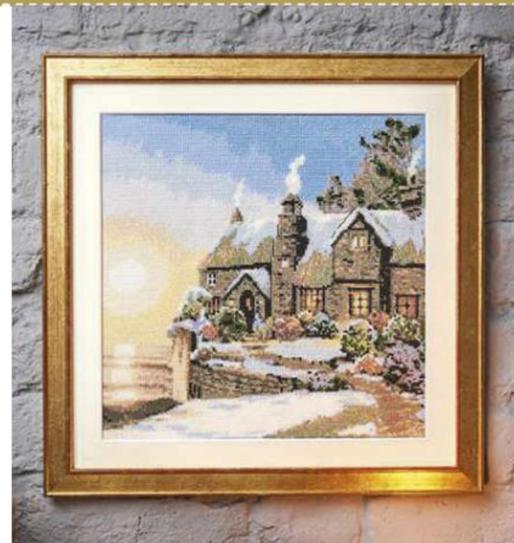


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# Cross Stitch GOLD



Seaside escape



Fantasy charm



Nursery keepsake



Vintage beauty



## Puppy love

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# Cross Stitch GOLD



Happy New Year! Brush off the winter blues with our spring issue, which is packed with new ideas and beautiful charts to keep your needle busy. Fresh flowers – what a joy at this time of year. I'm loving the colourful blooms in Lesley Teare's blue tit cushion (p50), Jenny Barton's stunning unicorn project (p28) and the adorable labrador puppy design (p4). Plus we have a pretty pansy draught excluder on page 34, which is the perfect way to bring both colour and warmth to your home.

If you're expecting a new family member in 2020, then don't miss our baby keepsake on page 44 to welcome them in style. We also have some stunning Art Deco cards for Valentine's Day on page 60. All this, plus lots of great ideas to get the new year off to a super start, from motivational kits (p56) to fantastic giveaways (p33) and puzzle prizes (p66). Happy stitching, everyone!

*Zeena*  
Zeena Moolla, Editor

We award this medal to designs and products as a mark of our seal of excellence



**4** Everyone's best friend

## Projects

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Gift this adorable pup to a dog lover

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You'll love this snowy yet sun-filled design of a pretty cottage by the sea

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Capture the romance of the era in stitches

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An enchanting design, full of detail, for those who love fairytales and fantasy

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A beautiful floral draught excluder to keep your home cosy, fresh and bright

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This sweet nursery design features cuddly teds and a 'Welcome baby' greeting

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Get ready for the new season with spring birds and blooms – a match made in heaven

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# Man's best friend

Delight someone special with this sweetest of portraits – those puppy dog eyes are hard to resist!

## Stitch tip

For a realistic touch, work the buckle and charm on the puppy's collar using gold metallic thread



Meet the designer  
**Jenny Barton**

Jenny has been passionate about the creative arts since she was a small child, and went on to study graphic design at university. Soon after, she landed a job as a needlework designer for DMC Creative World, and became a freelance designer a couple of years later. She loves being able to work with cross stitch every day!

“Labradors are well loved because they're such loyal, cute and playful animals. I hope my design manages to capture some of those special qualities.”

## Stitcher's guide

This design is worked on 28-count white evenweave over two threads of the fabric in 33 shades of stranded cotton. Cross stitch is in both one and two strands of cotton, with fractionals for detail. Half cross stitch is in two strands for the sky. Backstitch adds definition in one strand of thread, and French knots are in two strands. This design is suitable for experienced stitchers.

## How to stitch the design

- 1 Find the centre of your fabric by folding it in half both ways. Find the centre of the chart and start here, working outwards.
- 2 Work the cross stitch over two threads of the fabric using one or two strands of cotton. For every tiny symbol you see on the chart, work a fractional stitch.
- 3 Work the half cross stitch in two strands of cotton.
- 4 Add the backstitch detail using one strand of cotton.
- 5 Work the French knots using two strands of cotton.
- 6 Check over your stitching and prepare for framing.

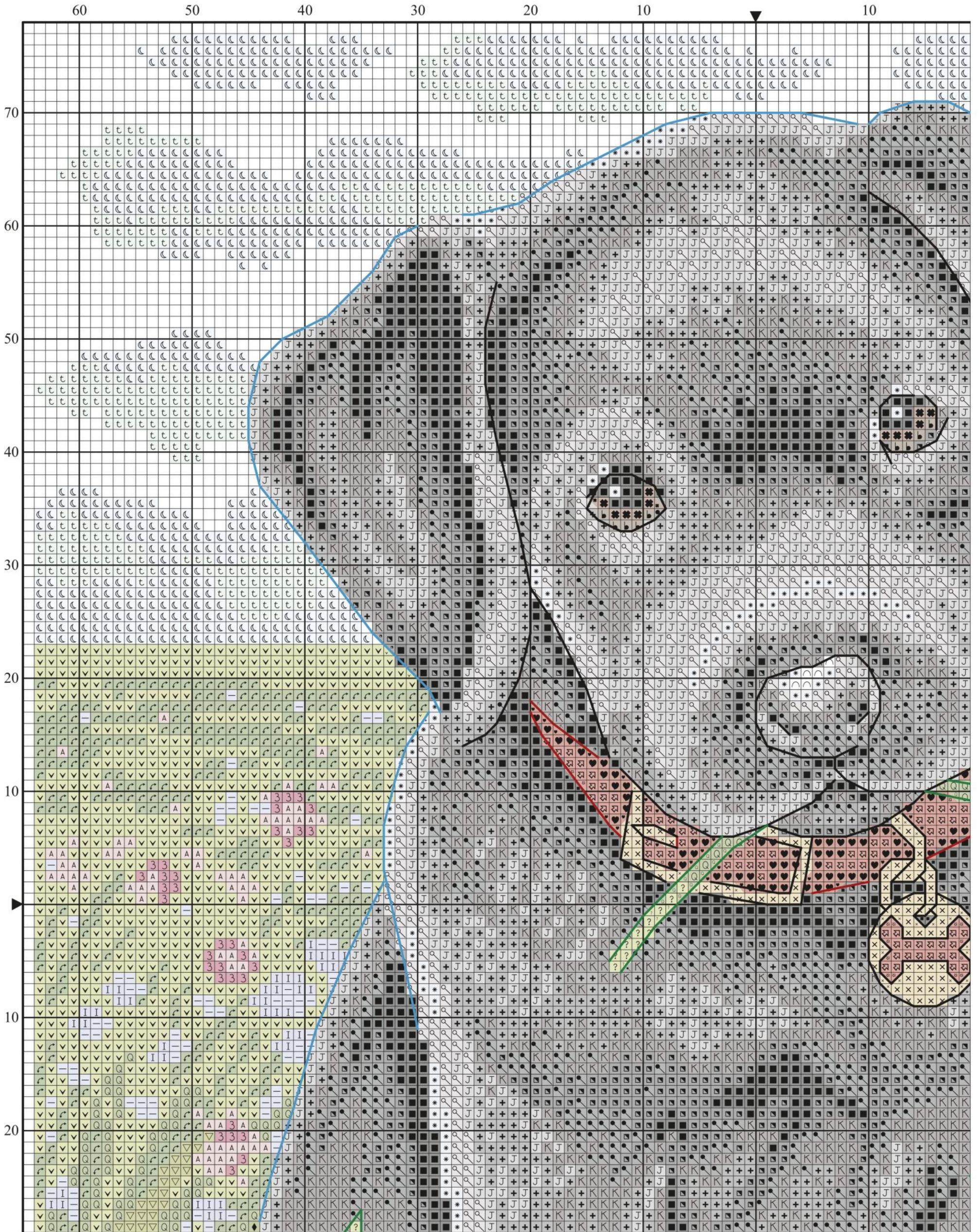
## You will need

- Fabric** Zweigart 28-count white evenweave measuring 43x39cm (17x15½in)
- Threads** Stranded cotton as listed in the key
- Needle** Size 24 tapestry needle
- Extras** Frame and mount of your choice with a minimum aperture of 28x23.5cm (11x9¼in)

FOR STOCKISTS' DETAILS turn to page 59



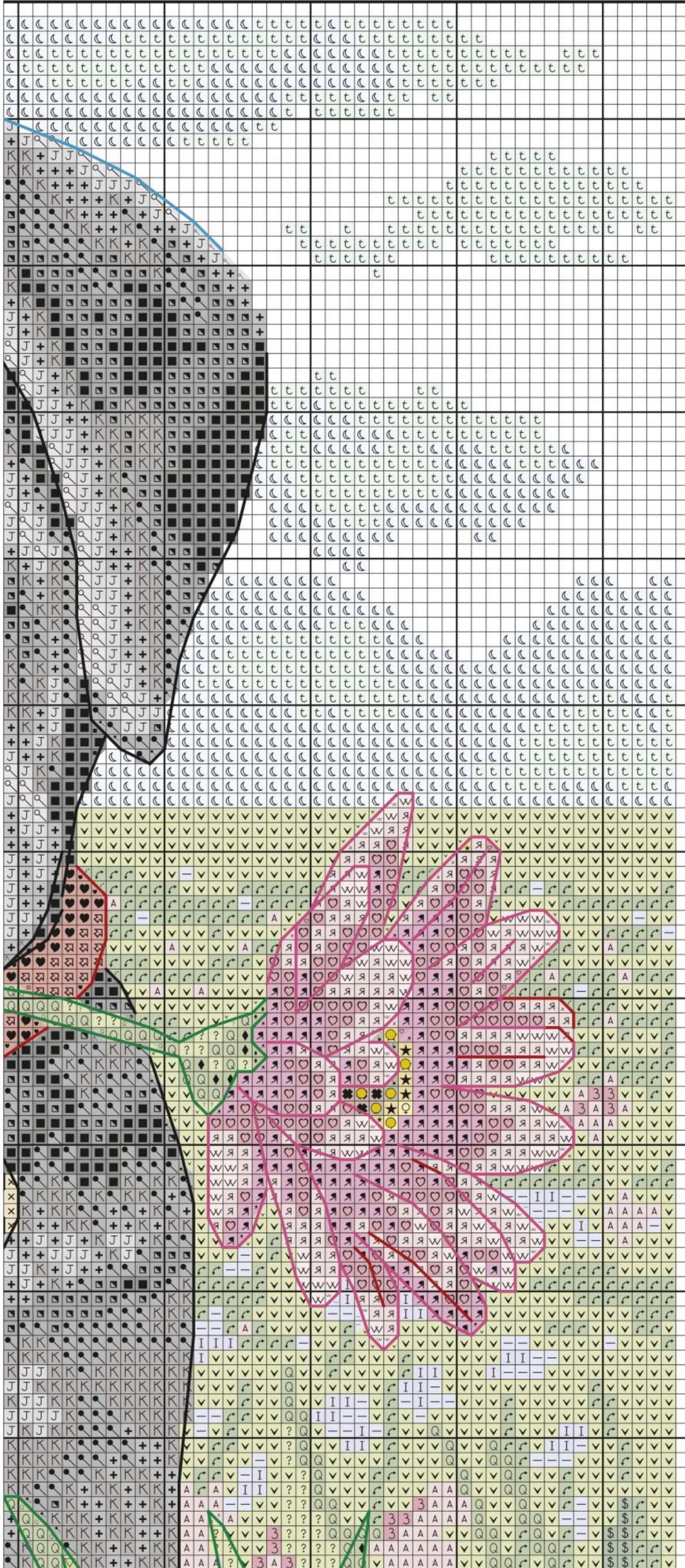
# Labrador puppy



Top left

6 Cross Stitch Gold

20 30 40 50 60



### Puppy key

#### ✕ Cross stitch in two strands

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira	
∩	blanc	2	2402	white
■	310	403	2400	black
K	317	400	1714	dark grey
J	318	399	1802	light grey
e	341	117	902	purple
♥	347	1025	407	red
⦿	413	401	1809	very dark grey
+	414	235	1801	grey
⦿	415	398	1709	very light grey
■	433	357	2602	dark tan
×	738	367	2013	tan
*	762	234	1804	pearl grey
⦿	898	360	2006	brown
▼	935	861	1505	avocado green
⦿	3328	1024	406	salmon pink
◆	3345	268	1406	dark green
Q	3347	265	1408	green
?	3348	264	1409	light green
я	3354	36	2610	light pink
\$	3362	263	1601	pine green
▽	3364	260	1603	light pine green
w	3713	1020	502	light salmon pink
⦿	3731	76	506	dark pink
♥	3733	75	605	pink
÷	3747	120	901	light purple
■	3799	236	1713	charcoal grey
★	3820	306	2509	dark yellow
♀	3822	295	2511	yellow

#### ✕ Cross stitch in one strand

I	341	117	902	purple
⦿	3347	265	1408	green
▼	3348	264	1409	light green
A	3354	36	2610	light pink
3	3733	75	605	pink
—	3747	120	901	light purple

#### ✕ Half cross stitch in two strands

t	775	1031	1001	blue
∩	3756	1037	2504	light blue

#### ✕ Backstitch in one strand

—	318	399	1802	light grey
—	340	118	903	dark purple
—	347	1025	407	red
—	413	401	1809	very dark grey
—	936	269	1507	lt avocado green
—	3350	42	603	very dark pink

#### ✕ French knots in two strands

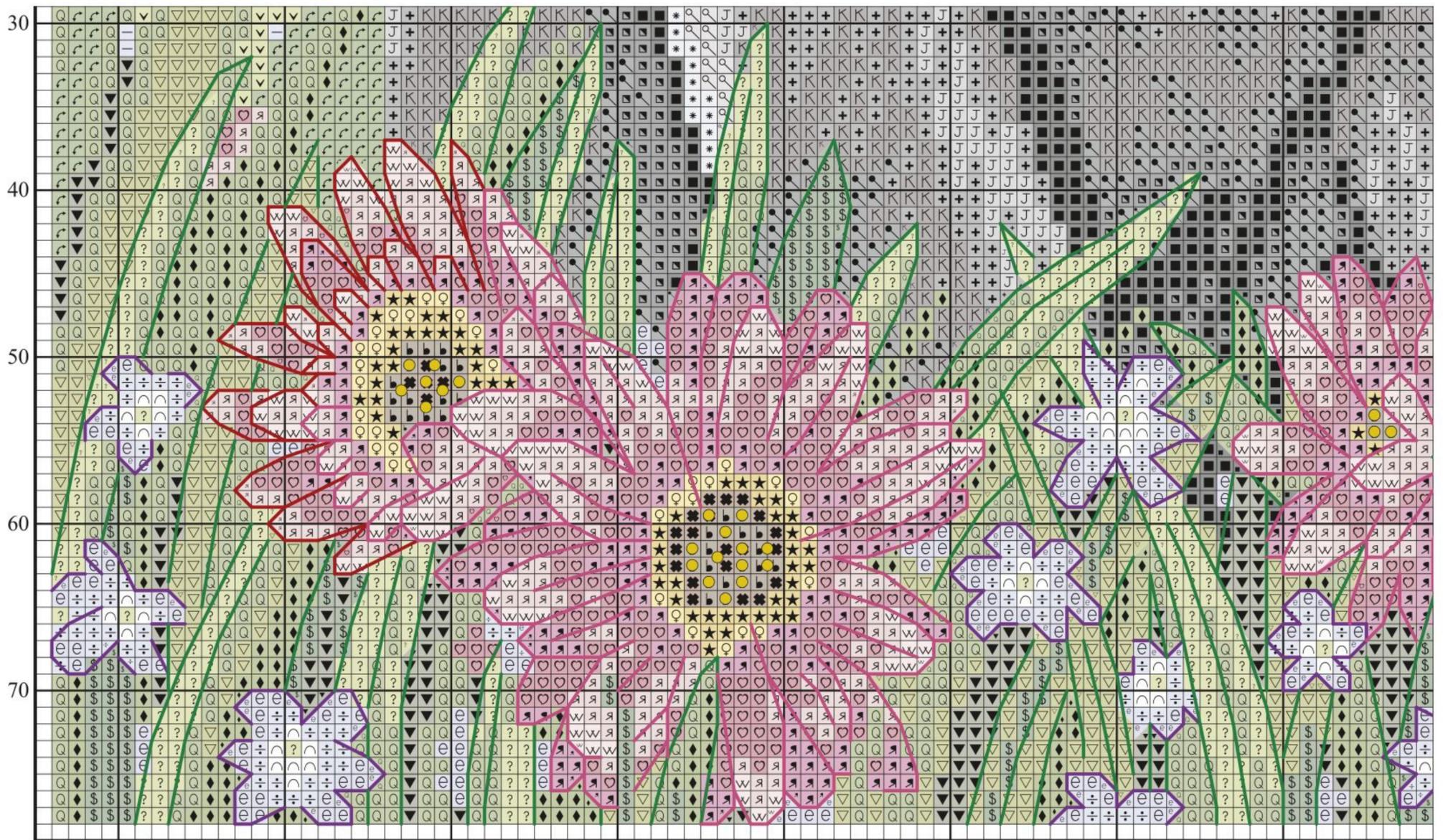
●	3820	306	2509	dark yellow
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**STITCH COUNT** 155 high x 129 wide

**DESIGN AREA** 14 HPI (28-count evenweave) – 28x23.5cm (11x9¼in)

**STITCHED BY** Karen Purnell

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



Bottom left



## JENNY BARTON'S Designer Secrets

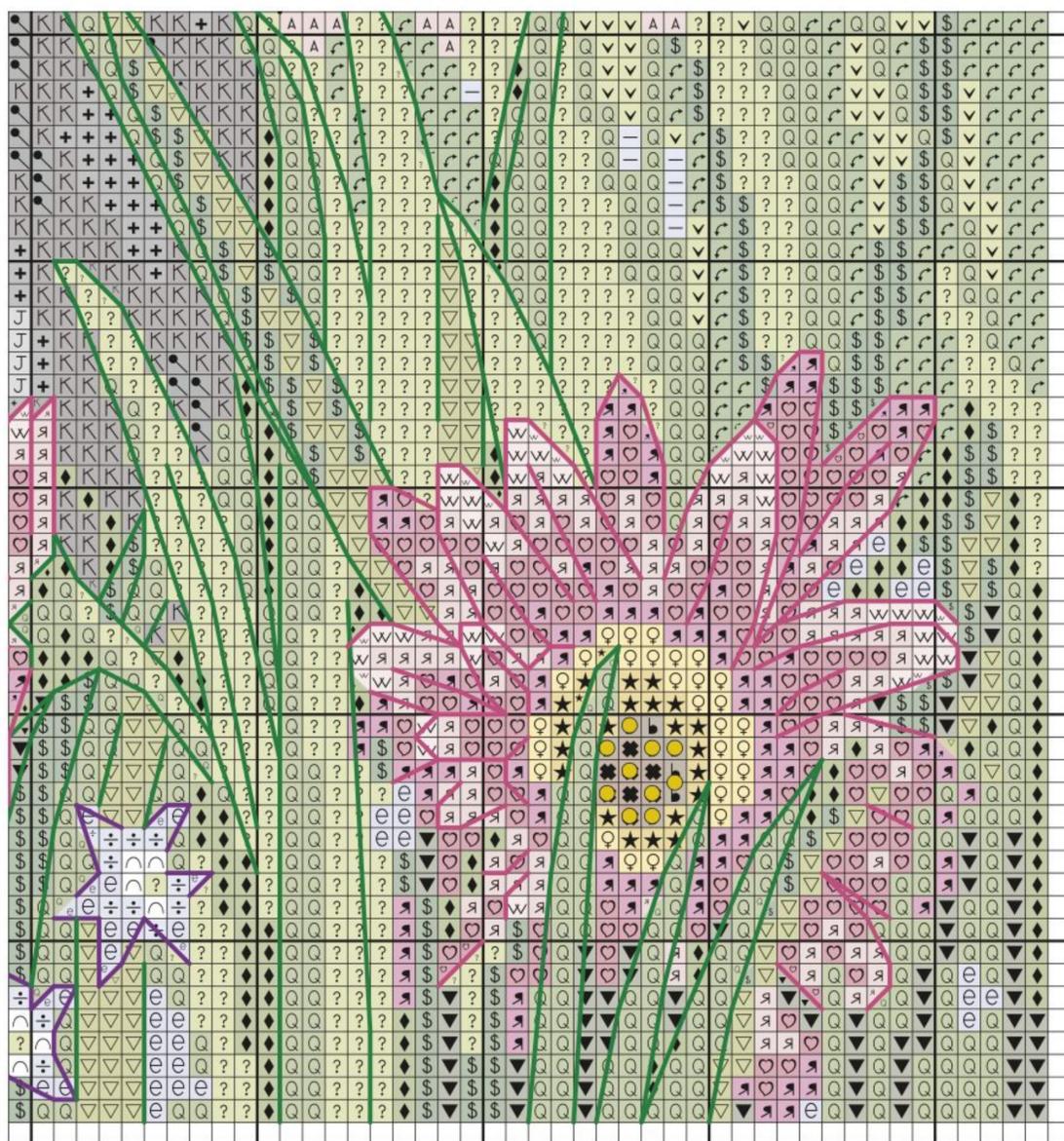
### Perfect pets

I've enjoyed creating a few different animal portraits in this style, as it seems to be very popular and there are just so many beautiful animals to bring to life! Here's my sweet kitten from issue 153 of *Gold*, or perhaps you'd like the spring ducklings from issue 154. In issue 155 there was a double dose of cuteness with my doe-eyed fawn, plus a rabbit and duckling.



**“Jenny’s puppy looks so cute and strokable – you can almost feel the velvety softness of his fur. It’s the clever use of various black and grey shades that helps to achieve this effect. We’d love to see how you get on with this design, so don’t forget to write to us at the address on p11.”**

*Zeena Moolla, Editor*



**“Jenny has used dark yellow French knots to add realistic detail to the centre of her pink blooms. Make sure you use two strands for these, to give a nice plump finish.”**

*Hannah Erskine, Charting Assistant*

Bottom right

### Stitch tip

Working all your half cross stitches in the same direction will help to ensure a neat, consistent finish

### How to choose a frame

Picking the right frame to finish off your work is an important step in the stitching process. Try to choose a colour that appears somewhere in the design – here, we’ve chosen a dark wooden frame to set off the puppy’s beautiful big brown eyes. As this piece is densely stitched and fills most of the fabric area, we’ve also added a white mount to act as a spacer – this really helps to focus the eye on the stitching. If you’re unsure about how to frame your work, ask a framer for advice.





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| 3984 MURANO          | col. ■ 7349 | ■ 5429 |
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## Stitch & Frame



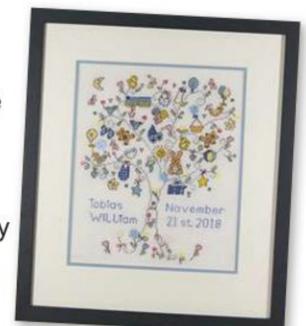
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# Have your say

Write in and share your stitching stories and photos – every published letter writer will win a fantastic cross stitch gift!



## Get in touch

Email: [zeena@cross-stitching.com](mailto:zeena@cross-stitching.com)

Write to: Zeena Moolla, *Cross Stitch Gold* magazine, Eagle House, Colston Avenue, Bristol BS1 4ST

Join us at: [facebook.com/crossstitchgold](https://www.facebook.com/crossstitchgold) Tweet us: @CrossStitchGold

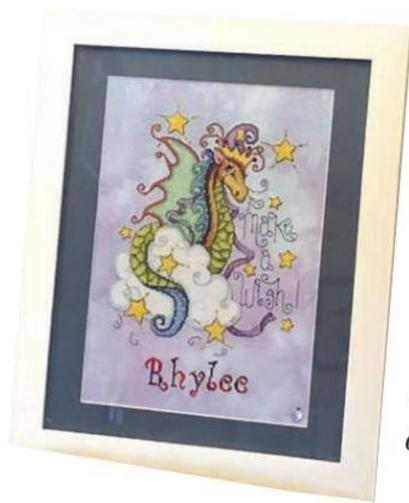
## Write to win!

The star letter writer in this issue will receive this adorable *Bebunni Love You* kit, courtesy of Bothy Threads. You can buy this kit for £21.99 from [www.bothythreads.com](http://www.bothythreads.com) or call 01900 828844. All other letter writers will receive a mystery prize.



## Make a wish

This is my latest finish. It's called *Magical Dragon*, designed by Joan Elliott, and the chart was free with some fabric I bought ages ago. My friend asked if I could stitch something special for her little adoptive granddaughter to celebrate her adoption, and chose this. I added her name in variegated thread in a darker shade, so it would stand out, but still blend in with the colours of the dragon. The



fabric is a hand-dyed one from Chromatic Alchemy and has glitter through it, although you can't see it too well in the photo!

*Sue Craig, Fife*

*Zeena: What a delightful design to welcome a special granddaughter. Joan's work is perfectly enhanced by the hand-dyed fabric, which adds depth and colour. Just gorgeous!*

## By the sea

When I saw the *Clifftop seagulls* in issue 157, I was instantly drawn to it as I love coastal walks with my dog, Charlie. Carol Thornton is

a great designer. I love her colours and really enjoyed stitching this piece. It's lovely to have it up on the wall now that the weather has turned cold, as a reminder of sunnier days.

