



Beautiful Stitches

Sharing the joy of creating with needle and thread

SPRING FIREWORKS



This design is the third in my Fireworks series. This new version is an identical size and layout to Autumn and Summer, but introduces a range of different layouts and stitches within each block.

Just like the previous Fireworks projects, this design is my gift to you. I hope that you will enjoy stitching this new version. Maybe you can even mix and match blocks from the existing designs to create your very own layouts.

Please enjoy and remember to share your finished work with me. I love seeing the beautiful stitches you create using my designs :)

REQUIREMENTS

To complete this embroidery you will need:

- ◆ Congress canvas measuring at least 12 x 28cm (this will give you a minimum of 3cm extra fabric all around the stitched area which measures 6 x 21.5cm).
- ◆ Size 24 tapestry needle
- ◆ Small, sharp embroidery scissors
- ◆ Your preferred embroidery frame (I like Q-snaps but please feel free to use your favourite framing system)
- ◆ Embroidery threads: This project is ideally suited to choosing your own threads. I have included the threads I used, but choosing your own colours is very easy. All you need is a variegated thread and four coordinating solid colours. You can use stranded silks, cottons or a combination - a good chance to dive into your stash! The creative decisions are in your very capable hands :)

Name Used In These Notes	My Colour	Your Colour
Variegated	Beautiful Stitches “Amy” - soft yellow/pink/blue/green variegated (1 x 9m skein of 6 strand silk)	
Colour 1	Beautiful Stitches “Yellow 3” (1 x 9m skein of 6 strand silk)	
Colour 2	Beautiful Stitches “Purple 102” (1 x 9m skein of 6 strand silk)	
Colour 3	Beautiful Stitches “Purple 4” (1 x 9m skein of 6 strand silk)	
Colour 4	Beautiful Stitches “Green 4” (1 x 9m skein of 6 strand silk)	

EMBROIDERY INSTRUCTIONS

The Master Stitch charts are shown on the following two pages. The complete layout of the design is 60 threads wide and 196 threads long. Note that on Master Chart 2, the top part of the diagram is lighter to indicate the area of overlap with Master Chart 1. The subsequent step-by-step instructions give detailed diagrams showing how to work each stitch. In all stitch diagrams, each dark grey line represents one thread of canvas. Unless otherwise stated, your needle comes up at ‘1’, down at ‘2’, up at ‘3’, down at ‘4’, *etc.*

NB 1: Please note that this design is 8 threads shorter than Autumn and Summer Fireworks. If you want them to all be an identical size, you can add two Scotch Stitches to the long edge and then work a double row of crosses at each of the four horizontal divisions down the length of the design.

NB 2: The Square Walnetto in this design has the same rhythm as a standard Walnetto, just using different holes. If Walnettos are new to you, you can use the video from Summer Fireworks as a starting point - <https://vimeo.com/415891989/5bc26bb6c8>.

SPRING FIREWORKS - STITCH CHART 1

Colour Key

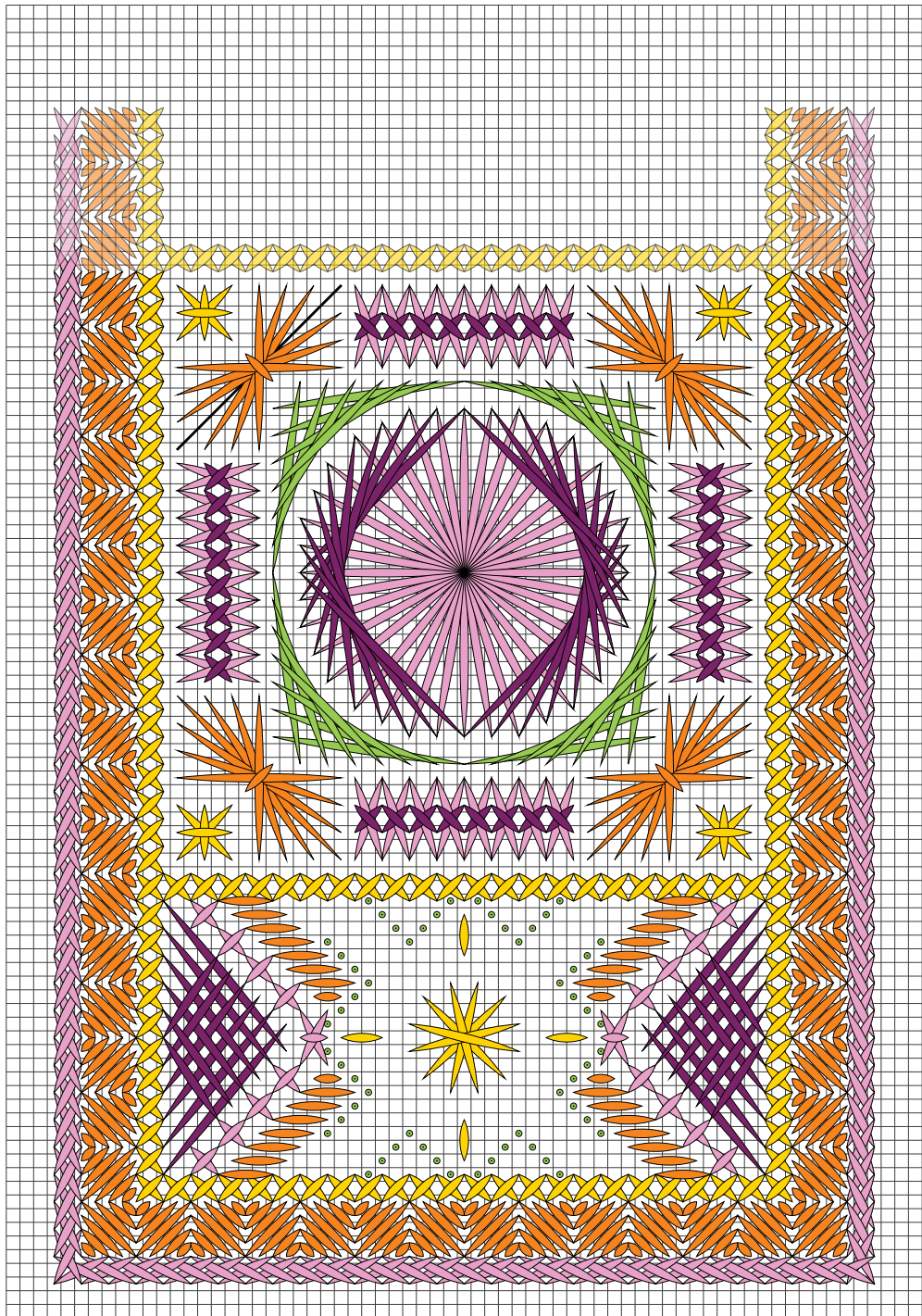
- Variegated
- Colour 1
- Colour 2
- Colour 3
- Colour 4



