cross stitch book





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Share your finished cross stitch pieces with us! We'd love to see them. #UndertaleCrossStitch

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Test Stitching on Flower Pile Frisk p.28, Sans/Papyrus Towel p.29, Window Card p.28, Snail Bracelet p.18, Delta Rune Necklace p.27, Star Ornament p.117, Dummies Pin Cushion p.29, Monster Kid Keychain p.26, Toriel Phone Case p.27

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This first edition copy was printed and bound November 2019 by our friends at Bang Printing in Brainerd, MN, USA.

ISBN: 978-1-945908-00-2



Find all the dogs in the book!

They aren't hidden so nothing will happen.

Gathering Materials

Cross stitch is a relatively inexpensive craft. It requires only a few basic materials: fabric, needles, thread, and scissors.

Note that some examples of completed stitches that appear throughout the book use different materials, framing, or mounting. We want to get fancy to show you potential options for more elaborate projects, but you can keep it basic!

Aida cloth

FABRIC

You can choose from many different types of fabric, but 14-count Aida is the most common and can be found in the embroidery section of most craft stores and in most cross stitch kits.

Aida adds a stiffening agent in production to keep the holes open and easier to stitch through. The 14-count refers to the number of squares (or stitches) per inch of fabric. To gauge the size of your finished cross stitch project, check your pattern for the total length and width of the design in stitches, and convert it to inches based on the fabric count. For example, a design that is 56 stitches wide and tall will be 4 inches by 4 inches on 14-count fabric. On 20-count fabric, the same design will be 2.8 inches by 2.8 inches.

Remember to allow a few extra inches around the edge of the design if you're planning to frame it or sew it onto something else.

they call it aida because

NEEDLES

The size 24 tapestry needle is the most commonly used needle in cross stitching. It has a larger eye for easier threading, and its blunt tip makes a finger prick less likely. Aida cloth has premade holes, so you don't need a sharp needle to slide through the fabric easily.

If you already have sewing needles you're comfortable with, stick with them.



aidaknow why they call it that.

Do not worry, my child. These needles are an image. They cannot hurt you.

THREAD

DMC is a manufacturer of embroidery thread that is widely available in the United States. The numbers included with the patterns in this book correspond to DMC brand colors, but you can find conversion charts online should you prefer another brand; you can use any color embroidery thread you like. Each thread skein contains enough thread for about 2000 stitches so you will typically need only one skein of each color listed in your pattern. You can store excess floss on bobbins. They're great for organizing and storing floss for future projects.

> dmc stands for dumpkins may cry.

THAT'S NOT TRUE!!! THEY DON'T CRY!!!

SCISSORS

Any cutting device or regular scissors will do the trick. You don't need fancy embroidery scissors or fabric scissors; you just need to be able to cut your fabric to size, and to cleanly cut thread.

> NEVER RUN WITH SCISSORS. AND SWIMMING... THAT'S EVEN WORSE.

EMBROIDERY HOOP (Optional)

Whether or not to use a hoop when stitching is purely a matter of preference. A hoop will keep your fabric taut and help keep your stitches even. For many, it's simply easier to hold a hoop than a bunch of fabric. Regardless of your choice to stitch with one or not, hoops are also a great option for framing your finished project. Hoops come in wood or plastic, and in various colors and sizes. There are also alternatives to hoops such as PVC frames and scroll frames that you may want to research if you find yourself working on a large design.

DMC threads



are OK, too!





Change the hoop's appearance by wrapping it in washi tape!

Plastic Canvas

Plastic canvas is an excellent alternative to Aida cloth if you're planning a cross stitch project that needs to stand on its own without a frame or hoop. This rigid, perforated plastic comes in sheets of various sizes and colors, perfect for all sorts of designs.

You'll find lots of examples of magnets, charms, earrings, hair clips, and other small crafts made using plastic canvas throughout this book. All of the plastic canvas pieces shown in this book use 14-count plastic canvas. It is most similar to the standard 14-count Aida fabric.