*Jennie Hawkes, St Ives*

*Zeena: I totally agree, Jennie – this project takes me right back to summer, too. What a lovely job you've done turning it into a canvas.*



## Supersize stitching

I thought you might be interested in my mother's cross stitch passion. She does not follow a pattern, but instead she finds a photo or drawing and enlarges the image to around 3x4 feet. After cutting the pattern into strips and basting these strips onto her cloth, she puts the paper under a plexiglass graph, where each little square determines four stitches. Then for each four stitches in the square she decides if the shade is no stitch, a half stitch or a whole stitch. She usually works on her projects for two hours every evening and it can take up to four years to finish. I think you'll agree that her work is remarkable.

*Monique King, by email*

*Zeena: What an amazing process – and such stunning results! Your mother has major talent. Thanks for sharing her story with us.*



GOLD  
STAR  
LETTER

## Blackwork fan

I bought my first issue of *Gold* this past April, and right away I took out a subscription. I have been a needleworker for over 50 years and gave up on USA subscriptions years ago, because they did not meet my needs. Now I am an avid blackwork needlepointer and include needlework in all of my fibre crafts, including quilting and felting.

Here is my current blackwork project.

Keep up the great work and I look forward to more magazines.

*Pat Lewis, Canada*

*Zeena: I'm so pleased to hear that you're enjoying your Gold subscription, Pat, and hope we can continue to inspire your work. This latest project looks absolutely beautiful so far!*



# The comfort of home

As the winter snow melts away, warm your home with this calming scene of a seaside cottage at sunrise



Meet the designer  
**Carol Thornton**

Watercolour artist Carol sketches and paints her gorgeous works of art before turning them into cross stitch designs. She creates charts for various magazines and has attracted legions of fans who love her distinctive style of artwork, which translates beautifully into cross stitch.

*“If you like to rise early, you’ll appreciate the stillness of this scene. What a perfect tranquil spot to see the sunrise, right by the water’s edge.”*

## Stitcher’s guide

This design is worked on 14-count white aida in 24 shades of stranded cotton. The cross stitch is worked in two strands of cotton, and there are fractional stitches for extra detail. Backstitch defines the design in one strand of black cotton. This densely stitched project is recommended for experienced stitchers.

## How to stitch the design

- 1 Find the centre of your fabric by folding it in half both ways. Find the centre of the chart and start stitching here, working your way outwards.
- 2 Work the cross stitch using two strands of cotton. For every tiny symbol you see on the chart, work a fractional stitch.
- 3 Add the backstitch detail using one strand of cotton.
- 4 Check over your stitching and prepare for framing.

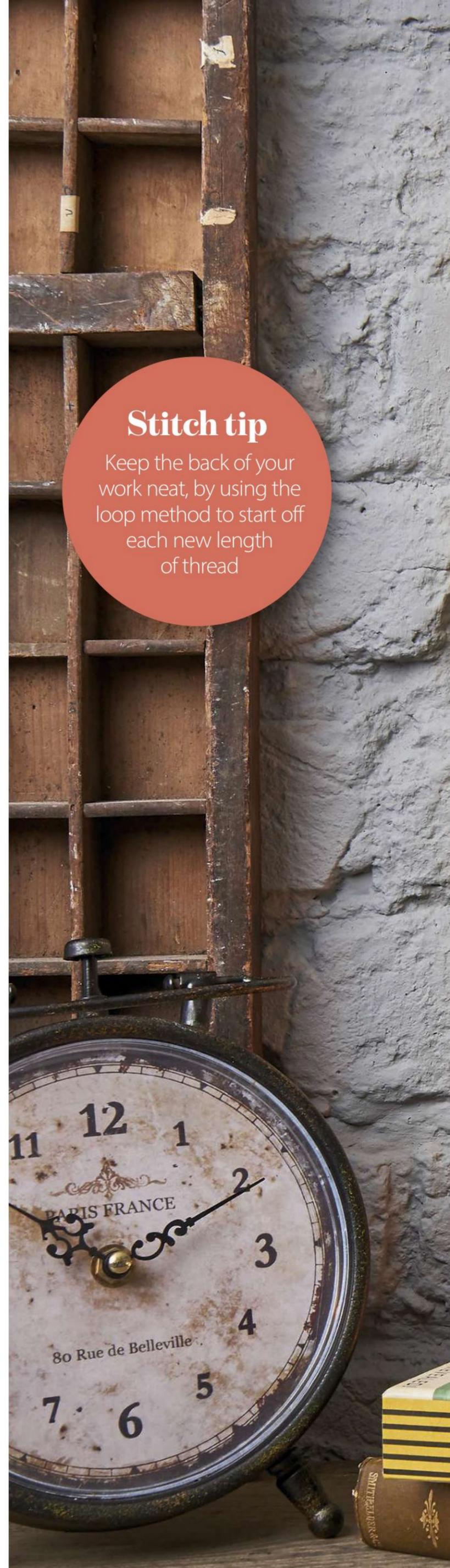
## You will need

- Fabric** Zweigart 14-count white aida measuring 44x44cm (17¼x17¼in)
- Threads** Stranded cotton as listed in the key
- Needle** Size 24 tapestry needle
- Extras** Frame and mount of your choice with a minimum aperture of 29x29cm (11½x11½in)

FOR STOCKISTS’ DETAILS turn to page 59

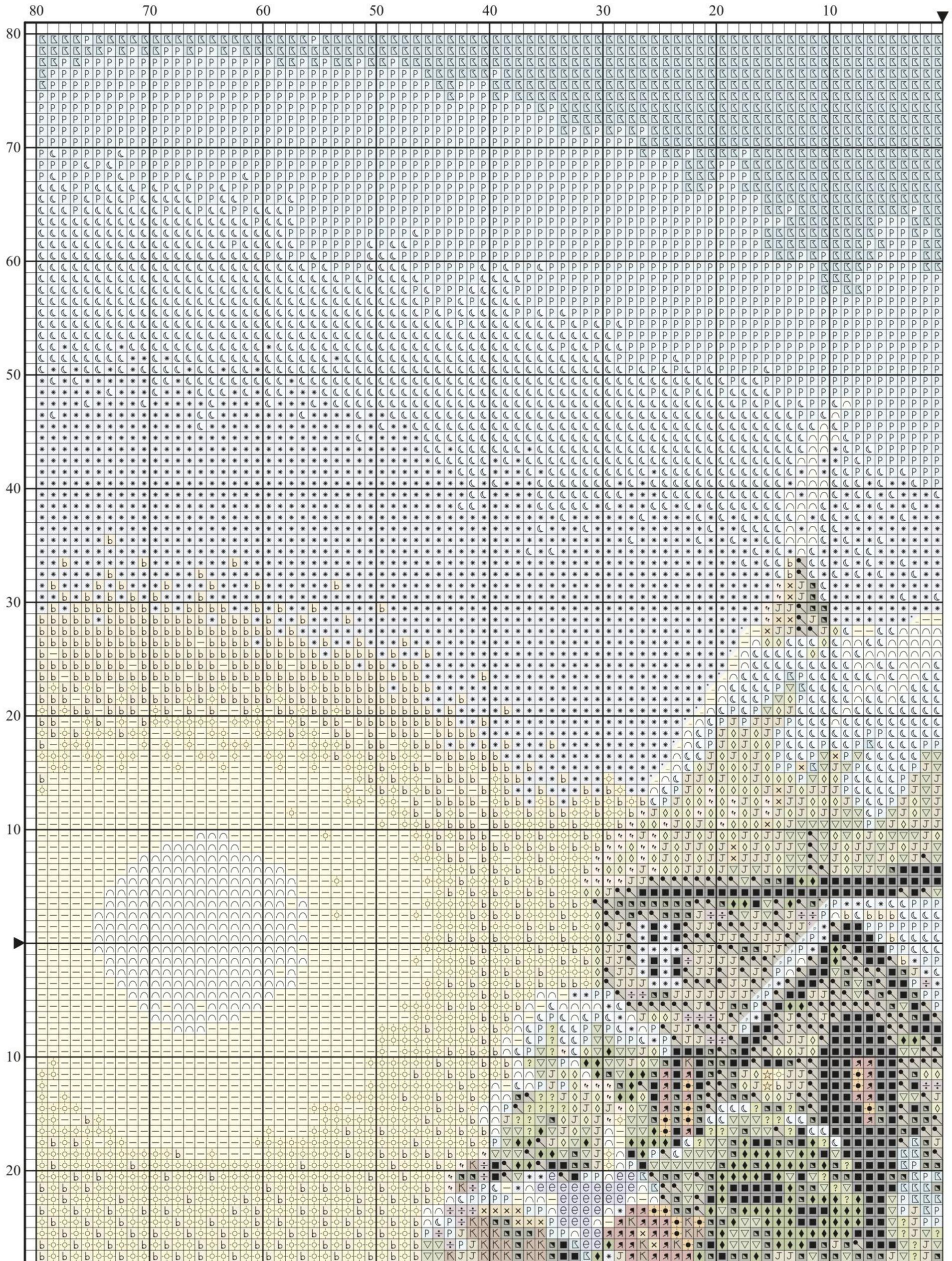
## Stitch tip

Keep the back of your work neat, by using the loop method to start off each new length of thread





# Winter cottage



Top left

10

20

30

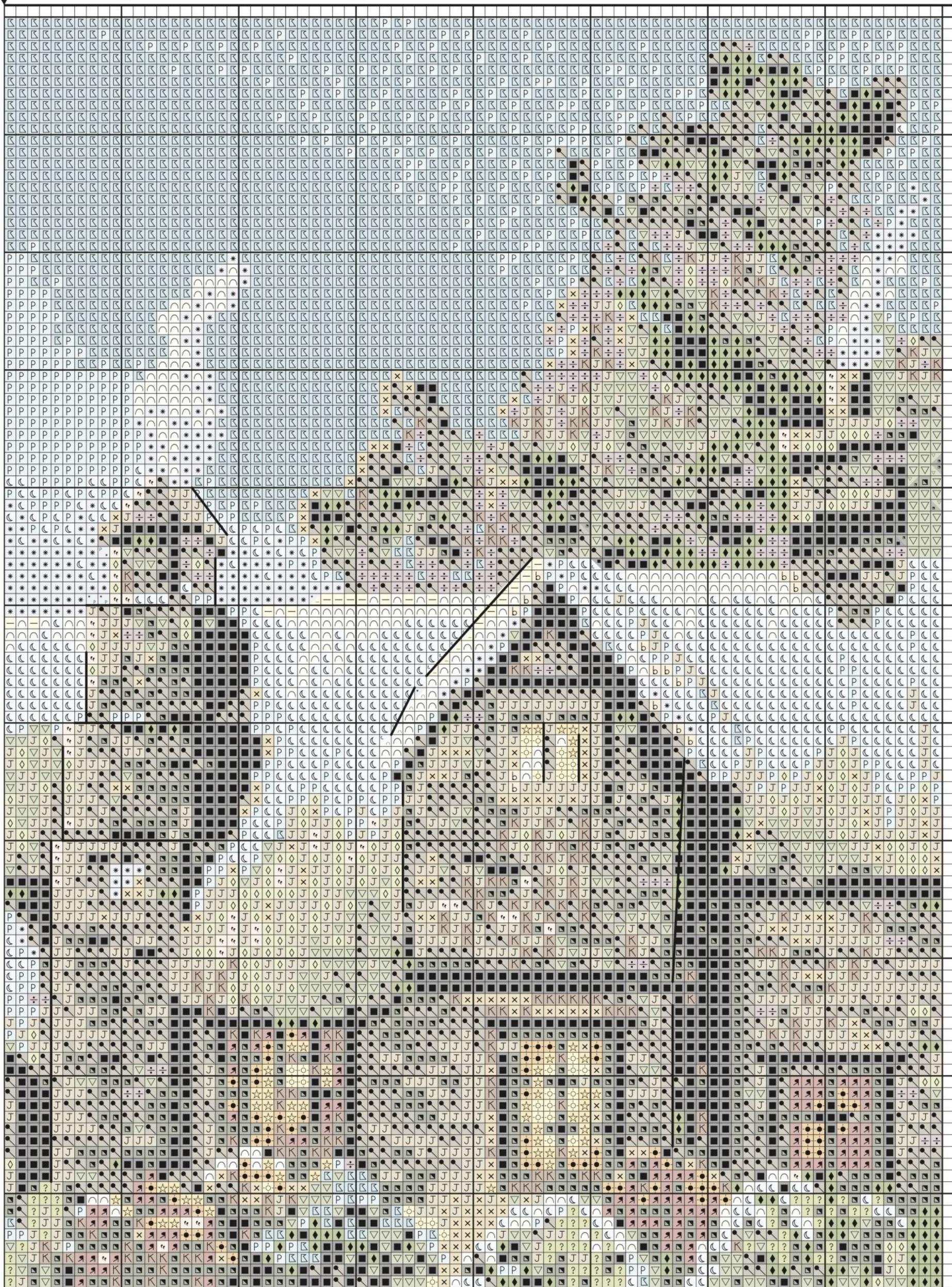
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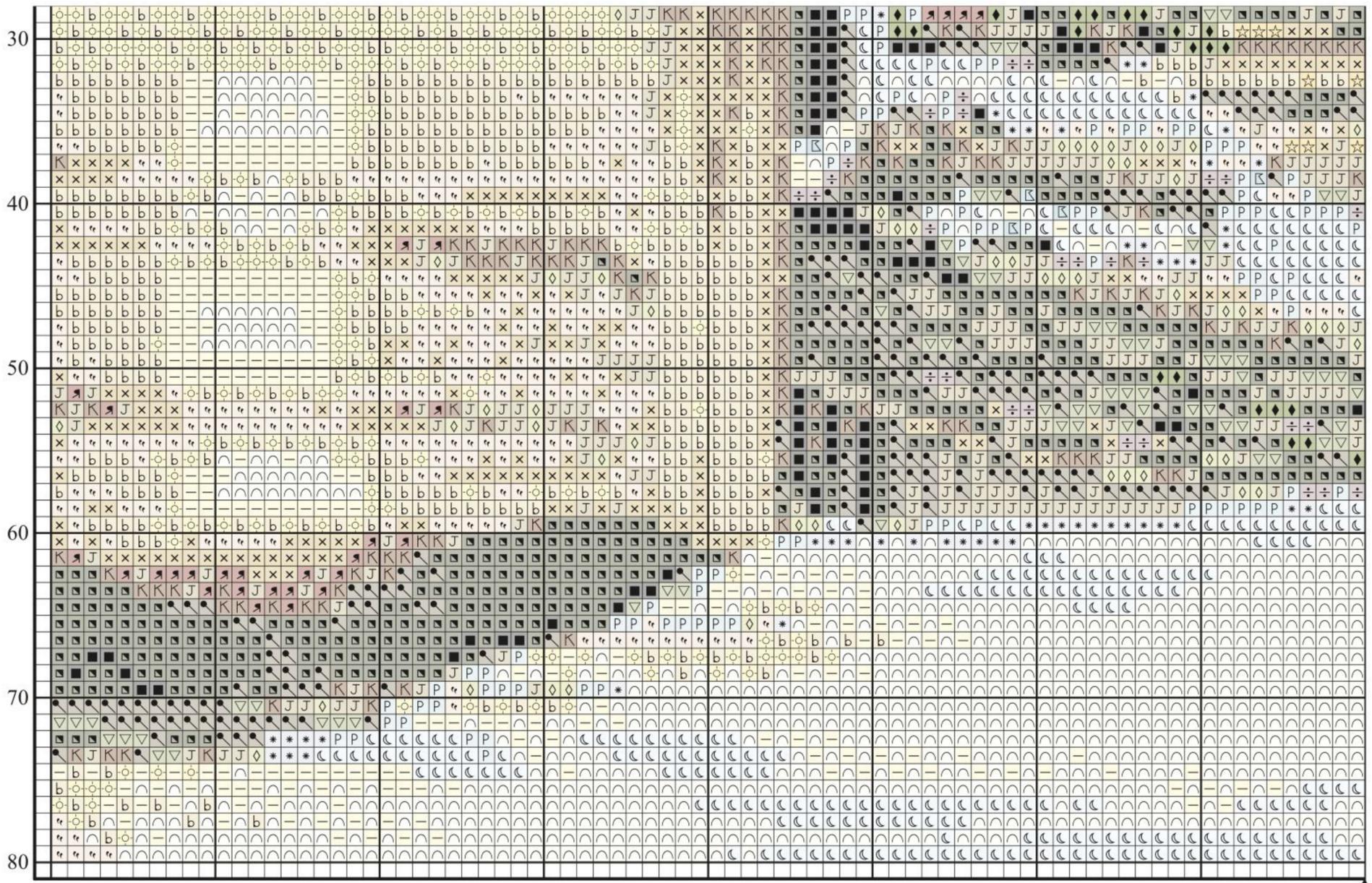
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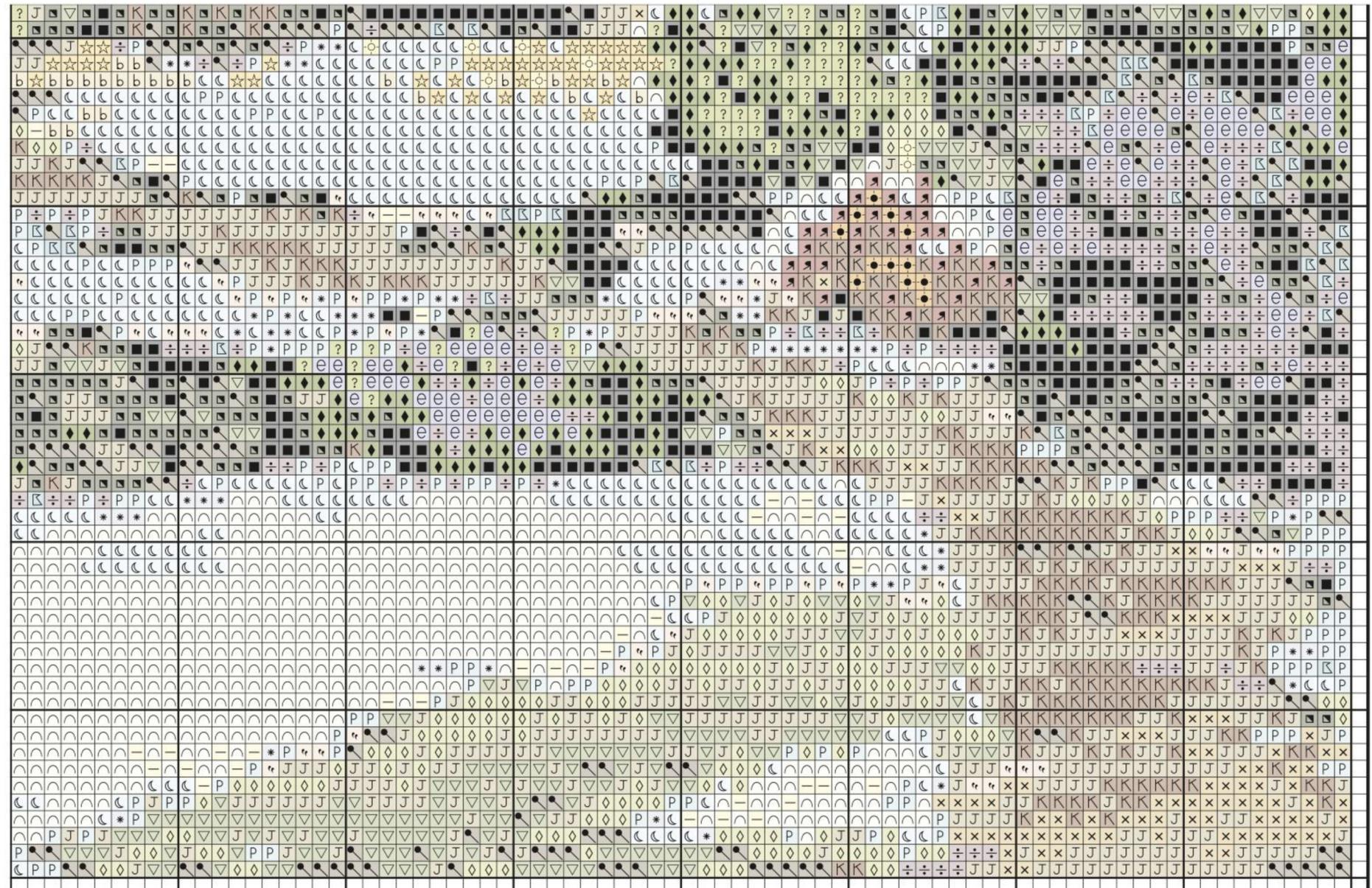


Top right

# Winter cottage



Bottom left



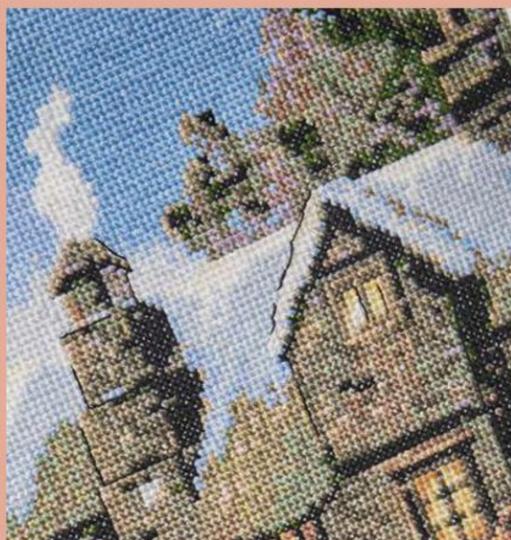
Bottom right



## CAROL THORNTON'S Designer Secrets

### Traditional touches

I had to give a glimpse of the thatched roof beneath the thawing snow on this Tudor cottage. Along with the smoking chimneys, beautiful stone windows and mature garden, it adds to the feeling of a very old and elegant home. It's always fun to imagine the people who live in each house that I design. I can picture this family gathered around the cosy fire to warm up on this chilly morning.



### Warm glow

Being by the sea is so magical, whatever the season, and I really enjoyed creating this wintry coastal design. I wanted to capture that winter feel by adding some snowy touches, but without it feeling too cold in terms of colours. The sunrise provides beautiful warmth, as does the inviting glow from within the cottage windows.

## Winter cottage key

### ✕ Cross stitch in two strands

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira	
■	310	403	2400	black
e	341	117	901	purple
⊠	519	1038	1105	sea blue
▽	522	860	1512	fern green
⦿	646	8581	1812	ash grey
×	738	367	2013	tan
b	739	366	2014	light tan
☆	744	301	112	yellow
—	746	275	2511	cream
*	762	234	1804	grey
P	800	144	908	blue
•	950	4146	2309	peach
◇	3013	842	1605	field green
J	3032	903	2002	mocha brown
÷	3042	870	2612	mauve
⊙	3078	292	102	light yellow
◆	3345	268	1406	dark green
?	3348	264	1409	green
☾	3753	128	909	baby blue
↗	3778	338	402	terracotta
■	3787	273	1811	smoke grey
●	3854	313	114	apricot
K	3863	379	1912	brown
∩	3865	2	2403	natural white

### ✕ Backstitch in one strand

—	310	403	2400	black
---	-----	-----	------	-------

**STITCH COUNT** 160 high x 160 wide

**DESIGN AREA** 14 HPI (28-count evenweave) – 29x29cm (11½x11½in)

**SKEINS NEEDED** 2x310 (black), 2x519 (sea blue), 2x646 (ash grey), 2x762 (grey), 2x800 (blue), 2x3032 (mocha brown), 2x3753 (baby blue), 2x3865 (natural white)

**STITCHED BY** Alison Love

This design was stitched using DMC stranded cotton

**“This design pretty much captures my ideal kind of holiday – a big, rambling house with space for all the family, right by the sea, with magical views. Carol’s wonderful work always transports me to a calmer, happier place.”**

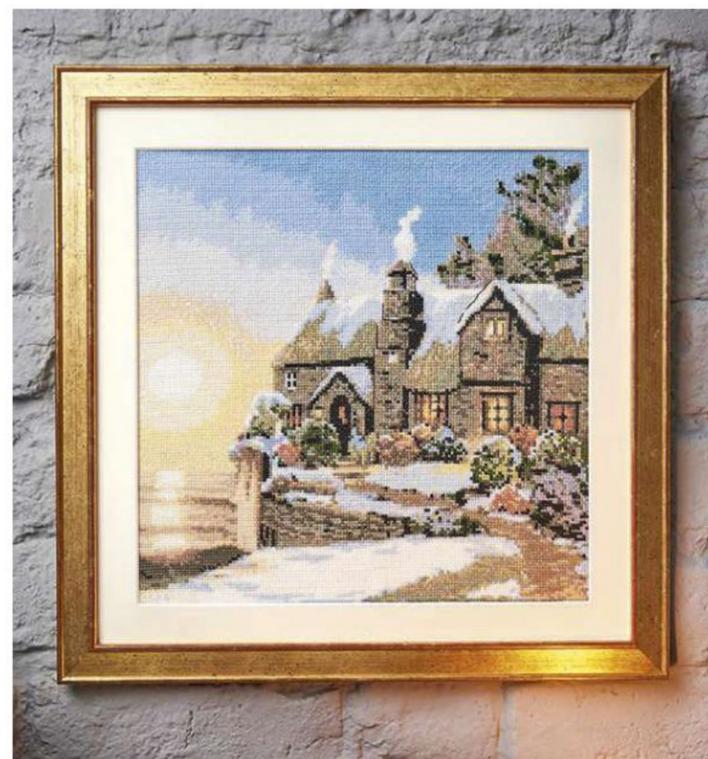
*Zeena Moolla, Editor*

## Stitch tip

Use a crewel needle, rather than a tapestry needle, to work the fractional stitches as you will need to pierce the aida blocks

### Framing your work

See our tips on page 65 for how to lace your work onto mountboard before framing. It’s an important step that will help your design look neat and square in its frame, for a professional finish at home.



