



Ann's Orchard Needlework

Counted Chunky Tapestry Cross Stitch

Instructions

These characterful critters have been designed as a simple introduction to counted cross stitch using the loveliest materials I have been able to source. If anything is missing or in short supply please let me know and I will be happy to post extra.

Plastic tapestry canvas 7hpi * Anchor tapestry wool * Tapestry needle * Wooden beads * Colour chart and instructions

The chart for this design is on the front of the box.

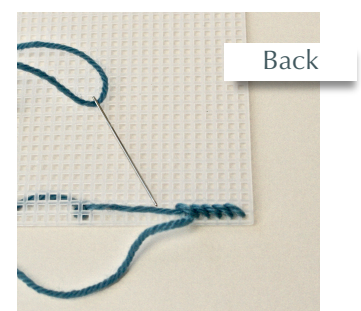
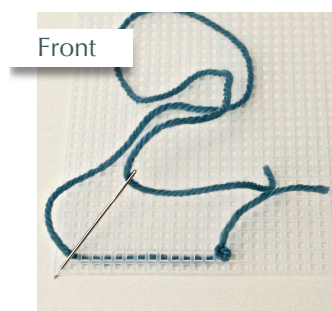
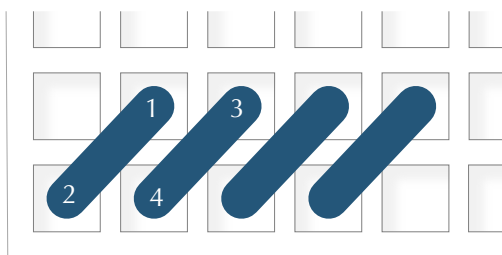
Each cross stitch is shown as a single square on the chart. The squares match the colour of wool used to make the stitch. The chart and plastic canvas are the same size, measuring 26 stitches high by 26 stitches wide, so your stitching will fill the whole canvas except for a narrow plastic border, which will be covered using a whip stitch.

How To Sew Your Counted Cross Stitch

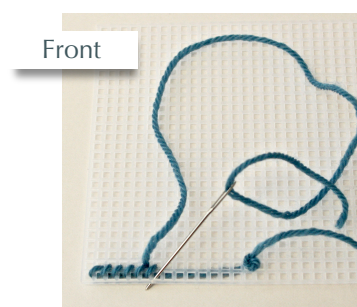
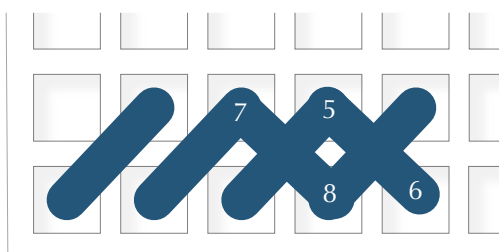
Traditionally counted cross stitch is started in the center of the canvas to make sure it fits! However, as this design fills the whole canvas you can choose to start anywhere, just match the number and colour of stitches to the chart.

Cut a length of wool about the same length as your arm, around 50cm to 60cm. Tie a large knot in one end and thread the other end through the eye of your needle. Pass your needle through the canvas a short distance from where you plan to start sewing. The knot will sit on the front of the canvas and a length of wool behind. Your stitches will cover this length of wool to attach it to the canvas. Once the wool is secure the knot may be snipped off with some sharp scissors.

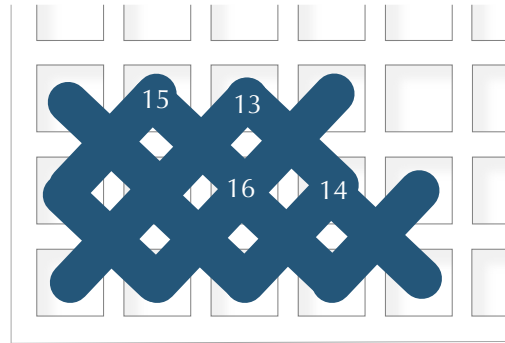
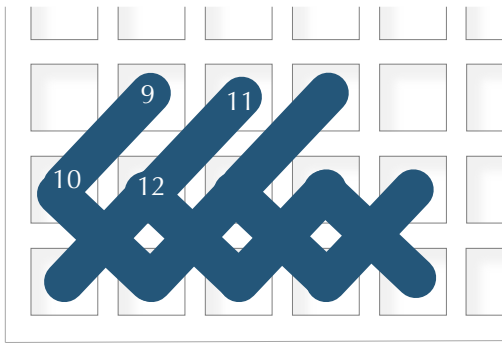
There are several ways to cross stitch and the following is the one I prefer for this canvas as it gives a really thick finish. Bring your needle up through the canvas (1) and pass it back down through hole (2) to make your first half-cross stitch. Bring your needle up through (3) and back down (4) to make a second half-cross stitch. This method will give a long diagonal stitch on the back of the canvas. Repeat for the correct number stitches.