Like Aida cloth, plastic canvas is available in a number of counts; 5-, 7-, 10-, and 14-count are the most common. And again, the count number refers to the number of squares (or stitches) in an inch of canvas. The lower the number, the larger and farther apart the holes are.

In craft stores, 7 and 10 are the most widely available counts. It might be tricky to find 14-count plastic canvas in stores, but it is available online.

If you choose to use a lower count, say 10-count or lower, you might want to consider using three or more strands of thread or even a thicker material like yarn in order to achieve good coverage in the larger holes.

IMPORTANT TIP:

If you're cross stitching on plastic canvas and plan on cutting out single items, take care to space the items at least two or three squares apart so you can cut them out without trouble.

Just like when stitching a design onto Aida cloth, the back of your plastic canvas is sure to turn out a bit messy. There are lots of options for hiding the back of your piece; you can even sew two pieces together for a double-sided work of art!

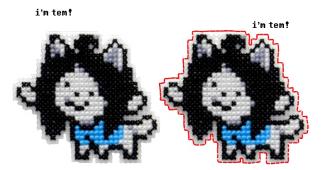
Or you can use a bit of felt to easily add a soft, attractive backing.





7-count

14-count



omg BORDER!! (one pixel)



Alternatively, you can stitch a second mirrored version and sew them together back-to-back!

Sewing a felt backing onto your plastic canvas design is easy, and only requires a few simple steps.

Once you've finished stitching the design, cut away the excess plastic around your stitched piece. Cut it as close as you're comfortable with, but be sure to leave a "one-pixel" border around the stitches. If you'll be adding a chain, hook, or other embellishment, you can leave an extra hole or two of plastic in order to attach it.

Now all that's left to do is sew on the felt backing!

Place your finished design on a piece of felt at least a bit larger than it and backstitch an outline around the edge of the design, going through the felt in the process.

If you're not comfortable with backstitching, you can sew the backing on with a simple running stitch, bringing the needle up through one hole and down through the next, all the way around. A backstitch might be a little more secure, but it's completely up to you.

Another option for covering the back is using adhesive-backed felt. All you do is peel off the back and stick it, then trim the felt to the back of your plastic canvas. So easy!

Once you've finished off your thread, cut the extra felt down to match the shape of your plastic canvas, and it's done! Now you can attach your chain or hook to create your finished item.

If you want to give your piece a bit of extra weight and substance, you can add some stuffing before closing up the backing stitch. You can also place a small magnet inside to turn your finished work into a refrigerator magnet!

To make a pin out of your design, you can glue a tie tack or similar pin directly to the back of your finished stitch, and poke it through the felt before sewing.

Felt backing on plastic canvas is optional. On pieces where the back won't normally be visible, like magnets or hair clips, you can leave the back unfinished if you choose.



Black Fabric

Sooner or later you'll want to branch out from stitching on plain white Aida and start getting creative! UNDERTALE is perfect for this as it features a lot of simple white battle sprites that just wouldn't be visible stitched on a white background. Instead of having to stitch the background, you can use black fabric instead. Dark fabrics can be a bit trickier to work on, though, so please keep these tips in mind.



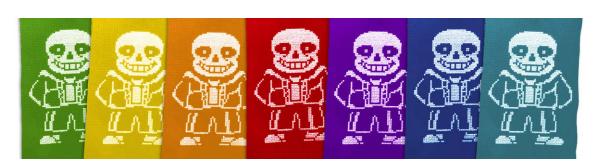
You may find yourself having trouble locating the holes or getting your stitches to cover the background fully. There are a few tricks you can use to avoid frustration. While you should always try to work in a well-lit environment, lighting is especially important when working with dark fabrics. You may even need to try moving from your normal stitching spot to get more light!

Additionally, it can help to set up a light behind your project to help make the holes stand out as you work. If you can't do that, try setting up on a white table or have some white paper on your lap to brighten up the background at least a bit.

