

**NEW
ISSUE!**

77 floral gift ideas

26 tiny tags, quick to stitch

60+ cards to stitch

- ✓ For Mum
- ✓ Birthdays
- ✓ Best friends

Spring Cross Stitch favourites

Spring 2015 £4.99

Your unmissable collection of floral charts

A year in flowers

250+ charts for you



Stunning blooms for your home



Stitch for Mum this Mother's Day

THE BIG BOUQUET SECTION

Beautiful blooms from all seasons & in every shade



Teatime treats



Romantic roses



Birthday flowers



Quick & Easy stitches



POPPIES WALL HANGING * ROSEBUDS ALPHABET * PAPER POSIES

6 Stitch a pretty pot of everlasting
spring flowers for Mother's Day



65 Stitch a teacup pincushion



Welcome



Katriel Costello

Editor
Cross Stitch Favourites

It's time to usher in the spring and what better way to fill your life with colour and beauty than with this unmissable collection of fabulous florals, guaranteed to refresh your favourite hobby.

From tiny gift tags and greetings cards to bigger pictures for your home, this vibrant collection will cater for most occasions throughout the year, including anniversaries and weddings as well as birthdays. For the latter, turn to page 73 where you'll find a flower for each birthday month; from carnations in January to larkspur in July they'll make unique celebrations cards to stitch for friends and family. And with 77 gift ideas in a special nine-page section on page 21, you'll be able to spoil your loved ones on their birthdays with this brilliant collection.

There are plenty of designs to refresh your home too, with hand-stitched items such as the romantic roses cushion. This gorgeous garland in pinks and pretty peaches will brighten up a neglected corner of the living room. And if you're looking for something for the walls, check out the stunning floral quartet on page 15, they are mounted on canvas blocks to bring a contemporary feel to your house. Or perhaps you prefer the traditional poppies wallhanging on page 80, in spectacular scarlet its fragile petals are highlighted by French knots centres and will surely wow everyone who visits your home.

Happy stitching from everyone at the *Cross Stitch Favourites* team.

Katriel



15 Stunning floral quartet



68 Pretty paper posies



21 77 great gift ideas



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With this beautiful collection of florals, you can fill your home with colour and stitch gorgeous gifts for family and friends



Fabulous flowers in cross stitch just for you!

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Stitch special gifts for Mum



Time for Tea 59
Create a set of floral, easy-to-stitch coasters

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Our decorative poppies wallhanging shows off these striking summer flowers beautifully and will look wonderful in any home

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Cross Stitch Favourites

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Spring Blooms for Mum

Designed by Amanda Gregory

Stitch up a blooming pot of spring bulbs for Mother's Day this year and give as a gift filled with life, colour and love

SHOPPING LIST

Fabric

28-count white evenweave,
36x28cm (14x11in)

Threads

Stranded cotton as listed
in the key

Needle

Size 26 tapestry needle

Extras

Frame of your choice with
a minimum aperture of
29x23cm (11½x9in)

Stitcher's guide

This seasonal picture is stitched on 28-count white evenweave using 42 different shades of stranded cotton. Cross stitch is worked in two strands of thread, and the design features fractional stitches for added detail. Backstitch in one strand of thread is used to bring definition and add outlines to the tulips, leaves and daffodils, as well as to the wooden bucket and the cobbles it's standing on. This spring design is recommended for intermediate stitchers.

How to stitch the Spring Flowers

1 Find the centre of your fabric by folding it in half both horizontally and vertically. Follow the gridlines on the chart to find the centre of the design and start stitching from this point in the middle of the fabric.

2 Work all of the cross stitch across one block of the fabric using two strands of cotton, according to the key.

3 For every tiny symbol on the chart, work a fractional stitch.

4 Work the backstitch detail using stranded cotton, following the chart carefully. Backstitch is in three colours, and worked in one strand.

5 Finally, check over your finished stitching for any colour errors or missing stitches and prepare it for framing.

DON'T FORGET
MOTHER'S
DAY ON
15 MARCH

This vivid arrangement
of spring flowers is a
treat to stitch



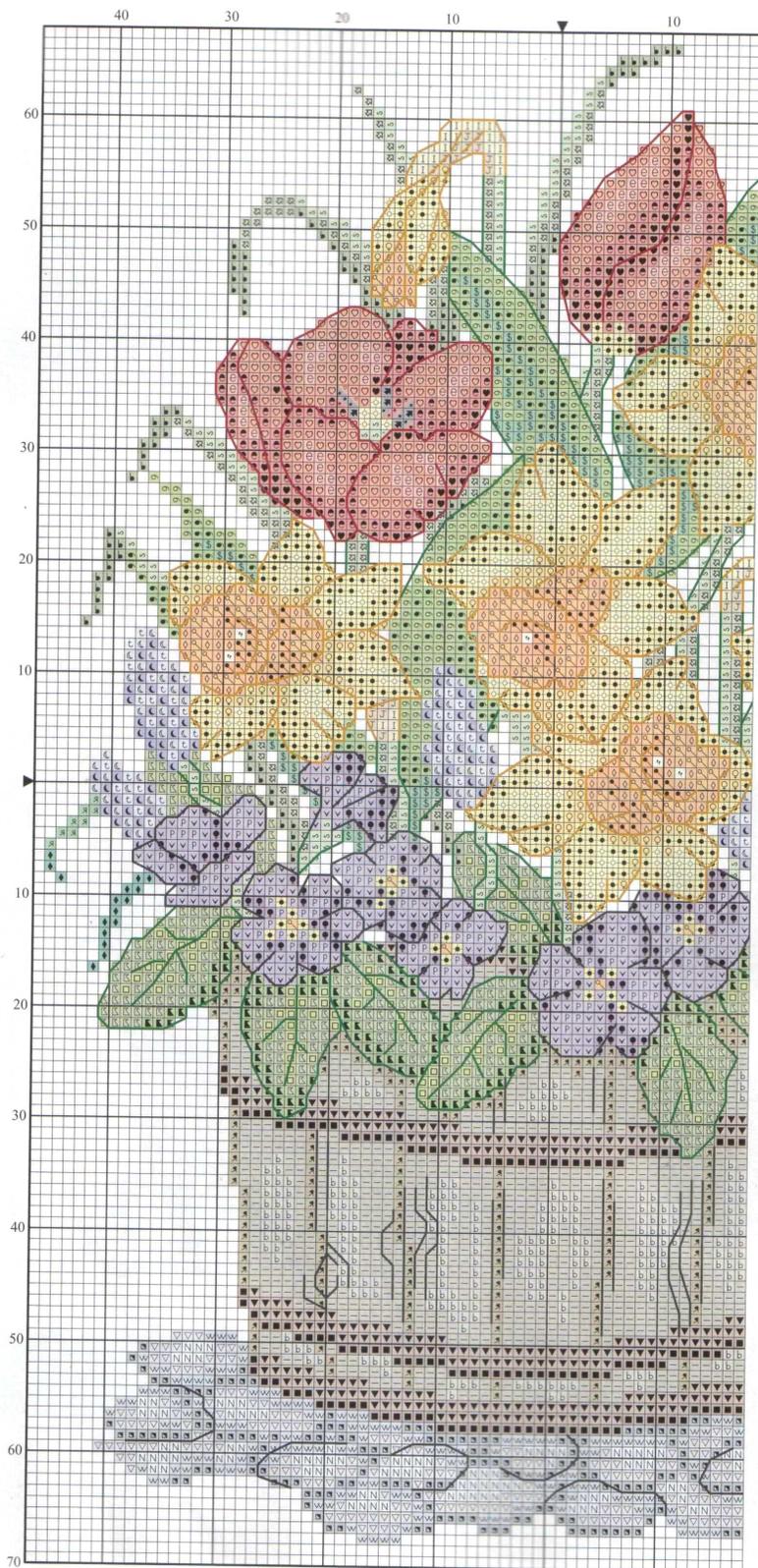


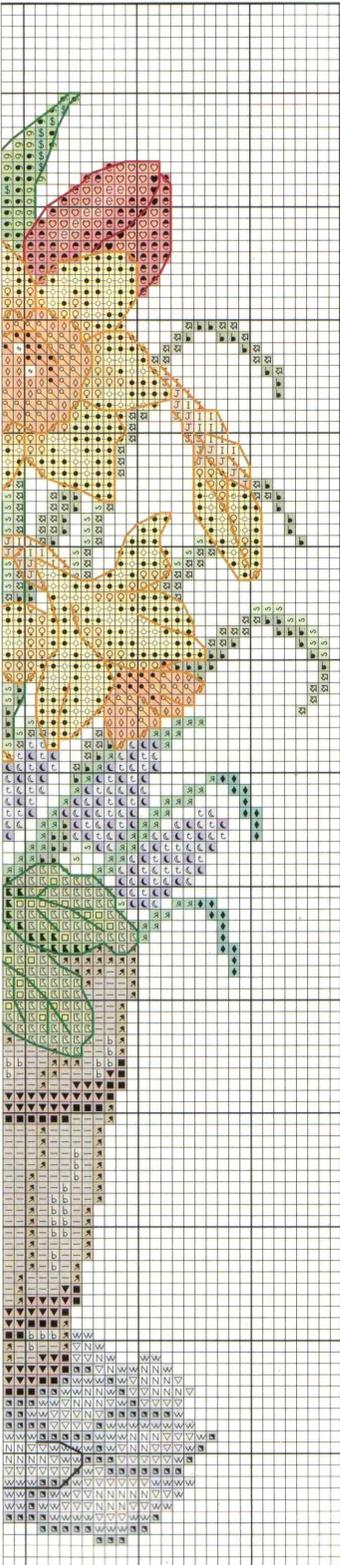
AMANDA GREGORY
Designer

My garden is a constant source of inspiration to me, but it's especially enchanting in spring. Those few weeks when everything comes back to life – when there's so much colour and movement – are a joy to behold! Tulips, daffodils, primroses and pretty grape hyacinths are planted up in a rustic garden barrel that's brimming over with colour. I used a broad palette of 42 different shades and kept the techniques simple – just cross stitch, backstitch and fractionals are used. The array of colours and shading – there are four different greens, for example – makes this design suitable for a stitcher who already has some experience.

Organise your thread colours

With this amount of colours, it's sensible to get organised. Load your threads onto an organiser and you will have all the shades you need to hand, all ready to use. If you don't own a thread organiser, you can make your own with a rectangular piece of sturdy card and a hole punch. Make holes down each side of your card – you will need 42 holes for this design – pop pre-cut lengths of stranded cotton through each hole and write the thread number alongside.





How to keep motivated

A gorgeous design like this one is a pleasure to work, and you can really keep yourself motivated by dividing the picture into sections and working on each area at a time. You can mark the grid with a long running stitch that you remove at the end, then work the cross stitch, backstitch and any fractionals in a square before moving on. This is a great way to maintain your enthusiasm for a large project, as you create lots of mini designs within the overall sampler. However, we would recommend that you don't work the backstitch until you have completed the cross stitch in all adjacent squares.



Stitch Tip

As there aren't many fractionals in this design, you could stitch it on aida if you prefer. Choose a 14-count fabric for a picture that's the same size as ours

Spring Flowers key

✦ Cross stitch in two strands

| | DMC | Anchor | Madeira | |
|----|------|--------|---------|------------------|
| t | 157 | 120 | 907 | light blue |
| o | 164 | 240 | 1209 | light mint green |
| ♥ | 304 | 19 | 511 | dark red |
| • | 307 | 289 | 104 | yellow |
| • | 333 | 119 | 903 | dark purple |
| P | 340 | 118 | 902 | light purple |
| o | 350 | 11 | 213 | light red |
| e | 352 | 9 | 303 | coral |
| ▽ | 415 | 398 | 1802 | light grey |
| J | 422 | 943 | 2102 | light tan |
| o | 445 | 288 | 103 | light yellow |
| ■ | 610 | 889 | 2106 | dark oak brown |
| — | 611 | 898 | 2107 | oak brown |
| b | 612 | 832 | 2108 | light oak brown |
| I | 677 | 886 | 2207 | sand |
| ▲ | 699 | 923 | 1303 | very dark green |
| \$ | 700 | 229 | 1302 | dark green |
| ■ | 701 | 227 | 1305 | green |
| ■ | 702 | 226 | 1306 | light green |
| ■ | 703 | 238 | 1307 | very light green |
| ■ | 740 | 316 | 204 | orange |
| ◇ | 741 | 304 | 202 | light orange |
| ■ | 742 | 303 | 114 | dark yellow |
| • | 746 | 275 | 2511 | cream |
| N | 762 | 234 | 1804 | very light grey |
| ■ | 793 | 176 | 906 | dark blue |
| ■ | 794 | 136 | 1003 | blue |
| ■ | 817 | 13 | 210 | red |
| ■ | 838 | 380 | 2005 | dark brown |
| ▽ | 839 | 1050 | 1913 | brown |
| ■ | 904 | 258 | 1413 | dk parrot green |
| ■ | 906 | 256 | 1410 | parrot green |
| □ | 907 | 255 | 1308 | lt parrot green |
| ■ | 931 | 1034 | 1711 | delft blue |
| w | 932 | 1033 | 1710 | lt delft blue |
| o | 973 | 290 | 105 | bright yellow |
| ■ | 987 | 244 | 1403 | dk grass green |
| ■ | 989 | 241 | 1401 | grass green |
| ▽ | 3746 | 1030 | 2702 | purple |
| ▽ | 3799 | 236 | 1713 | dark grey |

✦ Backstitch in one strand

| | | | | |
|---|------|-----|------|---------------|
| — | 814 | 22 | 601 | very dark red |
| — | 869 | 375 | 2105 | tan |
| — | 934 | 862 | 1506 | bottle green |
| — | 3799 | 236 | 1713 | dark grey |

STITCH COUNT 135 high x 93 wide

DESIGN AREA 14HPI (28-count evenweave)

– 24.5x17cm (9¾x6½in)

This design was stitched using DMC stranded cotton

THE SIGHT OF THE FIRST BULBS POPPING UP IS A WELCOME SIGN THAT SPRING IS ON ITS WAY. ALL MY FAVOURITES ARE HERE, ESPECIALLY THE RED TULIPS AND GRAPE HYACINTHS, IT'S THE PERFECT PICTURE TO STITCH FOR THE NEW SEASON.

KATRIEL COSTELLO, EDITOR

Hearts & Posies

by Lesley Teare

Show your love to friends and family with these pretty flower posies, encased in beaded hearts

SHOPPING LIST

Fabric

14-count white aida, 15x20cm (6x8in) for each

Threads

Stranded cotton as listed

Needle

Size 24 tapestry needle and a beading needle

Extras

Craft Creations oblong aperture, deckle-edge cards (DE08U) in colours shown

Stitcher's guide

Each of these pretty little cards is stitched on 14-count white aida using 24 different colours, with pinks and violet among the prettiest. Cross stitch is worked in two strands of thread and each design uses fractional stitches to add detail. Backstitch in one strand of thread is used to sharpen each posy and a line of beadwork laces each heart outline to bring an extra dimension to your cards.

How to stitch the Hearts & Posies cards

- 1 Find the centre of your fabric by folding it in half both horizontally and vertically. Follow the arrows on the chart to find its centre and start stitching from here, working your way outwards.
- 2 Work the cross stitch using two strands of cotton. Work a half stitch for every small symbol you see.

- 3 Work the backstitches in one strand of thread, following the chart and key.
- 4 Add the beads using the same colour thread as the heart you are attaching them to; follow the chart to check their exact positioning.
- 5 Check over your finished stitching and prepare it for making up into cards.





Put your heart into these pretty cards and brighten someone's day

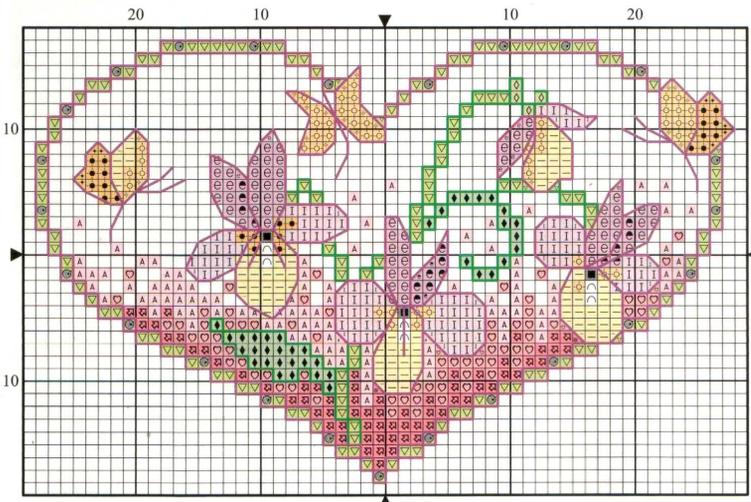
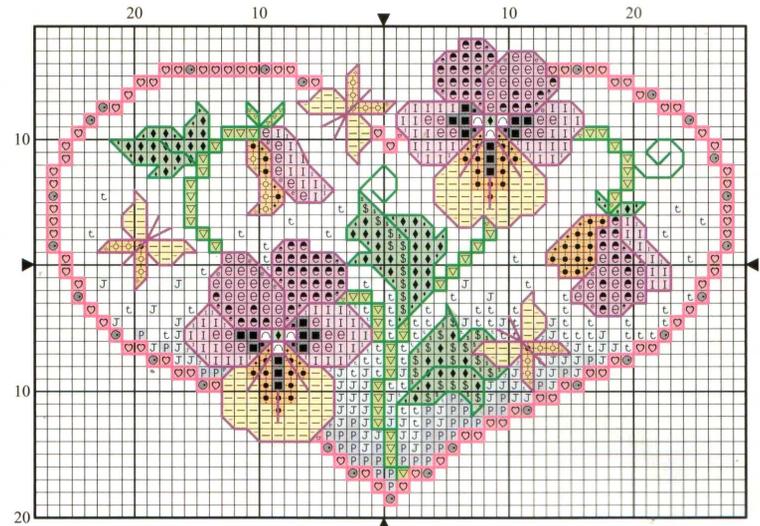
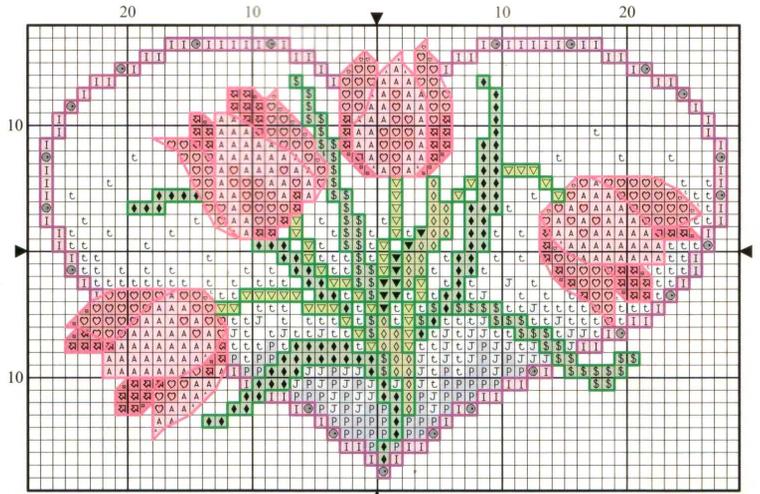


LESLEY TEARE
Designer

We all love the springtime, for its bulbs pushing up through the earth and that first show of colour. So I thought I would combine the two: our love of the season, shown here as elegant heart outlines filled with our favourite flowers from this time of year, including tulips, pansies and narcissi. Hearts and flowers go so well together, what person wouldn't love a hand-stitched card showing both?

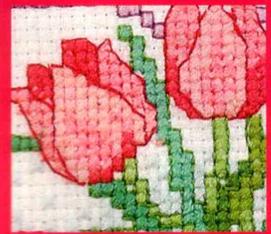
Stitch Tip

Wrap a piece of tape around your finger to pick up beads easily



In the detail

The soft tulip petals look so realistic, and this is all down to shading. Stranded cotton in deep, medium and pale pinks are used to create the fullness of the petals.



In the detail

It's the tiny little finishing touches that make Lesley's cards stand out from the rest. In this collection, she's added some tiny clear seed beads to the outlines of the hearts, to catch the summer sunlight and make them glisten and shine. These beads are easy to attach, just use a beading needle. We've used one strand of thread in the same colour as the cross stitches underneath.



Flower Hearts key

✕ Cross stitch in two strands

| | DMC | Anchor | Madeira | |
|---|-------|--------|---------|-----------------|
| ∅ | blanc | 2 | 2402 | white |
| ∅ | 162 | 9159 | 1101 | very light blue |
| I | 210 | 108 | 802 | lilac |
| ■ | 310 | 403 | 2400 | black |
| ∅ | 553 | 98 | 712 | light violet |
| ♥ | 600 | 63 | 703 | very dark pink |
| ■ | 602 | 57 | 702 | dark pink |
| ∅ | 603 | 55 | 701 | pink |
| A | 605 | 1094 | 613 | light pink |
| ■ | 666 | 46 | 210 | red |
| ∇ | 704 | 255 | 1308 | light green |
| — | 727 | 293 | 112 | light yellow |
| ■ | 742 | 303 | 114 | dark yellow |
| ∅ | 743 | 302 | 113 | yellow |
| ∅ | 798 | 131 | 912 | dark blue |
| P | 799 | 145 | 910 | blue |
| J | 827 | 160 | 1013 | light blue |
| ∇ | 905 | 257 | 1412 | dark green |
| ∅ | 906 | 256 | 1410 | green |
| ∇ | 911 | 205 | 1214 | mint green |
| S | 912 | 209 | 1213 | lt mint green |
| ∅ | 3705 | 35 | 410 | scarlet |
| w | 3706 | 33 | 409 | light scarlet |
| e | 3837 | 111 | 713 | violet |

✕ Backstitch in one strand

| | | | | |
|---|------|-----|------|----------------|
| — | 600 | 63 | 703 | very dark pink |
| — | 666 | 46 | 210 | red |
| — | 798 | 131 | 912 | dark blue |
| — | 905 | 257 | 1412 | dark green |
| — | 3837 | 111 | 713 | violet |

✕ Mill Hill seed beads

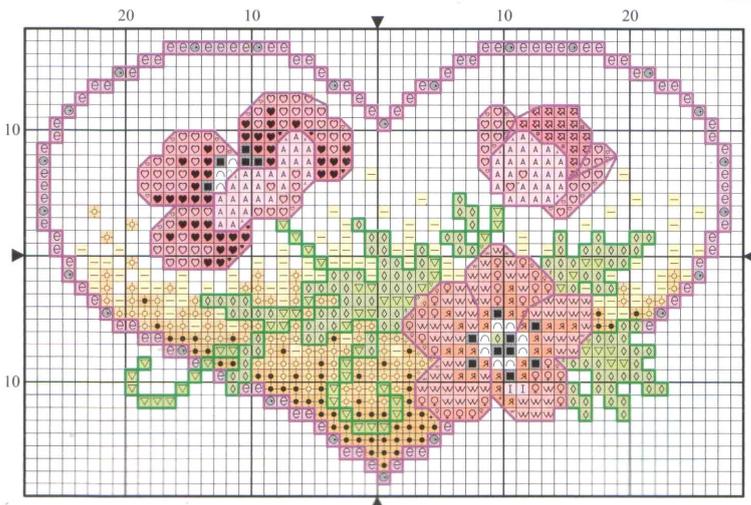
| | | | |
|---|-------|--|-----|
| ∅ | 02010 | | ice |
|---|-------|--|-----|

MAXIMUM STITCH COUNT 37 high x 55 wide

DESIGN AREA 14HPI (28-count evenweave)

— 6.5x10cm (2½x4in)

These designs were stitched using DMC stranded cotton and Mill Hill seed beads

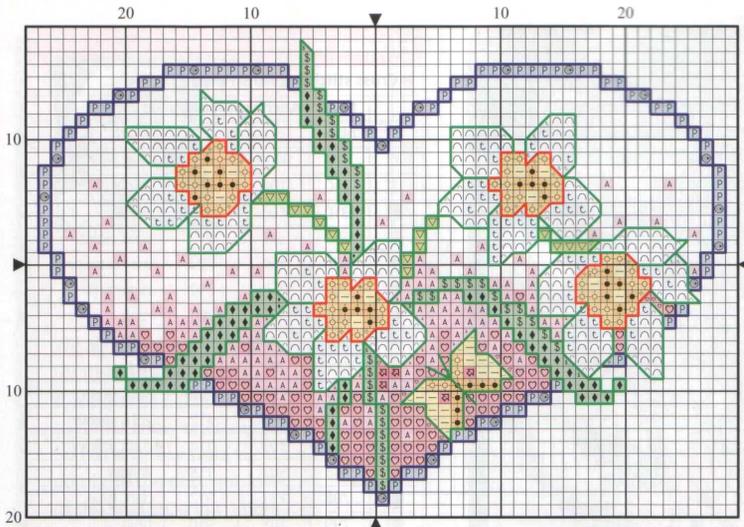


Finishing touches

You could turn these designs into decorations. Back the hearts with pretty fabric, fill with lavender or stuffing and attach ribbon for hanging. They'd make gorgeous scented sachets for the wardrobe.

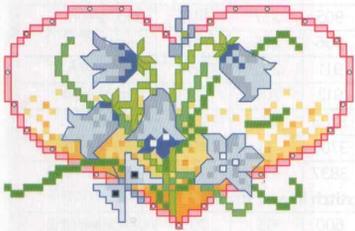


Floral Hearts Cards



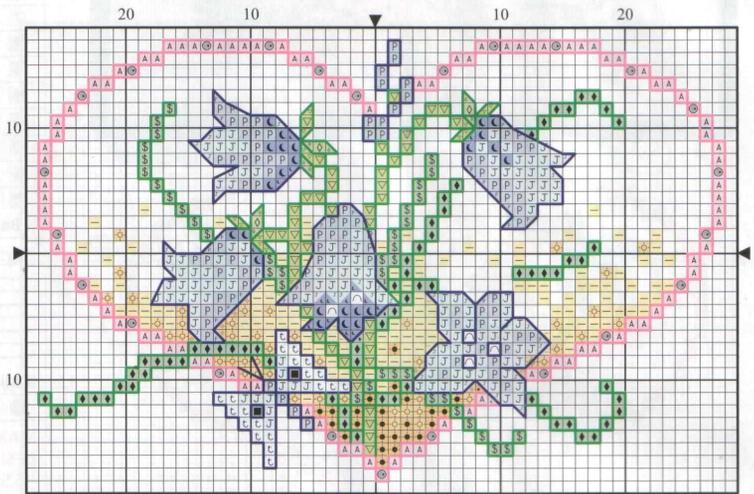
Finishing touches

To make your beads more secure, attach them using a whole cross stitch in two strands of thread.



Stitch Tip

If you need to iron your fabric, do so before attaching the beads



FRESH &
MODERN
DESIGNS



A Floral Quartet

By Susan Bates

Make a statement with canvas art – our flower arrangement is a perfect blend of classic and contemporary

SHOPPING LIST

Fabric

28-count Britney evenweave in pastel pink or Wedgwood, measuring 30x30cm (12x12in) for each design

Threads

Stranded cotton as listed in the key

Needle

Size 24 tapestry needle

Extras

Canvas frames measuring 20x20cm (8x8in)

Apple Blossom key

✦ Cross stitch in two strands

| | Anchor | DMC | Madeira | |
|---|--------|------|---------|-----------------|
| ◇ | 24 | 3713 | 502 | light pink |
| ♦ | 52 | 956 | 413 | pink |
| ♥ | 63 | 3804 | 704 | dark pink |
| ■ | 69 | 3803 | 602 | very dark pink |
| ▼ | 245 | 701 | 1305 | dark green |
| ▽ | 254 | 907 | 1301 | light green |
| ■ | 256 | 906 | 1609 | green |
| N | 271 | 819 | 814 | very light pink |
| ◇ | 275 | 712 | 2403 | cream |
| ■ | 278 | 165 | 1414 | moss green |
| ■ | 280 | 733 | 1611 | dark moss green |

✦ Backstitch in one strand

| | | | | |
|---|-----|------|------|------------------|
| — | 69 | 3803 | 602 | very dark pink |
| — | 218 | 319 | 1313 | very dark green |
| — | 845 | 3011 | 1607 | dark olive green |

STITCH COUNT 107 high x 102 wide

DESIGN AREA 14HPI (28-count evenweave)
— 19.5x18cm (7¾x7¼in)

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

Clematis key

✦ Cross stitch in two strands

| | Anchor | DMC | Madeira | |
|---|--------|------|---------|-----------------|
| ◇ | 97 | 553 | 708 | light mauve |
| ■ | 99 | 552 | 712 | mauve |
| b | 103 | 153 | 801 | lilac |
| ▼ | 112 | 3837 | 713 | dark mauve |
| ▼ | 245 | 701 | 1305 | dark green |
| ▽ | 254 | 907 | 1301 | light green |
| ■ | 256 | 906 | 1609 | green |
| N | 271 | 819 | 814 | very light pink |
| ◇ | 275 | 712 | 2403 | cream |
| ■ | 278 | 165 | 1414 | moss green |
| ■ | 280 | 733 | 1611 | dark moss green |

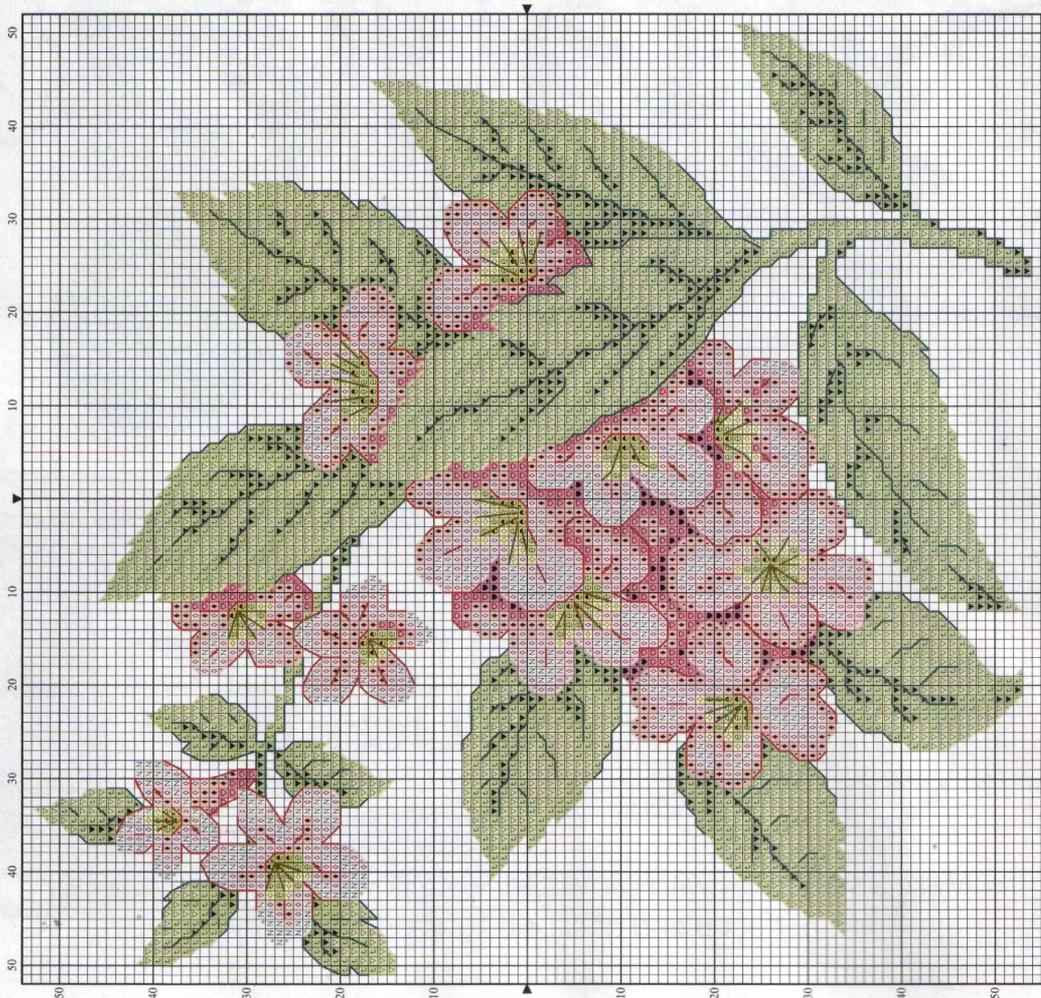
✦ Backstitch in one strand

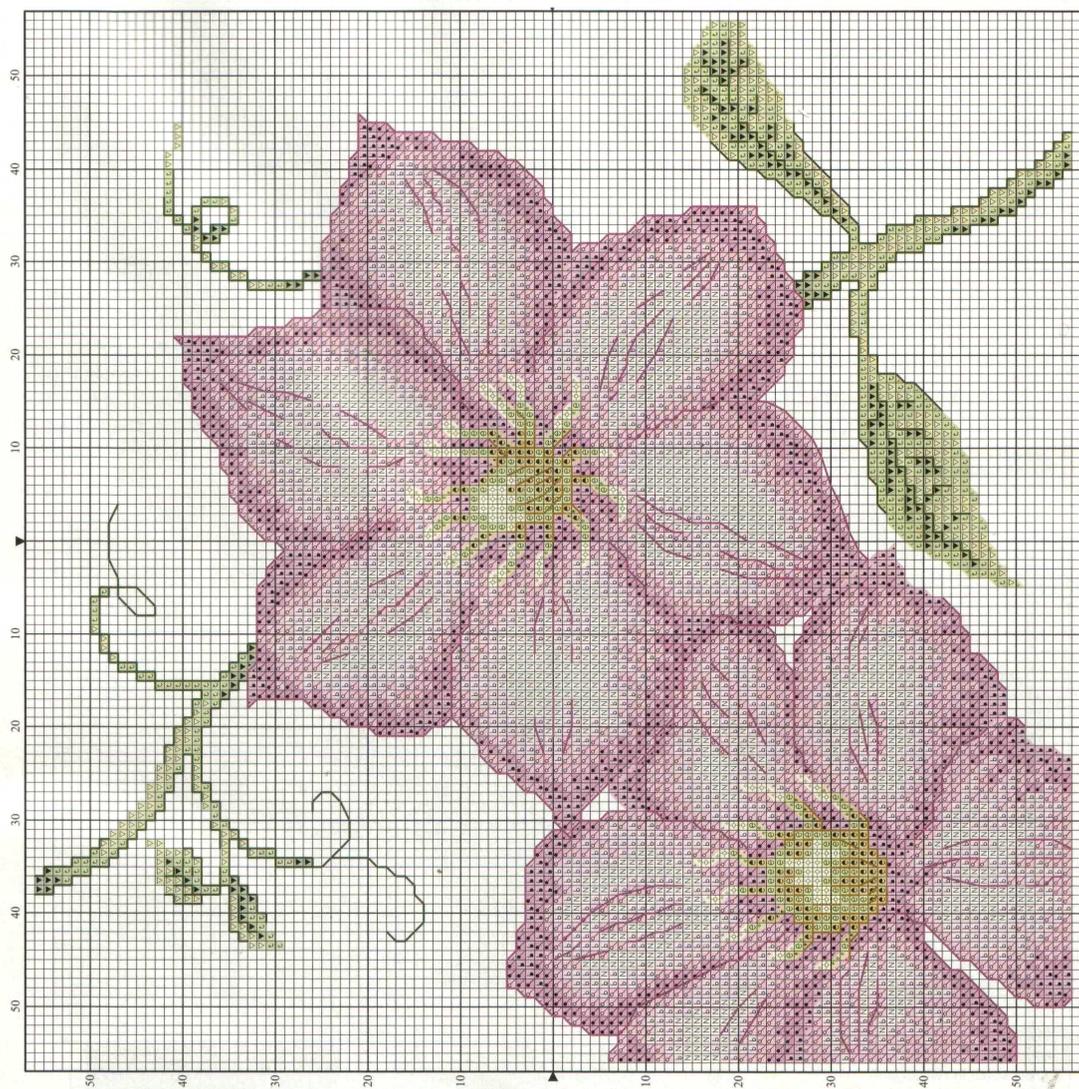
| | | | | |
|---|-----|------|------|------------------|
| — | 112 | 3837 | 713 | dark mauve |
| — | 218 | 319 | 1313 | very dark green |
| — | 845 | 3011 | 1607 | dark olive green |

STITCH COUNT 112 high x 112 wide

DESIGN AREA 14HPI (28-count evenweave)
— 20x20cm (8x8in)

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





Stitcher's guide

These stunning floral studies are stitched on 28-count Britney evenweave in pastel pink and Wedgwood using threads in sumptuous colours, around 12-14 for each picture (follow separate keys for each design).

