch in two strands

	341	117	901	lt blue violet
	500	683	921	dk blue green
	699	923	1303	xmas green
	803	149	1006	dk delft
	989	241	1401	forest green
	3042	870	807	lt antique violet
	3747	120	907	lt blue violet

DMC Anchor Madeira Colour

Half cross stitch in two strands

	3752	1033	1001	lt blue
--	------	------	------	---------

Backstitch in one strand

	310	403	black	black
	bridge			
	317	400	1714	pewter grey
	frame			
	699	923	1303	xmas green
	foliage			
	989	241	1401	forest green
	grasses			
	3733	075	813	dusky rose
	water lilies			

French knots in two strands

	210	108	802	med lavender
	wisteria			
	341	117	901	lt blue violet
	flowers			

Scissor case shape

	use as cutting guide
--	----------------------

Stitched using DMC threads on 14 count aida fabric. Stitch count: 56hx26w scissor case; 43hx45w needle case

Design size: 10x4.5cm (4x1¾in) scissor case; 7.3x10cm (3x4in) needle case

Stitch time: 3hrs scissor case; 8hrs needle case

Scissor case

You will need...

14 count light blue aida, 14x10cm (5½x4in)

Stranded cotton as listed in the key

Size 24 tapestry needle

Blue felt for the case back 14x8.5cm (5½x3½in)

White felt for the lining 13x12cm (5¼x4¾in)

7 mesh plastic canvas 14x12cm (5½x4¾in)

Wadding 12x7cm (4¾x2¾in)

For stockist details see page 59

Stitching the design

FOLD the aida fabric to find the centre, and complete all the cross stitch and half cross stitch in two strands, and the backstitch in one strand.

How to make the scissor case

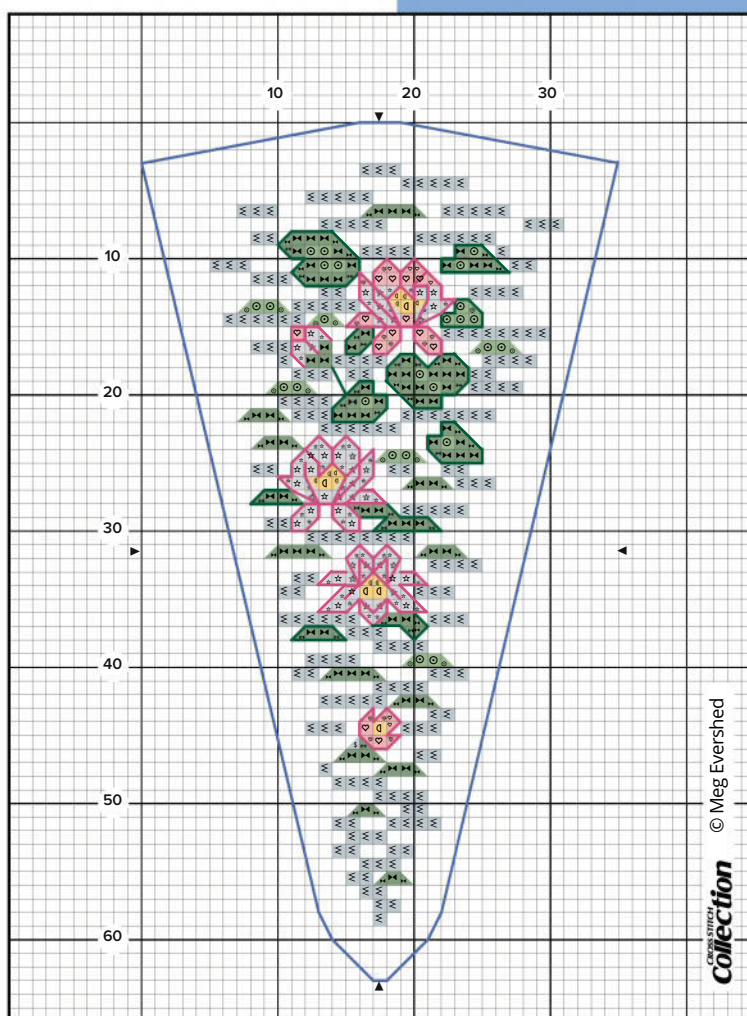
1 **USING** the outline on the chart as a guide, cut two scissor shaped case pieces from plastic canvas - count the squares on the chart and do the same on the plastic canvas grid, marking the canvas with a ballpoint pen. Cut out using sharp scissors.

2 **COVER** one side of one of the plastic canvas pieces with wadding. Trim the wadding to fit the shape of the plastic and slip stitch it in place all around the edges.

3 **CUT** the stitched aida fabric to fit over the covered plastic shape, making sure you leave 1cm (¾in) to fold over onto the reverse side. Lay the stitching face-down on the table, on top of this place the wadding covered plastic canvas. Fold the excess aida over and lace the aida tightly in place across the back of the plastic canvas - use a sharp needle and blue sewing thread and pass the needle backwards and forwards working in the fabric margins and making small stitches. You may find it helpful to run a gathering thread around the curved area at the top, before lacing.

4 **USING** white felt, cut a shape slightly smaller than the plastic canvas, lay it on the laced side, and then stitch the felt in place using small, neat stitches. Cover the second piece of plastic canvas in the same way, using the blue felt in place of the stitched aida.

6 **LAY** the two covered plastic canvas pieces, with the white felt on the inside. Ladder stitch down the sides and around the point, leaving the top edge open. You can now insert your scissors.





Rainy days

Our cheerful card designed by **Jenny Barton** will brighten someone's day with its cute picture and upbeat message

Our sweet design featuring a cute puppy trudging in the rain makes a lovely greeting card, or you could send it framed in a hoop to make a peppy reminder for a friend's wall.

You will need...

Zweigart 32 count Murano grey, ref: 3984/705, 15x14cm (6x5½in)

Stranded cotton as listed in the key

Size 26 tapestry needle

Small Bugle beads Mill Hill 7061

Card blank, blue, with a 10x9cm (4x3½in) aperture

For stockist details see page 59

Rainy days

DMC Anchor Madeira Colour

Cross stitch in two strands

✂ ✂	223	895	812	lt shell pink
◆ ◆	315	1019	810	dk antique mauve
● ●	334	977	1003	baby blue
● ●	413	401	1713	dark pewter grey
○ ○	543	933	1909	pink beige
◐ ◐	841	1082	1911	lt beige brown
⊗ ⊗	842	1080	1910	v lt beige brown
⊘ ⊘	3325	129	1002	lt baby blue
△ △	3713	1021	501	v lt salmon
▲ ▲	3755	939	909	baby blue
× ×	3841	159	1001	pale baby blue
☆ ☆	3861	378	1912	cocoa
• •	blanc	001	white	white

Backstitch in one strand

—	413	401	1713	dark pewter grey
outlines				

Backstitch in two strands

—	413	401	1713	dark pewter grey
words				

Mill Hill Bugle beads

●	70161	ice blue
raindrops		

Stitched using DMC threads on 32 count evenweave over two threads of fabric.

Stitch count: 54hx48w

Design size: 9x7.5cm (3½x3in)

Stitch time: 9hrs

Stitching the design

FOLD the fabric in half both ways to find the centre and start stitching at this point.

Complete all the cross stitch in two strands before adding the backstitch detail in one strand, and the words in two strands. The beads should be stitched in position using matching sewing thread.

How to mount a card

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

2 ATTACH double-sided tape to the inside of the card around the edge of the aperture. Place the stitching on a flat surface right-side up, and then place the card on top, pressing down firmly.

3 CHECK which flap will fold over on to the back of the stitching, then add strips of double-sided tape and press firmly in place.

STITCH & SEND



Bugle beads add extra dimension and bring this rainy day to life.



Through the window

The second part of our seasonal landscapes design by **Maria Diaz** rounds out the year with pretty spring and summer mini pictures

Our unusual seasonal landscape design features four different landscapes, each depicted during a different season. In the next few pages you will find the charts for the spring and summer designs. The measurements, stitch count, design size, time and materials are for the complete design.



Make it yours

You will need...

Zweigart 28 count Cashel cream, ref: 3281/222, 35.5x35.5cm (14x14in)

Stranded cotton as listed in the key

Size 26 tapestry needle

Frame with a 26.5x26.5cm (10½x10½in) aperture

For stockist details see page 59

Stitching the design

FOLD the fabric both ways to find the centre and start stitching here. Use two strands of stranded cotton for the cross stitch. The backstitch is in one strand, and is worked around part of the window frames and to add detail to each scene. ➤

SEASONAL PICTURES
Part Two
SEASONAL PICTURES



*Celebrate the four seasons
with our bright design*













See issue 271,
February 2017,
of CSC to find the
autumn and
winter designs.

Spring and summer








DMC Anchor Madeira Colour

Cross stitch in two strands

	301	1049	2306	mahogany
	340	118	902	blue violet
	367	217	1312	dk green
	422	943	2102	lt brown
	433	371	2008	dk brown
	605	074	613	v lt cranberry
	606	335	209	orange red
	712	926	2101	cream
	726	305	109	lt topaz
	727	293	102	v lt topaz

