

# BEAUTIFUL STITCHES

Sharing the joy of creating with needle and thread

## AUTUMN FIREWORKS



I created this design to test a variegated thread that I had dyed myself. The lovely autumn tones worked beautifully but all I could think of as I stitched were fireworks. There are fountains of colour, exploding stars, and even spinning Catherine Wheels!

And then I realised that I really wanted everyone to be able to share in the joy of this style of stitching. So this design is my gift to you. It is a great way to for you to experiment with a range of canvaswork stitches. It will work beautifully as a bookmark, as decoration on a journal cover, or perhaps as a beautiful accent on a small hand bag or iPad cover.

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 you won't be able to replicate them exactly as the variegated silk is a one-off that I dyed myself. Choosing your own colours is very easy. All you need is a variegated thread and three coordinating solid colours. You can use stranded silks, cottons or a combination - they will be equally effective. And your colour choices might transform this into Spring Fireworks or Beach Fireworks. The creative decisions are in your very capable hands :)

Name Used In These Notes	My Colour	Your Colour
Variegated	My own hand dyed thread - 12 strand silk (red, yellow, green combination)	
Colour 1	Threadworx 10051 - 6 strand cotton (red)	
Colour 2	Au Ver a Soie No. 2533 - 7 strand silk (yellow)	
Colour 3	Au Ver a Soie No. 2125 - 7 strand silk (green)	




## EMBROIDERY INSTRUCTIONS

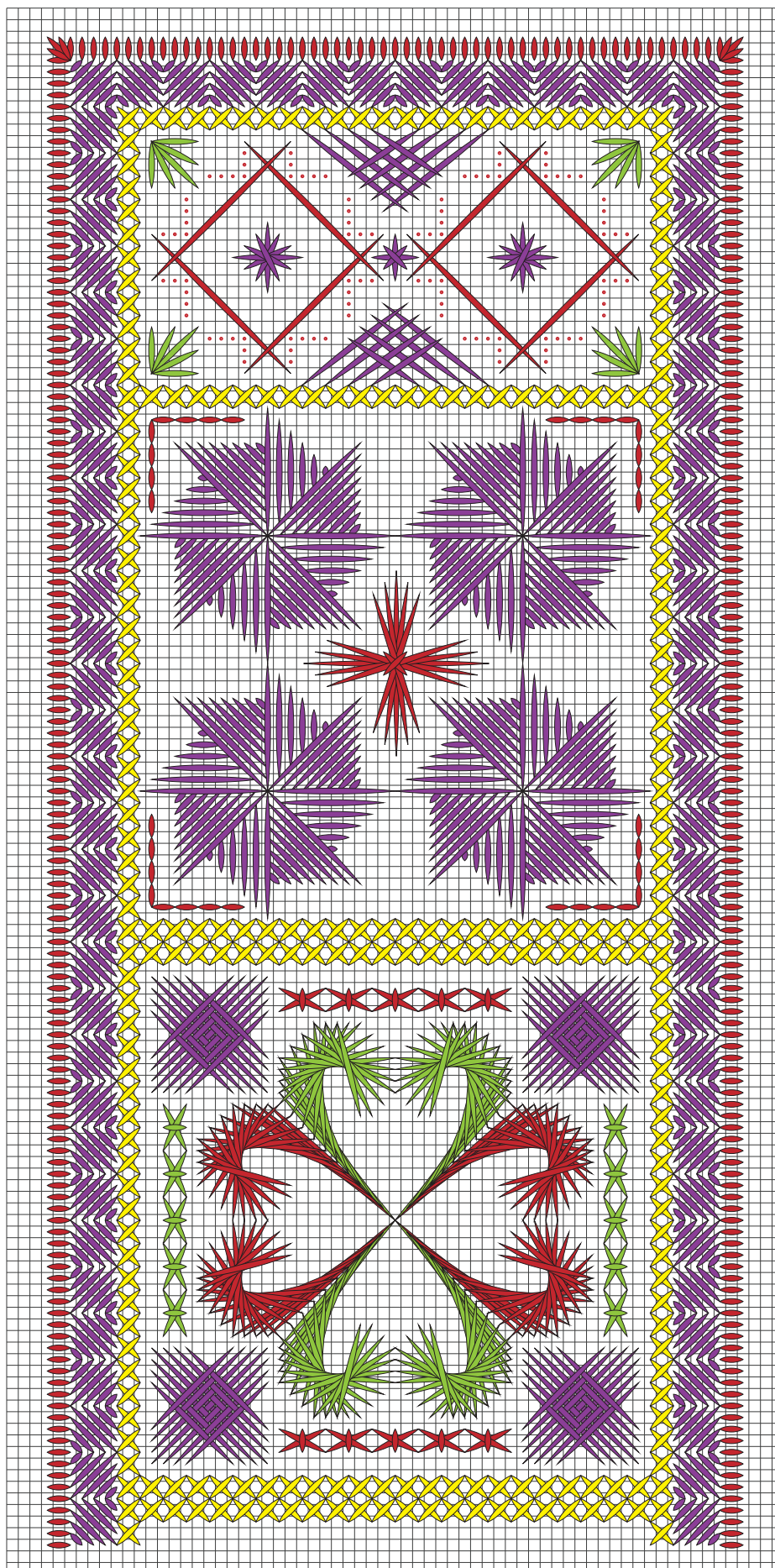
The Master Stitch charts are shown on the following two pages. The complete layout of the design is 60 threads wide and 204 threads long. Note that on Master Chart 2, the top part of the diagram is lighter to indicate the area of overlap with Master Chart 1. The subsequent step-by-step instructions give 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.*