Cross stitch is worked in two strands of thread and fractional stitches are used to bring definition to the designs. Backstitch is worked in one strand, follow the key to see which colours you need.

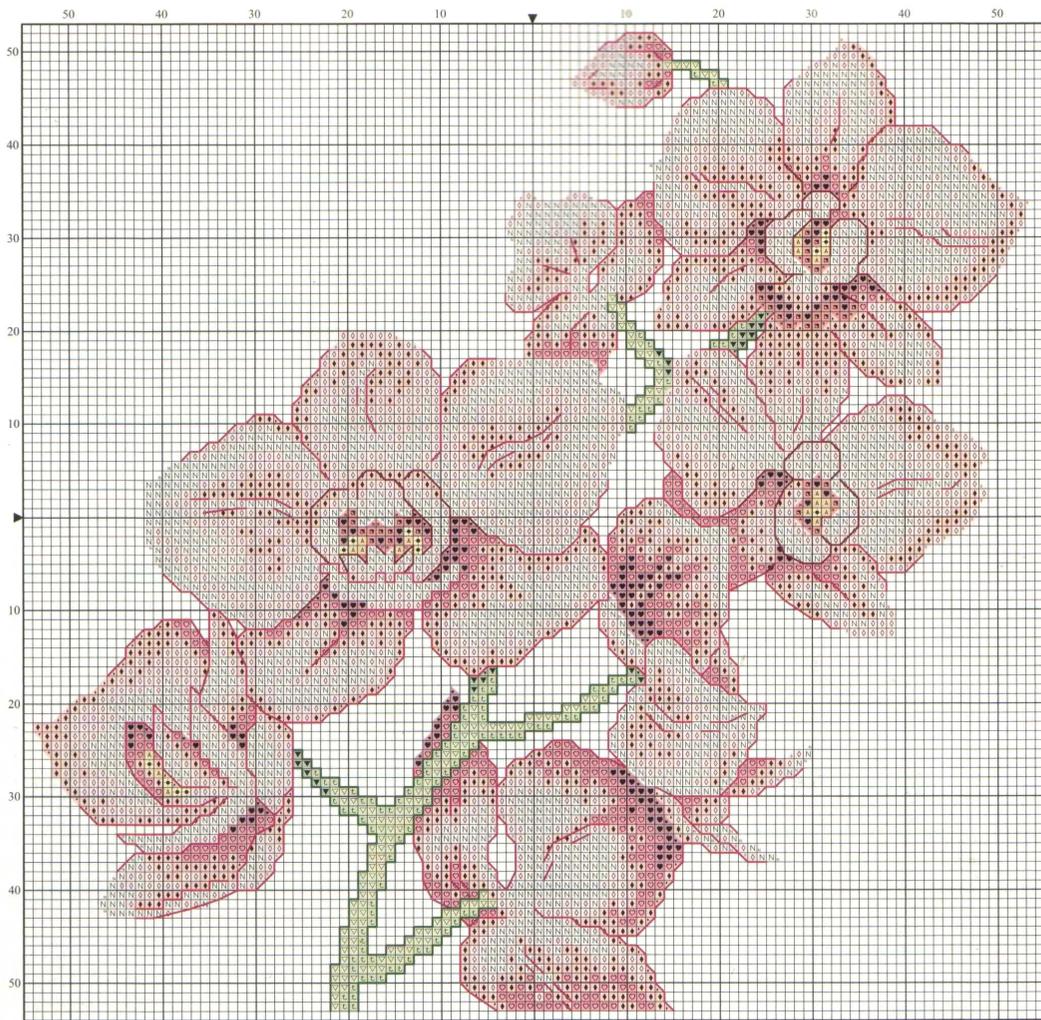
Stitch Tip

To stretch your fabric over the canvas, you can either lace it as you would do for a framed piece, or you can use staples for a quicker result

How to stitch the Floral Quartet

- 1 Find the centre of your fabric by folding it in half both horizontally and vertically. Follow the gridlines on the chart to find the centre of the design and start stitching from this point in the middle of the fabric.
- 2 Work all of the cross stitches neatly across one block of the evenweave fabric using two strands of cotton, referring to the key to see which shade to use.
- 3 For every tiny symbol on the chart, work a fractional stitch.
- 4 Work the backstitch detail using stranded cotton, following the chart carefully. Backstitch is in three colours (apart from the Peonies, where it is two), and worked in one strand.
- 5 Carefully check over your finished stitching for any errors or missing stitches and prepare it for framing or making up.

Flowers Panels



Orchids key

✦ Cross stitch in two strands

| Anchor | DMC | Madeira | |
|--------|-----|---------|---------------------|
| ◇ | 24 | 3713 | 502 light pink |
| ■ | 44 | 815 | 601 red |
| ◆ | 52 | 956 | 613 pink |
| ◊ | 63 | 3804 | 704 dark pink |
| ◼ | 69 | 3803 | 602 very dark pink |
| ▽ | 245 | 701 | 1305 dark green |
| ▽ | 254 | 907 | 1301 light green |
| ◻ | 256 | 906 | 1609 green |
| N | 271 | 819 | 814 very light pink |
| ◆ | 295 | 726 | 109 yellow |
| ▲ | 306 | 728 | 2509 dark yellow |

✦ Backstitch in one strand

| | | | |
|---|-----|------|----------------------|
| — | 44 | 815 | 601 red |
| — | 69 | 3803 | 602 very dark pink |
| — | 218 | 319 | 1313 very dark green |

STITCH COUNT 105 high x 108 wide
 DESIGN AREA 14HPI (28-count evenweave)
 - 19x19.5cm (7½x7¾in)

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



THIS COMPOSITION OF FOUR PANELS LOOKS SO CONTEMPORARY AND USING TWO DIFFERENT FABRIC COLOURS THAT SUBTLY CONTRAST IS VERY EFFECTIVE. DISPLAY THE PICTURES AS WE HAVE HERE, TO MAKE A SQUARE, OR LINE THEM VERTICALLY OR HORIZONTALLY TO SUIT THE DÉCOR OF YOUR ROOM.

KATRIEL COSTELLO, EDITOR



SUSAN BATES
Designer

I've designed a few single pieces like this for my home already, but it was more of a challenge to create four complementary panels. I used both blue or pink fabric for the contrast.



Finishing touches

These four fabulous floral panels have been stitched on pastel blue or pink evenweave and stretched over canvas. There is no mount and no frame, Susan has designed these flowers so they are bold enough to stand alone, or as a stunning quartet.

Peonies key

✦ Cross stitch in two strands

| | Anchor | DMC | Madeira | |
|---|--------|------|---------|-----------------|
| z | 95 | 211 | 801 | light mauve |
| z | 97 | 553 | 708 | mauve |
| z | 99 | 552 | 712 | dark mauve |
| z | 245 | 701 | 1305 | dark green |
| z | 254 | 907 | 1301 | light green |
| z | 256 | 906 | 1609 | green |
| N | 271 | 819 | 814 | very light pink |
| z | 275 | 712 | 2403 | cream |
| z | 295 | 726 | 109 | yellow |
| A | 306 | 728 | 2509 | dark yellow |
| z | 1028 | 3685 | 602 | dark cerise |

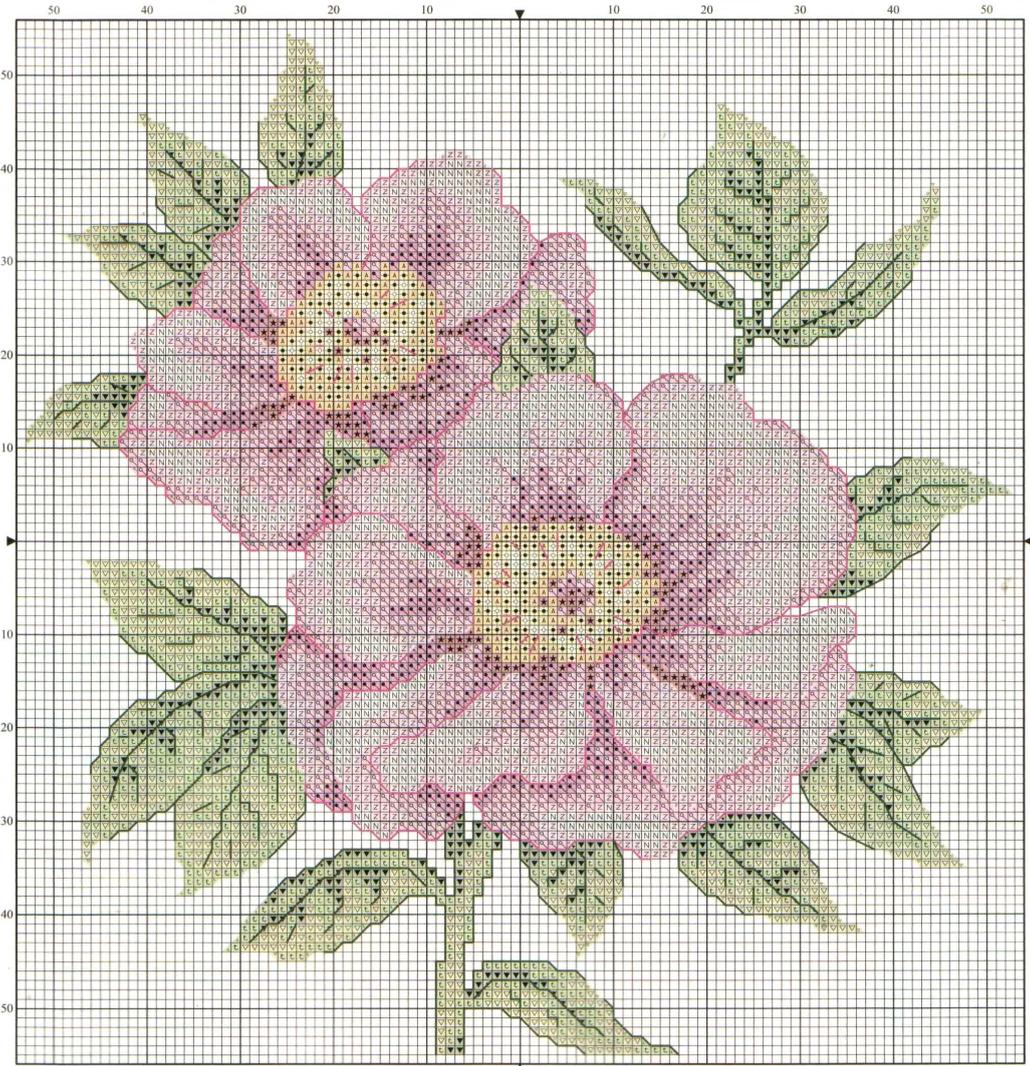
✦ Backstitch in one strand

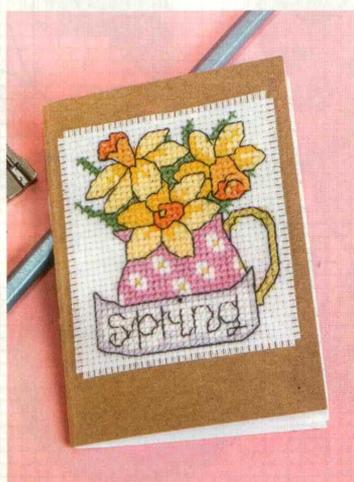
| | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|------|-----------------|
| — | 99 | 552 | 712 | dark mauve |
| — | 218 | 319 | 1313 | very dark green |

STITCH COUNT 110 high x 106 wide

DESIGN AREA 14HPI (28-count evenweave)
— 19.5x19cm (7¾x7½in)

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





77 Floral Gift Ideas

Designed by Lesley Teare, Sue Page

The following nine pages are positively blooming with gift ideas featuring the prettiest petals, most gorgeous garlands and beautiful rosebuds. From vintage flowers to modern brights, pick your favourite from this stylish bunch

SHOPPING LIST

Fabric

14-count white aida,
12x10cm (4¾x4in)

Threads

Stranded cotton as listed
in the key

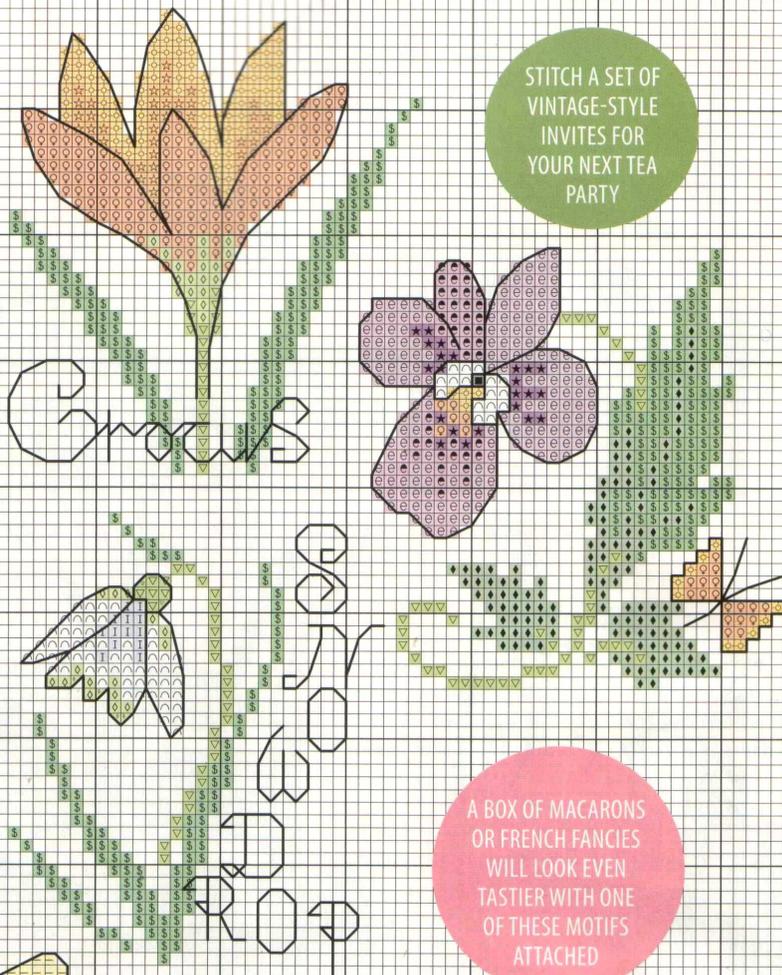
Needle

Size 24 tapestry needle

Extras

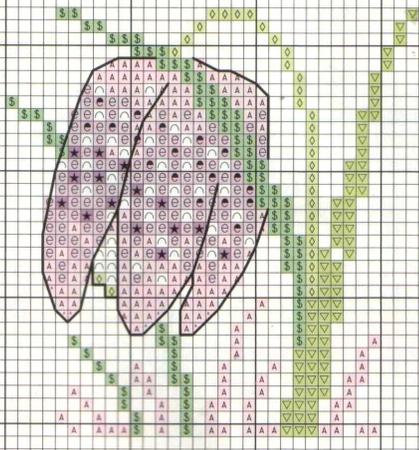
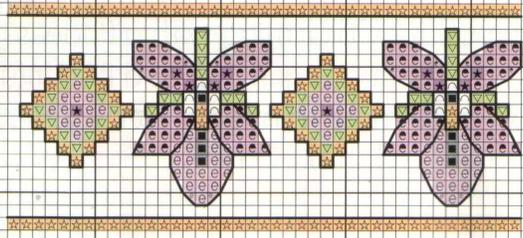
Craft Creations single fold
card blank (DEC2U) in
Creative Hammer White
(45) (www.craftcreations.com,
01992 781900). All
other items are available
from high street stores.

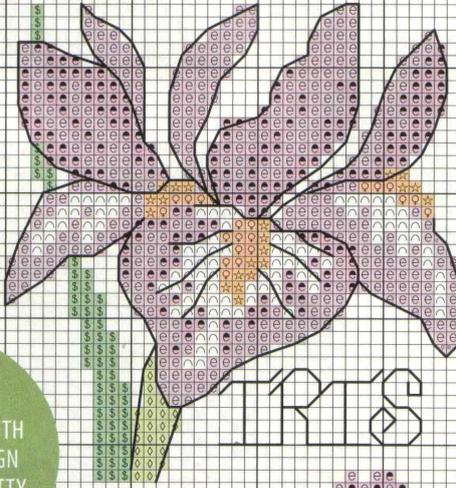
STITCH A SET OF
VINTAGE-STYLE
INVITES FOR
YOUR NEXT TEA
PARTY



A BOX OF MACARONS
OR FRENCH FANCIES
WILL LOOK EVEN
TASTIER WITH ONE
OF THESE MOTIFS
ATTACHED

STITCH DESIGNS
ONTO ANTIQUE
EVENWEAVE OR
LINEN TO ADD AN
AGED FEEL TO THESE
VINTAGE BLOOMS



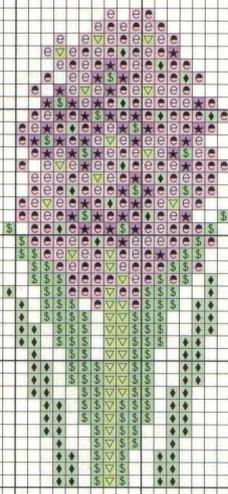
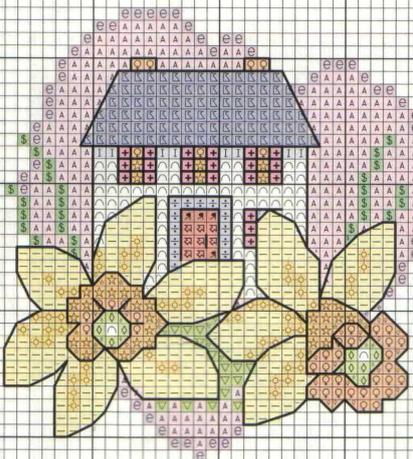


Spring Flowers key

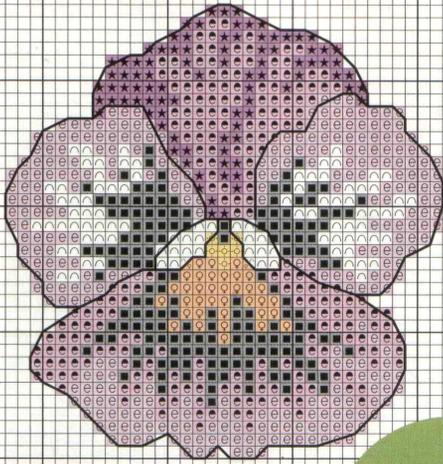
| ✕ Cross stitch in two strands | | | | |
|-------------------------------|-------|--------|---------|--------------|
| | DMC | Anchor | Madeira | |
| ∩ | B5200 | 1 | 2401 | white |
| ∆ | 153 | 103 | 2712 | light mauve |
| ⊕ | 156 | 939 | 902 | violet |
| ⊖ | 209 | 98 | 803 | lilac |
| ♥ | 304 | 19 | 511 | dark red |
| ■ | 310 | 403 | 2400 | black |
| — | 445 | 288 | 103 | yellow |
| ★ | 550 | 102 | 714 | dark mauve |
| ◆ | 562 | 210 | 1205 | pine green |
| ▽ | 704 | 255 | 1308 | leaf green |
| ◻ | 718 | 88 | 707 | magenta |
| ◊ | 721 | 324 | 308 | orange |
| ☆ | 742 | 303 | 114 | tangerine |
| ⊠ | 817 | 13 | 210 | red |
| ⊞ | 891 | 29 | 411 | candy pink |
| ⊟ | 905 | 257 | 1412 | dark green |
| ⊠ | 973 | 290 | 105 | dark yellow |
| ⊞ | 3607 | 87 | 708 | dark pink |
| w | 3608 | 86 | 709 | pink |
| ∩ | 3747 | 120 | 901 | light violet |
| ∪ | 3819 | 279 | 1610 | lime green |
| ⊞ | 3837 | 111 | 713 | dark lilac |
| ⊞ | 3838 | 176 | 2702 | blue |
| ✕ Backstitch in one strand | | | | |
| — | 310 | 403 | 2400 | black |
| ✕ French knots in one strand | | | | |
| ● | 310 | 403 | 2400 | black |

These designs were stitched using DMC stranded cotton

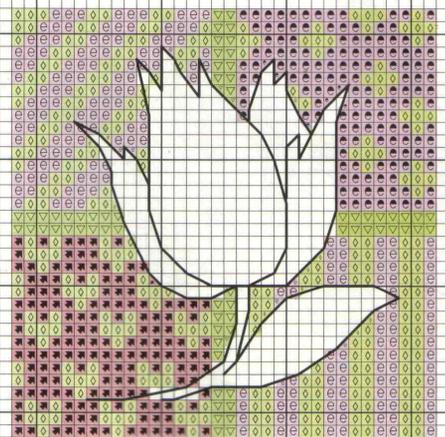
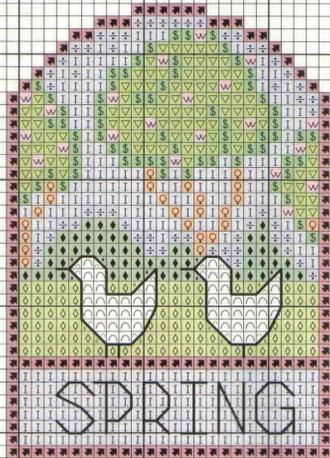
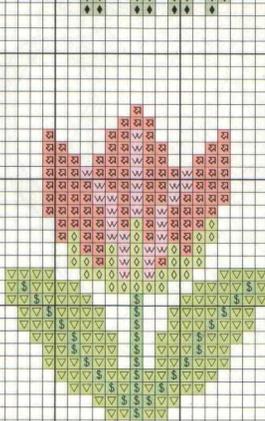
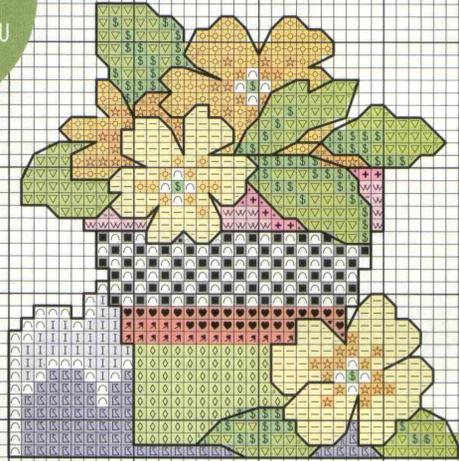
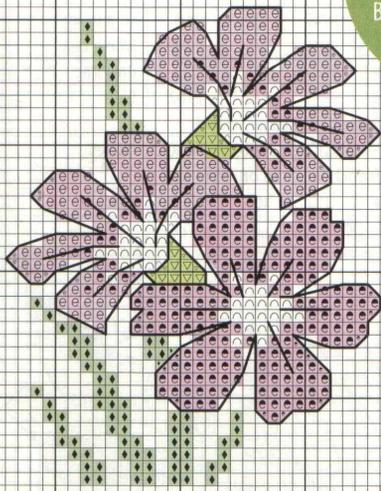
EMBELLISH A POTTED PLANT WITH A STITCHED DESIGN MADE INTO A PRETTY PLANT POKE

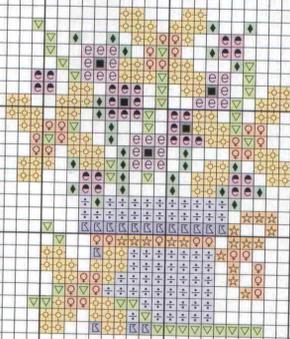


COMBINE A MOTIF AND GREETING TO CREATE THE PERFECT CARD FOR SOMEONE SPECIAL

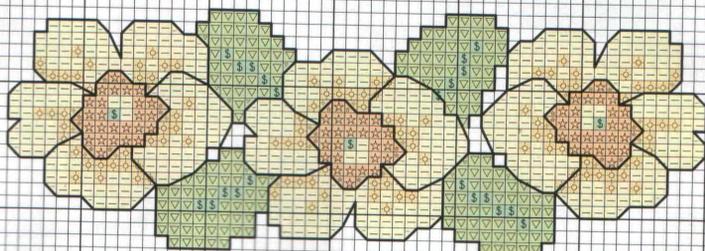


USE ONE OF THE
SQUARE DESIGNS
TO MAKE A
BEAUTIFUL BISCORNÙ
PINCUSHION





STITCH FLOWERS, BIRDS AND BUTTERFLIES ONTO AIDA TRIANGLES TO CREATE BUNTING FOR YOUR HOME





PAIR THESE MOTIFS WITH POLKA DOT OR DAINTY FLORAL FABRIC TO MAKE STYLISH CUSHIONS AND BAGS

SEARCH FOR OLD WOODEN EMBROIDERY HOOPS AND MOUNT YOUR DESIGNS INSIDE FOR A VINTAGE DISPLAY

Beauties in Bloom key

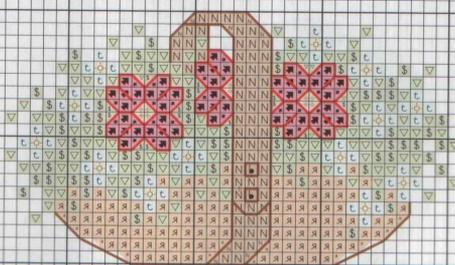
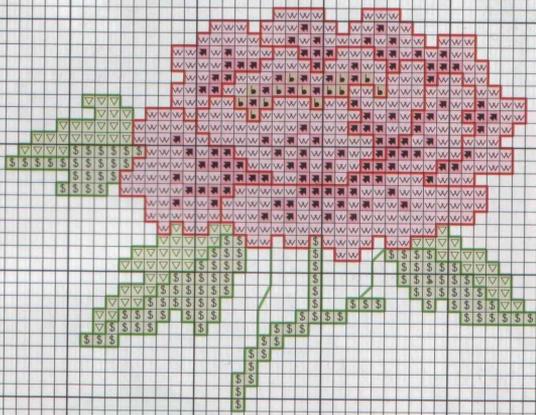
✦ Cross stitch in two strands

| | DMC | Anchor | Madeira | |
|----|------|--------|---------|--------------|
| e | 155 | 1030 | 902 | light purple |
| ■ | 434 | 310 | 2009 | tan |
| \$ | 471 | 266 | 1501 | moss green |
| ■ | 602 | 57 | 702 | pink |
| w | 604 | 55 | 614 | light pink |
| t | 800 | 144 | 908 | light blue |
| ■ | 809 | 130 | 909 | blue |
| N | 976 | 1001 | 2010 | ginger |
| ▽ | 3348 | 264 | 1409 | light green |
| ■ | 3854 | 313 | 114 | copper |
| ◇ | 3855 | 311 | 2513 | light copper |

✦ Backstitch in one strand

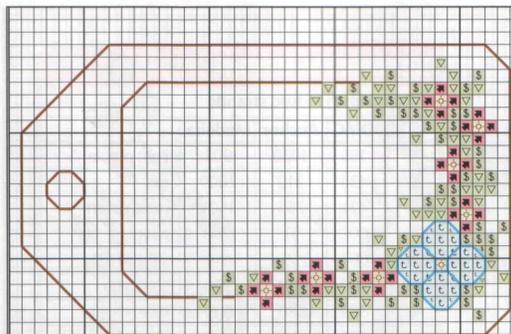
| | | | | |
|---|------|------|------|-----------|
| — | 333 | 119 | 903 | purple |
| — | 434 | 310 | 2009 | tan |
| — | 601 | 63 | 703 | dark pink |
| — | 976 | 1001 | 2010 | ginger |
| — | 3347 | 265 | 1408 | green |
| — | 3838 | 176 | 2702 | dark blue |

These designs were stitched using DMC stranded cotton

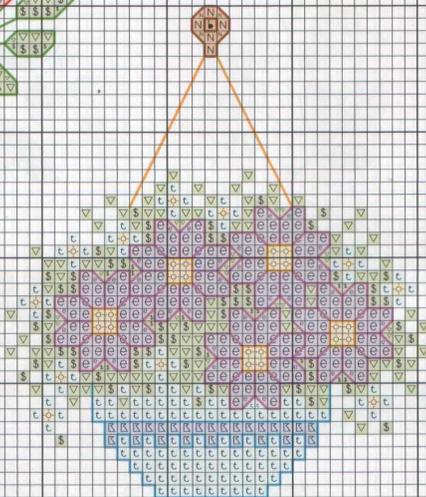
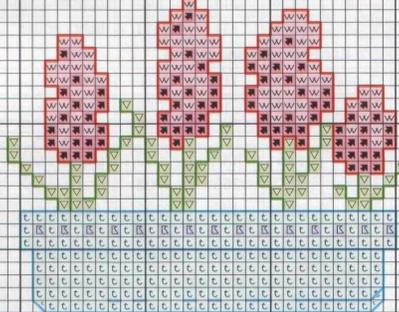
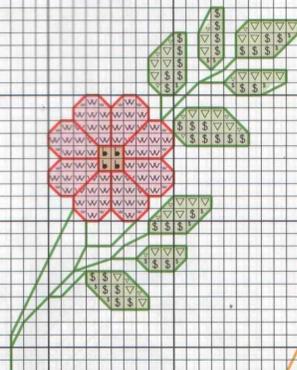


