

No.1 for trends

ISSUE 273  
DECEMBER 2013

# Cross Stitcher

MORE IDEAS • MORE STYLE • MORE INSPIRATION

**90**  
NEW DESIGNS  
TO STITCH  
WITH LOVE

## Home for Christmas



Fawn over our vintage designs



**FESTIVE CHEER**  
Stitch yourself a very merry message



**WISE GIFT IDEAS**  
Make this pair of playful hand warmers



**FOREST FRIENDS**  
Treat little ones to these wintry creatures

**TAKE A BOW**  
Stitch on felt for extra special accessories



### DRESSING UP FESTIVE STYLE!

The latest looks for decorations and your Christmas table

# IT'S A WRAP

Give your gift wrapping a personal touch by stitching up these colourful Christmas motifs and mounting on rustic or patterned tags

Designed by: Lucie Heaton Design size: 6x6cm Stitch time: 2 hours each



## Materials

- 14 count white aida, 10x10cm each
- Red stripe or brown card, cut into a tag shape
- Baker's twine
- White card (optional)

*If you don't have striped card, try glueing some festive paper to plain card before cutting out*

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
<b>Cross stitch in two strands</b>			
○	B5200	001	2401
■	318	235	1801
~	726	295	0109
☆	912	209	1213
×	977	1002	2301
♥	996	1090	1103
▲	3801	1098	0411
<b>Backstitch in one strand</b>			
—	413	236	1713
	all details		
<b>French knots in one strand</b>			
●	413	236	1713
	eyes		

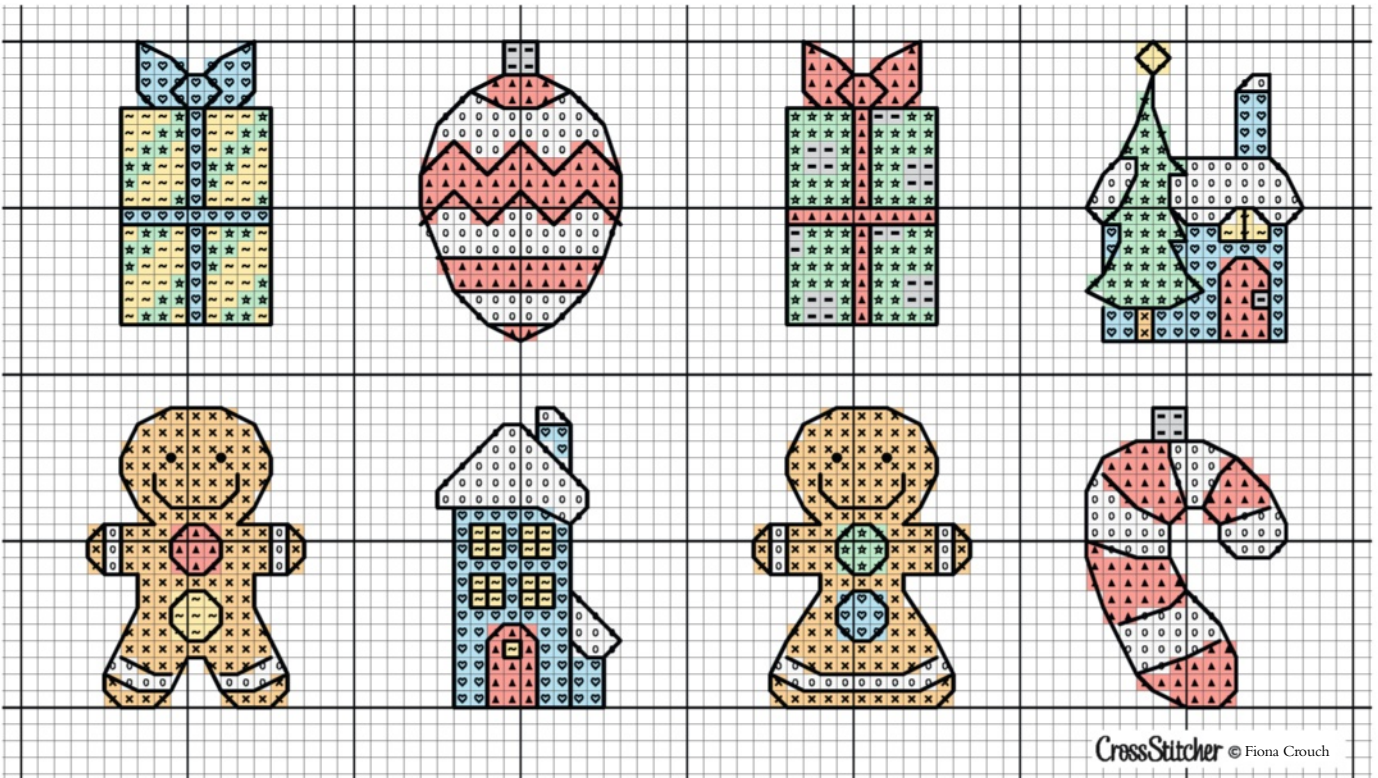
## Make a... gift tag

### Step 1

**ONCE** you've finished your stitching, trim your aida to fit your tag and fray the outer row of aida blocks all the way around. Back with white card.

### Step 2

**ATTACH** your stitching to the tag using double-sided tape. Punch a hole at the top of the tag. Loop a piece of baker's twine through to finish.



CrossStitcher © Fiona Crouch

## EXCLUSIVE!

**EVERY** issue our digital readers get an exclusive **FREE** woodland character chart, designed by Lucie Heaton. This month we've got cute as a button Percy Penguin. Download back issues to collect them all!



**MEET PERCY**  
AT THE  
BACK OF  
THE MAG



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Not for trends!

## CrossStitcher

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ISSUE 270 SEPTEMBER 2013

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# Welcome

Stitch treats and treasures for Christmas



## WE ADORE THIS TIME OF YEAR.

Snuggling up in chunky knits, going for walks on frosty mornings and browsing craft markets for Christmas inspiration bring us so much enjoyment. Plus, there's no better excuse than the cold, dark evenings for curling up by the fire to stitch gifts for family and friends, and gorgeous decorations for our home!

The perfect centrepiece for our festive display, Rebecca Tuffnell's house ornaments (1) will look super-cosy in flickering candle light. And their bright palette will keep us smiling even when winter's weather takes a turn for the worse.

In love with all things kitsch, we can't wait to complete Angela Poole's snowy fawn cushion (2) for our sofa, while Floss & Mischief's stylish napkins (3) and placemats will ensure our Christmas dining table looks nothing but elegant.

Finally, if you need gift inspiration, you've come to the right place! This issue is brimming with ideas, and none more cute than our owl handwarmers (4). Happy Christmas crafting!



## Winter warmers!

Stitch all you need for cosy nights in, with our inspiration-packed January issue (on sale 13 Dec)

Charlie

COMMISSIONING EDITOR



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twitter.com/XStitchmagazine



[www.crossstitchermagazine.co.uk](http://www.crossstitchermagazine.co.uk)

# CrossStitcher Contents



**25** Christmas house ornaments

**FREE**  
Digital Exclusive



*Percy Penguin*

Just one of our  
collectible series  
in every issue!



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SWIPE FOR MORE CONTENTS

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THE **SavvyStitcher**  
Try something new!

### Hoops with style

Turn embroidery hoops into fun frames for your stitching

THE SAVVY  
STITCHER  
HOOPS WITH  
STYLE  
73

Never miss a  
single stitch!

PAGE 12  
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AND SAVE



SENSATIONAL  
FESTIVE SAVINGS!

# GIVE THAT SPECIAL SOMEONE THE PERFECT GIFT THIS CHRISTMAS!

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PRESSIE IDEA



**Mollie Makes** is a lifestyle and craft magazine which brings you the best of craft online, a look inside the homes of the world's most creative crafters, tutorials on inspiring makes and round ups of the most covetable stash. Plus, receive a free gift and a bonus project with every issue!

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**Simply Crochet** is a monthly craft magazine from the makers of *Simply Knitting* and *Mollie Makes*. This new title is a celebration of all things crochet and is packed with inspiring patterns, gorgeous photos and helpful advice. Plus there's a free gift with every issue!

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Bring your festive decoration right up to date with this striking sampler

Designed by: Emma Congdon

Design size: 18x16cm

Stitch time: 12 hours

# MERRY LITTLE CHRISTMAS



## Make a garland

### Step 1

**TRIM** around your stitching, leaving at least one unstitched block all the way around, and a tab at the top.

### Step 2

**ATTACH** your birds to a piece of baker's twine with mini clothes pegs. Or simply string them on using the perforations.

## Materials

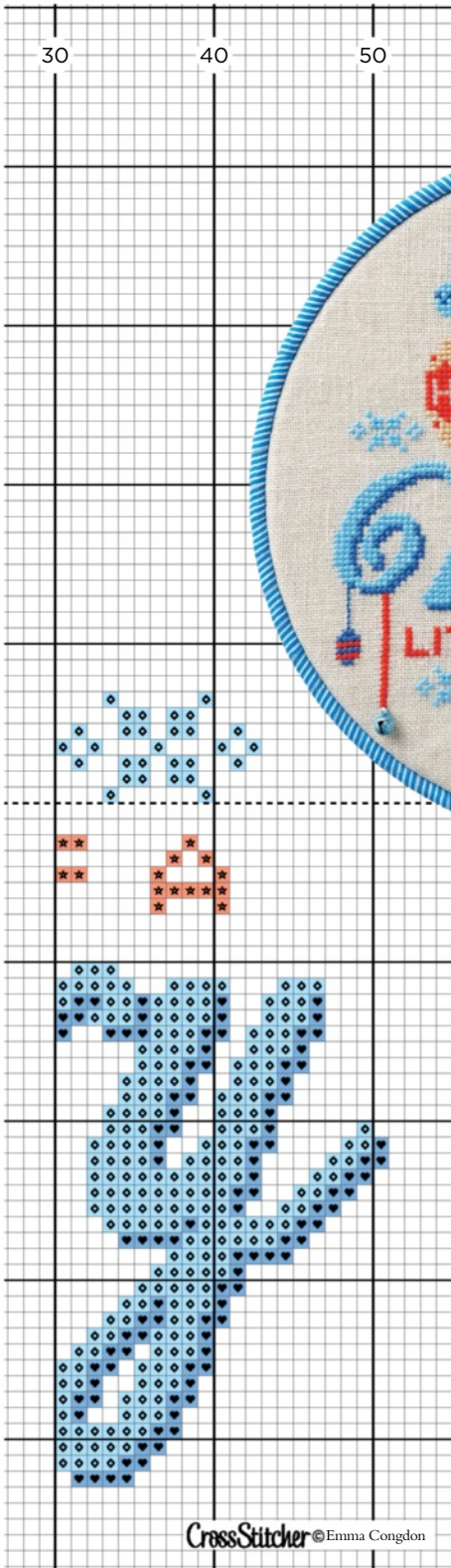
- 28 count rustic linen, 40x40cm
- 20cm (8in) wooden embroidery hoop
- Self-adhesive fabric tape
- Backing fabric, 30x30cm
- Felt, 20x20cm (optional)

For stockist details see page 84

Visit our website

[www.crossstitchermagazine.co.uk](http://www.crossstitchermagazine.co.uk)  
to download a bonus sampler design

CrossStitcher  
**MATERIALS  
 PACKS**  
 GET YOURS  
 ON PAGE 64



CrossStitcher © Emma Congdon

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
Cross stitch in three strands			
★	606	334	0209
×	738	361	2013
♥	825	162	1011
◇	996	1090	1103 (2)
Backstitch in two strands			
—	825	162	1011
all details			

(2) indicates more than one skein required

## How to... mount your work

### Step 1



**PEEL** the backing paper away from the beginning of your tape and stick to your hoop, close to the top. Wind the tape around your hoop, peeling away a small section of backing paper at a time.

### Step 2



**TRIM** your stitching and backing fabric into a circle slightly larger than your hoop. Place the inside hoop beneath your work and the outer hoop on top. Pull your fabric edges taut and tighten the screw.

### Step 3



**USING** a glue gun or double-sided tape, attach the first layer of fabric, pulling taut as you go. Repeat for the second layer. Glue a circle of felt over the back of your hoop for a smooth finish.

### Stitch it on aida!

If you'd rather stitch on aida, choose a 14 count rustic aida



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# Outthere

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

## We Wish You a Merry Christmas

It's not long to go until the big day, and we're sure your preparations are in full swing now! If you're still on the hunt for last-minute gift and decoration inspiration, check out The Contemporary Home for an amazing array of Scandi-inspired goodies. [www.tch.net](http://www.tch.net)



Out there



## CLOCK AND ROLL

**WE LOVE** the trend for stitching on unexpected surfaces. This eye-catching clock by contemporary embroidery label Curious Doodles is made from wood, and is laser cut with holes ready for you to stitch straight into. The rich red yarn is super-tactile against the smooth surface, and the floral pattern ensures the right balance of modern and traditional. [www.curiousdoodles.com](http://www.curiousdoodles.com)



## Hello Birdie

*This chirpy little red-breasted cutie is just so well-dressed in his Liberty-print suit. He comes in several different sizes, so you can pick which one works best for your home – or buy the set for an adorable display!* [www.thelifestyleboutique.co.uk](http://www.thelifestyleboutique.co.uk)

## BUSY BEE

**BSTUDIO IS** an online shop selling an array of beautiful ribbon embroidery. This delicate honey bee pendant is perfect for reminding us of the joy of spring during these cold winter months. [www.bstudio.etsy.com](http://www.bstudio.etsy.com)



## COSYING UP

**TEXTILE DESIGNER** Charlotte Macey creates gorgeous embroidered homewares in her Cotswold studio. We love her Christmas range featuring festive characters and figgy puddings, such as this cute egg cosy. [www.charlottemacey.co.uk](http://www.charlottemacey.co.uk)



## WALLS APART

**GIVE YOUR** home some seriously luxe treatment with this decadent embroidery wallpaper. Printed with a mural of an embroidery design, it has a matt finish with a repeating pattern – perfect for creating a feature wall in any crafty home. [www.notonthehighstreet.com/fiftyonepercent](http://www.notonthehighstreet.com/fiftyonepercent)



## Pin Up Girl

**NO MORE** rummaging around in jars and boxes for your craft supplies – keep them close at hand (and beautifully presented) with this ingenious 53cm-long safety pin hanger. Already have a perfectly organised craft space? Use it to hang up hand towels or dish cloths, instead! [www.notonthehighstreet.com/gertieandmabel](http://www.notonthehighstreet.com/gertieandmabel)





## SCANDI SANTAS

**WE'VE BEEN** big fans of Devon-based Jane Foster's colourful, screen-printed Scandinavian designs for a while now. These cuddly Santas, screen-printed in the UK using water-based inks, make perfect stocking fillers for children – and are so stylish that they're sure to be a hit with the grown-ups, too!  
[www.hunkydoryhome.co.uk](http://www.hunkydoryhome.co.uk)

## Hang Time

**FORGET GAUDY** or old-fashioned decorations this Christmas and treat your tree to a slick makeover with these geometric ornaments. Packaged as a set of four, each one is laser cut, dip dyed and strung with baker's twine. Hung prominently from branches, they are sure to add a contemporary feel your festive display. For more gifts and treats, including jewellery, ornaments and stationery, check out the Sketch.Inc Etsy shop.  
[www.sketchinc.bigcartel.com](http://www.sketchinc.bigcartel.com)



## TREND SPOTTING

with *CrossStitcher* production editor  
**Jessica Bateman**



### PLAID SIMPLE

**TARTANS AND** plaids have been making a comeback thanks to the 90s revival – they're unavoidable on the high street right now. We're really keen to experiment with a bit of cross stitching on the square formations – send us a pic if you give this a go!

**WHO**  
 These smart upcycled tartan deer heads will bring some Scottish hunting lodge cosiness to your living room.  
[www.upcyclegirls.etsy.com](http://www.upcyclegirls.etsy.com)



**WHAT**  
 This appliquéd fox is looking rather suave against his patchwork plaid background.  
[www.cotswoldtrading.com](http://www.cotswoldtrading.com)

**HOW**  
 We love this tartan lampshade emblazoned with neon stitches.  
[www.noushprojects.etsy.com](http://www.noushprojects.etsy.com)



## THREE OF THE BEST *Let It Snow*

Whether snow falls this Christmas or not, you can still enjoy some of the white stuff with these top picks from Etsy...



**CLAIREONCLOUD9**  
 Forget cold and wet – this cushion turns snow warm and cuddly with its soft fleece fabric!



**SURFACEWERKS**  
 Dream of towering ice-capped mountains with this hand crocheted ombre rug.



**PUKALUHOME**  
 This pretty stitched robin looks as if he's having a grand time pecking in the snow!

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# Take a Bow

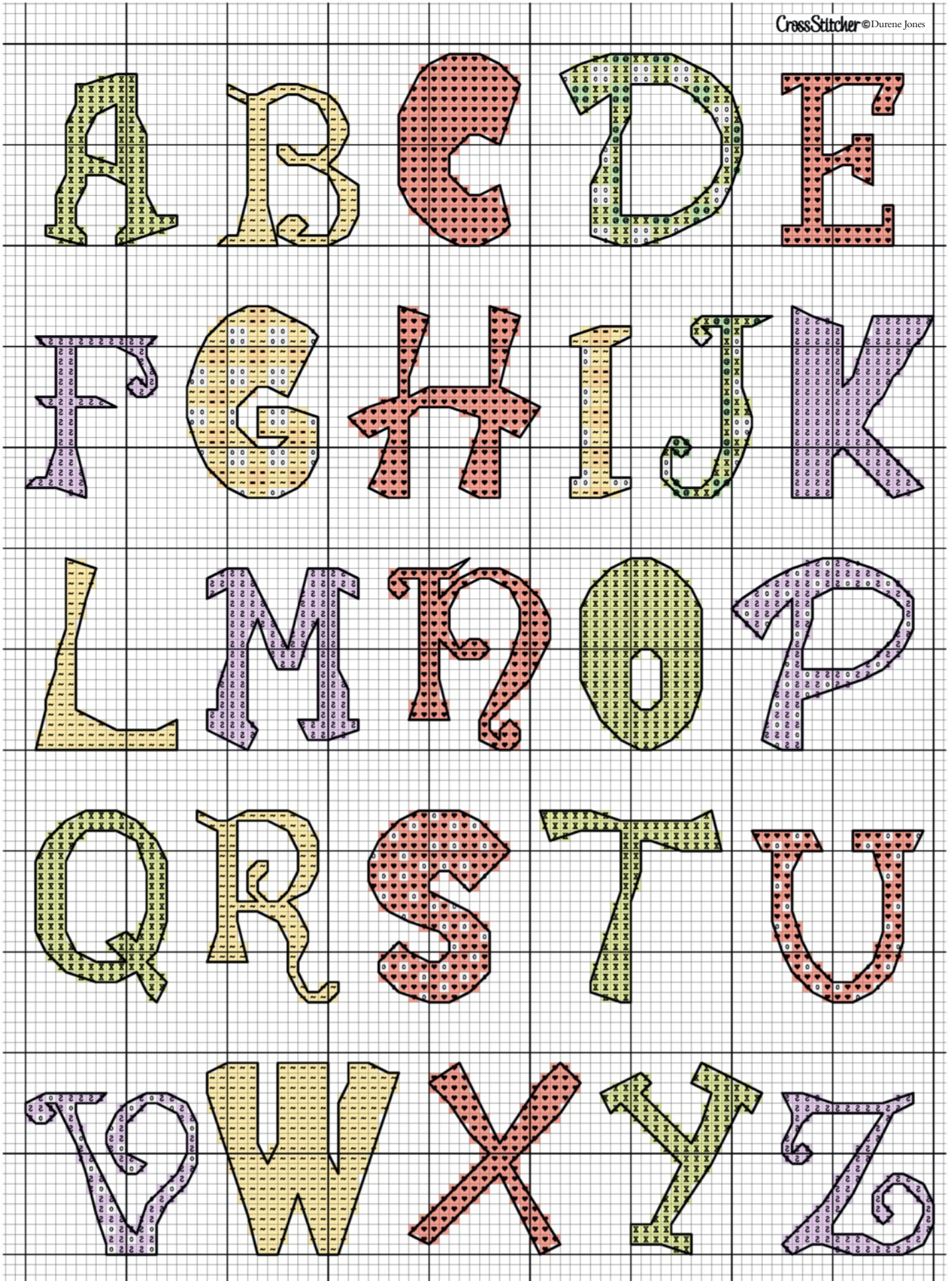
These fun festive felt bows make great Christmas Day accessories!



CrossStitcher ©Durene Jones

Designed by: Durene Jones  
 Design size: 3x4cm each  
 Stitch time: 1 hour each

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira		DMC	Anchor	Madeira
Cross stitch in two strands				Cross stitch in two strands			
0	B5200	001	2401	@	703	238	1307
x	162	128	1001	~	726	295	0109
★	208	110	0804	-	742	303	0114
2	209	109	0711	▲	799	145	0910
♥	349	013	0212	⌘	907	255	1410
⌘	435	365	2010	Backstitch in one strand			
E	437	362	2012	—	3799	236	1713
☆	603	055	0701	all details			



# TAKE A BOW

Photocopy templates at 143%



*When gluing felts and fabrics, use a strong PVA glue such as Hi-Tack*

## Make a... felt bow

### Step 1



**TRIM** your stitching to 4x12cm. Cut felt pieces using the template. Fold the long piece in half and glue in the centre, so you end up with a loop.

### Step 2



**CENTRE** your loop on the flat piece and glue in place. Wrap your stitched rectangle around the centre. Secure with more glue.



## Materials

- Felt, 10x15cm for stitching and 20x30cm for each bow
- 14 count waste canvas, 8x8cm
- Fabric glue

For stockist details see page 84



Bullfinches and Christmas Decorations Tablecloth 9240000-03507



makeitcoats.com



Choose your recipient with care!



