Beautiful Stitches

Sharing the joy of creating with needle and thread

WINTER FIREWORKS



This design is the fourth and final project in my Fireworks series. This new version is an identical size and layout to Autumn, Spring 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 "Phyllida" – variegated blues (1 x 9m skein of 6 strand silk)	
Colour 1	Beautiful Stitches "Blue 1" (1 x 9m skein of 6 strand silk)	
Colour 2	Beautiful Stitches "Blue 110" (1 x 9m skein of 6 strand silk)	
Colour 3	Beautiful Stitches "Ecru" (1 x 9m skein of 6 strand silk)	
Colour 4	Beautiful Stitches "Purple 140" (1 x 9m skein of 6 strand silk)	
Metallic	Treasure Braid PB04 (silver)	

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: 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.

WINTER FIREWORKS - STITCH CHART 1

Colour Key

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



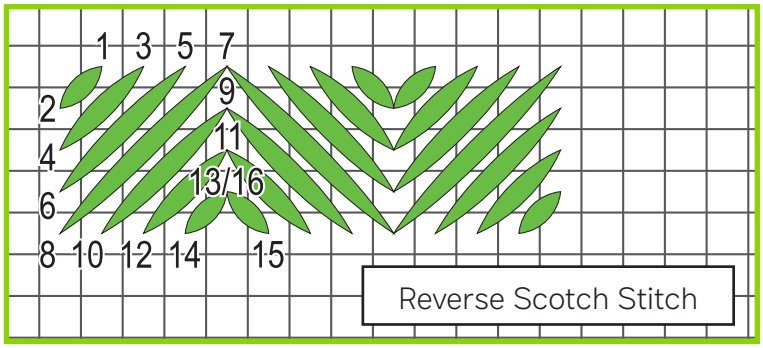
WINTER FIREWORKS - STITCH CHART 2

Colour Key

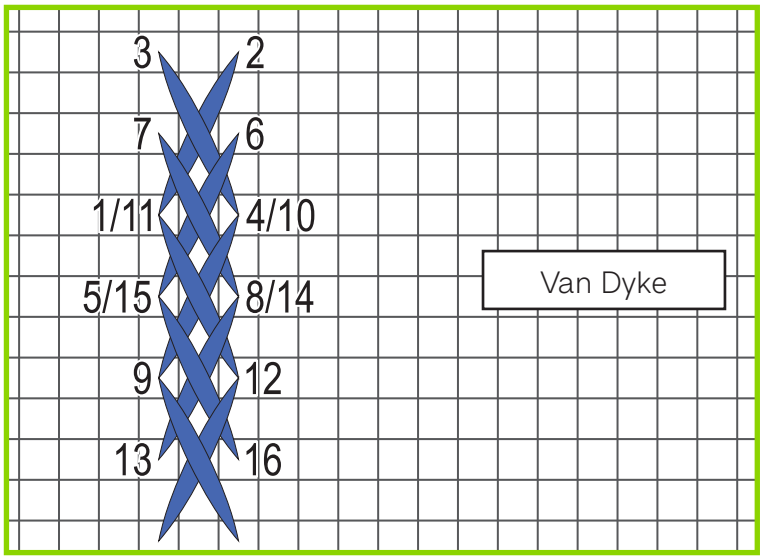
- Variegated
- Colour 1
- Colour 2
- Colour 3
- Colour 4
- Metallic



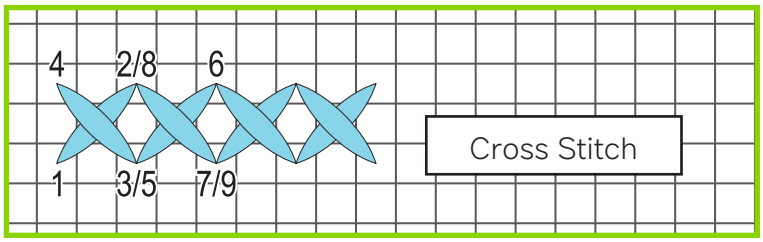
1. **Reverse Scotch Stitch:** Start with the second row of the outside border by working *Reverse Scotch Stitch* over 4x4 threads using 3 strands of Variegated. **NB:** It's easier to start with this row as it sets the counting for the rest of the design.



2. **Van Dyke:** The outermost border row is stitched in *Van Dyke* over 2x4 threads. This is one of my favourite border stitches as it gives a really nice plaited effect. Use 2 or 3 strands of Colour 1 depending on how densely you want the stitching to define this border.