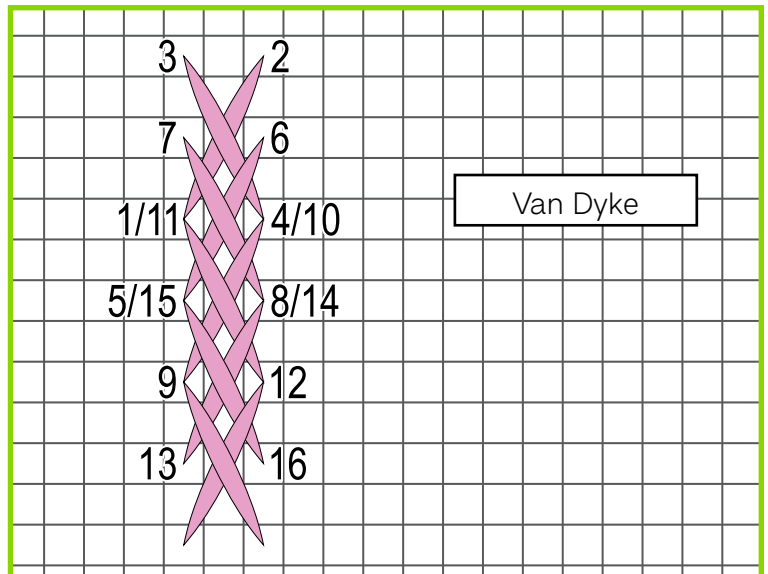
SPRING FIREWORKS – STITCH CHART 2

Colour Key

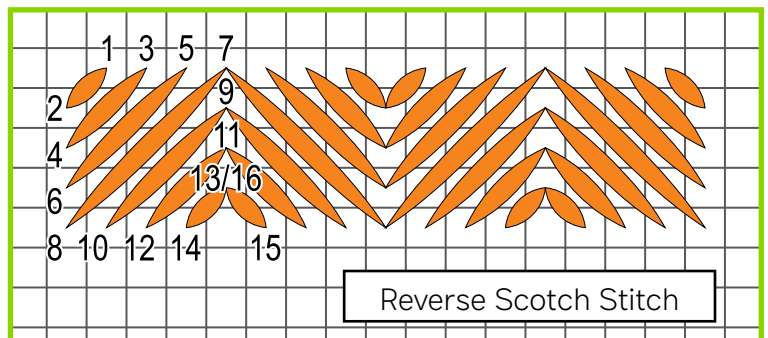
- Variegated
- Colour 1
- Colour 2
- Colour 3
- Colour 4



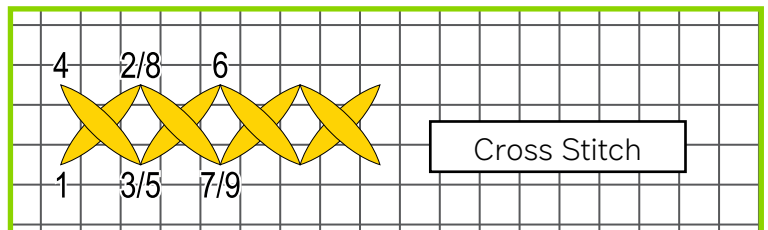
1. **Outside Border:** The outside border is stitched in *Van Dyke*. This is one of my favourite border stitches as it gives a really nice plaited effect. Use 2 or 3 strands of Colour 2 depending on how densely you want the stitching to define this border.



2. **Reverse Scotch Stitch Border:** The second row of the border is worked in *Reverse Scotch Stitch* over 4x4 threads. Use 3 strands of Variegated.