STITCH A
QUICK CARD
OR GIFT IN A
WEEKEND

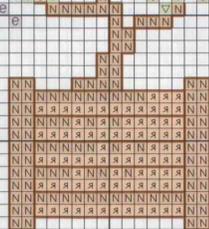
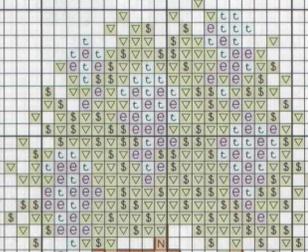




DECORATE THE EDGE OF A VINTAGE MIRROR USING ONE OF OUR REPEAT MOTIFS STITCHED ON AN AIDA BAND



Stitch Tip
When adding lettering to a design, make sure you have checked your spacing a couple of times before you actually start stitching

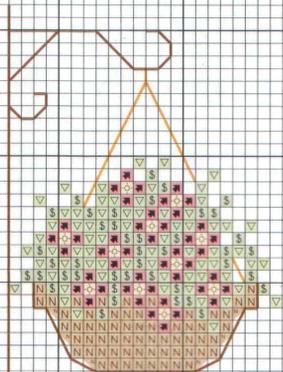
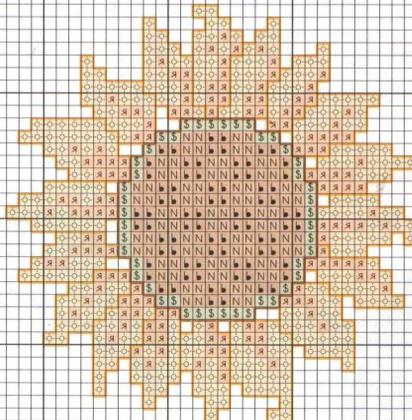
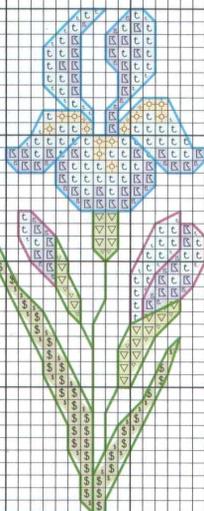
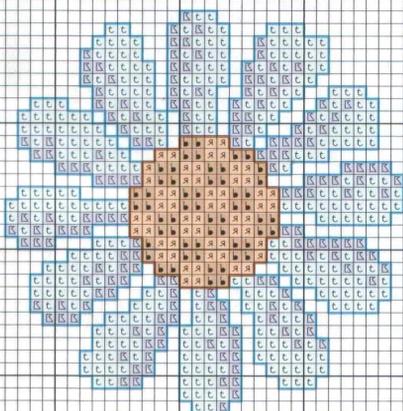
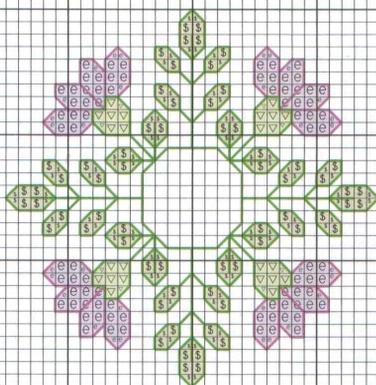
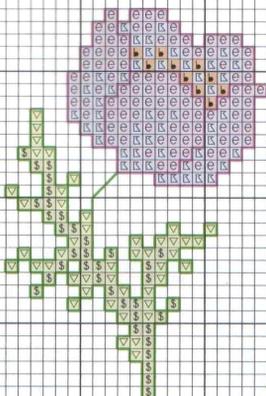
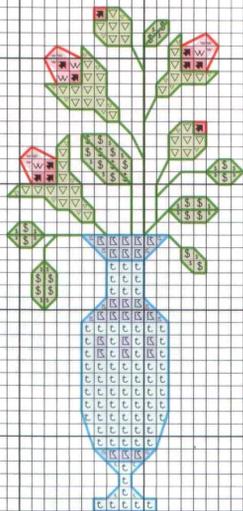


TURN ONE OF OUR MOTIFS INTO A HANGING DECORATION TO BRIGHTEN UP A BORING DOORKNOB

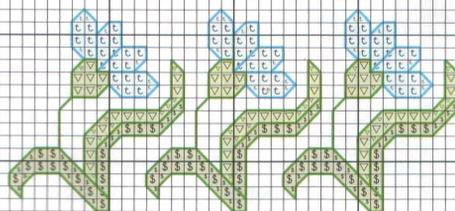
Finishing touches
Add your own personal message to a gorgeous corner flourish and finish on a pink card cut into the shape of a tag.

MOUNT THE SMALL BLUE FLOWER INSIDE A PRETTY LOCKET FOR A SPECIAL GIFT

NEW-SEASON
GIFTS FOR
SPRING
BIRTHDAYS



COMBINE A MOTIF
AND GREETING TO
CREATE THE PERFECT
CARD FOR SOMEONE
SPECIAL



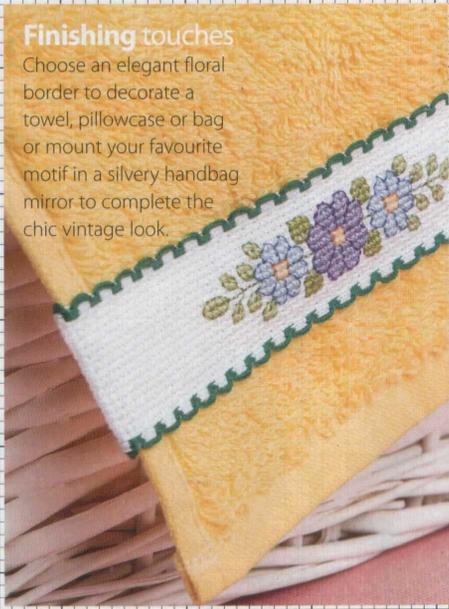
FOR ADDED VINTAGE GLAMOUR, ATTACH SOME SILVER OR GOLD SEED BEADS TO YOUR DESIGNS



Stitch Tip
Stitch several motifs and keep for cards and mini gifts to give for birthdays throughout the year

A B C D E F
G H I J K L
M N O P Q R
S T U V W X
Y Z

a b c d e f g h i j k
l m n o p q r s
t u v w x y z



Finishing touches
Choose an elegant floral border to decorate a towel, pillowcase or bag or mount your favourite motif in a silvery handbag mirror to complete the chic vintage look.

QUICK & EASY TO STITCH



Floral close-ups make stunning cross stitch cards

SHOPPING LIST

Fabric

14-count white aida,
15x15cm (6x6in) for each

Threads

Stranded cotton as listed
in the key

Needle

Size 24 tapestry needle

Extras

15cm (6in) square,
scalloped edge cards in
white with backing papers
of choice

Petal Power

By Susan Bates

Brighten up someone's day with these floral greeting cards; whatever the sentiment, say it with flowers



SUSAN BATES
Designer

Flowers lend themselves to a wide range of design styles, from natural to stylised. Close-ups always have impact, so I decided to focus in on one bloom for these designs.

Stitcher's guide

Each of these flower studies is worked on 14-count white aida with a palette of 4-5 colours per design. Cross stitch is worked in two strands of thread and each design uses fractional stitches to add detail. Three of the designs, the sunflower, pansy and daisy use whole stitches only and rely on shading to create the finer details. Backstitch in one strand of cotton is used to outline the petals; for some of the flowers two colours are used.

Stitch Tip

Make sure you have plenty of each thread colour before you begin stitching the design

Daisy key

✕ Cross stitch in two strands

| | DMC | Anchor | Madeira | |
|---|-------|--------|---------|------------------|
| ∩ | blanc | 2 | 2402 | white |
| § | 907 | 255 | 1308 | bright green |
| T | 973 | 290 | 105 | yellow |
| ■ | 3023 | 899 | 1813 | stone grey |
| ∩ | 3072 | 847 | 1805 | light stone grey |
| * | 3078 | 292 | 102 | light yellow |

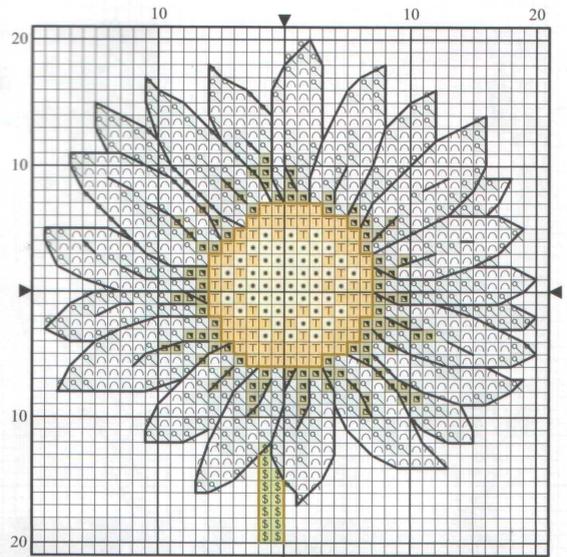
✕ Backstitch in one strand

| | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|------|-------------|
| — | 413 | 236 | 1713 | grey |
| — | 730 | 924 | 1607 | olive green |

STITCH COUNT 40 high x 39 wide

DESIGN AREA 14HPI (28-count evenweave)
– 7.5x7cm (2¾x2¾in)

This design was stitched using DMC stranded cotton



Lily key

✕ Cross stitch in two strands

| | DMC | Anchor | Madeira | |
|---|-------|--------|---------|-------------|
| ∩ | blanc | 2 | 2402 | white |
| z | ecru | 926 | 2404 | pearl |
| — | 445 | 288 | 103 | yellow |
| ∩ | 703 | 238 | 1307 | green |
| ● | 721 | 324 | 308 | copper |
| ☆ | 725 | 305 | 113 | dark yellow |

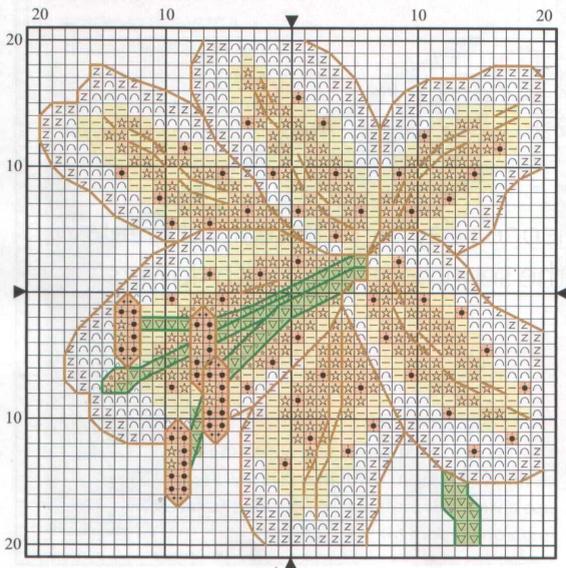
✕ Backstitch in one strand

| | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|------|------------|
| — | 699 | 923 | 1303 | dark green |
| — | 869 | 375 | 2105 | brown |

STITCH COUNT 40 high x 40 wide

DESIGN AREA 14HPI (28-count evenweave)
– 7.5x7.5cm (2¾x2¾in)

This design was stitched using DMC stranded cotton



How to stitch the Floral Cards

- 1 Find the centre of your fabric by folding it in half both horizontally and vertically. Follow the arrows on the chart to find the centre of the design and start stitching from this point, working your way outwards.
- 2 Work the cross stitch using two strands of cotton. For every small symbol that you see on the chart work a half stitch.
- 3 Work the backstitches in one strand of thread, following the chart and key carefully.
- 4 Check over your finished stitching for any errors and prepare it for making up into cards.

Sunflower key

✦ Cross stitch in two strands

| | DMC | Anchor | Madeira | |
|---|------|--------|---------|--------------|
| ☀ | 307 | 289 | 104 | yellow |
| ■ | 433 | 357 | 2602 | brown |
| ◻ | 742 | 303 | 114 | tangerine |
| ■ | 976 | 1001 | 2010 | ginger |
| × | 3823 | 386 | 2512 | light yellow |

✦ Backstitch in one strand

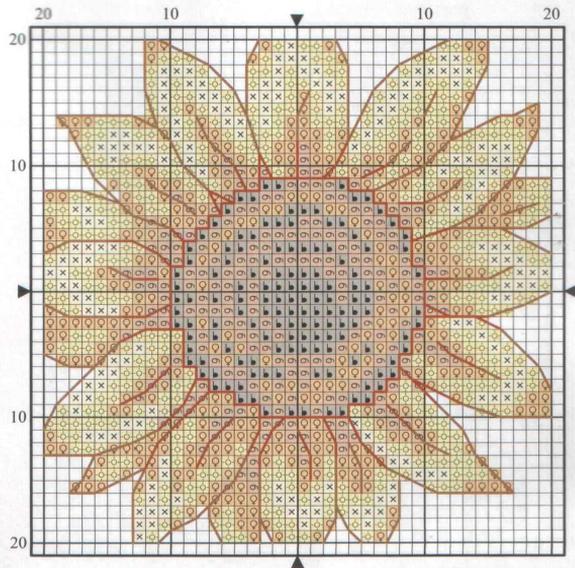
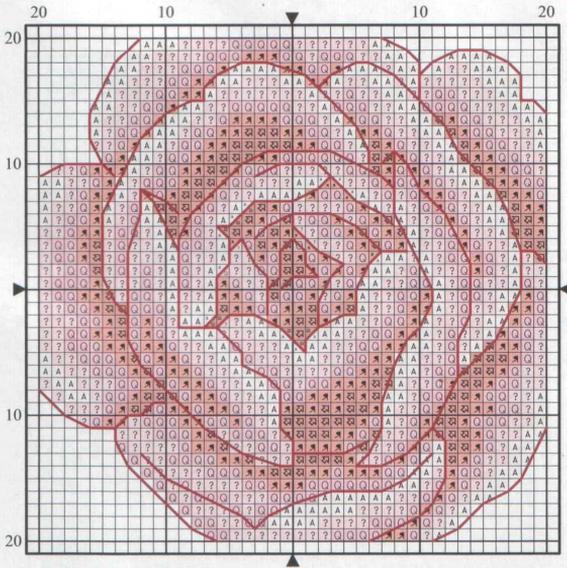
| | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|------|------------|
| — | 433 | 357 | 2602 | brown |
| — | 838 | 380 | 2005 | dark brown |

STITCH COUNT 40 high x 40 wide

DESIGN AREA 14HPI (28-count evenweave)

— 7.5x7.5cm (2¾x2¾in)

This design was stitched using DMC stranded cotton



Rose key

✦ Cross stitch in two strands

| | DMC | Anchor | Madeira | |
|---|-----|--------|---------|------------|
| ■ | 309 | 42 | 508 | rose pink |
| A | 819 | 271 | 501 | baby pink |
| ■ | 892 | 35 | 412 | dark pink |
| ◻ | 894 | 31 | 414 | pink |
| ? | 963 | 73 | 502 | light pink |

✦ Backstitch in one strand

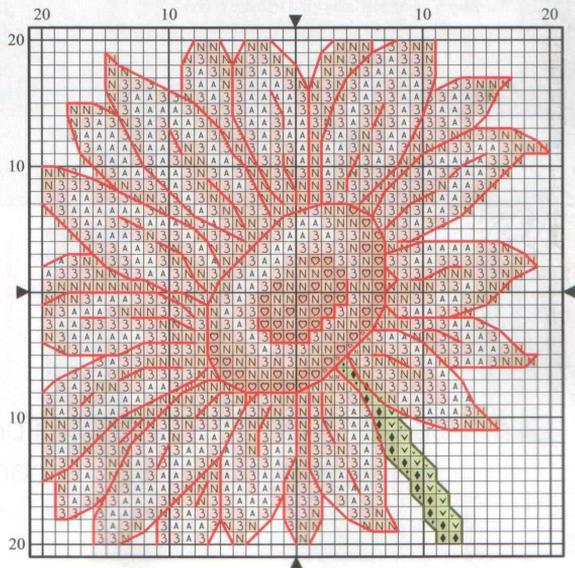
| | | | | |
|---|-----|----|-----|----------|
| — | 815 | 44 | 513 | dark red |
|---|-----|----|-----|----------|

STITCH COUNT 40 high x 40 wide

DESIGN AREA 14HPI (28-count evenweave)

— 7.5x7.5cm (2¾x2¾in)

This design was stitched using DMC stranded cotton



Orange Flower key

✦ Cross stitch in two strands

| | DMC | Anchor | Madeira | |
|---|------|--------|---------|-------------|
| ◻ | 350 | 11 | 213 | red |
| 3 | 353 | 6 | 2313 | coral |
| ■ | 581 | 280 | 1609 | green |
| A | 819 | 271 | 501 | baby pink |
| N | 3341 | 328 | 403 | peach |
| ■ | 3819 | 279 | 1610 | light green |

✦ Backstitch in one strand

| | | | | |
|---|-----|------|------|------------|
| — | 816 | 1006 | 512 | dark red |
| — | 936 | 269 | 1507 | dark green |

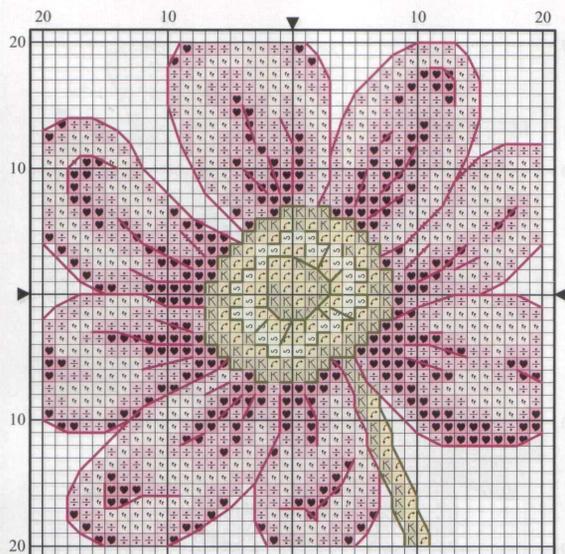
STITCH COUNT 40 high x 40 wide

DESIGN AREA 14HPI (28-count evenweave)

— 7.5x7.5cm (2¾x2¾in)

This design was stitched using DMC stranded cotton

Flower Greetings Cards



Pansy key

✦ Cross stitch in two strands

| | DMC | Anchor | Madeira | |
|---|------|--------|---------|-------------|
| W | 351 | 10 | 214 | light red |
| ◆ | 581 | 280 | 1609 | green |
| Я | 727 | 293 | 112 | yellow |
| Q | 742 | 303 | 114 | tangerine |
| ∞ | 746 | 275 | 2511 | cream |
| ■ | 817 | 13 | 210 | red |
| ▼ | 3819 | 279 | 1610 | light green |

✦ Backstitch in one strand

| | | | | |
|---|-----|----|-----|----------|
| — | 815 | 44 | 513 | dark red |
|---|-----|----|-----|----------|

STITCH COUNT 40 high x 40 wide

DESIGN AREA 14HPI (28-count evenweave)
— 7.5x7.5cm (2¾x2¾in)

This design was stitched using DMC stranded cotton



Pink Flower key

✦ Cross stitch in two strands

| | DMC | Anchor | Madeira | |
|---|------|--------|---------|-------------|
| ∞ | 225 | 271 | 814 | shell pink |
| ∞ | 746 | 275 | 2511 | cream |
| K | 832 | 907 | 2509 | olive green |
| ⊕ | 3608 | 86 | 709 | pink |
| ◆ | 3805 | 62 | 703 | dark pink |
| ● | 3822 | 295 | 2510 | yellow |

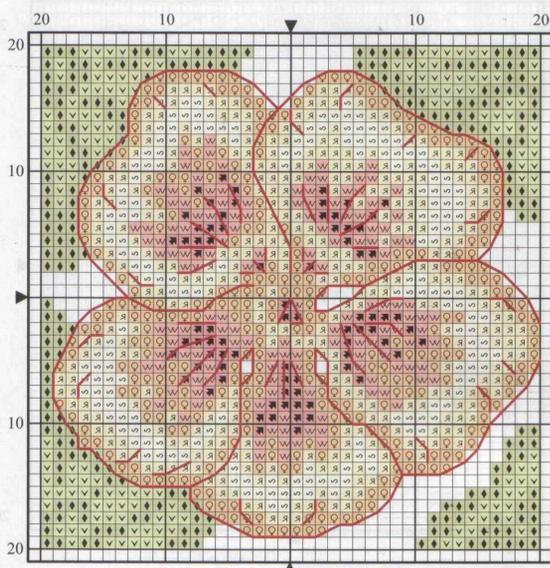
✦ Backstitch in one strand

| | | | | |
|---|-----|------|------|------------|
| — | 915 | 1029 | 705 | magenta |
| — | 936 | 269 | 1507 | dark green |

STITCH COUNT 40 high x 40 wide

DESIGN AREA 14HPI (28-count evenweave)
— 7.5x7.5cm (2¾x2¾in)

This design was stitched using DMC stranded cotton



IMAGINE HOW THESE SIX FLORAL CLOSE-UPS WOULD LOOK IF YOU STITCHED THEM ALL TOGETHER ON A BIG PIECE OF FABRIC, WITH A BORDER OF WHITE IN BETWEEN EACH ONE. IT WOULD MAKE A CONTEMPORARY-LOOKING COMPOSITION AND A REALLY MODERN PICTURE, ADDING BRIGHT ACCENTS TO YOUR LIVING ROOM.

KATRIEL COSTELLO, EDITOR

Stitch Tip

Before you begin stitching, thread several needles with the different shades you'll need

FRESH &
MODERN
DESIGN

Win over family and friends' hearts with this elegant cushion, which will make a perfect new-home gift



Take Heart

Designed by Susan Bates

With rose blooms in shades of pink and peach, this heart-warming garland is a blend of classic and contemporary and is sure to be loved

SHOPPING LIST

Fabric

14-count white aida,
30x30cm (12x12in)

Threads

Stranded cotton as
listed in the key

Needle

Size 24 tapestry needle

Extras

Backing fabric of your
choice, ours is from
the Gutermann Ring a
Roses Collection, from
www.gutermann.com;
cushion pad to fit

Stitcher's guide

This glorious hearts and rose garland is worked on 14-count white aida and uses 22 colours to bring it to life, including soft rose pink, zingy lime green and deeper plum. Cross stitch is worked in two strands of thread and fractional stitches are used to create the naturalistic shape of the flowers. Shading adds depth to each petal, making the flowers look realistic, and outlining is done in backstitch worked in dark green and red thread.



SUSAN BATES
Designer

Roses are one of my favourite flowers, they work so well as the focus of this heart garland design. I'd love to have this cushion in my home; it's heart-warming, homely and will freshen up a room.



How to stitch the Roses Cushion

- 1 Find the centre of your fabric by folding it in half both horizontally and vertically. Follow the arrows on the chart to find its centre and start stitching from here, working your way outwards.
- 2 Work cross stitch with two strands. Work a half stitch for each small symbol.
- 3 Work all the backstitches in one strand of thread, following the chart and key.
- 4 Check over your finished stitching and prepare it for making up into a cushion (for how to do this, see right).



Finishing touches

Since roses are the flowers of love, why not stitch this design and make it into a wedding or anniversary gift for that special couple? Simply add the date and couple's names to the middle of the heart and mount in a pretty frame.



Roses Cushion key

✦ Cross stitch in two strands

| | DMC | Anchor | Madeira | |
|----|------|--------|---------|-------------------|
| ∞ | 151 | 73 | 404 | rose pink |
| \$ | 165 | 278 | 1414 | lime green |
| ● | 321 | 9046 | 510 | dark red |
| ♀ | 350 | 11 | 213 | red |
| ♀ | 553 | 98 | 712 | lilac |
| ♀ | 603 | 55 | 505 | pink |
| ♀ | 726 | 295 | 109 | yellow |
| ♀ | 818 | 23 | 502 | light pink |
| N | 819 | 271 | 501 | very light pink |
| ♂ | 905 | 257 | 1412 | green |
| ♂ | 907 | 255 | 1308 | light green |
| ♂ | 3078 | 292 | 102 | light yellow |
| ♂ | 3340 | 329 | 301 | apricot |
| ♂ | 3350 | 42 | 603 | dark rose pink |
| C | 3608 | 86 | 709 | light plum |
| A | 3688 | 66 | 605 | mauve |
| I | 3689 | 49 | 607 | light mauve |
| ♥ | 3804 | 63 | 703 | dark pink |
| — | 3823 | 386 | 2512 | very light yellow |
| Я | 3824 | 8 | 2605 | peach |

✦ Backstitch in one strand

| | | | | |
|---|-----|------|------|------------|
| — | 319 | 1044 | 1313 | dark green |
| — | 814 | 22 | 601 | dark red |

STITCH COUNT 104 high x 110 wide

DESIGN AREA 14HPI (28-count evenweave)
— 19x20cm (7½x7¾in)

This design was stitched using DMC stranded cotton

How to make a cushion

- 1 Trim your finished stitched piece to leave an aida border of 4cm (1½in) all around.
- 2 Cut two panels of backing fabric measuring 23.5x10cm (9¼x4in) and pin to the side edges of the stitching, with the right sides of the fabric together. Machine-stitch with a 2cm (¾in) seam allowance and press open the seams.
- 3 Now cut two more panels, which measure 10x42cm (4x16½in) and place at the top and bottom of the stitching. Pin in place and stitch as before, then press the seams open.
- 4 Cut two back panels measuring 42x23cm (16½x9in). Sew a 2cm (¾in) hem along one long edge of each piece. With right sides facing, and aligning the side edges, place these panels over the front, so the hemmed edges overlap in the middle, to create an envelope opening.
- 5 Pin and sew around all four sides. Turn through, press, then insert a cushion pad.

Stitch Tip

Cross stitch individual roses from this design for gorgeous, quick cards

Radiant Roses

STITCH
IN ONE
EVENING

by Susan Bates

Winter will soon be over, so usher in the spring with our delicate initials. With pretty petals and slender stems, they're super mini-stitch projects

Stitcher's guide

Elegant rosebuds adorn letters of the alphabet designed in traditional violet and are worked on 14-count white aida using stranded cotton in varying shades of pink and green. Cross stitch is worked in two strands of thread and each design uses whole stitches only. Backstitch is used for the rosebuds and stems, bringing them to the foreground, with the softer-edged letters behind each.

Stitch Tip

These small, whole stitches only designs are perfect for beginners



Give spring an early welcome with these gorgeous rosebuds

SHOPPING LIST

Fabric

14-count white aida, 15x15cm (6x6in) for the handbag mirror and card

Threads

Stranded cotton as listed

Needle

Size 24 needle for aida

Extras

Craft Creations card, AP15U in violet (www.craftcreations.com, 01992 781900); handbag mirror from Framecraft, (visit www.framecraft.com or call 01543 360 842)

How to make a card

1 Place the card over your stitching. Centre the motif, then put pins inside the aperture with the heads pointing inwards. Remove the card and trim the fabric 1cm ($\frac{3}{8}$ in) from the pins.

2 Put double-sided tape around the aperture. Place over the stitching using the pins as a guide. Turn the card over, put tape on the left flap and fold onto the centre.

How to stitch the Rosebud ABC

1 Find the centre of your fabric by folding it in half both horizontally and vertically. Work out where the centre of each motif is on the chart and start stitching from this point in the design, working your way outwards.

2 Work the cross stitch using two strands of cotton, referring to the

chart and key when it's time to change colour.

3 Work the backstitches in one strand of thread, following the symbols on the chart and key closely.

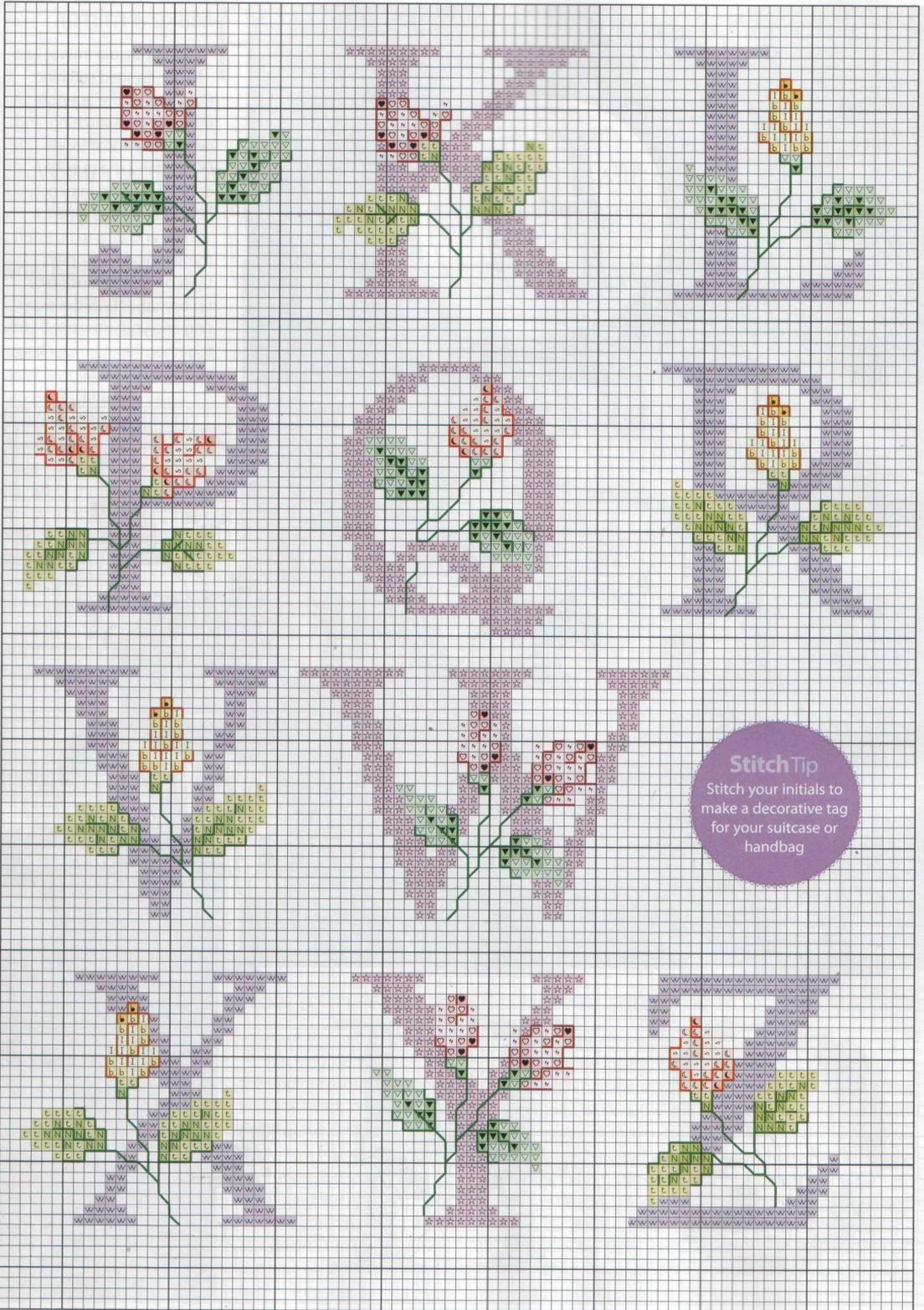
4 Check over your finished stitching and prepare it for making up into a handbag mirror or a card (see right).



Make a mirror

- 1 Take a circular mirror and your finished stitching. Place one of the aperture rings over the stitching, and centre your motif inside. Draw round the outside edge of the ring in pencil.
- 2 Cut around the pencil line and trim to fit. Insert the stitching face down, then place the mirror face up on top. Attach the outer ring and your mirror will click together. Pop it in your bag and away you go!





Stitch Tip
Stitch your initials to make a decorative tag for your suitcase or handbag



Finishing touches

Mount a single initial into a card to make a stylish greeting or a personalised gift tag.



