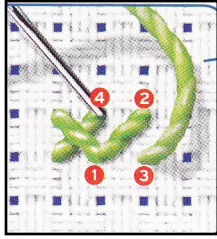
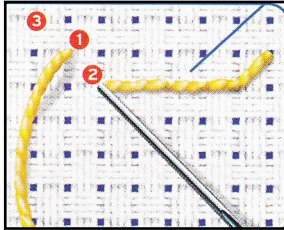


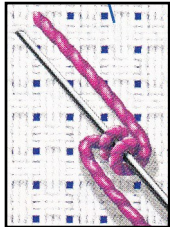
Cross Stitch Basics



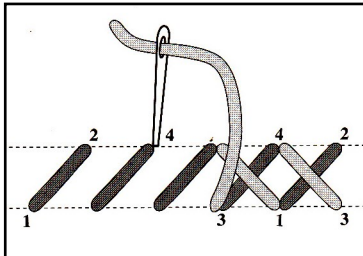
Cross Stitch —Aida: bring the needle up at the bottom left corner of the square #1, and down at the top right #2, to make the first half of the cross stitch (half stitch). Then bring your needle up in the bottom right #3, and down in the top left #4, to complete your stitch.



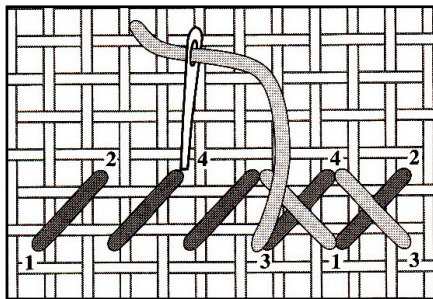
Backstitching: This stitch usually adds detail to the finished piece and is completed after the cross stitches. Bring your needle up at #1, down at #2, up at #3 and down at #1. Repeat as needed following the backstitch line on your chart.



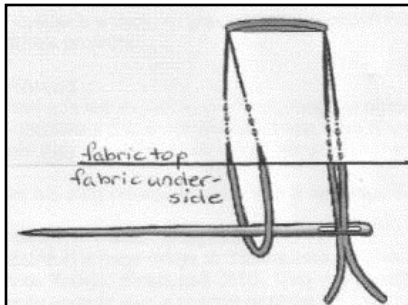
French Knot: To be completed after all of the cross stitching and backstitching. Bring the needle up through the fabric. Holding the thread tight in one hand, wrap the needle around the thread twice. Still keeping the thread tight, push the needle down through the fabric close to where you came up. Pull gently until the knot forms.



Continuous Cross Stitching: Use this method when you have a row of stitching of the same color (symbol). Stitch the first portion of the cross stitch for all of the stitches, of the same color. Come up at the bottom left #1, and go down at the top right #2, while at the same time also having the needle come up at the bottom left #3 for the next stitch. Continue and then reverse.



Cross Stitching— Linen/ Evenweave: Come up at the bottom left #1, making sure the vertical fabric thread lies over top of the horizontal fabric thread. Count 2 threads on the diagonal and go down #2, where the vertical fabric thread lies over top of the horizontal fabric thread. Complete the stitch or proceed with a row of stitches.



Cross Stitching—Loop start (securing the first thread): Cut your thread to the desired length for stitching. Match the two cut ends. Thread your needle, making sure the loop is hanging lower than the cut ends. Proceed with your first stitch coming up on the bottom left, go down on the top right, then pass the needle with thread through the loop, pull tight to secure.

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