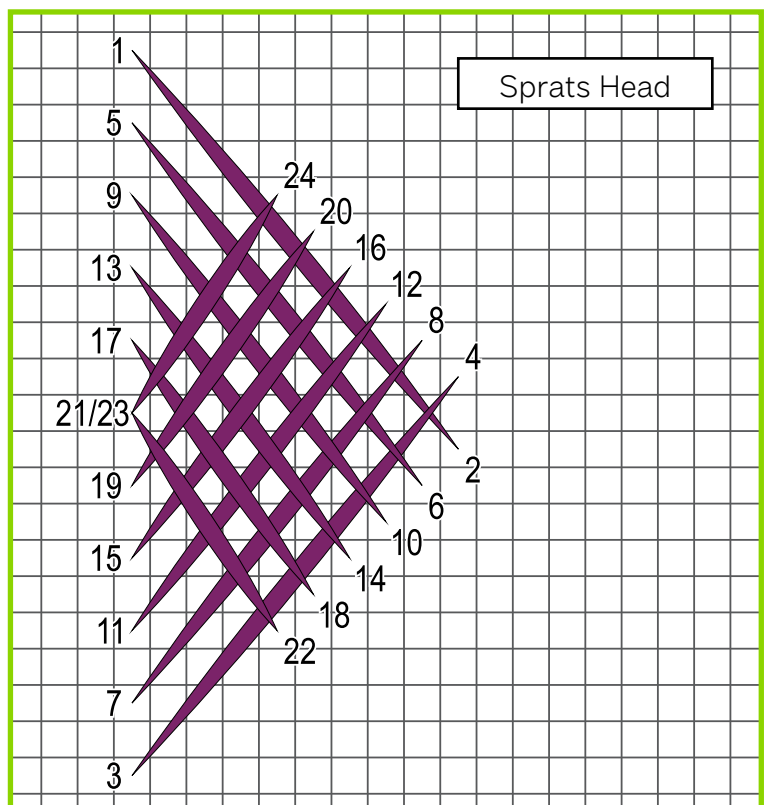


3. **Inner Border:** The innermost row of the border is worked in *Cross Stitch*. This is also used to subdivide the design into smaller areas. Use 2 or 3 strands of Colour 1, again depending on the density of cover you prefer.



4. **Sprats Heads:** The top and bottom rectangles are identical. Feel free to experiment with different colour placements to add your own creative signature. *Sprats Heads* are worked on each short edge of these rectangular boxes. Use 2 strands of Colour 3. Stitch 1-2 is 9 threads wide and 11 threads tall.

If you want to add extra texture, you can weave the threads as you complete each stitch. So, 7-8 would go over 5-6 but under 1-2; 9-10 would go over 7-8 but under 3-4; etc.



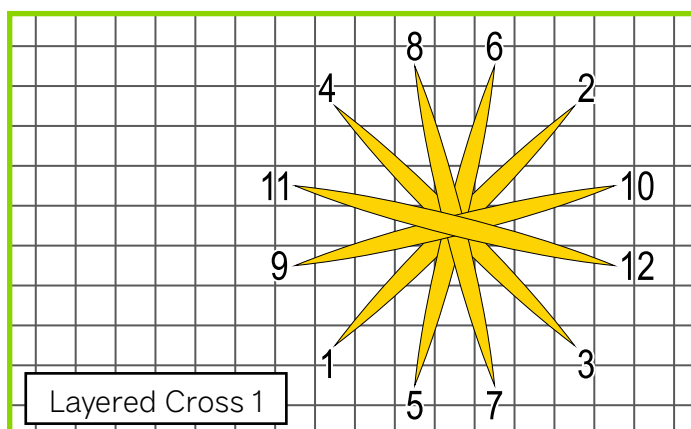
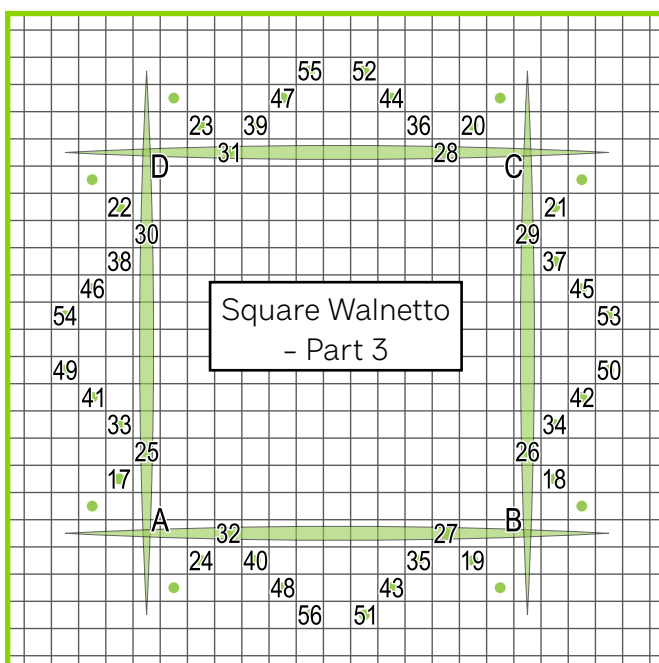
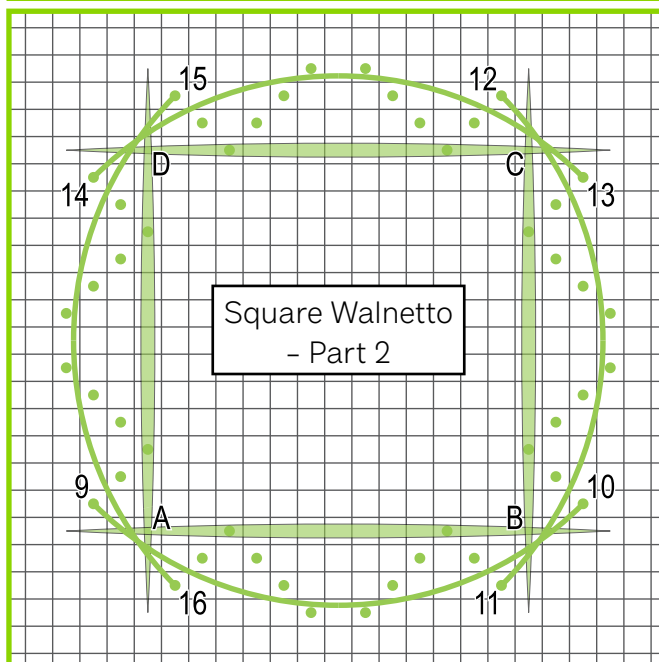
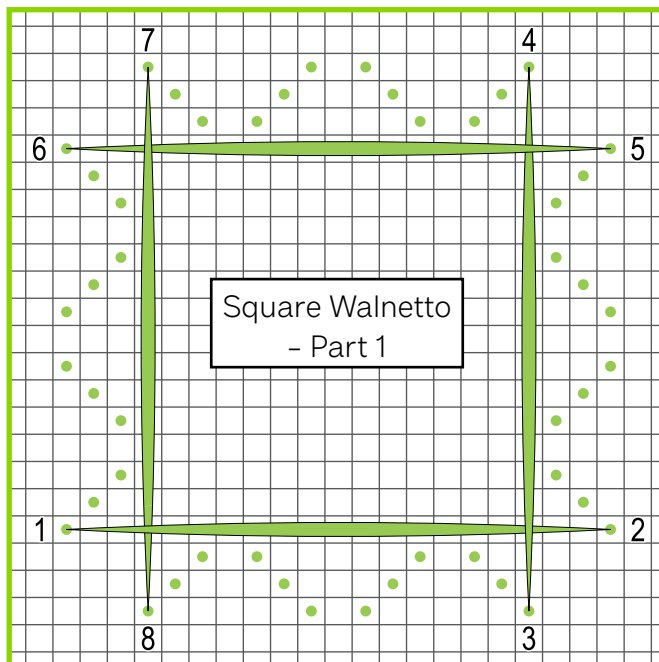
5. **Layered Cross 1:** At the very centre of the block, work a *Layered Cross 1* in 2 strands of Colour 1. Using the same thread, add four straight stitches (above, below, left, and right) as shown on the Stitch Chart.