# AUTUMN FIREWORKS - MASTER CHART 1





## Colour Key

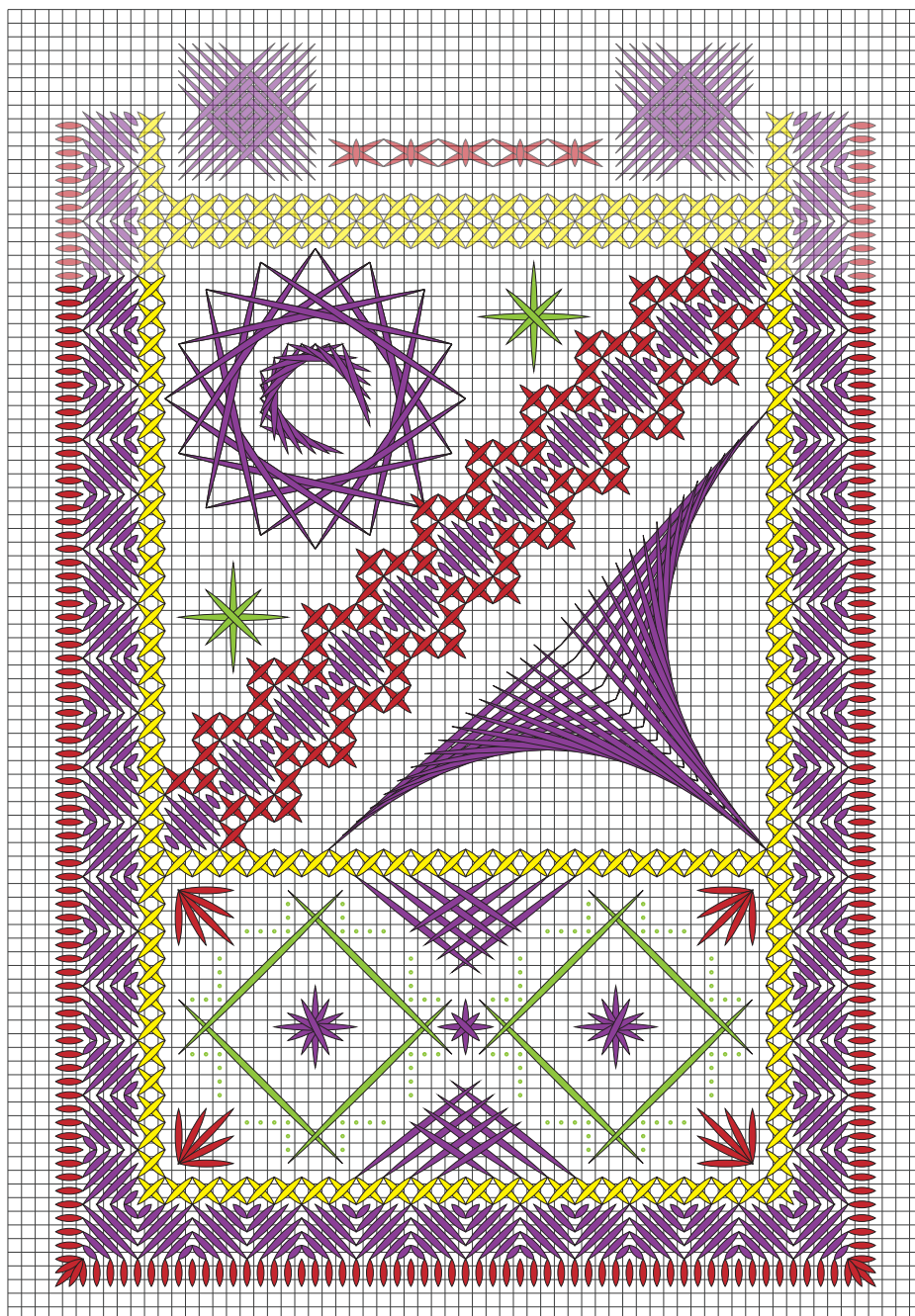
-  Variegated
-  Colour 1
-  Colour 2
-  Colour 3