# Lady of the manor

Enjoy the blossoming of spring when you stitch this period-style beauty in her country garden



Meet the designer  
**Maria Diaz**

Maria has always had a passion for needlecraft, since learning to sew as a child on her great-grandmother's Singer machine. After art college she landed a job as a printer, which led to her becoming DMC's first in-house designer. She is now an independent designer and lives in the Midlands with her two sons, Lincoln and Hudson.

*“All dressed up for afternoon tea on the terrace, this Victorian lady and her surroundings make an exquisite stitch if you love delicate detail.”*

## Stitcher's guide

This design is worked on 28-count white evenweave over two threads of the fabric in 36 shades of stranded cotton and one shade of metallic thread. Cross stitch, fractionals and half cross stitch are worked in two strands and backstitch is in one strand of cotton or metallic thread. Seed beads embellish this design, which is recommended for experienced stitchers.

## How to stitch the design

- 1 Find the centre of your fabric by folding it in half both ways. Find the centre of the chart and start here, working outwards.
- 2 Work the cross stitch over two threads of the fabric using two strands of cotton or metallic. For every tiny symbol, work a fractional stitch.
- 3 Work the half cross stitch using two strands of cotton.
- 4 Add the backstitch detail using one strand of cotton or metallic thread.
- 5 Attach the seed beads using two strands of cotton.
- 6 Check over your stitching and prepare for framing.

## You will need

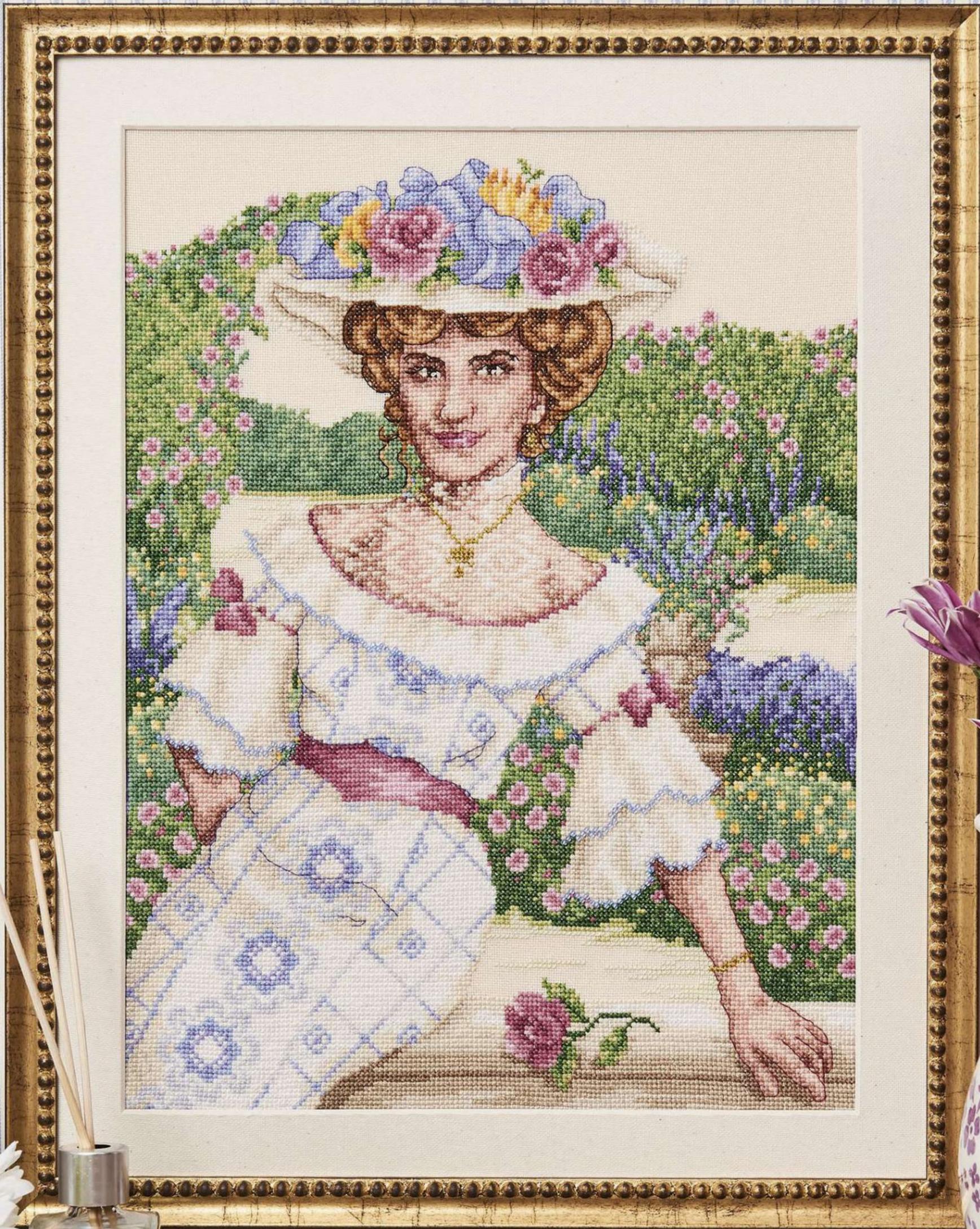
- Fabric** Zweigart 28-count cream (3270/264) evenweave measuring 52x44cm (20½x17¼in)
- Threads** Stranded cotton and metallic threads as listed in the key
- Needle** Size 24 tapestry needle; beading needle
- Beads** Mill Hill seed beads as listed in the key
- Extras** Frame and mount of your choice with a minimum aperture of 37x29cm (14½x11½in)

FOR STOCKISTS' DETAILS turn to page 59

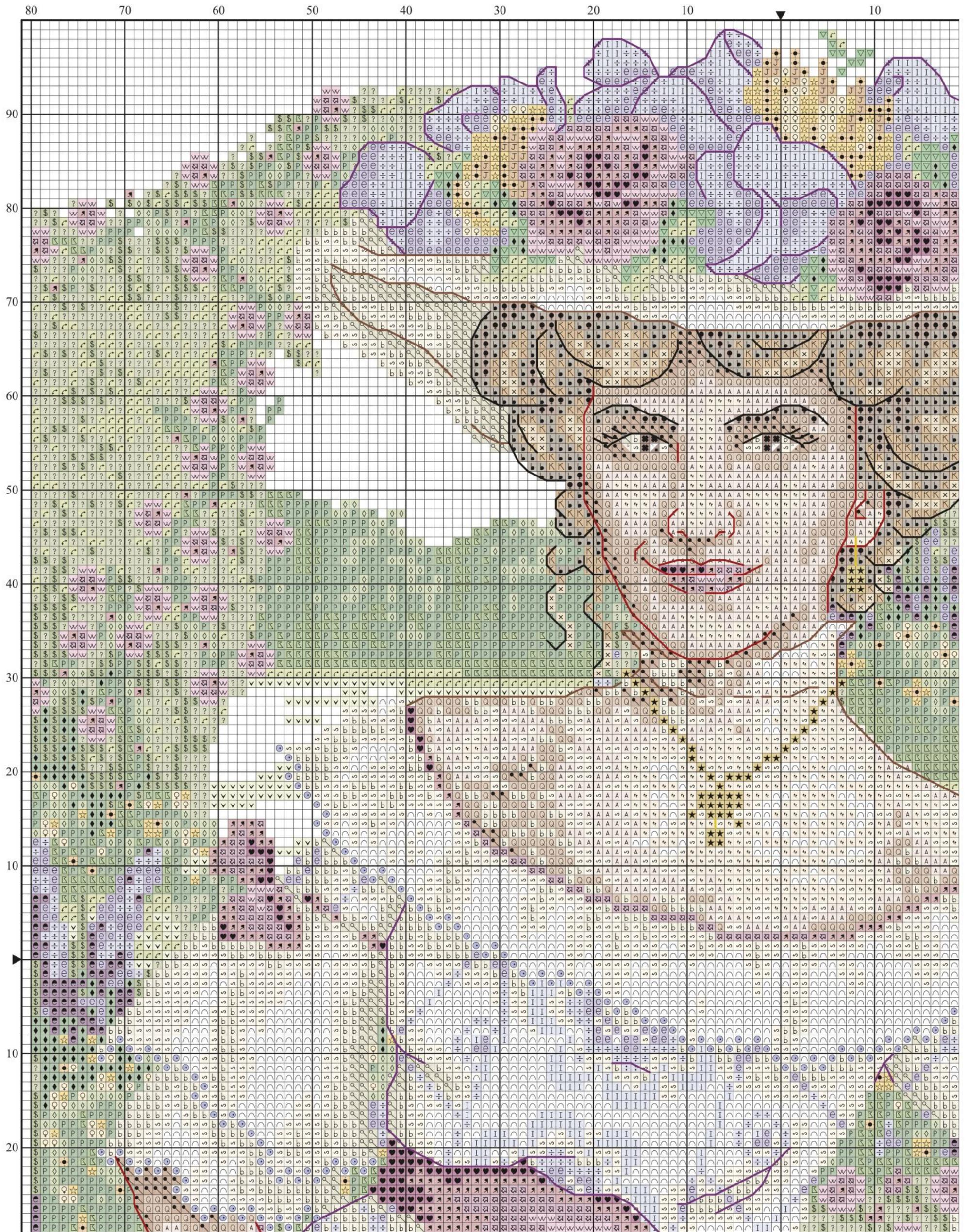
## Stitch tip

Use a bead mat and bead napper to help control the seed beads as you stitch

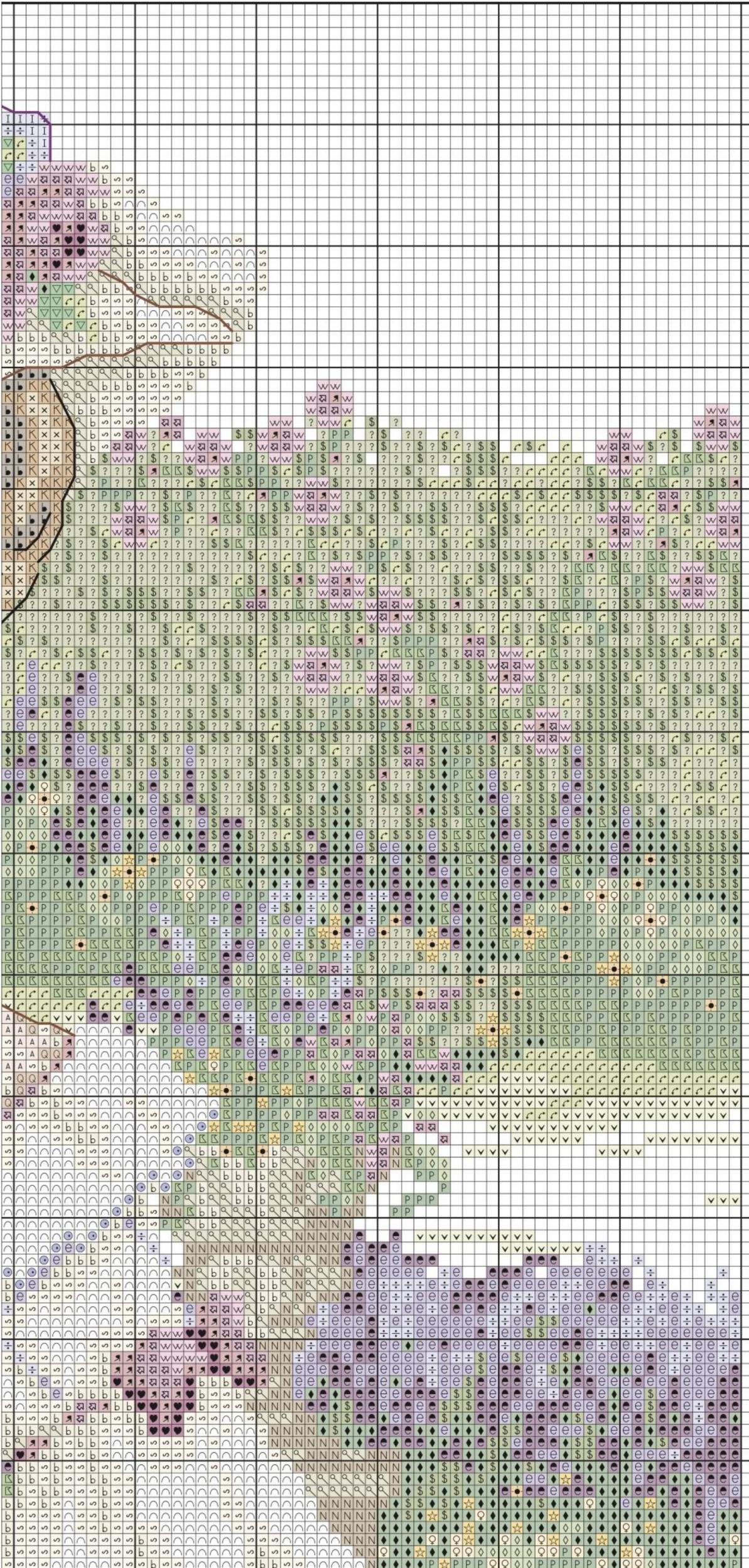




# Victorian lady



Top left



**Victorian lady key**

**✕ Cross stitch in two strands**

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira	
○	blanc	2	2402	white
●	32	123	904	purple plum
P	320	215	1311	dk almond green
e	340	118	902	dark violet blue
÷	341	117	901	violet blue
⊠	367	217	1312	almond green
◇	368	214	1310	lt almond green
Q	407	914	2312	dark beige
b	433	357	2602	dark tan
K	435	1046	2010	tan
x	437	362	2012	light tan
●	632	936	2311	brick red
s	712	926	2101	cream
☆	743	302	113	yellow
♀	745	300	111	light yellow
N	840	1084	1912	mink brown
●	938	380	2005	chestnut brown
J	976	1001	2011	ginger
◆	986	246	1404	very dark green
\$	987	244	1403	dark green
▽	988	243	1402	green
?	989	241	1401	light green
b	3033	391	1908	beige
↻	3348	264	1409	grass green
●	3371	382	2004	chocolate brown
▲	3687	68	604	dk raspberry pink
■	3688	66	605	raspberry pink
w	3689	49	607	lt raspberry pink
I	3747	120	2504	lt violet blue
◐	3774	778	306	peach
A	3779	868	2605	dark peach
●	3782	899	1911	mocha brown
♥	3803	69	2609	mauve
●	3854	313	114	apricot

**✕ Cross stitch in two strands DMC Light Effects**

★	E3852			dark gold
---	-------	--	--	-----------

**✕ Half cross stitch in two strands**

▽	772	259	1604	light grass green
---	-----	-----	------	-------------------

**✕ Backstitch in one strand**

—	32	123	904	purple plum
—	221	897	811	shell pink
—	840	1084	1912	mink brown
—	3371	382	2004	chocolate brown

**✕ Backstitch in one strand DMC Light Effects**

—	E3852			dark gold
---	-------	--	--	-----------

**✕ Mill Hill seed beads**

●	00168			sapphire
---	-------	--	--	----------

**STITCH COUNT** 198 high x 160 wide

**DESIGN AREA** 14 HPI (28-count evenweave) – 36x29cm (14¼x11½in)

**SKEINS NEEDED** 3xblanc (white), 2x712 (cream), 2x987 (dark green), 2x989 (light green), 2x3033 (beige)

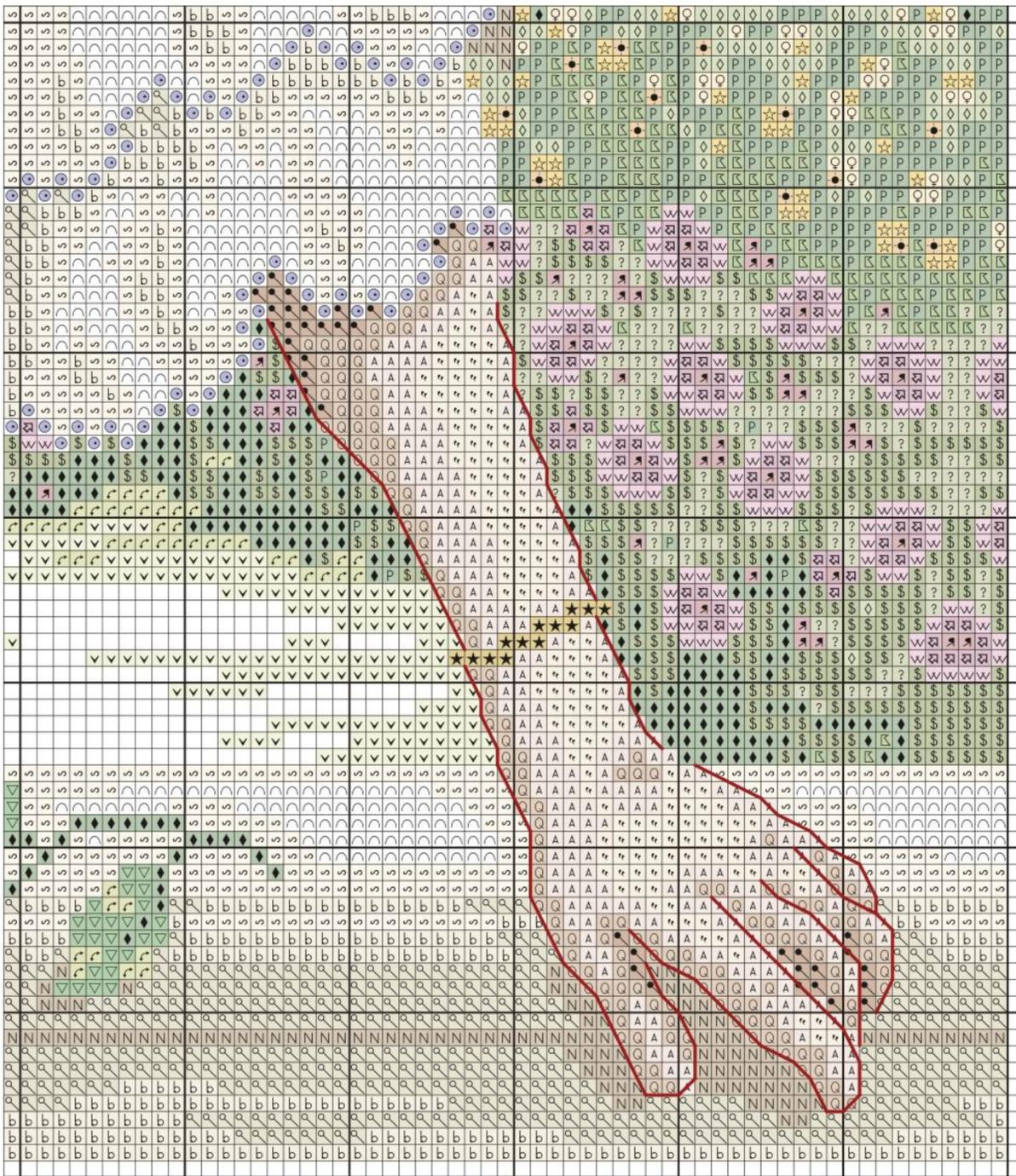
**STITCHED BY** Debbie Hart

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



**“When spring comes around, the promise of sunnier, longer days means we’re all desperate to get out into the garden, just like Maria’s beautiful Victorian lady. This intricate project is full of seasonal charm and will be a joy to stitch.”**

*Zeena Moola, Editor*



**Stitch tip**  
Iron any creases out of your fabric before you stitch, as they're harder to remove afterwards

Bottom right



MARIA DIAZ'S  
**Designer  
Secrets**

**Beaded beauty**

Light blue seed beads are used extensively in this piece, to embellish the sleeves and neckline of the lady's dress. If you want to frame your finished design behind glass, choose a frame with a deep rebate at the back – this will leave room for a double mount or some spacers so that the glass doesn't touch the work.



**Hats off**

For much of the Victorian period, flowers were used in abundance to decorate ladies' hats, sometimes with the effect of looking like a miniature garden! Apparently, violets were particularly fashionable. This lady accessorises her outfit with pink roses, purple ribbons and a splash of sunny yellow, too.

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*Zeena*

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Finished size: 22x8.5cm (8¾x3¼in). This kit uses whole cross stitches & backstitch only. Frame not included.

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# Follow your dreams

Use your magical stitching powers to bring this enchanting unicorn to life in all its sparkling glory



Meet the designer  
**Jenny Barton**

Jenny has been passionate about the creative arts since she was a small child, and went on to study graphic design at university. Soon after, she landed a job as a needlework designer for DMC Creative World, and became a freelance designer a couple of years later. She loves being able to work with cross stitch every day!

“Straight out of a fairytale scene, this bewitching creature will be fun to stitch and embellish using metallics and beads.”

## Stitcher's guide

This design is worked on 28-count white evenweave over two threads of the fabric in 30 shades of stranded cotton and one of metallic thread. Cross stitch is in two strands of cotton or metallic, with fractionals for extra detail. Backstitch is in both one and two strands of cotton, while seed beads embellish the design. This project is suitable for experienced stitchers.

## How to stitch the design

- 1 Find the centre of your fabric by folding it in half both ways. Find the centre of the chart and start stitching here, working your way outwards.
- 2 Work the cross stitch over two threads of the fabric using two strands of cotton or metallic thread. For every tiny symbol you see on the chart, work a fractional stitch.
- 3 Add the backstitch detail using one or two strands of cotton.
- 4 Attach the seed beads using two strands of cotton.
- 5 Check over your stitching and prepare for framing.