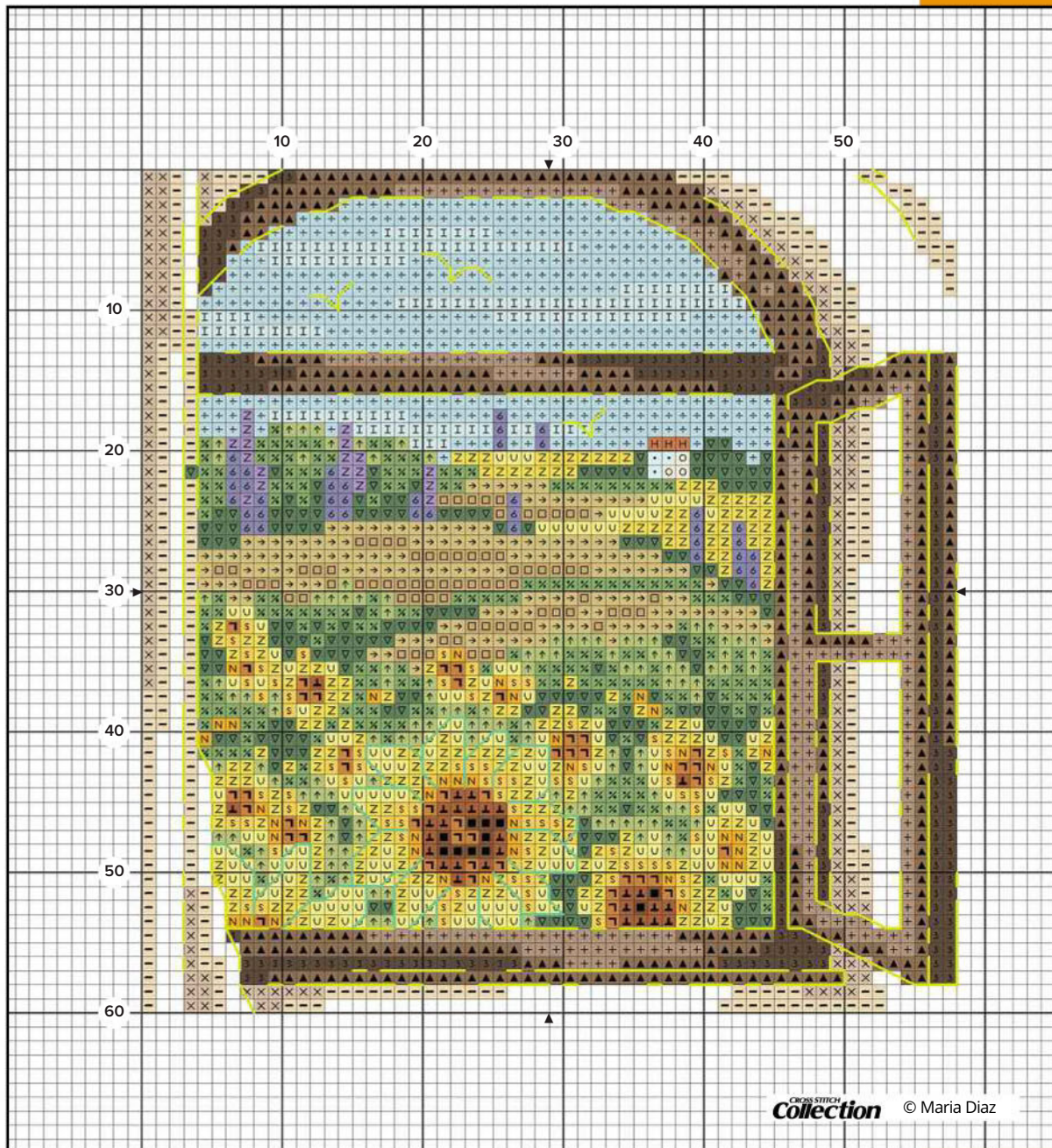
DMC Anchor Madeira Colour

Cross stitch in two strands

	739	366	2014	v lt tan
	742	303	114	lt tangerine
	743	030	2294	yellow
	747	158	1104	lt sky blue
	772	259	1604	lt yellow green
	793	939	906	m cornflower blue
	801	359	2007	m brown
	841	1082	1911	beige brown
	842	1080	1910	lt beige brown
	899	052	505	med rose

Tip... Let the outside in

If you have an interior hallway or bathroom without any windows, you could stitch all four mini pictures and hang in individual frames to add a sense of the outdoors to your space. You can either paint all four frames the same colour using an emulsion tester pot or pick shades that match the season shown in the picture.



DMC Anchor Madeira Colour

Cross stitch in two strands

	976	1001	2302	m golden brown
	989	241	1401	forest green
	3031	360	2003	dk mocha
	3046	887	2206	lt sandy yellow
	3348	264	1409	yellow green
	3746	1030	903	dk blue violet
	3761	928	1014	lt sky blue
	3776	1048	310	lt mahogany
	3862	358	1913	dk mocha beige
	b5200	001	white	bright white

DMC Anchor Madeira Colour

Backstitch in one strand

	301	1049	2306	mahogany
				sunflowers
	844	1041	1810	dk beaver grey
				outlines

Stitched using DMC threads on 28 count evenweave over two threads of fabric.

Stitch count: 130hx128w

Design size: 23x22.5cm (9x8¾in)

Stitch time: 45hrs

Spring blossom

Charm dinner guests with our whimsical tablecloth in pretty pastel shades designed by **Rico**



We love swapping out the tablecloth with the seasons, it's such a simple way to change the feel of a dining area. Our sweet design featuring birds singing on a branch of soft pink blossom is a great spring decoration. The birds, bird houses and floating blossom petals could all make lovely matching napkins. You could even stitch a few motifs from the design and mount onto card to make place cards, if you're hosting a formal lunch or dinner over the next few months.

*Use the motifs
to make napkins
to match ➤*

Our sweet design
makes a charming
tablecloth for spring



Spring blossom



Stitch a sprig of blossom to welcome a baby born this spring.

Spring blossom

DMC Anchor Madeira Colour

Cross stitch in two strands

♥ ♥	151	023	607	v lt dusky rose
★ ★	451	233	1808	dk shell grey
△ △	452	232	1807	shell grey
● ●	550	101	714	dk violet
◇ ◇	676	891	2208	med yellow
◎ ◎	807	1039	1109	peacock blue
× ×	834	945	2204	lt golden olive
~ ~	927	848	1708	lt grey green
♥ ♥	3687	076	604	mauve
▲ ▲	3688	066	605	med mauve
◆ ◆	3790	404	1905	dk sepia
• •	blanc	001	white	white

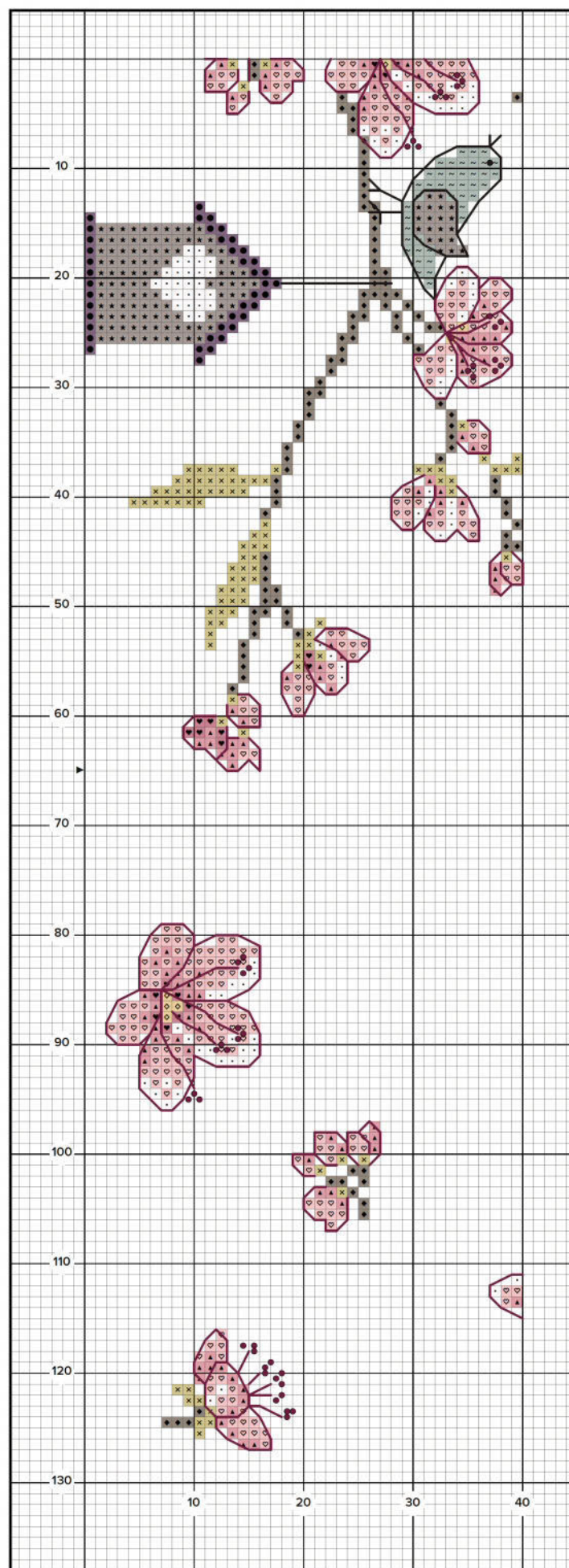
Backstitch in one strand

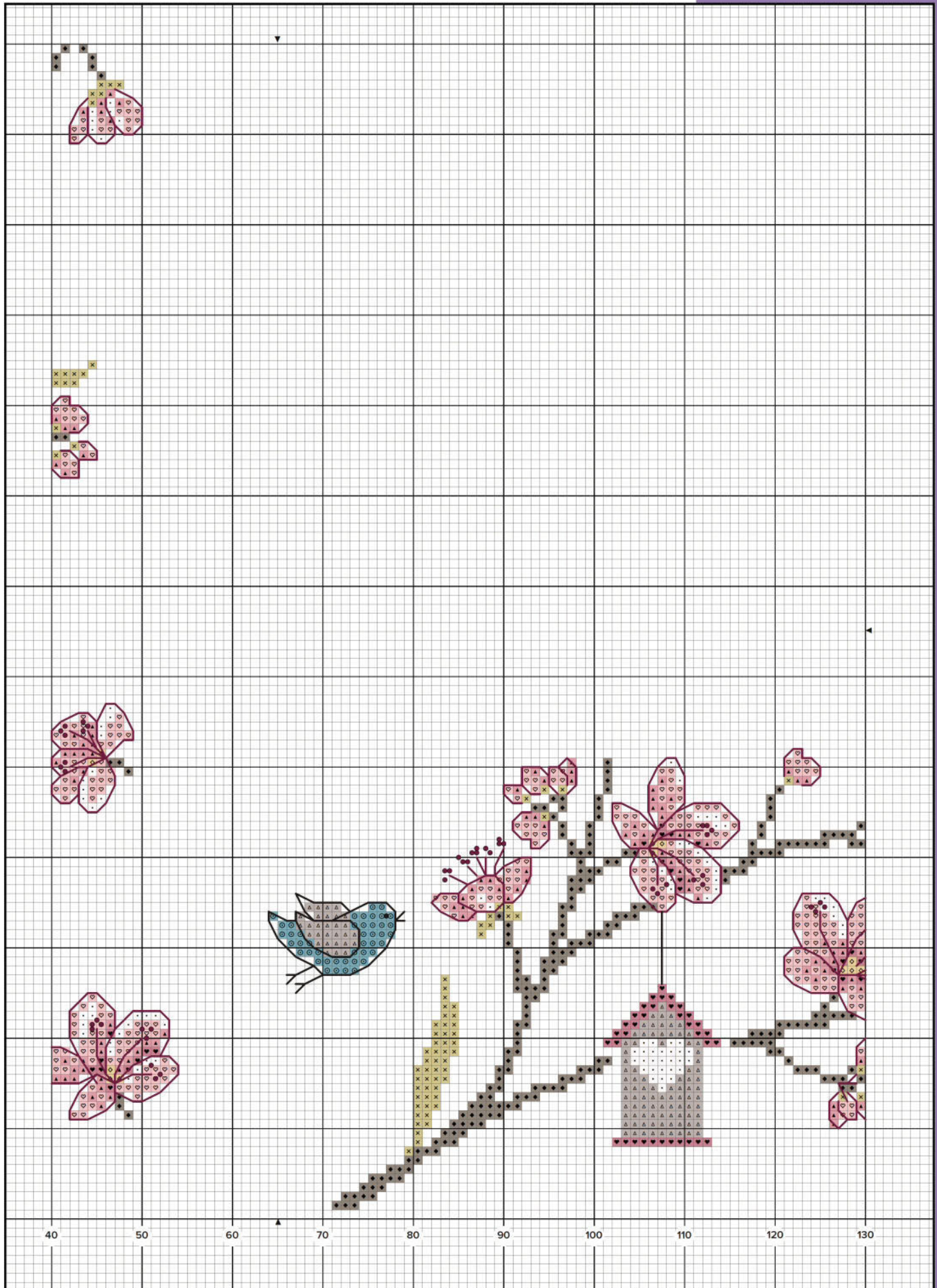
—	3371	382	2004	dark brown
				birds, details
—	3803	972	2609	dk mauve
				flowers