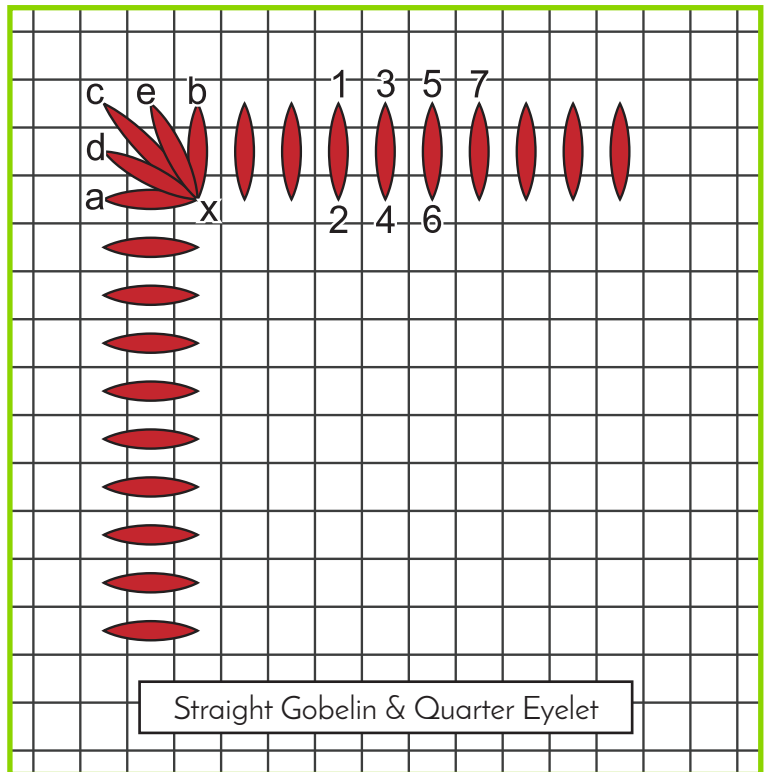
# AUTUMN FIREWORKS - MASTER CHART 2

## Colour Key

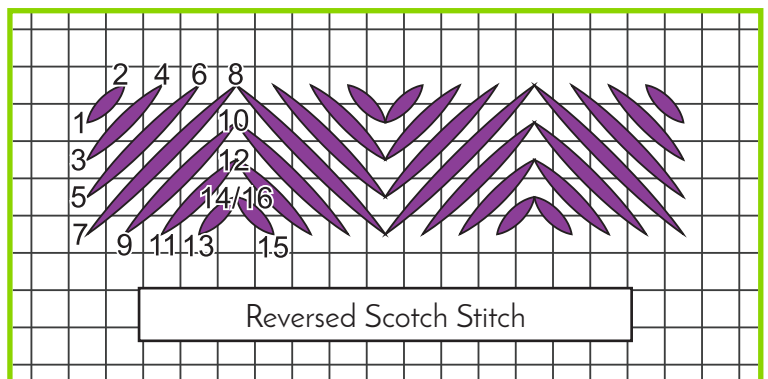
-  Variegated
-  Colour 1
-  Colour 2
-  Colour 3



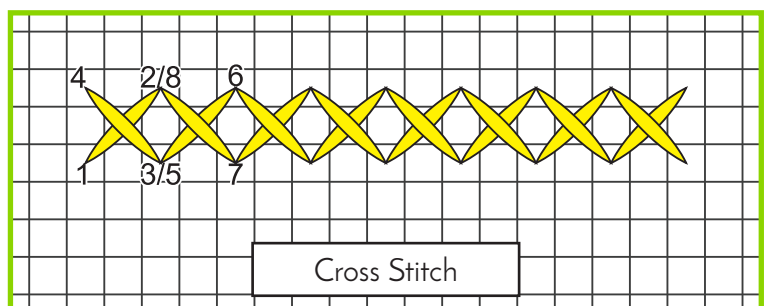
- 1. Outside Border:** The outside border is stitched in *Straight Gobelin*. Use 3 or 4 strands of Colour 1 depending on how densely you want the stitching to define this border. The corners are completed using a *Quarter Eyelet* stitch. Follow a-x, b-x, c-x, *etc.* on the adjacent diagram.



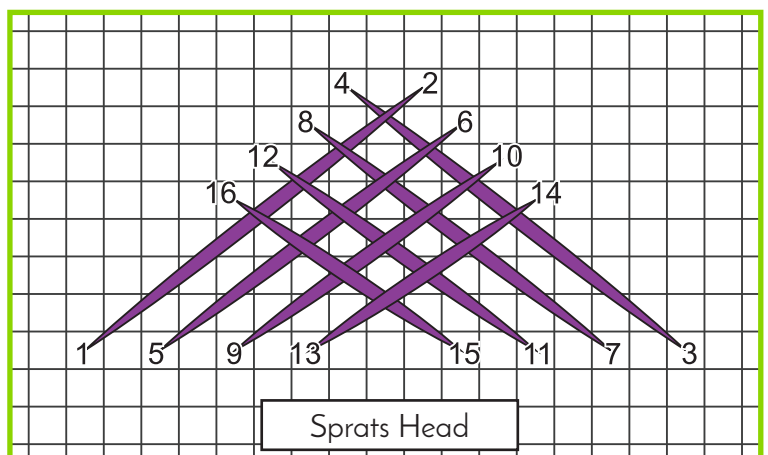
- 2. Reversed Scotch Stitch Border:** The second row of the border is worked in *Reversed Scotch* over 4x4 threads. Use 3 strands of Variegated.



- 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 strands of Colour 2.



- 4. Sprats Heads:** The top and bottom rectangles are worked in the same stitch design but with different colour placements. *Sprats Head Stitches* are worked on each long edge of these rectangular boxes. Use 2 strands of Variegated.