6. **Square Walnettos:** The major motif in the centre of each rectangular box is a *Square Walnetto*. These stitches require careful counting and a little patience, but stick with it. I promise it is worth the effort! And if you are having trouble, use the video from Summer Fireworks as a starting point - <https://vimeo.com/415891989/5bc26bb6c8>.

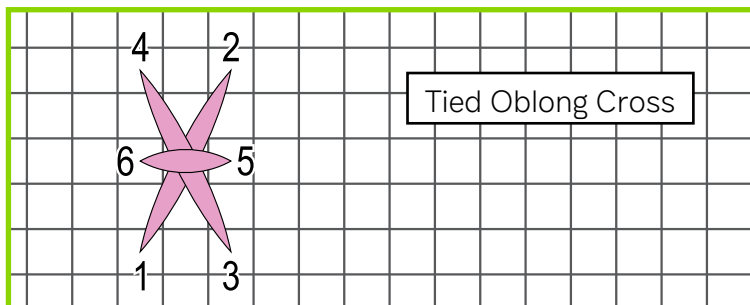
Using 2 strands of Colour 4 work stitches 1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 to set the foundation for the stitch. Each of these stitches is 20 threads long. To keep the symmetry consistent, tuck 7-8 under 1-2 before taking your needle down at 8.

Next, work the first circuit of wrapping. Bring your needle up at 9; go over the intersection at A and underneath the intersection at B; then take your needle down at 10. Pull your thread just firmly enough to wrap around the base stitch without distorting it. In the same way, next come up at 11, pass over B and under C, and take your needle down at 12. Continue in this fashion for the full circuit finishing at 16.

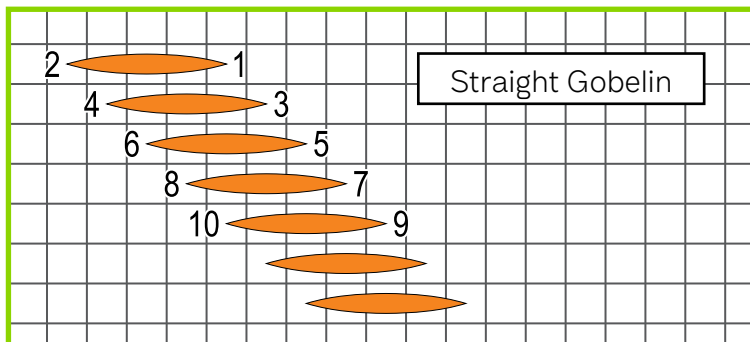
Continue working circuits in exactly the same way using the numbers in the Square Walnetto - Part 3 diagram for your needle up and needle down positions.



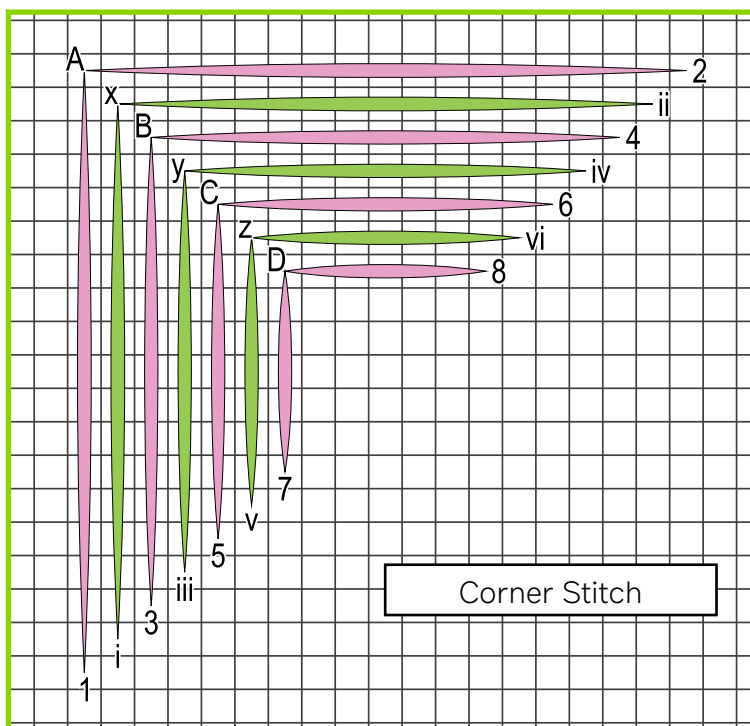
7. **Cross Stitch with Tied Oblong Cross:** Frame the edge of each Sprats Head with *Cross Stitch* over 2x2 threads and a *Tied Oblong Cross* over 2x4 threads at the top of the triangle shape. Use 2 or 3 strands of Colour 2.