French knots in one strand

● ●	3371	382	2004	dark brown
				eyes
● ●	3803	972	2609	dk mauve
				stamens

Stitched using DMC threads on 14 count aida.
Stitch count: 129hx130w
Design size: 23.5x23.5cm (9¼x9¼in)
Stitch time: 30hrs







Tip...
Pick your cloth

You can use any tablecloth with an aida insert or panel large enough to fit this design.

“A seasonal tablecloth is a great way to change the mood of your dining area”

Make it yours

You will need...

Rico tablecloth white, ref: 16238.70.21; 90x90cm (35x35in) with a 14 count aida panel

Stranded cotton as listed in the key

Size 24 tapestry needle

For stockist details see page 59

Stitching **the design**

FIND the centre point on one side of the table cloth, and work the design from the centre out. Repeat for the other three sides. The cross stitch is worked in two strands and the backstitch in one strand.

Make **a napkin**

STITCH some blossom, birds or birdhouses from the chart over two threads on a 40.5x40.5cm (16x16in) piece of 28 count evenweave. Turn over 10mm (¼in), then another 10mm (¼in) on all four sides. Press, then stitch in place.

More designs **from Rico**



If you liked this tablecloth design, you might enjoy the other projects in Rico Design's book 143, *Pretty Pastel*. There are lots more chart books available filled with beautiful projects for your home. Available from Rico stockists, each priced from £7.95

Modern Cross Stitch from The Nutmeg Company



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Wishing fairy

Suspend this stitched flower fairy by Durene Jones above a child's pillow to catch their bedtime wishes

Mount your fairy on a stick to use as a table decoration or cake topper.

You will need...

14 count plastic aida white, 15x15cm (6x6in)

Stranded cotton as listed in the key

Size 24 tapestry needle

Split pin paper fasteners x 5

For stockist details see page 59

Stitching the fairy

STITCH your design onto plastic aida, taking care to finish your thread ends by running them through the back of your stitching. You will need to leave enough room between each of the body parts to cut out. The small unstitched areas on the chart will be used when assembling the fairy. The cross stitch is in

two strands of stranded cotton and the backstitch is completed in one strand.

How to make the fairy

1 **CUT** out the body parts, leaving one square of unstitched aida around the design. Make a small hole in each of the unstitched areas on the body parts – top of each leg, top of each arm, wings, and five holes in the fairy's body. You can make the holes bigger if you need to, but once cut, you cannot make them smaller, so take care when cutting.

2 **USING** the fasteners as pivots, assemble the fairy, so that the wings go behind the body, the arms in front, and the legs behind. Use a length of ribbon stitched to the back of the fairy for hanging.

Tip... Send in the post

This clever jointed fairy makes a great project to stitch for a child – and she's just the right size to stick in an envelope for a birthday treat. She's sure to be a hit with little girls everywhere.

Wishing fairy

DMC Anchor Madeira Colour

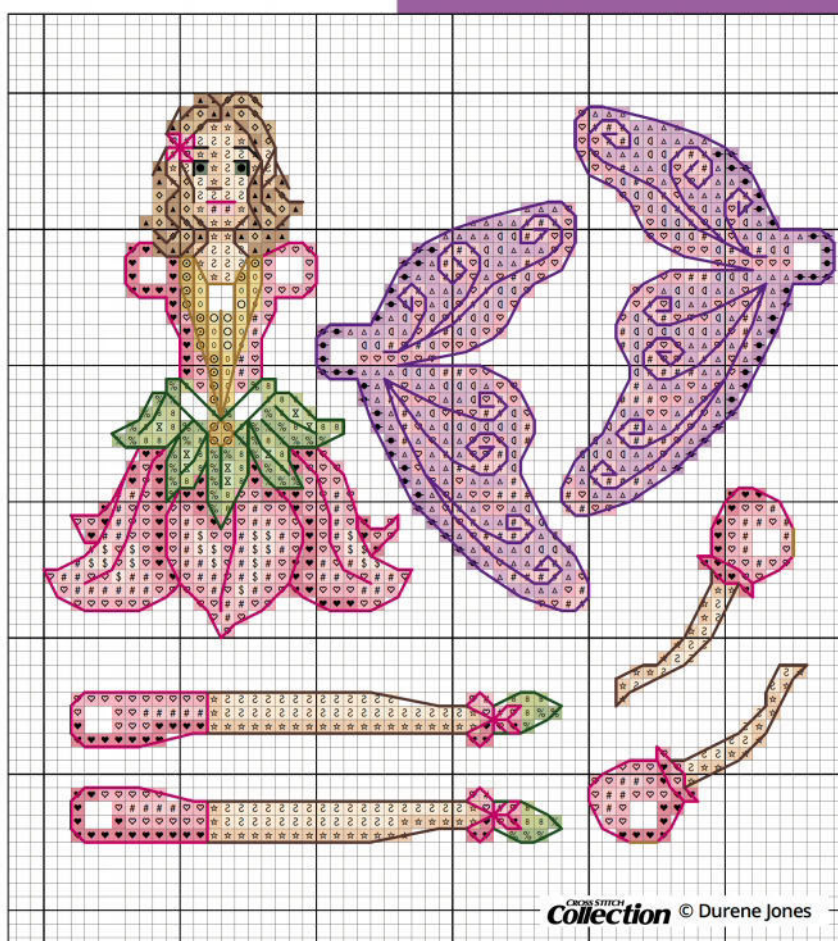
Cross stitch in two strands

□ □	153	095	710	pink mauve
◆ ◆	209	109	803	dark lavender
▲ ▲	435	1046	2010	med brown
◇ ◇	437	362	2012	lt tan
% %	471	265	1501	lt avacado
8 8	472	253	1414	avacado green
△ △	554	097	711	lt violet
○ ○	677	886	2207	lt yellow
× ×	772	259	1604	lt yellow green
\$ \$	819	271	501	lt baby pink
☆ ☆	945	881	2313	tawny
♥ ♥	961	076	610	dusty rose
# #	963	023	608	v lt dusty rose
● ●	3345	268	1406	dk green
♡ ♡	3716	025	606	v lt dusky rose
2 2	3770	1009	978	v lt tawny
◎ ◎	3820	306	2509	dk straw
0 0	3822	295	2511	lt straw

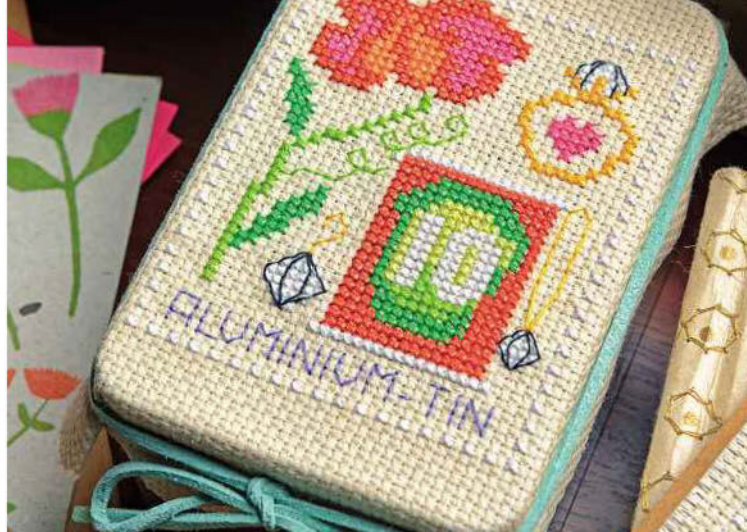
Backstitch in one strand

—	150	019	510	xmas red
				bodice, skirt
—	310	403	black	black
				eyes
—	550	101	714	dk violet
				wings
—	680	901	2210	old gold
				bodice front
—	838	1088	1914	dk beige
				flesh, hair
—	3345	268	1406	dk green
				overskirt

Stitched using DMC threads on 14 count plastic aida.
 Stitch count: various
 Design size: various
 Stitch time: 14hrs

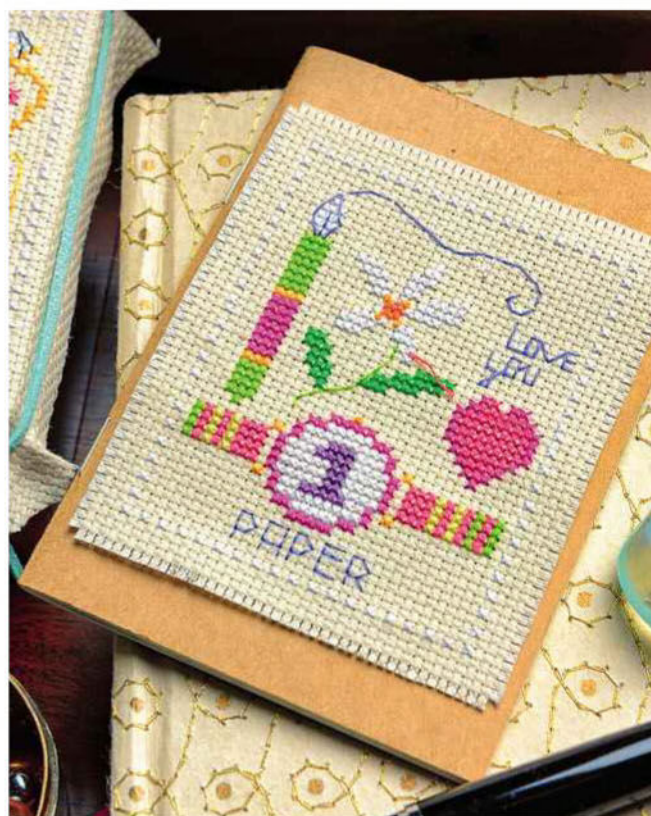


Make this tin
gift box for your
10th anniversary
or fill with pearls
for your 30th



Happy anniversary

Celebrate your anniversary with our romantic designs
by **Lesley Teare** – or make a gift for a special couple



Each of the pictures in our series of twelve designs based on the traditional anniversary gifts and flowers would make a lovely card for your partner to celebrate another year of happy married life.