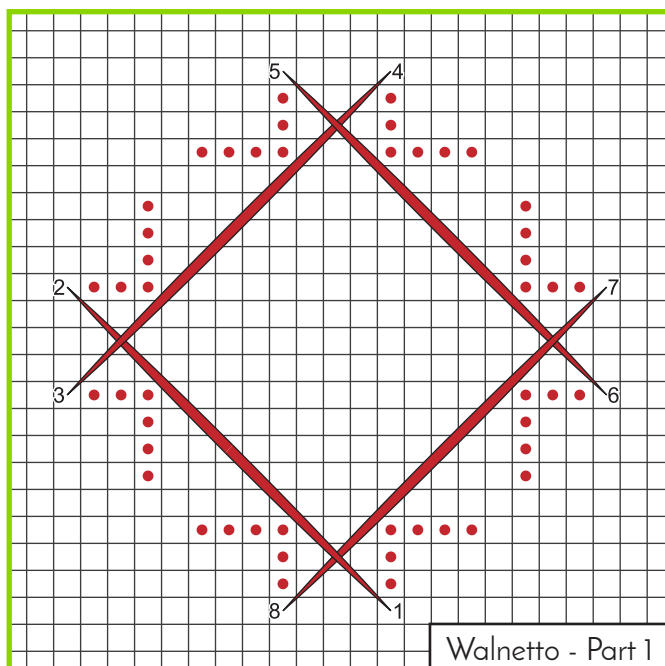


5. **Walnettos:** The major motifs in the rectangular boxes are *Walnettos*. These stitches require careful counting and a little patience, but stick with it. I promise it is worth the effort!

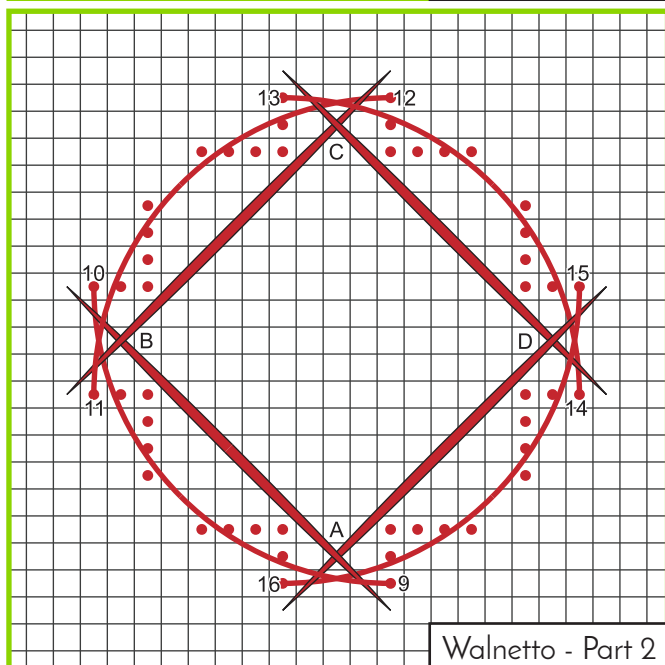
Using 2 strands of Colour 1 or Colour 3 (see the Master Chart for colour placement) first work stitches 1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 to set the foundation for the stitch.

Next, work the first circuit of wrapping. Bring your needle up a 9; go over the intersection at A and underneath the intersection at B; and 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.

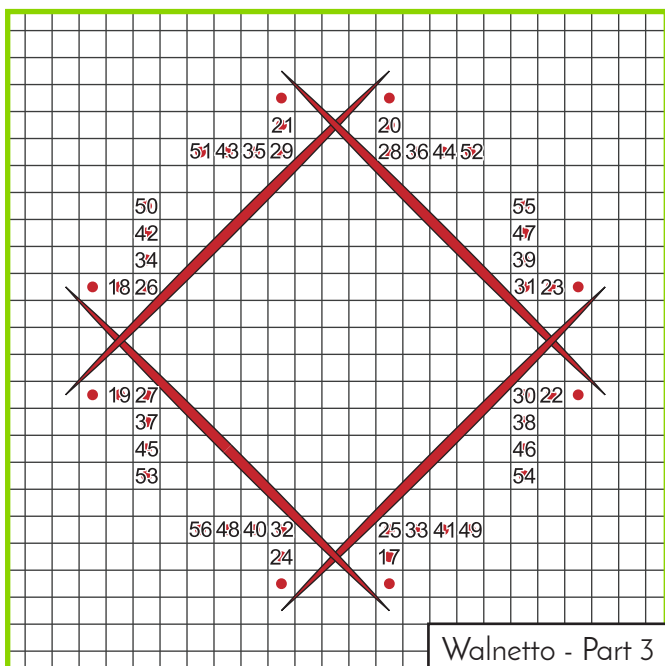
Continue working circuits in exactly the same way using the numbers in the adjacent diagram for your needle up and needle down positions.