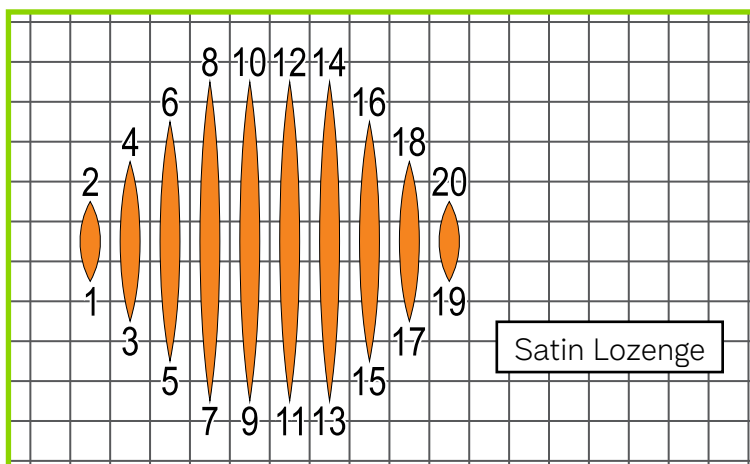
8. **Straight Gobelin:** To finish this block, work *Straight Gobelin* in 3 strands of Variegated on each side of the completed Square Walnetto.



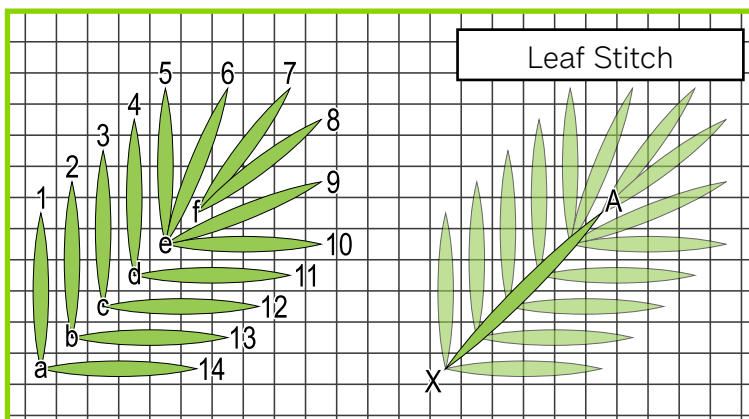
9. **Corner Stitch:** The first square box (uppermost on Stitch Chart 1, Pg. 3) starts with *Corner Stitch* worked in 2 colours. First, use 2 strands of Colour 4 and follow i-x, ii-x, iii-y, iv-y, v-z, vi-z. Then, use 2 strands of Colour 2 and follow 1-A, 2-A, 3-B, 4-B, 5-C, 6-C, 7-D, 8-D, finishing with a stitch from A-D on the adjacent diagram.



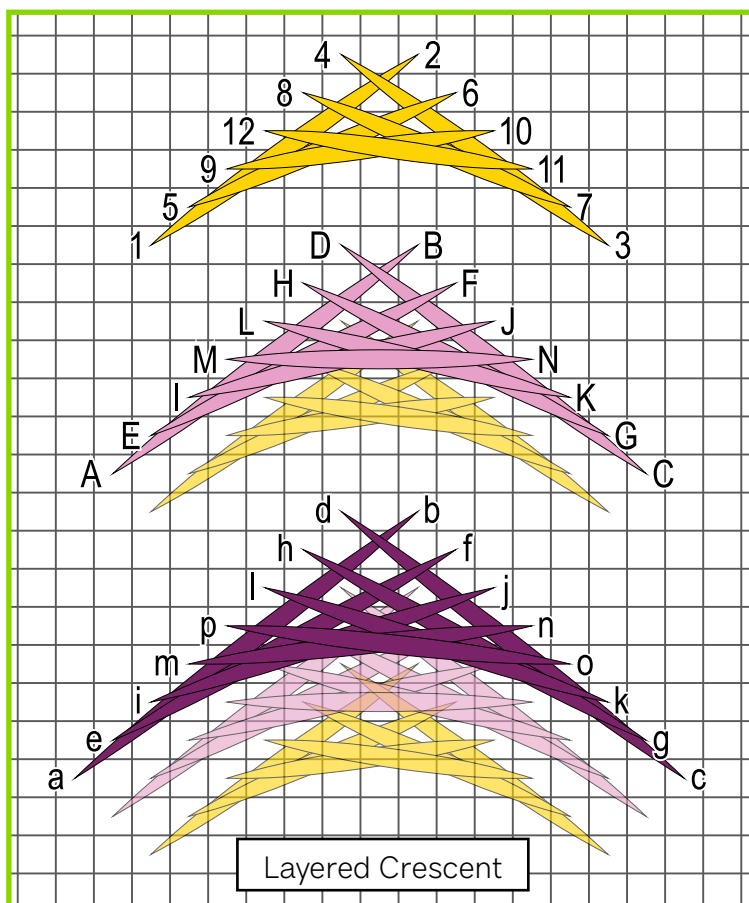
10. **Satin Lozenge:** Next work four *Satin Lozenges* radiating from the centre of the block. Use 3 or 4 strands of Variegated, depending on the fullness of cover you prefer.