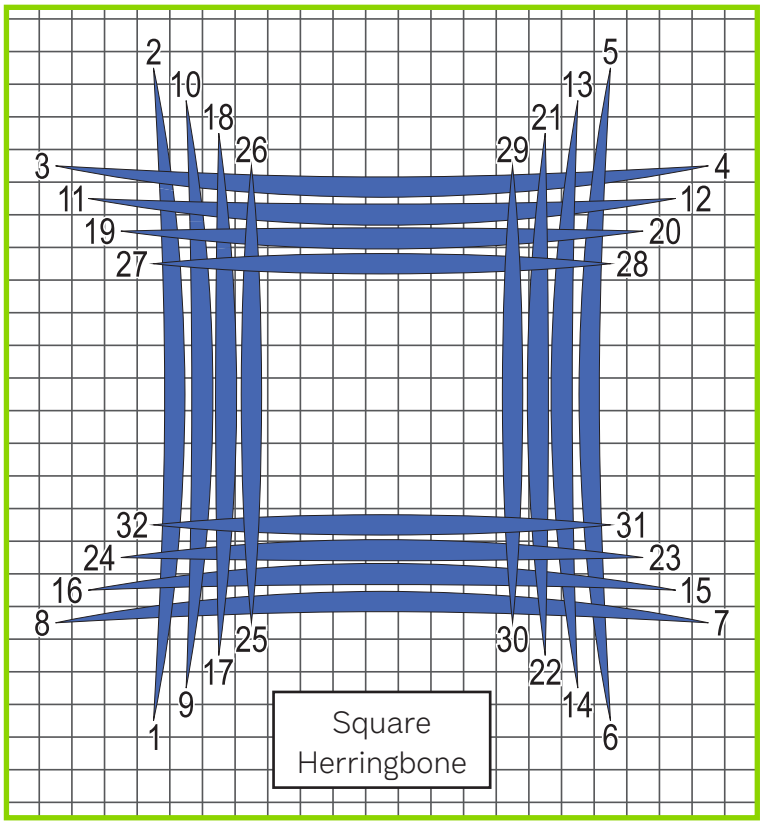


3. **Cross Stitch:** The innermost row of the border is worked in *Cross Stitch* over 2x2 threads. This is also used to subdivide the design into smaller areas. Use 2 or 3 strands of Colour 2, again depending on the density of cover you prefer.



4. **Square Herringbone:** The top and bottom rectangles are identical. Feel free to experiment with different colour choices to add your own creative signature. Start with two *Square Herringbones* worked in 2 strands of Colour 1. Stitches 1-2, 3-4, 5-6 and 7-8 are all 20 threads long.

   To maintain symmetry, stitch 7-8 tucks under 1-2, 15-16 tucks under 9-10, 23-24 tucks under 17-18 and 31-32 tucks under 25-26.



5. **Double Straight Cross:** In the centre of each Square Herringbone and also between the two of them, work a *Double Straight Cross* in 2 strands of Colour 3.

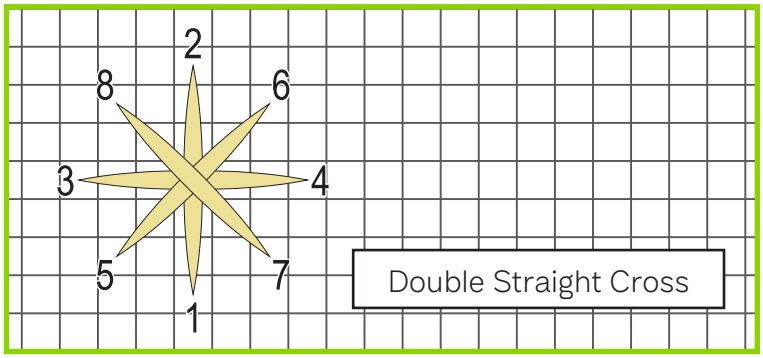
6. **Ray Stitch 1:** Cover each horizontal and vertical bar of each Square Herringbone with a *Ray Stitch 1* worked in 2 strands of Colour 2.

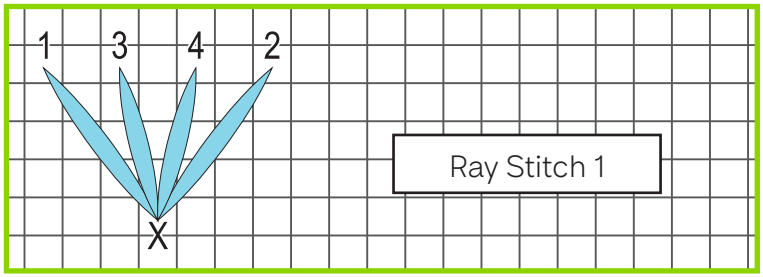
7. **Slanted Gobelin:** Around the outside of each Square Herringbone (except in the centre of the block), work *Slanted Gobelin* in 2 or 3 strands of Colour 4. Along the top and bottom edges, the diagonal stitches are over 2x2 threads (as shown on the adjacent diagram) and a straight stitch in the centre marks the change of stitch direction. Along the left and right edges, the stitches are worked over 3x3 threads with a V shape in the centre. Refer to the Stitch Chart on Pg. 3 for the exact size and placement of these transition stitches.