Walnetto - Part 1

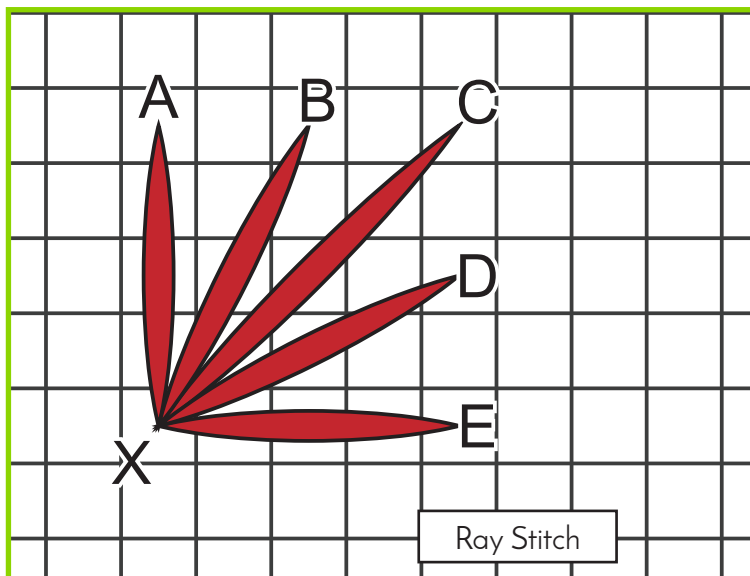


Walnetto - Part 2

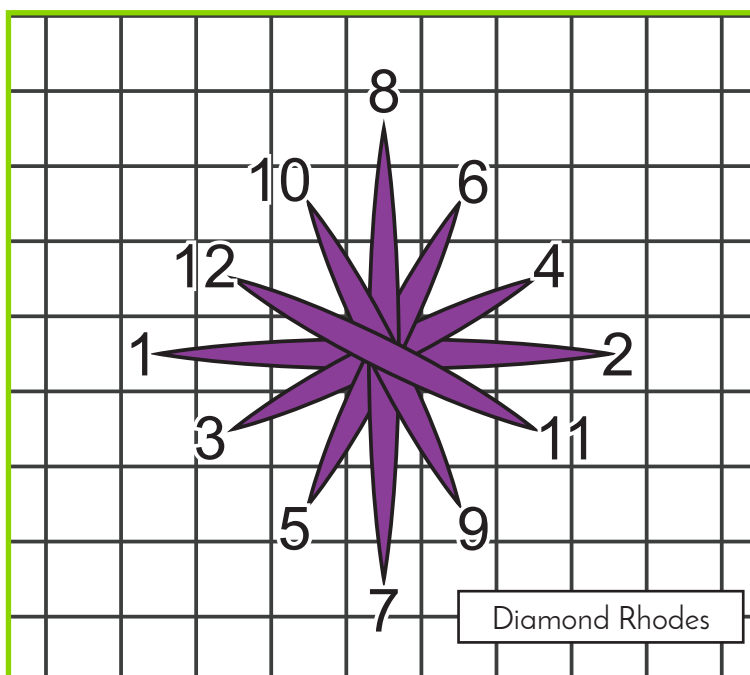


Walnetto - Part 3

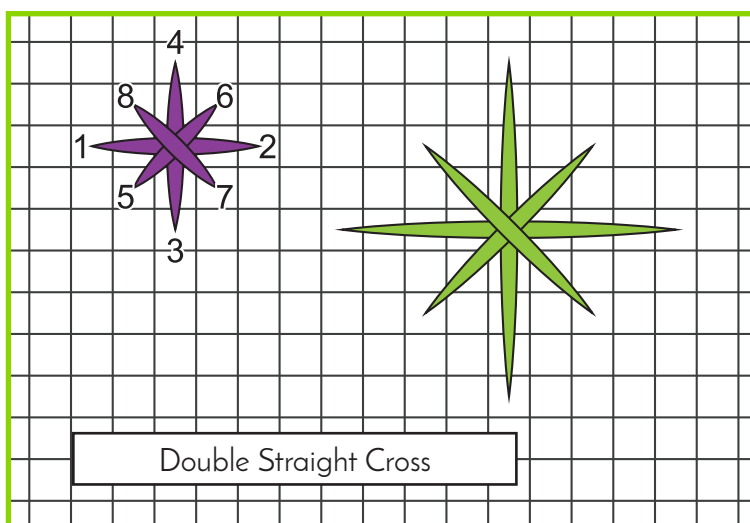
6. **Ray Stitch:** Now add *Ray Stitches* over 4x4 threads to each corner of the rectangular boxes using 2 strands of Colour 1 or Colour 3 (refer to Master Charts for colour placement).



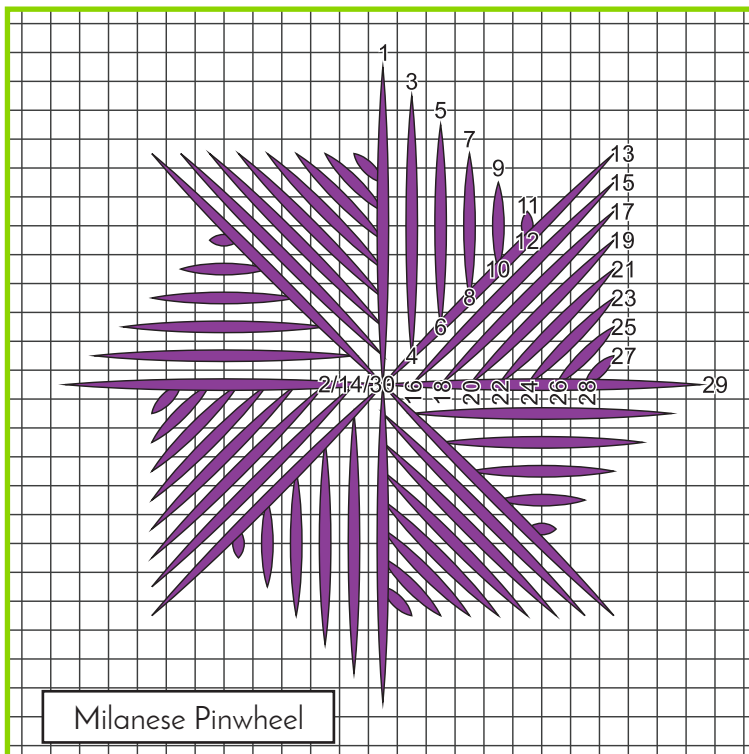
7. **Diamond Rhodes:** Fill the centre of each Walnetto with a *Diamond Rhodes* stitch. Use 2 strands of Variegated.