Rosebud ABC key

✳ Cross stitch in two strands

| | Anchor | DMC | Madeira | |
|---|--------|------|---------|---------------|
| ☺ | 8 | 3824 | 2605 | coral |
| ☺ | 33 | 3706 | 409 | light scarlet |
| ☺ | 48 | 818 | 502 | baby pink |
| ♥ | 50 | 957 | 504 | rose pink |
| ♥ | 62 | 3805 | 2609 | fuchsia |
| ☆ | 109 | 209 | 711 | lilac |
| w | 118 | 340 | 902 | purple |
| ∇ | 203 | 954 | 1210 | mint green |
| ∇ | 226 | 701 | 1306 | leaf green |
| ∇ | 254 | 907 | 1301 | bright green |
| b | 295 | 726 | 109 | yellow |
| b | 303 | 742 | 201 | tangerine |
| I | 386 | 746 | 2511 | cream |
| ∞ | 1011 | 948 | 306 | peach |
| ∇ | 1074 | 3848 | 1108 | ocean green |

✳ Backstitch in one strand

| | | | | |
|---|------|------|------|--------------|
| — | 65 | 3685 | 2608 | dark fuchsia |
| — | 218 | 319 | 1313 | holly green |
| — | 1049 | 301 | 2306 | brown |
| — | 9046 | 321 | 510 | red |

MAXIMUM STITCH COUNT 24 high x 35 wide
 DESIGN AREA 14HPI (28-count evenweave)
 - 4.5x6.5cm (1¾x2½in)

These designs were stitched using Anchor stranded cotton

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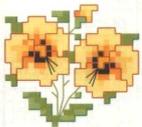
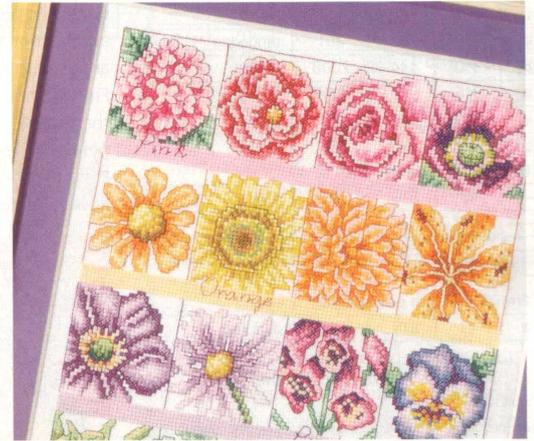
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95
FLOWERS TO
STITCH



The Big Bouquet



Designed by Susan Bates, Lesley Teare, Maria Diaz, Christine-Ann Martin,

Take your pick from the best of the bunch with this beautiful flower collection. With a selection of florals arranged in swathes of colour there's a rainbow of choices ahead of you: from purple petals, blue blooms and motifs in romantic red and sunshine yellow

SHOPPING LIST

Fabric

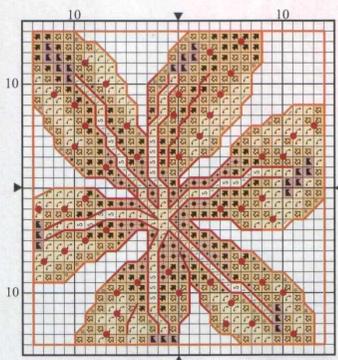
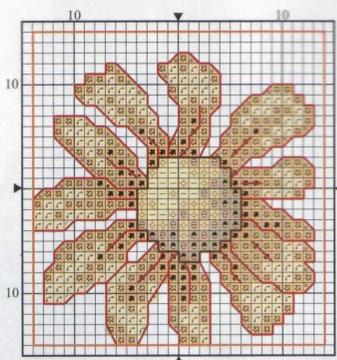
28-count white
evenweave, 36x30cm
(14x12in)

Threads

Stranded cotton as listed
in the key

Needle

Size 26 tapestry needle



Orange Flowers key

✕ Cross stitch in two strands

| | Anchor | DMC | Madeira | |
|---|--------|------|---------|--------------|
| A | 6 | 353 | 305 | coral pink |
| ■ | 43 | 815 | 513 | dark red |
| ▽ | 266 | 471 | 1502 | moss green |
| ⊙ | 291 | 444 | 106 | yellow |
| ∞ | 292 | 3078 | 111 | light yellow |
| ∞ | 293 | 727 | 110 | yellow |
| ⋈ | 301 | 744 | 112 | cream |
| ■ | 303 | 742 | 201 | tangerine |
| ■ | 310 | 434 | 2008 | brown |
| ■ | 316 | 970 | 204 | orange |
| ■ | 339 | 920 | 312 | copper |
| e | 1001 | 976 | 2211 | ginger |

✕ Backstitch in one strand

| | | | | |
|---|------|-----|------|------------|
| — | 43 | 815 | 513 | dark red |
| — | 339 | 920 | 312 | copper |
| — | 359 | 898 | 2005 | dark brown |
| — | 1001 | 976 | 2211 | ginger |

✕ French knots in one strand

| | | | | |
|---|----|-----|-----|----------|
| ● | 43 | 815 | 513 | dark red |
|---|----|-----|-----|----------|

STITCH COUNT 30 high x 28 wide

DESIGN AREA 14HPI (28-count evenweave)

– 5.5x5cm (2¼x2in)

These designs were stitched using Anchor stranded cotton

THE BEST
OF THE
BUNCH

Stitching idea

These flower heads lend themselves to a lot of detail and French knots and fractional stitches are used to achieve this. French knots enhance the texture of the petals, while fractionals keep the shapes of the flowers more true to life.



Flowers' names

These flowers are hydrangea, peony, rose, Oriental poppy, marigold, sunflower, chrysanthemum, lily, clematis, aster, foxglove and pansy.

Purple Flowers key

✕ Cross stitch in two strands

| | Anchor | DMC | Madeira | |
|---|--------|------|---------|-----------------|
| t | 24 | 3326 | 502 | light pink |
| ◆ | 52 | 956 | 413 | dark pink |
| ◆ | 77 | 3687 | 604 | raspberry pink |
| × | 95 | 211 | 801 | light lilac |
| ☆ | 97 | 553 | 708 | lilac |
| ★ | 100 | 3834 | 805 | purple |
| ■ | 101 | 550 | 714 | dark purple |
| b | 109 | 209 | 711 | dark lilac |
| ■ | 122 | 161 | 905 | blue |
| ■ | 216 | 320 | 1311 | green |
| ■ | 218 | 319 | 1313 | dark green |
| ○ | 241 | 989 | 1603 | light green |
| ▽ | 254 | 472 | 1301 | lime green |
| ▽ | 266 | 471 | 1502 | moss green |
| ▽ | 269 | 936 | 1507 | dark moss green |
| ⋈ | 271 | 819 | 814 | very light pink |
| ⊙ | 291 | 444 | 106 | yellow |
| ∞ | 292 | 3078 | 111 | light yellow |
| ⋈ | 301 | 744 | 112 | cream |
| ■ | 303 | 742 | 201 | tangerine |
| ■ | 310 | 434 | 2008 | brown |
| ■ | 316 | 970 | 204 | orange |
| e | 1001 | 976 | 2211 | ginger |
| I | 1043 | 369 | 1604 | lt almond green |
| ◇ | 1094 | 605 | 606 | pink |

✕ Backstitch in one strand

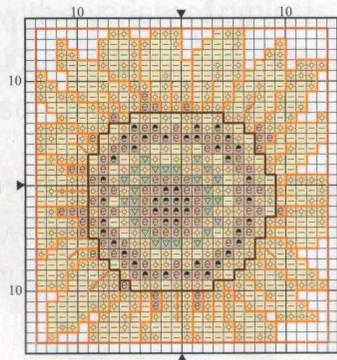
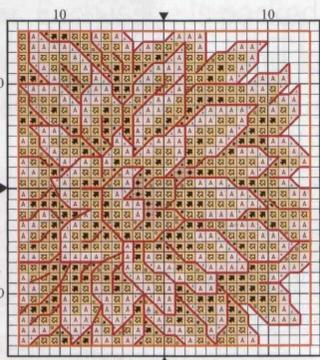
| | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|------|-------------|
| — | 43 | 815 | 513 | dark red |
| — | 97 | 553 | 708 | lilac |
| — | 101 | 550 | 714 | dark purple |
| — | 218 | 319 | 1313 | dark green |
| — | 359 | 898 | 2005 | dark brown |

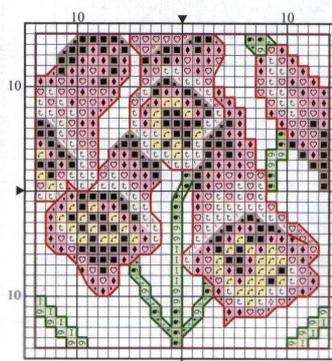
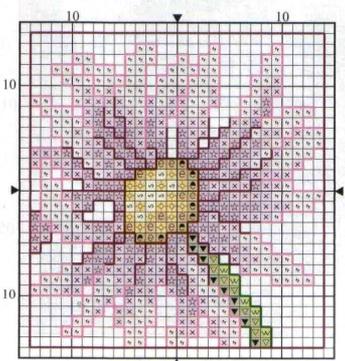
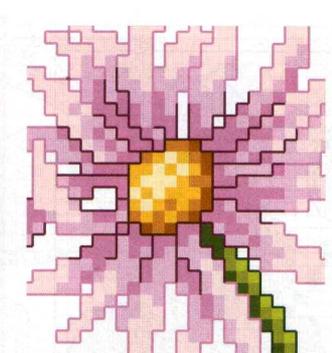
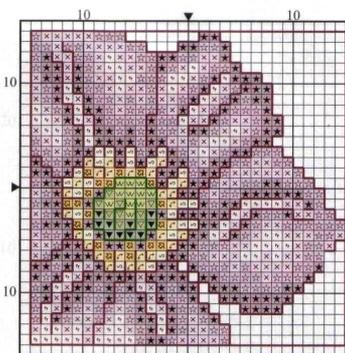
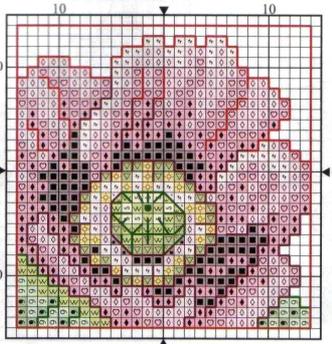
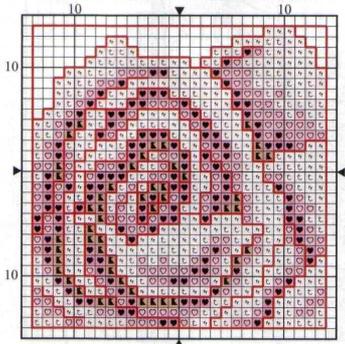
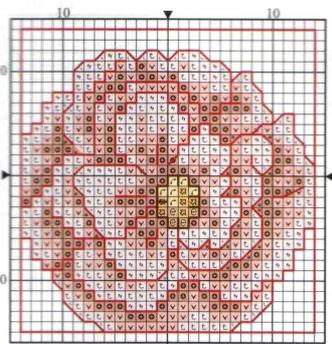
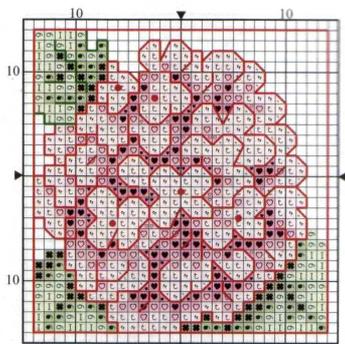
MAXIMUM STITCH COUNT 30 high x 30 wide

DESIGN AREA 14HPI (28-count evenweave)

– 5.5x5.5cm (2¼x2¼in)

These designs were stitched using Anchor stranded cotton





Pink Flowers key

✕ Cross stitch in two strands

| | Anchor | DMC | Madeira | |
|---|--------|------|---------|-----------------|
| ⊔ | 24 | 3326 | 502 | light pink |
| ∨ | 33 | 3706 | 409 | dark coral |
| ■ | 43 | 815 | 513 | dark red |
| ♥ | 52 | 956 | 413 | dark pink |
| ♠ | 63 | 3804 | 704 | magenta |
| ♦ | 77 | 3687 | 604 | raspberry pink |
| ■ | 101 | 550 | 714 | dark purple |
| ■ | 216 | 320 | 1311 | green |
| ■ | 218 | 319 | 1313 | dark green |
| ■ | 241 | 989 | 1603 | light green |
| ■ | 254 | 472 | 1301 | lime green |
| ■ | 266 | 471 | 1502 | moss green |
| ■ | 271 | 819 | 814 | very light pink |
| ■ | 291 | 444 | 106 | yellow |
| ■ | 292 | 3078 | 111 | light yellow |
| ■ | 301 | 744 | 112 | cream |
| ■ | 303 | 742 | 201 | tangerine |
| ■ | 1001 | 976 | 2211 | ginger |
| ■ | 1025 | 347 | 603 | red |
| ■ | 1043 | 369 | 1604 | lt almond green |
| ◇ | 1094 | 605 | 606 | pink |

✕ Backstitch in one strand

| | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|------|-------------|
| — | 43 | 815 | 513 | dark red |
| — | 101 | 550 | 714 | dark purple |
| — | 218 | 319 | 1313 | dark green |

✕ French knots in one strand

| | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|------|------------|
| ● | 43 | 815 | 513 | dark red |
| ● | 218 | 319 | 1313 | dark green |

STITCH COUNT 29 high x 28 wide
DESIGN AREA 14HPI (28-count evenweave)
 – 5x5cm (2x2in)
 These designs were stitched using Anchor stranded cotton

Finishing touches

If you like, you can take the pink, yellow and purple flowers from these pages and stitch them in a sampler-style arrangement on a large, single piece of evenweave, similar to the design in the photograph on page 43.

The Big Bouquet

SHOPPING LIST

Fabric

14-count white aida

Threads

Stranded cotton as listed in the key

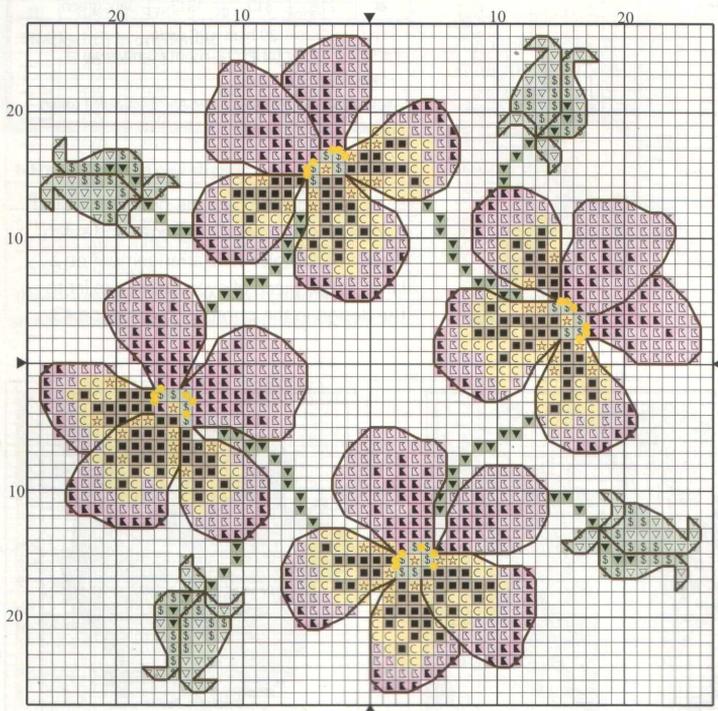
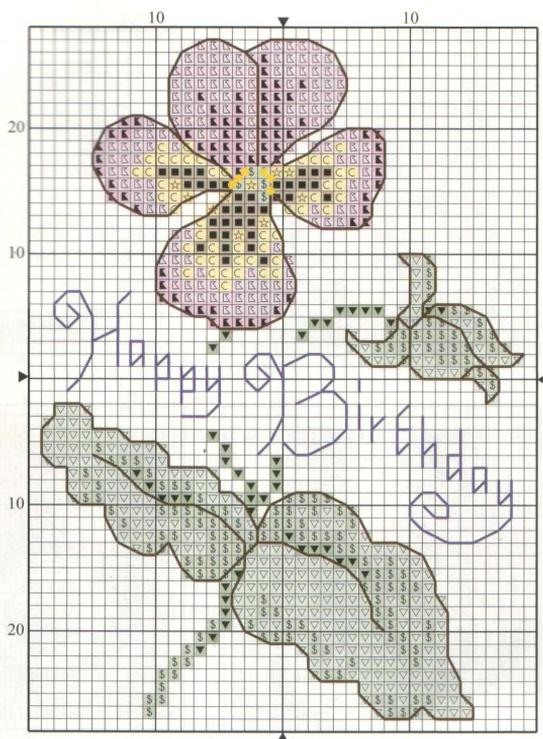
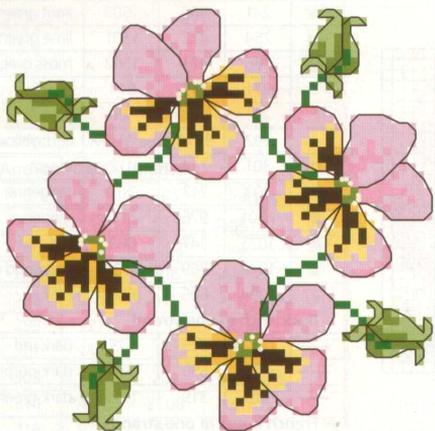
Needle

Size 24 tapestry needle

REGAL PURPLES

Finishing touches

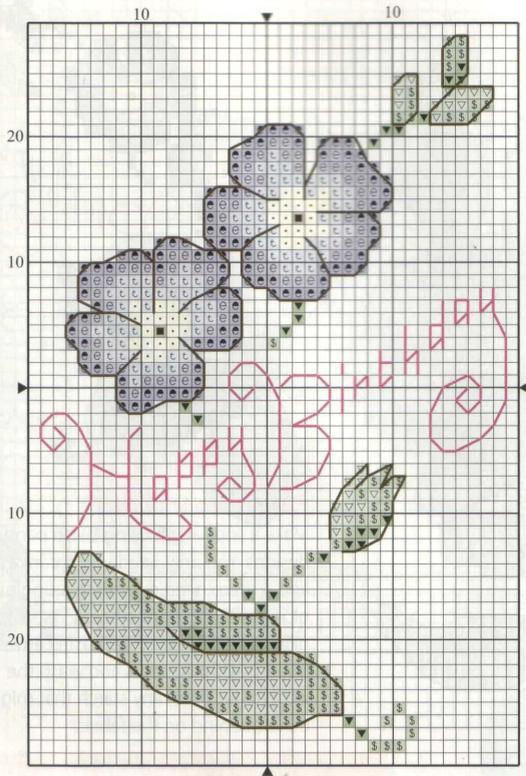
Make a gift for Mum or Gran by stitching one of the wreath designs onto 16- or 18-count aida and putting it in the lid of a trinket pot.



In the detail

These designs are worked in whole stitches and backstitch. When you come to work the backstitch outlines you will notice that they do not follow the shape of the cross stitches exactly. This gives the design a more flowing and naturalistic style, and makes it easier to stitch too.





Pansies key

✦ Cross stitch in two strands

| | DMC | Anchor | Madeira | |
|---|------|--------|---------|--------------|
| ☐ | 210 | 108 | 802 | light lilac |
| ■ | 553 | 98 | 712 | lilac |
| • | 712 | 926 | 2101 | cream |
| ☆ | 725 | 305 | 113 | yellow |
| ☉ | 727 | 293 | 112 | light yellow |
| ■ | 844 | 1041 | 1911 | dark grey |
| ▼ | 986 | 246 | 1404 | dark green |
| § | 987 | 244 | 1403 | green |
| ▽ | 989 | 241 | 1401 | light green |
| ⊖ | 3838 | 176 | 2702 | dark blue |
| ⊕ | 3839 | 175 | 902 | blue |
| ⊗ | 3840 | 130 | 907 | light blue |

✦ Backstitch in one strand

| | | | | |
|---|-----|------|------|----------------|
| — | 552 | 99 | 713 | dark lilac |
| — | 792 | 177 | 905 | very dark blue |
| — | 844 | 1041 | 1911 | dark grey |

✦ French knots in one strand

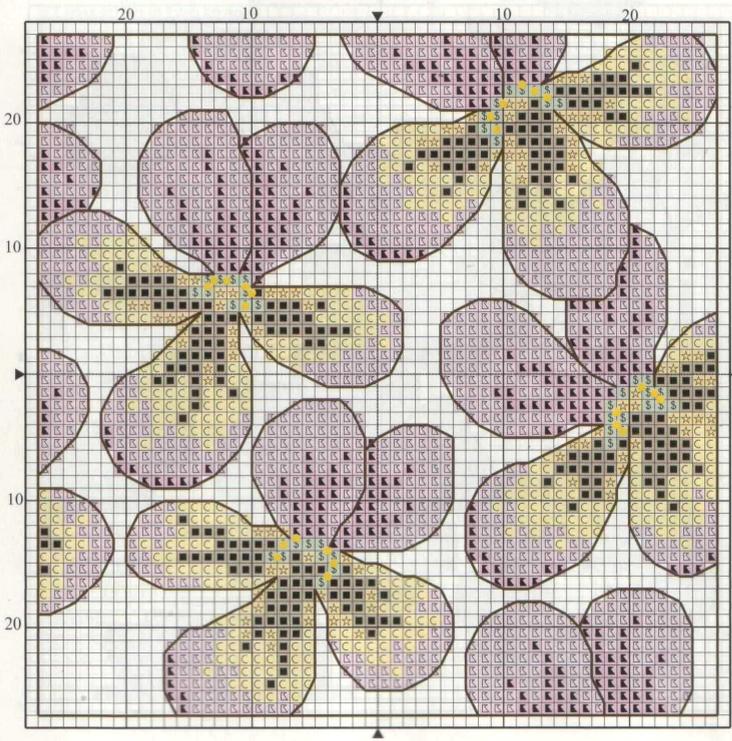
| | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|------|-------|
| ● | 712 | 926 | 2101 | cream |
|---|-----|-----|------|-------|

MAXIMUM STITCH COUNT 57 high x 54 wide

DESIGN AREA 14HPI (28-count evenweave)

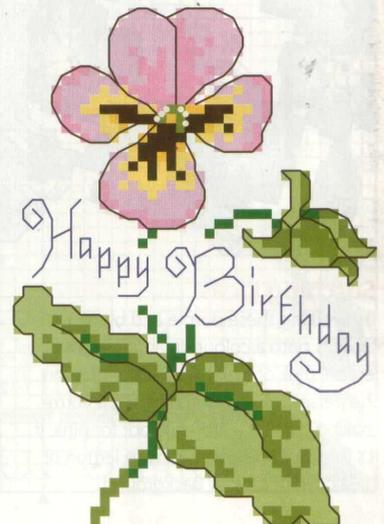
– 10.5x10cm (4x3¾in)

These designs were stitched using DMC stranded cotton

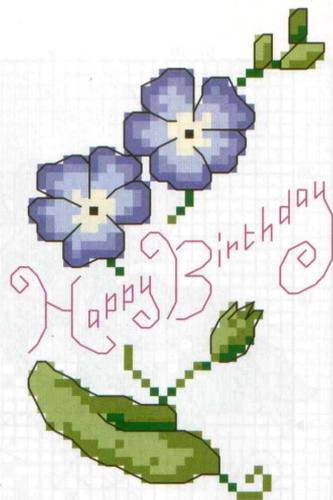
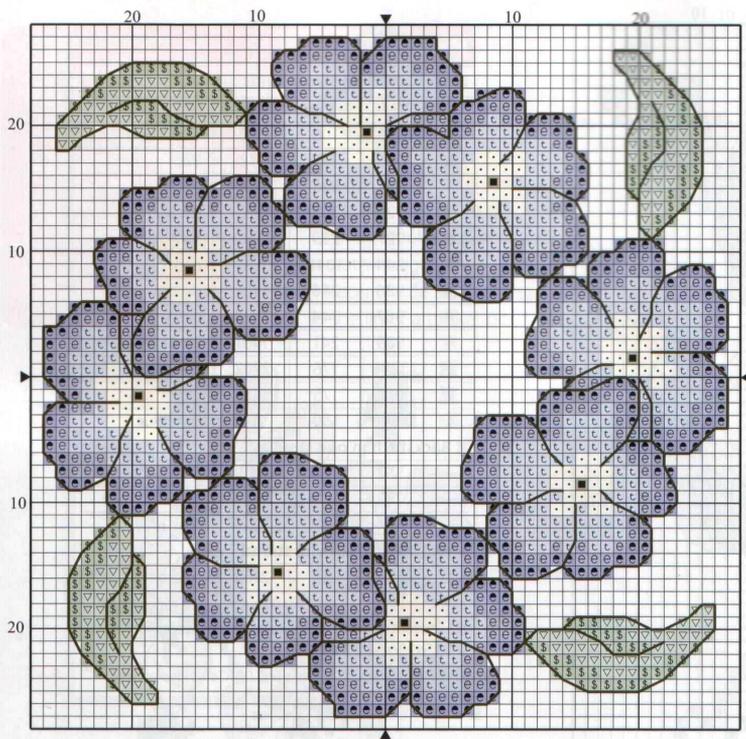


Stitch Tip

Substitute French knots with seed beads if you prefer

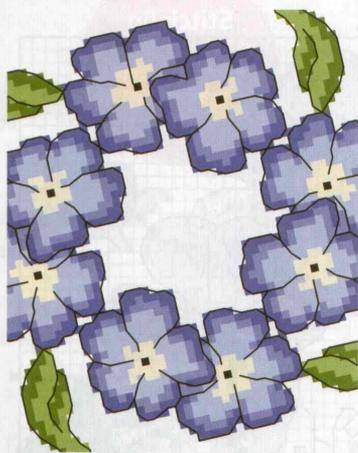


The Big Bouquet



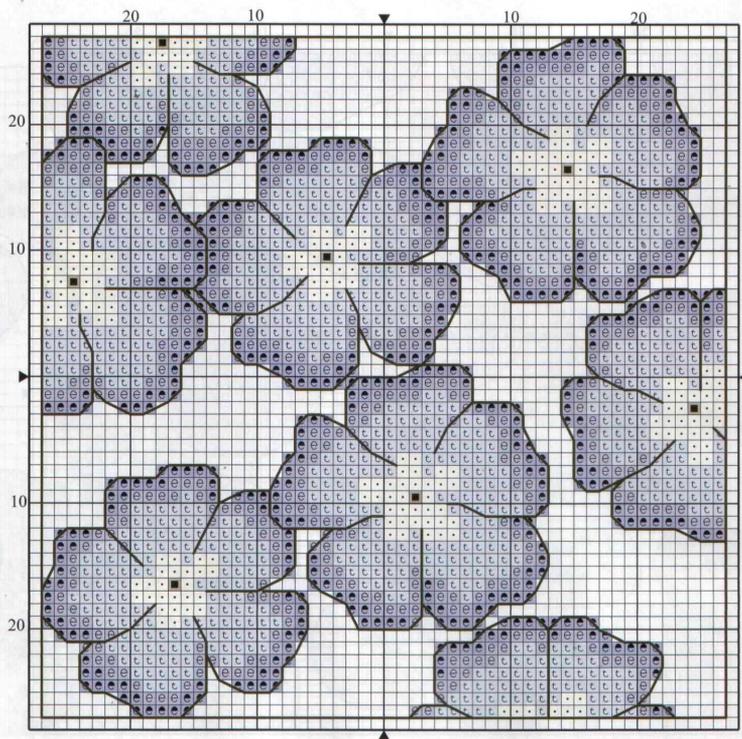
Finishing touches

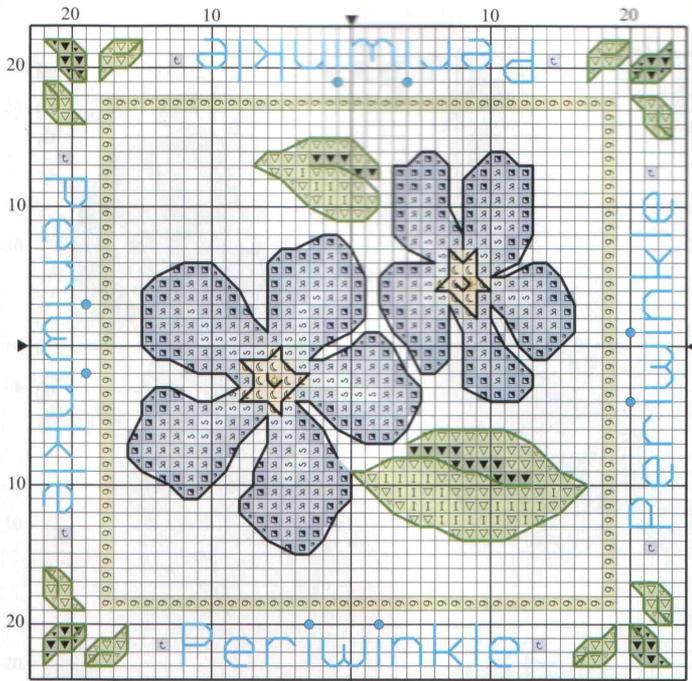
Make a special gift using these pansy designs. You only need waste canvas and a sharp needle to stitch a single bloom or sprig onto a hanky or pillowcase. Remove the waste canvas threads with tweezers and wash the item to get rid of any starch that might be left behind on the fabric.



Stitching ideas

Try working these purple and blue blooms onto a coloured fabric such as lemon, pink or ivory aida, depending on the person you are stitching for. If you're making gifts for a little girl, opt for pink, if it's for someone older, go with lemon or classic white as your background.





SHOPPING LIST

Fabric

14-count white aida,
15x15cm (6x6in) for each
design

Threads

Stranded cotton as listed
in the key

Needle

Size 24 tapestry needle



BRILLIANT
BLUES

Blue Flowers key

✦ Cross stitch in two strands

| | DMC | Anchor | Madeira | |
|---|------|--------|---------|------------------|
| ■ | 156 | 939 | 902 | violet |
| ■ | 334 | 977 | 1004 | powder blue |
| ■ | 472 | 253 | 1414 | very light green |
| ■ | 743 | 302 | 113 | yellow |
| ■ | 745 | 300 | 111 | light yellow |
| ■ | 792 | 177 | 905 | very dark blue |
| ■ | 3046 | 887 | 2206 | straw |
| ■ | 3347 | 265 | 1408 | green |
| ■ | 3348 | 264 | 1409 | light green |
| ■ | 3746 | 1030 | 903 | purple |
| ■ | 3747 | 120 | 901 | light violet |
| ■ | 3755 | 140 | 1013 | lt powder blue |
| ■ | 3807 | 122 | 2702 | dark blue |
| ■ | 3841 | 9159 | 1001 | marine blue |

✦ Backstitch in one strand

| | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|------|----------------|
| — | 741 | 304 | 202 | orange |
| — | 792 | 177 | 905 | very dark blue |
| — | 793 | 176 | 906 | blue |
| — | 937 | 268 | 1504 | dark green |

✦ French knots in two strands

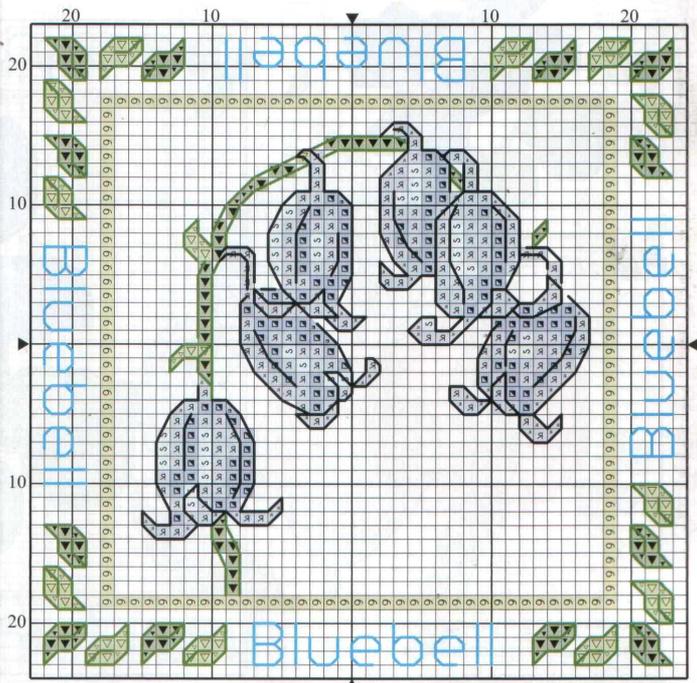
| | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|------|
| ● | 793 | 176 | 906 | blue |
|---|-----|-----|-----|------|

MAXIMUM STITCH COUNT 47 high x 47 wide

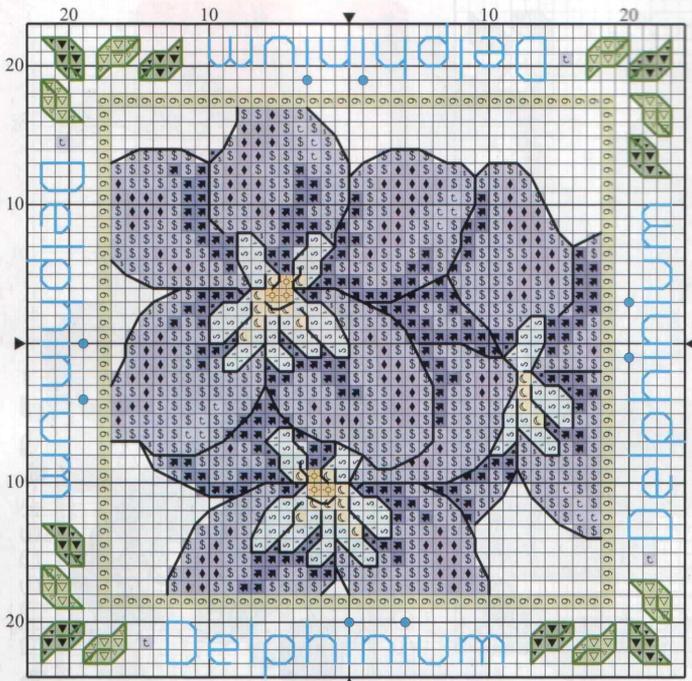
DESIGN AREA 14HPI (28-count evenweave)

– 8.5x8.5cm (3½x3½in)

These designs were stitched using DMC stranded cotton



The Big Bouquet



In the detail

The pretty delphinium, violet, lily and iris are worked in many different shades of blue, including powder blue, dark blue, marine and violet. Sort out the threads in a good light before you begin stitching and this will minimise any errors later on. Make sure you stitch in a good light too.