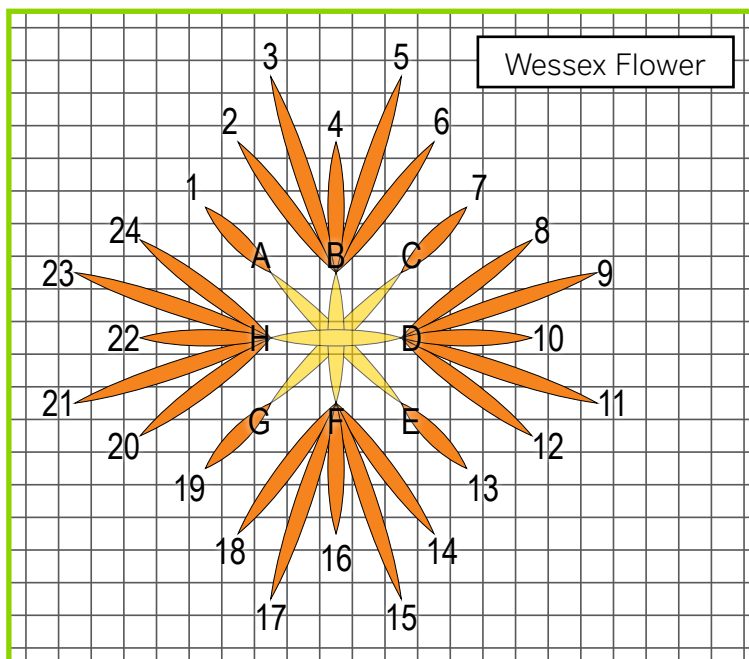
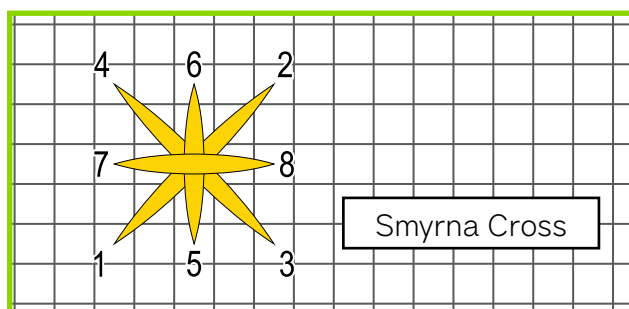
11. **Leaf Stitch:** Between each pair of Satin Lozenges, work *Leaf Stitch* in 3 strands of Colour 4. Follow 1-a, 2-b, 3-c, 4-d, 5-e, 6-e, 7-f, 8-f, 9-e, 10-e, 11-d, 12-c, 13-b, 14-a, and finish with A-X. Stitch 1-a is 5 threads tall. Add an extra straight stitch over 3x3 threads at the bottom of each leaf.



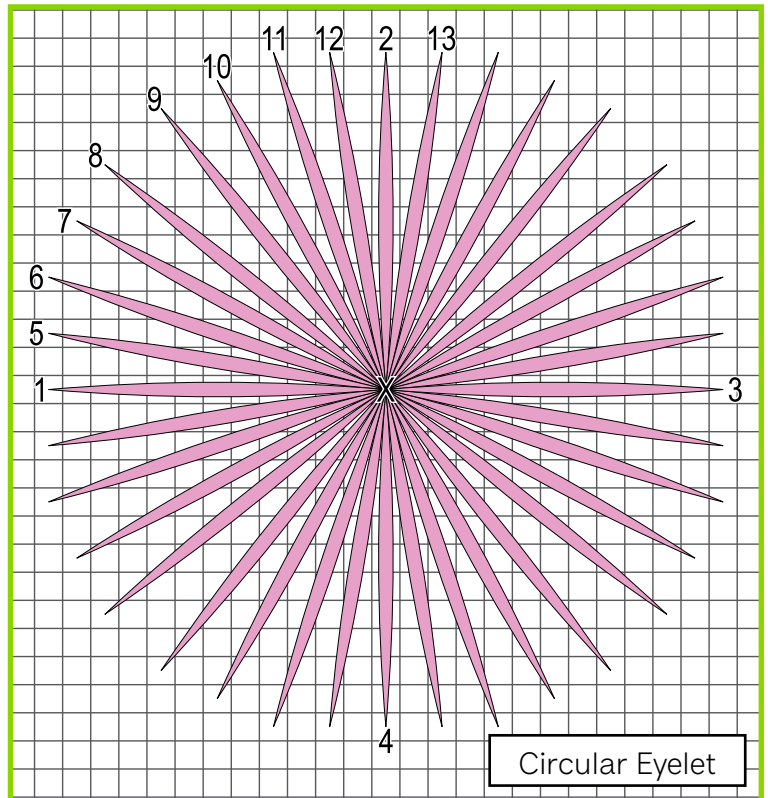
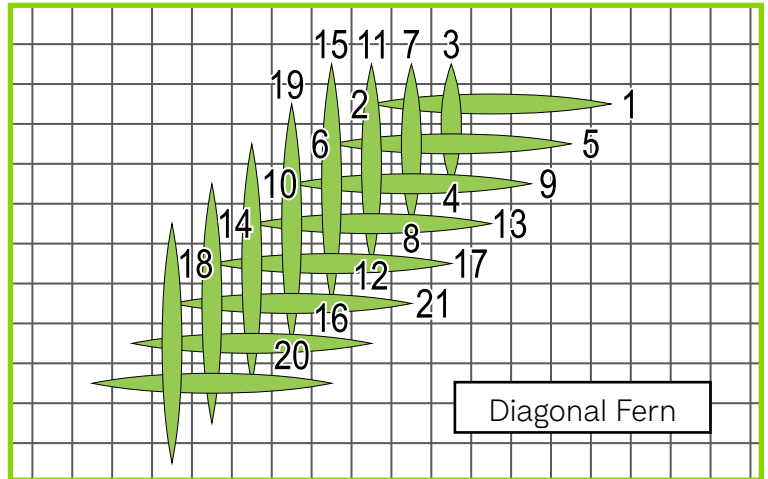
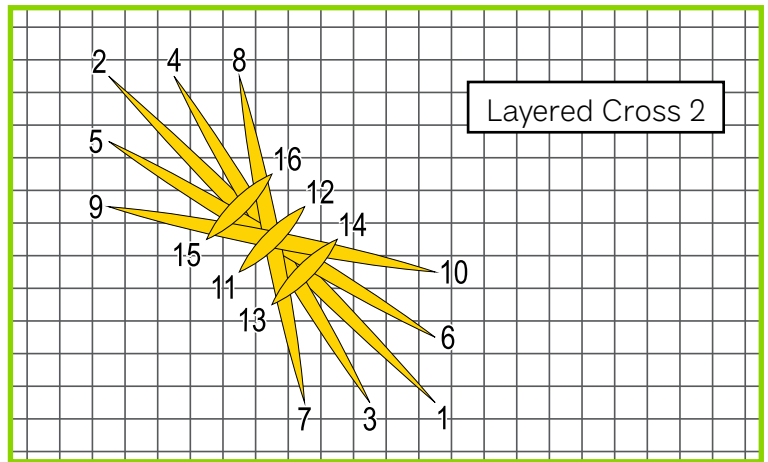
12. **Layered Crescent:** To finish this block, work a *Layered Crescent* in the space remaining above each Satin Lozenge. Use 2 strands of Colour 1 to work the first Crescent following 1-2, 3-4, etc. Stitches 1-2 and 3-4 are 7 threads wide and 5 threads tall. Next, use 2 strands of Colour 2 and follow A-B, C-D, etc. Stitches A-B and C-D are 8 threads wide and 6 threads tall. Finish with 2 strands of Colour 3 and follow a-b, c-d, etc. Stitches a-b and c-d are 9 threads wide and 7 threads tall. Carry Colour 3 from one of these completed motifs through the back of a Satin Lozenge and work a 4x4 *Cross Stitch* (Pg. 5) in the very centre of the block.