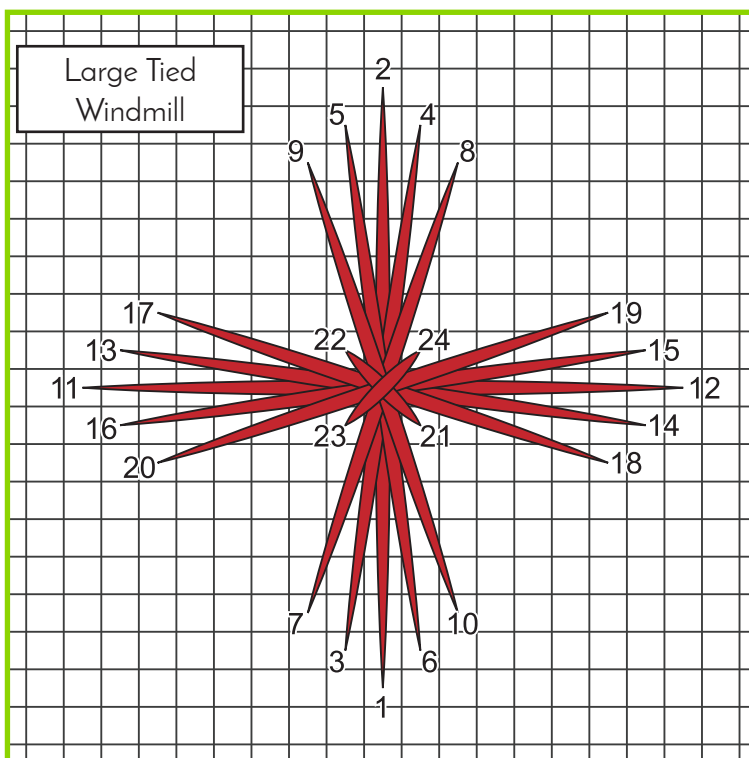
8. **Double Straight Cross:** The tiny space between the Walnettos is filled with a *Double Straight Cross* worked over 4x4 threads (the smaller version in the adjacent diagram). Use 2 strands of Variegated.



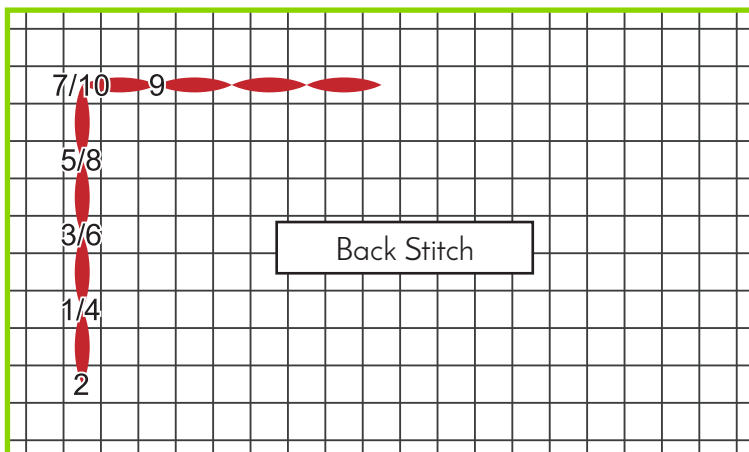
9. **Milanese Pinwheels:** The uppermost square box on Master Chart 1 is filled with four *Milanese Pinwheels*. Use 3 strands of Variegated.



10. **Large Tied Windmill:** The space at the centre of the Milanese Pinwheels is filled with a *Large Tied Windmill*. Use 2 strands of Colour 1.

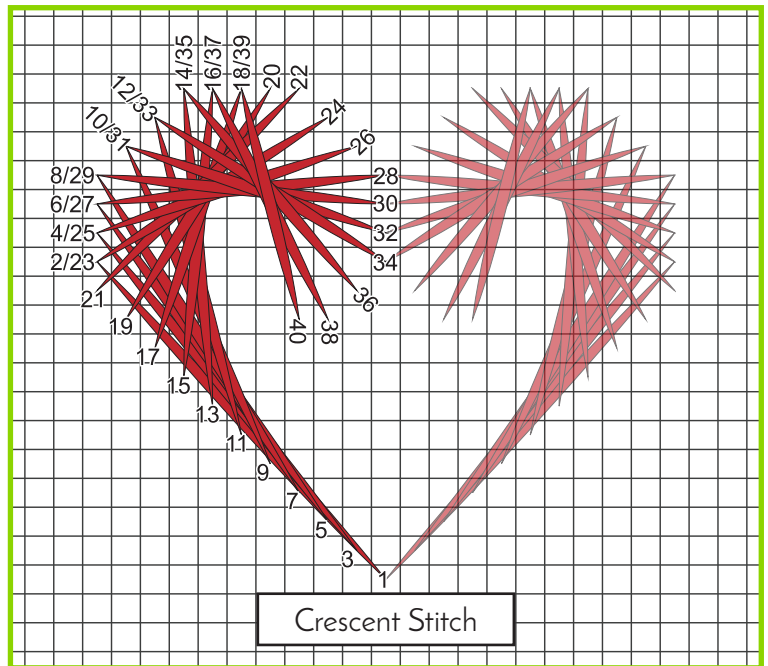


11. **Back Stitch:** The outside corner of each Milanese Pinwheel is framed with a corner of *Back Stitch*. Use 2 strands of Colour 1.