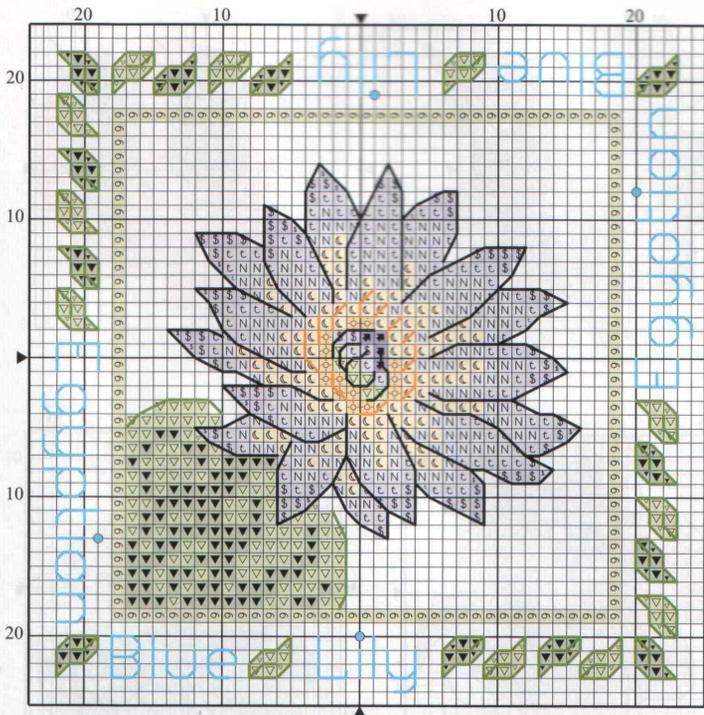
Stitch Tip

Use a thread sorter to separate the similar blue threads before you start stitching

Stitching ideas

Stitch these four designs as a set of pretty pictures to hang on a kitchen wall. Finish them in matching pine frames to create a fetching centrepiece for your home.





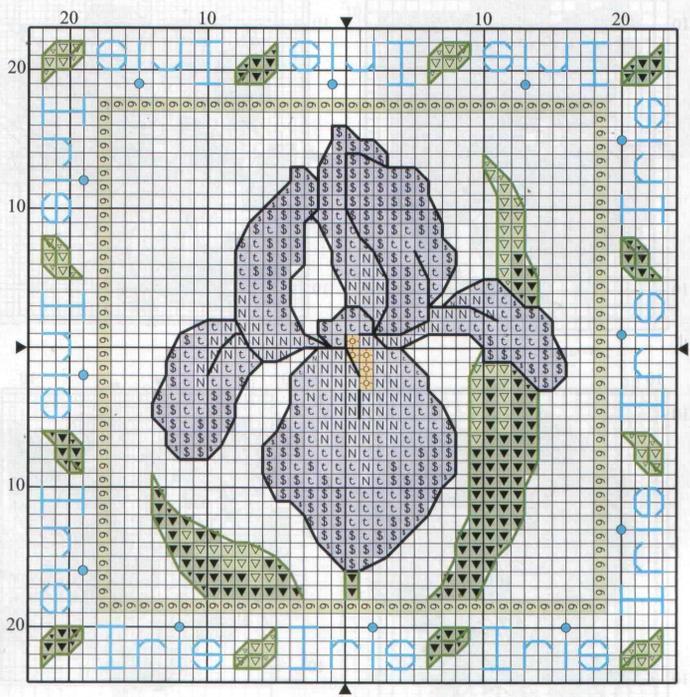
Stitch Tip
 For special occasions, replace the flower's name with a personal greeting for the recipient

Finishing touches

Add seed beads in different shades of blue to the border to enhance the texture of these floral designs. You could add them to the flower centres too.

THESE PRETTY BLUE CARDS CAN BE STITCHED IN ADVANCE AND KEPT IN A DRAWER, READY TO GIVE FOR BIRTHDAYS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR, OR SIMPLY AS A CARD FOR A FRIEND YOU HAVEN'T SEEN FOR A WHILE OR TO LET A RELATIVE KNOW THEY ARE IN YOUR THOUGHTS.

KATRIEL COSTELLO, EDITOR



The Big Bouquet

SHOPPING LIST

Fabric

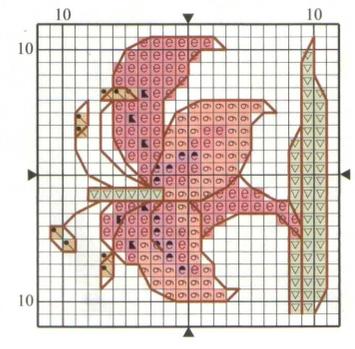
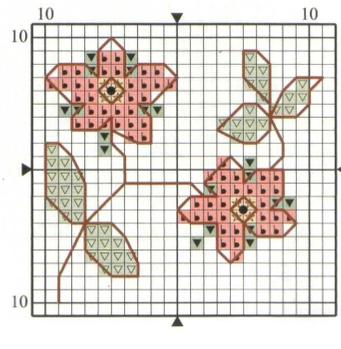
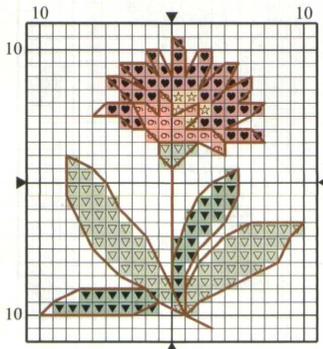
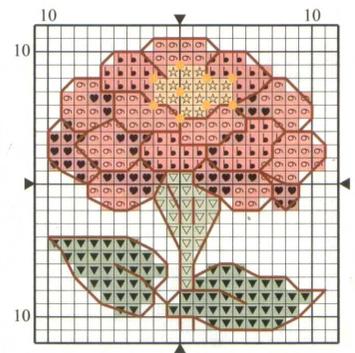
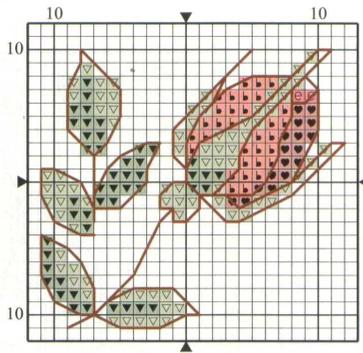
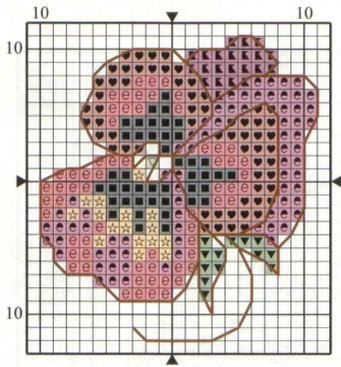
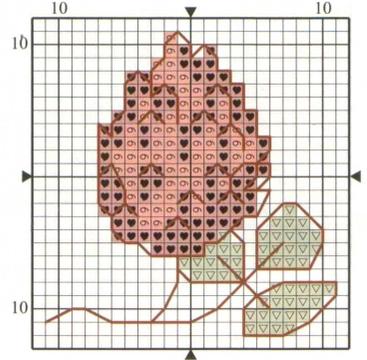
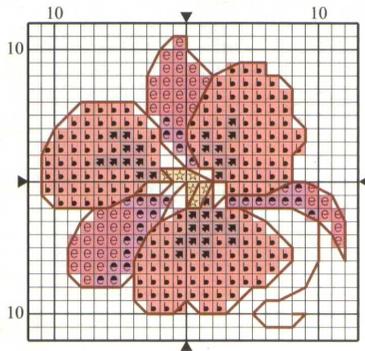
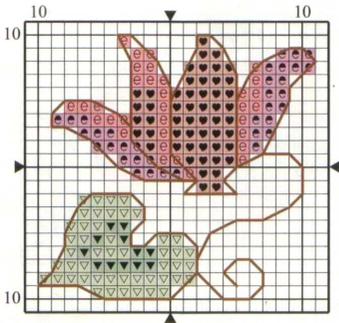
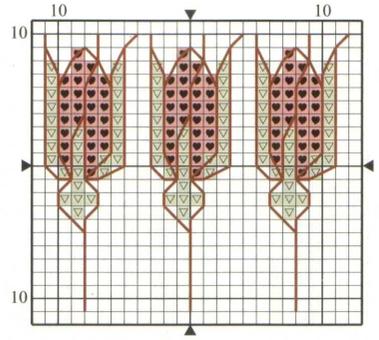
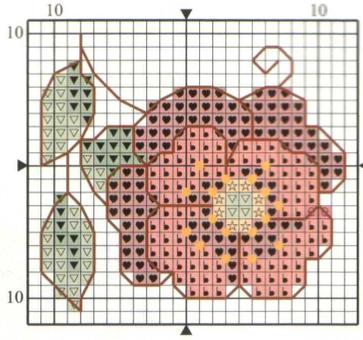
14-count white aida,
15x15cm (6x6in) for each
design

Threads

Stranded cotton as listed
in the key

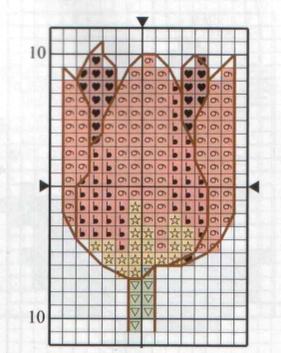
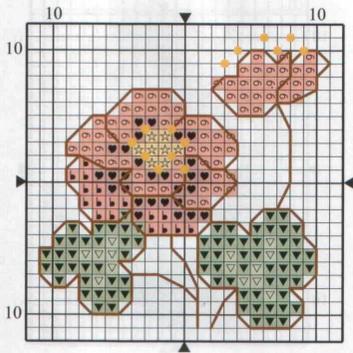
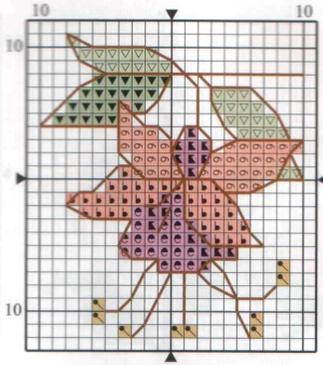
Needle

Size 24 tapestry needle



Stitch Tip

Try adding wording to your designs and use them to make birthday and anniversary cards



Red Flowers key

✦ Cross stitch in two strands

| | DMC | Anchor | Madeira | |
|---|------|--------|---------|--------------|
| ■ | 310 | 403 | 2400 | black |
| ♥ | 326 | 59 | 508 | rose |
| ■ | 349 | 1098 | 212 | red |
| ■ | 351 | 10 | 214 | coral |
| ▽ | 471 | 266 | 1501 | light green |
| ☆ | 728 | 305 | 107 | gold |
| ■ | 782 | 308 | 2212 | straw |
| ■ | 814 | 22 | 601 | ruby |
| ■ | 915 | 1029 | 705 | dark magenta |
| ■ | 917 | 89 | 706 | magenta |
| ■ | 987 | 244 | 1403 | green |
| ■ | 3350 | 42 | 603 | raspberry |

✦ Backstitch in one strand

| | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|------|-------|
| — | 801 | 359 | 2007 | brown |
|---|-----|-----|------|-------|

✦ French knots in one strand

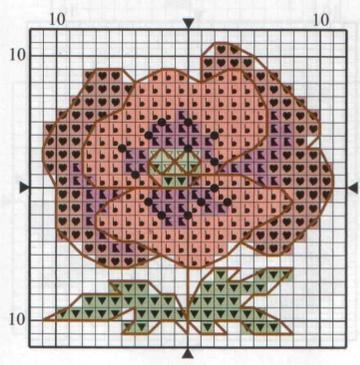
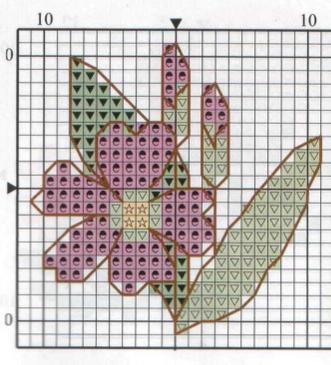
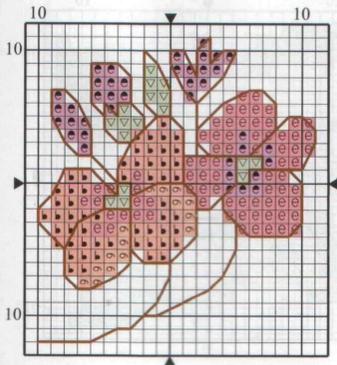
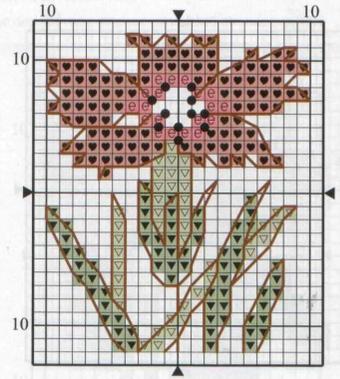
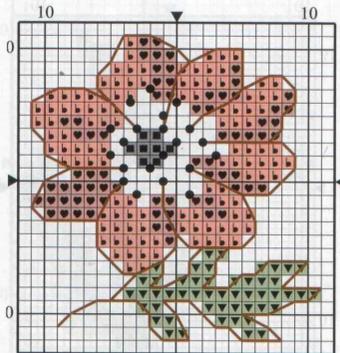
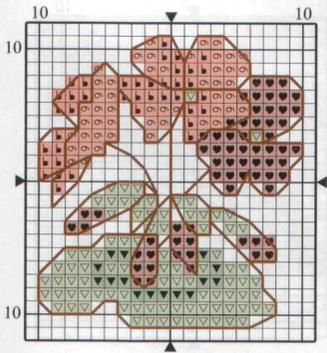
| | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|------|-------|
| ● | 310 | 403 | 2400 | black |
| ● | 782 | 308 | 2212 | straw |

MAXIMUM STITCH COUNT 23 high x 23 wide

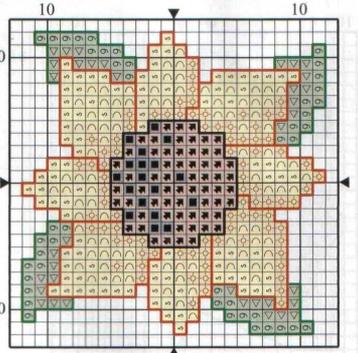
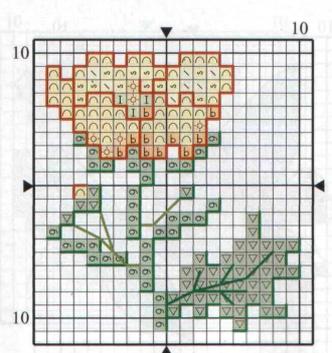
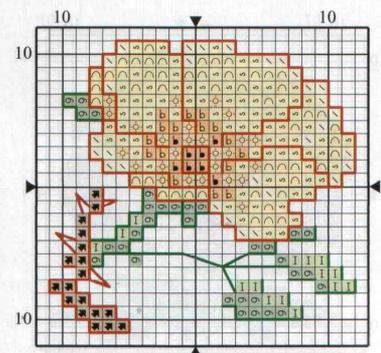
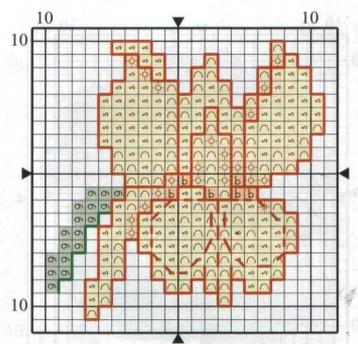
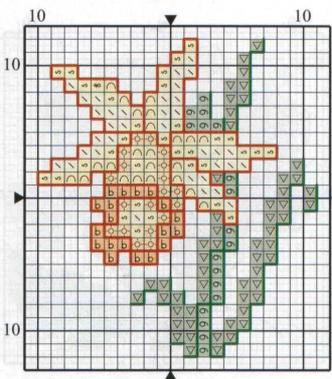
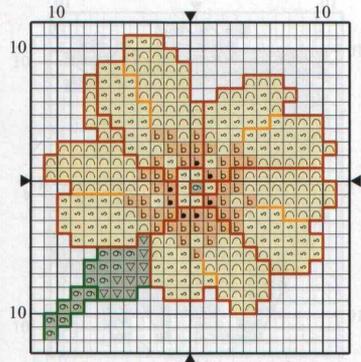
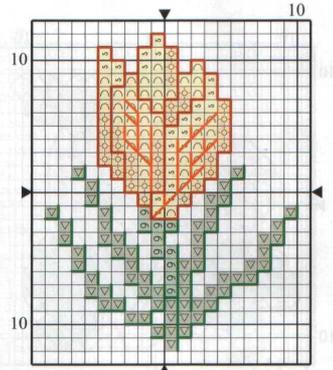
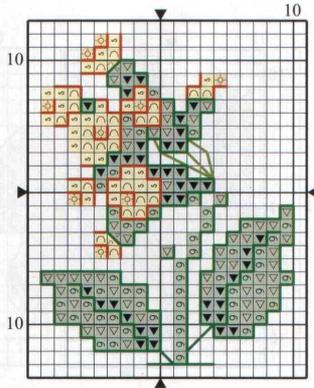
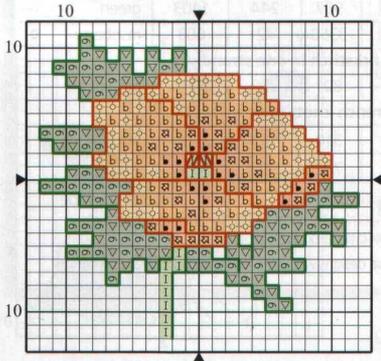
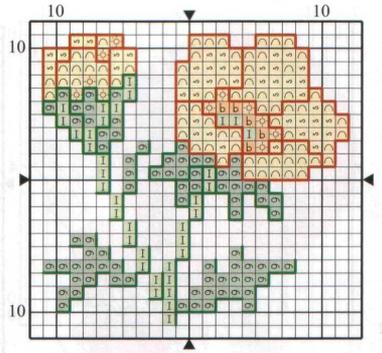
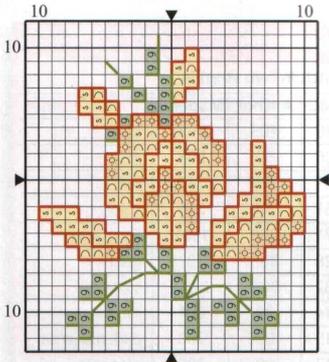
DESIGN AREA 14HPI (28-count evenweave)

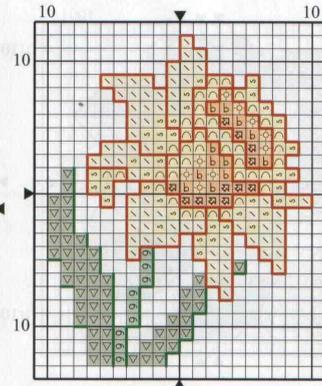
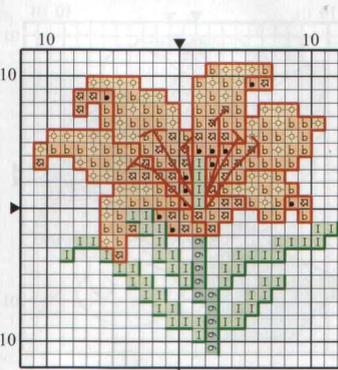
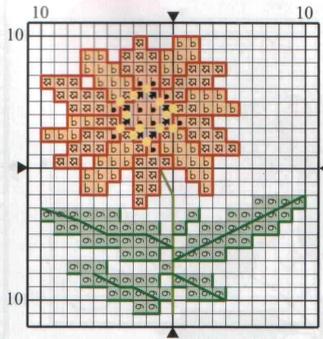
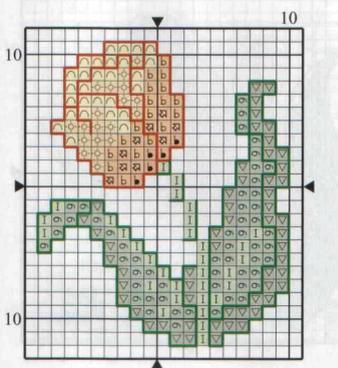
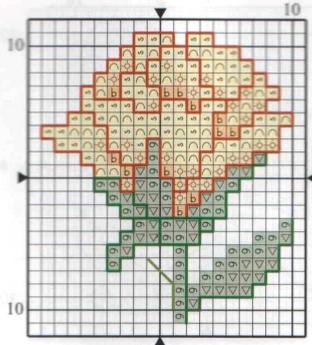
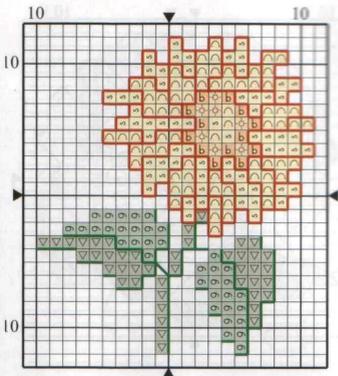
— 4x4cm (1½x1½in)

These designs were stitched using DMC stranded cotton



The Big Bouquet





Yellow Flowers key

✦ Cross stitch in two strands

| | DMC | Anchor | Madeira | |
|---|------|--------|---------|-------------------|
| ■ | 310 | 403 | 2400 | black |
| ◊ | 725 | 305 | 113 | dark yellow |
| ○ | 726 | 295 | 109 | yellow |
| ◐ | 727 | 293 | 112 | light yellow |
| ◑ | 741 | 304 | 202 | orange |
| ▽ | 895 | 1044 | 1405 | very dark green |
| ◓ | 972 | 298 | 107 | tangerine |
| ◔ | 975 | 355 | 2303 | dark ginger |
| ▽ | 3346 | 267 | 1407 | dark green |
| ◓ | 3347 | 265 | 1408 | green |
| I | 3348 | 264 | 1409 | light green |
| ∖ | 3823 | 386 | 2512 | very light yellow |
| ◻ | 3853 | 1003 | 311 | copper |

✦ Backstitch in one strand

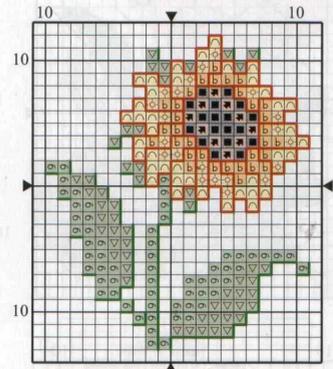
| | | | | |
|---|------|------|------|-----------------|
| — | 310 | 403 | 2400 | black |
| — | 741 | 304 | 202 | orange |
| — | 895 | 1044 | 1405 | very dark green |
| — | 972 | 298 | 107 | tangerine |
| — | 975 | 355 | 2303 | dark ginger |
| — | 3346 | 267 | 1407 | dark green |
| — | 3348 | 264 | 1409 | light green |

✦ French knots in one strand

| | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|--------|
| ● | 726 | 295 | 109 | yellow |
|---|-----|-----|-----|--------|

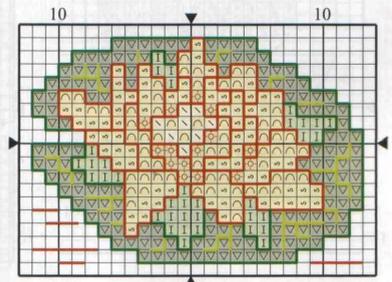
MAXIMUM STITCH COUNT 25 high x 25 wide
DESIGN AREA 14HPI (28-count evenweave)
 - 4.5x4.5cm (1¾x1¾in)

These designs were stitched using DMC stranded cotton

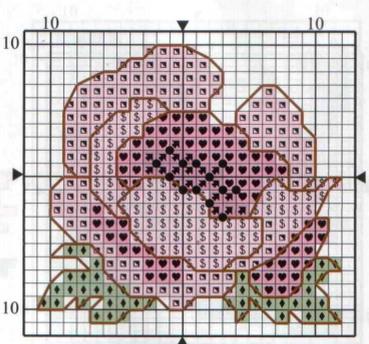
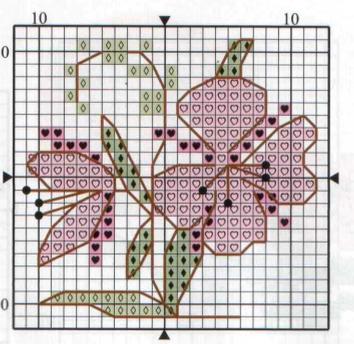
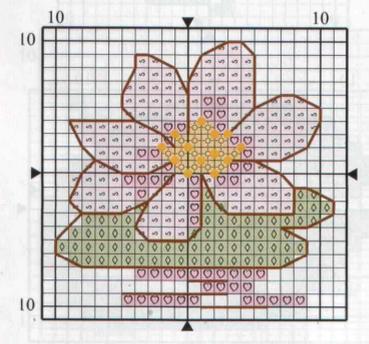
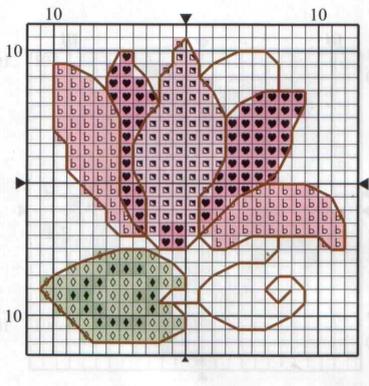
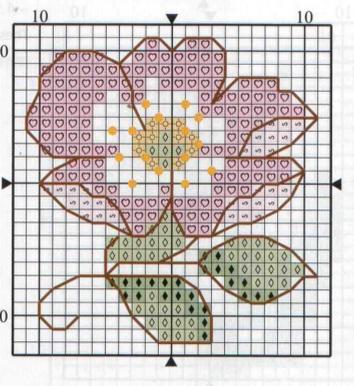
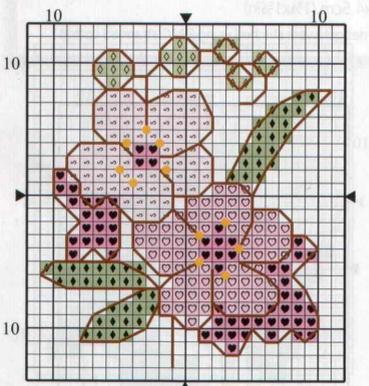
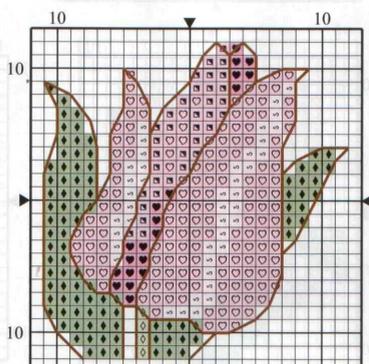
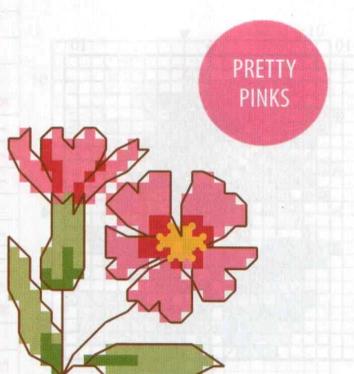
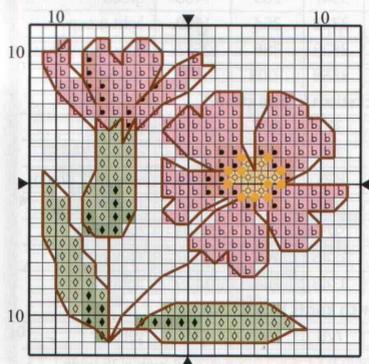
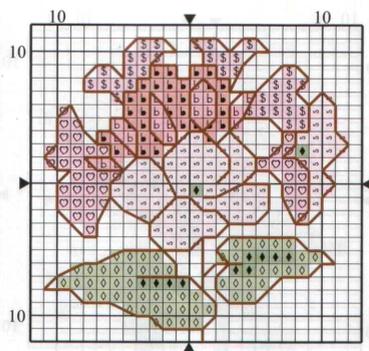
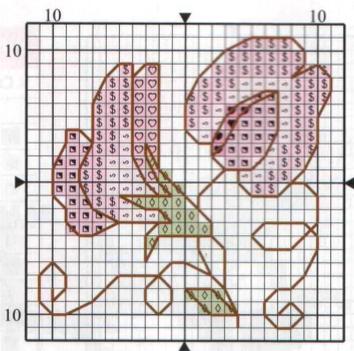
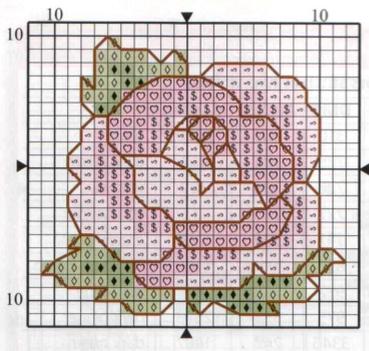


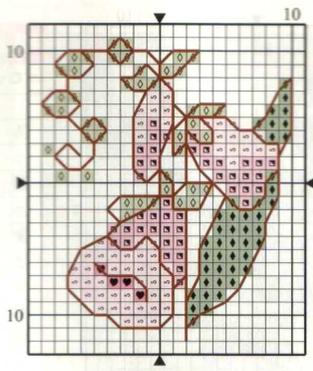
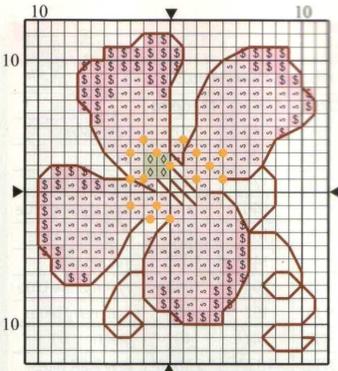
StitchTip

Sunny yellow florals make great cards and would be perfect for Easter



The Big Bouquet





Pink Flowers key

✦ Cross stitch in two strands

| | DMC | Anchor | Madeira | |
|---|------|--------|---------|----------------|
| ■ | 309 | 42 | 508 | rose pink |
| ◇ | 471 | 266 | 1501 | green |
| ⊕ | 728 | 305 | 107 | yellow |
| ■ | 782 | 308 | 2212 | gold |
| ⊖ | 818 | 23 | 502 | baby pink |
| ■ | 917 | 89 | 706 | magenta |
| ■ | 961 | 76 | 610 | dark pink |
| ■ | 987 | 244 | 1403 | dark green |
| ♥ | 3607 | 87 | 708 | dark cyclamen |
| ■ | 3608 | 86 | 709 | cyclamen |
| ⊕ | 3609 | 85 | 710 | light cyclamen |
| ♥ | 3689 | 49 | 607 | pink |