## You will need

- Fabric** Zweigart 28-count white evenweave measuring 40x40cm (15¾x15¾in)
- Threads** Stranded cotton and metallic thread as listed in the key
- Needle** Size 24 tapestry needle; beading needle
- Beads** Mill Hill seed beads as listed in the key
- Extras** Frame of your choice with a minimum aperture of 26x25cm (10¼x9¾in)

FOR STOCKISTS' DETAILS turn to page 59

## Stitch tip

To attach each seed bead, use a whole cross stitch over two threads of the fabric for a secure finish. See p65 for help





# Unicorn

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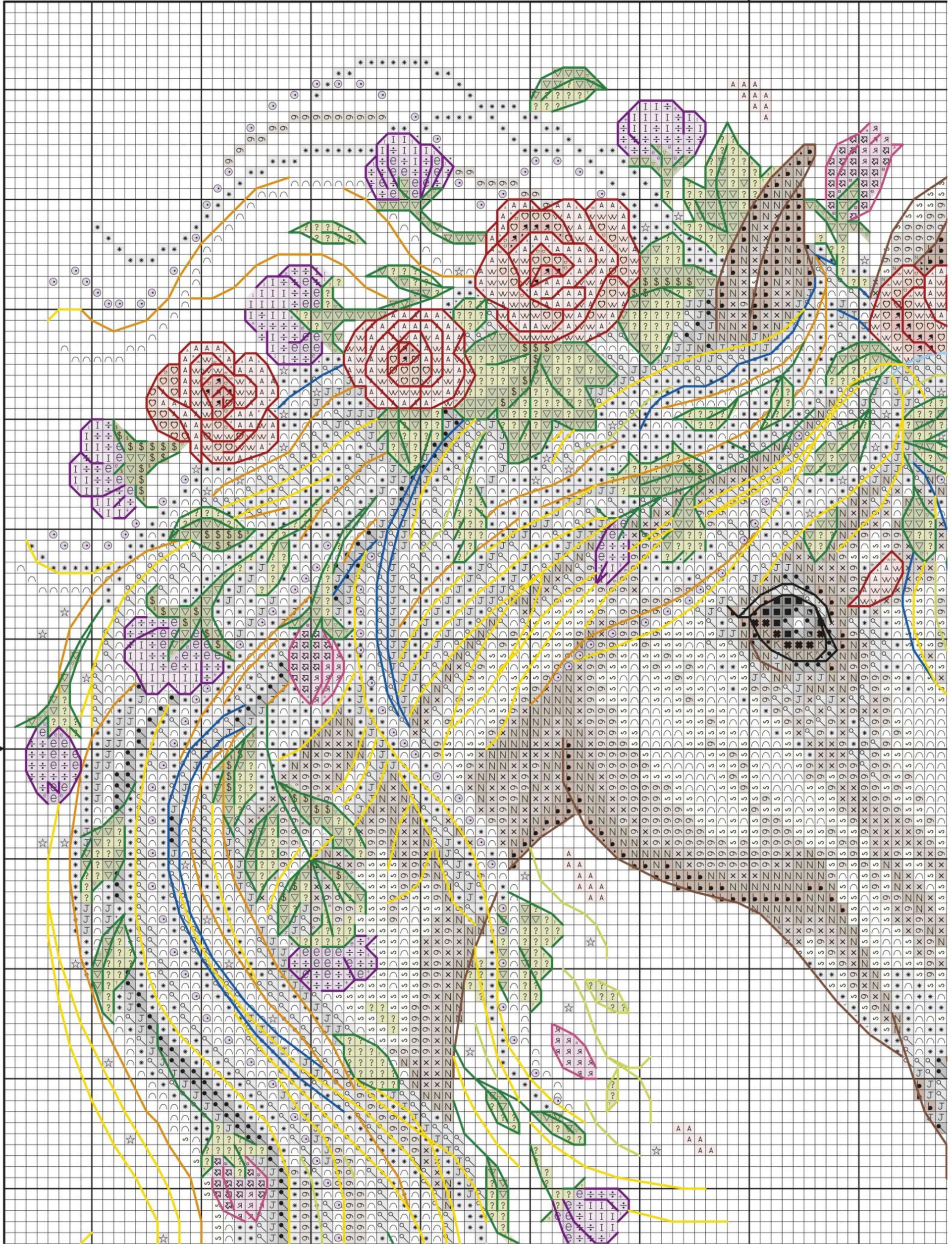
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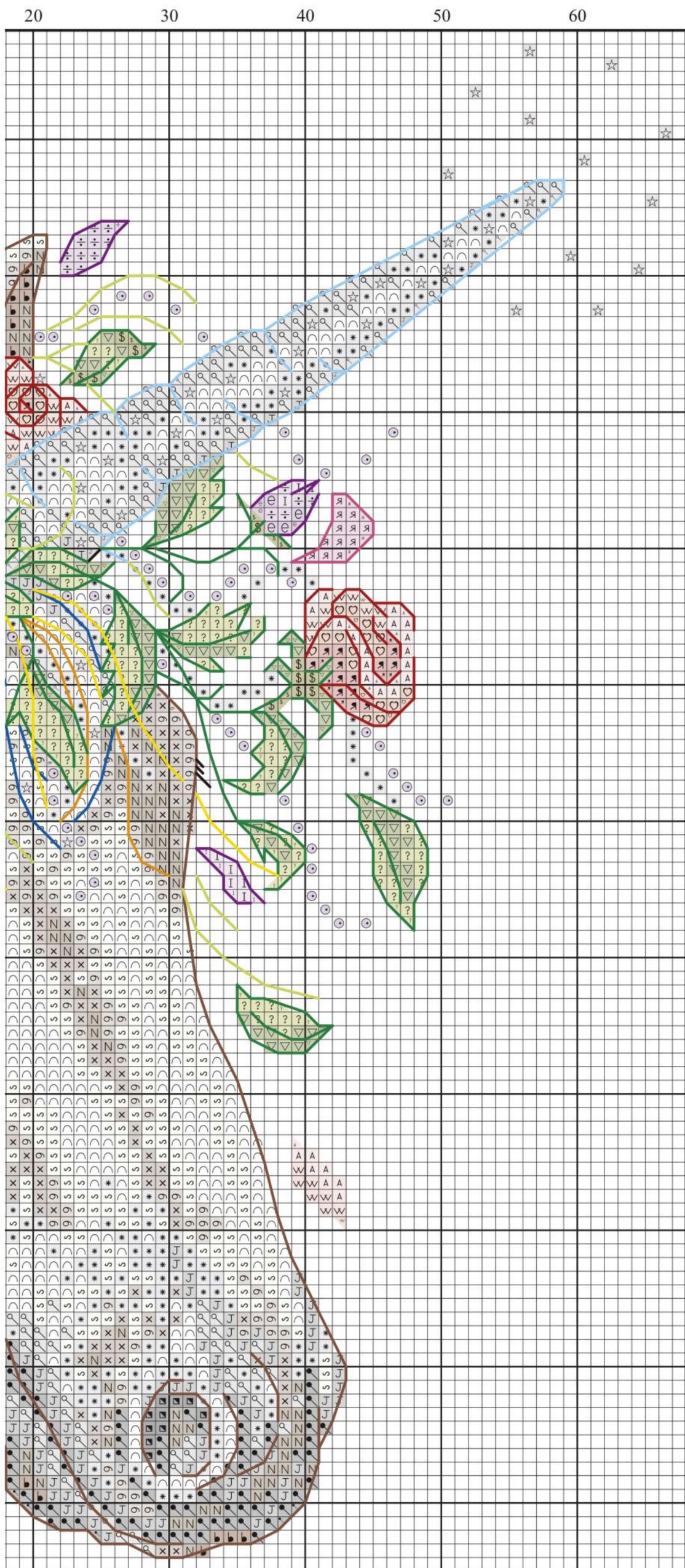
30

40



Top left

30 Cross Stitch Gold



Top right

### Unicorn key

#### ✕ Cross stitch in two strands

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira	
∩	blanc	2	2402	white
*	01	397	1805	light tin grey
∩	02	398	1709	tin grey
J	03	399	1802	dark tin grey
9	05	231	1808	light beige
x	06	232	1807	beige
N	07	233	1806	dark beige
b	08	1050	1905	very dark beige
e	209	98	803	dark lilac
÷	210	108	802	lilac
I	211	342	801	light lilac
■	310	403	2400	black
■	413	236	1713	dark grey
■	414	235	1714	grey
K	433	357	2602	tan
♥	760	1022	405	salmon pink
w	761	1021	404	light salmon pink
■	938	380	2005	brown
\$	3346	267	1407	dark green
∇	3347	265	1408	green
?	3348	264	1409	light green
⊠	3608	86	709	pink
⊠	3609	85	710	light pink
⊠	3712	1023	406	dark salmon pink
A	3713	1020	502	vlt salmon pink
s	3866	926	2101	magnolia

#### ✕ Cross stitch in two strands DMC Light Effects

☆	E168			silver
---	------	--	--	--------

#### ✕ Backstitch in one strand

—	02	398	1709	tin grey
—	03	399	1802	dark tin grey
—	04	400	1801	very dark tin grey
—	08	1050	1905	very dark beige
—	413	236	1713	dark grey
—	718	88	707	magenta
—	3041	871	806	mauve
—	3328	1024	407	v dk salmon pink
—	3346	267	1407	dark green
—	3348	264	1409	light green

#### ✕ Backstitch in two strands

—	blanc	2	2402	white
---	-------	---	------	-------

#### ✕ Mill Hill seed beads

○	02083			light mauve
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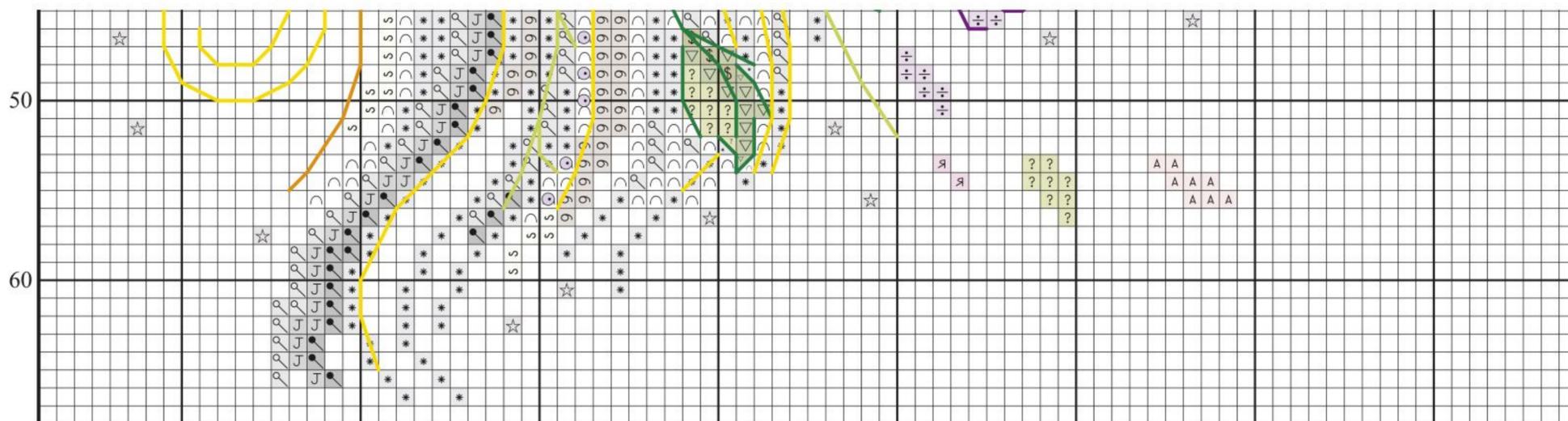
**STITCH COUNT** 134 high x 134 wide

**DESIGN AREA** 14 HPI (28-count evenweave) – 24.5x24.5cm (9½x9½in)

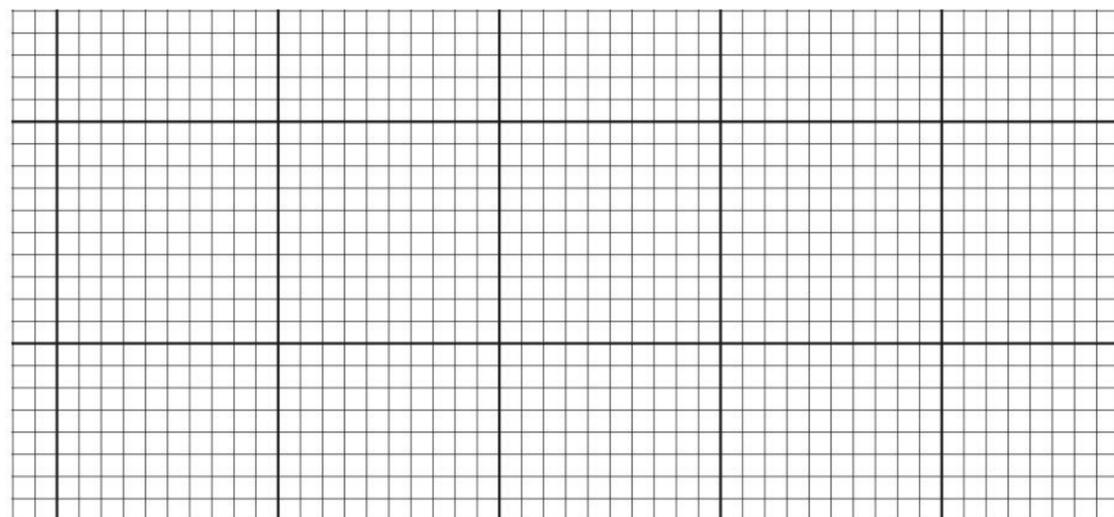
**SKEINS NEEDED** 2xblanc (white)

**STITCHED BY** Gillian Muggeridge

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



Bottom left



Bottom right

**“You could use the space in the bottom-right corner of this design to add some lettering. There are lots of inspirational unicorn-themed quotes to be found online, or you could add the recipient’s name instead.”**

*Fiona Baker, Technical Editor*



JENNY BARTON'S  
**Designer Secrets**

**Magic sparkle**

I wanted to incorporate some metallic thread as it’s a great way to add a magical feel to any design. On the horn, the unicorn’s defining feature, there are some silver stitches in amongst the greys and white, plus a few sparkly touches around the outside. If you’re feeling like a challenge, you might like to stitch this piece on black fabric instead – it’ll look fantastic with those silver sparkles!



**Flower power**

The unicorn’s floral headdress adds delicate colour to this scene in shades of pink and lilac, with strings of pretty mauve beads for extra interest and texture. I loved designing this bit, and I’m sure it will be fun to stitch, too. There are 11 shades of backstitch in this piece, most of which appear in the mane and headdress, so just be careful when you are working to pay close attention to the key and chart!

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## No prob- llama

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From Halloween to summer holidays, there's a llama to stitch for every occasion with Lady Stitchicorn's cute charts. Motifs in the collection include the Bahama Llama, Pyjama Llama, Count Dracu-Llama, and even a Rainbow Unicorn Llama, each measuring around 5.5x7.5cm (2¼x3in) on 14-count aida. These characters are fun to stitch and ideal for making into cards throughout the year. Visit [www.ladystitchicorn.etsy.com](http://www.ladystitchicorn.etsy.com).



→ **We have a set of six PDF Llama charts to give away to 16 winners. See below for entry details**

## Like a charm

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in prizes  
to win!

Try a new way to display your cross stitching skills with this unique idea by Lucie Heaton. Her Chinese Lantern chart (£4) includes all the instructions needed to stitch a set of colourful hanging ornaments – you'll learn how to stitch



on plastic canvas using satin threads, and create four different lanterns, each finished off with a cute tassel. For more great designs like these, visit Lucie's shop at [www.lucieheaton.com](http://www.lucieheaton.com).

→ **We've got 63 of Lucie's Chinese Lantern PDF charts to give away. See below for entry details**

## Modern retro

£250  
in prizes  
to win!

Canadian designer Cheryl McKinnon was an artist and fashion designer before finding her passion for creating cross stitch patterns. Her quirky designs are influenced by her love of all things retro, with kitchenalia, typewriters, vintage phones, caravans, Mid Century chairs, film cameras and other kitsch motifs in a fun colour palette. Browse the collection at [www.tinymodernist.com](http://www.tinymodernist.com).

→ **We've got a £10 Tiny Modernist voucher to give away to 25 readers. See below for entry details**



## Golden hour

£244  
in prizes  
to win!

There are lovely details in every corner of this vibrant cottage scene by Susan Bates, from the cat snoozing in the foreground and the two feathered friends enjoying the bird bath, to the glow of the sunset behind the house. The design is stitched in warm oranges and reds that are typical of

Art Deco designs, and measures 23.5x18cm (9¼x7in) on 14-count aida or 28-count evenweave. The chart costs £7.20 to download. See more designs at [www.crossstitchsusie.etsy.com](http://www.crossstitchsusie.etsy.com).

→ **We're giving away a PDF chart of the Art Deco Cottage to 34 winners. See below for entry details**



**The closing date for entries is 14th January 2020.**

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# Pansies in bloom

This vibrant floral design will sit perfectly in your hallway, adding a riot of colour to any spring day!



Meet the designer  
**Amanda Gregory**

Based in the West Country, Amanda is a talented watercolour artist, cross stitch designer and dressmaker. Her work is suffused with gorgeous colour combinations and a great sense of detail, and her beautiful designs regularly appear in a range of popular cross stitching magazines.

“These pansies in shades of pink, purple and yellow, are an instant pick-me-up and a great project to give your home a fresh feel for the new season.”

## Stitcher's guide

This design is worked on 28-count white evenweave over two threads of the fabric in 31 shades of stranded cotton. Cross stitch is in two strands of cotton, with fractional stitches for extra detail. Backstitch defines the design in one strand of cotton. This project is recommended for experienced stitchers.

## How to stitch the design

- 1 Find the centre of your fabric by folding it in half both ways. Find the centre of the chart and start stitching here, working your way outwards.
- 2 Work the cross stitch over two threads of the fabric using two strands of cotton. For every tiny symbol you see on the chart, work a fractional stitch.
- 3 Add the backstitch detail using one strand of cotton.
- 4 Check over your stitching and prepare for making up.

## You will need

- Fabric** Zweigart 28-count white evenweave measuring 22x59cm (8½x23¼in)
- Threads** Stranded cotton as listed in the key
- Needle** Size 24 tapestry needle
- Extras** Backing fabrics of your choice and stuffing from local craft stores

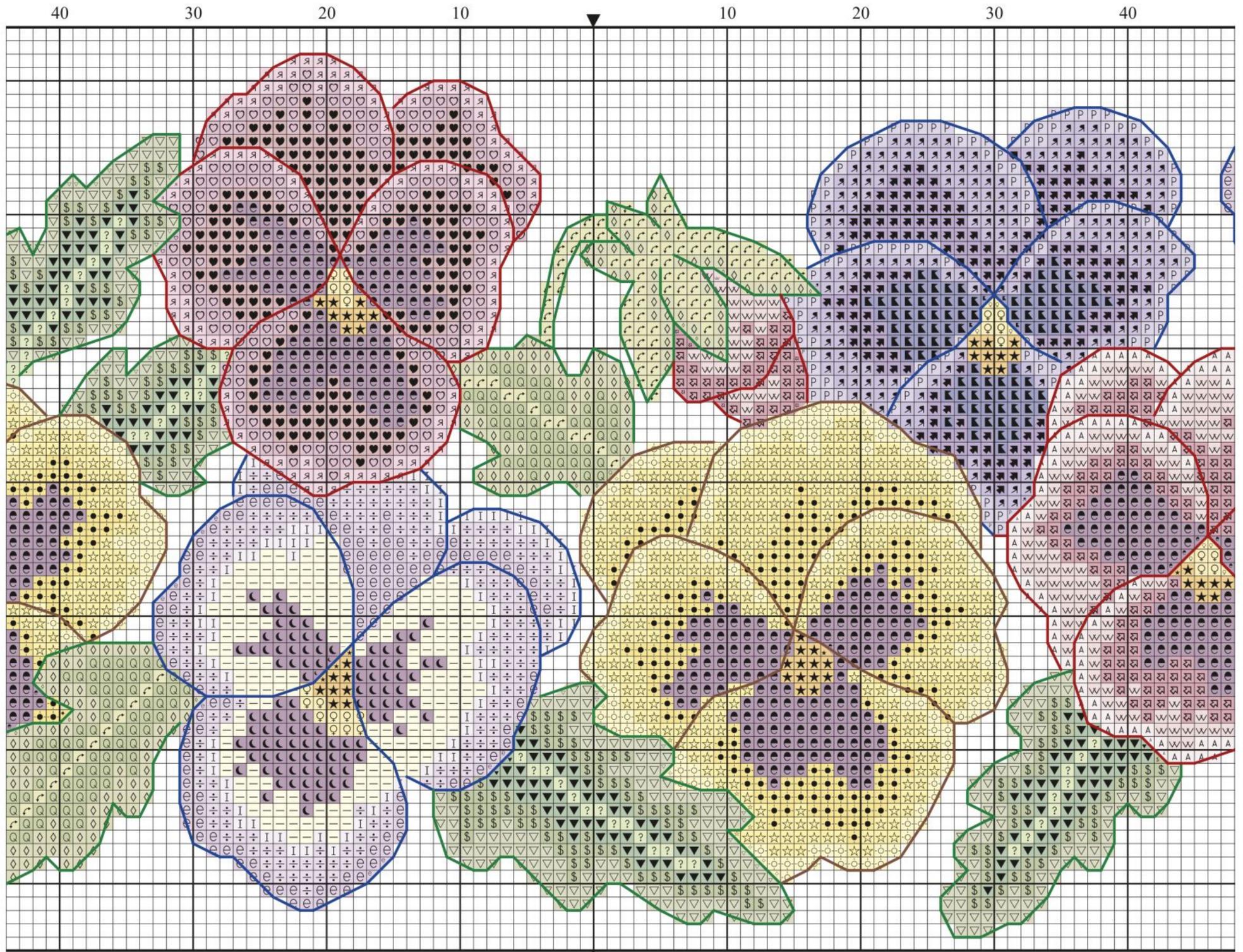
FOR STOCKISTS' DETAILS turn to page 59



### Stitch tip

Stitch a single pansy to adorn a greetings card, scented sachet or pincushion





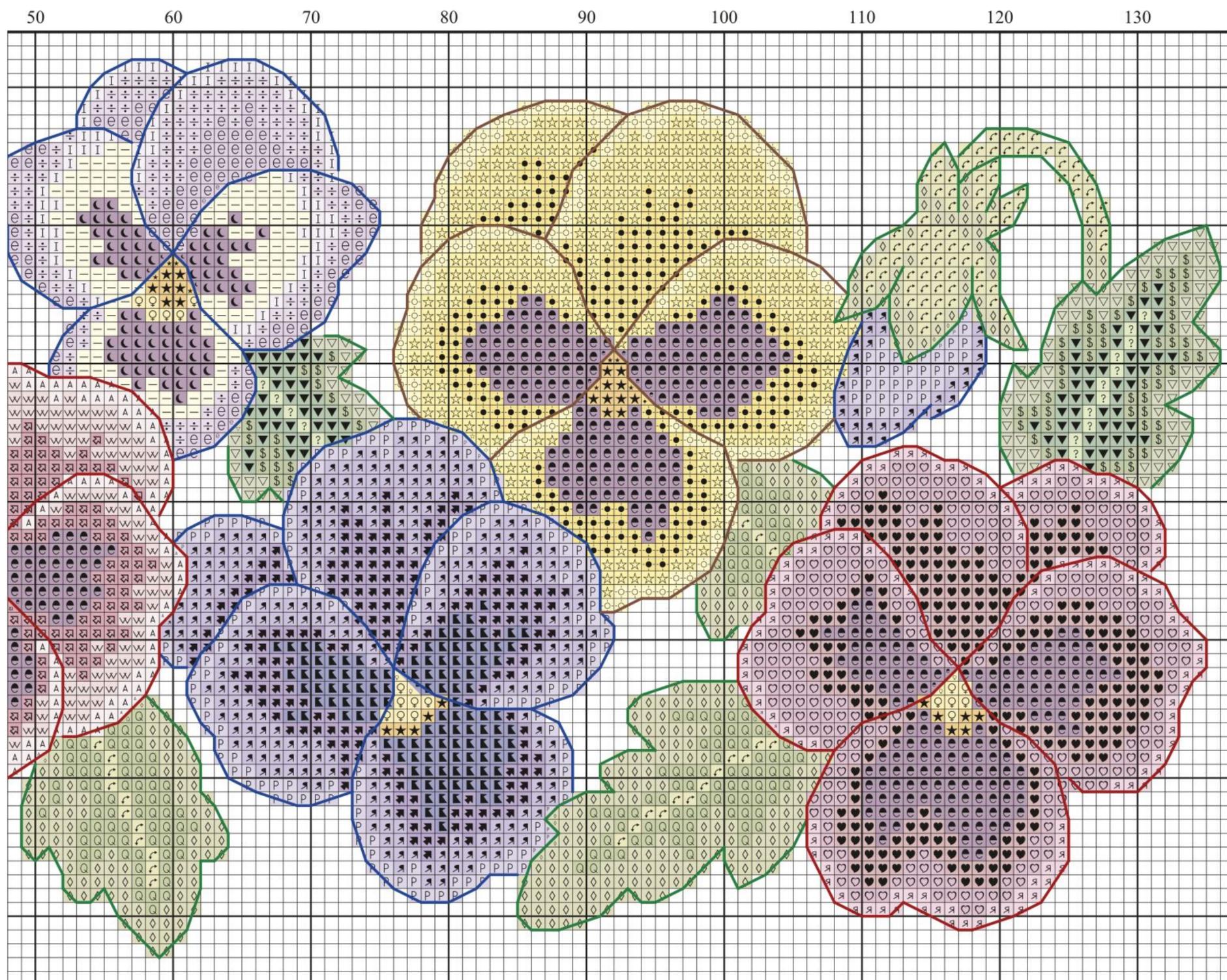
Middle

Pansies key				
<b>✕ Cross stitch in two strands</b>				
	DMC	Anchor	Madeira	
I	25	342	801	light lilac
☾	32	123	904	plum
w	151	73	404	clover pink
e	154	873	2607	violet
P	155	1030	902	light purple
?	164	240	1209	soft green
e	209	98	803	dark lilac
÷	210	108	802	lilac
☆	307	289	104	lemon yellow
■	333	119	903	dark purple
■	336	149	1007	blue
⊙	445	288	103	lt lemon yellow
Q	470	267	1502	dark moss green
◇	471	266	1501	moss green
↻	472	253	1414	light moss green
♀	726	295	109	yellow
—	746	275	2511	cream
A	818	23	502	baby pink
★	972	298	107	tangerine
<b>✕ Cross stitch in two strands</b>				
	DMC	Anchor	Madeira	
●	973	290	105	dk lemon yellow
▼	986	246	1404	dark green
\$	987	244	1403	green
▽	989	241	1401	light green
♥	3687	68	604	dark pink
♡	3688	66	605	pink
я	3689	49	607	light pink
☼	3733	75	405	rose pink
↻	3746	118	2702	purple
<b>✕ Backstitch in one strand</b>				
—	336	149	1007	blue
—	869	375	2105	brown
—	935	961	1505	avocado green
—	3350	42	603	dark rose pink
<b>STITCH COUNT</b> 67 high x 271 wide				
<b>DESIGN AREA</b> 14 HPI (28-count evenweave) – 12x49cm (4¾x19¼in)				
<b>STITCHED BY</b> Angela Griffin				
This design was stitched using DMC stranded cotton on 28-count evenweave over two threads of the fabric				

“Although the days are starting to get brighter, I’m still feeling a bit chilly. This pretty draught excluder will help to keep my living room nice and cosy while I stitch in the evenings.”

Hannah Erskine,  
Charting Assistant

# Draught excluder



Right

## How to make the draught excluder

- 1 Cut out your stitched piece to measure 16x53cm (6¼x20¾in) with the design central. For the side panels, cut two wide pieces of backing fabric measuring 16x14cm (6¼x5½in) in one colour, and two narrow pieces measuring 16x5cm (6¼x2in) in another colour.
- 2 With right sides facing, pin and sew a wide side panel and a narrow side panel together along the matching edges. Repeat for your two remaining pieces.
- 3 With right sides facing, pin one of the short

edges of the stitched piece to the short edge of one of your side panels. Machine stitch a 1cm (½in) seam and press. Repeat for the other side.

- 4 Cut a panel of backing fabric to the same size as your front panel, then pin front and back together with right sides facing. Sew a 1cm (½in) seam around all four edges, leaving a 10cm (4in) gap for turning.

- 5 Trim the corners, turn through to the right side and press. Insert stuffing and slip-stitch the gap closed.