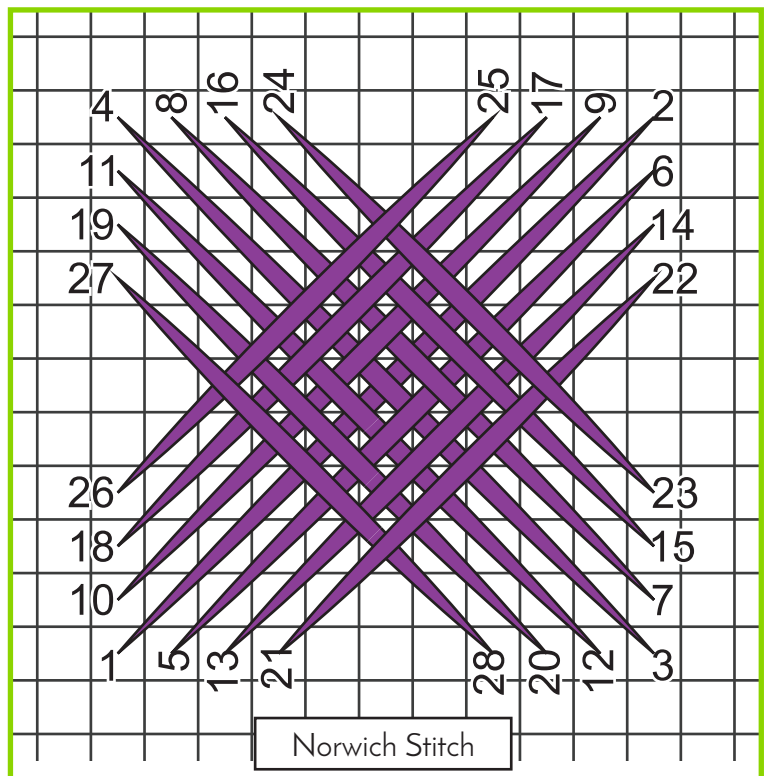




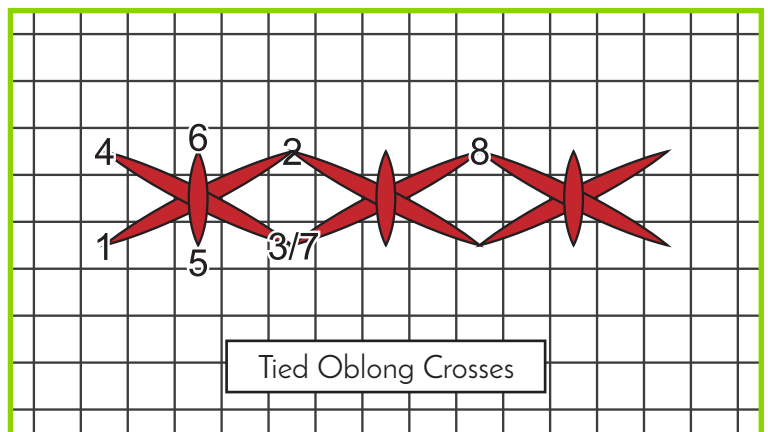
- 12. Fleur-de-Lis Motif:** The lower square box on Master Chart 1 is filled with a Fleur-de-Lis motif. Each heart shaped arm of the Fleur-de-Lis is created using a pair of *Crescent Stitches*. Work the second Crescent of each pair as a mirror image of the first. Use 2 strands of Colour 1 or Colour 3, following Master Chart 1 for colour placement.



- 13. Norwich Stitch:** In each corner of this box, work a *Norwich Stitch* using 2 strands of Variegated. Also known as Waffle Stitch, Norwich Stitch creates a beautiful woven effect on your fabric. You will need 2 strands of Variegated. Start by creating a large cross stitch (1-2, 3-4). Then successive sets of four stitches “circle” around the central cross. To keep the waffle effect continuous, each fourth stitch of a circuit tucks under the first stitch of the circuit. So stitch 11-12 tucks under 5-6, 19-20 tucks under 13-14, etc.



- 14. Tied Oblong Crosses:** Finish this square using rows of *Tied Oblong Crosses*. Use 2 strands of Colour 1 and Colour 3, following Master Chart 1 for colour placement.