You might also find that you need to focus a bit more to aim the needle. This will slow you down, especially at first, but is perfectly normal.

If you feel like the dark background is peeking through the edges of your stitches too much, try using three strands rather than the standard two for more coverage.

If needed, try three strands instead of two on dark fabric



what would you do if you saw this outside your window

Specialty Threads

A great way to make cross stitch pieces more unique is to use specialty threads. Instead of using the plain cotton DMC colors these patterns recommend, experiment with swapping them out for glow-in-the-dark, variegated, or metallic threads to add your own touch.

These specialty threads can take some getting used to, however. You'll want to cut each length of thread a little shorter than you normally would, and stitch slowly. These threads are more prone to fraying and breaking as you stitch.

When taking photos of glow-in-thedark thread, the effect is much more apparent when enhanced with the help of a blacklight.



DMC, Kreinik, Cosmo, and Sulky are just a few of the thread brands that make metallic thread

Some brands of specialty threads can be easier to work with than others. Try a brand that uses braided cords like Kreinik if you're having trouble separating strands or keeping them even. A #8 Kreinik braid is about as thick as 2 strands of DMC cotton and won't fray as much while you work.

You can also use blending filament, a thin tinsel-like thread that you just add on to your normal two strands of colored thread to make it shine. Cut a single strand to the length of your thread and slightly twist it in.

Variegated threads will change color as you stitch and can be a fun way to add some color to a project. You could use them to quickly fill a background by using long diagonal stitches (as shown in the mushroom pendant photo), or to add some texture to a project.

Stitch full individual Xs as you work with variegated thread; if you make rows of half stitches, the colors may not line up on the way back. Avoid using the loop start method for the same reason.





Metallic and glow-in-the-dark stars





Variegated threads in the background, glow-in-the-dark threads on the mushrooms

Making Other Stuff

As you can see, cross stitch isn't limited to pieces made for framing and putting in hoops. You can apply cross stitching techniques to many different products!

Here are a few ideas to get you started.

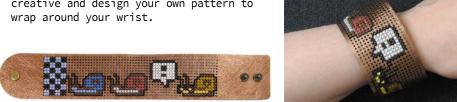
PENDANTS

Small cross stitch pieces are perfect for pendants! A necklace chain can be attached directly to a mini embroidery hoop, or a finished stitch on Aida cloth can be placed into a 1-inch pendant tray. These products are sold in craft stores and by online retailers. And of course, standalone pendants can be made right out of plastic canvas.



BRACELETS

Craft stores sell bracelets with grids of holes intended for cross stitch. Be creative and design your own pattern to



oh... whoever stitched made themselves losing... oh... they'll never win...

AIDA PILLOWS

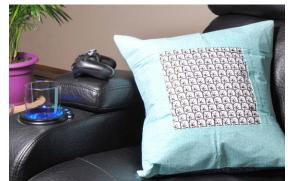
You can make your own pillows by sewing together pieces of Aida cloth. Try finding colors of Aida that will go well with the design and decor!

The blue pillow was made by using the biscornu-making technique (p.24-25), but without the angle offset of the two pieces of fabric.

How do you like my Mettatonprinted pillow, darling? Look lovingly into my monitor... Sleep face down and kiss me in your dreams... What? Those are dogs?







POUCHES

Try searching for a "pencil pouch tutorial" to learn how to make a cute bag to use for holding all sorts of things. You don't need a machine either. This pouch was sewn together by hand!



AIDA CLOTH CANVAS

This Aida cloth is pre-stretched over wooden canvas bars, making finished pieces ready to hang or display. You can make your own by stretching Aida cloth over small stretcher bars and stapling it in place on the backs of the bars.



MAGNETS

Make items into magnets by stitching them onto plastic canvas and gluing a magnet to the back before adding the felt backing! Use strong rare earth magnets to make sure they can still stick to things through the felt.



LAPEL PINS

Just like magnets, you can glue a pin back to the back of your plastic canvas piece before adding the backing. Stab the pin through the felt and sew it in place so it's nice and secure. Or use a brooch bar pin you can sew on (they help with stability on larger pieces too).