## Stitch tip

Add one or more colours of fabric to complement the pansy colours



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# QA Ask the experts

Send your questions to [zeena@cross-stitching.com](mailto:zeena@cross-stitching.com) or Ask the experts, *Cross Stitch Gold*, Eagle House, Colston Avenue, Bristol BS1 4ST

## THE EXPERTS



### JO BENNER

Jo is an experienced stitcher and knitter, who writes for several craft magazines. She's on hand to help with chart queries and stitching know-how, as well as product questions.



### FIONA BAKER

Fiona is the Technical Editor for *Cross Stitch Gold* and our sister magazines. She is a talented cross stitch designer too, and can answer any of your stitching queries.



### HEATHER NUGENT

Heather is the Charting Editor for *Cross Stitch Gold* and our sister magazines. With a passion for stitching and sewing, she is here to help with charting and making-up questions.

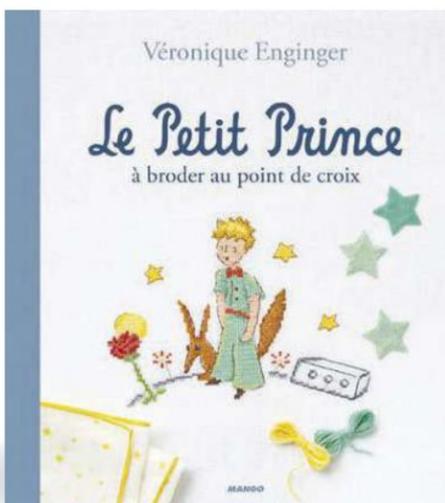
## Le petit prince

**Q** My granddaughter is 18 and has been stitching for five years. She has just started university and is studying English Literature. Her favourite book is *The Little Prince* and I would love to buy a kit for her as a Christmas present. Have any been produced?

*Alice Sumner, Halifax*

**A** **Heather:** There are indeed kits, but as your granddaughter has been

stitching for quite a while, she will probably have a lot of fabric and thread, so a book might be a better idea. *Le Petit Prince* by Veronique Enginger is the most wonderful book. Although it is written in French, the charts are easy to understand. There are colour pictures, lots of hints and tips and clear, concise instructions. Veronique is one of the most talented and prolific cross stitch designers in France, and this book is a testament to her talent. To buy it for £25.04 go to [www.amazon.co.uk](http://www.amazon.co.uk).



Fans of *The Little Prince* will enjoy dipping into this book time and time again

## Mini marvel

**Q** I've seen tiny little irons that would be perfect for my cross stitch. Often, with a big iron I can't see how well it's been pressed and on occasion I've scorched the back. The

## VALENTINE'S HEART

**Q** I want to stitch a special Valentine's gift or card for my husband, as it's also our wedding anniversary. I find stitching with lots of colours a bit confusing as I'm colour blind, so one or two colours would be my preference. Can you find me a suitable design, please?

*Jeannetta Burton, Chorley*

**A** **Heather:** This beautiful heart design by The Historical Sampler Company won't take you long to stitch, and it's up to you if you want to put your names and the date of your wedding on it. Cream stitches on beige linen make a change



Stitch this heart for a special occasion

from the usual red or pink; it has a classy and timeless finish. There are a couple of accent colours, but as the stitches have a lot of space around them it should be easy. Everything you need to stitch this gorgeous piece is in the kit, which costs £25 from [www.johnlewis.com](http://www.johnlewis.com).

irons that I've seen have been very expensive, though – where can I buy a cheaper one?

*Becky Harris, Harpenden*

A mini steam iron is extremely versatile



**A** **Fiona:** Small irons are perfect for cross stitch, quilting and patchwork. They don't take up much room in a holiday case either! When a craft item does double duty

for the crafter and the home, it seems to make it okay to splash out, but in this case you won't need to spend too much. This mini iron from [www.duroc.com](http://www.duroc.com) can be bought for £18.99. It has a non-stick coating on the bottom and the benefit of steam, plus it comes with a carry bag. If you don't want to drag the ironing board out every time, buy a cheap ironing mat or use an old towel instead.

## Sausage stitching

**Q** I just love Dachshunds (I have two) and would like to stitch a design for a cushion as I like to use my



Panna has a range of shaped cross stitch cushions, including this cute and cosy dog in a woolly jumper!

stitching for useful projects. I don't mind if it's cross stitch or tapestry (as the stitches are only half a cross stitch). Can you find me something to fit the bill?

*Georgia Lewis, Carshalton*

**A** Jo: This unusual cushion from Panna should do the trick, Georgia. It measures 48x24.5cm (19x9½in) – an ideal size for cuddling up to on the sofa. You'll use 22 colours to bring this pooch to life on 14-count aida, and you'll need to use the finished front piece as a template to cut out a piece of your chosen backing fabric (not included in the kit). Let's hope your real dogs welcome this intruder with open paws! The kit costs £48.15 from [www.lovecrafts.com](http://www.lovecrafts.com).

## Sticky situation

**Q** I've started making lots of cards and I'm just not happy with the way I'm sticking them in. I think the tape



This tape is easy to use, but take a look at [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com) if you need a tutorial

might be too thick and, as I make cards with round apertures, I find it difficult to get the tape neatly around the circle. Is there a solution please?!

*Yvonne Wood, Stratford*

**A** Heather: I recommend this handy pen from Crafter's Companion, which contains 22 metres of double-sided tape, about 2.5cm (1in) wide. It is so strong that you can actually use it to make boxes. It's easy to apply it in either straight or curved lines and, as it's acid-free and archival safe, you can be sure your cross stitch fabric and card will stay pristine. To buy it for £3.49 go to [www.craftstash.co.uk](http://www.craftstash.co.uk).

## Stain quick-fix

**Q** I spilled some food on my cross stitch when I was away from home at a class, and although I immediately sponged it with some damp kitchen roll it has left a faint stain. Is there a stain remover pen or something similarly small that I can pop into my sewing bag in case this happens again? Thank you.

*Sandra Fairley, Painswick*

**A** Jo: This Tide To Go pen is an American-brand stain remover but it's also available in the UK. It works best on plant-based stains like grass, tomato sauce and red wine, but less well on protein stains like milk and blood. You just dab it on and the stain disappears – handy for cross stitch, but also useful to keep in your bag or drawer at work in case of emergencies. The fabric will still need to be washed, but this pen is amazing for a quick-fix dissolve



A Tide To Go pen is a must for cross stitchers and messy eaters!

## CREATIVE CHRISTMAS

**Q** My sister and her son are visiting me for Christmas. They're arriving a few days before, so I would like to find a small kit for my nephew to stitch which can be used for a decoration. He is very creative, so I think he would love to have a go at cross stitching.

*Bobbi Shaw, Stirling*

**A** Heather: Mouseloft makes a range of little kits ranging from £2. This kit costs £5.99 as it includes a hoop to be used while stitching, and this can also be used as a frame after the design is finished. As it's



Little ones will love this easy penguin

worked on 11-count fabric, it's great for a child – or a beginner stitcher of any age. The frame measures 3in so it may be a little big for the Christmas tree, but would look great on its own little hook! To buy it go to [www.woolwarehouse.co.uk](http://www.woolwarehouse.co.uk).

of the stain. To buy it for £5.96 visit [www.amazon.co.uk](http://www.amazon.co.uk).

## Small storage

**Q** I need some inexpensive craft drawers for my bits and pieces and leftover threads. I would love to know where my needles, pins, beads and embellishments are when I need them! I spend far too long looking through bags, and with the New Year approaching, I have to get sorted. What sort should I go for?

*Chrissy Benfield, Warrington*

**A** Fiona: In my opinion, this Really Useful Pastel Box Organiser is one of the most practical things you can have in any work/craft room! The internal measurements of each little lidded box are 6.4x4.8x4.2cm (2½x2x1¾in), and there are 16 boxes in total, so lots of room for smaller craft items like

needles, tape measures, threads and so on. It could also be used for jewellery, stamps and all those little bits and bobs we all collect. Simply slide the boxes into the organiser to keep everything neat and tidy. The ones shown below are opaque and come in pretty colours, but you can also buy a transparent version if you prefer to see what's in each box before you open it. To buy this set for £10 go to [www.hobbycraft.co.uk](http://www.hobbycraft.co.uk), and do join the Hobbycraft club for discounts and offers.

What would you choose to store in these stackable mini boxes?





# Shopper's guide

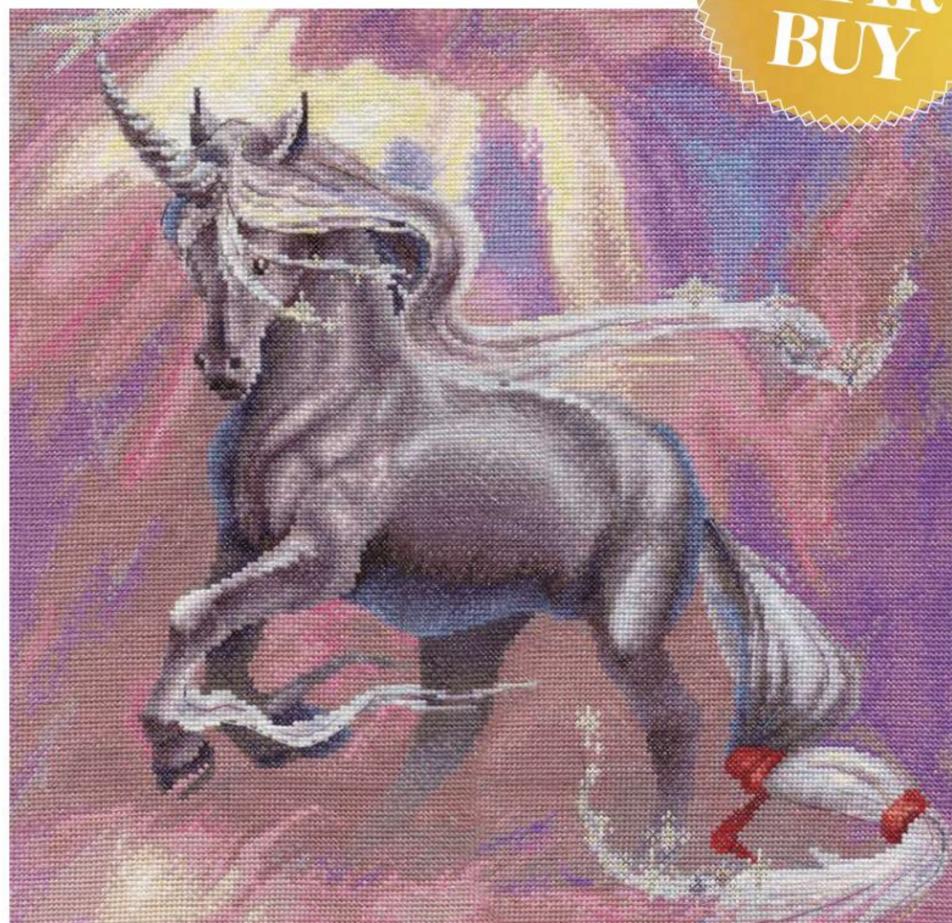
Start 2020 in style with brand new kits from leading designers, and get kitted out with must-have stitching accessories, too!

**GOLD  
STAR  
BUY**

## Mystical beauty

Unicorns continue to be popular in cross stitch, and it's no wonder with stunning designs like this one from Panna's Golden Series. Legend (F-0804, £37.39) is worked in 36 colours, with an incredible 23 blended colours to create that wow-worthy depth and shading – we're in awe of those swirling, ethereal pinks and purples! Worked on 14-count white aida, the design uses whole stitches and backstitch only, however, this is a densely stitched project measuring 34x34cm (13¼x13¼in) – a fantastic challenge that will delight any fan of myth and magic.

Visit [www.panna-stitch.com](http://www.panna-stitch.com) for stockists



## WITH LOVE

Created with warm colours and simple, stylised motifs, this Scandi Heart Sampler



is a joy to stitch, and will grow quickly beneath your needle at just 21x21cm (8¼x8¼in). Hearts, flowers, birds and leaves make this a perfect project for nature lovers, or it could easily be personalised to make a wedding or anniversary gift. And don't forget Valentine's Day, which is also on the horizon! There are two fabric options when you buy the kit for £25 – 16-count aida or 32-count linen – or you might prefer to opt for the chart pack only for just £9. It would lend itself well to either a framed finish or a cushion with a fabric border.

Visit [www.historicalsamplercompany.co.uk](http://www.historicalsamplercompany.co.uk) or call 01268 711 918 to buy

## Multi-tasker

Illuminate your New Year stitching with a little help from the Foresight-LED Flexi-Arm Light. This super light unit has two flexible gooseneck arms and clips on easily to the edge of your stitching frame – or a tablet or laptop if you're following a digital



chart! Position the light just where you need it and choose one of two brightness settings on each arm for full control. The Flexi-Arm is available as a battery-operated model for £19.99 or a rechargeable model for £24.99, both of which can also be powered by a USB socket (cable included).

Freephone 0800 228 9745 or visit [www.foresight-led.co.uk](http://www.foresight-led.co.uk) to order with **FREE UK DELIVERY**



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Stitch this sweet chart for a baby's nursery!



## Give us a hug

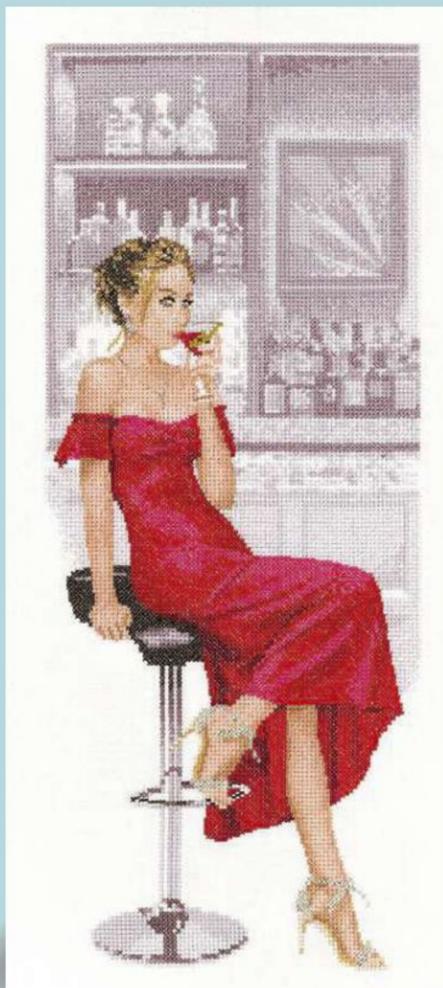
Did you know that in the USA, the 21st of January is National Hugging Day? With this in mind, we couldn't resist this adorable White Bears pattern from Iris In Love Designs on Etsy. The cute bears, big and little, smile happily as they share a cuddle in the snow and urge everybody to give their loved ones an extra-special squeeze! This sweet scene will measure 20x20cm (8x8in) on 14-count aida and uses 18 shades of thread. The chart costs just £3.58 for an instant download.

Visit [www.etsy.com/uk/shop/IrisInLoveDesigns](http://www.etsy.com/uk/shop/IrisInLoveDesigns)

## COCKTAIL HOUR

Get into the spirit of the New Year festivities with this new kit from John Clayton's Elegance range. Perched on a bar stool, Paula (JLPA1541, £55.45) is party-ready – we love the touches of metallic thread for her jewellery and sparkly heels, which accessorise her red dress to perfection. Meanwhile, the bar background is rendered in muted greys for a stunning sepia effect. This sophisticated design measures 16.5x40.5cm (6½x16in) and you can choose evenweave or aida to stitch on.

Visit [www.hcrafts.com](http://www.hcrafts.com) or call 01889 575256 to buy



## PURRFECT SPOT

This new Home Comfort kit from Riolis is double the fun, as you can either stitch it as a single panel measuring 60x30cm (23½x12in), or split the design in half and make two cushion fronts at 30x30cm (12x12in) each. Casually lounging on a shelf amongst books and knick-knacks, this tabby will be a familiar sight to many cat owners, and is brought to life on 14-count aida using Riolis's own wool/acrylic threads. The kit costs £88.99 (backing fabric not included).

Visit [www.stitcher.co.uk](http://www.stitcher.co.uk) or call 0161 464 7310



## Essential kit

On holiday, on the way to work, or in the car – small, portable projects, like cards, are perfect for travelling with, and here's a great way to keep all your supplies together. The Traveller's Embroidery Set from Cloud Craft contains yellow Snipster embroidery scissors, a 5in embroidery hoop, yellow magnetic needle case (with needle, integrated needle threader and magnifier), plus a handy mesh project bag to keep it all in. There's plenty of room left inside for your fabric, threads and chart – just zip it and go! Buy the set for £14.25.

Visit [www.cloudcraft.co.uk](http://www.cloudcraft.co.uk)



# Love & cuddles

Snuggled up with cosy blankets and heart-shaped cushions, this teddy trio is the perfect way to welcome a new baby to the world



Meet the designer  
**Durene Jones**

Prolific designer Durene Jones creates cross stitch charts for a range of stitching magazines. Her work is well loved for its modern and colourful tone, but she is a versatile designer and can turn her hand to any theme or style. Before starting on her creative cross stitch career, Durene worked as a graphic designer.

*“I think this teddy scene will perfectly suit both baby girls and boys, and the sweet greeting turns it into a lovely welcome design to hang in the nursery”*

## Stitcher's guide

This design is worked on 28-count white evenweave over two threads of the fabric in 26 shades of stranded cotton. Cross stitch is in two strands of cotton, with fractionals for extra detail. Backstitch defines the design in both one and two strands of cotton, and French knots are added in one strand. This project is recommended for experienced stitchers.

## How to stitch the design

- 1 Find the centre of your fabric by folding it in half both ways. Find the centre of the chart and start stitching here, working your way outwards.
- 2 Work the cross stitch over two threads of the fabric using two strands of cotton. For every tiny symbol you see on the chart, work a fractional stitch.
- 3 Add the backstitch detail using one or two strands of cotton.
- 4 Work the French knots using one strand of cotton.
- 5 Check over your stitching and prepare for making up.

## You will need

- Fabric** Zweigart 28-count white evenweave measuring 34x39cm (13¼x15¼in)
- Threads** Stranded cotton as listed in the key
- Needle** Size 24 tapestry needle
- Extras** Backing fabric, wooden dowel rod and ribbon of choice from local craft stores

FOR STOCKISTS' DETAILS turn to page 59

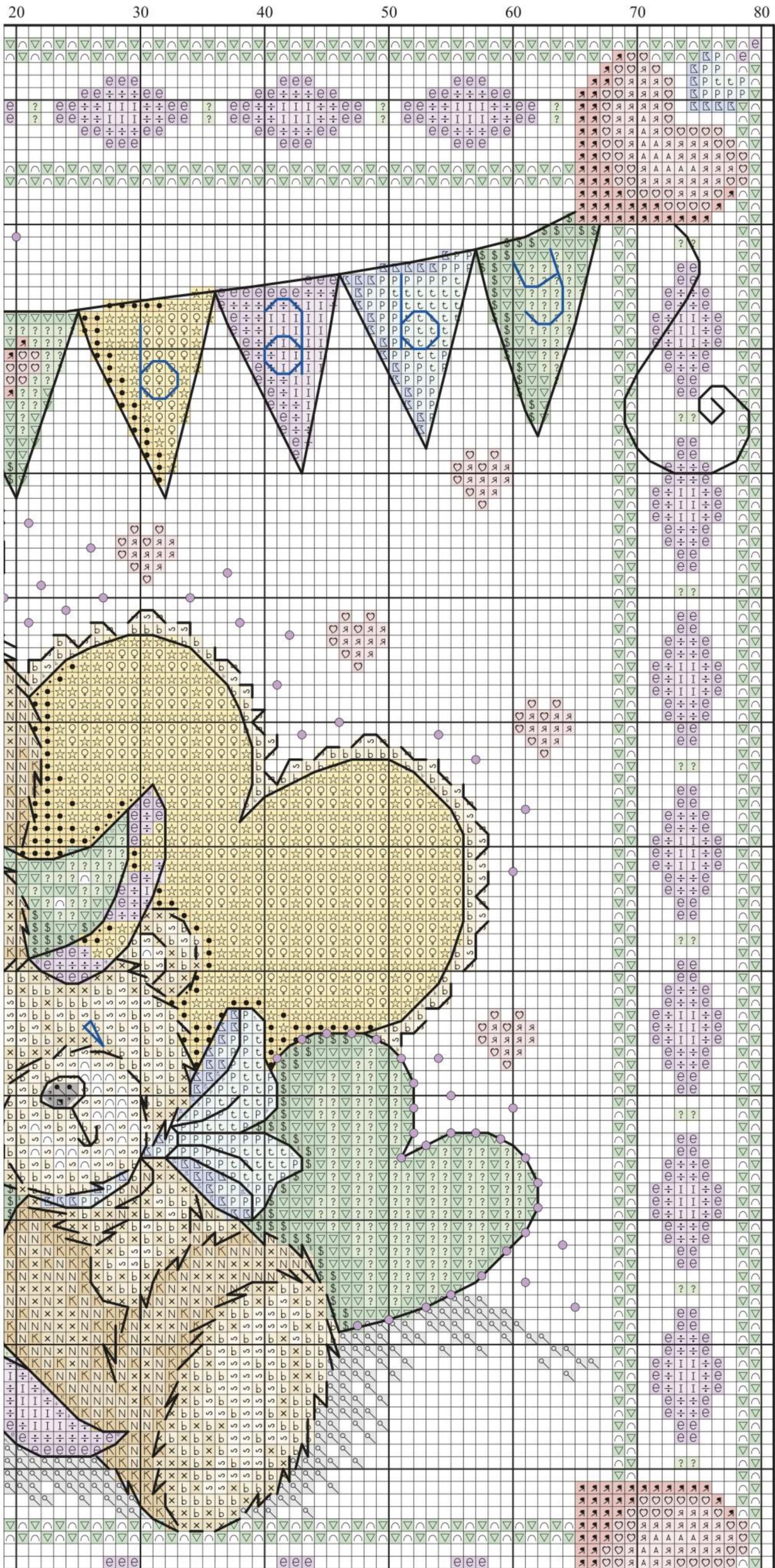




### Stitch tip

Pre-thread several needles with the main colours in this design, to speed up your stitching time





### Welcome baby key

✕ Cross stitch in two strands

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira	
∩	B5200	1	2401	white
🔍	02	398	1709	tin grey
A	23	1026	501	baby pink
e	209	98	803	dark lilac
÷	210	108	802	lilac
I	211	342	801	light lilac
🔍	317	400	1714	grey
b	434	310	2009	dark tan
K	436	1045	2011	tan
N	437	362	2012	light tan
s	712	926	2101	light cream
●	725	305	113	dark yellow
☆	726	295	109	yellow
♀	727	293	112	light yellow
x	738	367	2013	very light tan
b	739	366	2014	cream
t	775	1031	1001	sky blue
P	800	144	908	light blue
⊠	809	130	909	blue
\$	911	205	1214	dark green
▽	913	204	1212	green
?	955	206	1210	light green
↗	961	76	610	dark pink
я	963	73	502	light pink
♡	3716	25	503	pink
■	3799	236	1713	dark grey

✕ Backstitch in one strand

—	3799	236	1713	dark grey
---	------	-----	------	-----------

✕ Backstitch in two strands

—	3799	236	1713	dark grey
---	------	-----	------	-----------

✕ French knots in one strand

●	210	108	802	lilac
●	913	204	1212	green

**STITCH COUNT** 131 high x 159 wide

**DESIGN AREA** 14 HPI (28-count evenweave) – 24x29cm (9¼x11¼in)

**STITCHED BY** Lesley Batty

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



Top right



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# Welcome spring

Embrace the new season with this pretty blue tit cushion, bursting with fresh spring colours



Meet the designer  
**Lesley Teare**

Lesley is an experienced cross stitch designer with a degree in Printed and Woven Textiles, and many years of design experience. She creates designs for a wide range of stitching magazines, and has a range of cross stitch books to her name, too. Lesley lives and works in rural Suffolk, where she enjoys gardening and country walks with her labrador.

*“It’s always a joy to bring to life the blues, greens and yellows of this particular bird. I love the way she is protectively peering in at the eggs in her nest.”*

## Stitch tip

Stitch a section of the floral border separately to make a charming bookmark

## Stitcher’s guide

This design is worked on 28-count pale blue cashel linen over two threads of the fabric in 29 shades of stranded cotton. Cross stitch is in two strands of cotton, with a few fractional stitches for extra detail. Backstitch defines the design in one strand of cotton, and French knots are added in two strands. This project is recommended for experienced stitchers.

## How to stitch the design

- 1 Find the centre of your fabric by folding it in half both ways. Find the centre of the chart and start stitching here, working your way outwards.
- 2 Work the cross stitch over two threads of the fabric using two strands of cotton. For every tiny symbol you see on the chart, work a fractional stitch.
- 3 Add the backstitch detail using one strand of cotton.
- 4 Work the French knots using two strands of cotton.
- 5 Check over your stitching and prepare for making up.