Left: tapping into the 20s trend with a flapper-style ring



Below: a funky twist on a classic motif

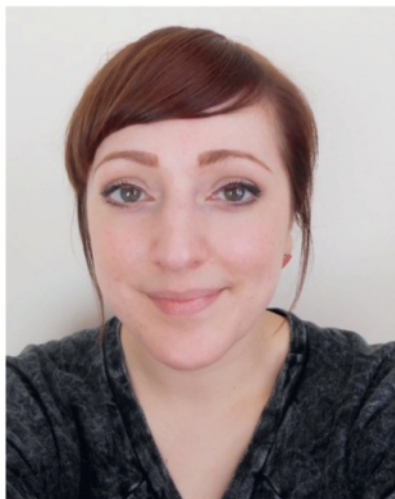
An interview with...

# Sarah Fordham

The designer behind Etsy's funkiest cross stitch jewellery discusses her crafting life and getting a book deal

Interview by *Jessica Bateman*

**W**e've noticed a lot of stunning cross stitch jewellery popping up on Etsy and other online stores recently, but Sarah Fordham's designs still stand out as among the funkiest and most playful. As well as her Etsy shop, MaMagasin - which sells a colourful array of rings and badges adorned with fun, fresh motifs - she's just released her first book. We sat down for a chat about life as a self-employed designer-maker...



**Tell us about your earliest crafting memory**

I remember making lots of items for my Barbie dolls when I was little - including a climbing frame made out of straws and Sellotape, which I was particularly proud of. I've always been self-taught, as I've never had the interest or patience to follow intricate

patterns. I get more enjoyment from muddling through on my own.

**How did you learn to stitch, and what do you like about it?**

I used to ask my mum to show me how to do various embroidery stitches,

but I was very young and I don't think I had a good attention span! I later studied Fine Art at university in Leeds and started leaning towards embroidery, in particular tapestry and cross stitch. I made quite large pieces at the time, which were a bit of a slog.

I find that creating smaller pieces is what makes my work more enjoyable these days, as there is no time for boredom to set in. I also love the fact I can do cross stitch anywhere and don't need any specialist equipment. It can be quite therapeutic, too.

**What made you decide to start your own Etsy shop, and how have you found the experience?**

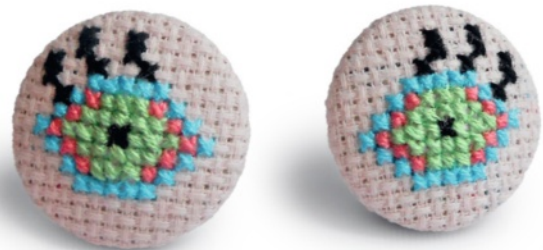
I can't remember exactly how I discovered Etsy, but I'm so glad I did. I've had a shop there for a few years, but have only been making regular sales for the past year or so. Etsy has been a fantastic platform for getting



Match your nails to your ring for max impact!



Upping the size of her designs is one of Sarah's 2014 goals



“ I’ve never had the patience to follow intricate patterns. I get more enjoyment from muddling through on my own ”

noticed by stockists and gaining publicity – even my book publisher found me on there! I think people spend so much time worrying about sales, but it can be a great way to just get some exposure.

**Who or what inspires you?**

I can be inspired by absolutely anything! A lot of my smaller motifs are fairly traditional – such as the Mexican Sugar Skulls or woodland critters like foxes and birds.



Tradition inspires many of her designs, such as these Mexican Sugar Skull motifs

Recently, I’ve been making a lot of samplers, often featuring funny song lyrics or quotes from TV and film.

**What is your studio like?**

Well, it’s queen-sized and very squishy. No really, I don’t have a studio and tend to work from my bed or the settee! This is partly because I don’t have the luxury of being able to afford a studio, but also because I don’t think it’s necessary for what I do. I only work with a messy sewing box and a heap of colourful aida canvas – none of this needs expensive studio space.

**Can you describe a typical day in your life?**

I have a day job working in a shop, so that can take up a lot of time. It’s great though, as without it I would easily become the world’s biggest hermit!

When I’m not there, I sit and beaver away on orders while ploughing through DVD box sets.

I’m also guilty of ogling Jake Gyllenhaal fan blogs and eating too many Kit Kat Chunkys.



Sarah can stitch over 100 motifs in a day

**How have you found the experience of having a book published?**

When asked if I’d like to make a book, I jumped at the chance. Now I have a better understanding of how it works, I’m thinking up ideas for future books (if anyone would like to publish them!).

**What’s next for you?**

Well, this is quite a busy time of year for my online shops, and I’ve also been hosting workshops at places such as The Knitting and Stitching Show and Liberty. Next year, I’m going to try to create more definitive ‘collections’ of work, and attend more craft fairs.

*X-Stitch by Sarah Fordham is out now, priced £12.99.*

# Your stitching

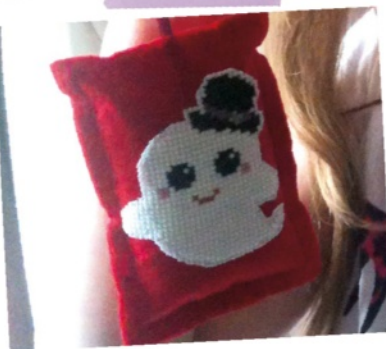
Drop us a line to pin your projects into our album!  
Email your photos to [crossstitcher@futurenet.co.uk](mailto:crossstitcher@futurenet.co.uk)



I made this bear from a chart in the January 2004 issue. I gave it to my friend when she graduated as a nurse.  
Deborah Richardson, via email



I enjoy stitching small designs in single colours, so I loved the fishes from July 2013. I turned them into bookmarks.  
Agnieszka, Poland



Here is my finished ghost from the October 2013 issue. I turned it into a hanging decoration for Halloween.  
Dorothy Fenwick, Glasgow



I stitched guests' names and a thistle I designed myself onto individual napkins for my wedding.  
Emma Neville, via email



I got my hands on a back issue from September 2003, and knew this menu design would be perfect for my family.  
Lindsey Swift, Holbeach



I made this cushion for my daughter who loves clocks. The simple colours made it perfect for stitching on the go.  
Lynette Peters, Australia



I stitched these black cat and bat designs from the Let's Get Inspired project in the October 2013 issue.  
Veronica Paratico, Italy



I stitched Anette Eriksson's cityscape cushion from the July 2012 issue and am planning to make it into a cushion.  
Pam Ritchie, via email

## Stay in touch...

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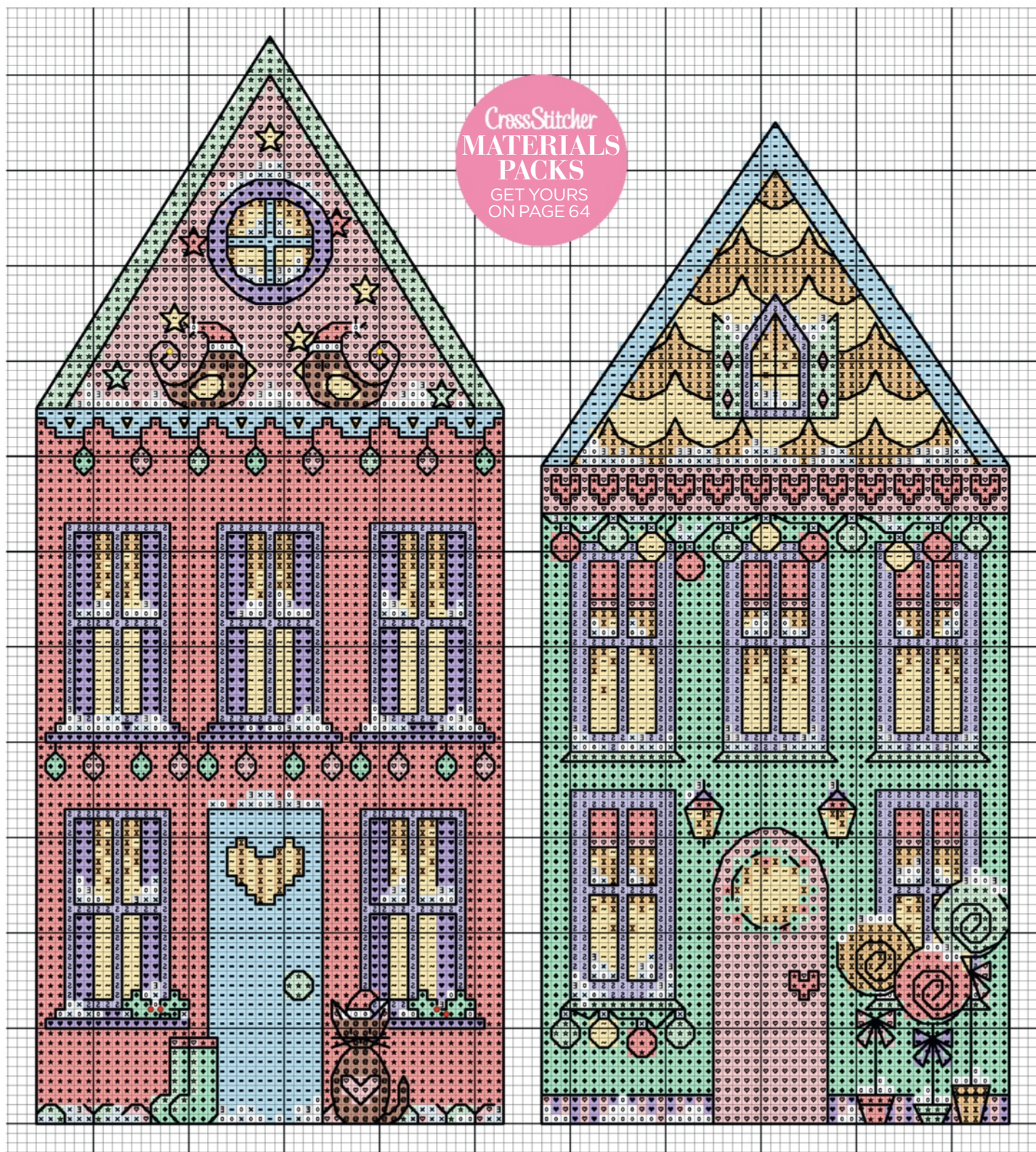




# HOUSE WARMING

Cosy up with this colourful row of festive houses – will you stitch the ornaments, the mounted picture, or both?





## Make an... ornament

### Step 1

**TRIM** your stitching, leaving 2cm along each edge. Cut your backing fabric to the same size and lay on top of your stitching, right sides together.

### Step 2

**SEW** around your shape leaving the bottom open. Turn right side out. Cut your card to the house shape, insert behind your stitching, and stuff.

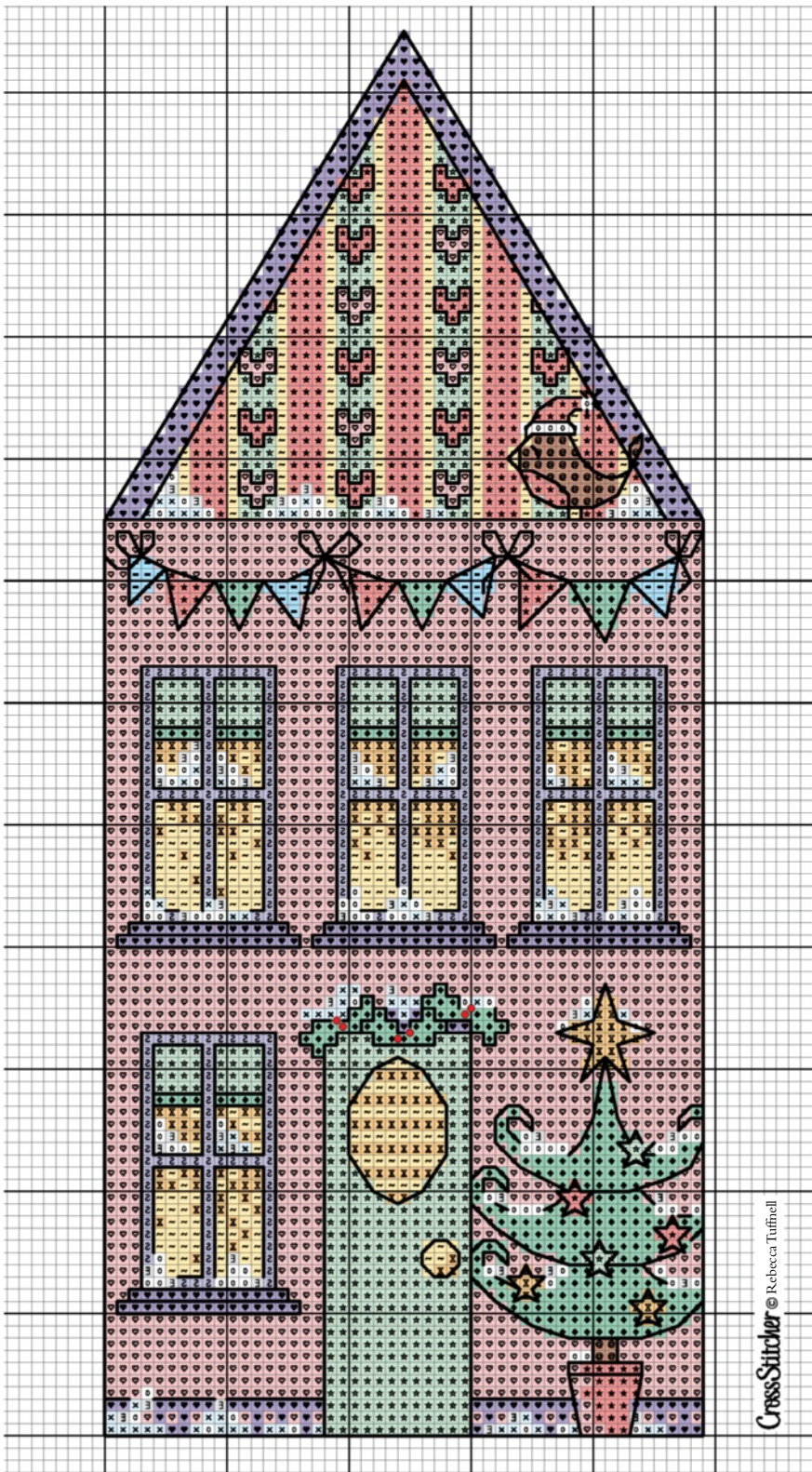
### Step 3

**CUT** your square of felt in half diagonally to form two triangles. Fold and cut one triangle in half again to form the base for your house.

### Step 4

**PRESS** under the raw edges of the remaining opening. Pin to the bottom of your house, with the long edge to the front. Whip stitch along the edges.





CrossStitcher © Rebecca Tuffnell

**Designed by:** Rebecca Tuffnell  
**Design size:** 8x20cm each  
**Stitch time:** 20 hours each

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
Cross stitch in two strands			
0	White	002	2402
@	301	1049	2306
2	340	118	0902
X	742	303	0114
~	744	301	0112
◆	912	209	1213
☆	955	203	1210
♥	957	050	0612
■	996	1090	1103
♥	3746	1030	2702
×	3753	1031	1001
★	3801	1098	0411

Cross stitch in one strand			
E	Kreinik Fine (#8) Braid 032		

Backstitch in one strand			
—	3799	236	1713
	all details		

French knots in one strand			
●	742	303	0114
	robins		
●	3801	1098	0411
	berries		

*White card will stiffen up your piece for a smooth finish and great 3D look*

## Materials

- 28 count white evenweave, 25x35cm each
- White backing fabric, 12x30cm each
- Felt, 9x9cm
- White card, 12x30cm each (optional)

For stockist details see page 84





*Kreinik's braid is non divisible and should be used singly in the needle. Using a size 22 tapestry needle will reduce the amount of wear and tear on the thread.*



	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
Cross stitch in two strands			
0	White	002	2402
@	301	1049	2306
2	340	118	0902
X	742	303	0114
~	744	301	0112
◆	912	209	1213
☆	955	203	1210
♥	957	050	0612
■	996	1090	1103
♥	3746	1030	2702
X	3753	1031	1001
★	3801	1098	0411

#### Cross stitch in one strand

3	Kreinik Fine (#8) Braid 032		
---	-----------------------------	--	--

#### Backstitch in one strand

—	3799	236	1713
	all details		

#### French knots in one strand

●	742	303	0114
	robins		
●	3801	1098	0411
	berries		

**TURN TO  
PAGE 49**  
TO LEARN HOW  
TO MAKE A  
STRETCH  
CANVAS

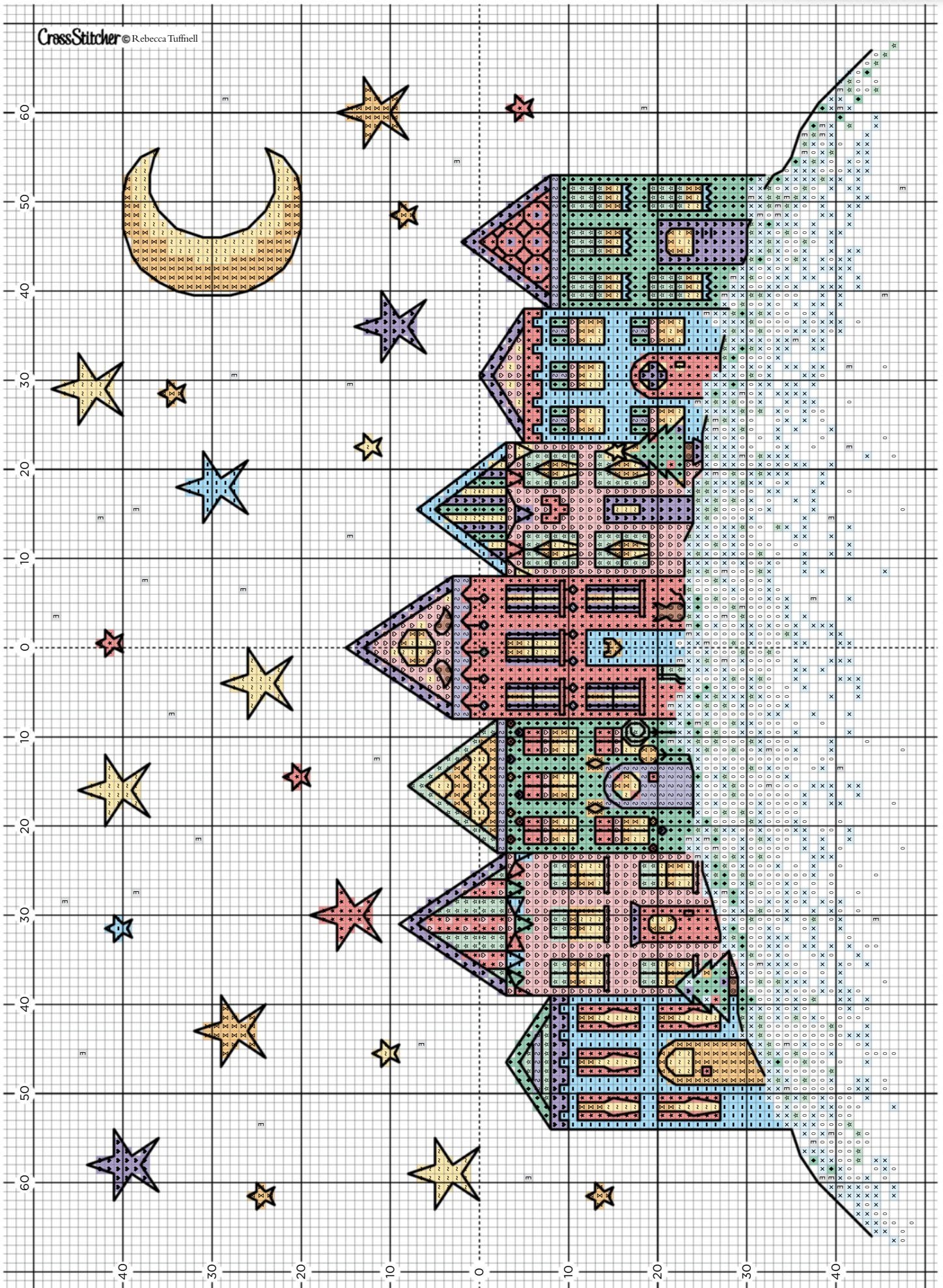
## Materials

- 28 count blue evenweave, 45x38cm
- Wooden frame, 237x176mm outside measurement
- Mount board, 237x176mm
- Double-sided tape
- Staple gun

For stockist details see page 84



CrossStitcher © Rebecca Tuffnell



OWL KEEP YOU WARM





# OWL KEEP YOU WARM

Stay snug this winter with these playful  
hand warmers and a coffee cup cosy

# OWL KEEP YOU WARM



Designed by: Maria Diaz

Design size: 7x9cm

Stitch time: 8 hours each

## Make a... hand warmer

### Step 1

**DRAW** your desired shape on the reverse of your stitching and cut out. Cut a second piece of felt to the same size and shape.