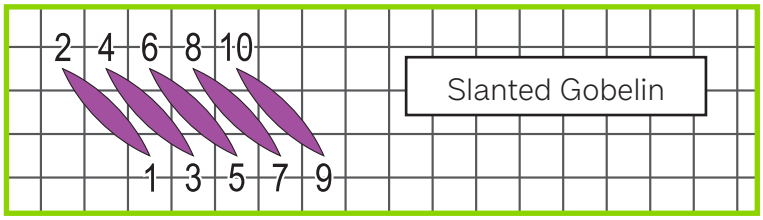
8. **Fly Stitch and Ray Stitch 2:** In the centre of the block and below the Double Straight Cross worked in Step 5, use 2 strands of Colour 4 to work two *Fly Stitches* and then add a *Ray Stitch 2*. Repeat the same combination above the Double Straight Cross.

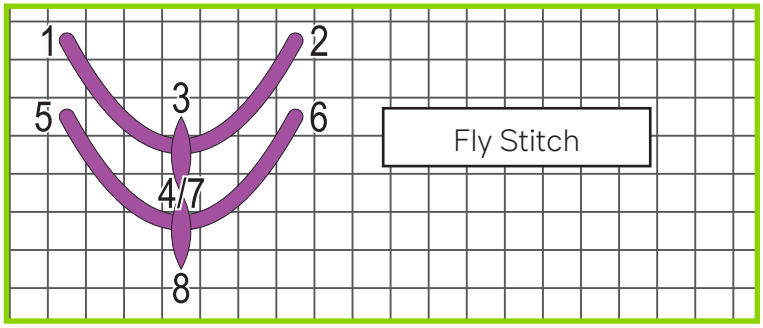
9. **Diagonal Straight Stitch:** Tiny Diagonal Straight Stitches worked in Metallic finish this block. One in each corner, and four wrapping around the Double Straight Crosses in the centre of each Square Herringbone. Follow the Stitch Chart on Pg. 3 for exact size and placement.

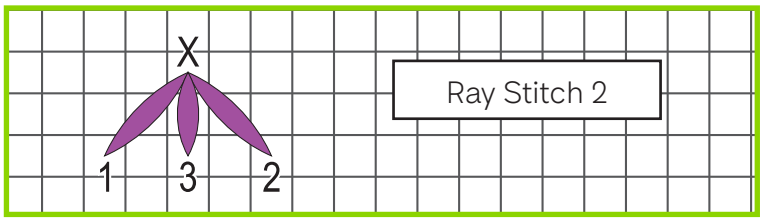
10. **Straight Gobelin Arch:** To start the next block, work four *Straight Gobelin Arches* in 3 or 4 strands of Variegated. These are easy to place by simply leaving a space of two threads to locate point '1' for each motif.

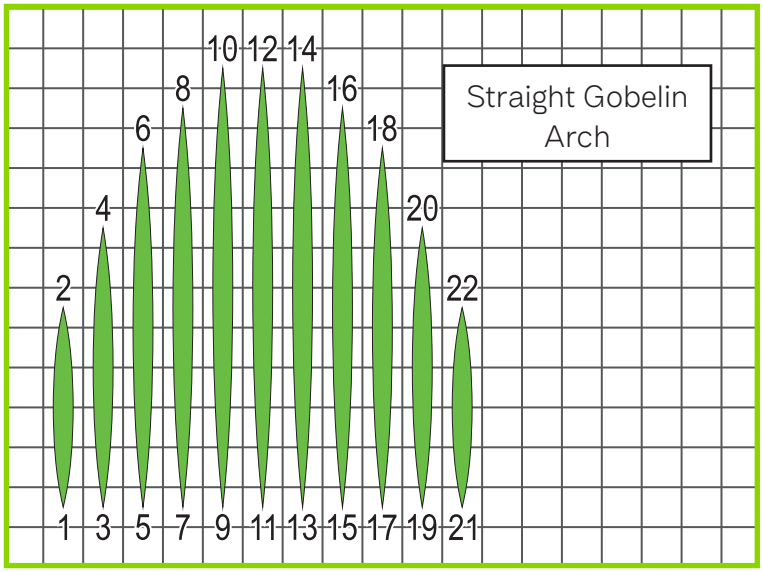












11. **Crescent 1:** Frame each Straight Gobelin Arch with a *Crescent 1* worked in 2 strands of floss. The top left and bottom right versions are Colour 4 whilst the top right and bottom left versions are Colour 1. To help start your counting, stich 1-2 is 14 threads wide and 2 threads tall.