NEEDLEMINDERS

If you'd rather not cover your fridge with magnets, you can also use them to help you stitch! This is great for large projects. Place a second magnet behind the project you're stitching, and your needleminder will hold your needle in place while you take a break or cut and split your next length of thread (p.16).



Stitching into Clothing

Once you've got the hang of stitching on Aida or plastic canvas, why not try stitching on normal clothing or other fabrics?

There are a few different ways you can do this: soluble canvas, waste canvas, and drawing your own grid on the fabric.

No matter which technique you choose, make sure you stitch with a sharp needle this time as you'll need to be able to puncture your fabric easily.

It's also a good idea to make sure your thread is colorfast before stitching so it doesn't bleed or run into the fabric.

SOLUBLE CANVAS AND WASTE CANVAS

These specialty canvases provide a grid for you to stitch through onto your fabric, and are designed to be removed once you've finished stitching. Soluble canvas actually dissolves in warm water, while waste canvas has to be carefully pulled out strand by strand. Both leave your design behind unharmed when used properly.



Tote bag stitched w/ soluble canvas

DIY GRID

If you can't find these specialty canvases, though, there's still hope. You can simply draw a grid directly on the garment using a ruler and washable fabric pen. These pens can be found in most fabric stores and are designed to wash away. Handy!



Soluble canvas: Melts away in the wash. Your regrets remain, though.



Soluble canvas dissolves away. If only you could dissolve away your bad taste in anime.



Other Fabric Counts

You may notice some of the example stitches pictured in this book aren't stitched on plain Aida cloth. If you look closely, you'll find some were stitched on higher count fabrics that result in an entirely different look and feel.

Sometimes you want the holes in the fabric to be less obvious in the background of your project. Other times you may want to simply make your project smaller to fit in a specific frame. Or maybe you've just found some gorgeous hand-dyed fabric online and it happens to come in a higher count.

The count of a fabric simply refers to how many squares there are per inch. Thus, stitching the same pattern on a higher count fabric will make the finished piece smaller in size.

When you use higher count fabrics, you have a few more decisions to make before you start stitching.

You may need to switch to a thinner or sharper needle to make sure it slides through the fabric's holes without stretching them out.

You may want to use only one strand of thread to keep your stitches from being too thick and making it hard to get the needle through the holes. Alternatively, you could choose to stitch "over 2", meaning each of your stitches is made across two holes. Or you could use tent stitches instead of full crosses!

It's important to experiment with all sorts of fabric types, counts, and thread usages to find your favorite combinations. Everyone's preferences are different!

When looking around online for inspiration, you'll often find stitchers make references to what they're stitching as if it were some sort of code, like "stitched on 28-count linen 2 over 1" - and now you know what that means!







32-count linen, 2 over 2 (2 strands of thread, over two squares)



Both pendants on 28-count evenweave Left, echo flower: 2 over 1 tent stitch Right, potted plant: 1 over 1 full Xs

Idea Board



In case you want a keychain of your friend falling down.



tem hook keychain to... EG!!!



Please do not lose your place, my child. I will watch it for you.



Double-sided plastic canvas keychain. The outlines mirror each other!





My child.
I have cross-stitched a picture of me as a phone case for you so you will not forget what I look like.
Please take care of it.



Mini embroidery hoop necklace, available online and at craft stores.



Plastic canvas glued to a hair clip.



Plastic canvas with earring clasps, black backing and backstitching on the reverse side.



Idea Board



If you keep an eye out, sometimes you can find the perfect frame for a project.

All of the frames on this page were found at thrift shops, so they were nice and inexpensive.



Eheheh... you can, um, find a lot looking in the trash, too...

5 x 7 inch marble frame.



Sometimes you'll find a frame or mat that's so perfect, it's like destiny~



6 inch round wooden flower frame.



What a lovely frame. It reminds me of, er, flowers. Haha.