✦ Backstitch in one strand

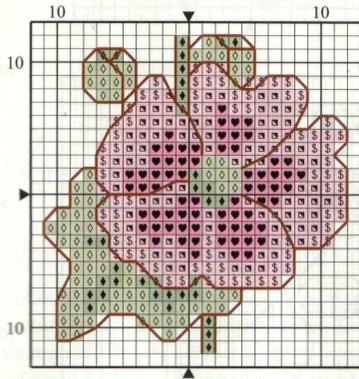
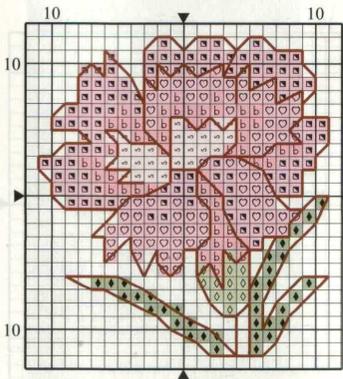
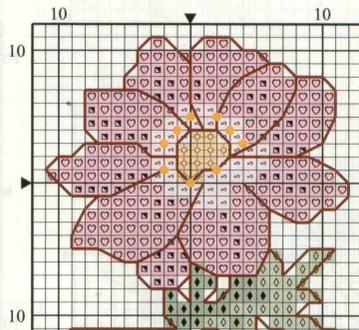
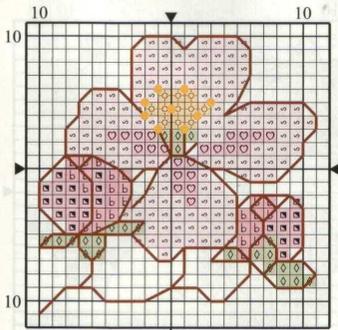
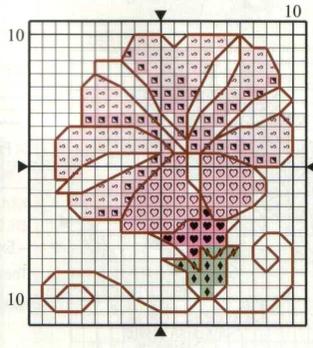
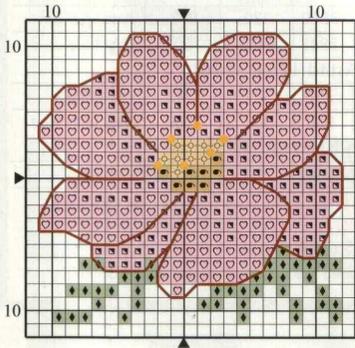
| | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|------|-------|
| — | 801 | 359 | 2007 | brown |
|---|-----|-----|------|-------|

✦ French knots in one strand

| | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|------|-------|
| ● | 310 | 403 | 2400 | black |
| ● | 782 | 308 | 2212 | gold |

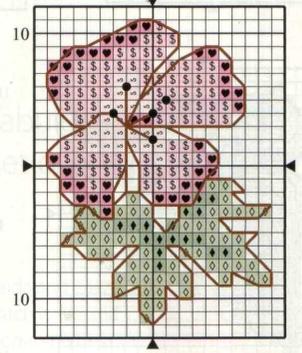
MAXIMUM STITCH COUNT 25 high x 23 wide
DESIGN AREA 14HPI (28-count evenweave)
 — 4.5x4cm (1¾x1¾in)

These designs were stitched using DMC stranded cotton

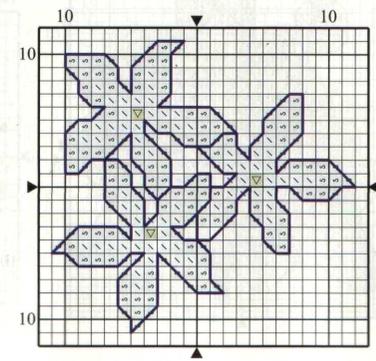
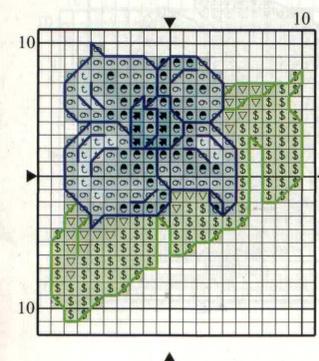
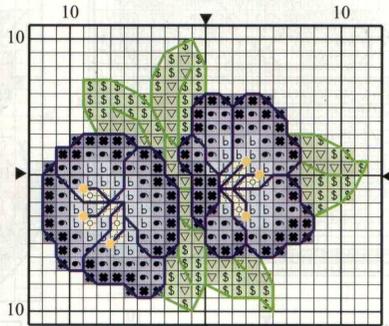
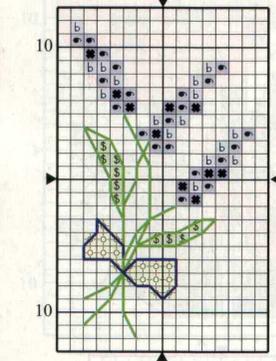
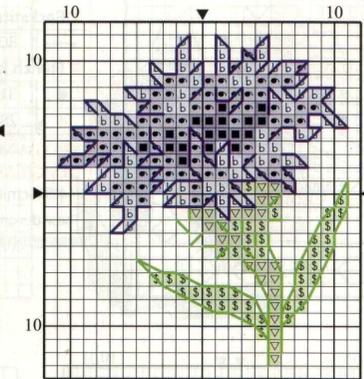
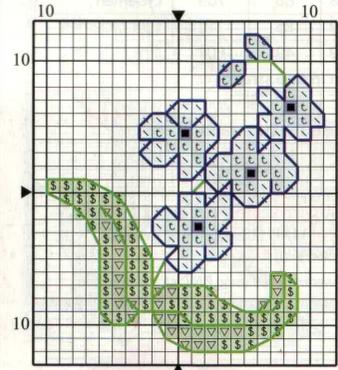
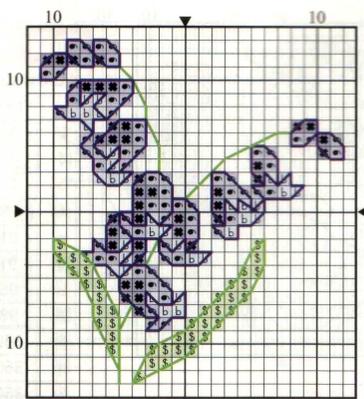
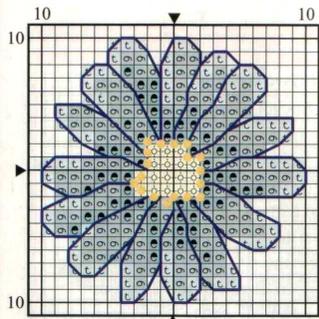


Stitch Tip

If you stitch a pale pink design, choose a dusky pink mount and a pale pine frame



The Big Bouquet



Blue Flowers key

✳ Cross stitch in two strands

| | DMC | Anchor | Madeira | |
|---|------|--------|---------|-------------------|
| § | 164 | 240 | 1209 | light green |
| ⊕ | 746 | 275 | 2511 | cream |
| ⊗ | 792 | 177 | 905 | dark flax blue |
| ⊖ | 813 | 140 | 910 | light marine blue |
| ⊙ | 825 | 162 | 1011 | dk marine blue |
| ⊚ | 826 | 146 | 1012 | marine blue |
| t | 827 | 160 | 1013 | vy lt marine blue |
| ■ | 939 | 152 | 1009 | dark navy blue |
| ▽ | 989 | 241 | 1401 | green |
| ∨ | 3756 | 1037 | 2504 | very light blue |
| ● | 3839 | 175 | 902 | dark blue |
| b | 3840 | 130 | 907 | blue |
| ⊙ | 3841 | 9159 | 1001 | light blue |

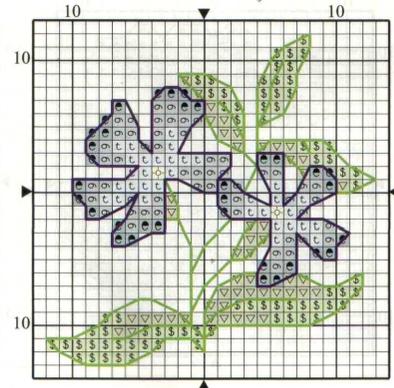
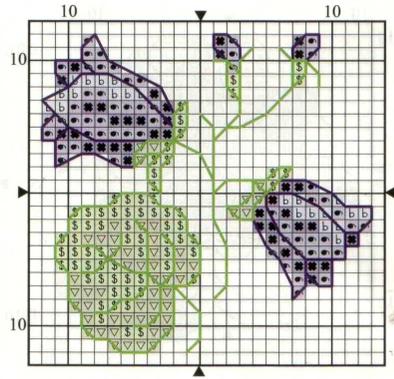
✳ Backstitch in one strand

| | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|------|----------------|
| — | 367 | 217 | 1312 | dark green |
| — | 939 | 152 | 1009 | dark navy blue |

✳ French knots in one strand

| | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|--------|
| ● | 744 | 301 | 112 | yellow |
|---|-----|-----|-----|--------|

MAXIMUM STITCH COUNT 26 high x 25 wide
DESIGN AREA 14HPI (28-count evenweave)
 — 5x4.5cm (1¾x1¾in)
 These designs were stitched using DMC stranded cotton



MAKE
PRETTY
PRESENTS



Simple yet stylish, coasters
make delightful gifts

SHOPPING LIST

Fabric

14-count white aida,
15x15cm (6x6in) for each

Threads

Stranded cotton as listed
in the key

Needle

Size 24 tapestry needle

Extras

Round coasters from
Framecraft, visit website
www.framecraft.com or
call 01543 360842

Time for Tea

Designed by Susan Bates

Pick your favourite from these fabulous florals and
celebrate summertime with a set of attractive coasters

Stitcher's guide

Each of these flowers is worked on 14-count white aida and each design uses several different thread colours. Cross stitch is worked in two strands of thread and each design uses fractional stitches to add detail. Backstitch in one strand is used to outline the petals and to give detail to the leaves and stalks.

Stitch Tip

These simple
garland circles
make perfect
Mother's Day gifts

How to stitch the Floral Coasters

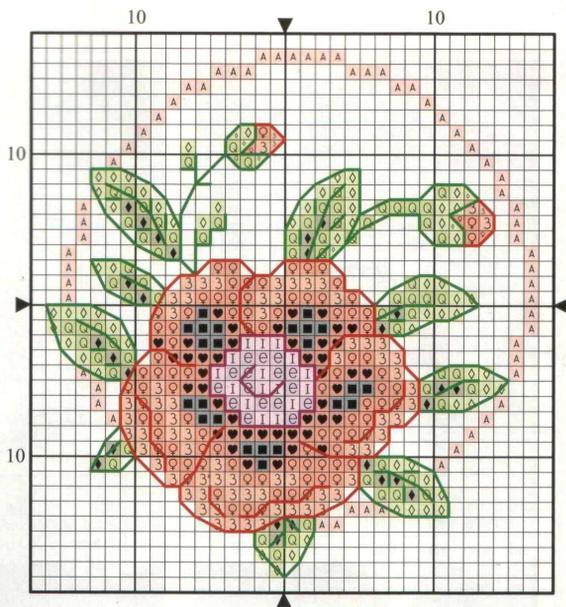
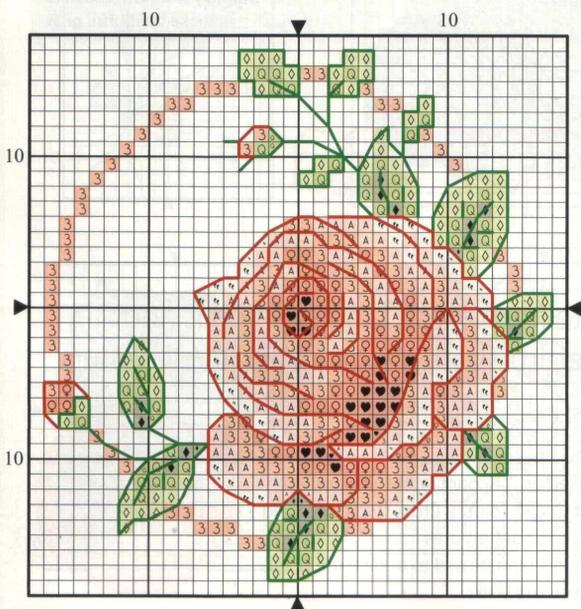
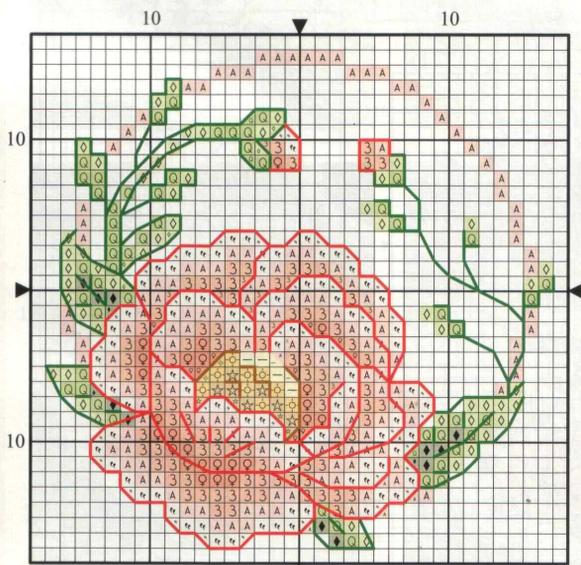
1 Find the centre of your fabric by folding it in half both horizontally and vertically. Follow the arrows on the chart to find its centre and start stitching from here, working your way outwards.

2 Work the cross stitch using two strands of

cotton. Work a half stitch for every small symbol you see.

3 Work the backstitches in one strand of thread, following the symbols on the chart and key carefully.

4 Check over your finished stitching and prepare it for mounting into a coaster.



Stitching idea

You could stitch the sunflower for a summer birthday, it's not an official birthday flower for that month but it would make a nice touch. Why not stitch a sunflower card to match the coaster gift?

AS WELL AS COASTERS, THERE ARE OTHER PRODUCTS YOU CAN MOUNT YOUR STITCHING INTO SUCH AS KEYRINGS, PAPERWEIGHTS AND DOOR PLAQUES. YOU CAN EVEN DECORATE DRINKING MUGS AND BOOKMARKS. JUST CHECK THE SIZE OF THE PRODUCT AGAINST THE DESIGN MEASUREMENTS.

KATRIEL COSTELLO, EDITOR

StitchTip

Back your aida with iron-interfacing to give these coasters a professional finish

Flower Coasters key

✦ Cross stitch in two strands

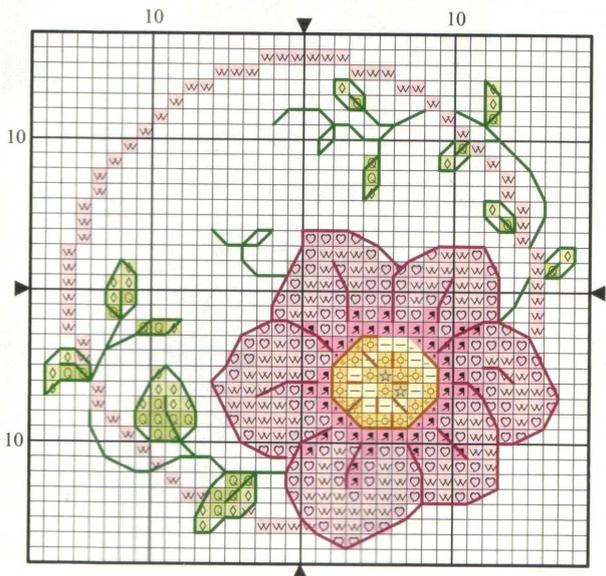
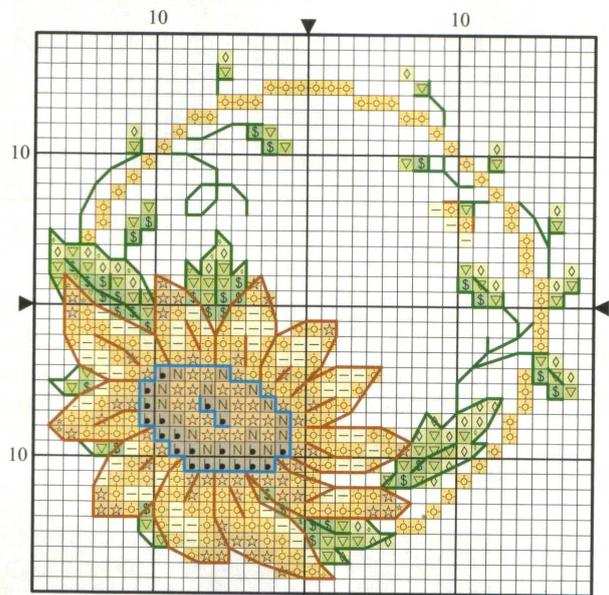
| | DMC | Anchor | Madeira | |
|---|-------|--------|---------|-------------------|
| ∩ | blanc | 2 | 2402 | white |
| w | 151 | 73 | 404 | light pink |
| I | 153 | 103 | 2712 | light lilac |
| ◊ | 165 | 278 | 1414 | light lime green |
| ◊ | 166 | 280 | 1611 | lime green |
| e | 209 | 98 | 803 | lilac |
| ■ | 310 | 403 | 2400 | black |
| ◊ | 318 | 399 | 1801 | grey |
| ♥ | 321 | 9046 | 510 | red |
| A | 353 | 6 | 2313 | coral |
| N | 420 | 374 | 2104 | tan |
| ■ | 433 | 357 | 2602 | brown |
| ◊ | 580 | 267 | 1608 | olive green |
| ◊ | 603 | 55 | 505 | pink |
| ◊ | 606 | 334 | 209 | orange |
| ◊ | 704 | 255 | 1308 | leaf green |
| • | 819 | 271 | 501 | baby pink |
| ◊ | 905 | 257 | 1412 | dark green |
| * | 928 | 274 | 1709 | light petrol blue |
| ◊ | 973 | 290 | 105 | yellow |
| - | 3078 | 292 | 102 | light yellow |
| 3 | 3340 | 329 | 301 | peach |
| ♥ | 3608 | 86 | 709 | cyclamen pink |
| ■ | 3805 | 62 | 703 | shocking pink |
| ★ | 3820 | 306 | 2509 | gold |

✦ Backstitch in one strand

| | | | | |
|---|------|------|------|--------------|
| — | 319 | 1044 | 1313 | bottle green |
| — | 321 | 9046 | 510 | red |
| — | 433 | 357 | 2602 | brown |
| — | 814 | 22 | 601 | dark red |
| — | 938 | 380 | 2005 | dark brown |
| — | 3799 | 236 | 1713 | dark grey |
| — | 3834 | 101 | 2609 | plum |

MAXIMUM STITCH COUNT 35 high x 35 wide
 DESIGN AREA 14HPI (28-count evenweave)
 -6.5x6.5cm (2½x2½in)

These designs were stitched using DMC stranded cotton



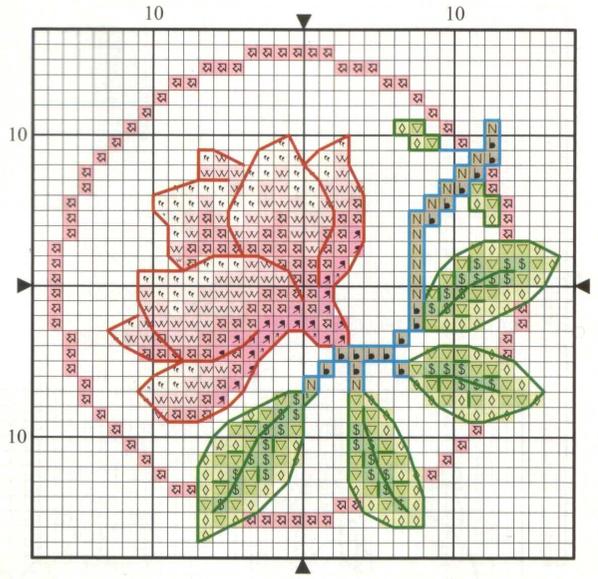
SUSAN BATES
 Designer

It's amazing how much detail you can get into just a few squares. From the tiny rosebud to the bigger flowerhead and the tendrils and leaves in between, all our favourite floral elements fit into 35 x 35 squares – amazing!



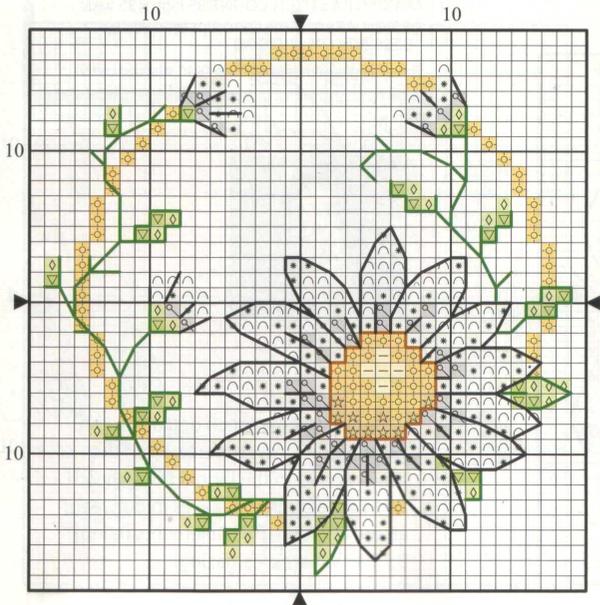
Finishing touches

These garlands of flowers in gorgeous hues suit their white backgrounds. But if you'd like to inject even more colour into your coasters, opt for pale shades of fabric such as baby pink, blue and yellow.



USING THE UNDERSIDE OF THE COASTER AS A TEMPLATE, CUT YOUR DESIGN TO SIZE. BACK YOUR STITCHING WITH A PIECE OF WHITE CARD THAT IS CUT TO SIZE AND FIX IT INTO PLACE WITH DOUBLE-SIDED TAPE. INSERT INTO THE COASTER AND CLICK IT SHUT.

ANNE MACGREGOR, SENIOR TECHNICAL EDITOR





QUICK TO STITCH

These tiny tags will only take two or three hours each to stitch

A Gift For You...

Designed by Fiona Baker

Personalise any present with an elegant monogram, these floral tags are ideal for using up leftover threads

Stitcher's guide

Pretty florals decorate letters of the alphabet designed in eye-catching mauve and are worked on 14-count white aida using stranded cotton in varying shades. Cross stitch is worked in two strands and each design uses whole stitches with fractional stitches shaping the leaves and rounding the petals. Backstitch is used throughout, for both letters and flowers.

SHOPPING LIST

Fabric

14-count white aida, 10x10cm (4x4in) for each gift tag design

Threads

Stranded cotton as listed in the key

Needle

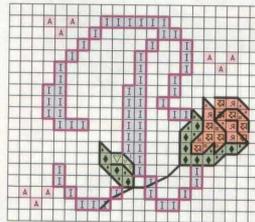
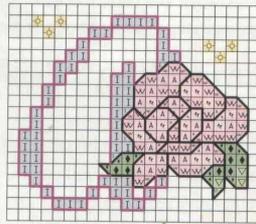
Size 24 tapestry needle

Extras

Gift tags from high street stores, or handmade from a piece of card and ribbon of your choice

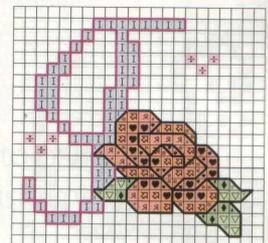
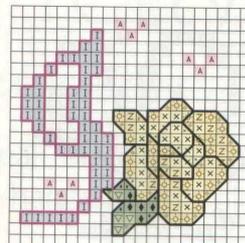
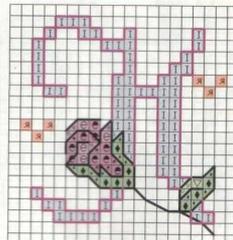
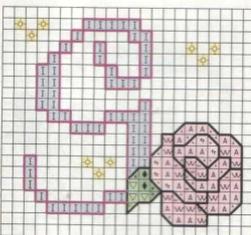
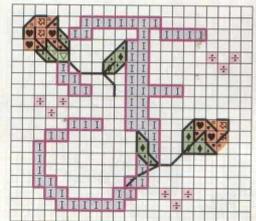
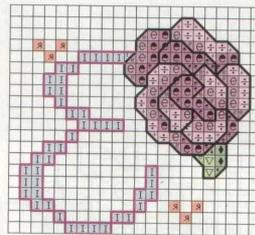
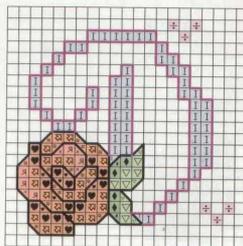
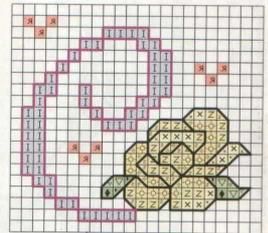
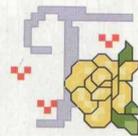
Stitch Tip

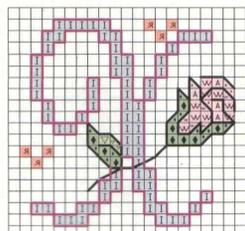
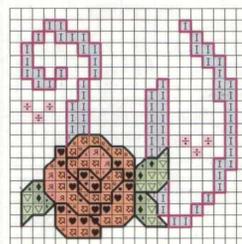
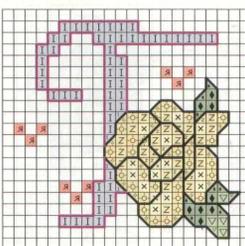
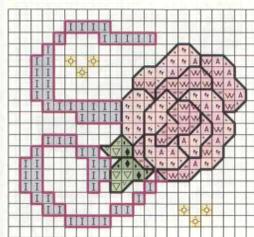
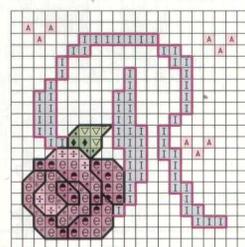
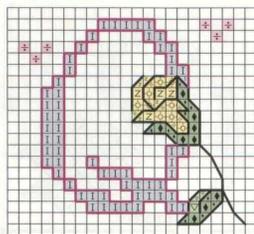
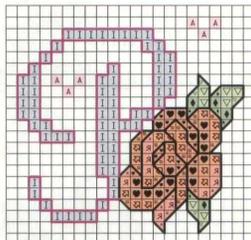
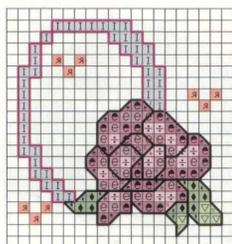
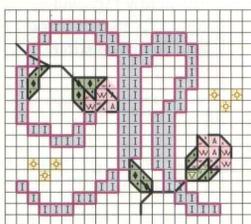
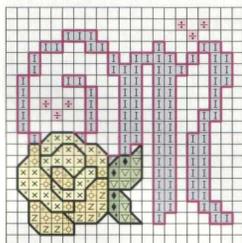
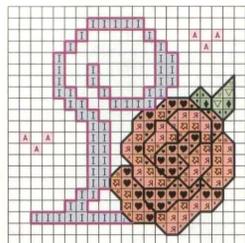
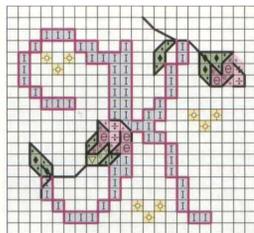
Stitch someone's name onto a length of aida band to make a pretty bookmark



Finishing touches

These decorative letters with their pretty rosebuds would make fabulous monograms for a wedding gift bathroom or bed linen set.





Gift Tags ABC key

✕ Cross stitch in two strands

| | DMC | Anchor | Madeira | |
|---|------|--------|---------|--------------|
| I | 156 | 939 | 2702 | light purple |
| ♥ | 304 | 19 | 511 | dark red |
| ♣ | 320 | 215 | 1311 | green |
| ▽ | 368 | 214 | 1310 | light green |
| W | 604 | 55 | 614 | dark pink |
| A | 605 | 1094 | 613 | pink |
| ■ | 666 | 46 | 210 | red |
| ⊙ | 726 | 295 | 109 | dark yellow |
| Z | 727 | 293 | 112 | yellow |
| + | 963 | 73 | 502 | light pink |
| x | 3078 | 292 | 102 | light yellow |
| ⦿ | 3705 | 35 | 410 | light red |
| ⦿ | 3834 | 101 | 2609 | dark violet |
| ⦿ | 3835 | 98 | 712 | violet |
| + | 3836 | 90 | 2713 | light violet |

✕ Backstitch in one strand

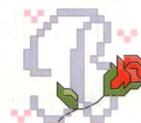
| | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|------|--------|
| — | 310 | 403 | 2400 | black |
| — | 340 | 118 | 902 | purple |

MAXIMUM STITCH COUNT 20 high x 20 wide

DESIGN AREA 14HPI (28-count evenweave)

– 3.5x3.5cm (1½x1½in)

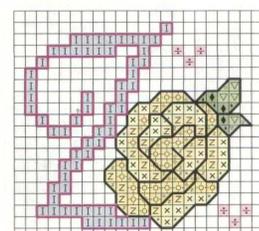
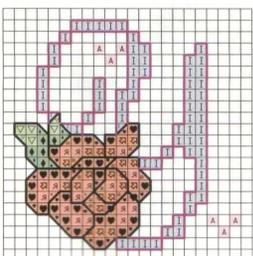
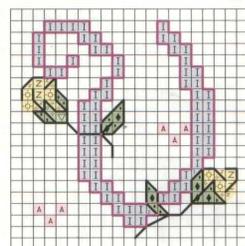
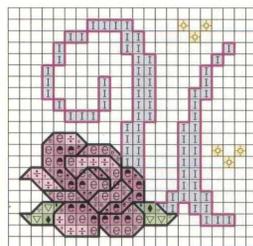
These designs were stitched using DMC stranded cotton



How to stitch the Gift Tags ABC

- 1 Find the centre of your fabric by folding it in half both horizontally and vertically. Work out where the centre of each motif is on the chart and start stitching from here, working your way outwards.
- 2 Work the cross stitch using two strands of cotton, referring to the chart and

- key when it's time to change colour. Work a half stitch for every small symbol you see.
- 3 Work the backstitches in one strand of thread, following the chart and key.
- 4 Check over your finished stitching for any missed stitches and prepare it for making up into a gift tag.





TAKES 2-3
HOURS TO
STITCH

To make a retro gift, look for vintage teacups and saucers in charity shops

Sew Pretty

Designed by Diane Machin

Next time you take a stitching break, or need a place to park your pins and needles, use these handy teacup pincushions

SHOPPING LIST

Fabric

14-count white aida,
15x15cm (6x6in) for each

Threads

Stranded cotton as listed
in the key

Needle

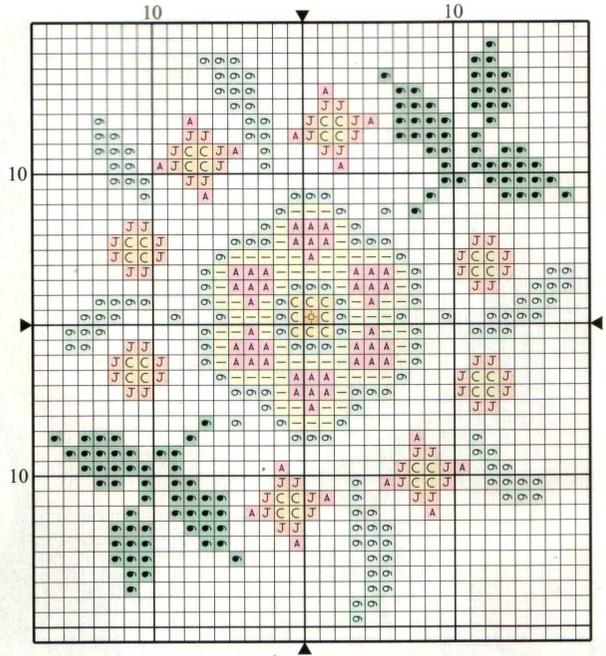
Size 24 tapestry needle

Extras

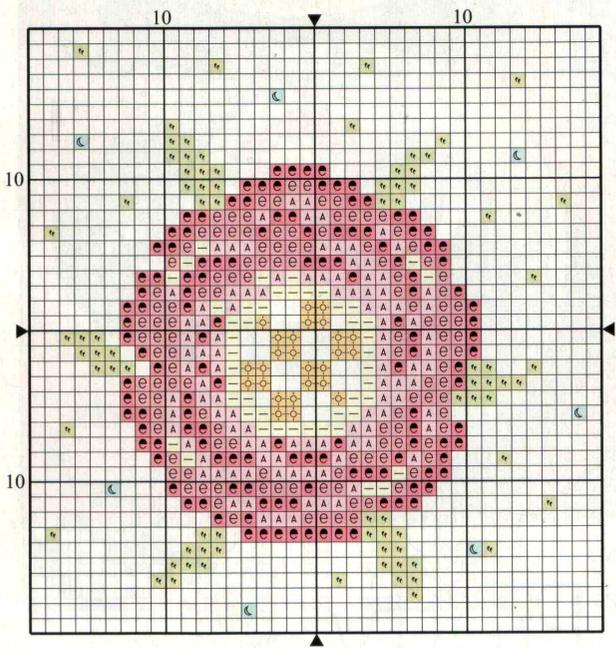
Teacups, saucers and
quality stuffing

Stitcher's guide

Each of these flower designs is worked on 14-count white aida using a palette of 16 different thread colours. There are no fractional stitches here, just whole cross stitches worked in two strands of thread. Backstitch isn't used either, and without the outlines, the edges of each design look soft and subtle.