To complete the crosses work backwards along your row. Bring your needle up at (5) and pass it back down (6) to complete the first cross stitch. Bring your needle up (7) back down (8) to complete the next stitch and continue along the row.



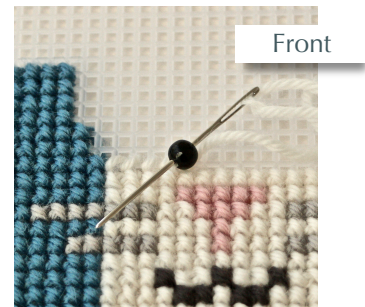
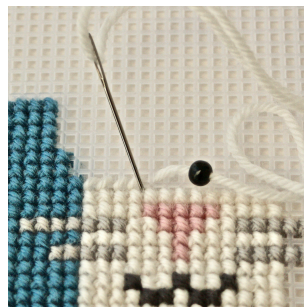
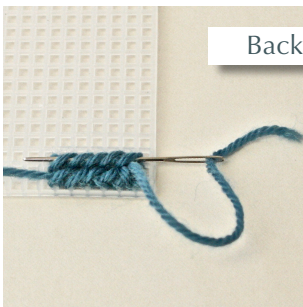
To sew your next row use exactly the same cross stitch technique. Bring your needle up through the canvas (9) and back down through the diagonal hole (10) to make the half cross stitch. Continue, working your needle up through (11) and back down (12) to make your next stitch. Complete the cross stitches by working back along the row, bringing your needle up through (13), down through (14), back up through (15) and down through (16).



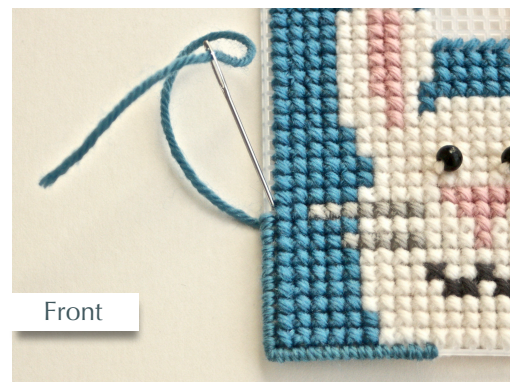
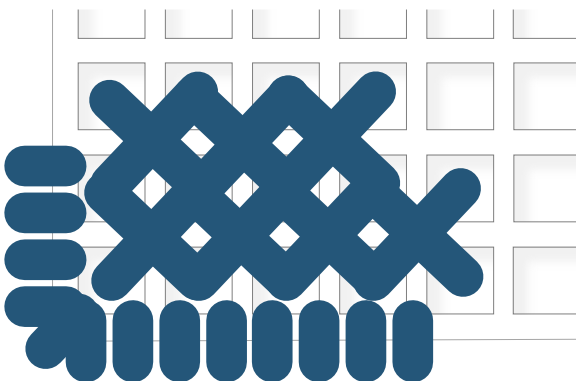
The chart will indicate the number of stitches needed in each colour. If there is a colour change just leave a gap and fill it in with the correct colour later. If your stitches need to be offset then you can run your wool behind your work. If the stitches are widely separated then fasten off your yarn and start a new length in the correct place.

To fasten off your wool just weave it through the back of your stitches and snip off the end.

To attach the beady eyes bring your needle up to make the half cross stitch, pop a bead on the needle and then complete the stitch. Wiggle the bead into place and secure with a second half cross stitch in the same direction. You do not need to complete the cross stitch in the other direction.



Once all the cross stitch has been completed the edge of the canvas is covered using whip stitch. Trim away any little tails of wool around the edge of the canvas. Working in the main background colour bring your needle up at the outer edge of the canvas and pass it through the neighbouring hole in the canvas to wrap the wool around the border. Make two whip stitches into all of the holes around the edge of the canvas and five whip stitches into the corner holes.



Pop your finished masterpiece in a box frame, with room for the beady eyes, or use as an appliqué patch.

If you need any further help please head this way.

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