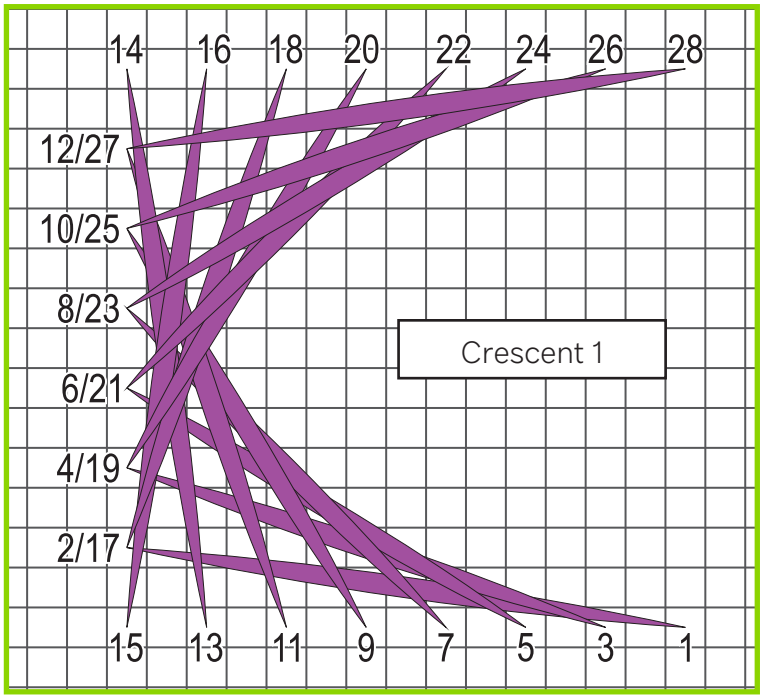
12. **Tent Stitch:** Use 2 strands of Colour 2 to work a border of *Tent Stitch* around this completed centre square motif.

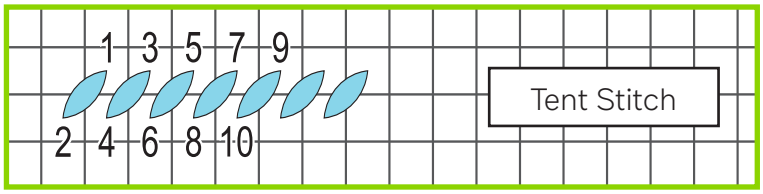
13. **Double Straight Cross:** Continue building out the square with a row of *Double Straight Cross* (see diagram on Pg. 6). Use 2 strands of Colour 3 to work the first pass of underlying upright crosses (stitches 1-2 and 3-4). Overlay with 2 strands of Colour 2 to work stitches 5-6 and 7-8.

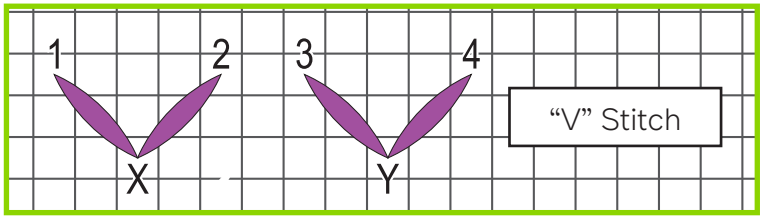
14. **"V" Stitch:** Around the outside edge of the block, fill the triangular spaces between each pair of Double Straight Crosses with *"V" Stitches* worked in 2 strands of Colour 4. In each corner, the "V" just becomes a Diagonal Straight Stitch as shown on the Stitch Chart on Pg. 3.

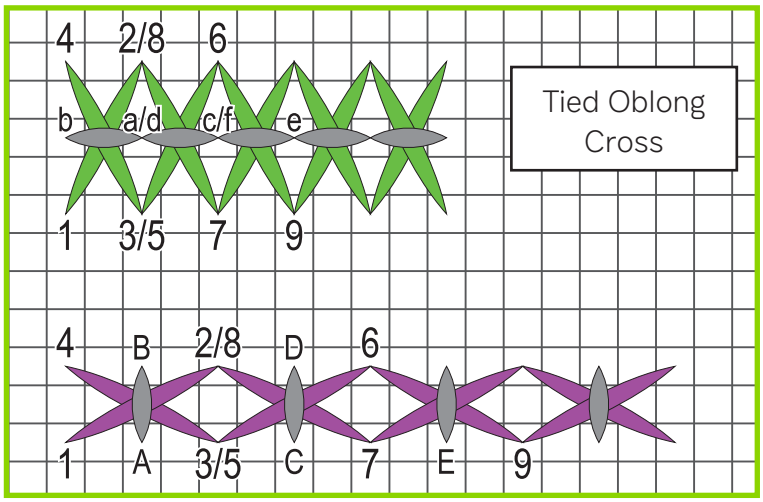
15. **Straight Stitch:** Finish this block with Straight Stitches over 4 threads worked in Metallic. These lie between each pair of Double Straight Crosses as shown on the Stitch Chart on Pg. 3.