Stitch Tip
These fractional-
and backstitch-free
designs are perfect for
beginners



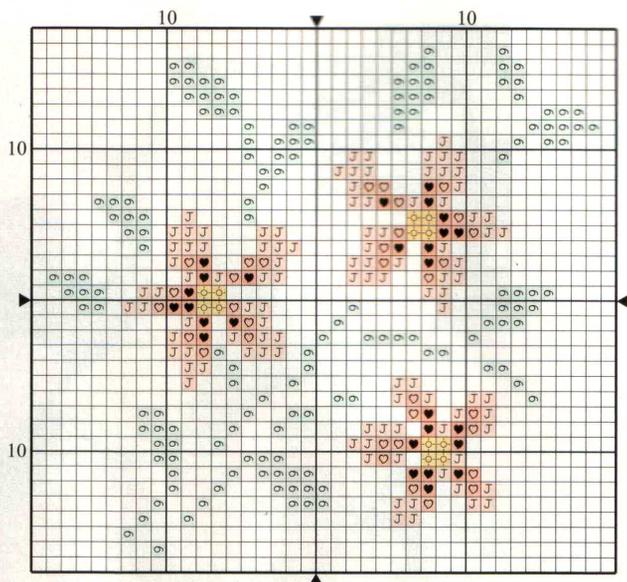
WORKED ENTIRELY IN WHOLE STITCHES, THESE SWEET DESIGNS ARE SO STRAIGHTFORWARD YOU'LL BE ABLE TO PUT THEM TOGETHER IN NO TIME. THESE DELICATE FLORALS WORK BEAUTIFULLY WITH VINTAGE CUPS AND SAUCERS TO MAKE UNIQUE GIFTS.

KATRIEL COSTELLO, EDITOR



How to stitch the Pincushions

- 1 Find the centre of your fabric by folding it in half horizontally and vertically. Follow arrows on chart to find its centre and start stitching from here, working outwards.
- 2 Work the cross stitch using two strands of cotton.
- 3 Check over your finished stitching before making it up into a pincushion, following the instructions (right).



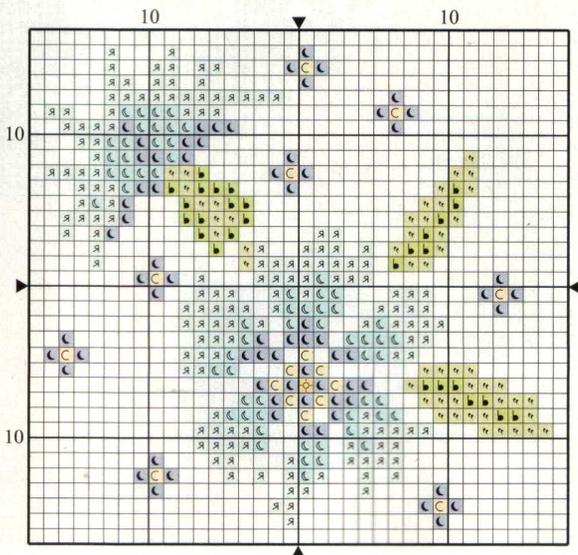
DIANE MACHIN
Designer

With the trend for tea parties and vintage crockery continuing, I was inspired to design a set of pincushions with a unique take. The stitched flowers of the pincushion offset the floral pattern on the cups and saucers and, together, they make a pretty pair.



Stitch Tip

Stitch these designs as pretty greeting cards for friends and family



Pincushions key

✦ Cross stitch in two strands

| | DMC | Anchor | Madeira | |
|---|-----|--------|---------|--------------|
| ☾ | 334 | 977 | 1004 | blue |
| ♥ | 351 | 10 | 214 | red |
| ♡ | 352 | 9 | 303 | light red |
| J | 353 | 6 | 2313 | coral |
| ⚡ | 472 | 253 | 1414 | moss green |
| ☾ | 519 | 1038 | 1105 | sea blue |
| ○ | 564 | 206 | 1208 | mint green |
| ⊙ | 602 | 57 | 702 | dark pink |
| ⊕ | 603 | 55 | 701 | pink |
| ⊖ | 605 | 1094 | 613 | light pink |
| ⊗ | 743 | 302 | 113 | yellow |
| ⊘ | 745 | 300 | 111 | light yellow |
| — | 746 | 275 | 2511 | cream |
| ⦿ | 828 | 975 | 1101 | baby blue |
| ⦿ | 907 | 255 | 1308 | bright green |
| ⦿ | 993 | 1070 | 1111 | sea green |

MAXIMUM STITCH COUNT 38 high x 36 wide
DESIGN AREA 14HPI (28-count evenweave)
— 7x6.5cm (2¾x2¾in)

These designs were stitched using DMC stranded cotton

How to make a Pincushion

- 1 Cut your aida into a circular shape measuring around 14cm (5½in) in diameter.
- 2 Stitch around the outside of your fabric using a gathering stitch – go in and out of the fabric at 0.5cm (¼in) intervals 1cm (½in) from the edge.
- 3 Once you've stitched all around the edge, pull thread taut, but leave an opening at the top. Leave thread on the needle.
- 4 Stuff your pincushion as firmly as possible, then pull the thread tight and finish off your thread to secure the opening.
- 5 The pincushion won't be completely closed, but you can patch a small circle of plain aida over the opening to cover up the gap if you prefer.
- 6 Turn the pincushion the right way up, and place inside your teacup.



Paper Posies

Designed by Sue Page

Try stitching on perforated paper and create beautiful shaped greetings to send to best friends and loved ones

SHOPPING LIST

Fabric

14-count white perforated paper, 20x15cm (8x6in) for each design (from Framecraft, www.framecraft.com, 01543 360842)

Threads

Stranded cotton as listed in the key

Needle

Size 24 tapestry needle

Extras

White card for backing

Stitcher's guide

Each of these posies is worked on 14-count white perforated paper using a palette of 20 different thread colours in floral brights, ie. reds, oranges and pinks. Fractional stitches cannot be worked on perforated paper, and there are none used here, just whole cross stitches worked in two strands of thread. Backstitch is worked in one and two strands of thread, refer to the key to see which colours take two strands.

How to stitch the Paper Posies

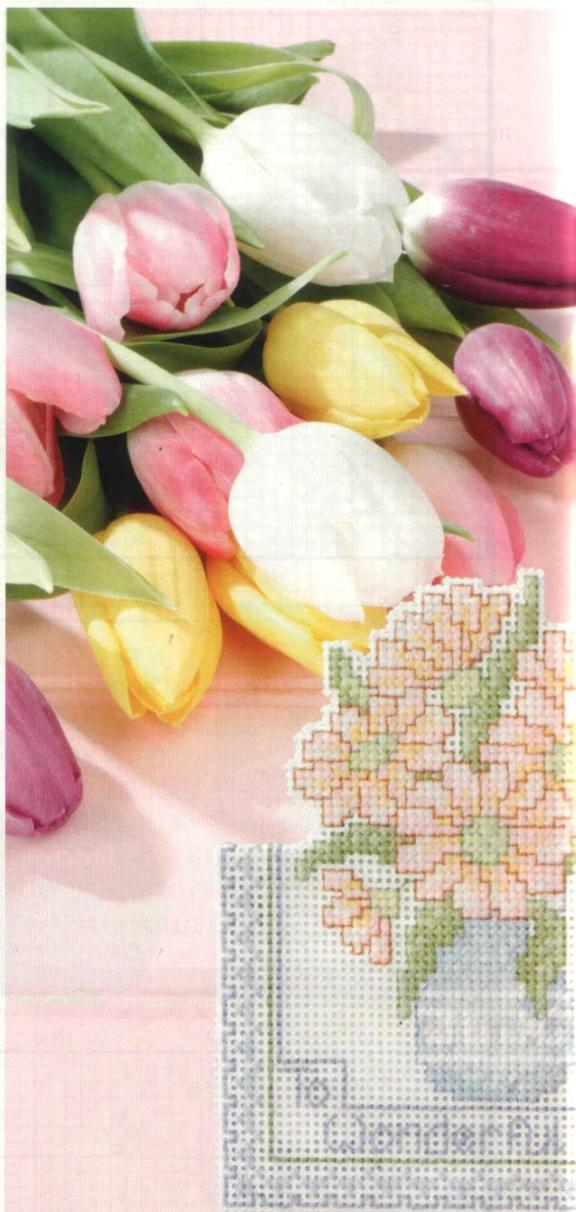
1 Firstly, find the centre of your perforated paper by counting the squares, then follow the arrows on the chart to find its centre and start stitching the design from this point, working your way outwards.

2 Work all of the cross stitch using two strands of cotton. After that, work the backstitch in one and two strands of thread.

3 Check over your finished stitching and prepare it for making up into cards.

Stitch Tip

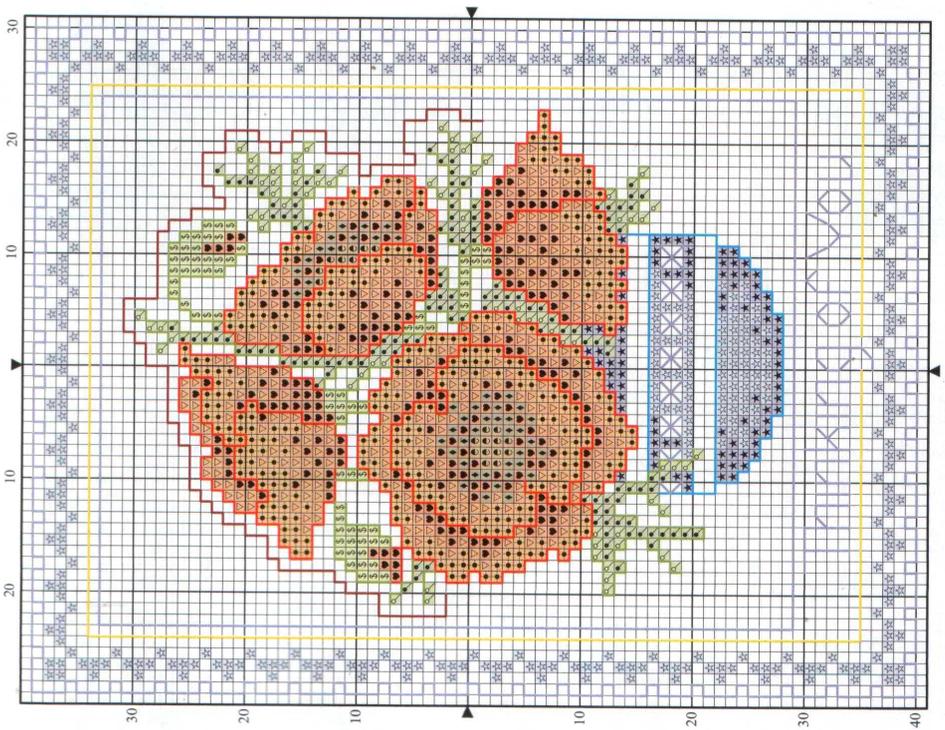
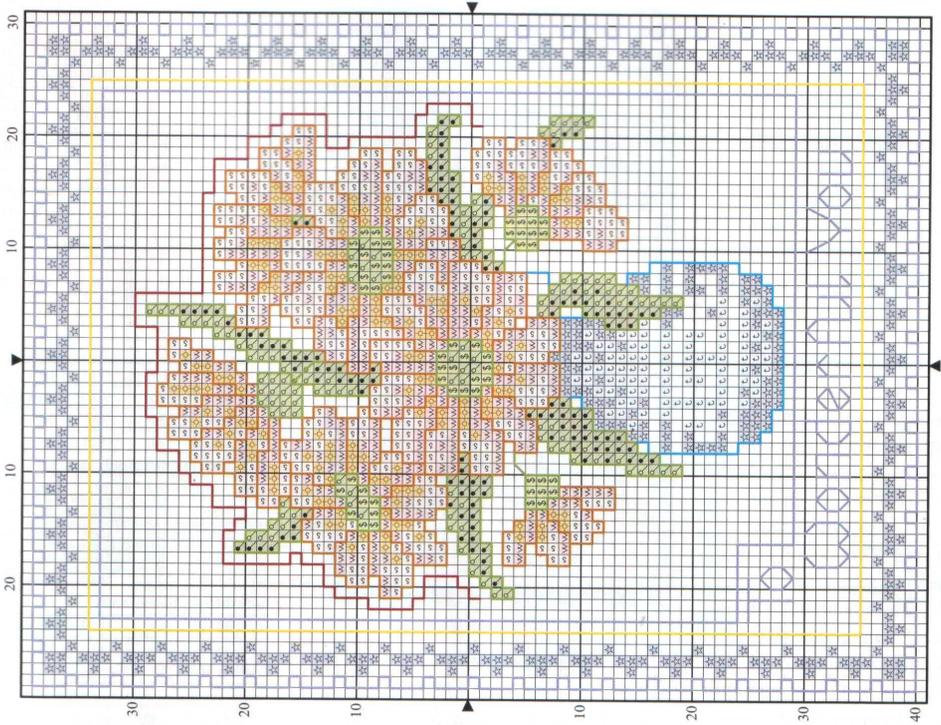
If your paper tears, stick clear tape to the back and stitch through it



STITCH ON
PERFORATED
PAPER



Try working these beautiful bouquets on perforated paper – it's easy!



How to make up your cards

- 1 After you've finished all of the stitching, use a soft pencil to mark the cutting and folding lines on the perforated paper.
- 2 Following the cutting line on the chart, carefully cut around your stitching leaving a border of two holes.
- 3 Following the folding line on the chart, fold back part of the perforated paper, to give the card its standing position. Refer to the image on page 68 for guidance.
- 4 Straighten out the card again and lay it on the backing paper, right side up. Draw around the outside of your card, then lift off the card and spare glue on the marked section.
- 5 Lay your card down on top of the sticky paper and press firmly.
- 6 Cut all the way around the outside of your card, trimming away the excess backing paper. Neatly cut around the central part of your design again, carefully cutting through the backing paper only.
- 7 Reform the folds so that your card stands up straight, to finish.

In the detail

These designs are stitched on both one and two strands of thread. However, the holes in perforated paper are slightly larger than in aida, so some stitchers like to use three strands.



Finishing touches

Back your stitching with white card and write your greeting on the reverse. Once folded, these cards stand quite sturdily and they would make excellent placename cards for a wedding.

Paper Posies key

✦ Cross stitch in two strands

| | DMC | Anchor | Madeira | |
|---|------|--------|---------|-------------|
| t | 162 | 9159 | 1101 | light blue |
| l | 165 | 278 | 1414 | lime green |
| e | 435 | 1046 | 2010 | tan |
| e | 437 | 362 | 2012 | light tan |
| h | 471 | 266 | 1501 | moss green |
| h | 606 | 334 | 209 | flame red |
| h | 741 | 304 | 202 | orange |
| h | 743 | 302 | 113 | yellow |
| v | 947 | 330 | 205 | dark orange |
| b | 961 | 76 | 610 | dark pink |
| w | 963 | 73 | 502 | light pink |
| g | 3348 | 264 | 1409 | light green |
| b | 3716 | 25 | 503 | pink |
| s | 3770 | 1009 | 2314 | peach |
| ★ | 3839 | 175 | 902 | dark blue |
| ★ | 3840 | 130 | 907 | blue |
| h | 3862 | 374 | 1913 | brown |

✦ Backstitch in one strand

| | | | | |
|---|------|------|------|----------------|
| — | 349 | 1098 | 212 | dark red |
| — | 434 | 310 | 2009 | dark tan |
| — | 3347 | 265 | 1408 | dark green |
| — | 3832 | 38 | 604 | very dark pink |
| — | 3839 | 175 | 902 | dark blue |

✦ Backstitch in two strands

| | | | | |
|---|------|-----|------|------------|
| — | 3347 | 265 | 1408 | dark green |
| — | 3839 | 175 | 902 | dark blue |

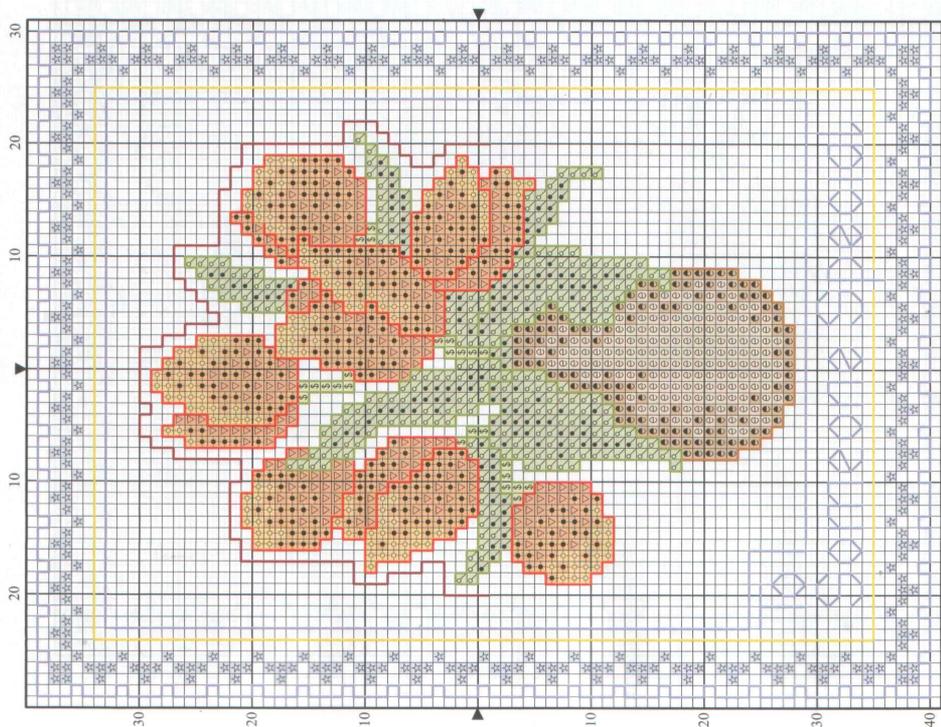
✦ Cutting line

| | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|--|
| — | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|--|

STITCH COUNT 79 high x 59 wide

DESIGN AREA 14HPI (28-count evenweave)
– 14x11cm (5½x4¼in)

These designs were stitched using DMC stranded cotton





Birthday Blooms

Designed by Debra Page

From carnations in January, to larkspur in July and white narcissi in December, there's a beautiful flower to stitch for every birthday in this extra-special floral collection

Stitcher's guide

This fantastic collection is worked on 14-count aida fabric in cross stitch and backstitch and mounted in oblong aperture cards in raspberry, purple, bright yellow, bright green, pale green, pink, pale yellow, bright blue, and tangerine.

SHOPPING LIST

Fabric

14-count white aida,
20x15cm (8x6in)

Threads

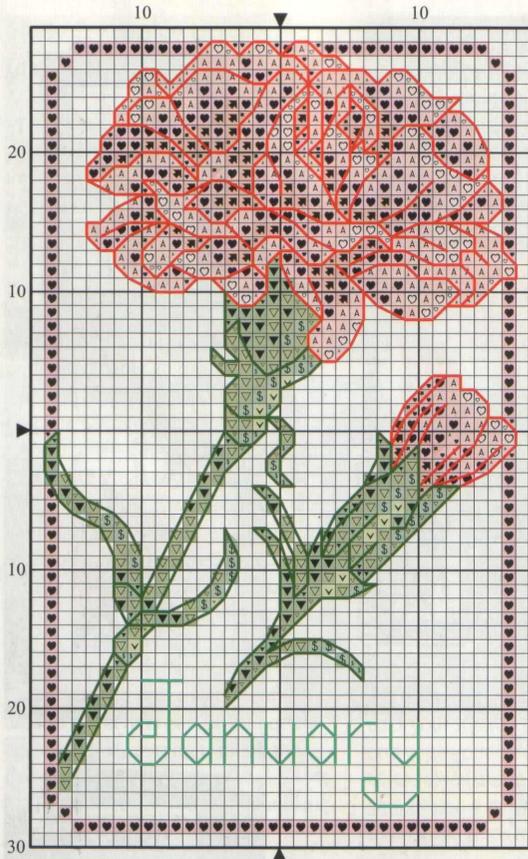
Stranded cotton as listed

Needle

Size 24 tapestry needle

Extras

Cards from craftcreations.com, 01992 781900



Carnation key

✦ Cross stitch in two strands

| | DMC | Anchor | Madeira | |
|---|------|--------|---------|------------------|
| ♥ | 962 | 75 | 609 | dark pink |
| ♡ | 963 | 73 | 502 | light pink |
| ▽ | 986 | 246 | 1404 | dark green |
| ▽ | 987 | 244 | 1403 | green |
| § | 989 | 241 | 1401 | light green |
| ▽ | 3348 | 264 | 1409 | very light green |
| ▲ | 3716 | 25 | 503 | pink |
| ■ | 3832 | 38 | 604 | very dark pink |

✦ Backstitch in one strand

| | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|------|-----------------|
| — | 326 | 59 | 508 | very dark pink |
| — | 890 | 683 | 1314 | very dark green |

✦ Backstitch in two strands

| | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|------|------------|
| — | 986 | 246 | 1404 | dark green |
|---|-----|-----|------|------------|

STITCH COUNT 57 high x 34 wide

DESIGN AREA 14HPI (28-count evenweave)

– 10.5x6cm (4x2½in)

This design was stitched using DMC stranded cotton

Finishing touches

Always make sure that you work the top arms of your stitches in the same direction, to ensure your finished creation looks super-neat.

Violet key

✦ Cross stitch in two strands

| | DMC | Anchor | Madeira | |
|---|-------|--------|---------|------------------|
| ∩ | B5200 | 1 | 2401 | white |
| I | 210 | 108 | 802 | lilac |
| e | 340 | 118 | 902 | purple |
| Z | 726 | 295 | 109 | light yellow |
| ▽ | 986 | 246 | 1404 | dark green |
| ▽ | 987 | 244 | 1403 | green |
| § | 989 | 241 | 1401 | light green |
| ▽ | 3348 | 264 | 1409 | very light green |
| ● | 3746 | 1030 | 2702 | dark purple |

✦ Backstitch in one strand

| | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|------|-----------------|
| — | 792 | 177 | 905 | blue |
| — | 890 | 683 | 1314 | very dark green |

✦ Backstitch in two strands

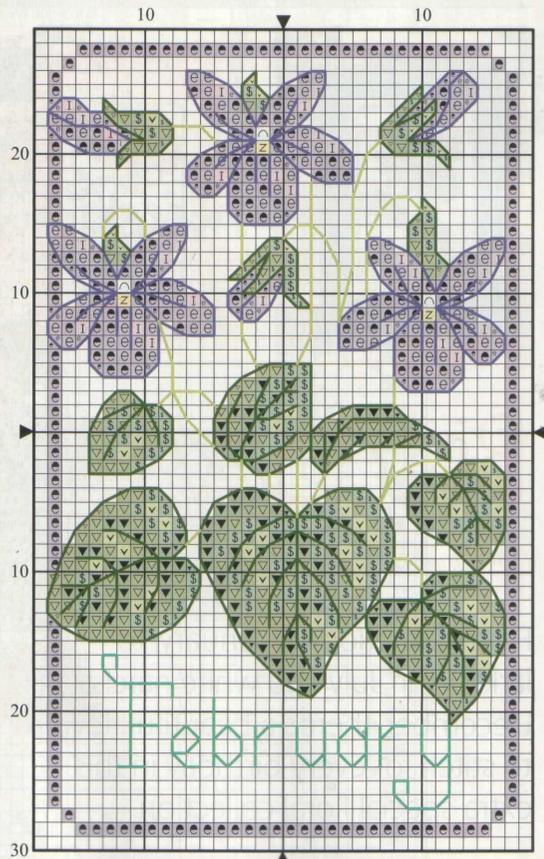
| | | | | |
|---|------|-----|------|------------------|
| — | 986 | 246 | 1404 | dark green |
| — | 3348 | 264 | 1409 | very light green |

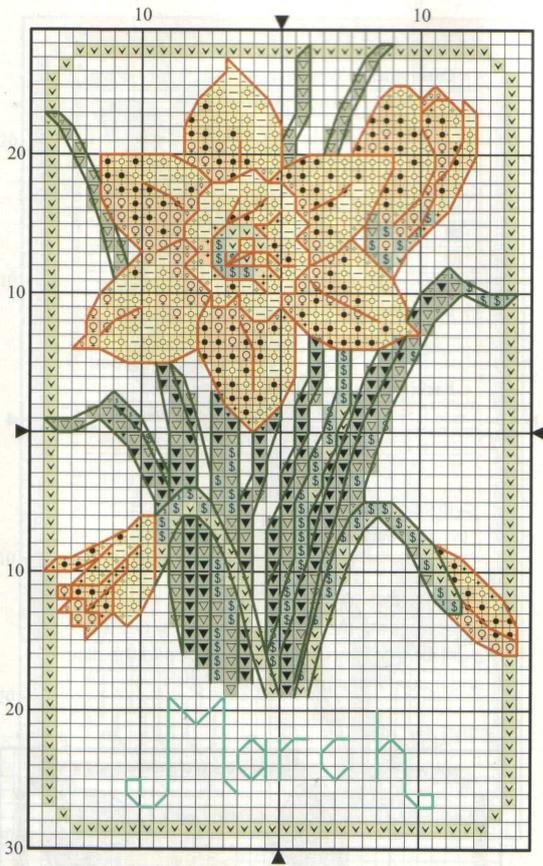
STITCH COUNT 57 high x 34 wide

DESIGN AREA 14HPI (28-count evenweave)

– 10.5x6cm (4x2½in)

This design was stitched using DMC stranded cotton





Daffodil key

✦ Cross stitch in two strands

| | DMC | Anchor | Madeira | |
|---|------|--------|---------|-------------------|
| ☀ | 307 | 289 | 104 | lemon yellow |
| ☀ | 444 | 291 | 106 | dk lemon yellow |
| ☀ | 725 | 305 | 113 | yellow |
| ▼ | 986 | 246 | 1404 | dark green |
| ▽ | 987 | 244 | 1403 | green |
| § | 989 | 241 | 1401 | light green |
| — | 3078 | 292 | 102 | very light yellow |
| ▽ | 3348 | 264 | 1409 | grass green |

✦ Backstitch in one strand

| | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|------|--------------|
| — | 832 | 907 | 2509 | khaki |
| — | 890 | 683 | 1314 | almond green |

✦ Backstitch in two strands

| | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|------|------------|
| — | 986 | 246 | 1404 | dark green |
|---|-----|-----|------|------------|

STITCH COUNT 57 high x 34 wide

DESIGN AREA 14HPI (28-count evenweave)
— 10.5x6cm (4x2½in)

This design was stitched using DMC stranded cotton

Daisy key

✦ Cross stitch in two strands

| | DMC | Anchor | Madeira | |
|---|-------|--------|---------|------------------|
| ∩ | B5200 | 1 | 2401 | white |
| ∩ | 415 | 398 | 1802 | grey |
| ∩ | 725 | 305 | 113 | yellow |
| ∩ | 726 | 295 | 109 | light yellow |
| ∩ | 762 | 234 | 1804 | light grey |
| ▽ | 987 | 244 | 1403 | green |
| § | 989 | 241 | 1401 | light green |
| ▽ | 3348 | 264 | 1409 | very light green |

✦ Backstitch in one strand

| | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|------|-----------------|
| — | 414 | 235 | 1714 | dark grey |
| — | 741 | 304 | 202 | orange |
| — | 890 | 683 | 1314 | very dark green |

✦ Backstitch in two strands

| | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|------|------------|
| — | 986 | 246 | 1404 | dark green |
|---|-----|-----|------|------------|

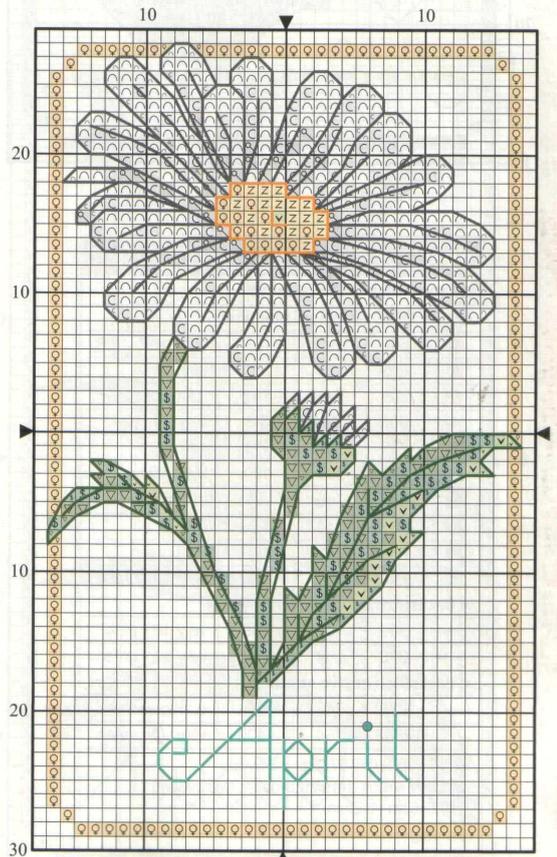
✦ French knots in two strands

| | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|------|------------|
| ● | 986 | 246 | 1404 | dark green |
|---|-----|-----|------|------------|

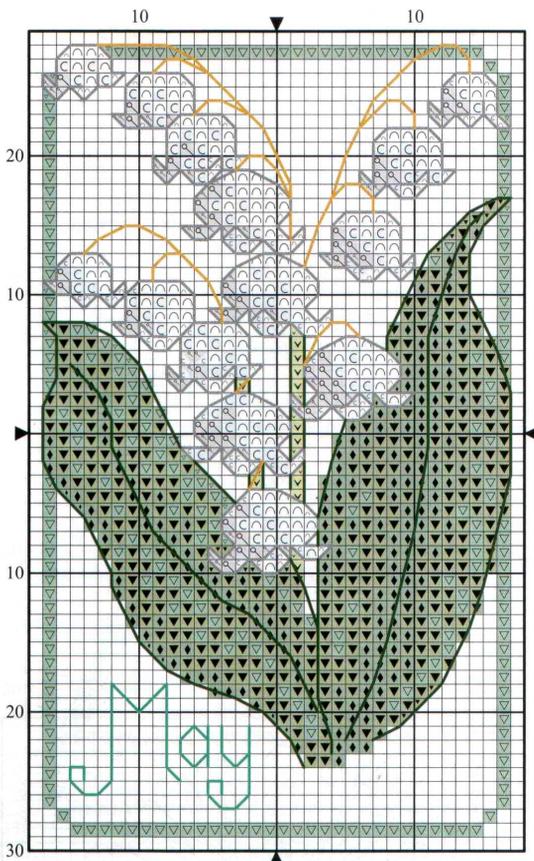
STITCH COUNT 57 high x 34 wide

DESIGN AREA 14HPI (28-count evenweave)
— 10.5x6cm (4x2½in)

This design was stitched using DMC stranded cotton



Flowers of the Month



Rose key

✦ Cross stitch in two strands

| | DMC | Anchor | Madeira | |
|---|------|--------|---------|------------------|
| ♥ | 600 | 63 | 703 | dark pink |
| ♥ | 602 | 57 | 702 | pink |
| ♥ | 603 | 55 | 701 | light pink |
| § | 605 | 1094 | 613 | very light pink |
| ☀ | 725 | 305 | 113 | yellow |
| ☀ | 726 | 295 | 109 | light yellow |
| ▼ | 986 | 246 | 1404 | dark green |
| ▼ | 987 | 244 | 1403 | green |
| ◊ | 989 | 241 | 1401 | light green |
| ◊ | 3348 | 264 | 1409 | very light green |

✦ Backstitch in one strand

| | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|------|-----------------|
| — | 309 | 42 | 508 | very dark pink |
| — | 890 | 683 | 1314 | very dark green |

✦ Backstitch in two strands

| | | | | |
|---|------|-----|------|------------------|
| — | 986 | 246 | 1404 | dark green |
| — | 3348 | 264 | 1409 | very light green |

STITCH COUNT 57 high x 34 wide

DESIGN AREA 14HPI (28-count evenweave)

– 10.5x6cm (4x2½in)

This design was stitched using DMC stranded cotton

Lily of the Valley key

✦ Cross stitch in two strands

| | DMC | Anchor | Madeira | |
|---|-------|--------|---------|------------------|
| ○ | B5200 | 2 | 2402 | white |
| ○ | 415 | 398 | 1802 | grey |
| ○ | 762 | 234 | 1804 | light grey |
| ◆ | 986 | 246 | 1404 | dark green |
| ▼ | 987 | 244 | 1403 | green |
| ◊ | 989 | 241 | 1401 | light green |
| ◊ | 3348 | 264 | 1409 | very light green |

✦ Backstitch in one strand

| | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|------|-----------------|
| — | 414 | 235 | 1714 | dark grey |
| — | 890 | 683 | 1314 | very dark green |

✦ Backstitch in two strands

| | | | | |
|---|------|-----|------|------------------|
| — | 986 | 246 | 1404 | dark green |
| — | 3348 | 264 | 1409 | very light green |

STITCH COUNT 57 high x 34 wide

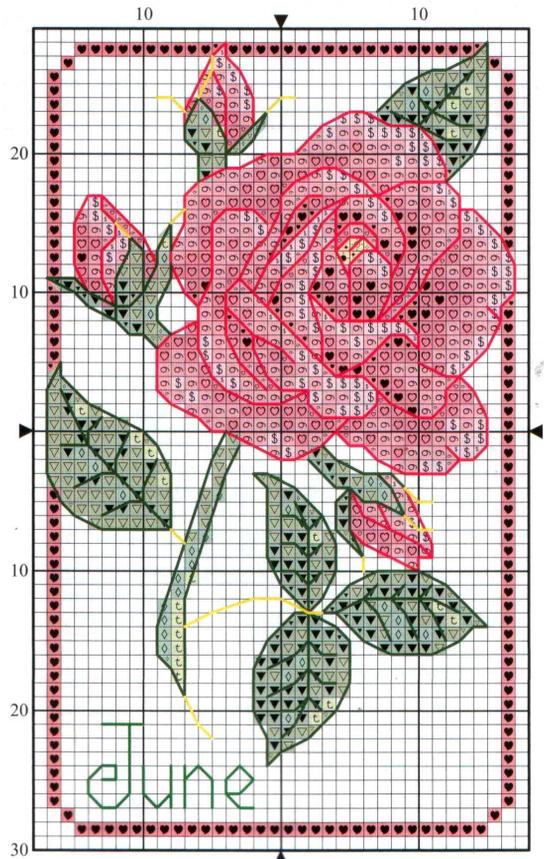
DESIGN AREA 14HPI (28-count evenweave)

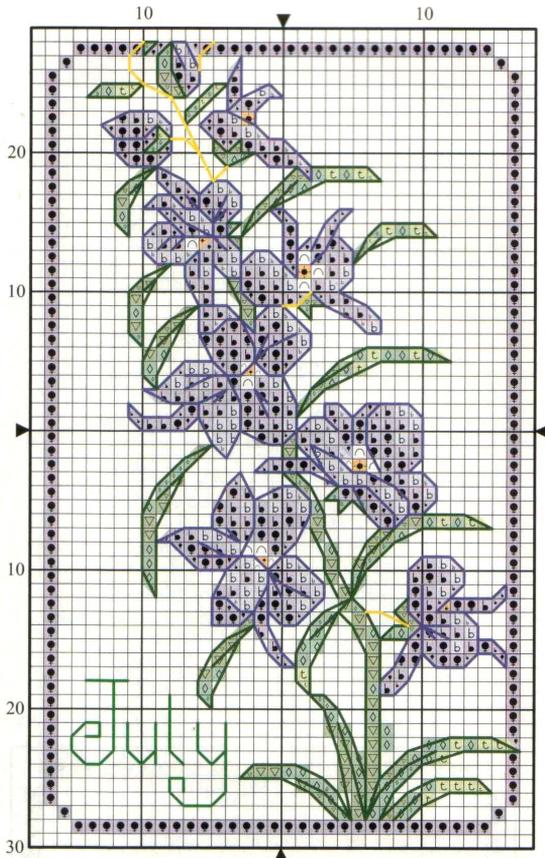
– 10.5x6cm (4x2½in)

This design was stitched using DMC stranded cotton

Finishing touches

Since roses are the flowers of love, why not stitch a gift for that special couple? Simply add the date and mount it in a pretty frame.