It's OK to have a lot of empty space around your design, especially if the frame complements it well.



CRUISE YOUR WAY TO CLEAN TOWN WHEN YOU EXPOSE ME TO YOUR GLISTENING FORM!! I CHANGED MY MIND I DON'T WANT THAT.

You can find towels with a band of Aida cloth, like this example! They come in a variety of colors and styles. You can try stitching directly into a regular towel, too. (advice on p.20)



Aida cloth wrapped around corkboard makes a great pin board!



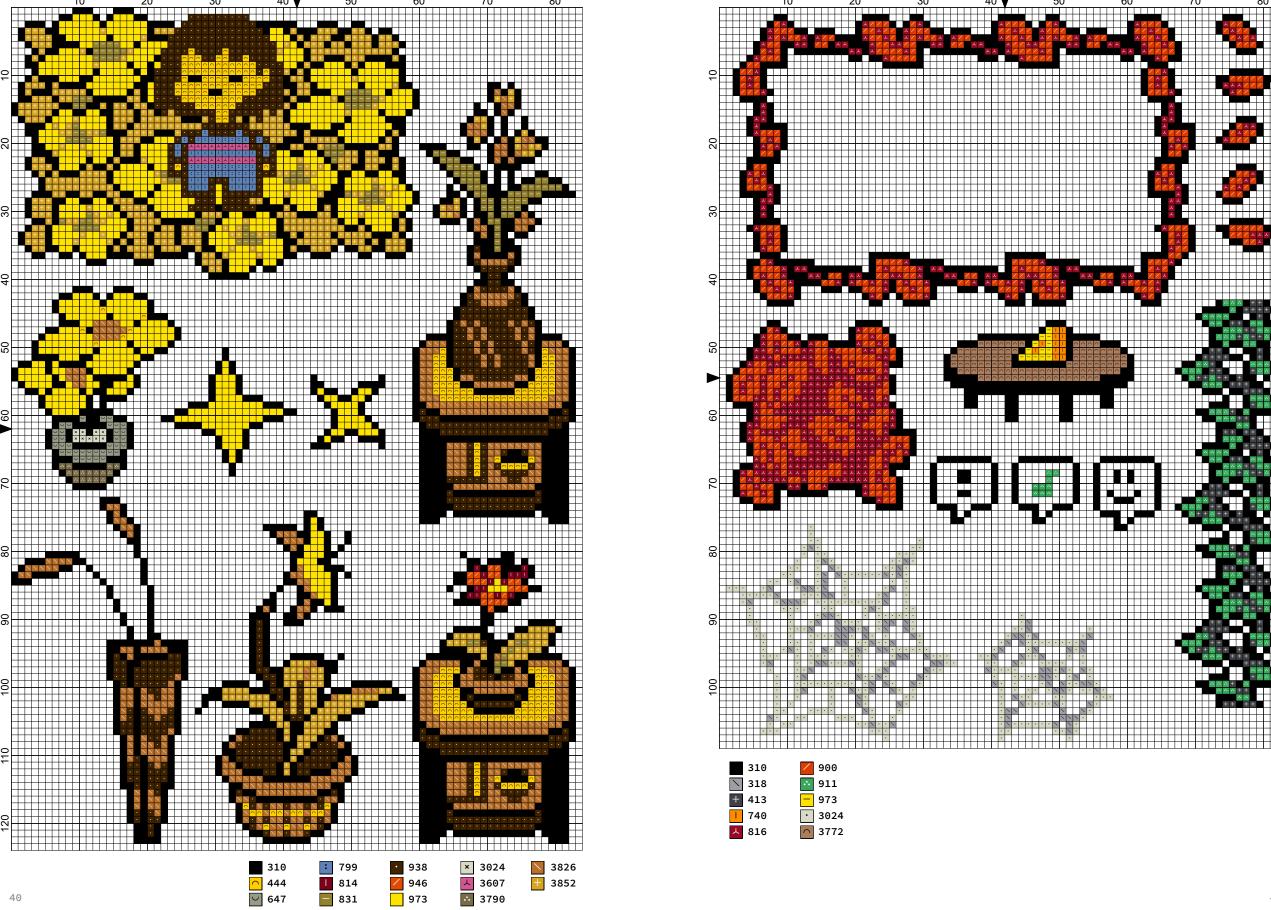
Circular designs are super playful and fun to make.