### Step 2

**BLANKET** stitch around the edges of your pieces, leaving an opening in the bottom for filling.

### Step 3

**PUSH** a small piece of stuffing into each ear at the top. Use a wooden skewer to push it into place.

### Step 4

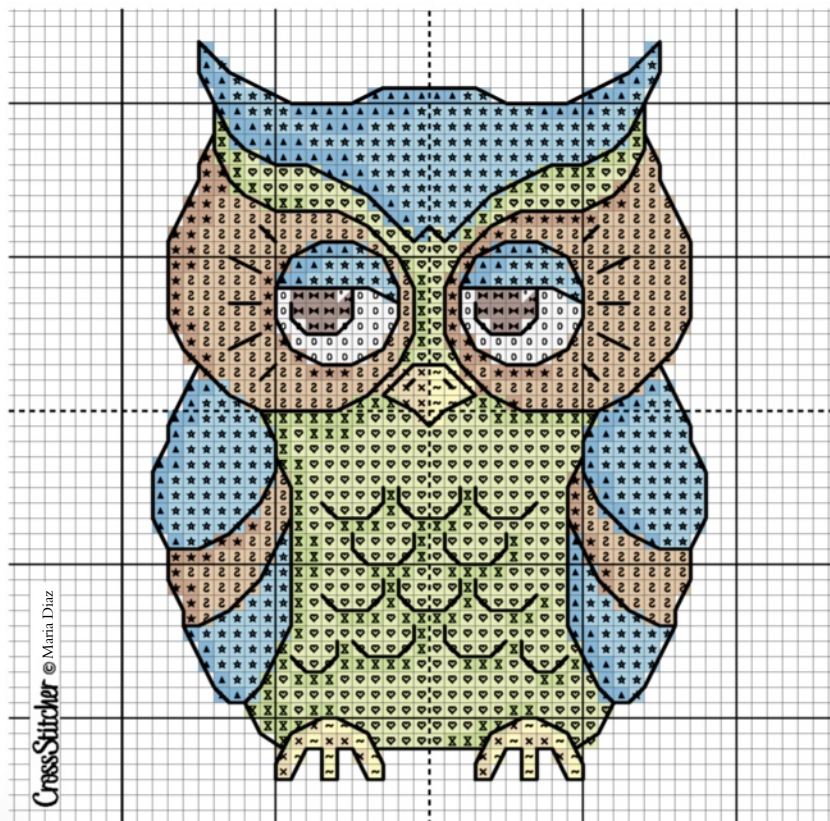
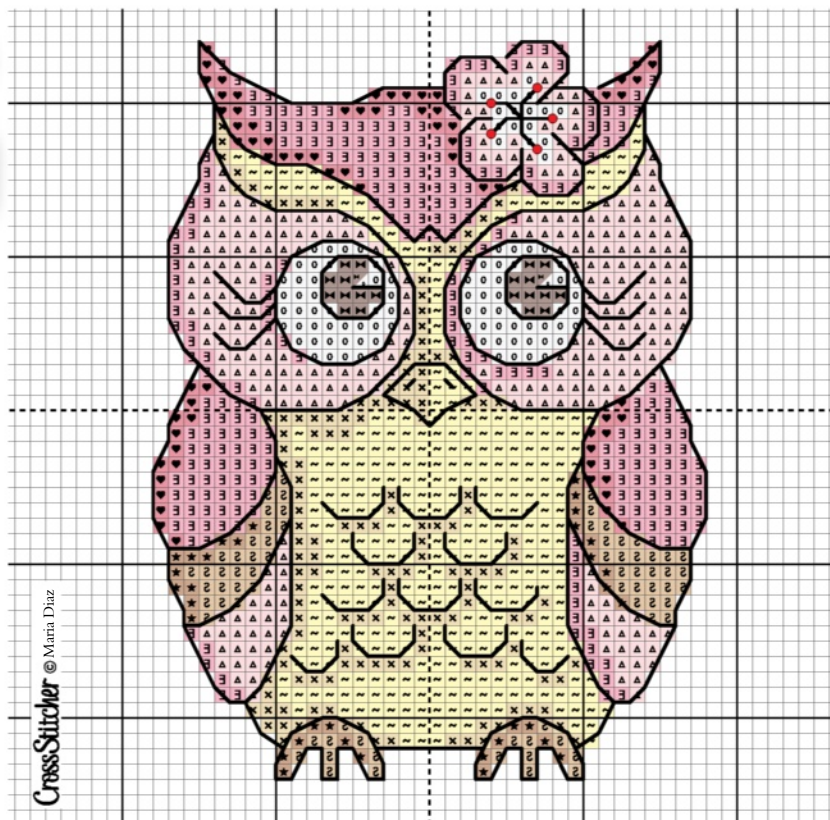
**FILL** your hand warmer with rice before finishing your stitching all the way around.

## Materials

### Hand warmers

- Natural felt, one 20x20cm piece for stitching, one 12x12cm piece for backing
- 14 count waste canvas, 15x15cm
- Stuffing
- Plain rice

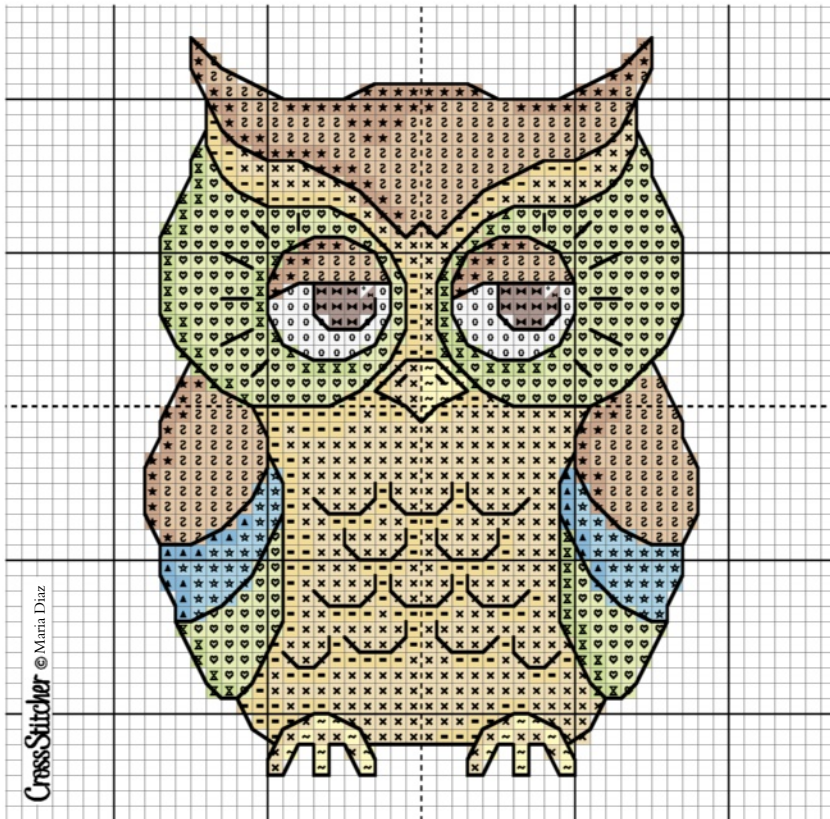
For stockist details see page 84



## HAND WARMERS

Once filled with rice, microwave your hand warmers for 30 seconds on medium heat. If they need more time, add 5–10 seconds at a time. Always check how hot they are before handing over to children.





	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
Cross stitch in two strands			
0	B5200	001	2401
♥	326	059	0508
☐	335	040	0506
★	435	365	2010
2	436	363	2011
♥	472	253	1414
▲	517	162	1107
☆	518	1039	1106
×	676	887	2208
~	744	301	0112
✕	801	359	2007
⊗	907	255	1410
△	3326	036	0813
■	3820	306	2509
Backstitch in one strand			
—	801	359	2007
all details			
French knots in one strand			
●	676	887	2208
flower			

## Make a... cup cosy

### Step 1

**TRIM** your stitching to 29x12cm. Place your backing fabric on top, right sides in, and sew around three sides. Turn right sides out. Press under the raw edges on remaining side and topstitch.

### Step 2

**PRESS** your remaining fabric pieces in half, lengthwise, and sew along the edge. Turn right side out. Turn under the raw edges and topstitch to form your tabs.

### Step 3

**ATTACH** the hooked side of the Velcro dots to the wrong side of the tabs. Sew a button to the right side. Position the other side of your Velcro on your cosy and stick on your tabs.

### Step 4

**WRAP** the cosy around your mug, and pin the remaining end of the tab in place. Un-Velcro from the mug and topstitch the tab ends.



*Our cosy is designed to fit a 28cm circumference mug, but you can easily adjust the tabs to fit your favourite*

## Materials

### Cup cosy

- 28 count ivory evenweave, 40x20cm for stitching, two 10x5cm for tabs
- Natural backing fabric, 14x2.5cm
- Velcro dots
- Buttons, 15mm

For stockist details see page 84

# SILVER SERVICE

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Ensure your table is looking suitably well-dressed for Christmas dinner with Floss & Mischief's super-stylish napkins, banner and placemats

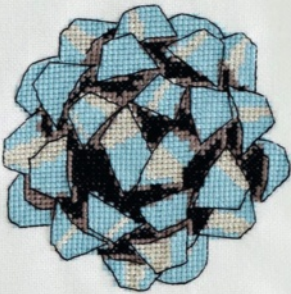


Designed by: Floss & Mischief

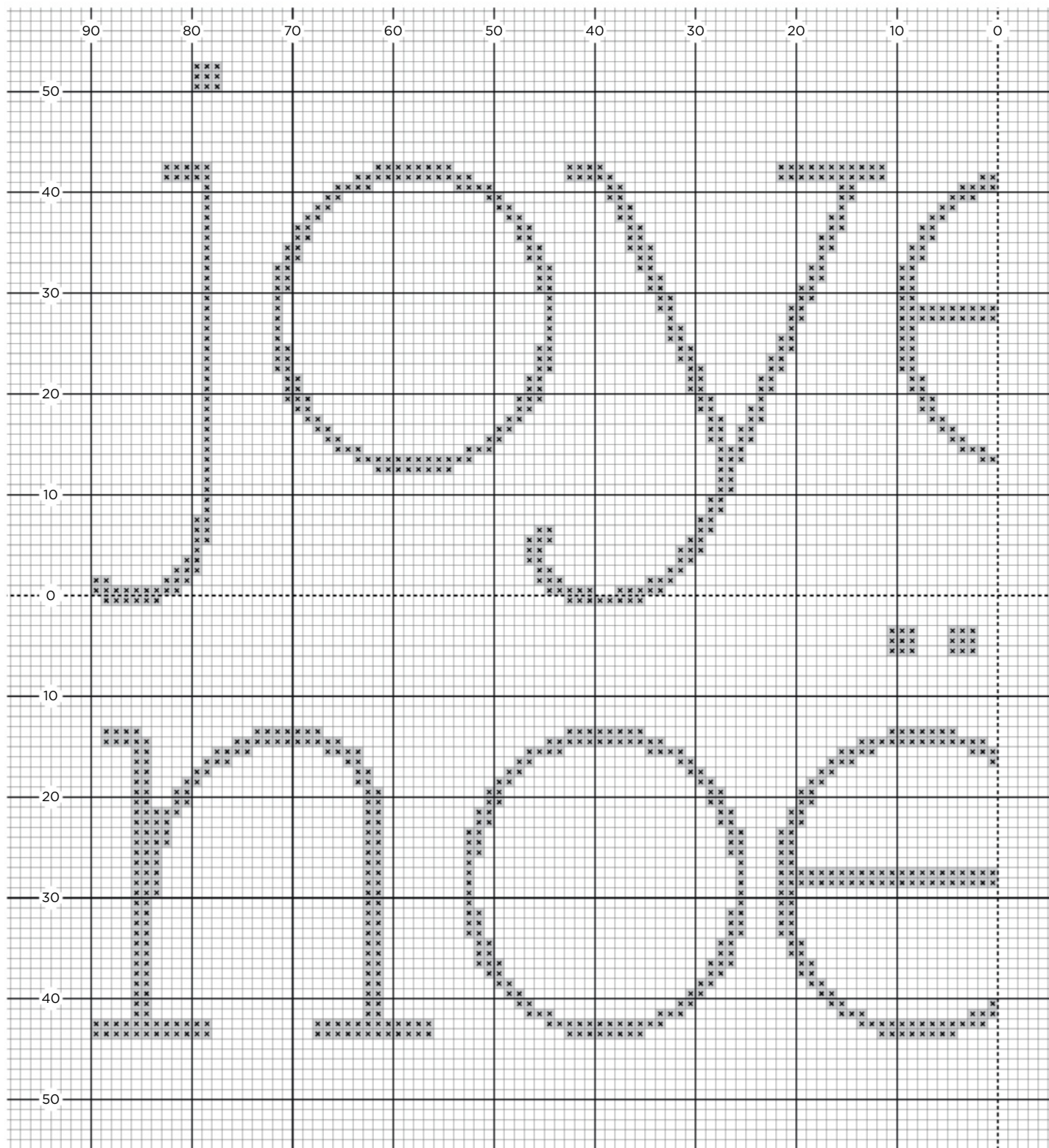
Design size: 32x20cm

Stitch time: 19 hours

joyeux  
noël



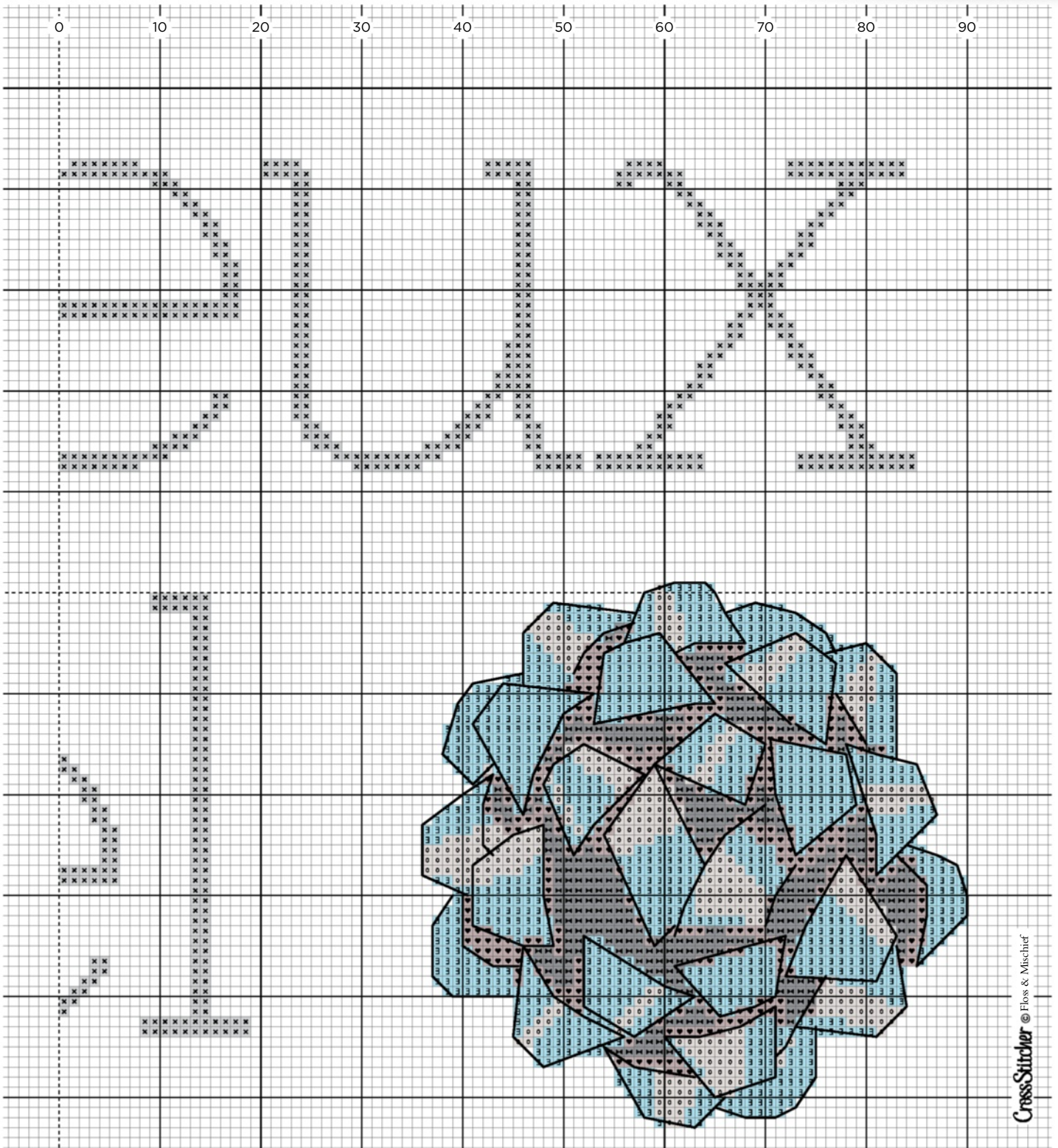
# SILVER SERVICE



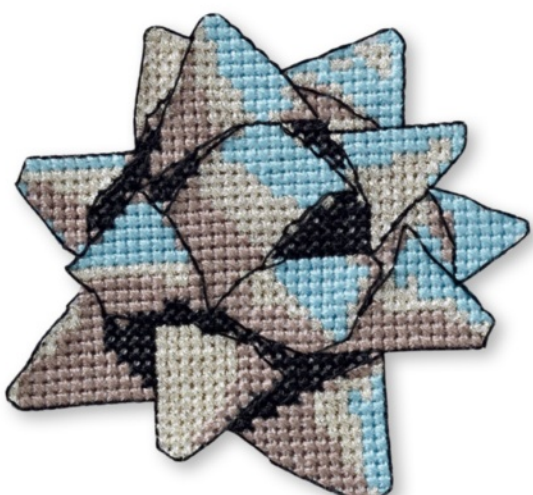
DMC	Anchor	Madeira
Cross stitch in two strands		
	224	893 0813
	310	403 2400
	451	233 1808 (2)
	778	968 0808
	3046	887 2206
	3743	869 2611

DMC	Anchor	Madeira
Cross stitch in two strands		
	3766	167 1105
	3774	778 0306
	3813	875 1701
	DMC Light Effects E168(2)	
	DMC Light Effects E415(2)	

DMC	Anchor	Madeira
Backstitch in one strand		
	310	403 2400
all details		
(2) indicates more than one skein required		



CrossStitcher © Floss & Mischief



*If you find the DMC Light Effects a bit slippery, try using a loop knot to attach the thread to your needle eye*



## Make a... banner

### Step 1

**TRIM** your stitching to 38x45cm. Lay your backing fabric over your stitching and sew along the sides. Turn right sides out and press.

### Step 2

**FOLD** the raw edges in at the top and bottom and topstitch. Fold down 6cm of fabric to the back of your banner at the top and bottom and pin in place.

### Step 3

**MEASURE** 3cm from each edge and pin along the line. Sew along your line, removing the pins as you reach them. Add your dowels and tie your cord in place.

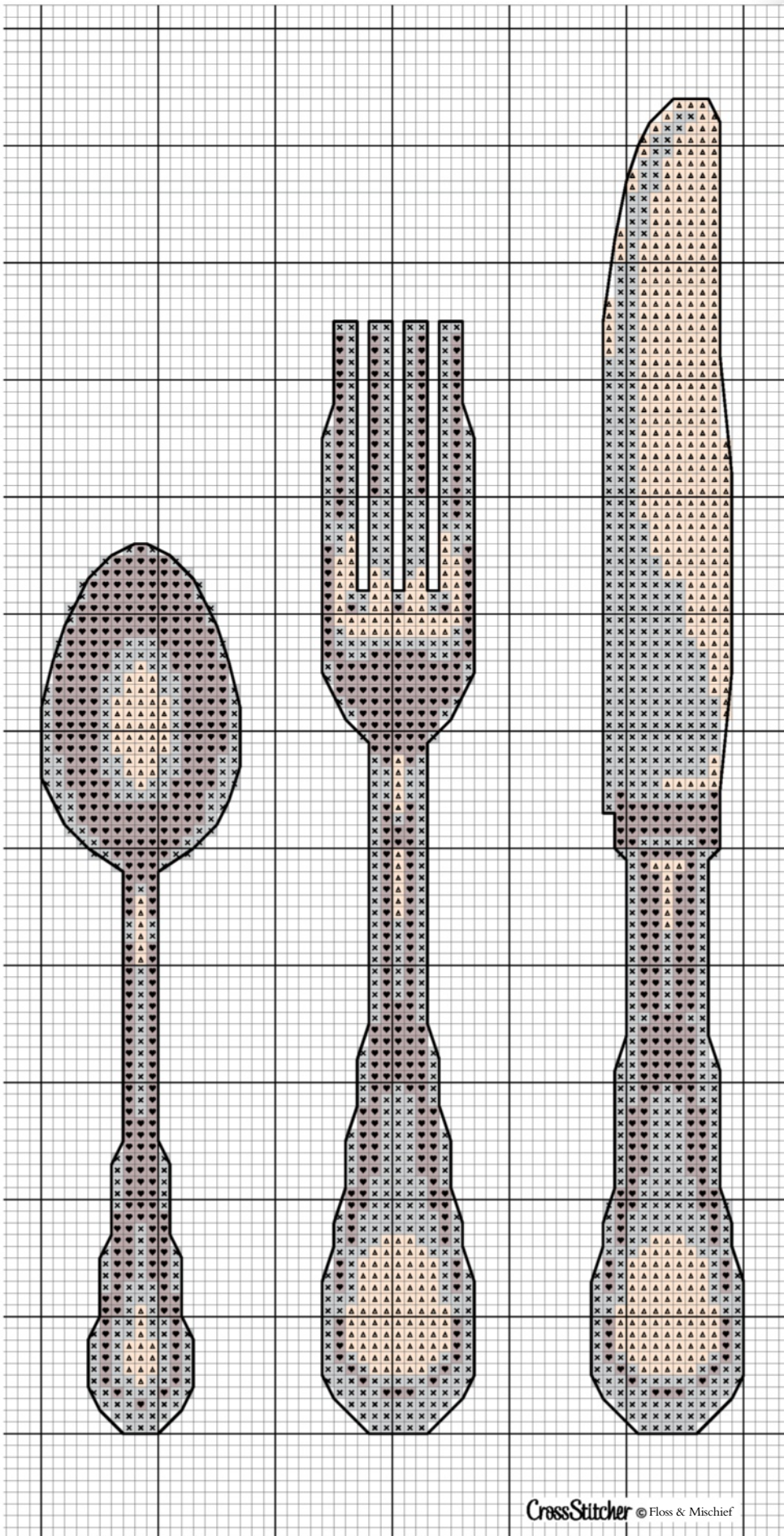
*Keep stains at bay by spraying your napkins and placemats with a fabric protector, such as Scotchguard, before you use them*