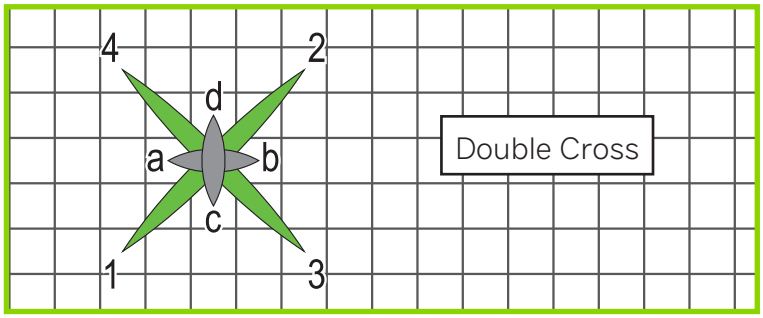
16. **Tied Oblong Cross with Double Cross:** The centre block starts with a border of *Tied Oblong Cross*. Work the oblong crosses in 2 strands of Variegated as shown at the top of the adjacent diagram, and tie with Metallic (stitches a-b, c-d, e-f, *etc.*). In each corner work a *Double Cross*. Again the underlying cross is in 2 strands of Variegated and the overlying upright cross (stitches a-b, c-d) is in Metallic.