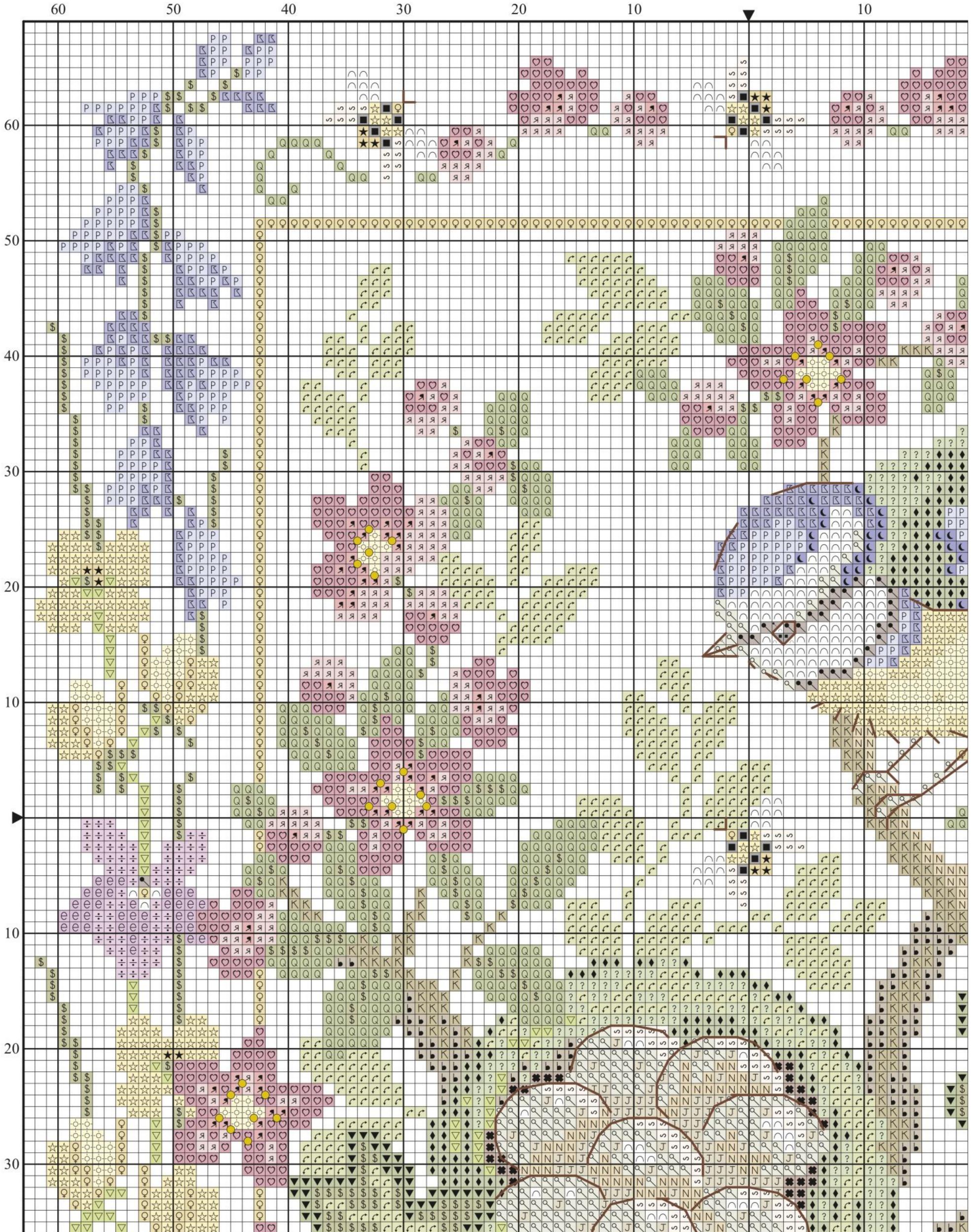
## You will need

- Fabric** Zweigart 28-count pale blue cashel linen (3821/562) measuring 35x33cm (13¾x13in)
- Threads** Stranded cotton as listed in the key
- Needle** Size 24 tapestry needle
- Extras** Backing fabric of your choice and cushion pad to fit, from local craft stores

FOR STOCKISTS’ DETAILS turn to page 59

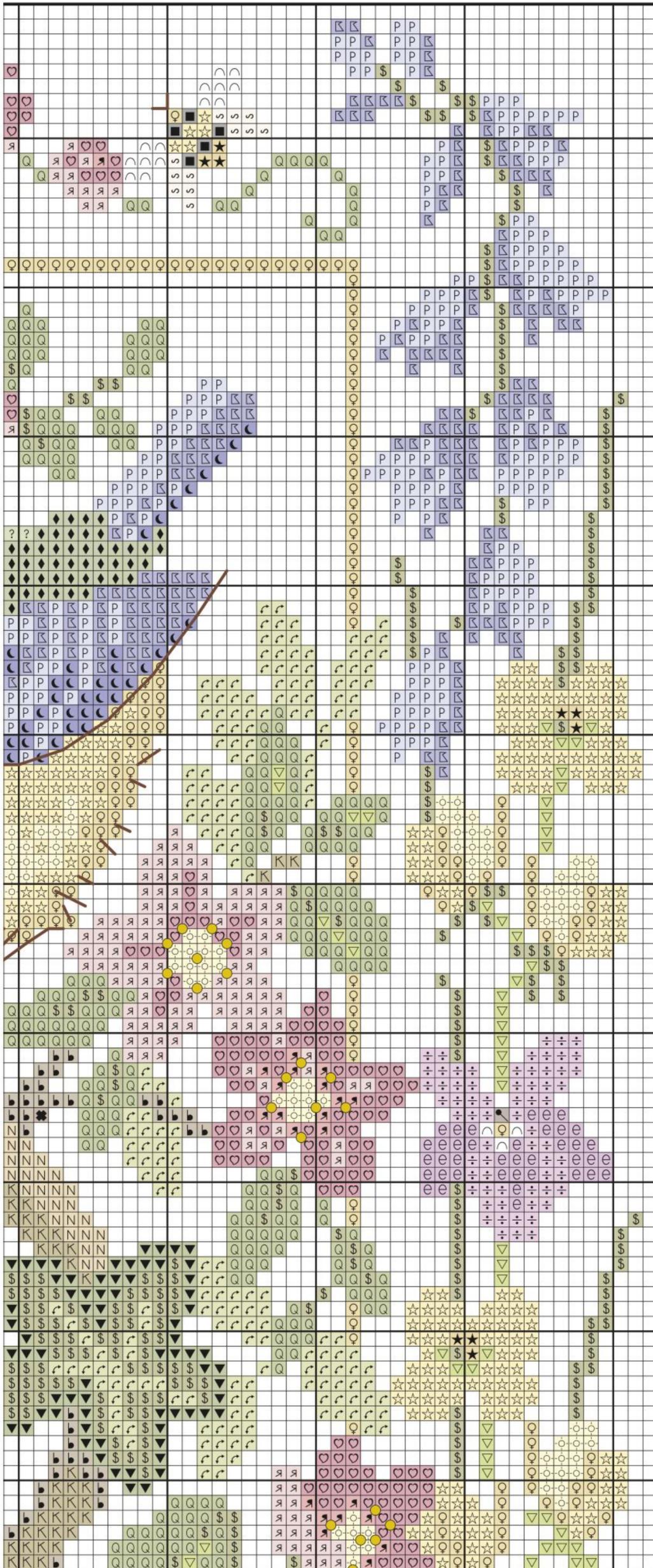


# Blue tit cushion



Top left

20 30 40 50 60



Top right

### Blue tit key

#### ✂ Cross stitch in two strands

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira	
○	B5200	1	2401	white
◌	ecru	926	2404	cream
■	310	403	2400	black
↗	335	38	506	rose pink
?	368	214	1310	almond green
K	420	374	2104	brown
N	422	943	2102	light brown
Q	470	266	1502	moss green
e	553	98	712	mauve
÷	554	90	711	light mauve
J	642	903	1905	grey
⦿	644	830	1814	light grey
▽	704	255	1308	leaf green
☆	727	293	112	yellow
★	729	890	2209	sand
☾	792	177	905	dark blue
⊠	793	176	906	blue
⦿	844	1041	1809	smoke grey
■	869	375	2105	dark brown
✿	938	380	2005	chestnut brown
⊙	3078	292	102	light yellow
▼	3345	268	1406	dark green
⌘	3346	267	1407	green
↶	3348	264	1409	light green
◆	3363	262	1602	pine green
я	3716	25	503	salmon pink
♡	3733	75	605	pink
♀	3821	305	2510	straw
P	3840	130	907	lavender blue

#### ✂ Backstitch in one strand

—	869	375	2105	dark brown
---	-----	-----	------	------------

#### ✂ French knots in two strands

●	729	890	2209	sand
---	-----	-----	------	------

**STITCH COUNT** 136 high x 124 wide

**DESIGN AREA** 14 HPI (28-count evenweave) – 24.5x22.5cm (9¾x8¾in)

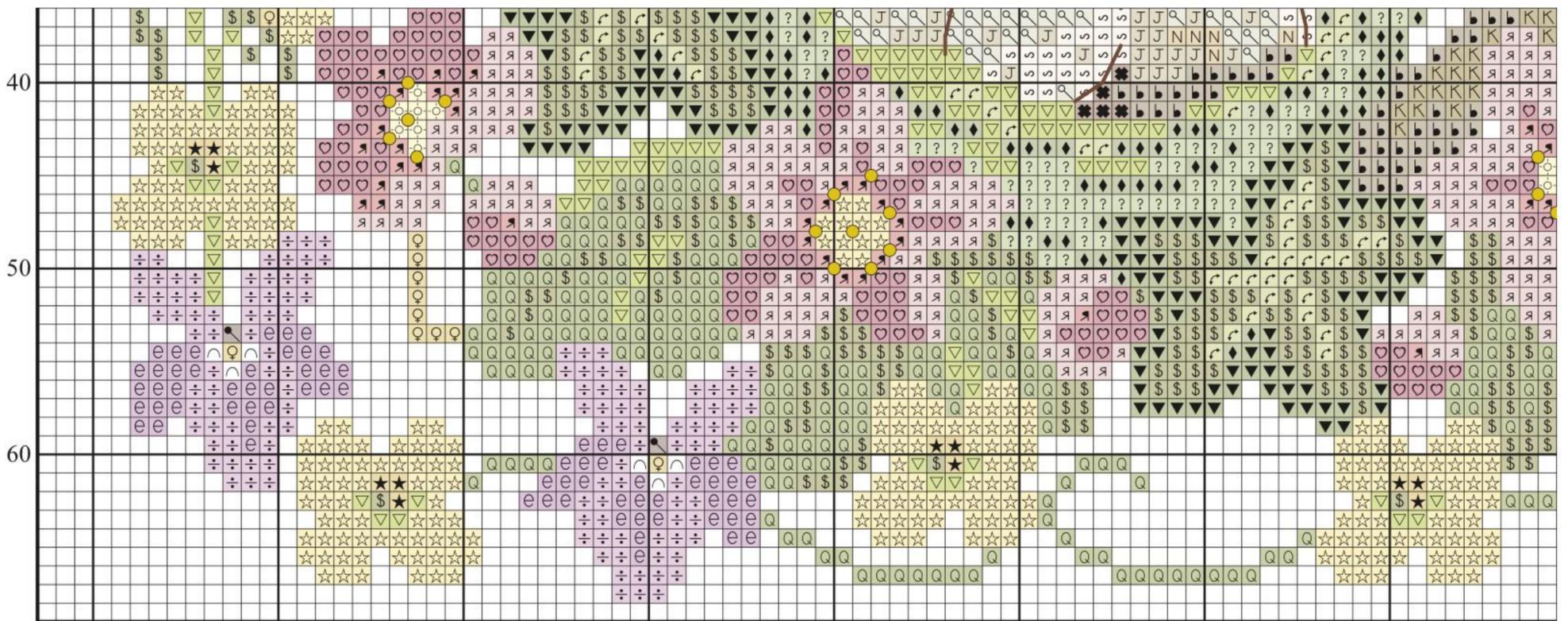
**STITCHED BY** Jan Hazeltine

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

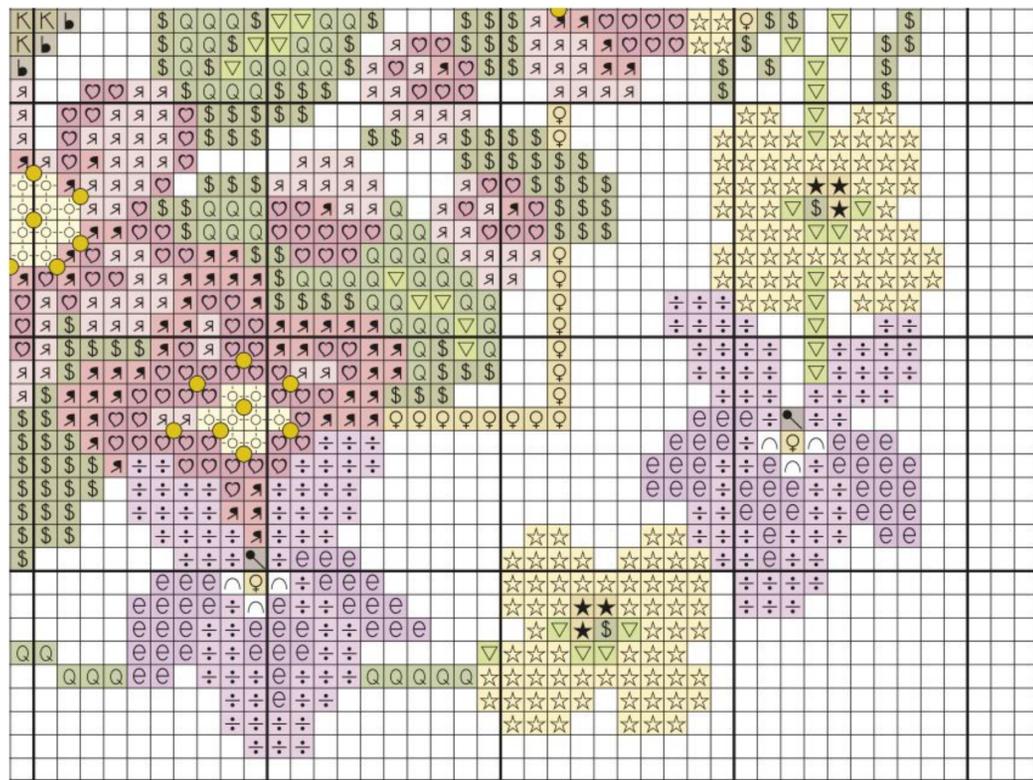
“Pale blue linen fabric adds extra depth to this design. If you prefer the look of evenweave or aida, then you should be able to find a similar shade to this one.”

Heather Nugent, Charting Editor

# Blue tit cushion



Bottom left



Bottom right

## How to make the cushion cover

**1** Trim the stitched piece so that it measures 28.5cm (11¼in) square, with your blue tit design in the centre.

**2** Cut two pieces of fabric measuring 22x28.5cm (8¾x11¼in) for the envelope-opening back panel. Pin and sew a 2cm (¾in) double hem along one long edge of each piece and press.

**3** With right sides facing, pin one back panel at the top of the cushion and one at the bottom, so that the raw edges align and the two pieces overlap each other.



**4** Sew all the way around the edge of the cushion, using a 1cm (½in) seam allowance. Trim the corners, and then turn through to the right side and press.

**5** Sew a straight line of stitching all the way around the cushion, 2.5cm (1in) in from the outside edge, to create the Oxford border. Insert your cushion pad to finish.



## LESLEY TEARE'S Designer Secrets

### Easy breezy

For the most part, this design uses whole stitches – I've added a few fractionals for the blue tit's eye, but these are easy to work on the linen as you won't need to split the fabric. There's also some backstitch to define the wing, legs, feathers and so on, but I've kept it fairly light to fit in with the fresh, spring feel.



### Blooming border

I really love the composition of this piece. I've added an inner border of yellow stitches, which separates the central area and the floral border. At the bottom there is more of a merging of the two elements, while the top half is less busy and more defined.



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# Motivational quotes

A new year means new beginnings and fresh starts. These kits act as great reminders of the beauty of being – they'll help you live life to the full and stay balanced in 2020

## What matters most

ALL YOU NEED (021-1746), Janlynn, £9.24

### What's in the kit

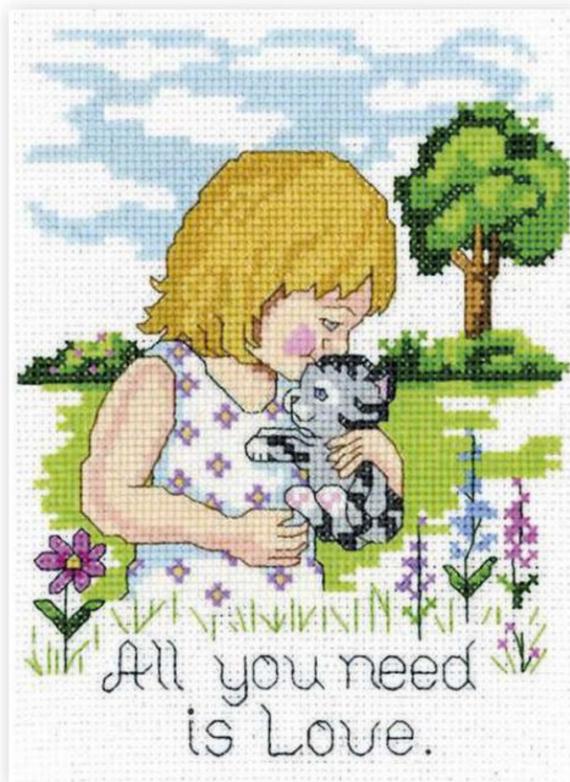
- Black and white chart
- 14-count white aida
- Stranded cotton
- Tapestry needle

### Size of finished design

13x18cm (5x7in)

### Stitching this kit

When things become too much, it can help to take things back to basics. And the most important thing of all? Love. This is a great project for intermediate stitchers and above. The image of a girl holding her cat is such a sweet one that will appeal to all ages, so you could stitch this for an adult who is feeling overwhelmed, or for a child to instill in them this important message for life. As



with all Janlynn kits, the contents are high quality, and the chart a delight to read.

### Where to buy

Visit [www.stitcher.co.uk](http://www.stitcher.co.uk) or call 0161 464 7310 to buy

## Hold onto hope

FRAGILE MIRACLES (9979), Design Works, £30

### What's in the kit

- Black and white chart
- 14-count white aida
- Stranded cotton
- Tapestry needle

### Size of finished design

28x36cm (11x14in)



### Stitching this kit

This Native American-style sampler by Joan Elliott holds a powerful message – to never lose your sense of hope. The dreamcatcher is intricately stitched in cross stitch and backstitch, in 23 shades of thread, making it ideally suited to advanced stitchers. The instructions in the kit are very thorough and the chart is clear, but you may want to use a magnifier to help keep track of the symbols. If you enjoy this kit, similar projects include Dreamcatchers (9294) and Vision of Hope (2354).

### Where to buy

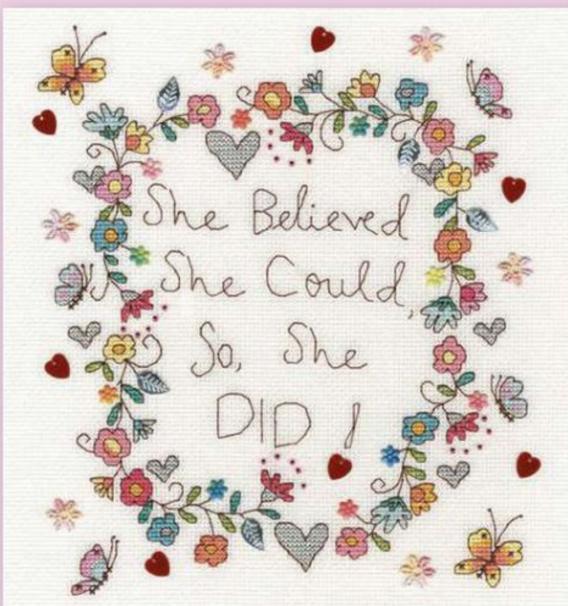
Visit [www.past-impressions.co.uk](http://www.past-impressions.co.uk) or call 020 8335 3930 to buy

## Her own hero

LOVE NOTE (XKA17), Bothy Threads, £26.49

### What's in the kit

- Black and white chart
- 14-count white aida



- Stranded cotton and metallic thread
- Beads, sequins and embellishments
- Tapestry and beading needle

### Size of finished design

23x26cm (9x10¼in)

### Stitching this kit

Help someone tap into their inner strength with this lovely piece, worked in whole stitches and a fair amount of backstitch. It's embellished with pretty beads and flower embellishments, as well as sequin hearts and leaves, while the hearts on the design are stitched in metallic silver – another special touch.

### Where to buy

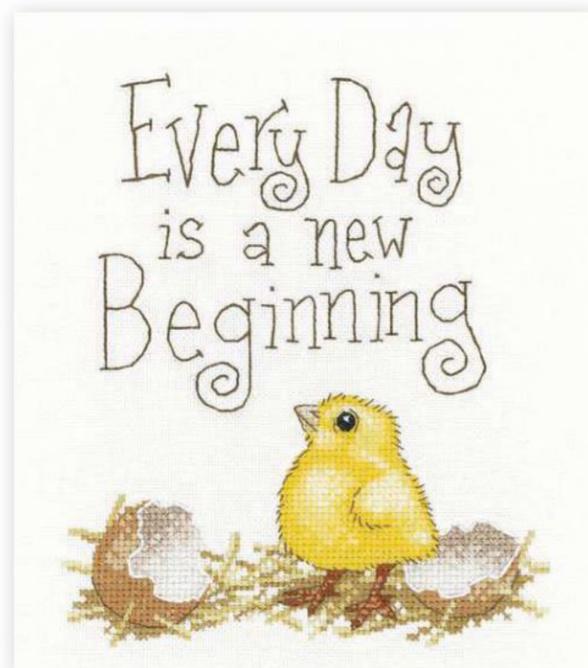
Visit [www.bothythreads.com](http://www.bothythreads.com) or call 01900 828844 to buy

## Fresh start

A NEW BEGINNING (PUNB1526),  
Heritage Crafts, £17.90

### What's in the kit

- Black and white chart
- 27-count ivory evenweave
- DMC stranded cotton
- Tapestry needle



### Size of finished design

14.5x17cm (5¾x6¾in)

### Stitching this kit

It's at this time of year that we think about our resolutions for 2020. But you don't have just one opportunity to reinvent yourself – you get a chance every day, no matter what has gone before. This heartwarming project, by popular designer Peter Underhill, sums this up perfectly. There are two large and clear A3 charts in the kit, one showing the cross stitch and the other, the backstitch and longstitch. The backstitch and longstitch are worked in a combination of one, two and three strands, which brings perspective to the design. The kit is also available with 14-count aida, if that's what you prefer.

### Where to buy

Visit [www.hcrafts.com](http://www.hcrafts.com) or call 01889 575256 to buy

## Spice of life

LIVE WHAT YOU LOVE, Stitchesperation, £25

### What's in the kit

- Black and white chart
- 28-count hand-painted white evenweave
- DMC stranded cotton
- Two tapestry needles

### Size of finished design

20x21cm (9¾x8¼in)

### Stitching this kit

Focus on the things that make you happy and, where possible, forget about the rest! The bright and modern designs from Stitchesperation have made a name for themselves, even appearing on Channel 4's *Craft it Yourself*. And it's easy to see why. The fabric is hand-painted to order, so every kit is truly unique – you just add the stitching to complete your work of art. The fabric in the kit has pre-overlocked edges to prevent fraying, which is a nice touch that stitchers will appreciate. We've reviewed the

28-count evenweave kit, but 14-count aida is another option. You can also opt for different colourways for the painted fabric. This kit is rainbow and the others available are yellow, sunset and neon pink.

### Where to buy

Visit [www.stitchesperation.com](http://www.stitchesperation.com) to find a stockist or to buy online

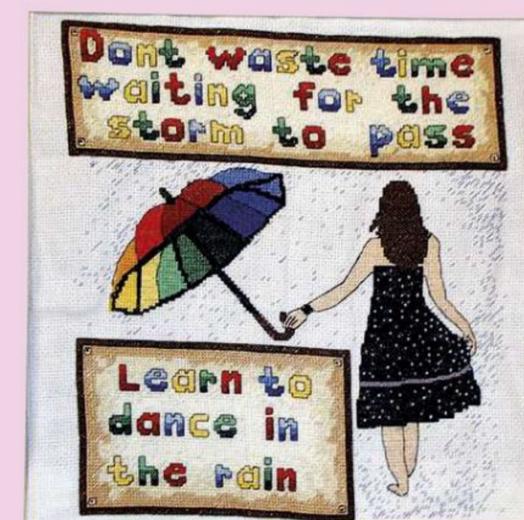


## Live life

DANCE IN THE RAIN (ELAS0017),  
Emma Louise Art Stitch, £34.99

### What's in the kit

- Black and white chart
- 14-count white aida
- Stranded cotton
- Tapestry needle



### Size of finished design

29x26.5cm (11½x10½in)

### Stitching this kit

Embrace life in all its glory, with this bright and contemporary design. It's the perfect winter pick-me-up! Designed by Emma Horan from her studio in St Austell, Cornwall, it's stitched in 20 vibrant shades of stranded cotton, using whole cross stitch and backstitch. The backstitched rain is very effective. Nobody wants to look back on their life and regret not living more, so if you have a friend who needs reminding, don't waste a moment – stitch this for them now.

### Where to buy

Visit [www.emmalouiseartstitch.co.uk](http://www.emmalouiseartstitch.co.uk)

HERE'S YOUR  
CHANCE TO WIN

all these kits, worth over £143!