## Materials

### Banner

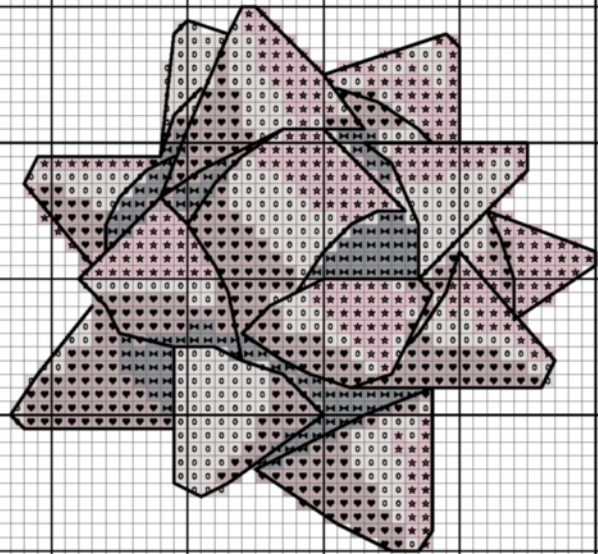
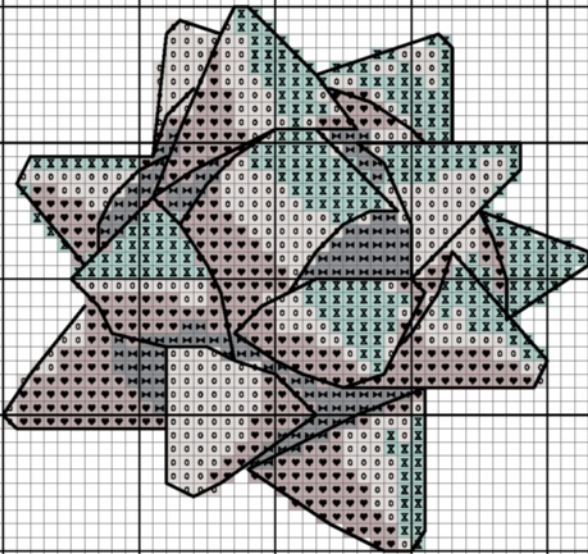
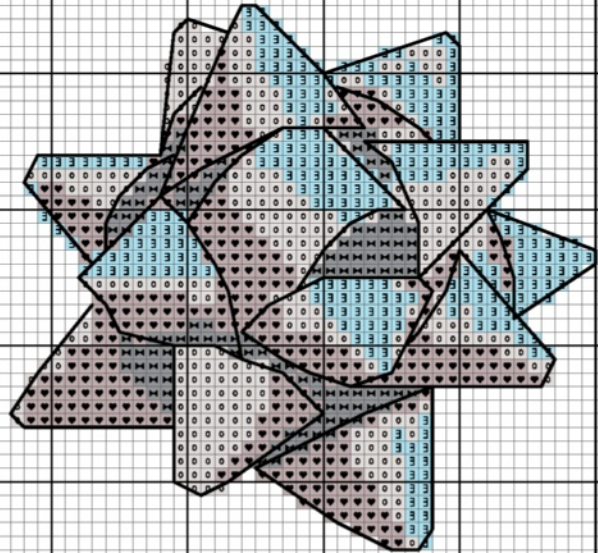
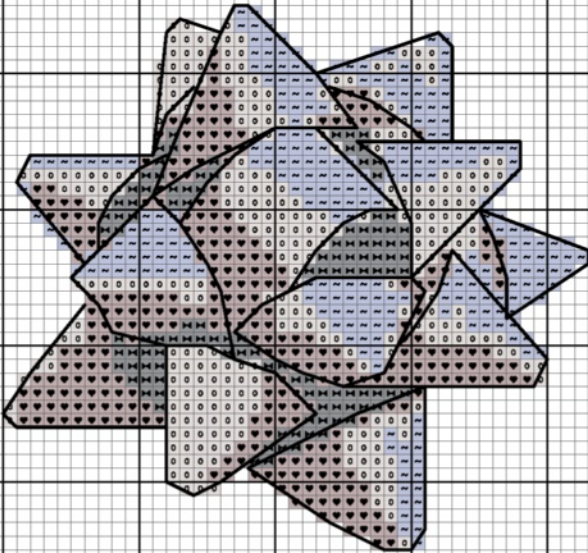
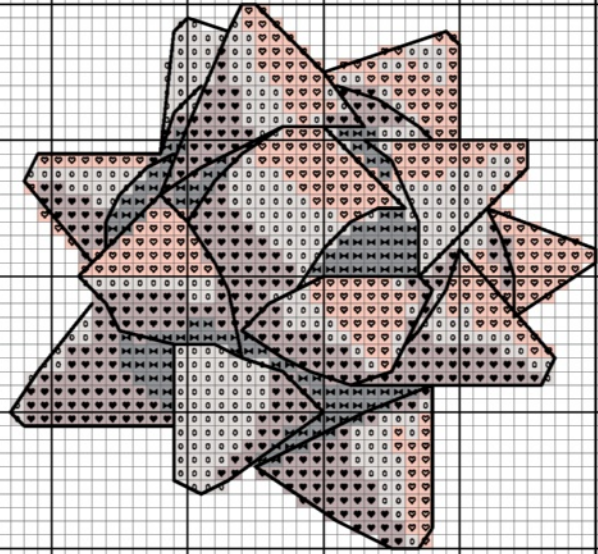
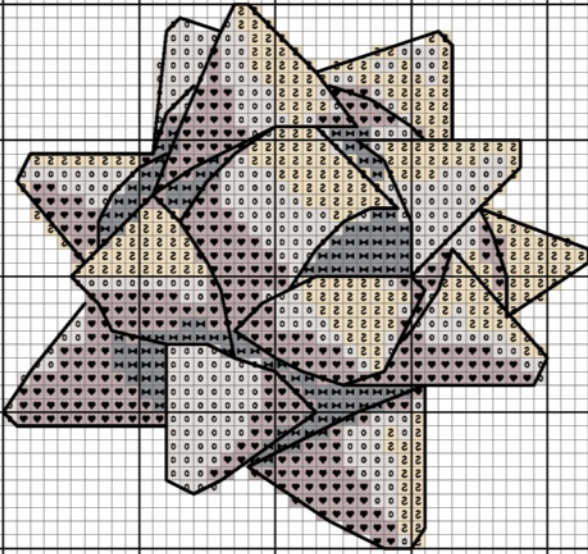
- 28 count white evenweave, 55x60cm
- White backing fabric, 38x45cm
- Wooden dowels, two with 10mm diameter
- White twisted cord, 1m

For stockist details see page 84



### PLACEMATS

Mix and match the charts to make your own placemat design. Make sure to measure the plates you will be using to get the look you want. You can follow the basic instructions for napkins, using your own measurements, to finish things off. Just don't forget to add seam allowances!





## Make a... napkin

### Step 1

**TRIM** your stitching to 59x33cm, with the stitching 10cm from the right and bottom edge. Place your backing fabric over your stitching, right sides together and sew, leaving an opening for turning.

### Step 2

**TURN** your napkin right side out and press well. Topstitch 0.5cm and 1cm from the edges, all the way around. This will add a professional finish to your napkins.



## Materials

### Napkins

- 28 count white evenweave, 70x45cm each
  - White backing fabric, 59x33cm each
- For stockist details see page 84

Future

START YOUR  
**FREE TRIAL**  
TODAY\*



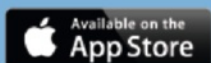
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\*Free Trial not available on Zinio



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# Tales from the Wood

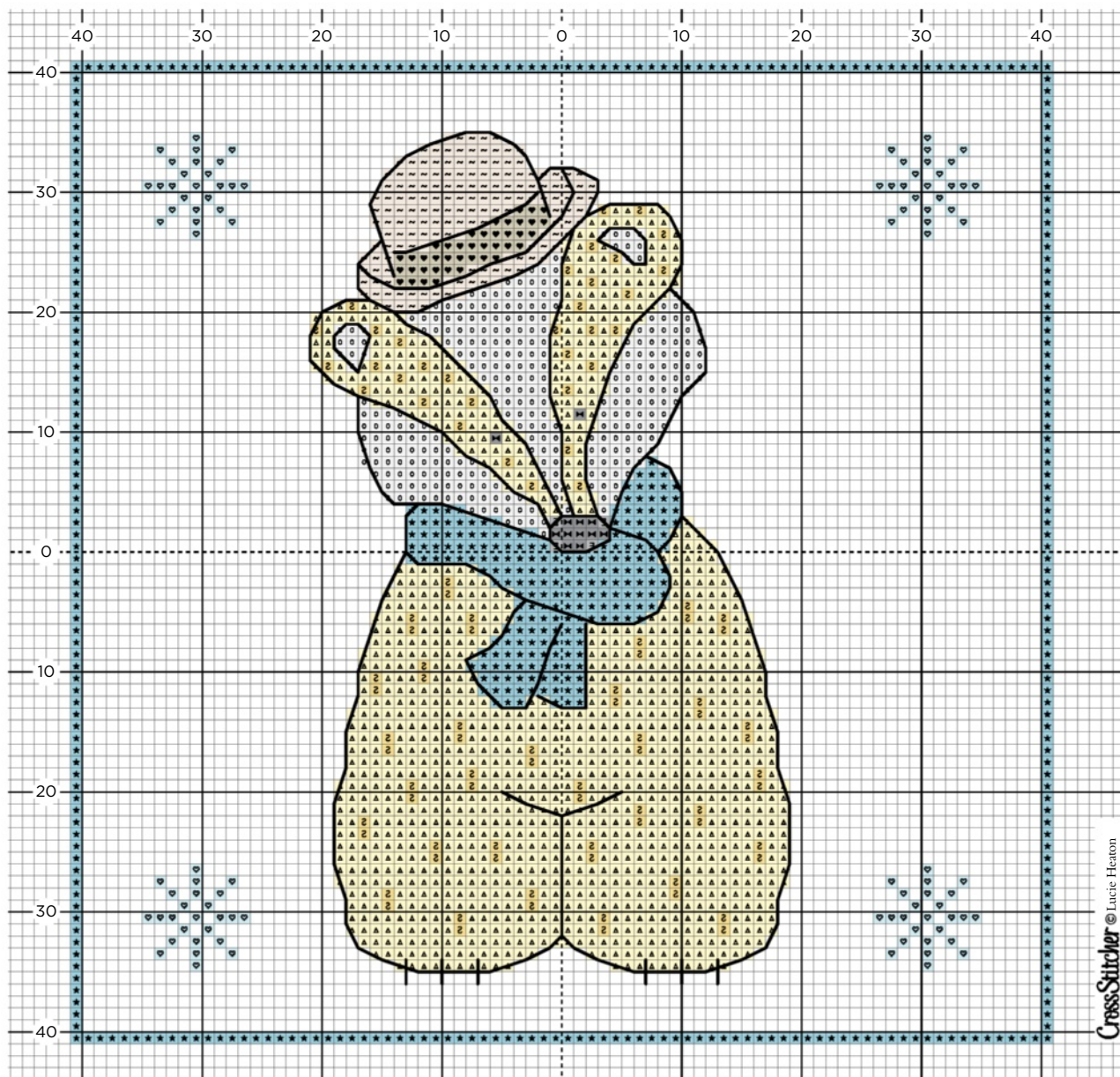
Kids will love this cute trio of forest creatures, all dressed up for winter



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ON PAGE 64



# TALES FROM THE WOOD

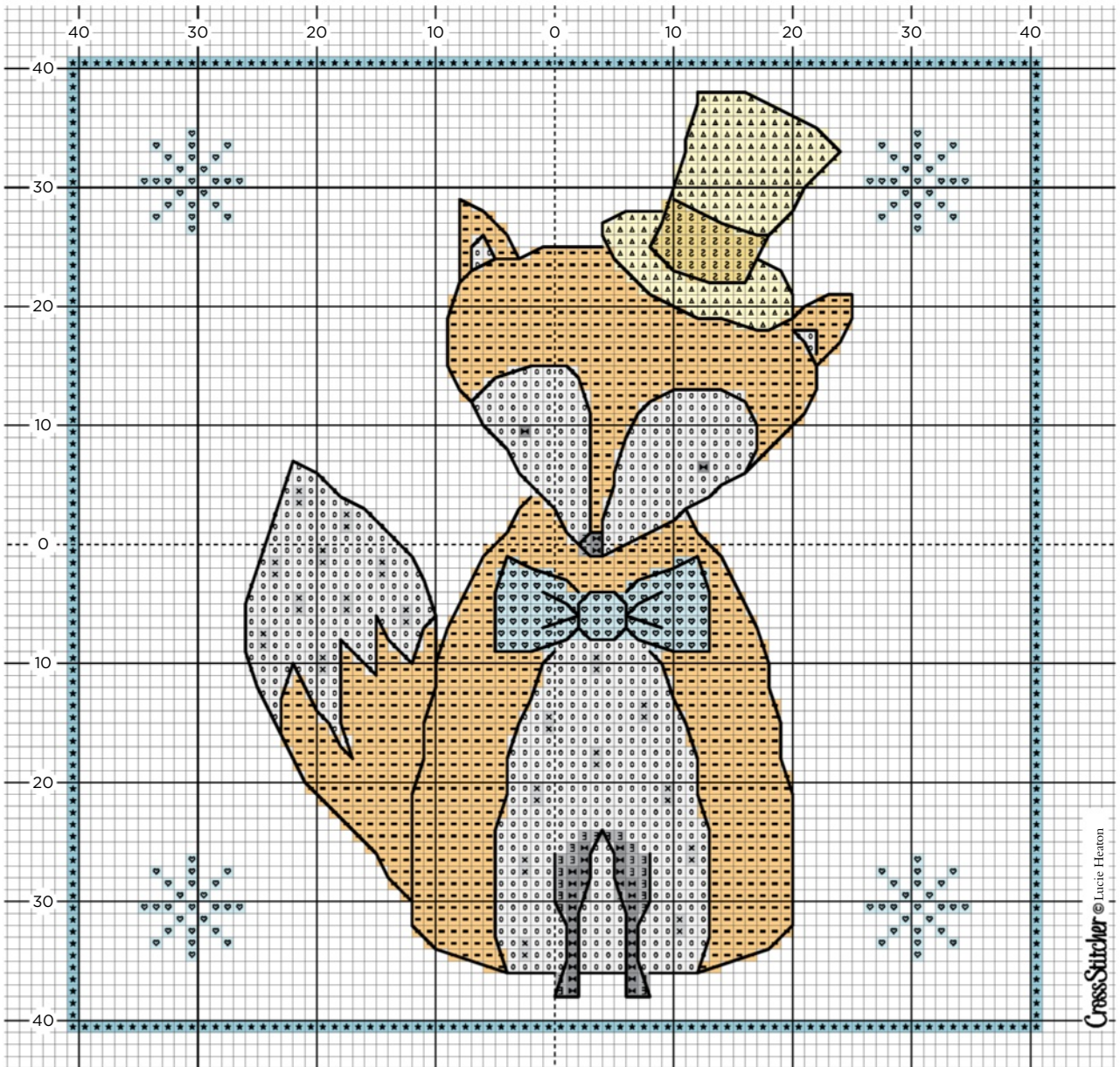


CrossStitcher © Lucie Heaton

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
<b>Cross stitch in two strands</b>			
○	White	002	2402
×	168	398	1802
≡	169	399	1801
★	597	1064	1110
♥	3032	898	2002
~	3033	390	1908
⊠	3799	236	1713
♡	3811	1060	1111
2	3821	305	2509
△	3823	386	2511
■	3854	313	2301
<b>Backstitch in one strand</b>			
—	3799	236	1713
all details			

**Designed by:** Lucie Heaton  
**Design size:** 15x15cm each  
**Stitch time:** 13 hours each





CrossStitcher © Lucie Heaton



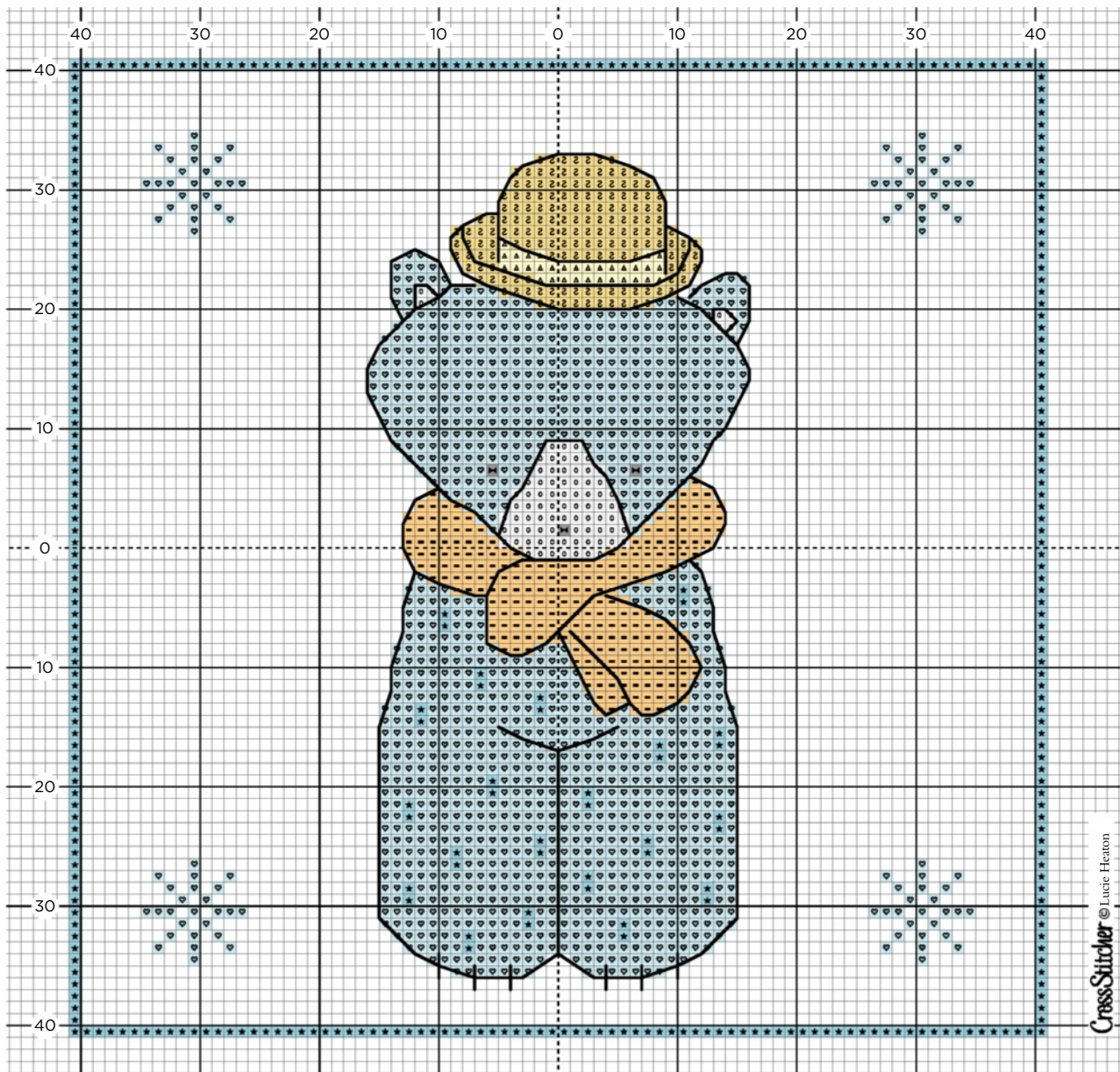
*We achieved the block look by using a deep-sided frame*

### Materials

- 28 count white evenweave, 40x40cm each
- Wooden frame, 15x15cm outside dimension
- Mount board, 15x15cm
- Double-sided tape
- Staple gun

For stockist details see page 84

# TALES FROM THE WOOD



CrossStitcher © Luce Heaton



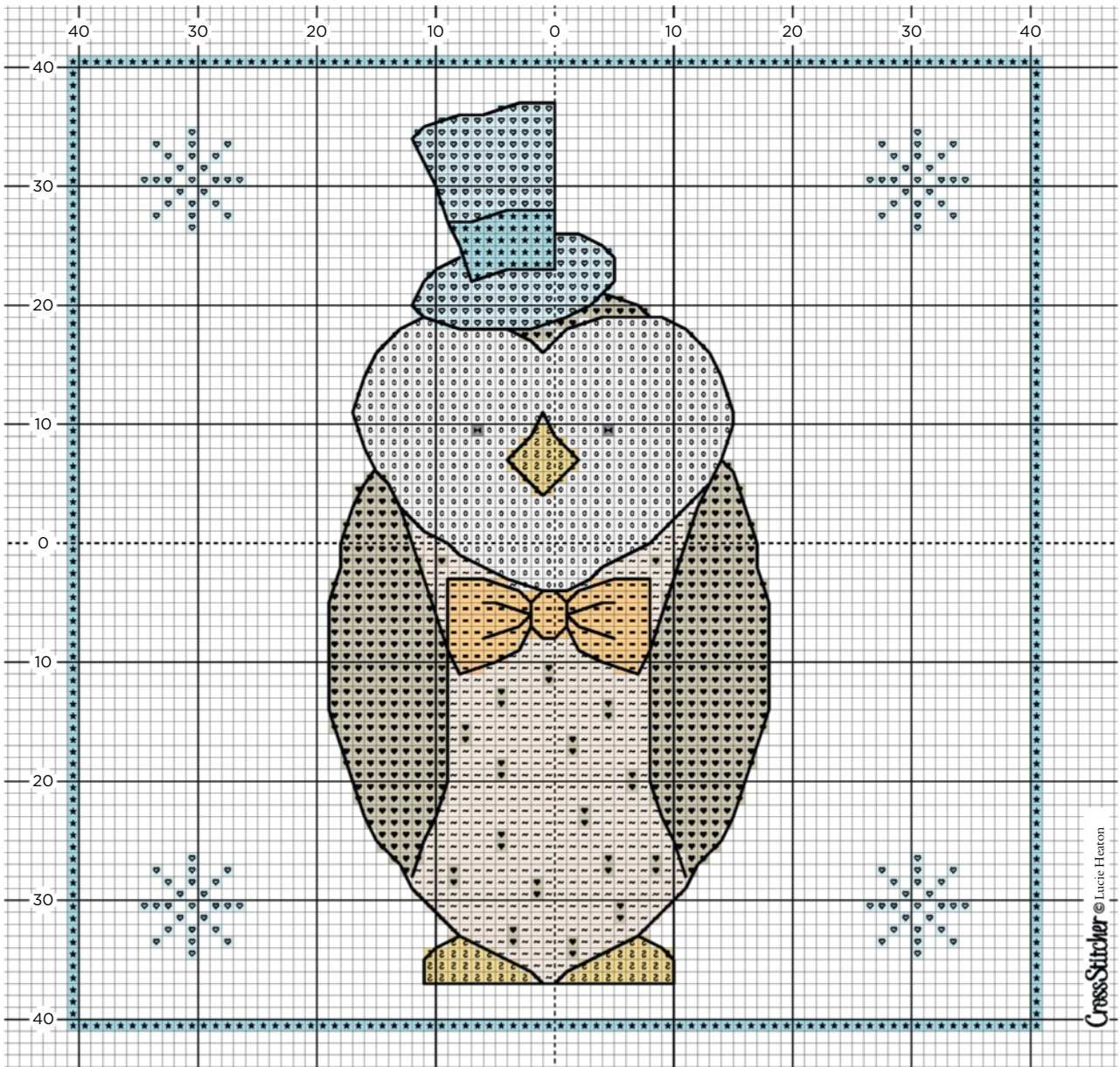
**DMC Anchor Madeira**  
Cross stitch in two strands

Symbol	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
0	White	002	2402
x	168	398	1802
E	169	399	1801
★	597	1064	1110
♥	3032	898	2002
~	3033	390	1908
▶	3799	236	1713
♡	3811	1060	1111
2	3821	305	2509
△	3823	386	2511
■	3854	313	2301

Backstitch in one strand

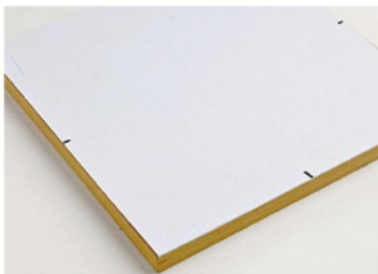
—	3799	236	1713
all details			





## Make a... stretched canvas frame

### Step 1



**STARTING** with a basic frame, cut a piece of mount board to exactly the same size as the outside edge of the frame. Attach using double sided tape.