Celebrate your special day with our unique gifts

We've also got some great ideas in the next few pages to help you make these unique designs into special anniversary presents – perfect if you are struggling to think up a suitable gift made out of paper, aluminium or tin!



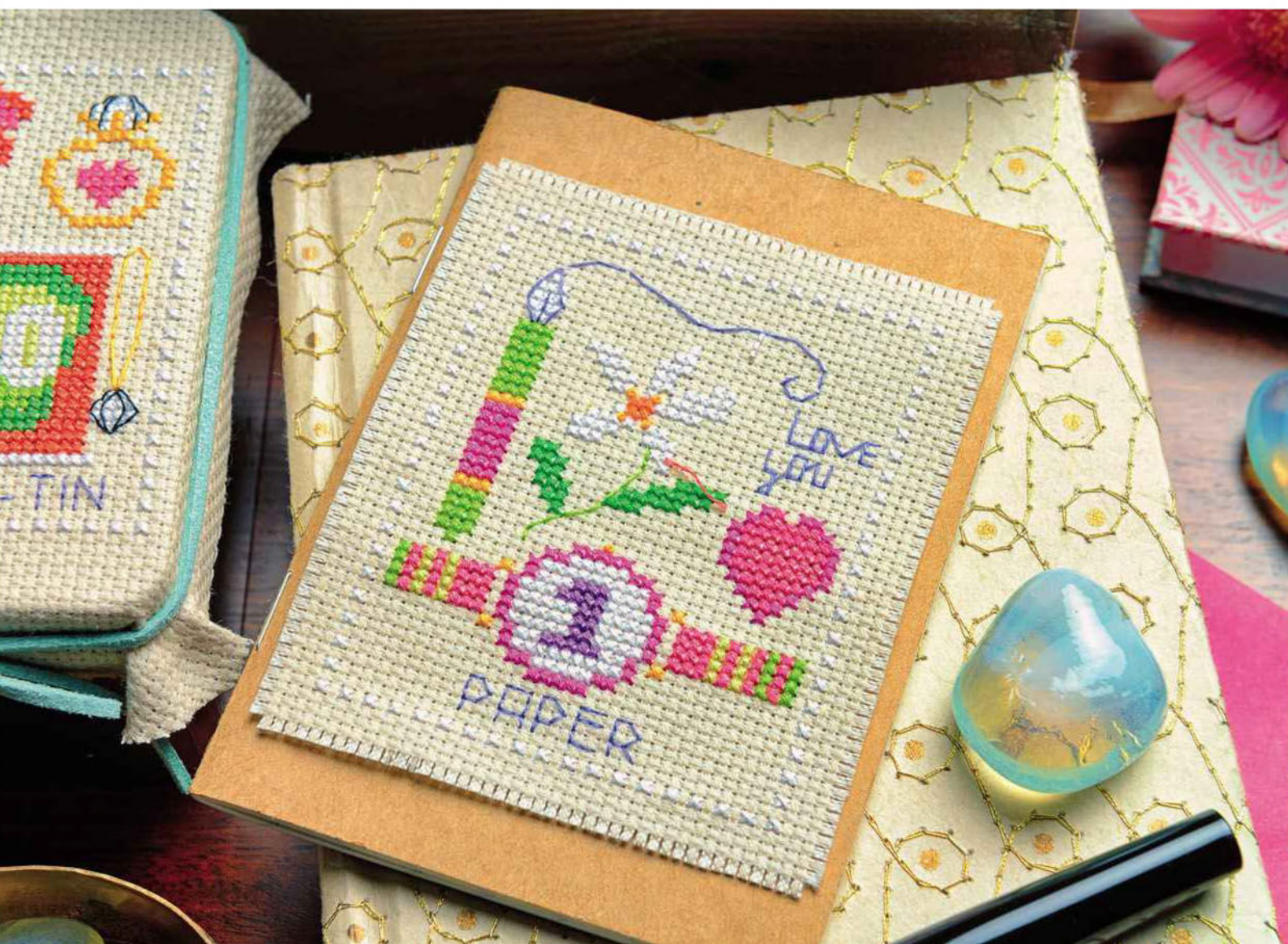


Collection makes...

SILK GIFT For a fourth wedding anniversary, stitch a linen bag with our design on and pop a pair of silk pyjamas inside for a luxury gift.

FIRST CARD Stitch the first anniversary design on perforated paper to make it even more pertinent.

COTTON FRESH Stitch the design for a second anniversary on a cotton evenweave fabric and make it into a pretty wardrobe freshener.



Make a first anniversary gift by mounting your finished stitching onto a notebook.

How to stitch it

You will need...

Zweigart 14 count aida beige, ref: 3706/3740; 15x12.5cm (6x5in) for each anniversary motif

Stranded cotton as listed in the key

Size 24 tapestry needle

For stockist details see page 59.

Stitching the design

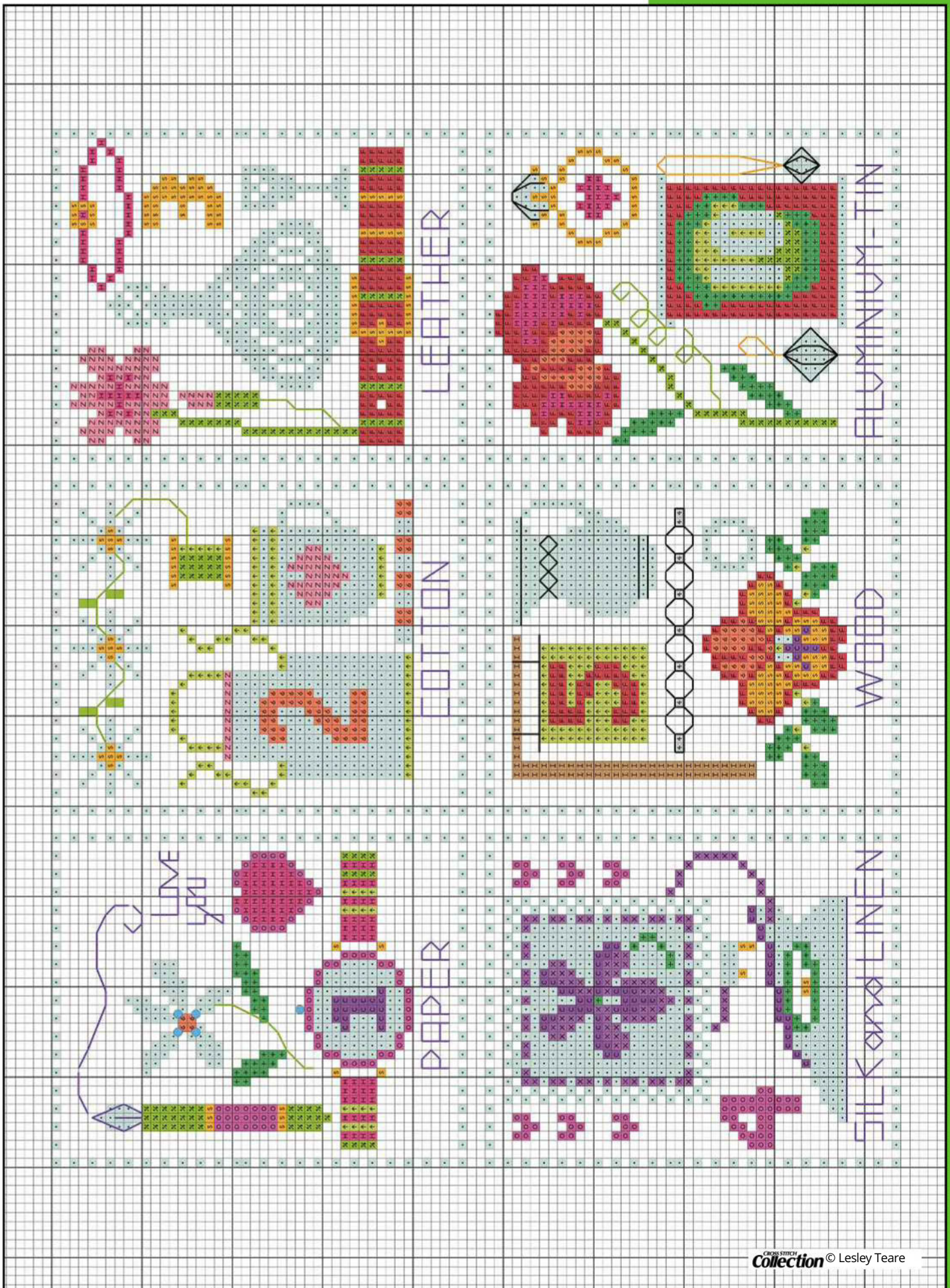
FOLD the fabric both ways to find the centre and start stitching here. Use two strands of stranded cotton for the cross stitch, and one for the backstitch and French knots.