To enter, send your name and address on a postcard to: Kit Reviews Giveaway, *Cross Stitch Gold* 161, Immediate Media Company Bristol Ltd, Eagle House, Colston Avenue, Bristol BS1 4ST by 14th January 2020. See page 33 for full terms and conditions.

WIN  
THESE  
KITS!

Still to come

# Coming soon in Cross

## Duck family

Stitch our sweet, spring-inspired draught excluder

Issue 162  
On sale  
14th January  
2020 (UK)\*



Cupid hoop



Secret romance

# Stitch Gold...



**Scottish bouquet**



**Pretty hanging**



**Elephant cards**



**Victorian woman**



**Chinese new year**

## Stockist details

Here's your handy directory of the best stitching retailers

### UK STOCKISTS

#### COATS CRAFTS UK

For stockists, visit [www.makeitcoats.com](http://www.makeitcoats.com)

#### CRAFT CREATIONS

Visit [www.craftcreations.com](http://www.craftcreations.com)  
Call 01992 781900

#### DMC CREATIVE WORLD

For stockists, visit [www.dmc.com](http://www.dmc.com)  
Call 01924 231669

#### HOBBYCRAFT

Visit [www.hobbycraft.co.uk](http://www.hobbycraft.co.uk)  
Call 0330 026 1400

#### LAKESIDE NEEDLECRAFT

Visit [www.lakesideneedlecraft.co.uk](http://www.lakesideneedlecraft.co.uk)  
Call 0161 505 1910

#### MADEIRA

For stockists, visit [www.eqasuk.com](http://www.eqasuk.com)  
Call 0116 2710033

#### MILL HILL

For stockists, visit [www.hantex.co.uk/millhill](http://www.hantex.co.uk/millhill)  
Call 011754 820800

#### SEW IT ALL

Visit [www.sewitall.com](http://www.sewitall.com)  
Call 01280 821777

### US STOCKISTS

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Visit [www.123stitch.com](http://www.123stitch.com)  
Call 1-800-996-1230

#### ABC STITCH THERAPY

Visit [www.abcstitch.com](http://www.abcstitch.com)  
Call 1-281-205-7507

#### ARTS CRAFTS USA

Visit [www.artscraftsusa.com](http://www.artscraftsusa.com)  
Call 1-866-621-7779

#### JULIE'S X STITCH

Visit [www.juliesxstitch.com](http://www.juliesxstitch.com)

# Forever yours

Declare your love on Valentine's Day with our Art Deco designs, embellished with pretty pearl beads



Meet the designer  
**Fiona Baker**

Fiona has always had a passion for art and design from an early age, and loves the creativity in her role as Technical Editor for *Cross Stitch Gold*, as well as our sister magazines, *Cross Stitch Crazy* and *The World of Cross Stitching*.

“As well as capturing special moments such as a kiss, a dance or an embrace, I wanted my cards to capture the feel of the 1920s, with distinctive lettering and elegant borders.”

## Stitcher's guide

These designs are worked on 28-count black evenweave over two threads of the fabric in three shades of stranded cotton. Cross stitch is in three strands of cotton, with a few fractionals for extra detail. Backstitch is worked in both one and two strands, while white seed beads add the finishing touch. These cards are recommended for experienced stitchers.

## How to stitch the designs

- 1 Find the centre of your fabric by folding it in half both ways. Find the centre of the chart and start stitching here, working your way outwards.
- 2 Work the cross stitch over two threads of the fabric using three strands of cotton. For every tiny symbol you see on the chart, work a fractional stitch.
- 3 Add the backstitch detail using one or two strands of cotton.
- 4 Attach the seed beads using two strands of cotton.
- 5 Check over your stitching and prepare for making up.

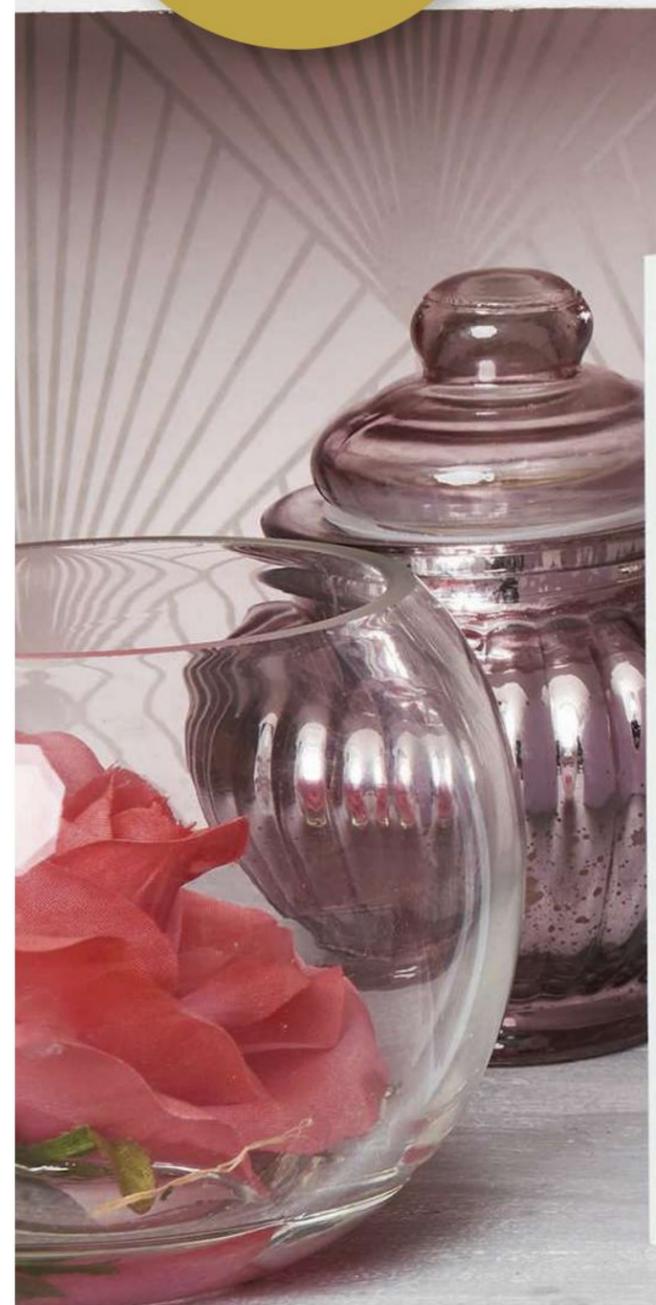
## You will need

- Fabric** Zweigart 28-count black evenweave (3270/720) measuring 20x20cm (7¾x7¾in) for each design
- Threads** Stranded cotton as listed in the key
- Needle** Size 24 tapestry needle; beading needle
- Beads** Mill Hill seed beads as listed in the key
- Extras** Square, white single-fold cards of your choice from local craft stores

FOR STOCKISTS' DETAILS turn to page 59

## Stitch tip

Mix and match the greetings, borders and images to create your perfect card





## How to make up the cards

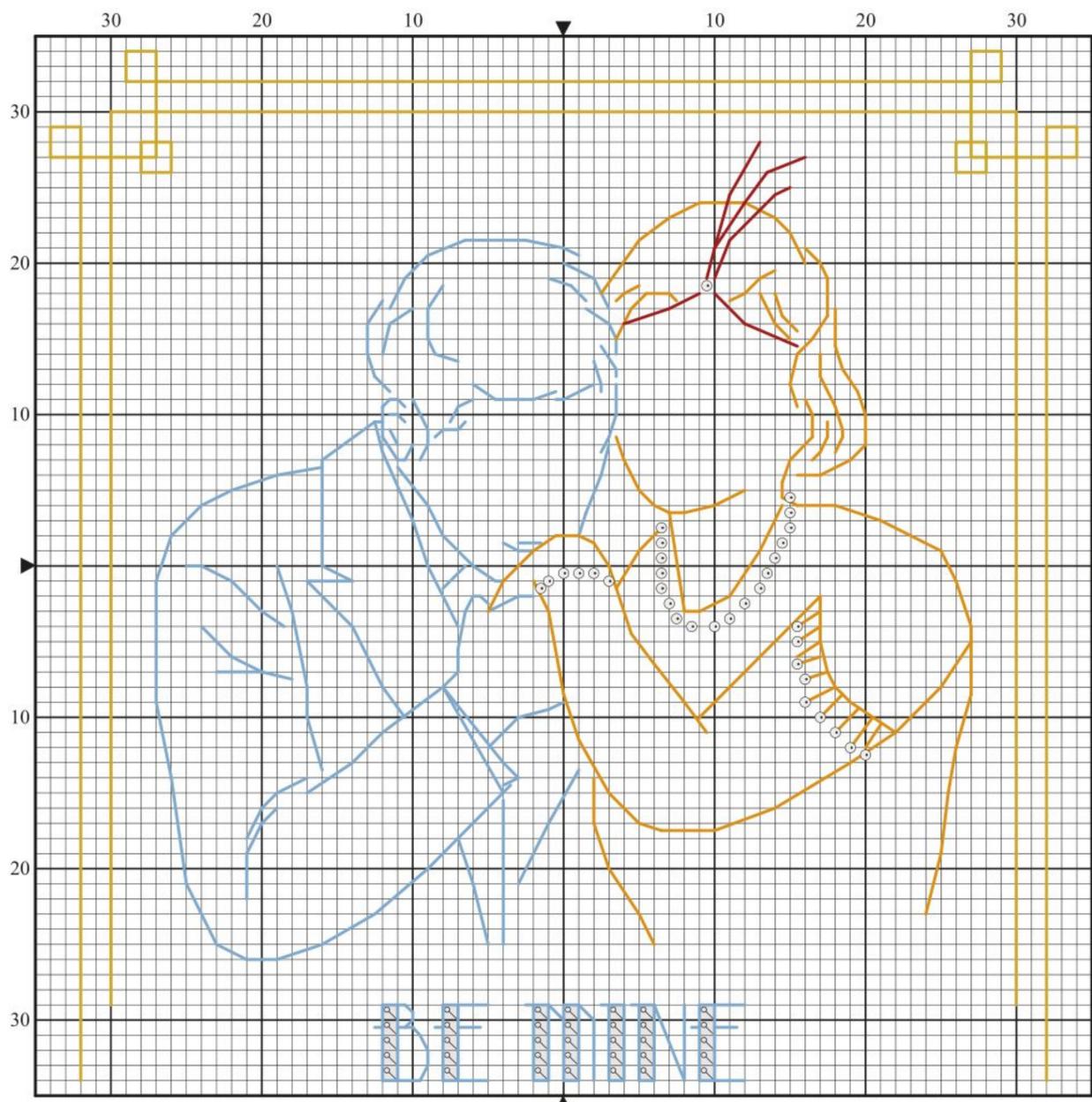
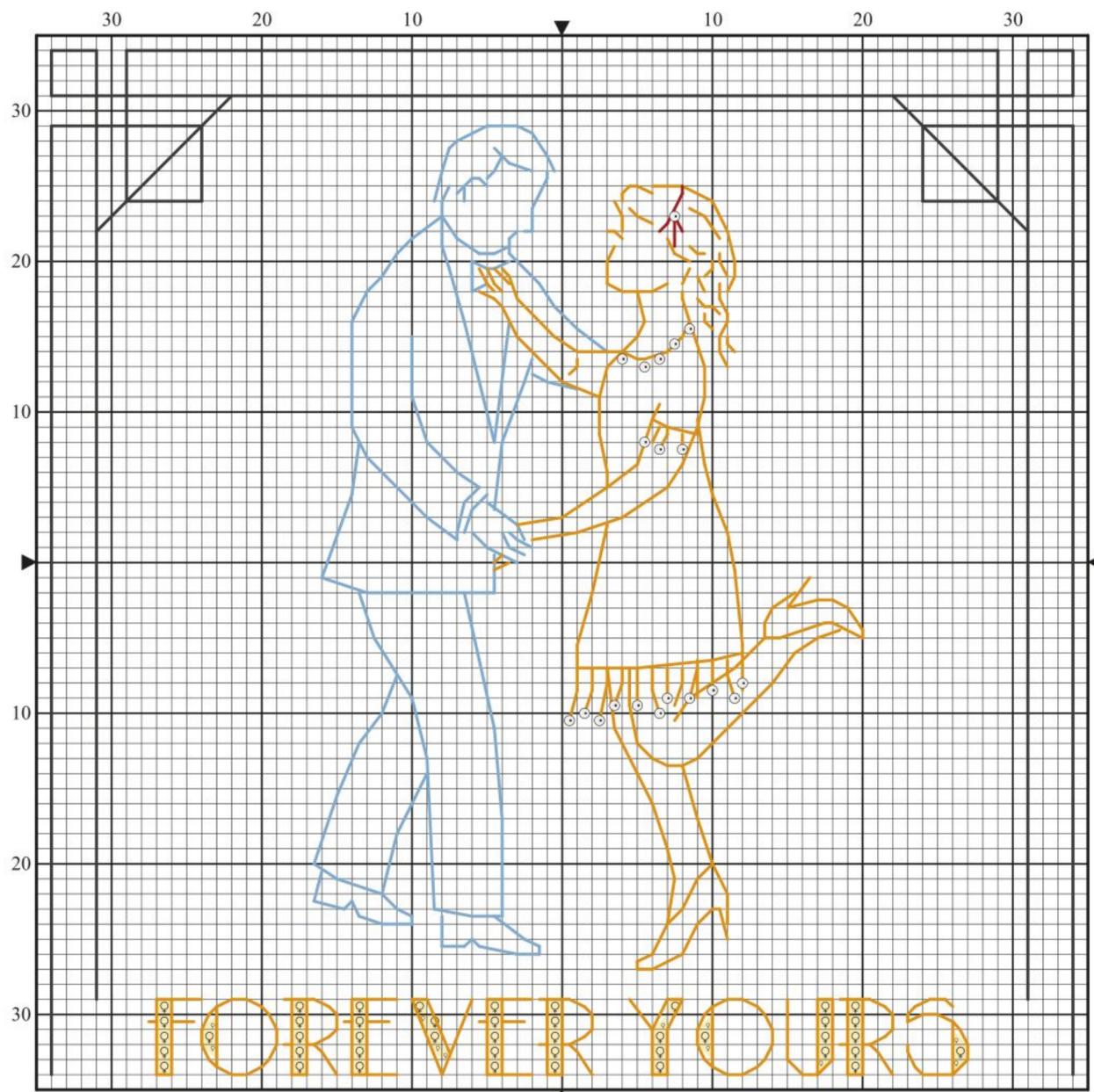
1 Trim your evenweave fabric so that it measures 14x14cm (5½x5½in), with your design positioned centrally, then fray four strands of evenweave all the way around the edge. You can either carefully pull the threads out by hand or use a pair of tweezers.

2 Cut a piece of black paper to a slightly smaller size than your evenweave, and stick this to the back of the stitching using acid-free double-sided tape.

3 Place more strips of double-sided tape to the back of the black paper. Position carefully over the card blank and stick into place.

### Stitch tip

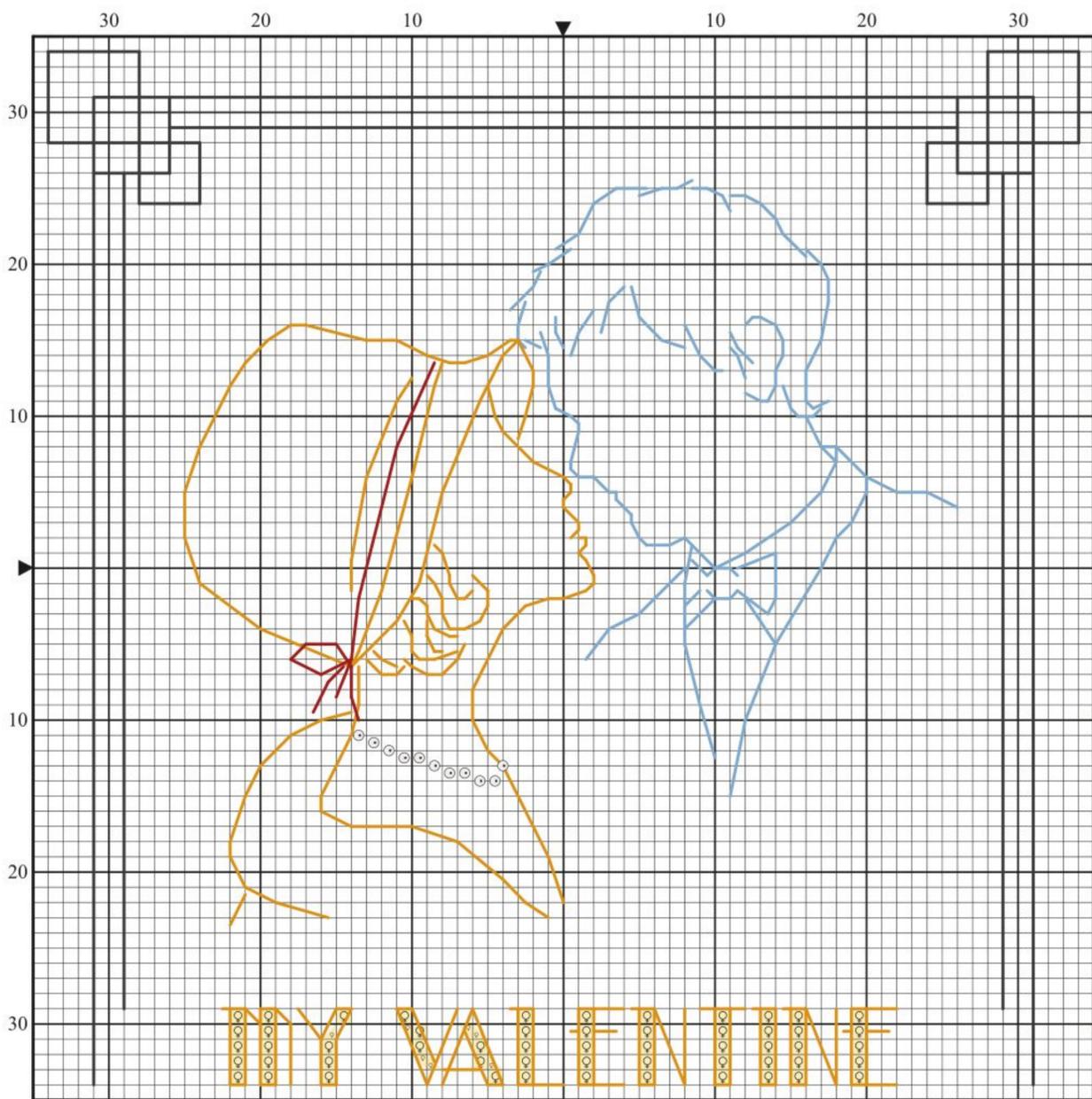
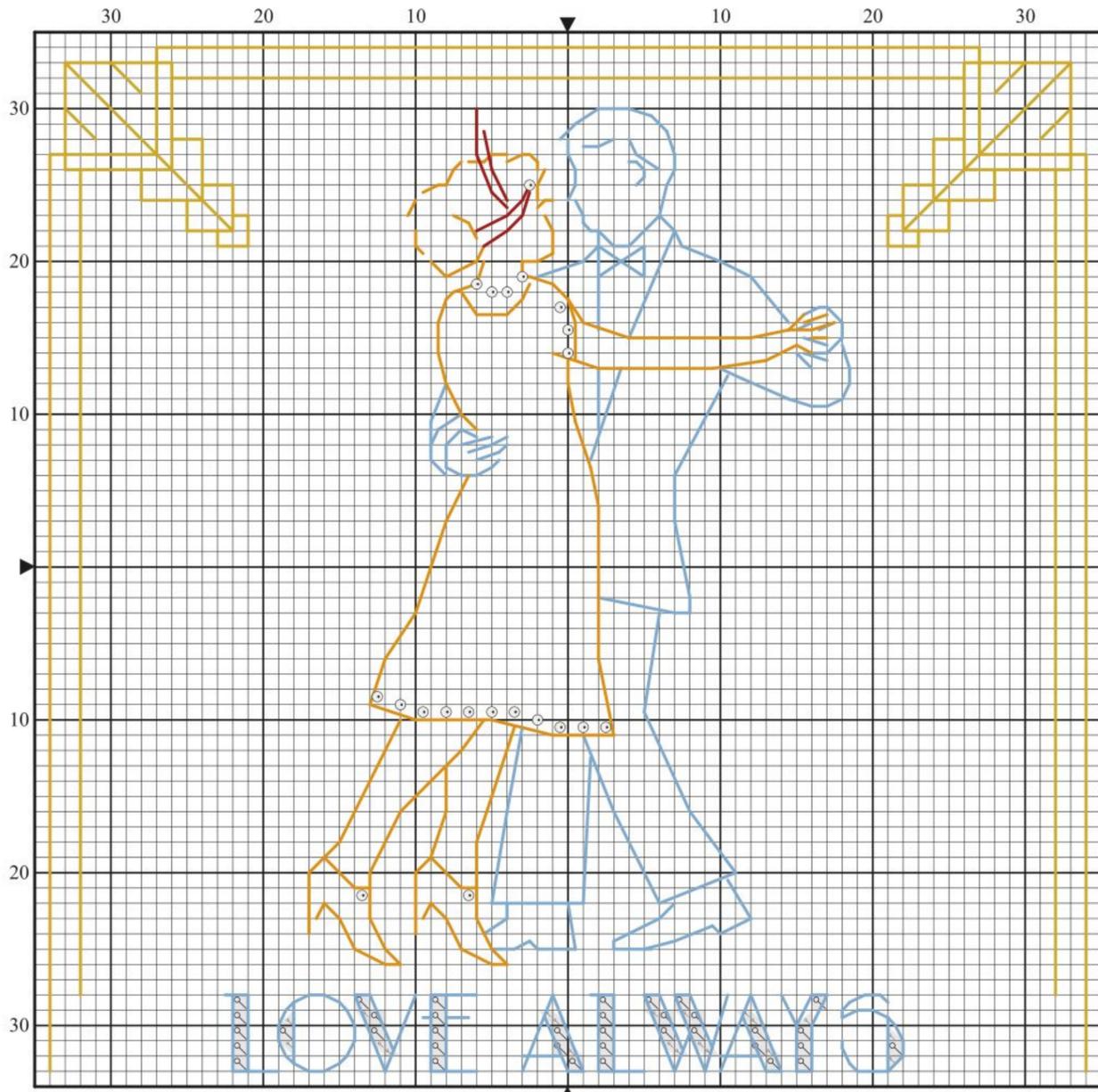
Lay a white pillowcase on your lap as you stitch – this will help you to see the holes in the evenweave more easily



### Creating the look

The colour scheme of these Art Deco cards is 'silver and gold' but you don't actually need sparkly metallic threads to create this look. Designer Fiona has chosen not to use metallics, as they are much harder to stitch with than stranded cotton. Yellow and grey stranded cotton are perfect substitutes for gold and silver, while touches of white thread and white seed beads also add a glamorous pearly effect.





### Art Deco cards key

#### ✦ Cross stitch in three strands

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira	
🔍	415	398	1802	grey
♀	3822	295	2511	yellow

#### ✦ Backstitch in one strand

—	415	398	1802	grey
—	3822	295	2511	yellow

#### ✦ Backstitch in two strands

—	B5200	1	2401	white
—	415	398	1802	grey
—	3822	295	2511	yellow

#### ✦ Mill Hill seed beads

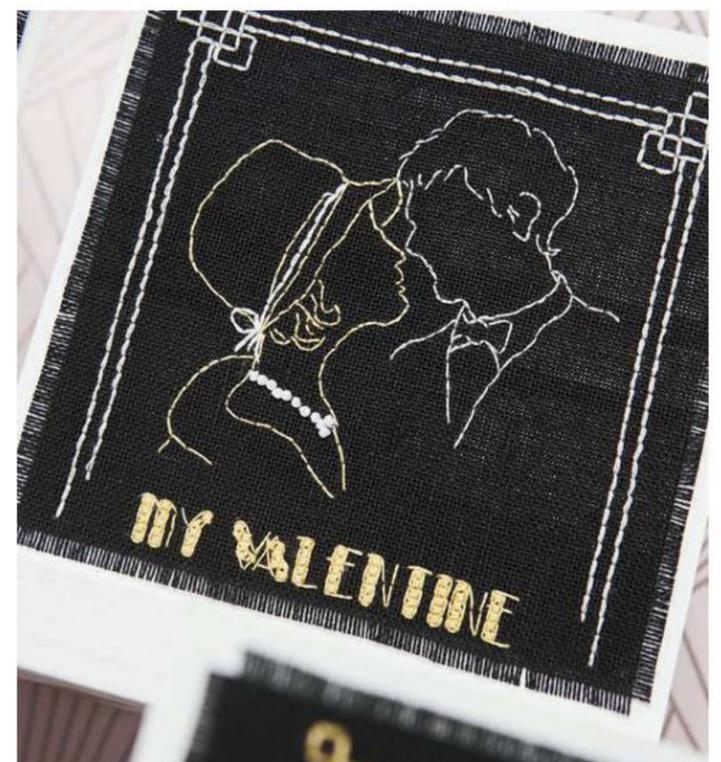
○	00479			white
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**MAXIMUM STITCH COUNT** 68 high x 68 wide

**DESIGN AREA** 14 HPI (28-count evenweave) – 12.5x12.5cm (4¾x4¾in)

**STITCHED BY** Joanne Hayward

These designs were stitched using DMC stranded cotton and Mill Hill seed beads on 28-count evenweave over two threads of the fabric



**“These silhouette-style cards will be fairly quick to stitch as they mainly use backstitch, with a touch of cross stitch and beading. You could easily finish one in a weekend or over a few evenings.”**

*Zeena Moolla, Editor*



**FIONA BAKER**  
TECHNICAL EDITOR

# Stitching guide

Use the handy diagrams and basic cross stitch advice on these pages to help you get the most out of the designs in *Cross Stitch Gold*

## How to read our charts

All our charts are printed in both colour and symbols. Each square on a cross stitch chart contains a symbol, and each symbol corresponds with one stitch.