13. **Wessex Flower:** Moving on to the centre block (lowermost square on Stitch Chart 1, Pg. 3), work three *Wessex Flowers* down the diagonal axis of the block. For the petals, use 2 strands of Variegated 1. Work the centre in a Smyrna Cross over 4x4 threads using 2 strands of Colour 1.



14. **Layered Cross 2:** Between each pair of Wessex Flowers, work a *Layered Cross* 2 in 2 strands of Colour 1. Stitch 1-2 is over 10x10 threads.
15. **Diagonal Fern Stitch:** Further emphasising the central diagonal, work four sections of *Diagonal Fern Stitch* in 2 strands of Colour 4. The adjacent diagram shows the compensation at the beginning of the stitch for the uppermost version of the stitch. The full rhythm of the stitch doesn't start until 13-14, 15-16, each over 6 threads. Note that the compensation will be different for each little section, and further, there is a small amount of compensation where the sections meet in the centre. Use Stitch Chart 1 (Pg. 3) as your guide.
16. **Cross Stitch and Smyrna Cross:** To finish the centre block, work alternating diagonal stripes of *Cross Stitch* (Pg. 5) over 2x2 and *Smyrna Cross* (Pg. 8) over 2x2. The crosses for both stitches are worked in 2 strands of Colour 2, with the top of the Smyrnas worked in 2 strands of Colour 3.
17. **Circular Eyelet:** Start the next block (uppermost on Stitch Chart 2, Pg. 4) with a large *Circular Eyelet* worked in 2 strands of Colour 2. There is a lot of bulk in the centre of this stitch, so just be patient as you gently encourage the central hole (X) to enlarge. Stitches 1-X, 2-X, 3-X, and 4-X are over 12 threads. I stitch these four first, and then start filling each quadrant following 5-X, 6-X, etc.