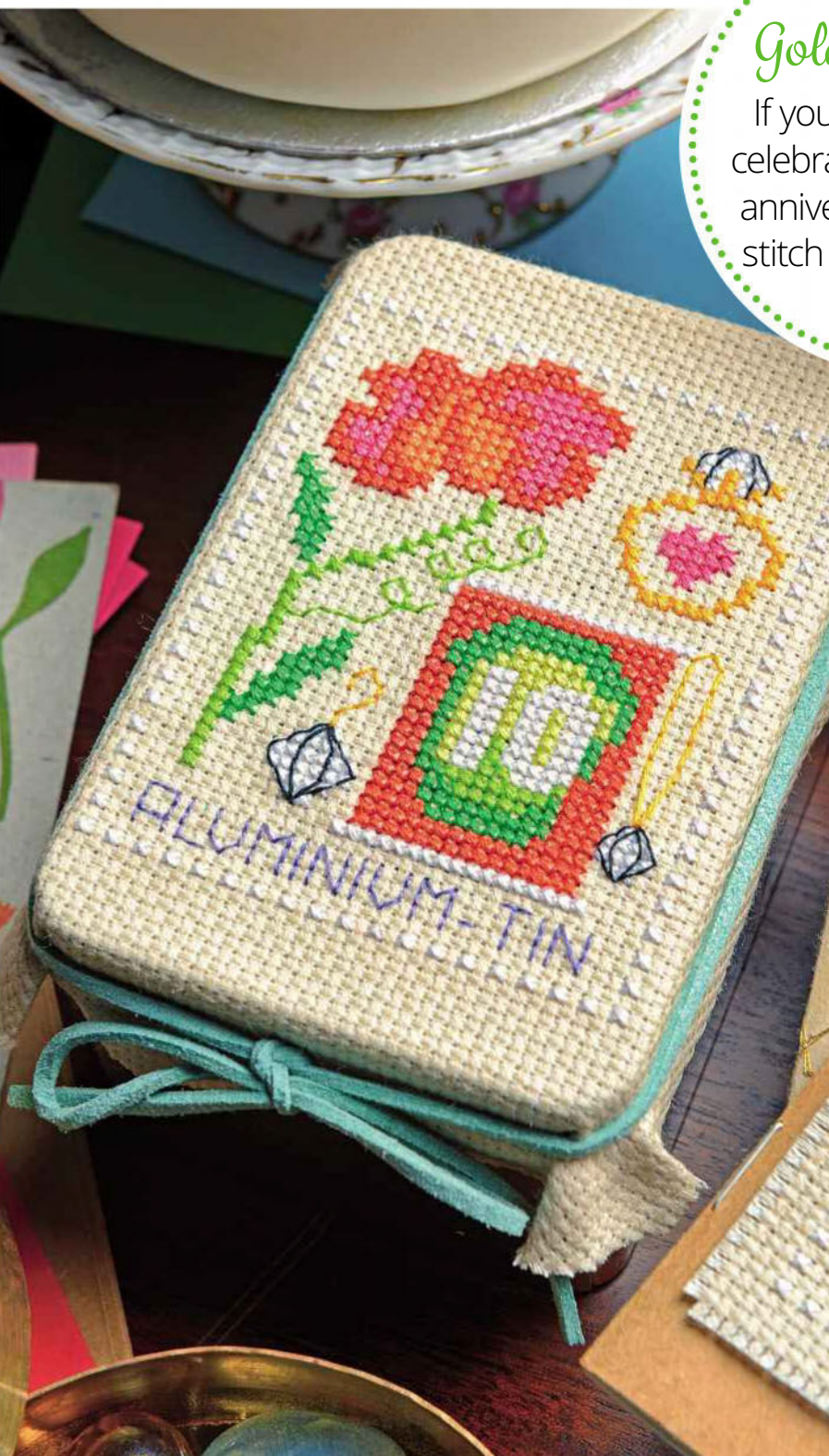
Assembling your anniversary motif card or gift

1 **EACH** anniversary motif can be mounted onto a card, book cover, or box top, or used as tag attached to your gift.

2 **FRAY** the edges of the stitched fabric, removing one block at a time. Use double-sided tape to fix centrally on to a book, box or tag.

3 **ATTACH** stitching to a tin lid, as we have done, by using double-sided tape to hold the fabric in place, and with the fabric edges overlapping the lid, tie a length of cord or string around the edge. Secure with a small amount of fabric glue.





Tip...

Golden wedding

If you know a couple celebrating their golden anniversary, you could stitch all 12 designs as a sampler.

Happy anniversary

DMC Anchor Madeira Colour

Cross stitch in two strands

4 4	168	274	1803	lt grey
X X	208	111	804	v dk lavender
F F	350	011	213	med coral
I I	436	1045	2011	lt brown
H H	602	063	702	m cranberry
+ +	702	239	1306	kelly green
S S	742	303	114	lt tangerine
% %	907	255	1410	lt parrot green
Z Z	957	031	612	pale geranium
6 6	3340	329	301	apricot
O O	607	087	708	lt plum
↑ ↑	3819	278	2703	lt moss green
C C	3837	112	713	dk lavender
• •	b5200	001	white	bright white
T T	E168			light effects
\ \	E3852			light effects

Backstitch in one strand

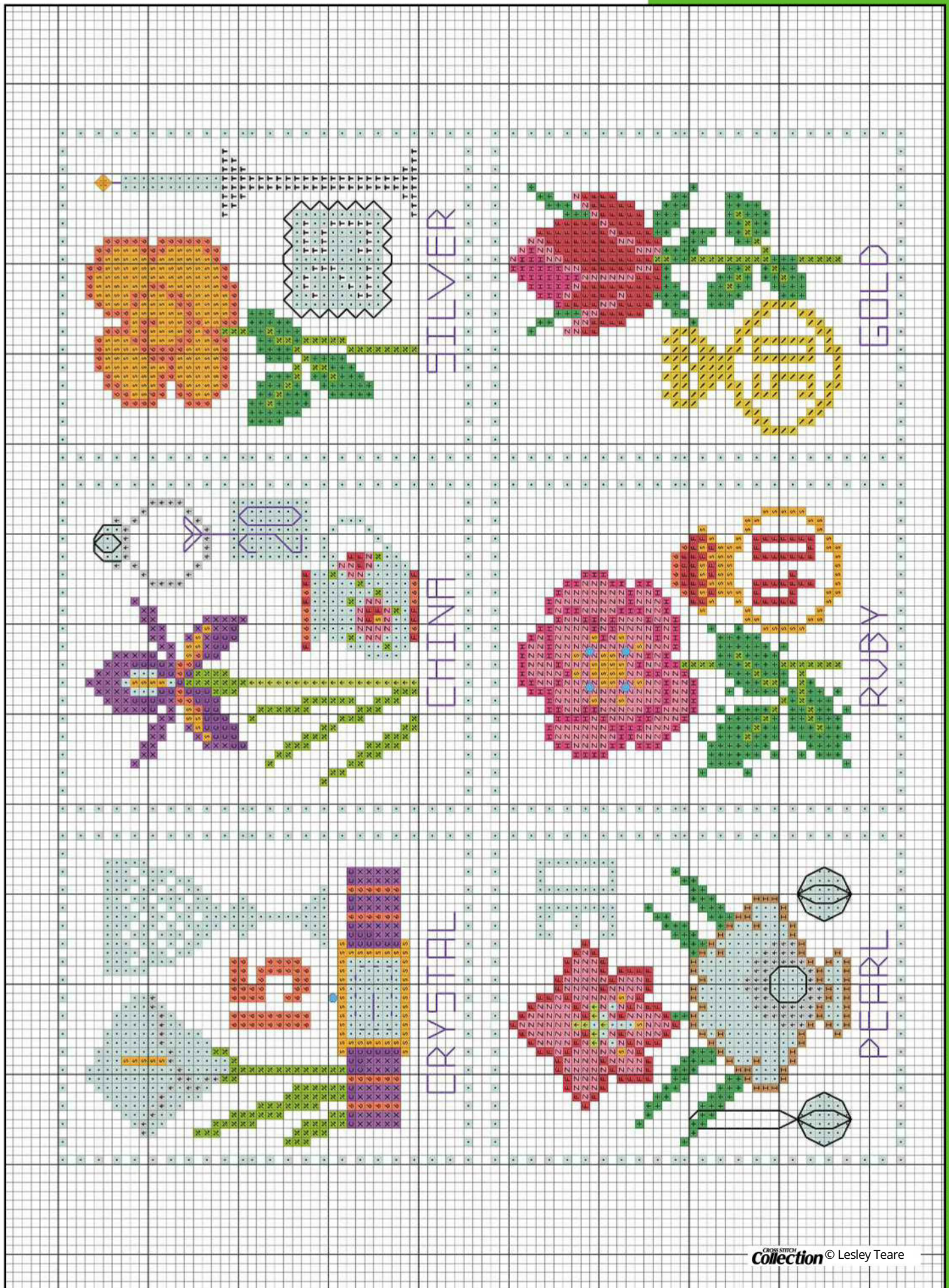
—	310	403	black	black
			outlines, details	
—	742	303	114	lt tangerine
			outlines, details	
—	907	255	1410	lt parrot green
			outlines, details	
—	3746	1030	903	dk blue violet
			words	

French knots in one strand

• •	742	303	114	lt tangerine
			details	

Stitched using DMC threads on 14 count aida fabric.
 Stitch count: 46hx37w each anniversary motif
 Design size: 8.5hx6.5w each anniversary motif
 Stitch time: 2hrs each anniversary motif

“Any of our fun designs would make a lovely card for your partner to celebrate another year of happy married life”





“Send a card featuring one of our anniversary designs to let a couple know you are thinking of them on their special day”

Traditional **gifts**

NOBODY knows exactly where the list of traditional anniversary gifts came from, but it originated in the United Kingdom during the 1800s. Here's a selection of the gifts that didn't make it onto our sampler.

6TH ANNIVERSARY

7TH ANNIVERSARY

8TH ANNIVERSARY

Sugar

Wool

Bronze

9TH ANNIVERSARY

11TH ANNIVERSARY

12TH ANNIVERSARY

13TH ANNIVERSARY

14TH ANNIVERSARY

35TH ANNIVERSARY

45TH ANNIVERSARY

55TH ANNIVERSARY

60TH ANNIVERSARY

70TH ANNIVERSARY

Pottery or copper

Steel

Silk, Linen

Lace

Flowers or ivory

Coral or jade

Sapphire

Emerald

Diamond

Platinum

Shopping Collection

It's easy to find essential stitching supplies or catch up on a missed copy of **Cross Stitch Collection** with our handy shopping guide

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Seen something that's inspired you?
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www.thecrossstitchguild.com

01285 713678
Online shop selling books, kits, supplies, tools and chart design software.