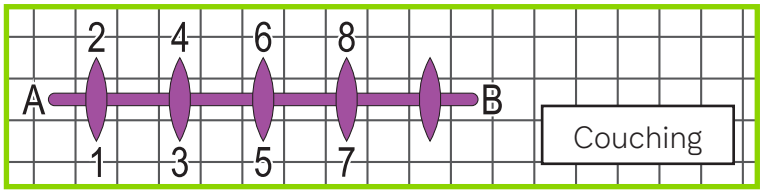






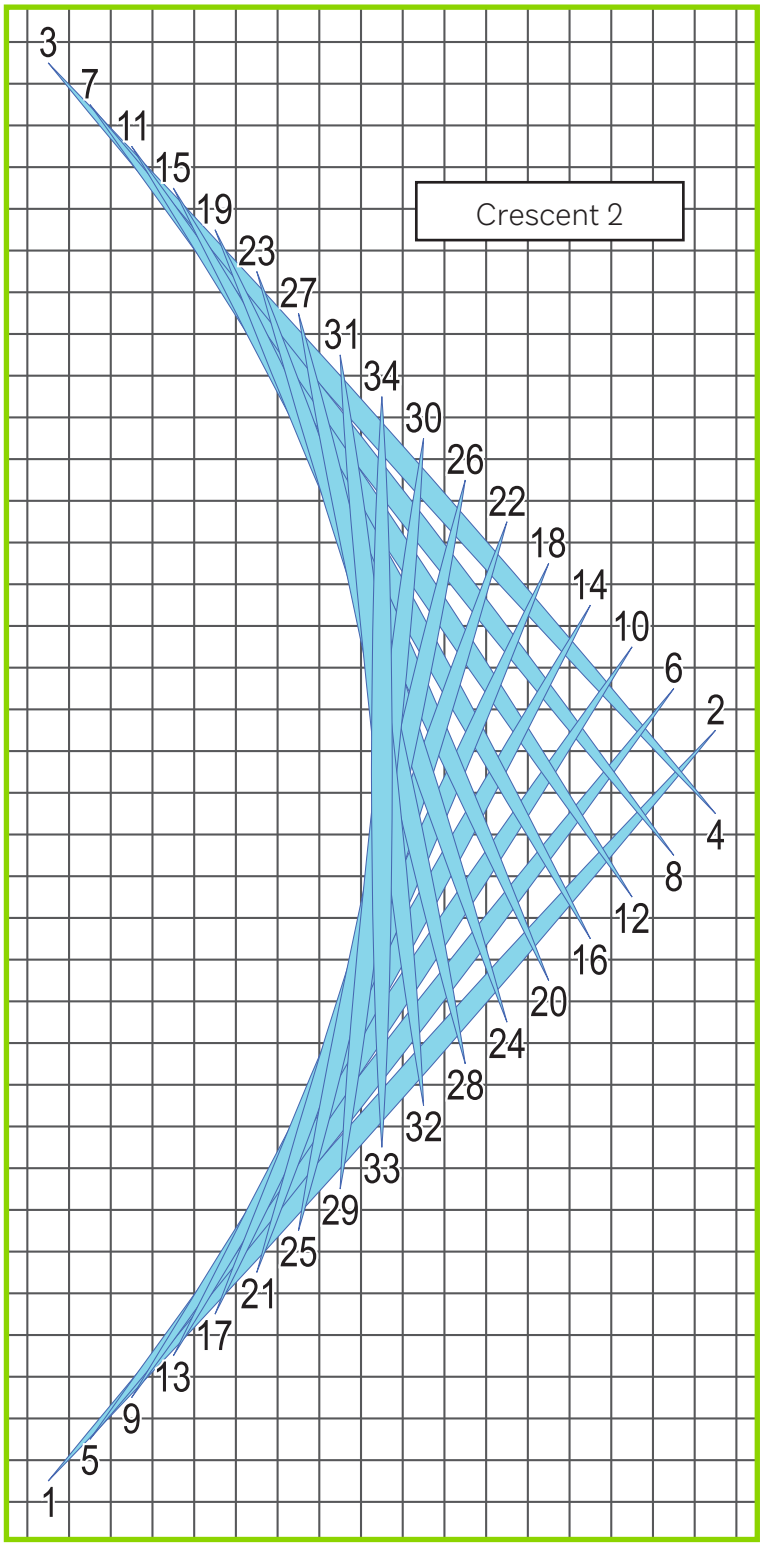


17. **Couching:** Start filling this block by working towards the centre with two lines of *Couching* on each side of the square. Lay the ground with a long stitch from A-B, and then couch that down following 1-2, 3-4, *etc.* Use 2 strands of Colour 4 and note the position and length of each line carefully. You need to leave room for the remaining stitches to fit.



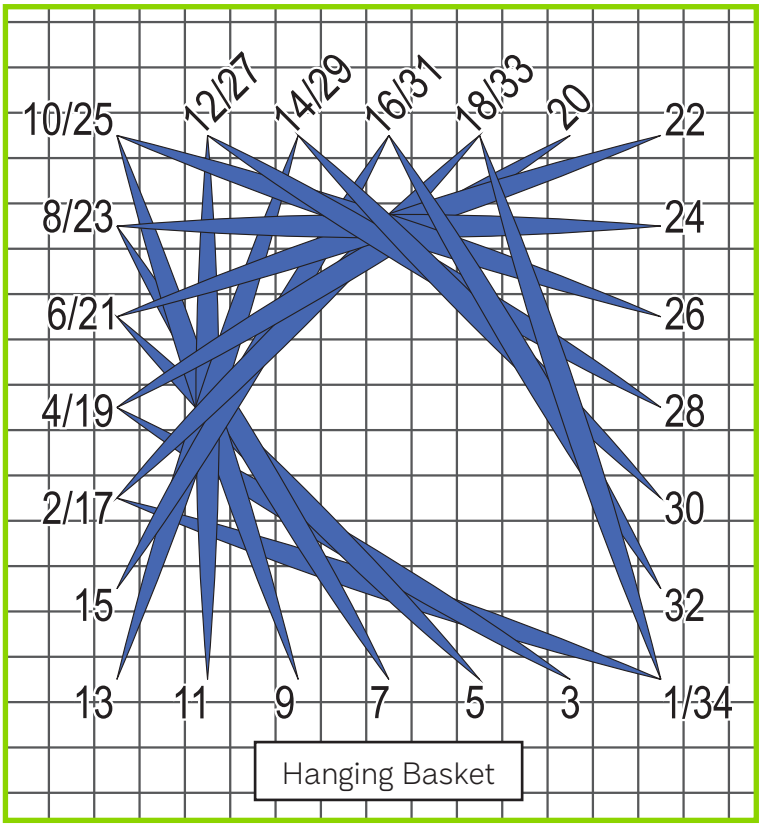
18. **Cross Stitch:** Using 2 strands of Colour 3, continue filling towards the centre, this time with two rows of *Cross Stitch* over 2x2 threads (see diagram on Pg. 5). Again, be careful with the exact positioning of each row.