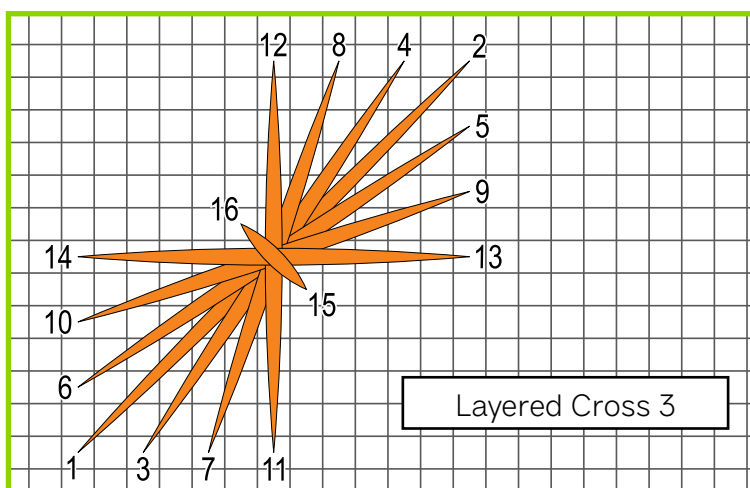
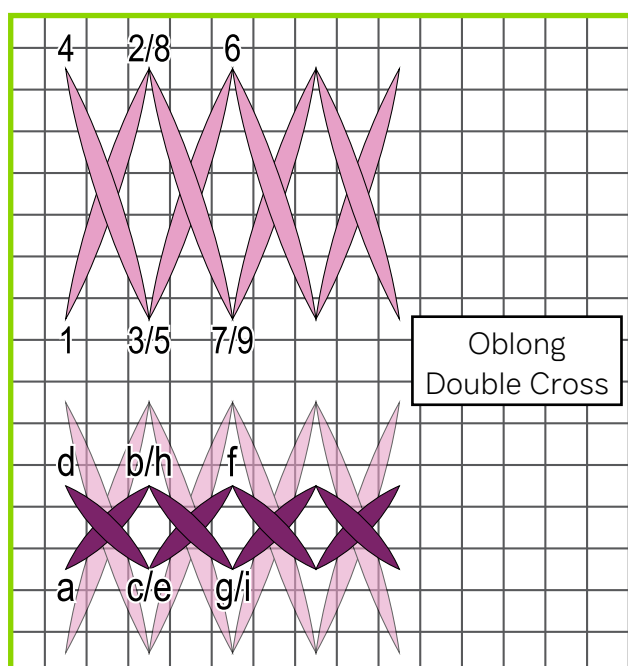
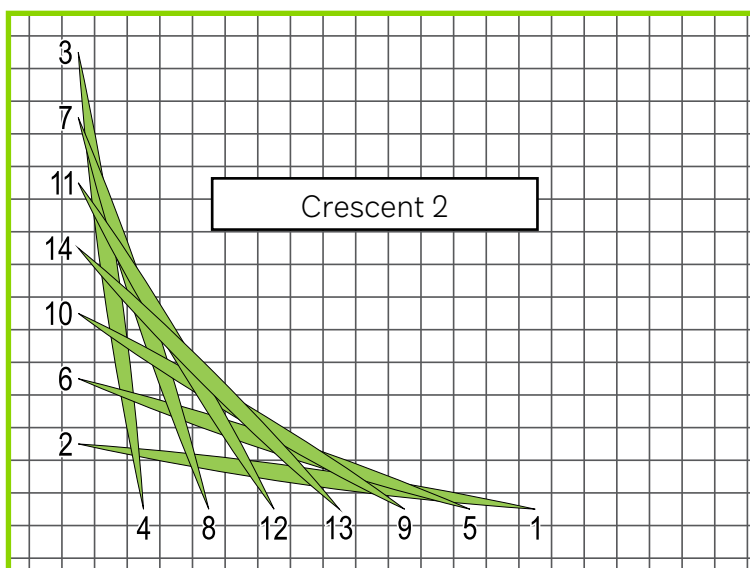
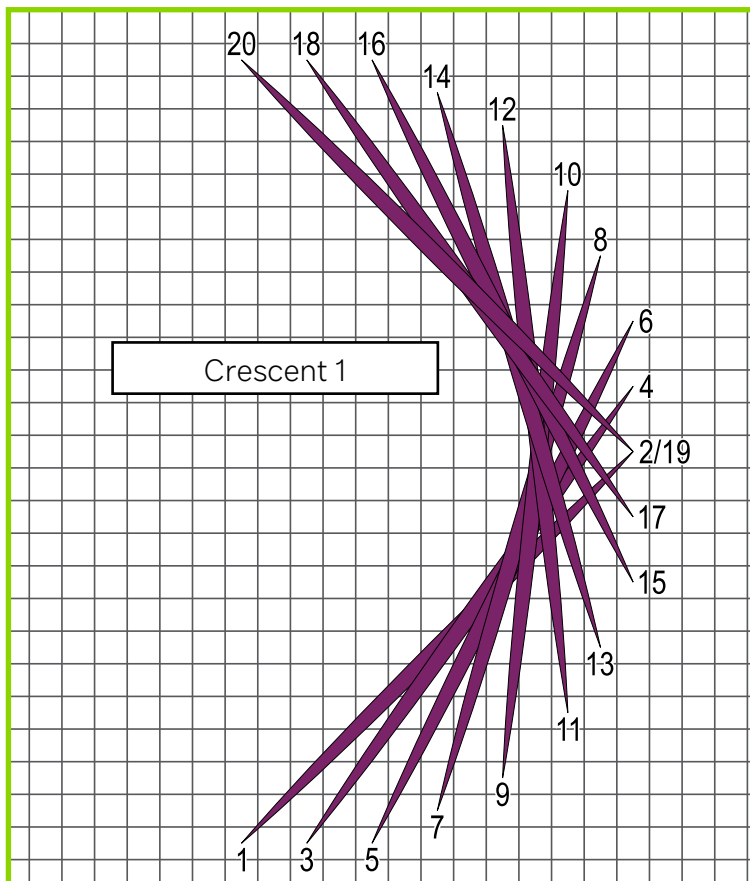
18. **Crescent 1:** Layer two *Crescent 1s* over the top of the Circular Eyelet using 2 strands of Colour 3. Finding the placement for these stitches will be easy because they share holes with the Eyelet. Stitches 1-2 and 3-4 are over 12x12 threads.

19. **Crescent 2:** Frame this central motif with four *Crescent 2s* worked in 2 strands of Colour 4. Stitches 1-2 and 3-4 are over 14x2 threads.

20. **Layered Cross 3:** Beyond each *Crescent 2*, work a *Layered Cross 3* in 2 strands of Variegated. Stitch 1-2 is over 12x12 threads.

21. **Smyrna Cross:** In to each corner of the block, work a *Smyrna Cross* (Pg. 8) over 4x4 threads using 2 strands of Colour 1.

22. **Double Oblong Cross:** To complete the block, work a row of *Double Oblong Cross* along each straight edge. First work the Oblong Crosses in 2 strands of Colour 2 over 6x2 threads (follow 1-2, 3-4, etc.). Then overlay with ordinary 2x2 Crosses in 2 strands of Colour 3 (follow a-b, c-d, etc.).



Congratulations!

You have finished this Spring Fireworks design. You might like to use it as a bookmark or to decorate the front of a bag, the top of a box, or a journal cover. Don't forget to send me a photo of your finished work, or post it to your Facebook or Instagram page and tag me in. I love seeing your beautiful stitches!

If you have any queries about these notes or my other products and services, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Ann-Marie Anderson-Mayes
Beautiful Stitches, Perth, Western Australia

Mob: +61 (0)427 443 919

Facebook: facebook.com/BeautStitches

Instagram: instagram.com/amamayes

Flickr: flickr.com/beautifulstitches

Etsy: etsy.com/shop/MyBeautifulStitches

Email: info@beautifulstitches.com.au

Website: www.beautifulstitches.com.au



The Last Word.....

Dear Beautiful Stitchers,

This pattern is my gift to you. Please share it freely with any friends you think might be interested! The more people who are able to use this pattern, the happier I will be :)

Warmest Regards
Ann-Marie