**15. Reversed Scotch and Cross Stitch:**

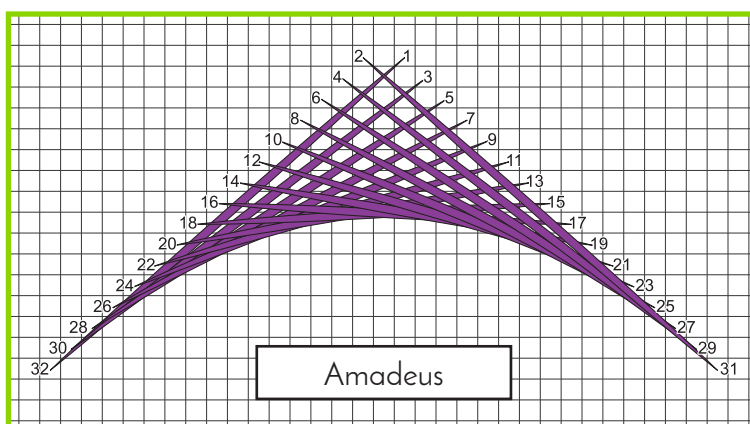
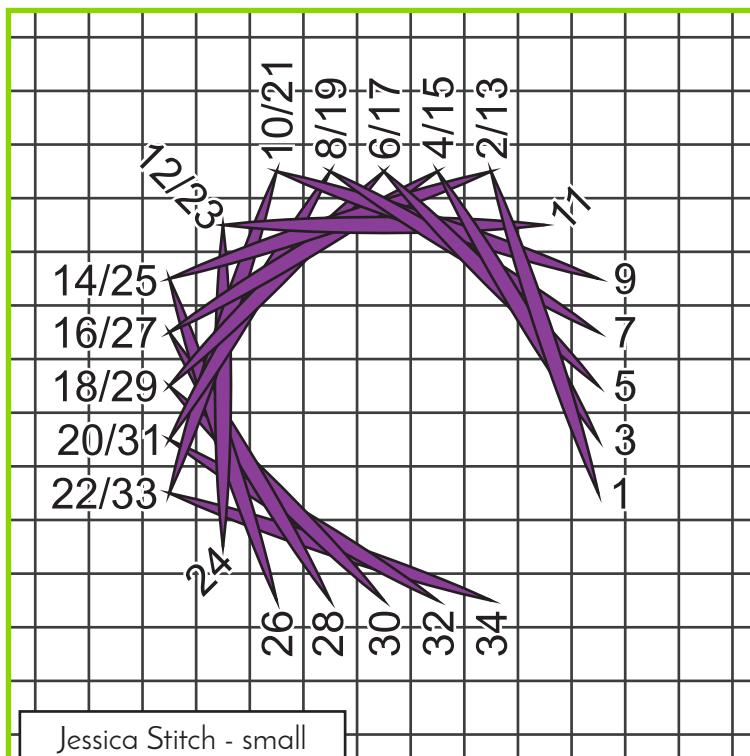
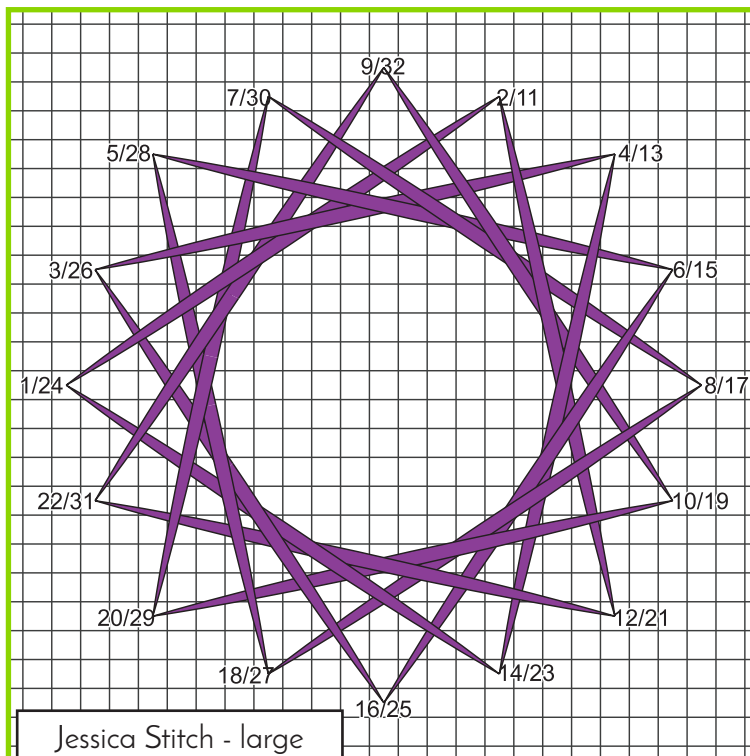
The final square box is shown on Master Chart 2. Start by working a diagonal row of *Scotch Stitch* (see Pg. 5 for diagram). Use 3 strands of Variegated. Surround these with *Cross Stitch* (also see Pg. 5 for diagram) worked in 2 strands of Colour 1.

**16. Jessica:** The circular style motif in this box is created using two sizes of *Jessica Stitch*. Work the large version using 2 strands of Variegated and the small version using 2 strands of Colour 1. Note that for the larger version, the last four stitches tuck under the previously worked stitches to create a smoothly continuous pattern. So, 25-26 tucks under 1-2; 27-28 tucks under 1-2 and 3-4; 29-30 tucks under 1-2, 3-4 and 5-6; and 31-32 tucks under 1-2, 3-4, 5-6 and 7-8.

**17. Amadeus:** The lower half of the box is filled with two *Amadeus Stitches*. Use 2 strands of Variegated. Work the second Amadeus as a mirror image version of the first.

**18. Straight Double Crosses:** Following the diagram on Pg. 7, work two large *Double Straight Crosses* in 2 strands of Colour 3.

**19. Finishing:** To complete this box, connect the Amadeus Stitches to the Cross Stitches using straight stitches as shown on Master Chart 2. You will need to use 2 strands of Colour 2.



## CONGRATULATIONS!

You have finished this Autumn 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.

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### 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