### Step 2



**PLACE** double sided tape on the back of the frame. Mark and match up the centre points on the frame and fabric edges.

### Step 3



**STRETCH** the fabric to the reverse, folding neatly at each corner. Staple the fabric to the back of the frame. Secure the raw edges with tape.

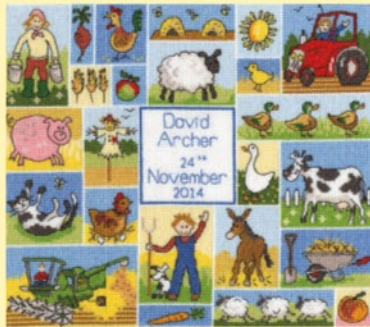
# Bothy Threads...



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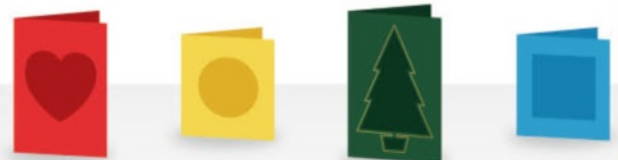
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### NEW BW16 – Romantic Garden

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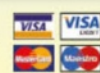
Choice of colour or black & white charts in the pack together with full instructions.



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3 x 1st class stamps for brochure



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# Be still my Heart



Fall in love with these beautiful heart-shaped hanging decorations by Jan Constantine





Designed by: Jan Constantine

Design size: 13x13cm

Stitch time: 7 hours

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
<b>Cross stitch in three strands</b>			
✕	712	926	2101 (2)
<b>Backstitch in two strands</b>			
—	349	013	0212
	logo, outlines, crosses		
—	712	926	2101
	logo, crosses		
<b>French knots in two strands</b>			
●	349	013	0212
	heart details, snowflakes		
●	712	926	2101
	snowflakes		

(2) indicates more than one skein required



## Make a... sachet

### Step 1

**DRAW** your desired shape on the reverse of your stitching and trim, adding seam allowances. Cut your remaining fabrics to the same shape.

### Step 2

**TACK** your ribbon loop in place, with the loop down over your stitching. Sandwich your stitching between two backing pieces.

### Step 3

**SEW** around your shape, leaving an opening for turning. Turn your sachet right side out and fill with stuffing.

### Step 4

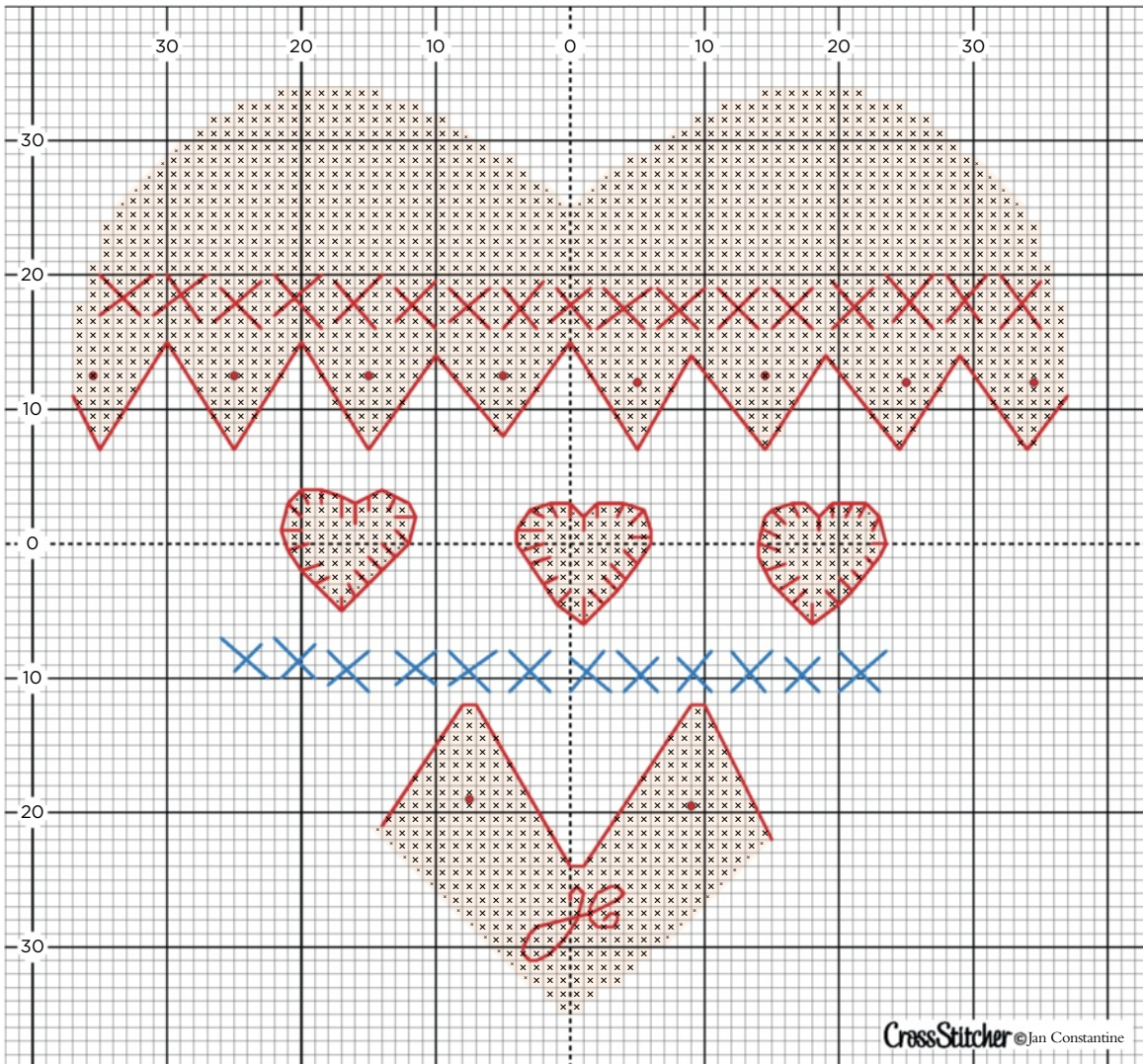
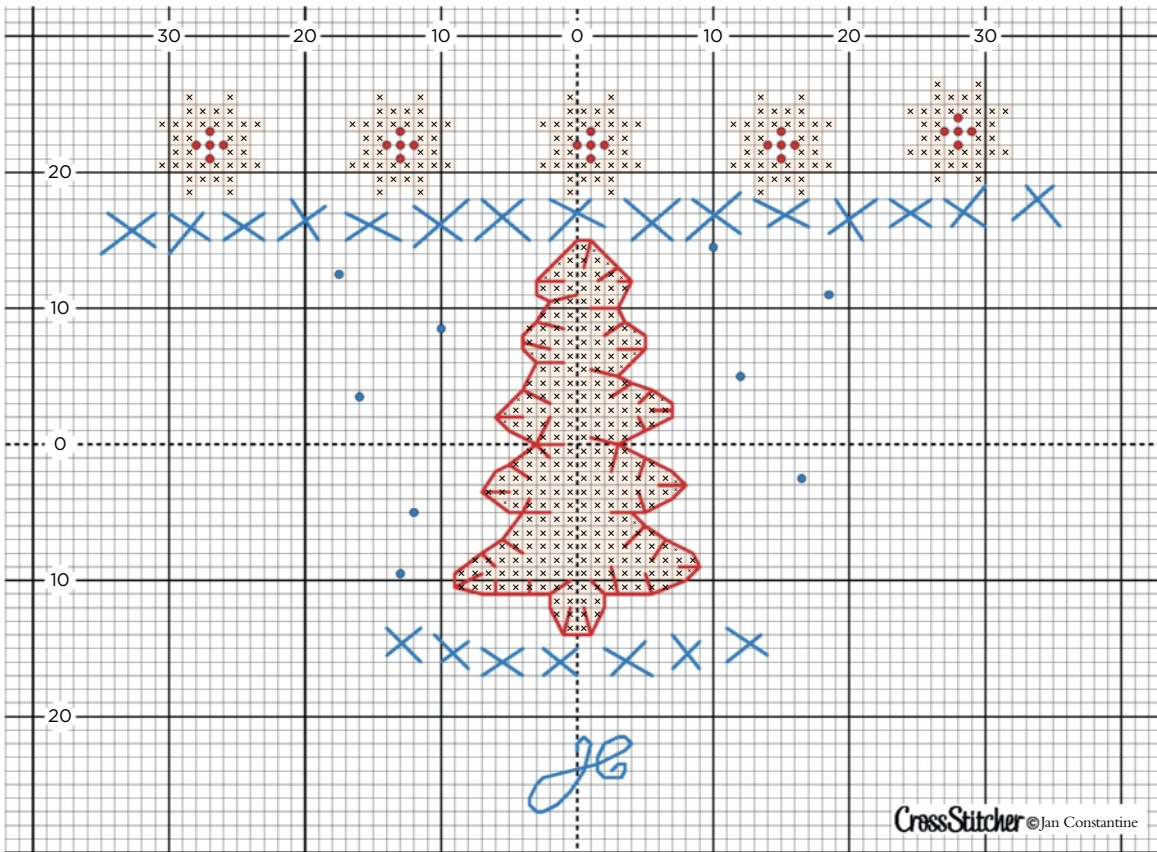
**WHIP** stitch the remaining opening. Stitch around the sachet using blanket stitch and two strands of a coordinating thread.

*Use cinnamon or your favourite pot-pourri to spice up your sachets*

## Materials

- 28 count cranberry evenweave, 30x30cm each
- Red backing fabric, two 20x20cm pieces each
- Red ribbon, 30cm each
- Stuffing
- Cinnamon or pot-pourri (optional)

For stockist details see page 84





Let's get  
inspired

# CHRIMBO QUICK STITCHES

These 22 different seasonal motifs can be stitched up in no time – perfect for emergency makes before the 25th!

Designed by: Fiona Crouch



## MATERIALS

### Treat bag

- 4mm cream felt, two 30x30cm pieces
- 14 count waste canvas, 15x15cm

### Hanging decoration

- 1mm cream felt, two 20x20cm pieces each
- 14 count waste canvas, 15x15cm each
- Ribbon, 2m

For stockist details see page 84

## Make a... hanging decoration

### Step 1

**TRIM** your stitching and a second piece of felt to your desired shape. Line up your shapes along the ribbon, and pin in place with the ribbon sandwiched between the two felt pieces.

### Step 2

**WHIP** stitch around the edges of each piece, using one strand of a coordinating thread. Sew through the ribbon at the top and bottom of each piece. Remove your pins and hang.



Achieve a cross stitch look by whip stitching along one edge, then reversing the stitch using the same holes



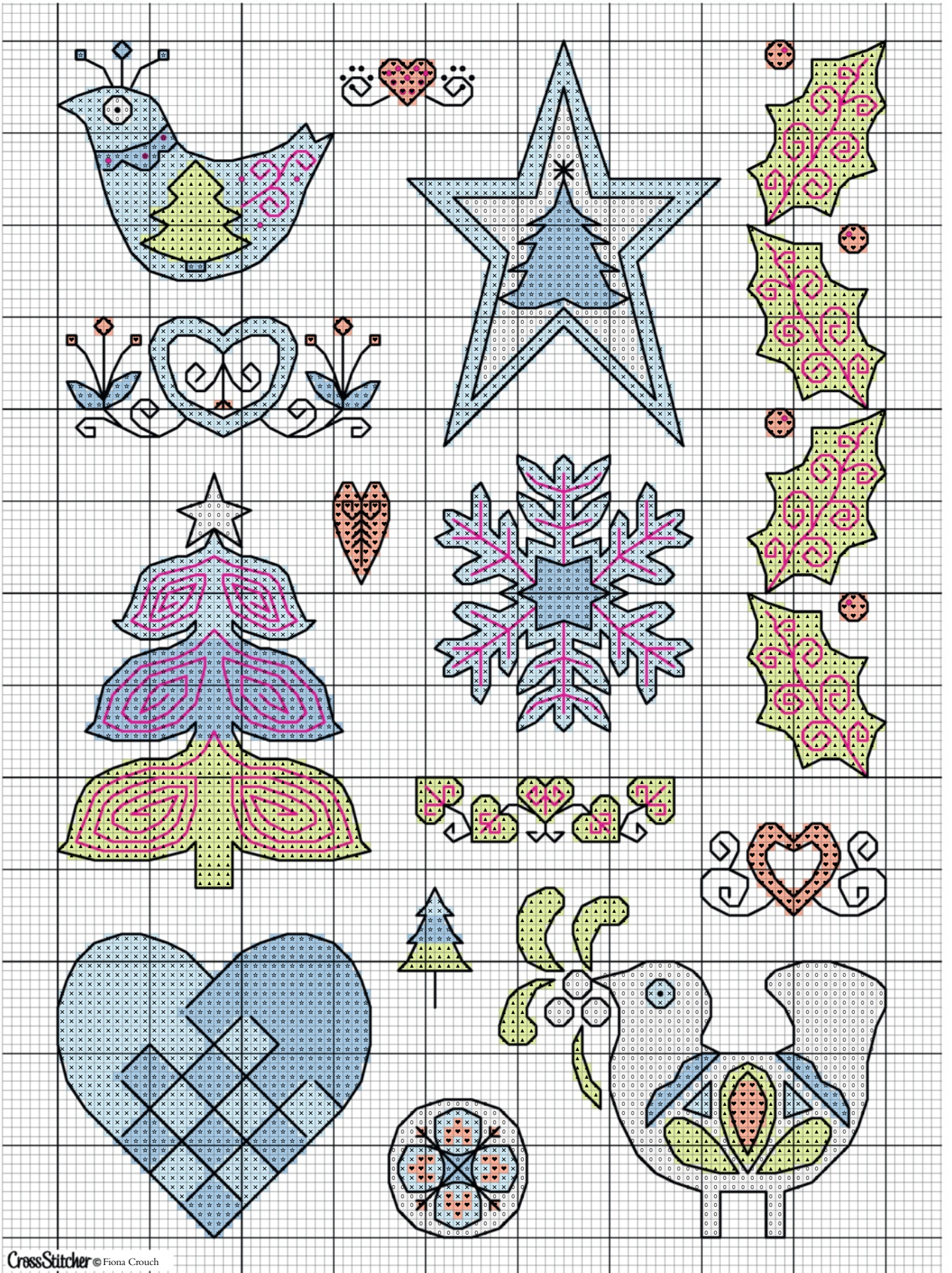
## Make a... **treat bag**

### Step 1

**DRAW** your desired shape on the reverse of your stitching and cut out. Cut a second piece of felt to match, and a small oval for the bottom.

### Step 2

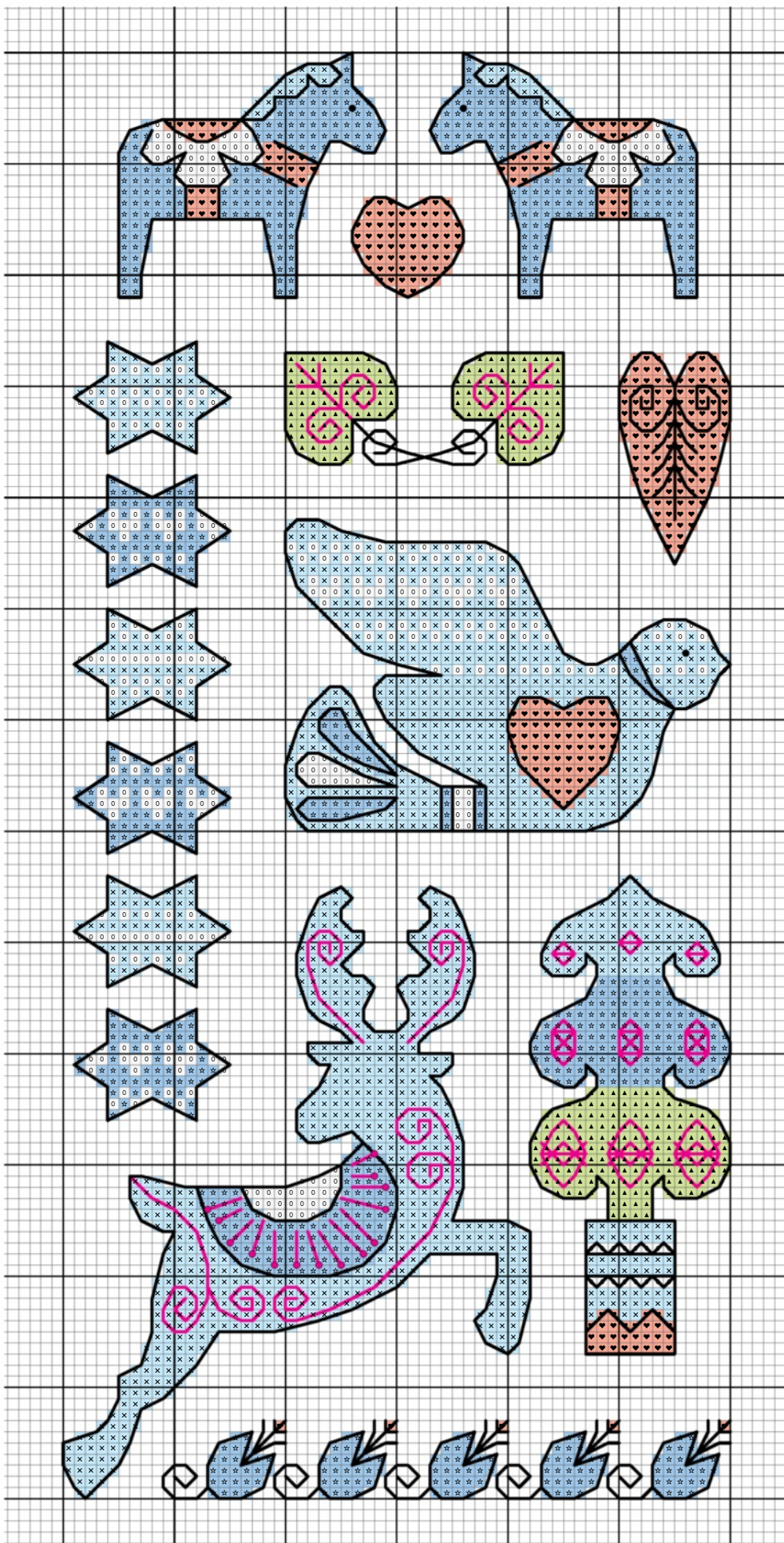
**LINE** up your pieces and pin the sides and bottom together. Stitch the bottom and sides and handle opening using a contrasting thread.



CrossStitcher © Fiona Crouch







**DMC Anchor Madeira**  
Cross stitch in three strands

0	B5200	001	2401
x	162	128	1001
♥	350	011	0213
★	813	140	1013
▲	907	255	1410

Backstitch in one strand

—	B5200	001	2401
patterns			
—	310	403	2400
all other details			

French knots in one strand

●	B5200	001	2401
berries, bird, small heart, stag			
●	310	403	2400
eyes, small heart			

## What to make

Here are a few ideas to get you started on festive decorations and gifts...