19. **Crescent 2:** Finish this block with four *Crescent 2s*. These will just overlay the edges of the Couching and Cross Stitches worked in the previous two steps. The two parallel with the top and bottom of the block are worked in 2 strands of Colour 1, whilst the two on the left and right are worked in 2 strands of Colour 2. To help with your counting, stitches 1-2 and 3-4 are 16 threads wide and 18 threads tall.

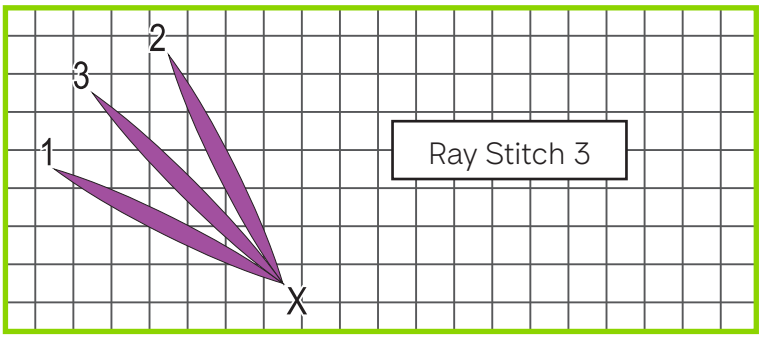


20. **Tied Oblong Cross with Cross Stitch:** The third square block starts with a border of *Tied Oblong Cross* (see the lower part of the diagram on Pg. 7). Work the crosses in 2 strands of Colour 4 and tie with Metallic following A-B, C-D, *etc.* In each corner work a *Cross Stitch* over 3x3 threads (see diagram on Pg. 5) using 2 strands of Colour 4.

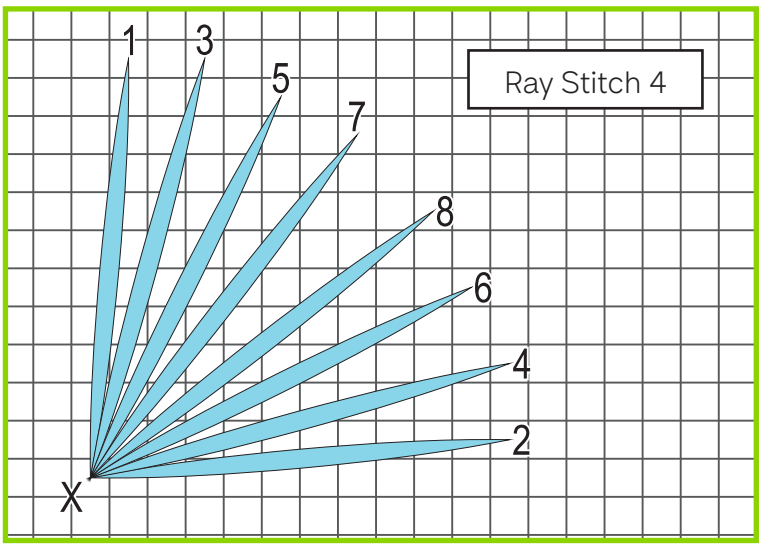
21. **Hanging Basket:** Down the diagonal axis of the block work three *Hanging Baskets*. The centre one is worked in 2 strands of Colour 2, and those at the top left and bottom right are worked in 2 strands of Colour 1. To help start your counting, Stitch 1-2 is 12 threads wide and 4 threads tall.



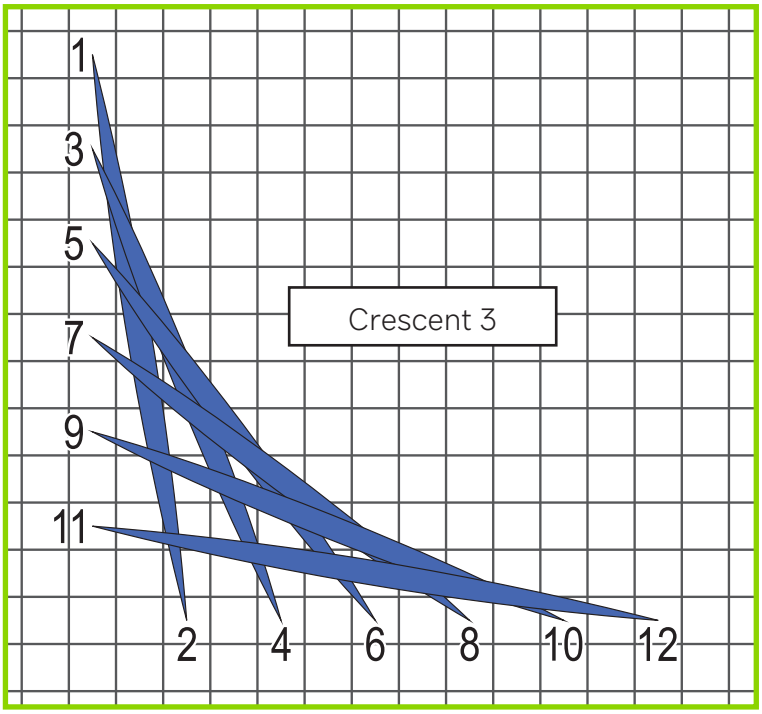
22. **Ray Stitch 3:** Fill the centre of each Hanging Basket with a *Ray Stitch 3* worked in 2 strands of Colour 4. Follow 1-X, 2-X, 3-X on the adjacent diagram.