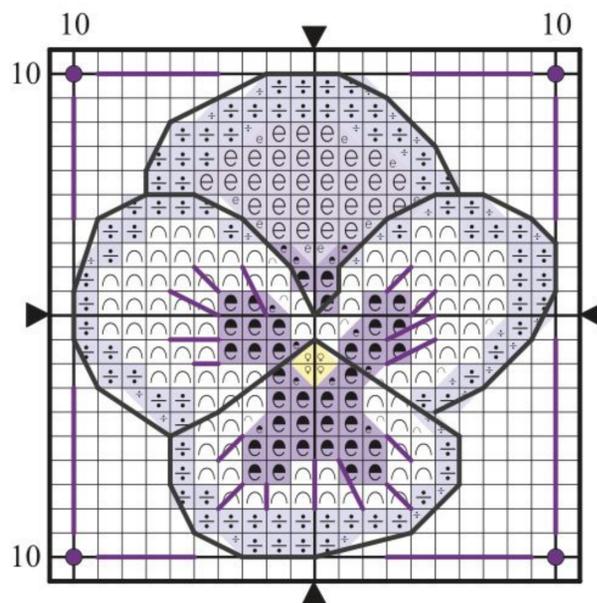
The key tells you what thread colour each symbol corresponds to, and how many strands to use for each cross stitch, backstitch or French knot. It also gives you the design's dimensions, to help you cut your fabric to size.

The thread numbers listed in the first column of the key refer to the brand that we've used to stitch the design. Conversions for two other brands are given, but they're not always exact equivalents. Avoid mixing more than one brand in the same design. Sometimes you'll need more than one skein of a certain colour, but there shouldn't be a problem with dye lots if you use the brands quoted in the key.

Each project also includes a shopping list telling you what type and size of fabric to use, what size frame you'll need, and if extra materials are required.

## Where to start stitching

Start stitching from your chart in the centre of the design – this is the point on the chart where the two black centre lines marked with arrows cross – and work outwards. Refer to the key for the colours and number of strands to use. To find the centre of your fabric, fold it in half both horizontally and vertically. The centre point will be where these folds intersect. Mark this point with a pin, or run a line of tacking thread along each fold using one strand of a pale colour thread. Bind the raw edges of your fabric to prevent them from fraying while you're stitching by hemming them using a zigzag stitch on your sewing machine, or by folding masking tape over the edges.



## Pansy key

### ✕ Cross stitch in two strands

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira	
∩	B5200	1	2401	white
e	155	1030	902	purple
÷	156	939	2702	light purple
♀	307	289	104	yellow
●	333	119	903	dark purple

### ✕ Backstitch in one strand

—	333	119	903	dark purple
—	844	1041	1809	grey

### ✕ French knots in one strand

●	333	119	903	dark purple
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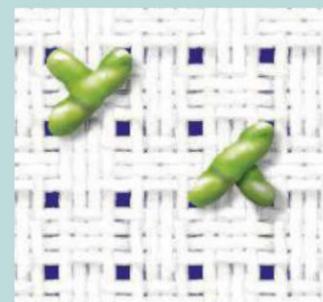
**STITCH COUNT** 20 high x 20 wide

**DESIGN AREA** 14 HPI (28-count evenweave) – 3.5x3.5cm (1½x1½in)

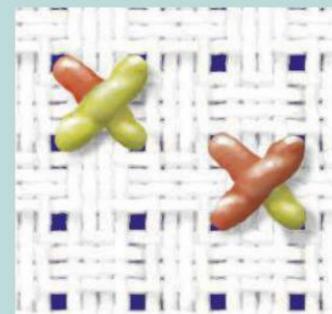
This design was stitched using DMC stranded cotton

## Fractional stitches

A tiny symbol in the corner of a square on a chart is a fractional stitch; it's worked in the same colour as the large version of the symbol. If there's

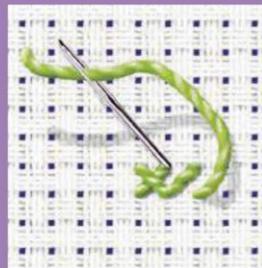


only one tiny symbol, work a three-quarter stitch (a half cross stitch and a quarter stitch). Bring your needle up at the corner of the square, then take it down at the centre of the square. You'll have to pierce aida fabric (but not if you're stitching over two threads on evenweave). Add a half cross stitch (see top diagram). When two different symbols share a square, make a quarter stitch in one colour and a three-quarter stitch in the other. Use the three-quarter stitch for the object that's meant to be in front in the picture, and the quarter stitch for the background colour.



## How to cross stitch

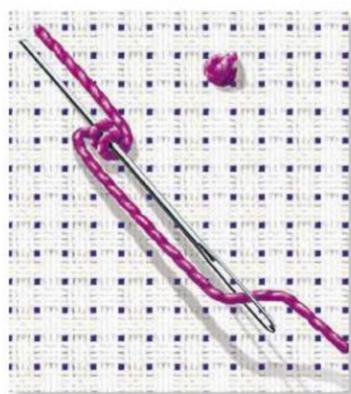
Thread your needle with the correct number of strands. Find the centre points on the chart and your fabric to work out where to start. Bring the needle up through the fabric at the bottom-left corner of the square, leaving the end of the thread on the back. Take it down at the top-right to make a half cross; bring it up again at the bottom-right corner, securing the end of thread on the back; take it down at the top-left corner to form a cross. Work each cross stitch so



that the top halves lie in the same direction. This will make your finished stitching look neat and tidy. If you're working a block of stitches in the same colour, stitch a row of half crosses first, before completing each cross on the return journey.

## Backstitch

Backstitch outlines are worked on top of the cross stitches to add detail. They can run in any direction. Bring the needle up, then take it down one square behind. Bring it up again two squares in front and take it down one square behind. Continue in this way, following the chart.



## French knots

French knots are shown as dots on the chart. Bring your needle up through the fabric, hold the thread taut in your left hand and wrap the needle around it twice. Push the needle back into the fabric, close to where it came up, keeping the thread taut. Pull the thread through until a neat knot is formed on the front.

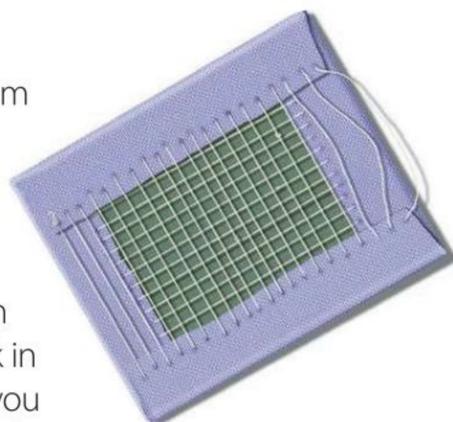
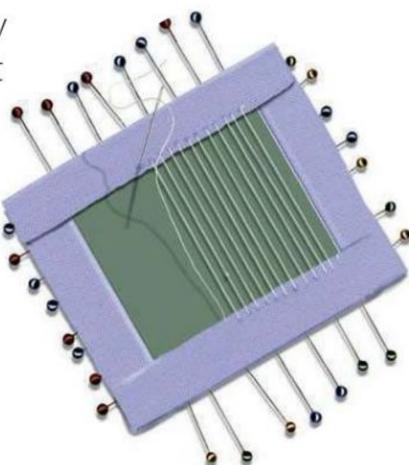
## Washing and lacing

To wash your stitching, immerse it in warm water with a little detergent, and rinse it well in cold water. Press it on the back while still damp using an iron on a medium setting. Pad your ironing board with a fluffy towel and push the point of the iron into the back of your stitches, to give them a raised appearance on the front. The best way to stretch your work out over a mount board before framing is to lace it with crochet cotton:

1 Cut your mount board to the size of the frame aperture. Lay the stitching right side up on the white side of the board. Once you are happy with the positioning of the fabric, push a line of pins down each side into the board, as shown (above right).

2 Check your stitching is lined up, then trim the fabric, leaving a 5cm (2in) border. Fold the excess over the back of the board. Thread your needle with a long length of crochet cotton, knot the end and lace two opposite sides together on the back. Start at one end and work in an 'under-and-over' motion. When you reach the other end, adjust the laced threads one by one, before finishing off.

3 Repeat this process on the two remaining edges. Fold down the corners and stitch in place, then remove the pins and put your work in its frame.



## Changing thread colour

Finish off the colour you're working with by weaving your needle through a line of four or five stitches on the back of the fabric and pulling the thread through. Cut the thread close to where it emerges. Rethread with the new colour. When restarting, leave a short tail of thread at the back of the fabric and cover this with your first few stitches to secure it.

## Adding beads

Some designs use seed beads to add detail. These appear as filled dots on the chart and are listed in the key.



Add each bead with a half cross stitch. Bring your needle up at the bottom-left corner, thread a bead on your needle and take it down at the top-right. For extra security, work the top half of the cross as well, with one strand of thread either side of the bead. You'll need a beading needle or size 28 tapestry needle for this.

## Aida or evenweave?

Most stitchers start off using aida – a block-weave fabric divided into squares by a grid of holes. Each cross stitch is worked over one square. Some experienced stitchers prefer evenweaves such as jobelan or linen. They're also woven in a grid but come in a finer count, eg 28- or 32-count. Each cross stitch is worked over two threads of the fabric. Bring the needle up at the bottom-left corner of the square and take it down two holes across and two holes up.



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# Go for Gold!

Tackle this issue's crossword puzzle and you could win a great prize!

Solve the clues, then rearrange the letters in the shaded squares to spell a European mountain range (8)

## ACROSS

- 1 Cold, spicy Italian sausage (6)  
 8 Job applicant (9)  
 9 Quite damp (7)  
 10 Fast contact sport played in a rink (3,6)  
 11 Hedging shrub (3)  
 12 Embroidery threads (7)  
 15 Make heavy demands on (3)  
 17 Lacy ornamental mat (5)  
 18 Do well (7)  
 20 Headdress worn by a bishop (5)  
 21 Spider's creation (3)  
 23 Thrift (7)  
 28 Information (3)  
 29 Cajun rice dish (9)  
 31 Token (7)  
 33 Disinclined (9)  
 34 Dismayed and stunned (6)

## DOWN

- 1 Toothed tool (3)  
 2 Chief source of natural rubber (5)  
 3 Principal gas or water pipe (4)  
 4 Certainly (6)  
 5 Shaggy-haired wild ox (5)  
 6 Hooded windproof jacket (5)  
 7 Transparent gemstone (5)  
 8 Major US city on Lake Michigan (7)  
 11 Tiny section (3)  
 13 Sort (4)  
 14 Melancholy (4)  
 16 Corrosive substance (4)  
 17 Metal container for oil (4)  
 19 Tapering flag on a masthead (7)  
 22 Throw away (3)  
 24 Short wide fabric strip worn round the neck (6)  
 25 Sea inlet between Norwegian cliffs (5)  
 26 Plenty (5)  
 27 Month (5)  
 28 Rich fruit cake topped with nuts (5)  
 30 Thick polluted mist (4)  
 32 Rent out (3)

## ISSUE 159 SOLUTION:

ACROSS: 1 Sheaf, 4 Mark Twain, 9 Genre, 10 Equal, 11 Niche, 13 Glisten, 14 Inhibit, 15 Hop, 17 Pumpkin, 19 Eel, 21 Caribou, 23 Terrain, 24 Great, 25 Ounce, 27 Trout, 29 Concealed, 30 Yield.

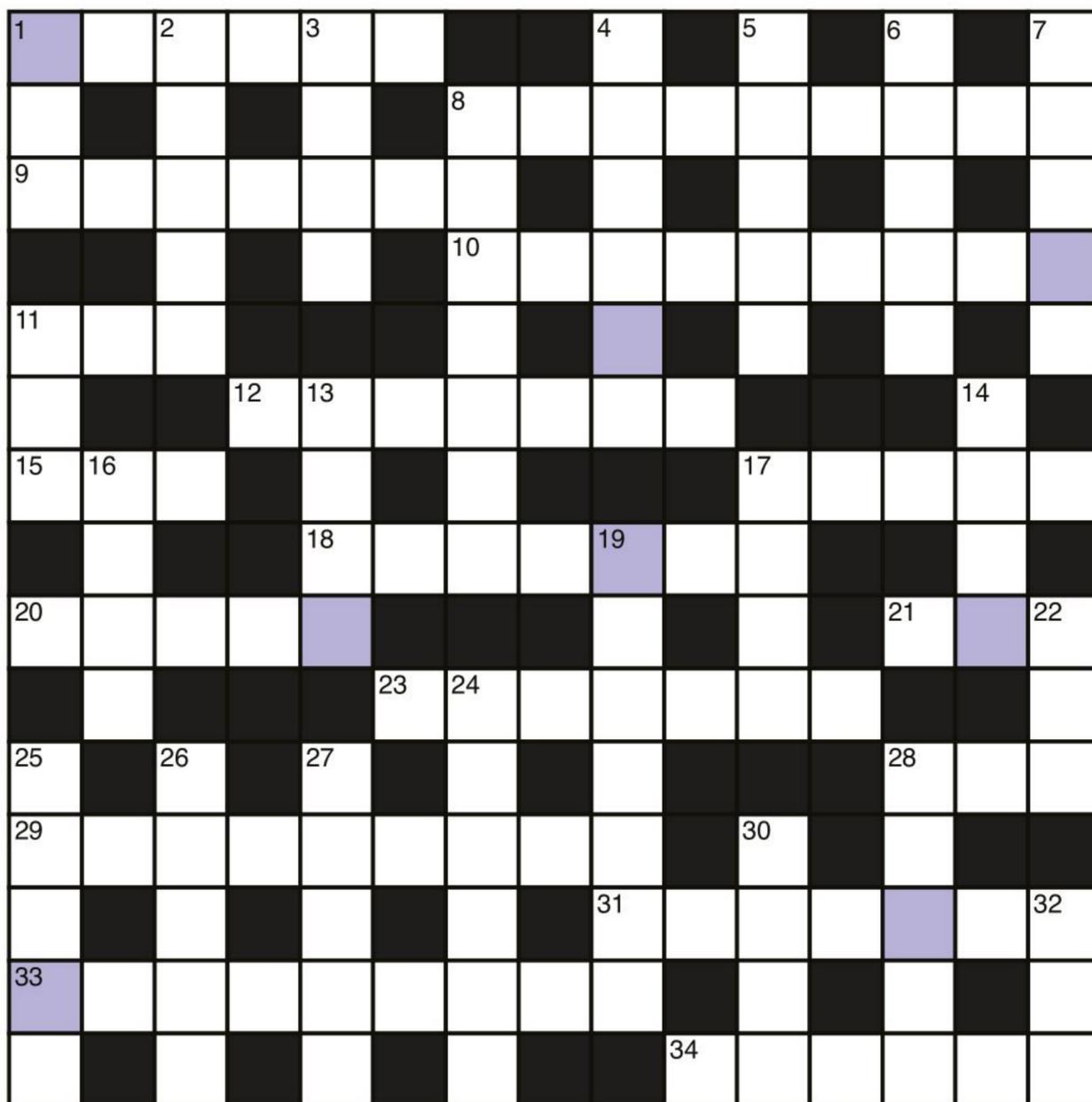
DOWN: 1 Strength, 2 Ecu, 3 Full stop, 4 Magnanimous, 5 Run, 6 Trench, 7 Amicable, 8 Nicest, 12 Kick-started, 16 Parmesan, 18 Narrowly, 20 Lingered, 21 Cognac, 22 Battle, 26 Nile, 28 Owl.

SOLUTION: BARBADOS

## Win this kit worth £29.49

Find the correct answer to our crossword puzzle below for the chance to win this fabulous Hair Brained kit from Wrendale Designs worth £29.49, courtesy of Bothy Threads.

Go to [www.bothythreads.com](http://www.bothythreads.com) to view the full collection of Bothy Threads kits, or call 01900 828844 to order by phone



## How to enter:

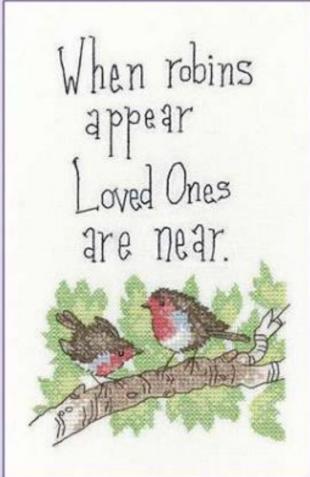
Once you've completed the crossword, rearrange the letters in the coloured squares to spell out the name of a European mountain range (8) and post your answer for the chance to win a Hair Brained kit from Bothy Threads, worth £29.49! Send your answer, name and address on a postcard to: Cross Stitch Gold 161 Crossword, Immediate Media Company Bristol Ltd, Eagle House, Colston Avenue, Bristol BS1 4ST.

The closing date for entries is 14th January 2020. For full terms and conditions turn to page 33.

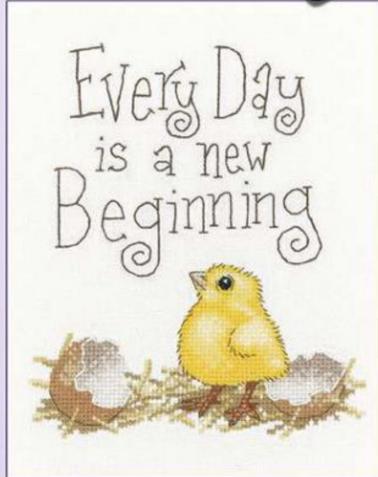


# HERITAGE Crafts

Working with talented artists to produce beautiful counted cross stitch designs



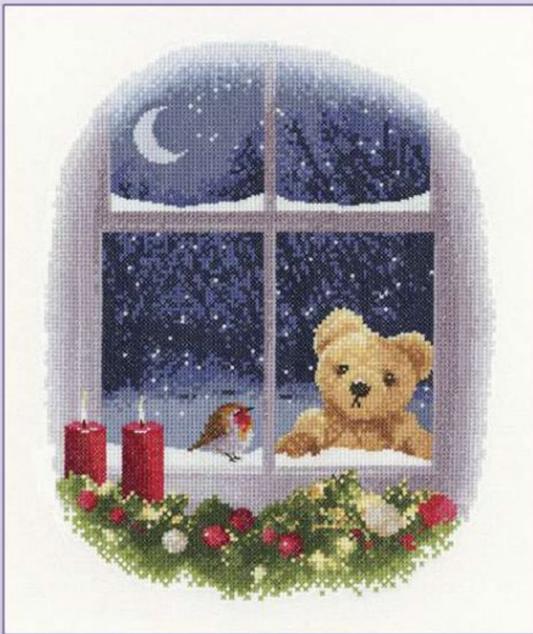
When Robins Appear - 10.5 x 17cm  
by Peter Underhill



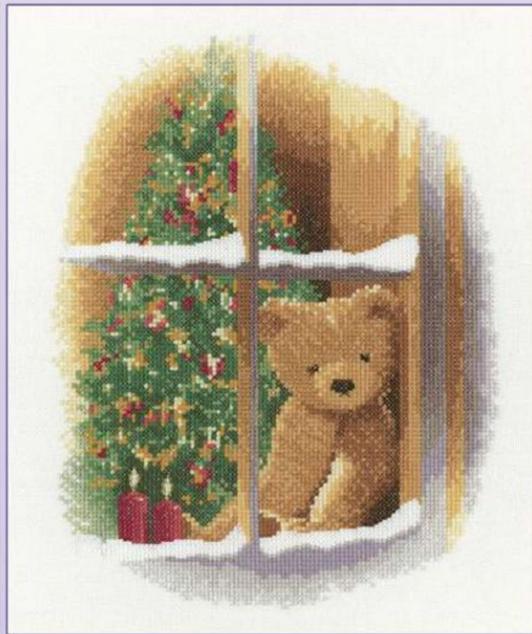
A New Beginning - 14.5 x 17cm  
by Peter Underhill



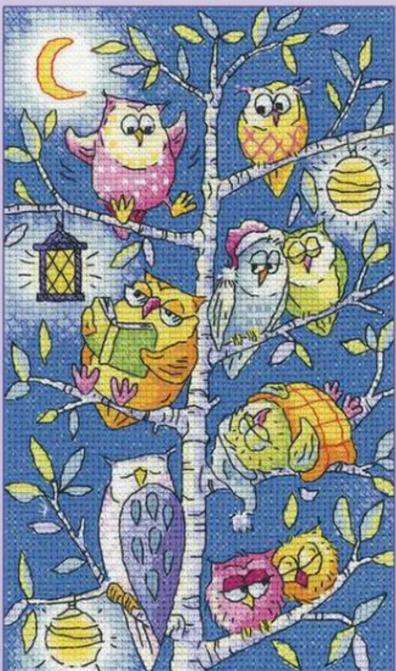
Home Sweet Home - 12.5 x 17cm  
by Peter Underhill



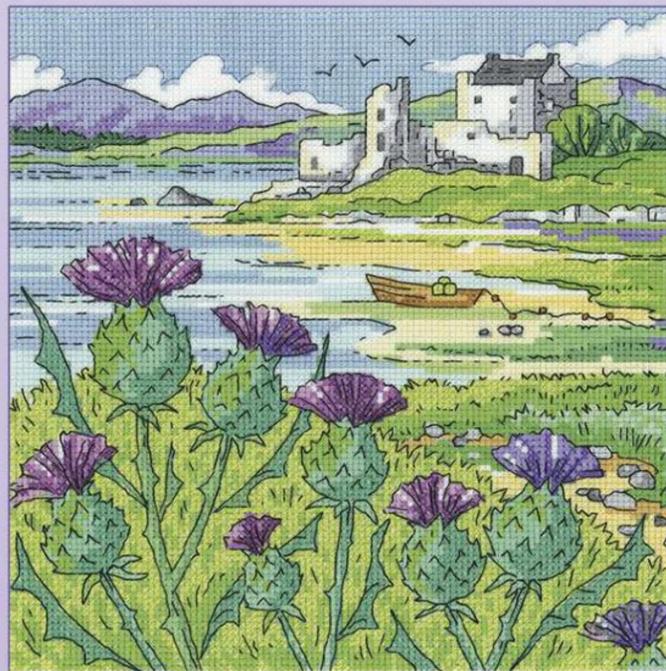
William and Robin - 19.5 x 25cm - by John Clayton



William at Christmas - 19.5 x 25cm - by John Clayton



Tree of Owls - 12 x 20cm - by Karen Carter



Thistle Shore - 20.5 x 20.5cm - by Karen Carter



Robin in Winter - 15 x 21cm - by Nigel Artingstall



Blue Tit - 15 x 21cm - by Nigel Artingstall



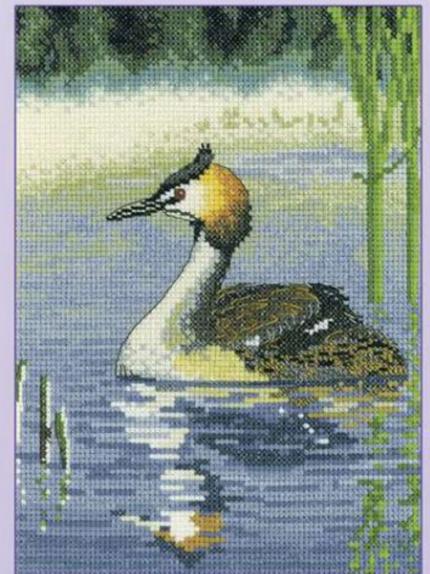
Hare - 15 x 21cm - by Nigel Artingstall



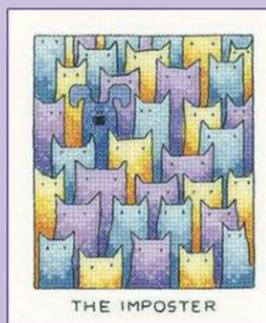
Kingfisher - 15 x 21cm - by Nigel Artingstall



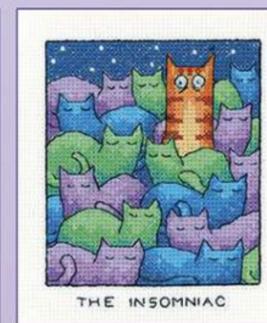
Wood Mouse - 15 x 21cm - by Nigel Artingstall



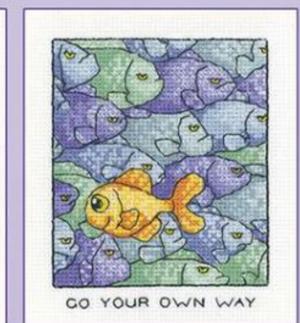
Grebe - 15 x 21cm - by Nigel Artingstall



The Imposter  
9 x 11.5cm - by Peter Underhill



The Insomniac  
9 x 11.5cm - by Peter Underhill



Your Own Way  
9 x 11.5cm - by Peter Underhill

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