DKH CREATIONS

www.dkhcreations.co.uk

For cross stitch kits, threads, aida and accessories.

DP SOFTWARE

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Software for creating charts for cross stitch and tapestry from drawings or photos.

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Bespoke and ready-made picture frames and mounts for displaying your stitching.

HERITAGE CRAFTS

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PERMIN

www.permin.dk/uk

Permin produces a wide range of needlework designs, kits, tools and supplies.

PHOTOS 2 STITCH

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For personalised counted cross stitch kits and charts made from any photograph.

SEAMSTAR

www.seamstar.co.uk
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For plain and patterned fabrics and all kinds of trims.

SEW AND SO

www.sewandso.co.uk

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Stitch basics

Discover all you need to know to start cross stitching and lots of helpful hints to make you an expert. *We will help you make those first stitches...*

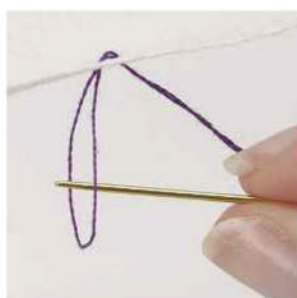
Getting started

Select your needle

Fabric	Count	Needle
Aida	11-14	Tapestry 24
Aida	16-20	Tapestry 26
Hardanger	22	Tapestry 26
Evenweave	22-32	Tapestry 26
Evenweave	36 and over	Tapestry 28

TIP To attach beads, use a beading needle or a size 28 tapestry needle.

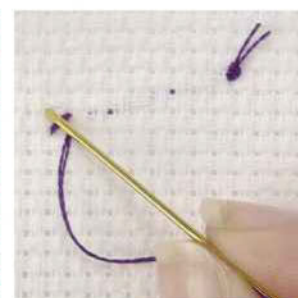
Try these three ways to get going, then choose the one that suits you best



Loop start When stitching with two threads Cut a single thread that's twice as long as you need, and thread both ends through your needle. Come up through the fabric and make a half stitch, then pass the needle through the loop that's formed at the back to secure it.



Loose end start When stitching with any number of threads Bring your needle up through the fabric, and be sure to leave a little piece of thread at the back. Hold this thread underneath the area to be stitched so that you will secure it with your first few cross stitches.



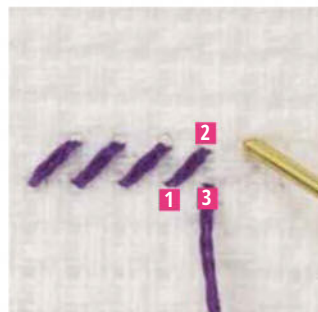
Waste knot start When stitching with any number of threads Knot the end of the thread and take the needle down through the fabric on the right side, a little away from your first stitch. As you stitch towards the knot, you will secure the thread at the back, then you can cut off the knot.

Cross stitch made easy

Learn the basic techniques and you're ready for the projects!



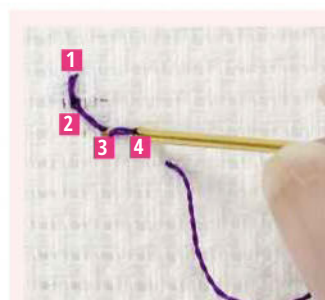
Cross stitch on aida Aida has groups of threads woven together to form distinct blocks – perfect for beginners. Cross stitches are made over one block of fabric. A quick way to work a line of stitches is to use half cross stitches going one way, then double back on yourself.



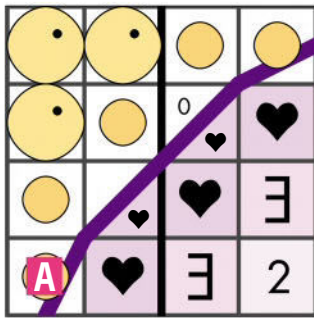
Half cross stitch This is simply half of an ordinary cross stitch. Bring the needle up at 1, down at 2, up at 3 and so on. Half cross stitches are often used to create a paler area of stitching, for example for the sky or a background, which can give the impression of distance in a design.



Cross stitch on evenweave Evenweave and linen fabrics are woven in single threads. Usually you will stitch over two threads, as you can see in the example shown above. As a result of this, a design stitched on 28 count evenweave will be the same size as one stitched on 14 count aida.

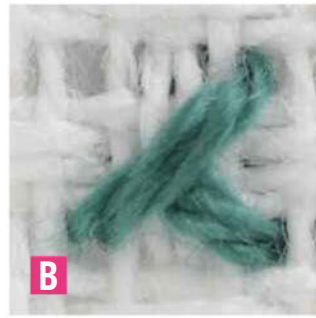


Backstitch, used for outlines or details, is shown as coloured lines on the chart and is done after the cross stitch. Bring the needle up at 1, down at 2, up at 3, down at 2, up at 4 and so on, working over one block of aida or two threads of evenweave. **Long stitch** is worked the same way, but over more than one block of aida or more than two threads of evenweave.



Fractional stitches

A small symbol in the corner of a square (A) indicates a three-quarter stitch (B). If two different symbols occupy the



same square, make the less prominent colour a tiny quarter stitch (C) then work a three-quarter stitch in the other colour (D). The examples



shown are on aida where the centre block has to be pierced to make the quarter stitch (you may want to use a sharper needle for this).



TIP Fractionals are easier to work on evenweave as there is no block to be pierced.

The final details

Many designs feature beads or French knots.

These are easy to do, but practise on scrap fabric first

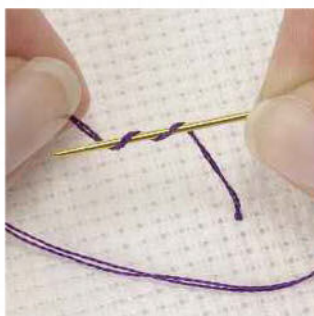


Beads

Attach each bead with a half cross stitch. Bring the needle up at one bottom corner of the square, thread the bead on to the needle and complete the stitch. Use a beading needle or a needle with a small eye, and sewing cotton that matches the fabric or stitching. Attach more firmly with a whole cross stitch.

French knots

1 Bring the needle up through the fabric. With thumb and forefinger, hold the thread a few inches away from where it came up. Keeping the thread taut, twist the needle twice around the thread.



2 Still holding the thread, push the needle down into the fabric close to where it came out, then pull the needle through gently to form a knot. Don't pull too hard.

TIP Vary the number of twists or strands to make larger or smaller French knots.

When finished...

Taking care of your stitching

Wash your work to refresh the fabric and threads – good quality threads won't run. Use warm water and rinse until the water runs clear. To iron, place your damp stitching on fluffy towels, with a clean white cloth over the top, and press with a warm iron until it is almost dry.

Reading charts and keys

The charts are easy to follow when you know how

■ Each chart symbol represents one stitch on the fabric.

■ The key shows the thread colour that the symbols represent, for all stitches. Check how many strands of thread you need for each.

■ The thread codes in the key are for DMC, Anchor and Madeira colours. We list the threads used to stitch our model first (therefore the design may look slightly different if stitched using another brand).

■ The arrows on the chart point to the centre of the chart. On most designs, you start stitching here to ensure the design is central. To find the centre of your fabric, fold it in half both ways; the crease in the middle corresponds to the chart centre where you'll make your first stitch.

Daisy key

DMC Anchor Madeira Colour

Cross stitch in two strands

0 0	white	002	2402	white
3 3	210	108	0802	light purple
■	550	101	0714	dark purple
♥	553	098	0712	med purple
♡	3866	926	2001	off white

Half cross stitch in two strands

■	550	101	0714	dark purple
---	-----	-----	------	-------------

Cross stitch in one strand of each colour

2 2	211	342	0801	lilac
				DMC Light Effects E5200

Backstitch in one strand

—	550	101	0714	dark purple
				all outlines and details

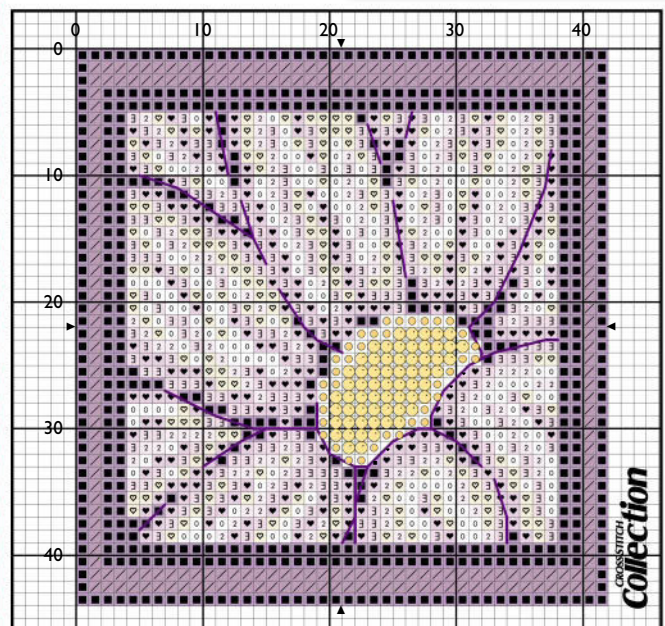
French knots in two strands

●	743	305	0113	yellow
				daisy centre details

Mill Hill seed beads

●	02002			yellow creme
				daisy centre details

Stitched using DMC threads on 14 count aida
Stitch count 44x42
Design area 8x8cm (3¼x3in)



Break time!