Stitching ideas

Using your neatest backstitch, work the recipient's name onto the card for a more personal finish.

Larkspur key

✦ Cross stitch in two strands

| | DMC | Anchor | Madeira | |
|---|-------|--------|---------|------------------|
| ∩ | B5200 | 1 | 2402 | white |
| ■ | 340 | 118 | 902 | purple |
| b | 341 | 117 | 901 | light purple |
| + | 972 | 298 | 107 | dark yellow |
| ▽ | 987 | 244 | 1403 | green |
| ◇ | 989 | 241 | 1401 | light green |
| t | 3348 | 264 | 1409 | very light green |
| ● | 3746 | 1030 | 2702 | dark purple |

✦ Backstitch in one strand

| | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|------|-----------------|
| — | 792 | 177 | 905 | dark blue |
| — | 890 | 683 | 1314 | very dark green |

✦ Backstitch in two strands

| | | | | |
|---|------|-----|------|------------------|
| — | 986 | 246 | 1404 | dark green |
| — | 3348 | 264 | 1409 | very light green |

STITCH COUNT 57 high x 34 wide

DESIGN AREA 14HPI (28-count evenweave)
– 10.5x6cm (4x2½in)

This design was stitched using DMC stranded cotton

Gladiolus key

✦ Cross stitch in two strands

| | DMC | Anchor | Madeira | |
|---|------|--------|---------|------------------|
| ● | 721 | 324 | 308 | orange |
| ○ | 722 | 323 | 307 | light orange |
| ○ | 725 | 305 | 113 | yellow |
| A | 726 | 295 | 109 | light yellow |
| + | 972 | 298 | 107 | dark yellow |
| ▽ | 986 | 246 | 1404 | dark green |
| ▽ | 987 | 244 | 1403 | green |
| ◇ | 989 | 241 | 1401 | light green |
| t | 3348 | 264 | 1409 | very light green |
| § | 3825 | 336 | 302 | peach |

✦ Backstitch in one strand

| | | | | |
|---|-----|------|------|-----------------|
| — | 890 | 683 | 1314 | very dark green |
| — | 920 | 1004 | 312 | terracotta |

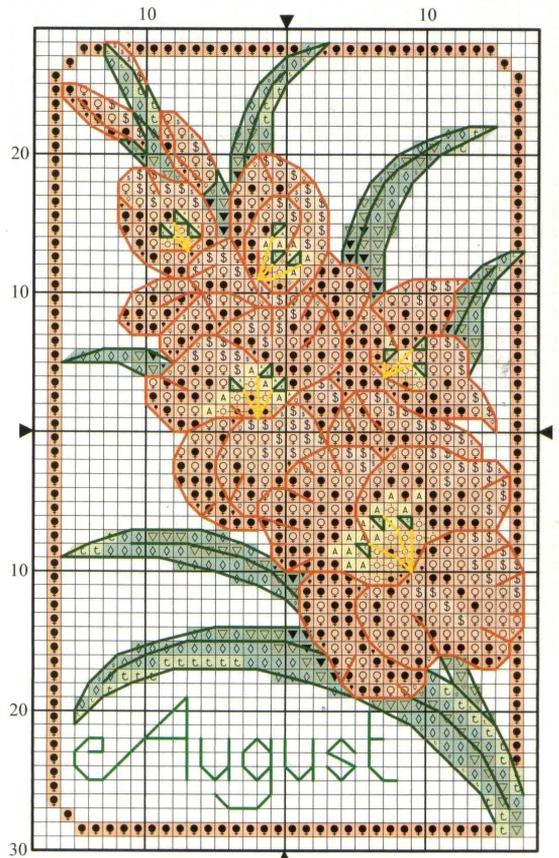
✦ Backstitch in two strands

| | | | | |
|---|------|-----|------|------------------|
| — | 986 | 246 | 1404 | dark green |
| — | 3348 | 264 | 1409 | very light green |

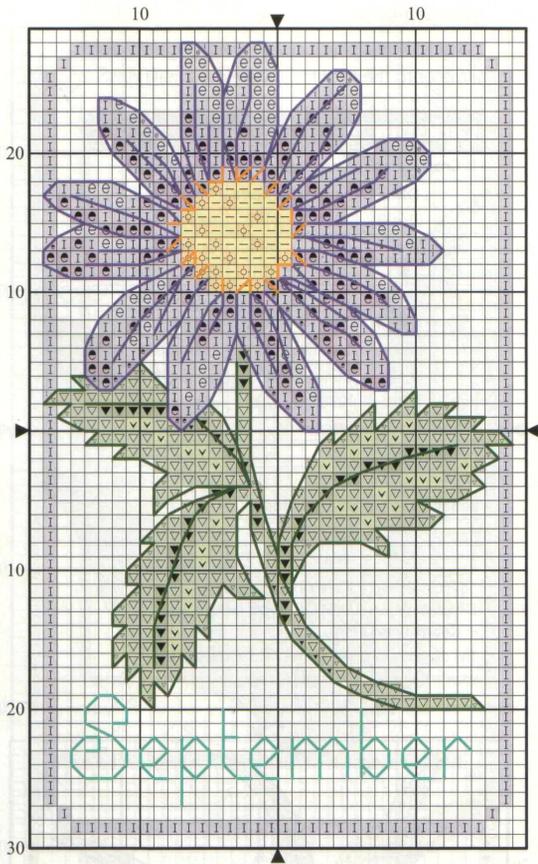
STITCH COUNT 57 high x 34 wide

DESIGN AREA 14HPI (28-count evenweave)
– 10.5x6cm (4x2½in)

This design was stitched using DMC stranded cotton



Flowers of the Month



Aster key

✦ Cross stitch in two strands

| | DMC | Anchor | Madeira | |
|---|------|--------|---------|------------------|
| I | 156 | 939 | 2702 | purple |
| — | 307 | 289 | 104 | light yellow |
| e | 341 | 117 | 901 | light purple |
| ⊗ | 444 | 291 | 106 | yellow |
| ▼ | 987 | 244 | 1403 | green |
| ▽ | 989 | 241 | 1401 | light green |
| ∇ | 3348 | 264 | 1409 | very light green |
| ⊙ | 3746 | 1030 | 902 | dark purple |

✦ Backstitch in one strand

| | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|------|-----------------|
| — | 792 | 177 | 905 | blue |
| — | 890 | 683 | 1314 | very dark green |

✦ Backstitch in two strands

| | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|------|-------------|
| — | 972 | 298 | 107 | dark yellow |
| — | 986 | 246 | 1404 | dark green |

STITCH COUNT 57 high x 34 wide

DESIGN AREA 14HPI (28-count evenweave)

— 10.5x6cm (4x2½in)

This design was stitched using DMC stranded cotton

Finishing touches

For the pretty marigold flower, choose a card in a golden shade, but not one that overpowers the flower, as this should be the dominating colour.

Marigold key

✦ Cross stitch in two strands

| | DMC | Anchor | Madeira | |
|---|-----|--------|---------|--------------|
| — | 307 | 289 | 104 | light yellow |
| ♥ | 321 | 9046 | 510 | red |
| ⊗ | 444 | 291 | 106 | yellow |
| ♥ | 606 | 334 | 209 | dark orange |
| ⊗ | 608 | 332 | 206 | orange |
| ⊙ | 725 | 305 | 113 | dark yellow |
| ▽ | 989 | 241 | 1401 | light green |

✦ Backstitch in one strand

| | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|------|------------|
| — | 890 | 683 | 1314 | dark green |
| — | 972 | 298 | 107 | tangerine |

✦ Backstitch in two strands

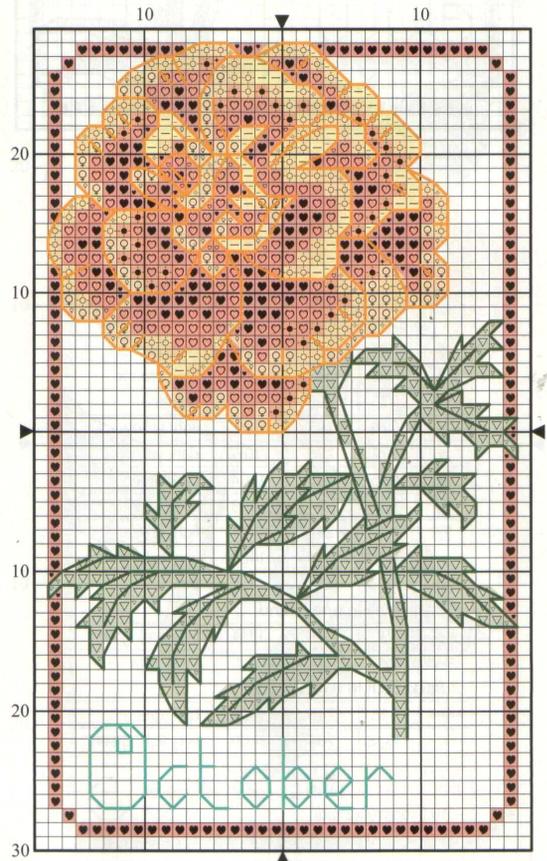
| | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|------|-------|
| — | 986 | 246 | 1404 | green |
|---|-----|-----|------|-------|

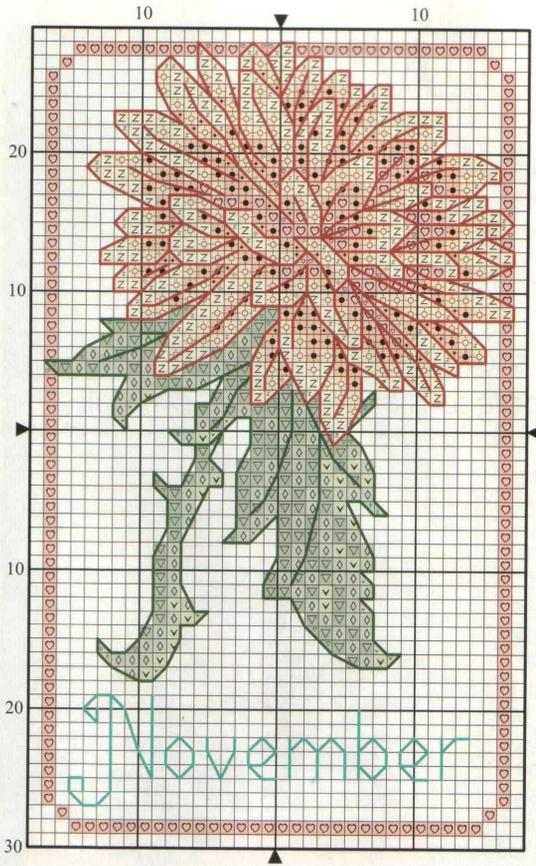
STITCH COUNT 57 high x 34 wide

DESIGN AREA 14HPI (28-count evenweave)

— 10.5x6cm (4x2½in)

This design was stitched using DMC stranded cotton





Chrysanthemum key

✦ Cross stitch in two strands

| | DMC | Anchor | Madeira | |
|---|------|--------|---------|------------------|
| ▽ | 987 | 244 | 1403 | green |
| ◊ | 989 | 241 | 1401 | light green |
| ∇ | 3348 | 264 | 1409 | very light green |
| Z | 3823 | 386 | 2512 | cream |
| ♥ | 3853 | 1003 | 311 | dark apricot |
| ★ | 3854 | 313 | 114 | apricot |
| ⊙ | 3855 | 311 | 2513 | yellow |

✦ Backstitch in one strand

| | | | | |
|---|------|------|------|-----------------|
| — | 890 | 683 | 1314 | very dark green |
| — | 3776 | 1048 | 2306 | ginger |

✦ Backstitch in two strands

| | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|------|------------|
| — | 986 | 246 | 1404 | dark green |
|---|-----|-----|------|------------|

STITCH COUNT 57 high x 34 wide

DESIGN AREA 14HPI (28-count evenweave)
– 10.5x6cm (4x2½in)

This design was stitched using DMC stranded cotton

Stitching ideas

If you like each of these designs, why not stitch them all and make them into a calendar of beautiful blooms to hang on your wall?

Narcissus key

✦ Cross stitch in two strands

| | DMC | Anchor | Madeira | |
|---|-------|--------|---------|------------------|
| ∩ | B5200 | 1 | 2401 | white |
| ⊙ | 415 | 398 | 1802 | grey |
| ∞ | 676 | 891 | 2208 | sand |
| ⊙ | 726 | 295 | 109 | yellow |
| ■ | 729 | 890 | 2209 | dark sand |
| ∩ | 762 | 234 | 1804 | light grey |
| ∇ | 986 | 246 | 1404 | dark green |
| ∇ | 987 | 244 | 1403 | green |
| ∩ | 989 | 241 | 1401 | light green |
| ∇ | 3348 | 264 | 1409 | very light green |

✦ Backstitch in one strand

| | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|------|-----------------|
| — | 414 | 22 | 1714 | dark grey |
| — | 890 | 683 | 1314 | very dark green |

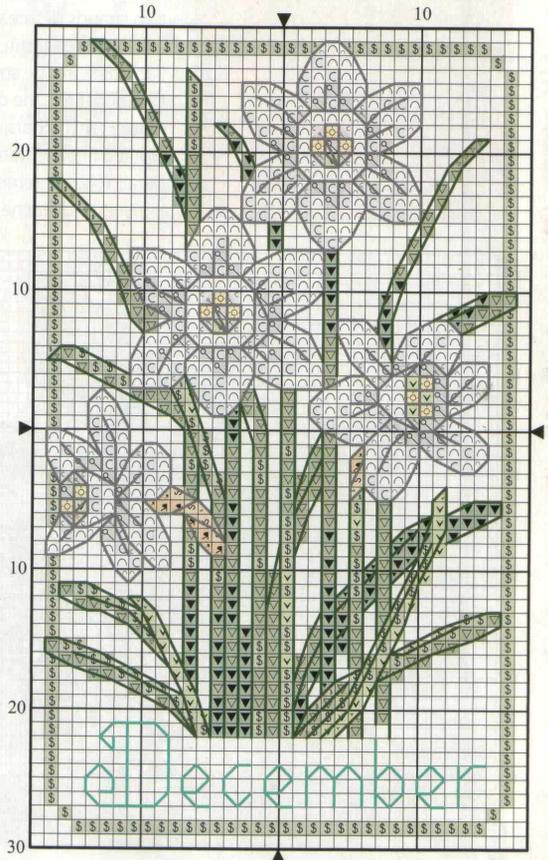
✦ Backstitch in two strands

| | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|------|------------|
| — | 986 | 246 | 1404 | dark green |
|---|-----|-----|------|------------|

STITCH COUNT 57 high x 34 wide

DESIGN AREA 14HPI (28-count evenweave)
– 10.5x6cm (4x2½in)

This design was stitched using DMC stranded cotton



Poppy Perfection

by Amanda Gregory

Our decorative poppies hanging shows off these striking summer flowers beautifully and will look gorgeous on the living room wall

SHOPPING LIST

Fabric

28-count white evenweave, measuring 70x18cm (28x7in)

Threads

Stranded cotton as listed in the key

Needle

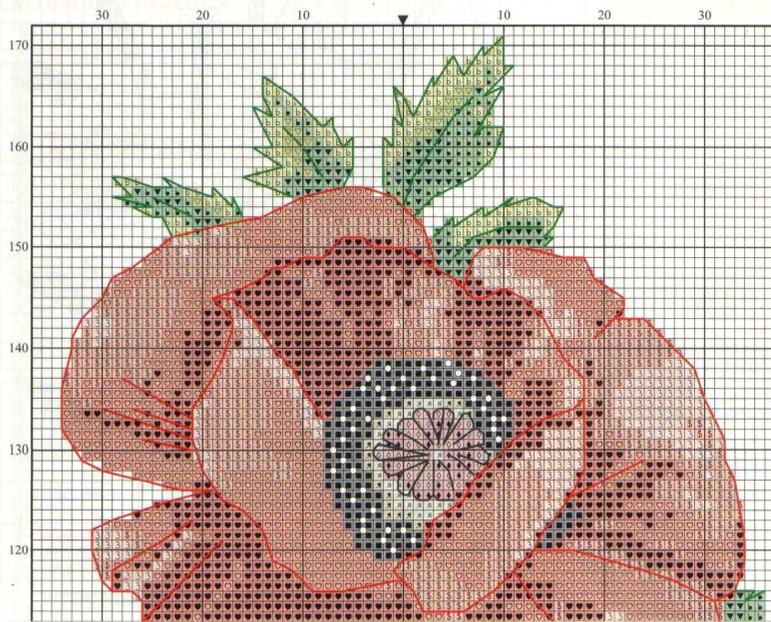
Size 26 tapestry needle

Extras

Brass Fitting Rod & Chain, £17.80 (for bellpull ends) from Spinning Jenny (www.spinningjenny.co.uk, or call 01756 749200)

Stitcher's guide

This beautiful bellpull is stitched on 28-count white evenweave over two threads of the fabric using 17 different shades of stranded cotton. The design uses cross stitch in two strands of thread, plus a few fractional stitches. Backstitch in one strand of thread defines the design, while French knots, also worked in one strand, add detail. It is recommended for experienced stitchers.



Top

How to stitch the Poppies Bellpull

- 1 Find the centre of your fabric by folding it in half both horizontally and vertically. Follow the arrows on the chart to find its centre and start stitching from here, working your way outwards.
- 2 Work the cross stitch over two threads of the fabric using two strands of cotton. For each tiny symbol you see on the chart, work a fractional stitch.
- 3 Work the backstitch over two threads of the fabric using one strand of cotton.
- 4 Add the French knots to the poppies design using one strand of white cotton.
- 5 Check over your stitching and prepare for making up.



Poppies key

✕ Cross stitch in two strands

| | DMC | Anchor | Madeira | |
|---|-----|--------|---------|------------------|
| b | 165 | 278 | 1414 | lime green |
| ■ | 310 | 403 | 2400 | black |
| ◆ | 315 | 1019 | 810 | dark plum |
| ◇ | 316 | 1017 | 809 | plum |
| ♡ | 351 | 10 | 214 | light red |
| S | 352 | 9 | 303 | coral |
| 3 | 353 | 6 | 2313 | light coral |
| ⌘ | 642 | 903 | 1905 | stone grey |
| ⌘ | 644 | 830 | 1814 | light stone grey |
| ▼ | 700 | 229 | 1302 | dark green |
| ■ | 701 | 227 | 1305 | green |
| ▼ | 704 | 255 | 1308 | light green |
| ♥ | 817 | 13 | 210 | dark red |

✕ Backstitch in one strand

| | | | | |
|---|------|------|------|---------------|
| — | 321 | 9046 | 510 | red |
| — | 699 | 923 | 1303 | very dark red |
| — | 3799 | 236 | 1713 | grey |

✕ French knots in one strand

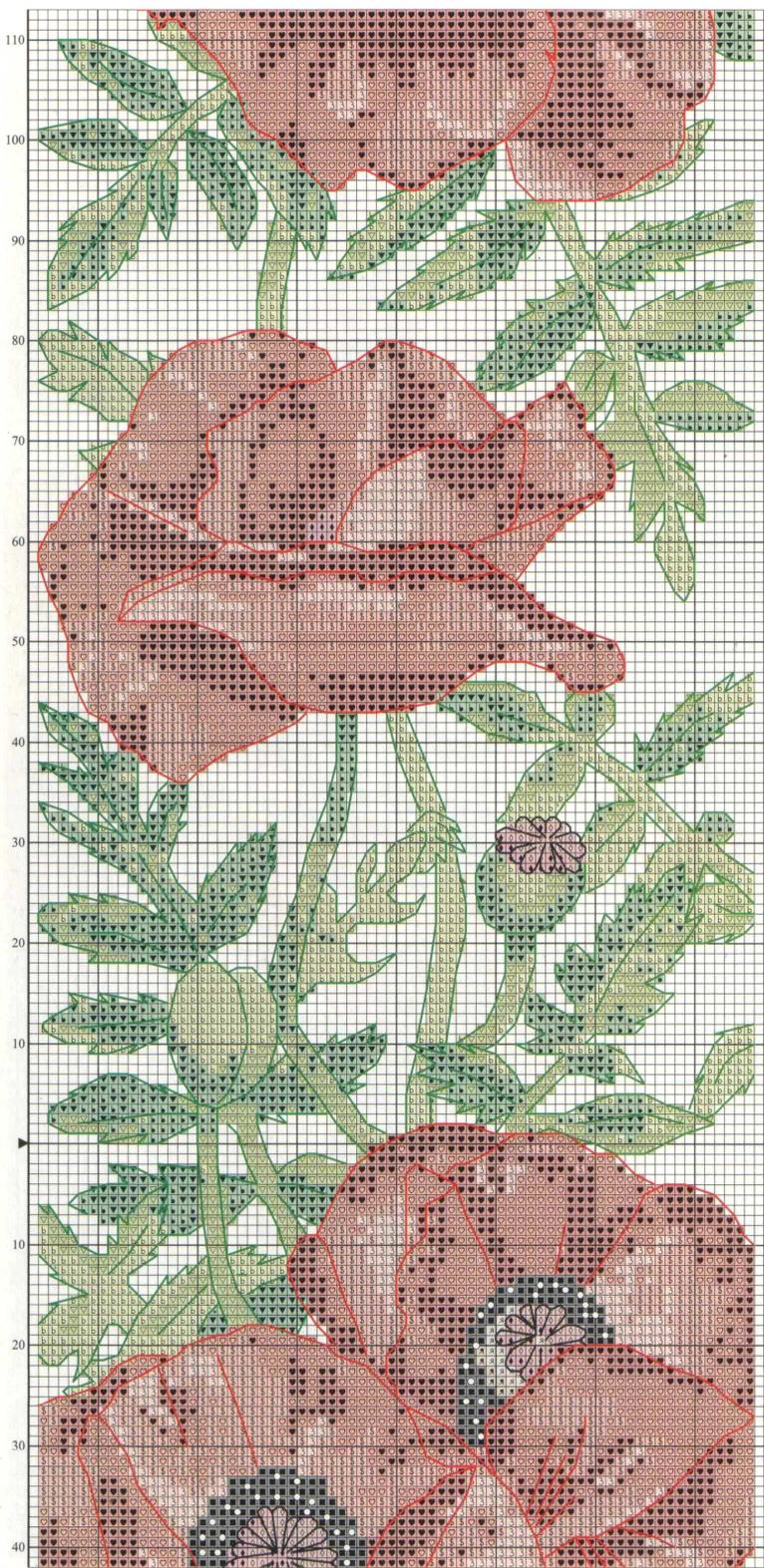
| | | | | |
|---|------|---|------|-------|
| ○ | 3865 | 2 | 2403 | white |
|---|------|---|------|-------|

STITCH COUNT 343 high x 72 wide

DESIGN AREA 14HPI (28-count evenweave)
– 62.5x13cm (24½x5¼in)

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

The dazzling scarlet hues of these gorgeous poppies will brighten up a plain wall



Middle

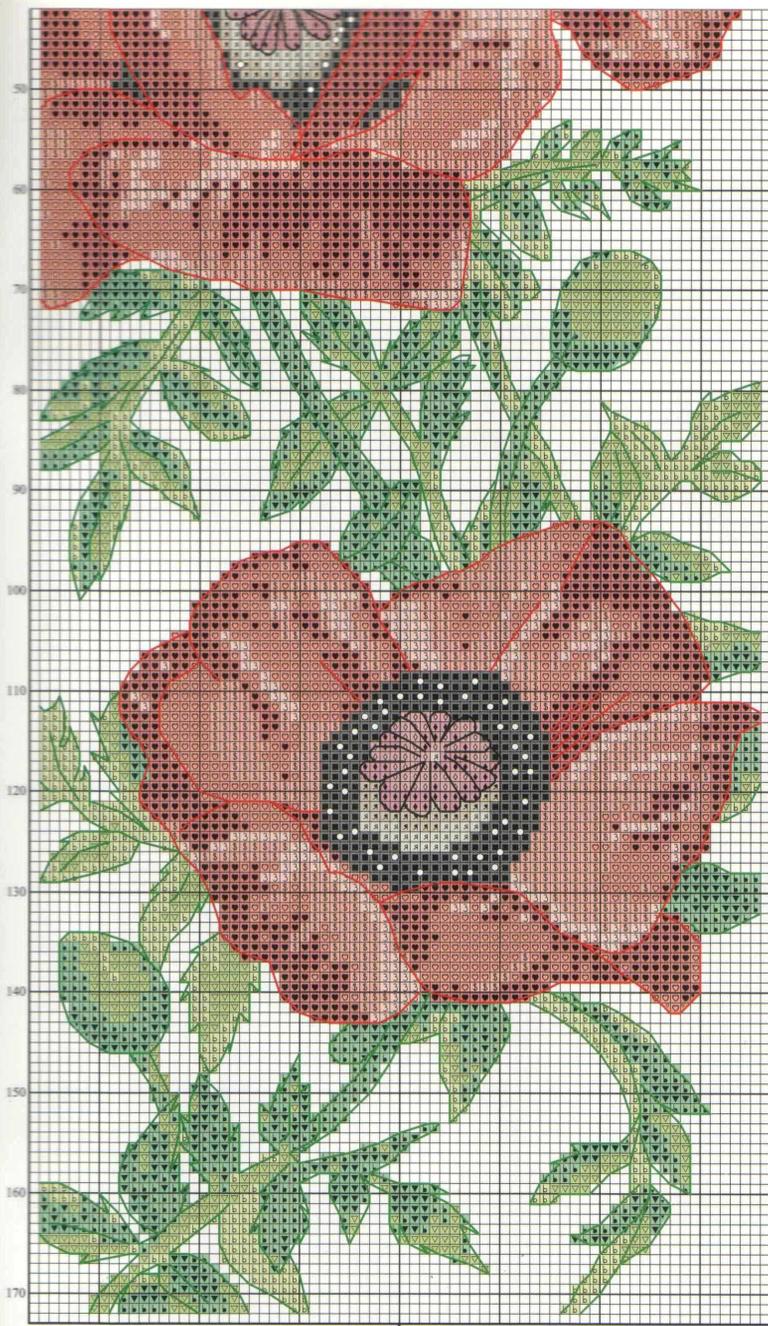
How to make the Poppies Bellpull

- 1** Cut a piece of iron-on interfacing to the same size as your design area. Attach it to the back of your completed stitching.
- 2** Cut a piece of backing fabric to the same size as your design area. Position the fabric over the interfacing, with the wrong sides together. Pin and tack the backing fabric to your stitching.
- 3** Fold back the long edges of your evenweave over the backing fabric. Press and stitch neatly in place to form two hems of your bellpull.
- 4** Fold back the top and bottom edges of your evenweave and stitch along both, leaving large enough channels to fit through your hangers or rods.
- 5** Thread through 18cm rods, to finish.



Amanda Gregory
Designer

The time in early summer when poppies grace us with their flowers is my favourite time of the year. I love to watch their tight buds burst open to reveal beautiful ruffles of huge, crimson petals. They shout out to me to paint them! I also adore the more subtle California poppy, especially when it flowers in vibrant orange, but there's no getting away from the energy and dynamism of the Oriental poppy. Sadly, despite their bold presence, poppy flowers are short-lived, so this bellpull is the perfect way to preserve their beauty in stitches, and to admire these fragile flowers throughout the year.



Bottom

How to manage similar colours

There are lots of similar reds in Amanda's poppy bellpull so to keep track of them, it's worth taking the time to pre-cut your lengths of thread and arrange them onto a labelled thread sorter before you begin. You

can make your own by cutting a length of card, punching holes down one side and writing the colour codes next to each hole. To make sure you can distinguish between them as you're stitching, work in natural light.

In the detail

As well as blooming into such large, beautiful flowers, Oriental poppies have elegant buds and fascinating seed capsules. Amanda has captured the poppy in its most lovely form in this bellpull design – from tight flower bud to flower in bloom. You can clearly see their magnificent, dark centre markings too. The bright white French knots highlight the centres very effectively, and bring texture to the dark black and grey area of stitching that is at the heart of these wonderful flowers.



Stitch Tip

Count your stitching twice, it'll save time having to unpick it if you later realise you've counted wrong



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