**1** Stitch a few on plastic canvas, cut out and add ribbons to make some personalised present tags

**2** For a heartwarming gift, use running stitch to attach a square of stitched felt to a shop-bought throw

**3** Combine your favourite motifs and stitch a mantelpiece runner Santa is sure to approve of

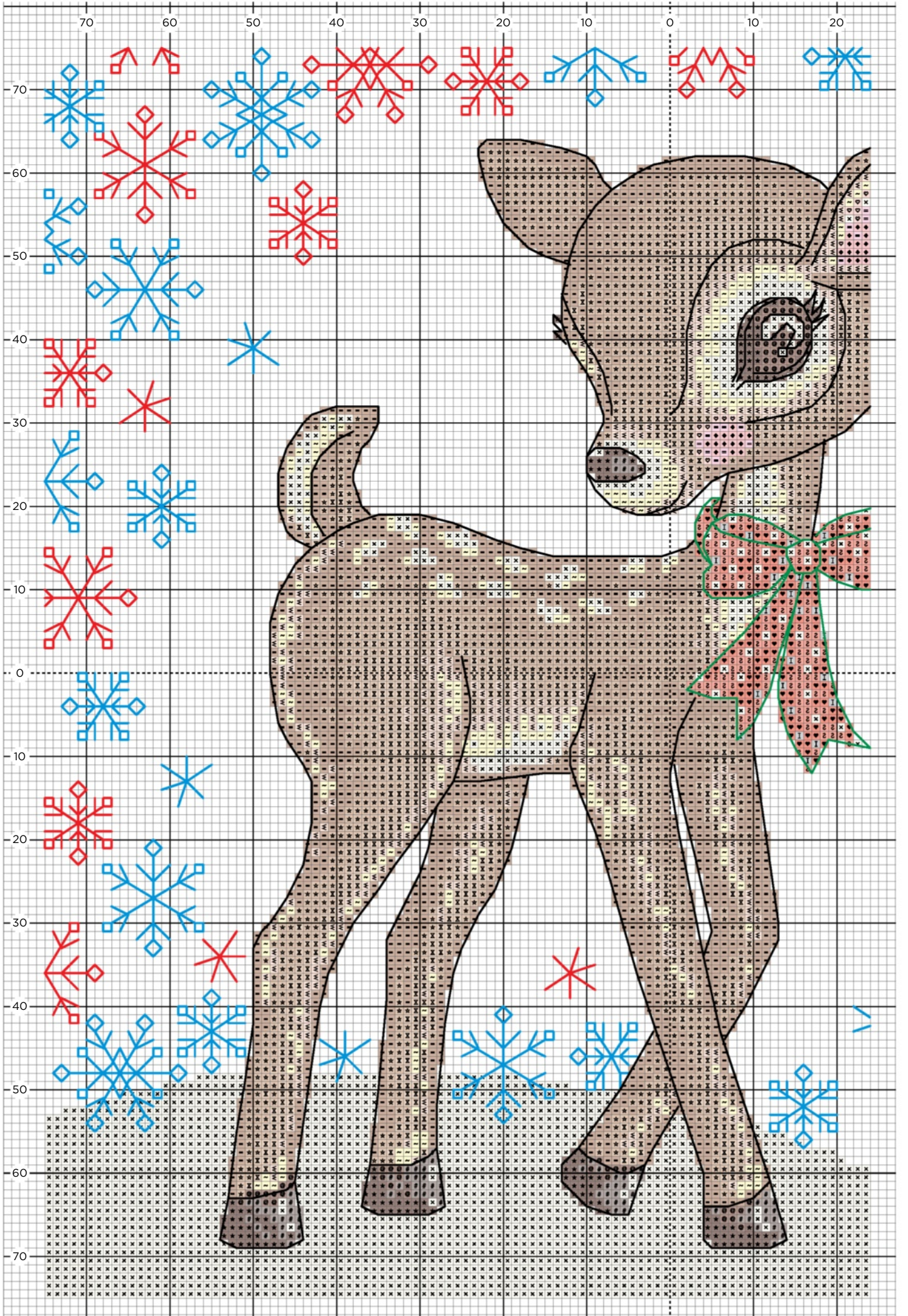


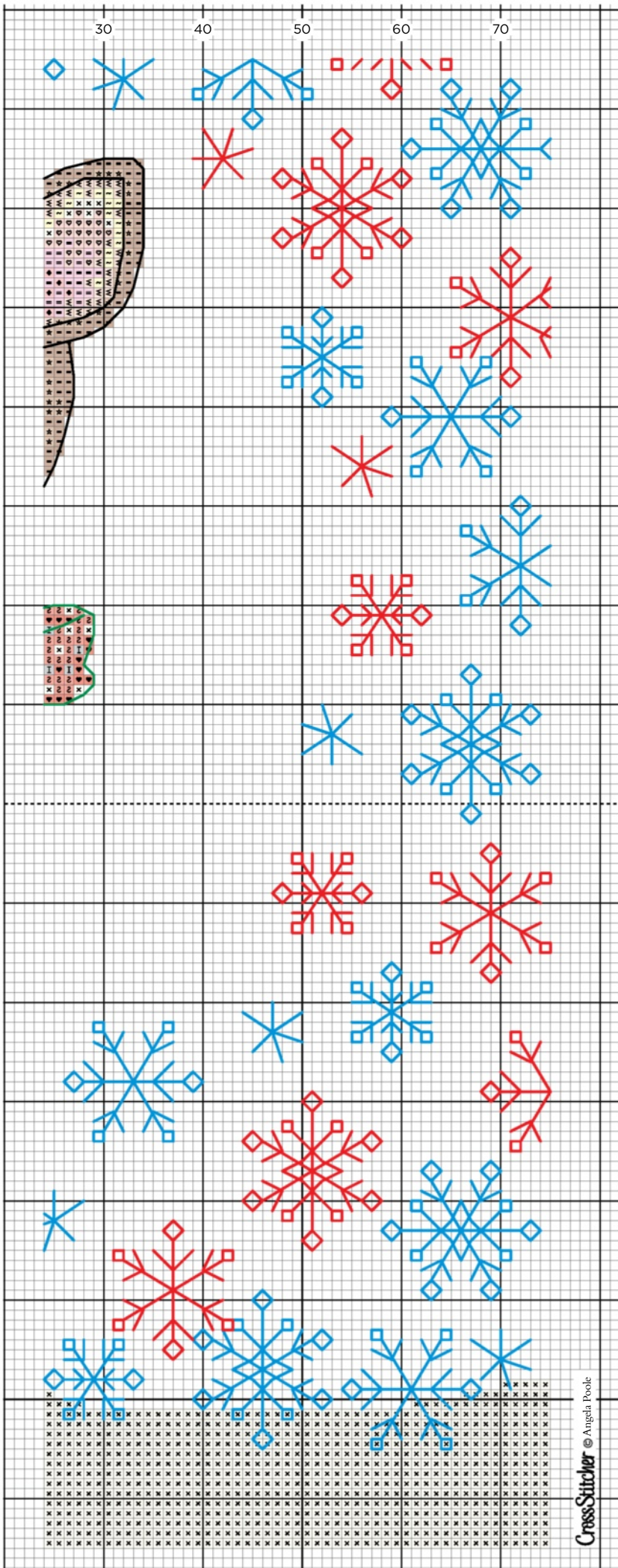
CrossStitcher  
MATERIALS  
PACKS  
GET YOURS  
ON PAGE 64

HELLO  
DEER

Fans of everything cute and kitsch will simply *fawn* over this adorable retro-inspired cushion







Designed by: Angela Poole

Design size: 27x27cm

Stitch time: 45 hours

	Anchor	DMC	Madeira
Cross stitch in two strands			
✕	002	White	2402 (2)
♥	045	814	2606
~	275	746	0101
W	276	3770	2314
☆	347	402	2011
■	349	3776	2306
X	367	738	2013
@	371	632	2602
★	380	898	2005
I	397	762	1901
=	1020	3713	0808
◆	1021	761	0404
∞	1025	347	0407
♡	1026	225	0501
#	1086	839	1810

Backstitch in two strands of cotton and one strand of Light Effects

—	001	B5200	2401
		DMC Light Effects E5200	snowflakes
—	158	747	1101
		DMC Light Effects E5200	snowflakes

Backstitch in one strand

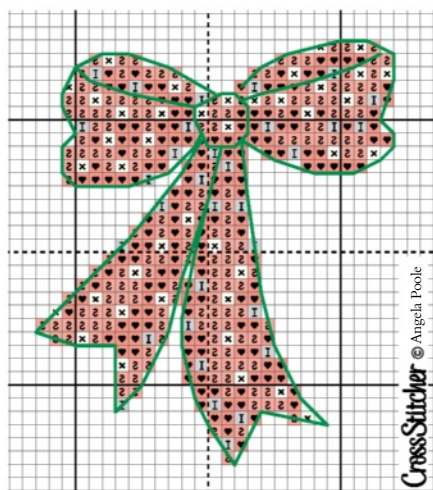
—	236	3799	1713
		bow	
—	905	3031	1904
		all other details	

(2) indicates more than one skein required

## Materials

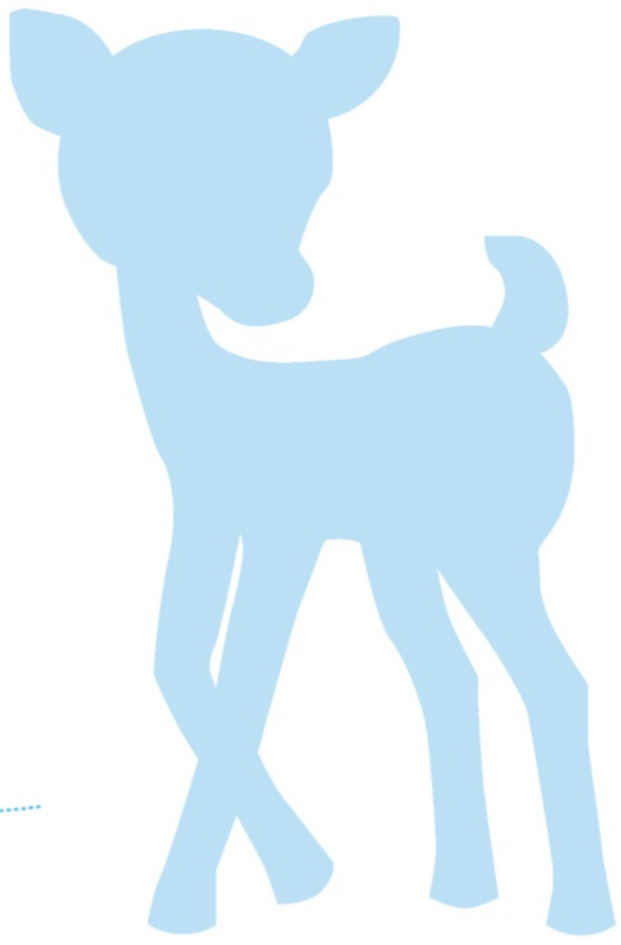
### Cushion

- 28 count blue evenweave, 50x50cm
  - Blue backing fabric, two 31x20cm pieces
  - 30cm (12in) square cushion pad
- For stockist details see page 84



CrossStitcher © Angela Poole

	Anchor	DMC	Madeira
Cross stitch in two strands			
×	002	White	2402
♥	045	814	2606
I	397	762	1901
z	1025	347	0407
Backstitch in one strand			
—	236	3799	1713
	bow		



## Materials

- Coin purse**
- 28 count blue evenweave, two 25x25cm pieces
- Blue lining fabric, two 25x25cm pieces
- Coin purse frame, 19cm wide
- Template and instructions from our website

**For stockist details see page 84**

Visit [www.crossstitchermagazine.co.uk](http://www.crossstitchermagazine.co.uk) to download instructions and a template for our coin purse

## Make an... envelope cushion

### Step 1



**TRIM** your stitching to 31x31cm and back with a piece of fabric. Hem one 31cm edge on each backing piece. Right sides in, lay your first hemmed piece over your stitching.

### Step 2



**LAY** your second hemmed piece on top, so the two pieces overlap each other in the centre. Pin along the hem to hold in place. Pin around the edges of your cushion.

### Step 3



**STITCH** all the way around the outside edge of your cushion. Trim excess fabric at the corners. Turn your cushion right sides out. Press and pop on your cushion pad.



# CrossStitcher PROJECT KITS



Buy the materials you'll need to stitch five of our favourite projects from this issue



## *Merry Little Christmas*

page 9, by Emma Congdon

**YOUR KIT CONTAINS:**

- 28 count linen OR 14 count aida • Needle
- Full skeins of stranded cotton • Chart

CrossStitcher price: **£19.99 (linen) OR £9.99 (aida)**



## *Tales from the Wood*

page 45, by Lucie Heaton

**YOUR KIT CONTAINS:**

- 28 count evenweave OR 14 count aida • Needle
- Full skeins of stranded cotton • Chart

CrossStitcher price: **£39.99 (evenweave) OR £29.99 (aida)**



## *Hello Deer*

page 58, by Angela Poole

**YOUR KIT CONTAINS:**

- 28 count evenweave OR 14 count aida • Needle
- Full skeins of stranded cotton • Chart

CrossStitcher price: **£29.99 (evenweave) OR £24.99 (aida)**



## *Be Still My Heart*

page 51, by Jan Constantine

**YOUR KIT CONTAINS:**

- 28 count evenweave OR 14 count aida • Needle
- Full skeins of stranded cotton • Chart

CrossStitcher price: **£19.99 (evenweave) OR £14.99 (aida)**





# House Warming

page 25, by Rebecca Tuffnell

**YOUR KIT CONTAINS:**

- 28 count evenweave OR 14 count aida • Needle • Full skeins of stranded cotton • Chart

CrossStitcher price: **£28.99 (evenweave) OR £22.99 (aida)**



## ORDER FORM

Project description	Price	Quantity	Total	Code
Merry Little Christmas (linen)	£19.99			603074
Merry Little Christmas (aida)	£9.99			603075
Tales from the Wood (evenweave)	£39.99			603068
Tales from the Wood (aida)	£29.99			603069
Hello Deer (evenweave)	£29.99			603072
Hello Deer (aida)	£24.99			603073
Be Still My Heart (evenweave)	£19.99			603070
Be Still My Heart (aida)	£14.99			603071
House Warming (evenweave)	£28.99			603076
House Warming (aida)	£22.99			603077

### Postage and Packing

To UK: £2.99 To Europe, Russia, USA and Canada: £3.95 To ROW: £6.95	£
---	---

**Grand total** £

## THREE WAYS TO ORDER

**By phone:** 0844 880 5851  
**Online:** [www.ilovecrossstitch.co.uk/crossstitcher](http://www.ilovecrossstitch.co.uk/crossstitcher)  
**By post:** send this coupon to:  
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 Newton Abbot TQ12 4PU

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\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_

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RAINBOW BRIGHT

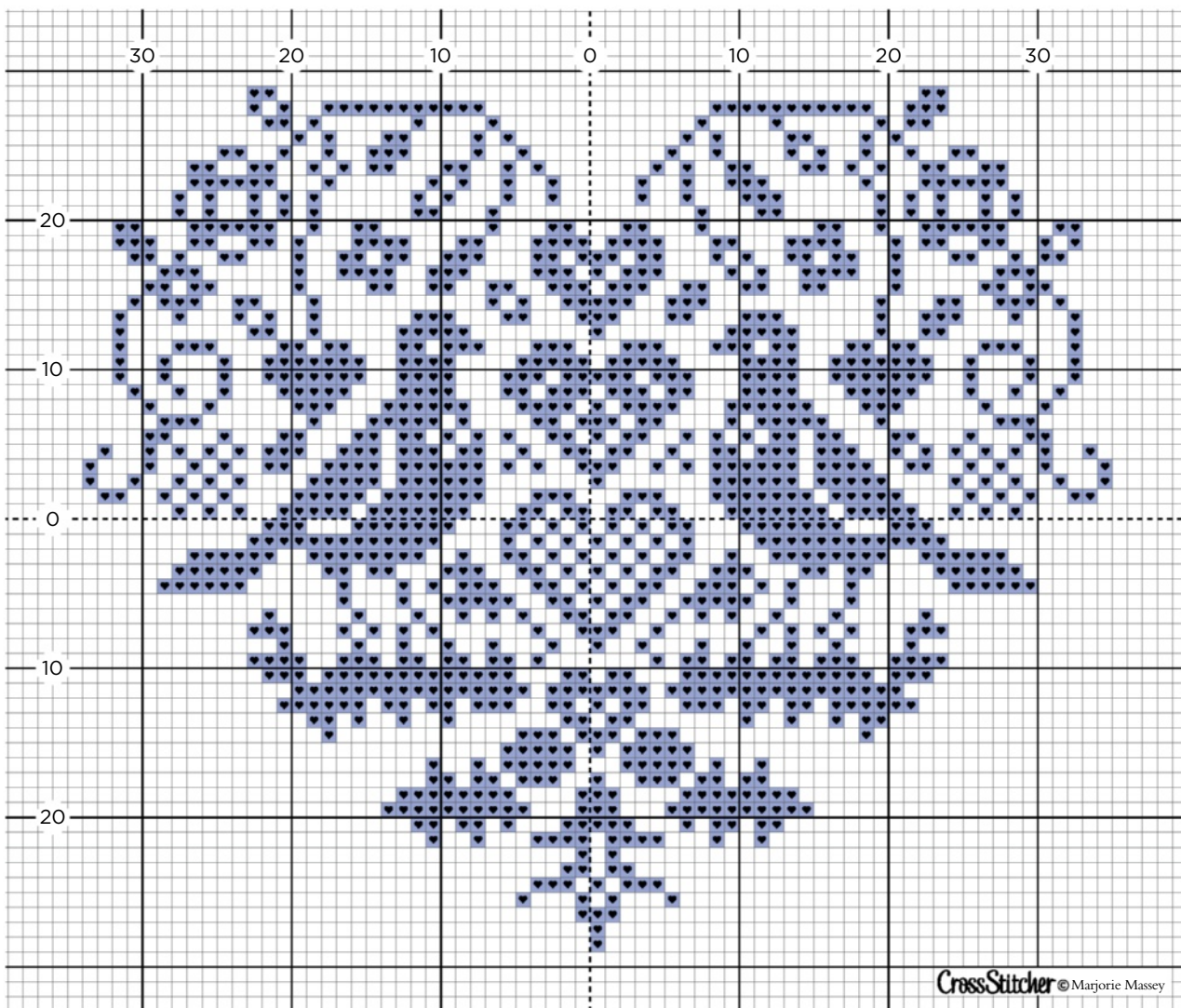


# QUEEN OF HEARTS

Stitch up this beautiful traditional heart sampler,  
inspired by classic French design

## *Materials*


- 36 count rustic linen, 30x30cm
- For stockist details see page 84



Designed by: Marjorie Massey  
 Design size: 10x9cm Stitch time: 8 hours

*This design would look lovely in any colour, so choose your favourite*

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
Cross stitch in two strands			
♥	791	178	0904



### READER OFFER!

Project taken from *Made in France: Cross-Stitch Samplers* by Marjorie Massey (£14.99), published by Murdoch Books.

You can buy this book at a special price of £10 including free p&p (RRP £14.99). Please call MDL on 01256 302699 and quote offer code GLR 9AN.

**THREAD COUNT**

Marjorie's designs are stitched on high-count fabrics, resulting in small motifs. You could also try stitching on 40 count fabric for even smaller results. Work over two threads, as you normally would on linen. Drop to a size 28 needle for perfect tension and easy stitching.

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# Cute

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- \* Adorable Boofle
- \* Somebunny To Love
- \* Joan Elliott's Santa Ted
- \* and much more!

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kit!

**Snowball the Penguin**  
Stitch this cute picture!

xxx  
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Inside your kit:  
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x 14-count aida  
x Size 24 needle  
**PLUS!**  
Illustrated mount

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Snowball says...  
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[twitter.com/CuteCrossStitch](https://twitter.com/CuteCrossStitch)





# Festive FRIENDS

Stitch up one of these cute character cards for an easy, last-minute Christmas greeting

Designed by: Fiona Crouch

Design size: 7x7cm each

Stitch time: 5 hours each

### DMC Anchor Madeira

#### Cross stitch in two strands

x	B5200	001	2401
♥	169	399	1801
~	353	008	2605
★	413	236	1713
♥	666	046	0210
E	741	304	0203
2	826	977	1012
■	3045	888	2103
0	Madeira Lana 3601		

#### Backstitch in one strand

—	310	403	2400
snowman's arms, Santa's face and glove, polar bear's face, penguin			

—	413	236	1713
all other details			

#### French knots in two strands

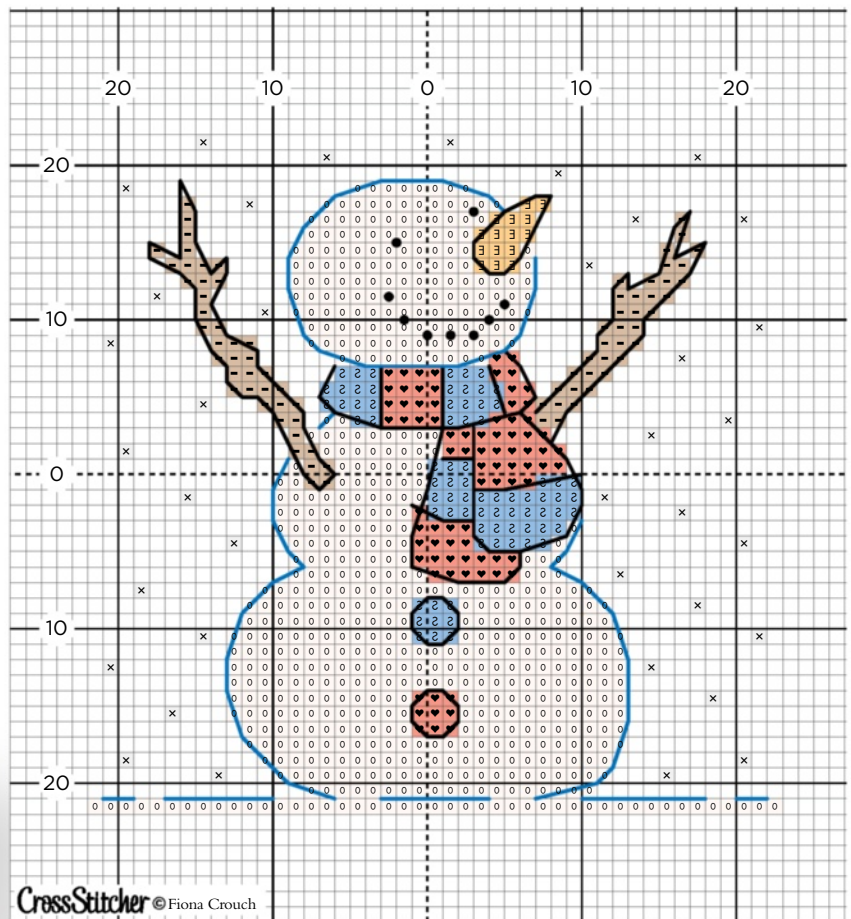
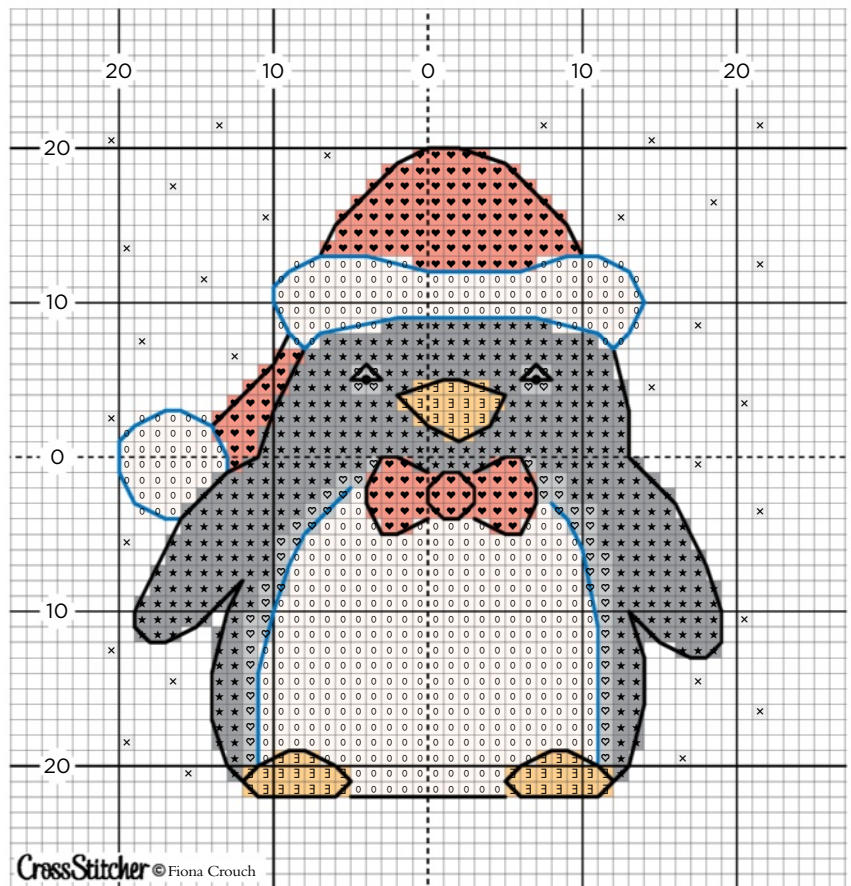
●	310	403	2400
eyes, mouth			