Relax and take a break with this month's prize crossword for a chance to win a cross stitch kit

Across

- 1 Unexpected (10)
- 6 What a bird does with its wings to fly (4)
- 10 Mainly North American mammal with facial 'mask' markings (7)
- 11 Wearing national ones on page 64 (7)
- 12 Branch of the military on water (4)
- 13 Make a covering for this on page 44 (5)
- 14 Opposite of open (4)
- 17 Make a card for her on page 21 (5)
- 18 Colour for 50 years on page 52 (6)
- 20 Torn (6)
- 22 Piece of a loaf (5)
- 27 The amount to pay (4)
- 28 Santa's version of happy (5)
- 29 Material made from sheep hair (4)
- 32 Type of flowering on page 44 (7)
- 33 Look at in detail (7)
- 34 Consumes (4)
- 35 Torch (10)

Down

- 1 Season featured on page 24 (6)
- 2 Get better (7)
- 3 Part of plant underground (4)
- 4 Day for a 'bonnie and blithe' child on page 16 (6)
- 5 Pleasantly (6)
- 7 Showed amusement out loud (7)
- 8 Making multiple folds in a garment (8)
- 9 Snake associated with Cleopatra (3)
- 15 Opposite of subtracted (5)
- 16 They're dressed up on page 64 (5)
- 19 Likely (8)
- 21 There's a giant one with this issue (4-3)
- 23 Losing temperature (7)
- 24 Opposite of casual (6)
- 25 Slumbers (6)
- 26 The most aged (6)
- 30 Country south of Canada (3)
- 31 Something to hang on this on page 10 (4)

Prize crossword 271

Across: 1 bright; 4 applause; 9 ritual; 10 third; 11 Austen; 13 rings; 15 ear; 16 spent; 18 tile; 21 Jane; 22 young; 25 run; 26 roses; 27 spring; 30 piano; 31 advice; 32 sweetest; 33 prayed

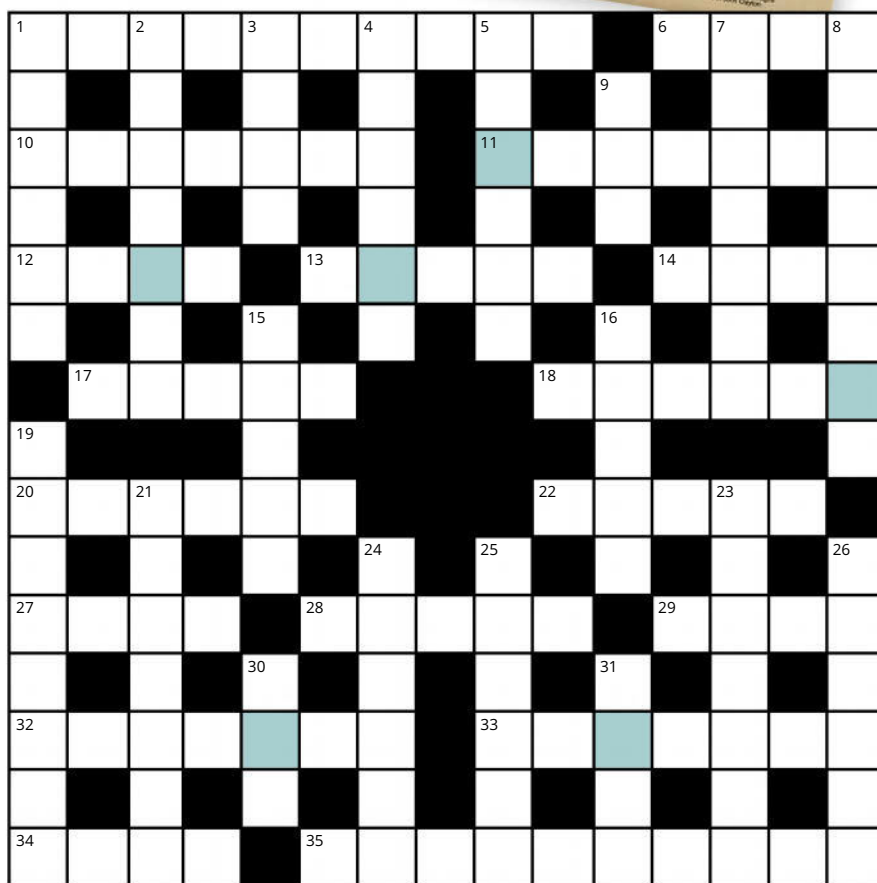
Down: 1 bird; 2 intruded; 3 heart; 5 proportions; 6 literally; 7 unions; 8 eldest; 12 Netherlands; 14 ash; 17 transport; 19 quantity; 20 age; 23 grapes; 24 estate; 28 rider; 29 read

Winning word: VARIEGATED

The answers to this crossword will appear in a future issue of Cross Stitcher magazine.

Your prize

One lucky winner will receive this lovely Stepping Stones kit from Heritage Crafts (RRP £28.99). Worked on 27 count evenweave fabric, the design is from a watercolour by John Clayton and features fallow deer in a lovely winter setting. Go to www.hcrafts.com for more details.



How to enter

Once you've completed the crossword, the shaded boxes will form a type of stitching material. Write your winning word and Crossword 272 on the back of a postcard or stuck-down envelope, adding your name and address, and post it to: Cross Stitch Collection Magazine, PO Box 172, Northam, EX39 9DY. Competition open 3rd February – 2nd March 2017. For competition terms and conditions go to page 59.

Competition rules To enter this competition, entries must be received between 3rd February – 2nd March 2017. The winners will be selected at random from all entries. Entries must be submitted by an individual (not via any agency or similar) and, unless otherwise stated, are limited to one per household. By entering a Competition you give permission to use your name, likeness and personal information in connection with the Competition and for promotional purposes. You warrant that the Competition entry is entirely your own work and not copied or adapted. If you are a winner, you may have to provide additional information. Details of winners will be available on request within three months of the closing date. You acknowledge and agree that neither the Company nor any associated third parties shall have any liability to you in connection with your use and/or possession of your prize. Further rules can be read in full on page 59.



THANK YOU...

So much for reading the very last issue of

CROSS STITCH Collection

We've loved your company and hope you will join us at our sister magazine

CrossStitcher

which is packed with projects to inspire every stitcher...



Contents subject to change. Overseas gifts may vary.



Keep your
stash in order
with these
exclusive bobbins,
FREE with
issue 316.



National Treasures

Stitch your very own collection of international dolls in the traditional costume of their country with our stunning design by **Durene Jones**

Our giant fold out chart this month gives you the chance to own your very own national costume doll collection. The dolls have been cleverly designed by Durene Jones so that, once stitched, the finished picture looks like shelves in a cabinet. Sixteen dolls from around the world fill the shelves, each dressed in the traditional costume of their country. Each cute doll is stitched in amazing detail from their hats and headdresses to their clogs and shoes.

This design features just full cross stitches, plus lots of backstitch, beading and French knots. Our step-by-step guide will ease you through stitching this unique design.



Make it yours

You will need...

Zweigart 27 count Linda, white, ref: 1235/101, 51x40.5cm (20x16in)

Stranded cotton as listed in the key

DMC Light Effects as listed in the key

Size 26 tapestry needle

Beads as listed in the key

Frame with a 38x29cm (15x11½in) aperture

For stockist details see page 58

Before you begin

THIS is a relatively easy design to work, if you take care with the position of each of the dolls. The measurements, stitch count, design size and time are given on the chart. Stranded cotton is used for both the cross stitch and backstitch, with the addition of gold DMC Light Effects and beads. This design uses full stitches only, but there is a lot of backstitch which adds shape and detail to the dolls. This design is best worked on evenweave because of the backstitch, and in a pale colour to make the dolls and shelves stand out.



Stitching the design

FOLD the fabric both ways to find the centre and start stitching at this point. The cross stitch is worked in two strands of stranded cotton – it is important not to trail thread across the back of your fabric as you move between the different dolls. Careful counting is the key to finishing this design, as although not large, it is easy to stitch things in the wrong position, so it may be best to work the border and shelves first. The backstitch is in one and two strands, with the gold detail on the border and shelves worked in a blend of two colours. The French knots are in one strand of stranded cotton, with a blend of gold and stranded cotton used to decorate the dolls. The gold beads should be added using matching sewing thread. Please refer to the key for placement.

All in the detail

It will be best to use a frame when working this design, as a hoop may rest on the stitches and distort them. Use a sharp needle for the backstitch, as this will help you position the stitches correctly when stitching off-grid. Work the dolls one at a time then finish the thread for each before moving on. Do not trail thread across the back of the stitching. The dolls are all backstitched before the facial detail is added.

OUTLINES

The backstitch detail on the dolls is in one strand of pewter grey stranded cotton, which is used to create the faces and around the hair and clothes.

Each doll could be stitched to make a bright greeting card.



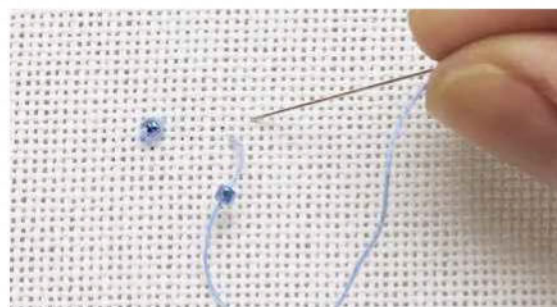
One strand of dark red stranded cotton is used for the lips and some small areas on the clothes. Two strands of yellow stranded cotton is used for fringing and detail on the dolls clothes. A blend of gold Light Effects and straw stranded cotton is used for the border edge.

FRENCH KNOTS

The French knots are worked in one strand of coral coloured stranded cotton for the detail on the headdresses and clothes, and also in one strand of yellow. Some of the French knots use two shades blended in the needle – a mix of one strand of Light Effects gold and one of straw stranded cotton is used for the hair and clothes detail.

ADDING BEADS

The gold beads are used on the border edge between the gold backstitch lines to create a continuous pattern. They are best stitched in place using matching sewing thread.



BEADING TIPS

It is important to securely attach the beads which should be sewn on using sewing cotton. You can either stitch once through the hole, or do a double stitch which will make sure they are held firmly. Bring your threaded needle up through a hole in the evenweave, which is at the bottom left of the square marked on your chart. Pass the needle through the bead and take it down through the fabric again at the top right, as shown in the photograph. This is the usual method for attaching beads. If you want a firmer hold, bring the needle up again at the bottom right, twist the bead slightly so that you can push the needle through the centre hole again, and then take the needle back down in the top right hole of the fabric.