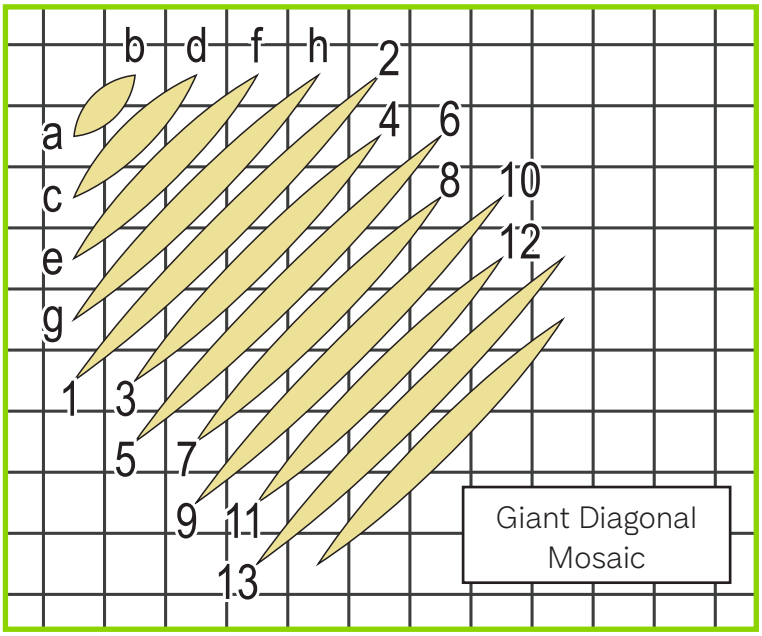
23. **Ray Stitch 4:** Radiating from the top right and bottom left tips of the central Hanging Basket, work *Ray Stitch 4* in 2 strands of Colour 2. Follow 1-X, 2-X, 3-X, *etc.* on the adjacent diagram. To help with your counting, stitch 1-X is 1 thread wide and 11 threads tall and stitch 2-X is 11 threads wide and 1 thread tall.



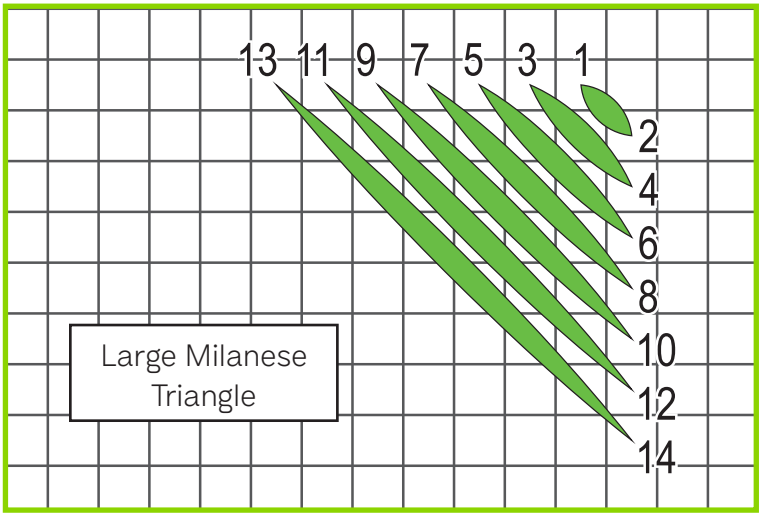
24. **Crescent 3:** Frame the top of each Ray Stitch 4 with a *Crescent 3* worked in 2 strands of Colour 1.



25. **Giant Diagonal Mosaic:** There are now four square spaces remaining. Work *Giant Diagonal Mosaic* down the centre of each square using 3 strands of Colour 3. You will need to do some compensation at each end of the row to taper into the corners of the square. This is marked as a-b, c-d, *etc.* on the adjacent diagram.



26. **Large Milanese Triangle:** Finish by framing each line of Giant Diagonal Mosaic with a *Large Milanese Triangle* worked on either side. These are worked in 3 strands of Vareigated.



Congratulations!

You have finished this Winter 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