## Materials

- 16 count blue aida, 15x15cm each
- White card, 20x10cm each
- Patterned paper, printed from our website
- 3D foam pads (optional)

For stockist details see page 84



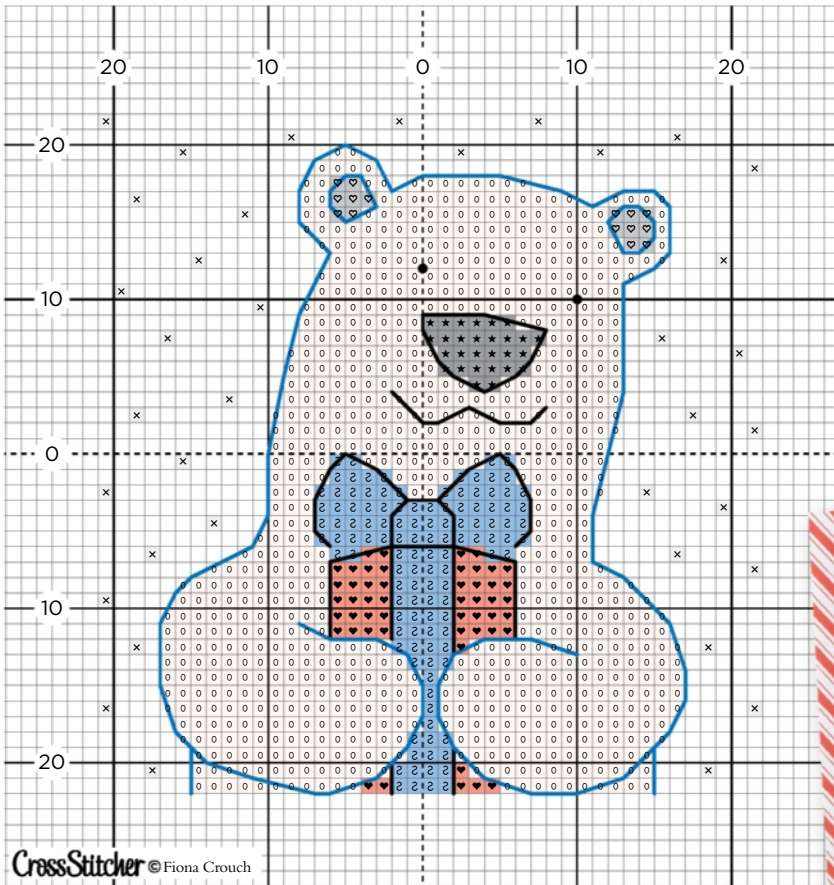
## Make a... patch card

### Step 1

**ATTACH** your patterned paper to the front of your white card using double-sided tape. Trim any excess paper and fold in half.

### Step 2

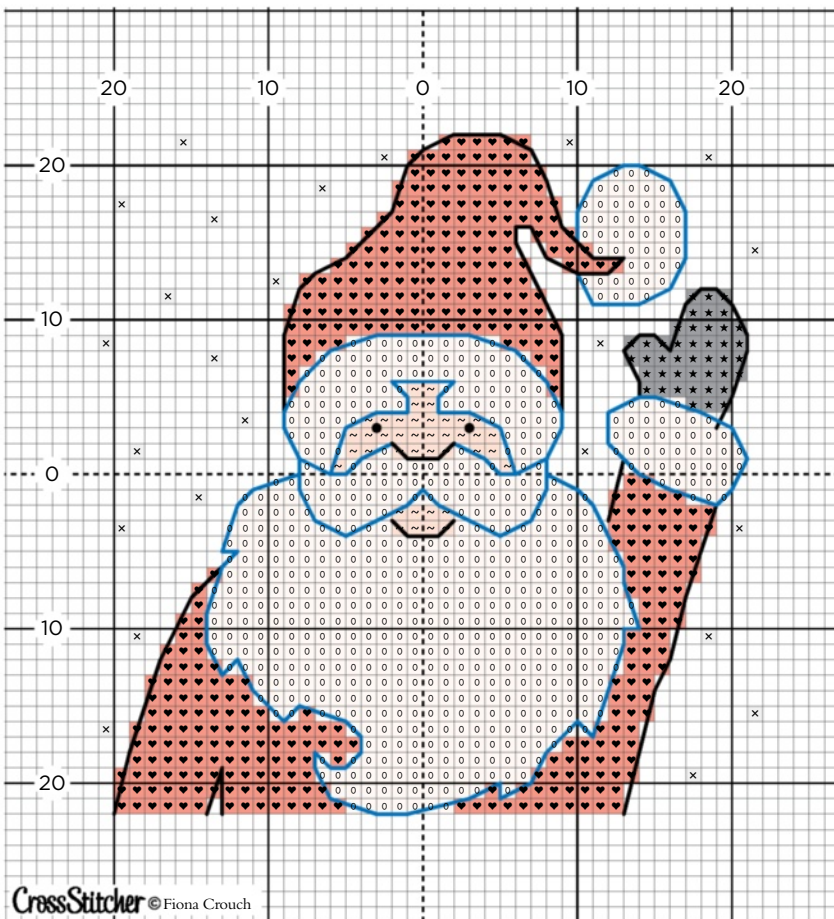
**TRIM** your stitching to 8x8cm and fray the outer row of aida blocks. Back with white card and attach to the front of your card using double-sided tape or 3D foam pads for a raised finish.



CrossStitcher © Fiona Crouch



Visit [www.crossstitcher.com](http://www.crossstitcher.com) to download your free patterned papers



CrossStitcher © Fiona Crouch

### LANA THREAD

Work the Lana areas first, stitching just as you would with stranded cotton, using two strands. Lightly brush the Lana with a rough piece of Velcro until it becomes fluffy. It is often easier to work until it is really fluffy, then trim back with a pair of embroidery scissors.



# CrossStitcher GIVEAWAYS

This month we've got £460 worth of exciting products for you!  
Giveaways open 15 November – 12 December



## It's Show Time

### CREATIVE STITCHES & HOBBY CRAFTS MANCHESTER SHOW TICKETS, 6-8 FEBRUARY

January may seem a little while off at the moment, but have you started thinking about what your crafty new year's resolutions might be? Whether you'd like to learn a skill or just get inspired, you'll find everything you need for a truly creative 2014 at the Creative Stitches & Hobbycrafts show at Manchester's EventCity from 6-8 February. It will be packed with supplies, workshops and demonstrations galore. Visit [www.ichfevents.co.uk](http://www.ichfevents.co.uk) to buy tickets. Alternatively, enter our giveaway to win one of 10 pairs of tickets.

**KEYWORD: 273MANCHESTER**

## Snow Buddies

### CELEBRATING WITH PITT & PAT CROSS STITCH KITS BY GENNY HAINES FROM GOLDLEAF NEEDLEWORK

Say hello to the adorable Pitt and Pat, a penguin and polar bear who just happen to be the best of pals. Part of the Genny Haines collection from Goldleaf Needlework, the charming designs show the pair fishing together, rowing a boat, and even cuddling up with a flask of cocoa to watch a firework display. Visit [www.goldleafneedlework.co.uk](http://www.goldleafneedlework.co.uk) to see the range. We have six sets of the Celebrating kit (pictured right), priced £16, up for grabs in our giveaway.

**KEYWORD:  
273GOLDLEAF**



## Time for Tea

### ROSY LEE NEEDLEPOINT KITS FROM LAA LAA LAND

If you like vintage designs with a contemporary twist, check out Laa Laa Land's cross stitch and needlepoint kits. The range is inspired by nostalgia and all things British - we love the pretty palettes and sweet motifs. Find out more at [www.laalaaland.co.uk](http://www.laalaaland.co.uk). We have five sets of this gorgeous Rosy Lee needlepoint cushion kit up for grabs in our giveaway. Priced £45, the kit includes 12 count canvas, Anchor tapestry wools, a tapestry needle, instructions and colour chart.

**KEYWORD: 273LAALAA**

**2 WAYS TO ENTER...**

**1 ONLINE** - for the giveaway links, go to [www.crossstitchermagazine.co.uk](http://www.crossstitchermagazine.co.uk)

**2 TEXT** - to enter the giveaways via mobile phone, text the keyword followed by your name and address to 87474\*

Please note postal entries won't be accepted for these giveaways

Giveaways are open to UK readers only and winners will be chosen at random. \*To enter via text, send a text message to 87474 between 15 November and 12 December 2013. By texting you agree to receive details of future offers and promotions from Future Publishing Limited and related third parties. If you do not want to receive information relating to future offers and promotions, please text the word STOP at the end of your text message. Texts are charged at £1 plus your standard network tariff rate. For full giveaway terms and conditions turn to page 85.



# THE Savvy Stitcher

Every issue we bring you a new stitching technique. This month, discover Kirsty Neale's ideas for decorating hoop frames

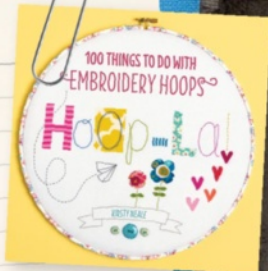
xx

Turn over...

**New technique:**

**Hoops with style**

Create decorated hoops to show off your stitching. From the book *Hoop-La!* by Kirsty Neale



**Plus...**

- Kirsty Neale's tips for displaying your hoops

*Yes you can!*

# Hoops with style

Turn an embroidery hoop into a fun and original frame that will show off your stitching at its best

**E**mbroidery hoops are a simple, affordable and effective way to display your stitching. But while a plain hoop can look understated, you can create a bigger impact and add to the finished piece by decorating the wood using paint, ribbon and even crochet. Here, designer and author Kirsty Neale shares six clever ways to transform a humble hoop into the funkiest of frames.





## HOW TO... DECORATE YOUR HOOPS

### *Yarn wrapped hoops*

**WRAP** double-sided tape around a small section of the hoop and peel off the backing paper. Press the end of your yarn onto the tape and wrap it tightly around the frame, keeping the strands as close together as possible. When you've covered all the tape, add more and carry on wrapping the yarn. To change colours, snip off the end of the current yarn and press the end of the new shade down next to it.



### *Collaged hoops*

**SPREAD** glue over a section of your hoop. Tear paper into small strips, then press the first one down on the hoop and spread more glue on top. Add a second piece next to the first, overlapping the edges. Keep going until the whole frame is covered. This technique works best with thin or soft papers, such as tissue or newspaper. Pick colours and patterns to work with the design inside your hoop.



### *Crocheted hoops*

**VISIT** [www.simplycrochetmag.co.uk](http://www.simplycrochetmag.co.uk) for a guide to crochet if you're new to the craft. Old hands start here: sew backstitches around the fabric edge. Work two double crochets through each stitch. To form the scalloped trim, chain one, then \*skip one foundation stitch. Work five treble crochets into the next stitch. Skip one foundation stitch, then work a double crochet into the next one.\* Repeat from \* to \* all the way around.



### *Painted hoops*

**BRUSH** two or three thin coats of paint over the outside edges of your hoop, leaving each one to dry before adding the next. Using a fine brush or paint pen, add (optional) patterns, such as spots or stripes, in a contrasting colour. For a glossy finish, spray or brush on a coat of clear varnish to seal and protect your finished paint job. To create a stained effect, brush on a single coat of watered-down paint.



### *Decorative taped hoops*

**PRESS** your tape down over the outer edge of the hoop, then smooth it around the edges. For narrower tapes, try wrapping a few different patterns around the frame to create stripes, or layer two strips horizontally. When you reach the top of the hoop, trim the tape to fit around the metal hardware. You could make your own tape by pressing double-sided tape onto tissue paper or thin fabric.



### *Braided hoops*

**START** with your fabric stretched into a hoop. Glue ribbon or fancy braid around the outer edge of the hoop. Velvet ribbon is especially effective, as it has a deeper profile than satin or grosgrain and adds a flash of colour when seen straight on. You can stick pom-pom trim around the curve of the hoop, where the fabric meets the wooden edge, while gathered lace trims are a great alternative to crochet.



TOP TIPS FROM DESIGNER...

# Kirsty Neale



Once you've completed your hoop, consider how you can display it to get maximum impact. Here are a few of my ideas you could try...

### Hang it up

The obvious way to hang an embroidery hoop is from a hook or nail in the wall – resting either the screw or the inner edge of the hoop over the hook. Create a bold display by hanging several hoops together, gallery style.

### Take a stand

You could use a plate stand to support small or medium-sized hoops on a flat surface, like a shelf or side table. Look out for simple, modern stands, rather than traditional, ornate versions, so they don't draw attention away from the design.

### In suspension

Tie a length of strong, clear thread to the top of your hoop and fix the other end to a hook or drawing pin, so you can suspend it almost invisibly from the ceiling. This is really effective if you stick two hoops together, back-to-back, creating a double-sided design.

### On the shelf

For an easy, relaxed look, prop up your finished hoop on a bookshelf. It should rest comfortably against the books, but if it needs some extra help staying put, place a small piece of Blu-Tac out of sight on the back edge at the bottom of the hoop.

### Doors and drawers

Door or drawer knobs make a great alternative to wall hooks, although they're of course too bulky to fit behind a hoop. Instead, thread a length of ribbon through the screw-fixing in the hoop, knot the ends, then slip it over the knob.



### Hoops on hooks

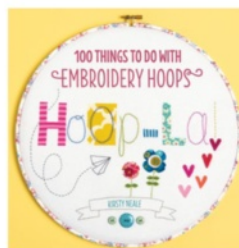
Try something similar with a peg rail or row of coat hooks to display several hoops together. Cut each piece of ribbon or string to a different length, so the hoops are at staggered heights when you hang them up. For added fanciness, tie the ribbon or string ends in a neat bow.

### Scrabble around

Create a hoop-friendly mini-shelf by fixing a wooden Scrabble-tile holder to the wall. (Buy spares online if you don't want to raid your own game.) You can either screw it into place or, if your hoop is fairly light, stick the holder up with strong, double-sided tape.



Hoop decoration will work best when it complements the design on the fabric and the colour of your walls



## READER OFFER

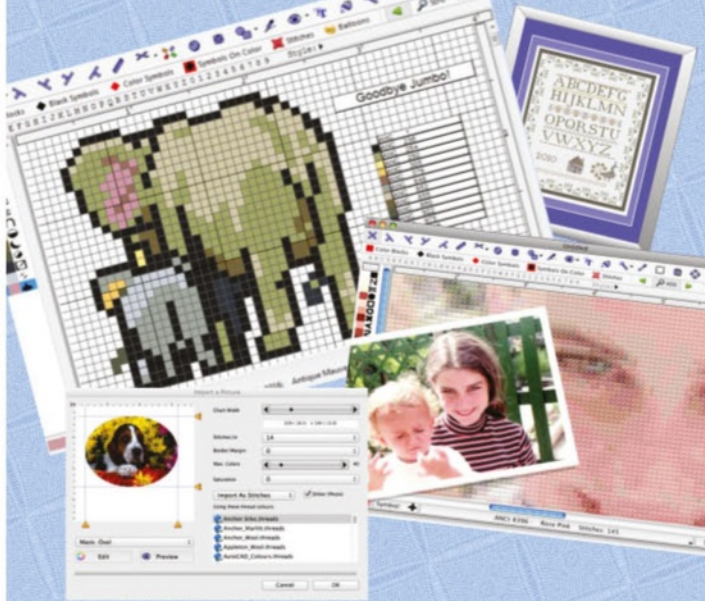
**HOOP-LA!** By Kirsty Neale  
(DAVID & CHARLES)

To get the book for just £11.24 (RRP £19.28), please visit [www.stitchcraftcreate.co.uk](http://www.stitchcraftcreate.co.uk) or call 0844 880 5851.

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# Stitching basics

## TOOLS OF THE TRADE

### NEEDLES

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

### EMBROIDERY SCISSORS

Embroidery scissors are an absolute must-have for stitchers and can be picked up for just a few pounds. Keep yours sharp by only using them to cut threads – that way a decent pair should last you a lifetime.

### STRANDED COTTON

Embroidery thread is also commonly referred to as stranded cotton. Each thread length is made up of six strands of cotton twisted together. The chart key will indicate how many strands you'll need to stitch your design with.

### HOOPS AND FRAMES

Though not absolutely essential, we do recommend using an embroidery hoop or frame to keep an even stitching tension. Just make sure it's big enough to fit your entire design.

### AIDA

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

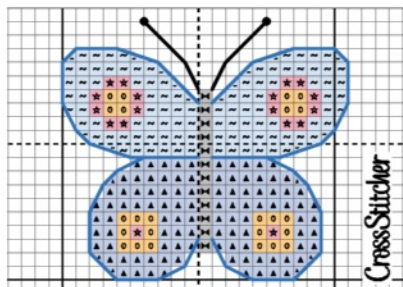
### EVENWEAVE

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



## THE CHART

**START** stitching from the centre of the design and your fabric. The centre of our charts are indicated by dotted lines. To find the centre of your fabric, fold it in half and then into quarters.

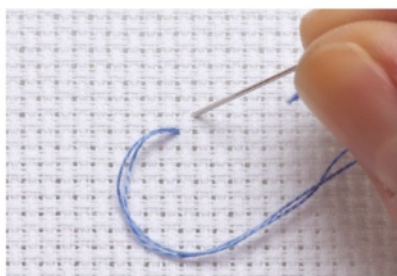


### Reading the chart

**EACH** square on the chart represents a single cross stitch. Fractionals are half filled squares or squares filled with two different colours.

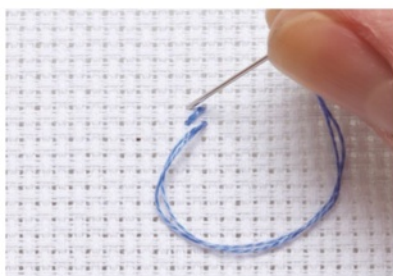
## Start stitching... on aida

### Step 1



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

### Step 2



**MAKE** a second diagonal stitch to complete your first cross. Alternatively, you can work a row of half cross stitches first, then work back on yourself to complete the stitches.

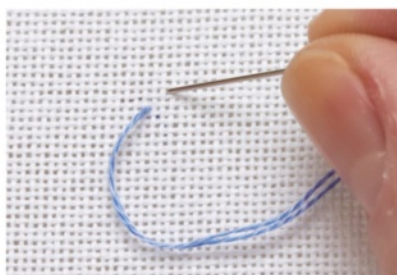
### Step 3



**THE** direction of your diagonals is up to you, just be sure all your stitches cross in the same direction. Otherwise, your design will look uneven. Continue working from the centre outward.

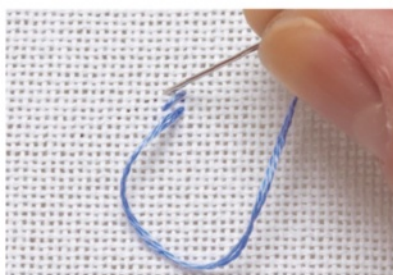
## Start stitching... on evenweave

### Step 1



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

### Step 2



**MAKE** a second diagonal stitch to complete your first cross stitch. Work each stitch individually or work a row of half cross stitches, then work back on yourself to complete the stitches.

### Step 3



**CONTINUE** working from the centre of your design outward. If you find the extra counting a bit daunting at first, don't give up. We promise it'll become second nature in no time.

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
<b>Cross stitch in two strands</b>			
☆	602	057	0611
○	741	314	0202
◀▶	3799	236	1713
▲	3839	176	0906
~	3840	120	0907
<b>Backstitch in one strand</b>			
—	3799	236	1713
	butterfly antennae		
—	3838	940	0905
	all other details		
<b>French knots in two strands</b>			
●	3799	236	1713
	butterfly antennae		

## THE KEY

**ALL THE** symbols that appear on the chart are listed in the key with their corresponding thread codes beside them. The key also tells you the different stitches used in the design.

### Colour match

**IN THE** key, the closest column of thread codes listed next to the chart symbols is the thread brand that's used in the design. Similar colour matches are listed alongside it.

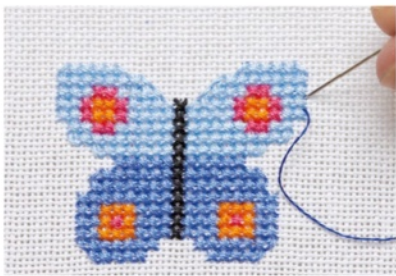




## BACKSTITCH

Use this easy stitch to give a neat outline and add details

### Step 1



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

### Step 2



**WORK** your backstitch over about 1-3 chart squares at a time, making sure to closely follow the chart. Any longer and your stitches could end up becoming loose and pulling out.