You may be able to guess some of the national costumes that the dolls are wearing, if not here is a complete list:

Top row: Wales, Japan, Native America, Bolivia
2nd row: Germany, Oman, Scotland, Netherlands
3rd row: Equador, Greece, Laos, Arctic
Bottom row: India, Denmark, Ireland, Estonia

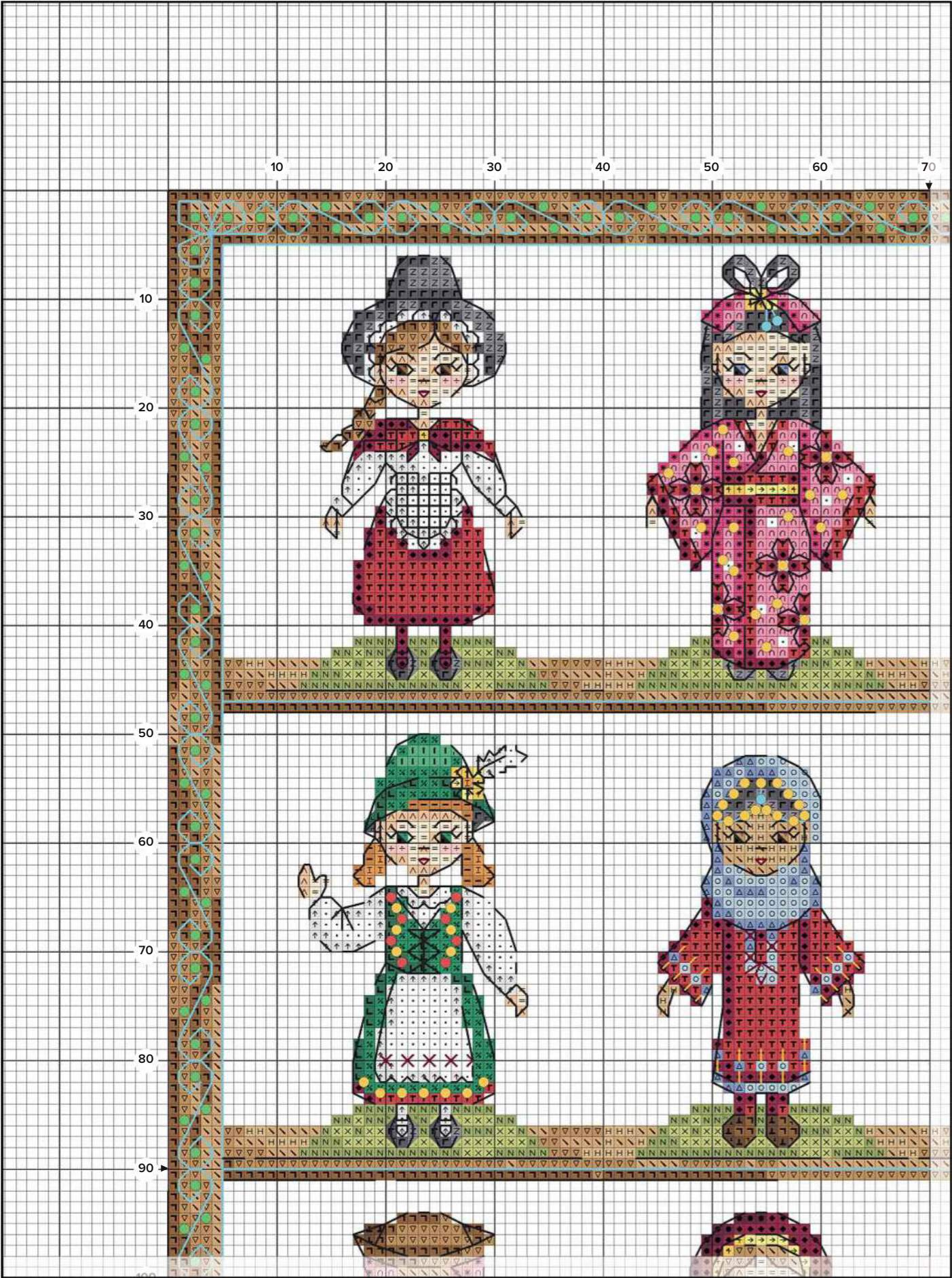
National Treasures GIANT CHART

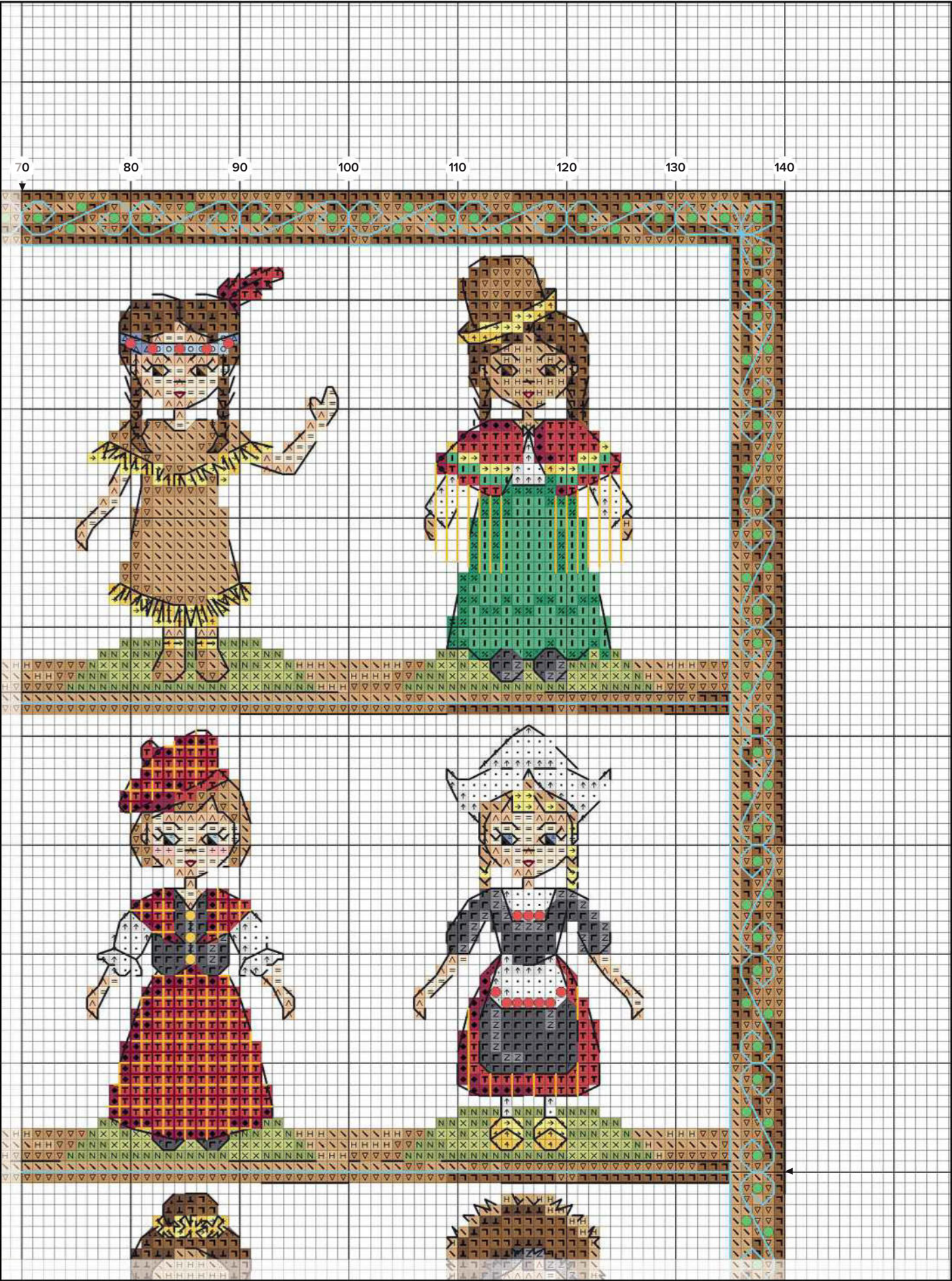


Your **FREE**
fold-out chart



Bonus Giant Chart





Bonus Giant Chart







Each doll
could be stitched
to make a bright
greeting card.

Stitch your own national costume doll collection

You will need...

Zweigart 27 count Linda white, ref: 1235/101,
51x40.5cm (20x16in)

Stranded cotton as listed in the key

DMC Light Effects as listed in the key

Size 26 tapestry needle

Mill Hill seed beads as listed in the key

Frame with a 38x29cm (15x11½in) aperture

For stockist details see page 59

a blend of two colours. The French knots are in one strand of stranded cotton, with a blend of gold and stranded cotton used to decorate the dolls. The gold beads should be added using matching sewing thread. Please refer to the key for placement. It will be best to use a frame when working this design, as a hoop may rest on the stitches and distort them.

Designed by: Durene Jones

Stitching the design

FOLD the fabric both ways to find the centre and start stitching at this point. The cross stitch is worked in two strands of stranded cotton – it is important not to trail thread across the back of your fabric as you move between the different dolls.

The backstitch is in one and two strands, with the gold detail on the border and shelves worked in



National Treasures

DMC Anchor Madeira Colour

Cross stitch in two strands

■ ■	310	403	black	black
■ ■	350	011	213	med coral
■ ■	413	401	1713	pewter grey
■ ■	414	235	1801	dk grey
■ ■	434	310	2009	lt brown (2)
■ ■	436	1045	2011	lt brown (2)
■ ■	437	362	2012	lt tan
■ ■	471	265	1501	lt avacado
■ ■	472	253	1414	avacado green
■ ■	498	1005	511	dark red
■ ■	602	063	702	m cranberry
■ ■	604	055	614	lt cranberry
■ ■	725	306	808	yellow
■ ■	727	293	102	v lt topaz
■ ■	738	361	2013	v lt tan
■ ■	762	234	1804	v lt pearl grey
■ ■	799	136	910	med delft
■ ■	800	159	908	pale delft
■ ■	801	359	2007	m brown
■ ■	814	045	514	dk garnet
■ ■	910	228	1301	dk emerald green
■ ■	912	209	1213	lt emerald green
■ ■	945	881	2313	tawny
■ ■	963	023	608	v lt dusty rose
■ ■	976	1001	2302	m golden brown
■ ■	977	1002	2301	golden brown
■ ■	3770	1009	978	v lt tawny
■ ■	3818	211	2704	dk emerald
■ ■	b5200	001	white	bright white

DMC Anchor Madeira Colour

Backstitch in one strand

—	498	1005	511	dark red
				lips, details
—	3799	236	1713	pewter grey
				outlines

Backstitch in two strands

—	725	306	808	yellow
				fringing, details
—	3822 + E3852			gold blend
				border

French knots in one strand

● ●	350	011	213	med coral
				costume decoration
● ●	725	306	808	yellow
				costume decoration

French knots blending one strand of each

● ●	3822 + E3852			gold blend
				costume decoration

Mill Hill seed beads

● ●	02011	gold		
				border, costume detail

Stitched using DMC threads on 27 count evenweave over two threads of fabric.
Stitch count: 180hx140w
Design size: 33x26cm (13x10¼in)
Stitch time: 78hrs

2/3 indicates more than 1 skein is needed

Stitch some of these dolls on perforated paper - perfect doll's house friends!





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