### Step 3



**FOR** each additional stitch, bring your needle up 1-3 chart squares away from your previous stitch. Then pass it back through the fabric at the same point as your previous stitch.

## WASTE KNOT

A simple way to get started stitching

### Step 1



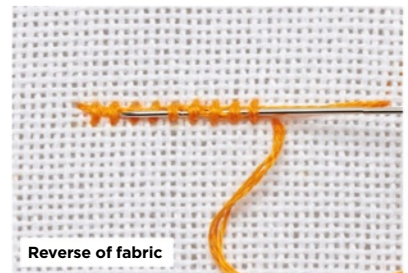
**KNOT** one end of your thread and take it down through the front of your fabric, about 2cm from your starting point. Then bring it back up to the front of your fabric to make your first stitch.

### Step 2



**BEGIN** stitching your design, making sure you're stitching over your starting thread with each stitch. You can work whole stitches or work half stitches then come back on yourself.

### Step 3



**ONCE** you're happy that your starting thread is secure, snip off the knot. To secure your thread when you've finished stitching, weave it through the back of your stitches as shown here.

## LOOP KNOT

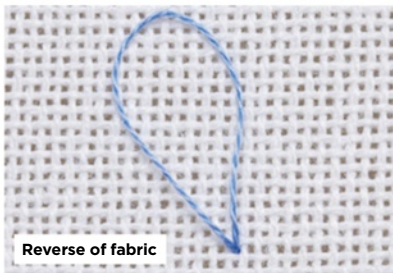
This easy start to your cross stitch is brilliantly neat

### Step 1



**IF YOU'RE** working in two strands, a loop knot is the easiest and neatest method. Cut a single length of thread, twice as long as normal. Fold it in half to create a loop at one end.

### Step 2



**THREAD** your needle with the two tail ends, just as you normally would. Bring your needle up to the front of your fabric, leaving a small loop of thread on the reverse.

### Step 3

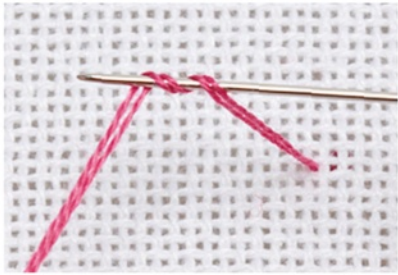


**MAKE** a half cross stitch, passing your needle through the loop on the reverse as shown here. Pull all the way to secure the thread. Now continue with your stitching as normal.

## FRENCH KNOTS

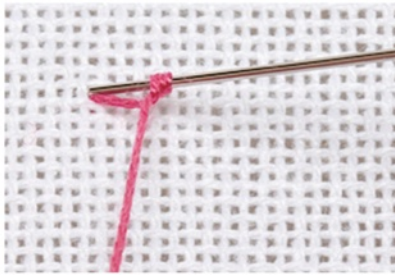
Go dotty with this simple way to add neat knots to your designs

### Step 1



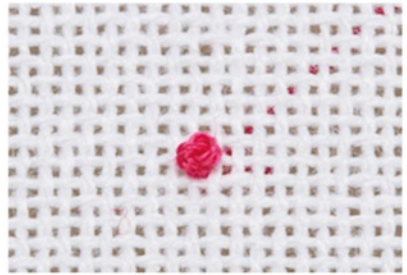
**USE** a sharp embroidery needle to help pierce the fabric. Bring your needle up at your starting point and wrap your thread once or twice around the needle. Use one strand for a small knot and two for a slightly chunkier knot.

### Step 2



**HOLD** your thread end firmly and take your needle down, ever so slightly over from where you came up. Slide the twisted thread down the needle, so it rests on the fabric's surface, and gently feed the needle through the fabric.

### Step 3

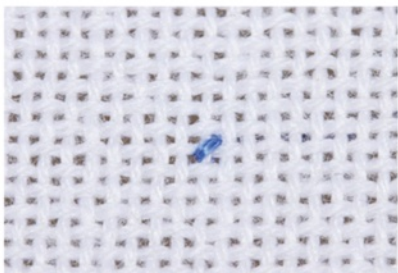


**KEEP** your thread as taut as possible to prevent the knot becoming loose. Gently pull your thread through to tighten the knot, so that it sits neatly on the surface. And remember, if you don't get it right away, keep practising!

## FRACTIONALS

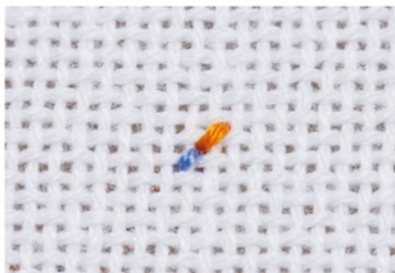
These little stitches are great for adding a bit more detail to your work

### Step 1



**START** with a quarter stitch, working from one corner into the centre. For evenweave, there is already a hole in the centre to stitch into. With aida, you'll need to pierce the centre of the block.

### Step 2



**MAKE** your next quarter stitch in your second colour, coming up from the opposite corner and back down through the centre. You've now created a half cross stitch.

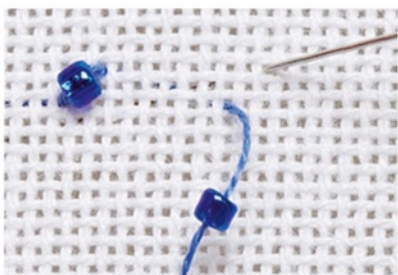
### Step 3



**FINISH** your stitch by making a half cross stitch. Fractionals are shown in the chart either as two symbols opposite one another in a chart square, or by a symbol opposite an empty space.

## BEADING

**TO ATTACH** beads, you'll need a thin, flexible beading needle. Thread with one strand of cotton. Bring your needle to the front of your design, thread on a bead and make a diagonal stitch to secure the bead. If you like, stitch through again for added security.



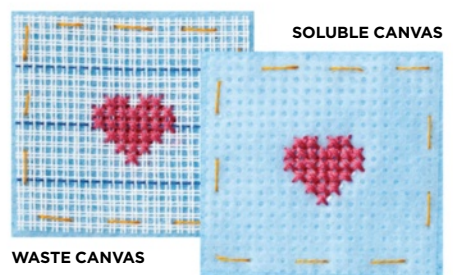
## HALF CROSS STITCH

**HALF** cross stitches are exactly what they sound like – half of a cross stitch. Each diagonal stitch is worked across two evenweave threads or one aida block. They're most often used to create a subtle background in a design.



## WASTE AND SOLUBLE CANVAS

**WASTE** and soluble canvases are used when stitching on plain fabrics and felts. Tack onto your fabric and stitch as normal. Soluble canvas dissolves in water. For waste canvas, soak in water then remove each thread individually.



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Your shopping

# Stockists

Seen something that's inspired you? Here's where you can buy it...

## Get started

For stitching fabric, threads and all the basic supplies you need, try one of these top stockists...

**WILLOW FABRICS**  
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*For evenweave, aida and all kinds of stitching fabrics*

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*For stuffing, wadding, interfacing, Bondaweb, scissors and all kinds of haberdashery supplies*

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*For all kinds of needles and needle packs*

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## Your projects

You can make our projects using any materials you like, but if you need help tracking down specific items here are a few hints. Contact details for the suppliers are above or on the opposite page.

### MERRY LITTLE CHRISTMAS

**28 count Zweigart Cashel light rustic linen, ref 3281/52:** Willow Fabrics  
**20cm (8in) embroidery hoop:** Siesta Frames

**Self-adhesive fabric tape, ref 707100186:** Fred Aldous  
**Natural backing fabric, Better Value Cotton, ref F/1513:** Seamstar  
**White felt:** Wool Felt Company

### TAKE A BOW

**Felt in Hot Tomato, Jade Green and Sun Yellow:** Wool Felt Company  
**14 count waste canvas:** Willow Fabrics  
**Hi-Tack fabric glue:** HobbyCraft

### CHRIMBO QUICK STITCHES

**4mm cream felt:** Blooming Felt  
**14 count waste canvas:** Willow Fabrics  
**1mm cream felt:** Blooming Felt  
**Ribbon, turquoise centre stitched 9mm grosgrain:** Bertie's Bows

### HELLO DEER

**28 count Zweigart Trento blue evenweave, ref 3453/5072:** Willow Fabrics  
**Lake blue backing and lining fabric, Better Value Cotton, ref F/1513:** Seamstar  
**Cushion pad:** Design-a-cushions  
**Coin purse frame, red:** PitusasyPetetes

### HOUSE WARMING

**White backing fabric, Better Value Cotton, ref F/plainwhite:** Seamstar  
**4mm ivory felt, ref W1:** Blooming Felt  
**White card:** HobbyCraft  
**28 count Zweigart Brittney Lugana blue evenweave, ref 3270/550:** Willow Fabrics  
**Wooden frame:** eFrame  
**Mount board:** eFrame  
**Double-sided tape:** HobbyCraft  
**Staple gun:** Fred Aldous

### OWL KEEP YOU WARM

**28 count Zweigart Cashel ivory linen, ref 3281/233:** Willow Fabrics  
**Natural backing fabric, Better Value Cotton, ref F/1513:** Seamstar  
**Velcro dots:** HobbyCraft  
**Buttons:** Seamstar (for similar)  
**Felt in Soft Beige:** Wool Felt Company  
**14 count waste canvas:** Willow Fabrics  
**Stuffing:** Fred Aldous  
**Plain rice:** Tesco

### FESTIVE FRIENDS

**16 count Zweigart blue aida, ref 3251/503:** Willow Fabrics  
**Madeira Lana number 12, colour 3601:** Sew and So  
**White card:** Fred Aldous  
**3D foam pads (optional):** Fred Aldous

### SILVER SERVICE

**White backing fabric, Better Value Cotton, ref F/plainwhite:** Seamstar  
**10mm wooden dowel:** Fred Aldous  
**White twisted cord:** HobbyCraft

### TALES FROM THE WOOD

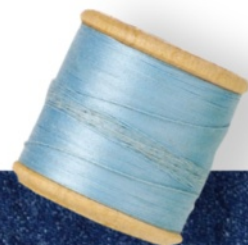
**Wooden Frame:** eFrame  
**White mount board:** eFrame  
**Double-sided tape:** Fred Aldous  
**Staple gun:** Fred Aldous

### BE STILL MY HEART

**28 count Brittney Lugana cranberry evenweave, ref 3270/9060:** Willow Fabrics  
**Crimson lining fabric, Better Value Cotton, ref F/plain448:** Seamstar  
**Red ribbon:** Seamstar (for similar)  
**Stuffing:** Fred Aldous  
**Lavender, ref 3263:** Neal's Yard

### QUEEN OF HEARTS

**36 count Zweigart Edinburgh light rustic linen, ref 3217/52:** Willow Fabrics





*This dapper Liberty-print robin from The Lifestyle Boutique will be an adorable addition to any Christmas display*

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**BSTUDIO**  
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Welcome to the *CrossStitcher* reader ads page. Here you can post pleas for help, find a home for your spare stash, or track down pen pals and clubs in your area – all absolutely free!

## *Desperately seeking*

I'm looking for a copy of *The Ultimate Joan Elliott Cross Stitch Collection*, as it includes many designs I would like to stitch for upcoming birthdays and other occasions. I'm willing to pay postage and packing. Thanks.  
Steph Edge, Email: [steph.edge@btinternet.com](mailto:steph.edge@btinternet.com)

I'm trying to find the Victorian Holly Santa from Stoney Creek September 2000, the North Pole Santa from Stoney Creek December 2000, and the Lighthouse of Christmas from Stoney Creek December 1997. They are unfinished projects of my mother's that I would like to complete for her as a gift. Any help would be greatly appreciated. Thanks.  
Nadine Boudreau, Email: [nadine.boudreau@hotmail.com](mailto:nadine.boudreau@hotmail.com)

## *Up for grabs*

I have lots of card making and cross stitch materials for sale, including kits, blank cards, hoops, threads, aida, charts and a clip-on magnifying glass. Please send an SAE for a list.  
Lisa Hunter, 67 Brookdale Road, Hartshorne, Swadlincote, Derbyshire DE11 7HH

I have some spare time on my hands and wondered if anyone had any half-finished cross stitch they would like me to complete? I live in a smoke-free environment. A small charge would have to be made for postage and packaging.  
Debbie Pitcher, Email: [debbie541959@gmail.com](mailto:debbie541959@gmail.com)

I have far more cross stitch kits than I will ever get around to doing, so am selling some at reasonable prices – some for £5. I have accessories for sale, too. Please email me for a full list. I'm also interested to hear from anyone with spare Beatrix Potter charts.  
Michelle Starling, Email: [chelles.starling@gmail.com](mailto:chelles.starling@gmail.com)

## *Get in touch*

Hi, my name's Lisa. I'm married with two children and one lovely grandson. My hobbies are writing to pen pals and cross stitching. I will reply to all letters.  
Lisa Hunter, 67 Brookdale Road, Hartshorne, Swadlincote, Derbyshire DE11 7HH

I'm Sophie and I am 22. I enjoy cross stitching, reading, photography and music. I'm looking for pen pals with similar interests from the UK and abroad.  
Sophie Watson, Email: [sophw1991@gmail.com](mailto:sophw1991@gmail.com)

I'm 43 years old, Canadian, married with no children (lots of nieces and nephews, though) and an avid cross stitcher and crafter. I particularly enjoy Celtic and Scottish designs. I also love reading, movies, shopping and getting outdoors. I would like pen pals from anywhere in the world and will reply to all letters!  
Lisa Bittner, 17364 7A Avenue, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada T6W0N1

My name's Lauren, I'm 30 years old and have been stitching for more than 20 years. I enjoy cross stitch, patchwork and many other crafts. I love movies, music and animals. I live with my husband and young son, and would love to hear from anyone in the UK or abroad.  
Lauren Davenport, 11 Letcombe Place, Horndean, Hampshire PO8 0DE

Hi, my name's Jayne. I'm 31 years old and live in Derbyshire. My main hobby is cross stitching but I do enjoy other crafts such as crochet. I like writing letters, listening to music and watching TV. I'd love to hear from people with similar interests.  
Jayne Cutler, 19 Jackson Road, Danesmoor, Chesterfield, Derbyshire S45 9BW



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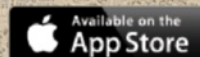
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# CrossStitcher JUST FOR FUN

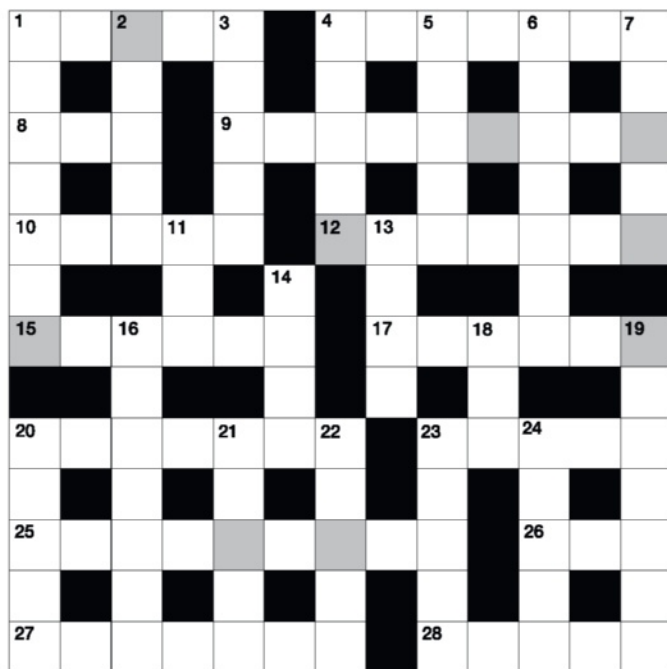
## Prize crossword

### Across

- 1 Less desirable edible parts of an animal (5)  
4 Roald Dahl story and musical (7)  
8 Golf peg (3)  
9 Counted-thread embroidery (9)  
10 Unpleasantly assertive (5)  
12 Place in quarantine (7)  
15 Female sibling (6)  
17 Device for climbing (6)  
20 Navigational tool (7)  
23 Recurrent pattern of behaviour (5)  
25 Middle part of the day (9)  
26 Large iron cooker (3)  
27 Storm (7)  
28 Church's walkway (5)

### Down

- 1 Eight-legged sea creature (7)  
2 Tiny jumping insects (5)  
3 Foyer (5)  
4 Florida city (5)  
5 Japan's capital (5)  
6 Spotted big cat (7)  
7 Joint connecting the foot with the leg (5)  
11 Very warm (3)  
13 Luxurious yarn (4)  
14 Coloured part of the eye (4)  
16 Feature of an illness (7)  
18 Genetic material (1,1,1)  
19 Continual daily grind (3,4)  
20 Cross stitch pattern (5)  
21 Concur (5)  
22 Search for talented people (5)  
23 Reddish-brown dye (5)  
24 Copper and zinc alloy (5)



Winning word clue: **Celebrations that go with a bang? (9)**

### HOW TO ENTER

**COMPLETE** the crossword and rearrange the letters in the shaded boxes to make up a winning word. You can enter online at [www.futurecomps.co.uk/pcw273](http://www.futurecomps.co.uk/pcw273) or text the code CSX273 followed by the winning word and your name and address to 87474\*.

Postal entries will not be accepted.  
Competition open

**15 Nov - 12 Dec 2013**

**YOUR PRIZE** Five winners will receive a box from Madeira worth approximately £22. For stockist details, contact EQS on **0116 271 0033** or visit [www.eqsuk.com](http://www.eqsuk.com)

\*To enter via text, send a text message to 87474 between 15 November and 12 December 2013. By texting you agree to receive details of future offers and promotions from Future Publishing Limited and related third parties. If you do not want to receive this information, please text the word STOP at the end of your text message. Texts are charged at £1 plus your standard network tariff rate. For full terms and conditions, see page 85.



### SUDOKU

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

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

### Issue 271's winning word **WITCHES**

**Winners:** Susannah Whittock, Gateshead; Fiona Wallace, Dundee; Charles Fred Wrxall, Kent; Carol Beasley, Windsor; Hazel Hopkins, Merseyside

NO.1  
FOR TRENDS

In your January

# CrossStitcher

Stylish stitching to start the New Year



## Inside this month

- ♥ A pretty **vintage-inspired** hoop-framed mirror
- ♥ **Lucie Heaton's** bold and beautiful magpie cushion
- ♥ Geometric clutch bag in über-cool brights
- ♥ Six **super-luxe** cards perfect for any occasion

## YOUR FREE GIFT!

New series! Stitch this pretty dove – the first in our set of birds by Lucie Heaton



No.1  
FOR TRENDS



DECK THE  
HALLS WITH  
CROSS STITCH!  
WE'VE GOT ALL  
THE DESIGNS  
YOU NEED

90  
NEW FESTIVE  
PROJECTS



Inside...  
**CrossStitcher**  
Packed with new ideas and **designs for you**  
*Just stitch it!*

**PLUS** Time for texture! Make fluffy designs come to life with 'Lana' thread

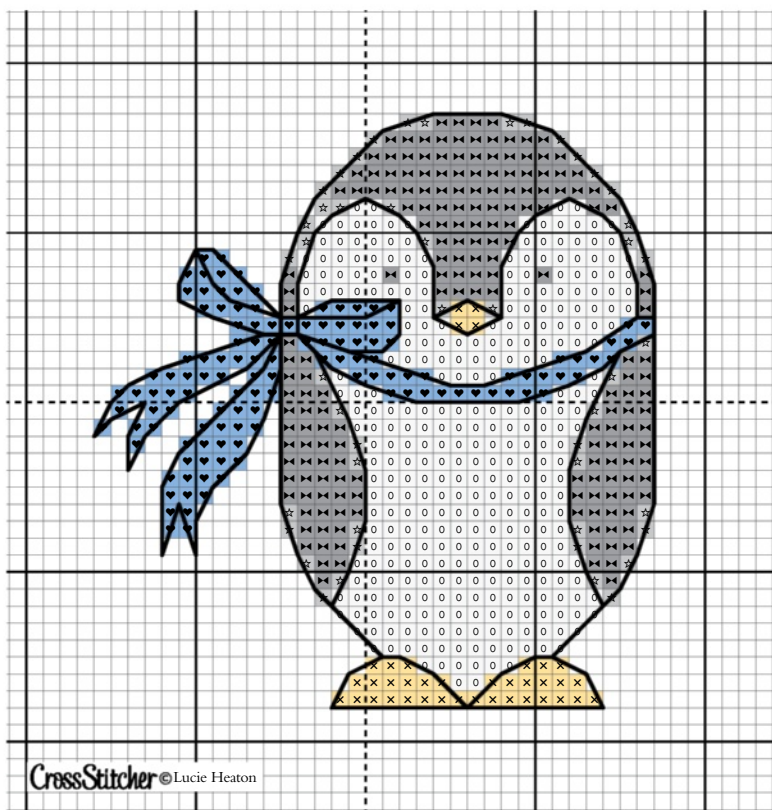


**FREE**  
digital  
chart



# PERCY PENGUIN

Cute Percy is the baby of our woodland creatures and can be shy if he doesn't know you. With his friends though, it's a different story – in fact, he's something of a practical joker



	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
Cross stitch in two strands			
0	White	002	2402
⬛	413	401	1714
☆	414	235	1801
x	725	305	0108
♥	798	142	0911
Backstitch in one strand			
—	3799	236	1713
all details			

### MEET THE DESIGNER: LUCIE HEATON



Long-term *CrossStitcher* collaborator Lucie has created this chart exclusively for readers of our digital edition. Passionate about needlework and crafts, she has been designing cross stitch patterns for

18 years and has worked on every theme you can imagine, from baby gifts to tattoos! Her favourite projects are ones she knows people can give to loved ones as gifts. Find out more about her work at [www.lucieheaton.com](http://www.lucieheaton.com)

For the past few issues we've featured a free woodland character chart. You can download the previous issues if you missed them first time round!