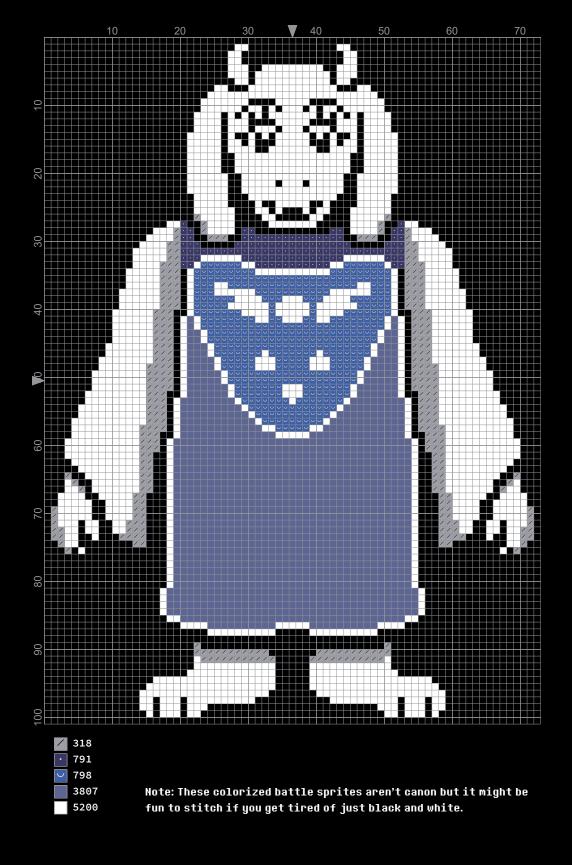


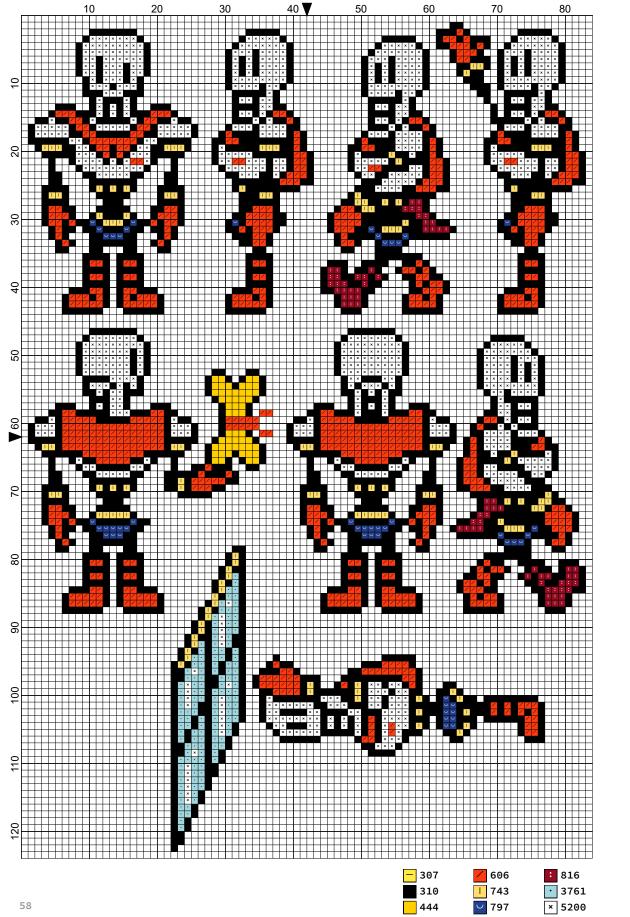


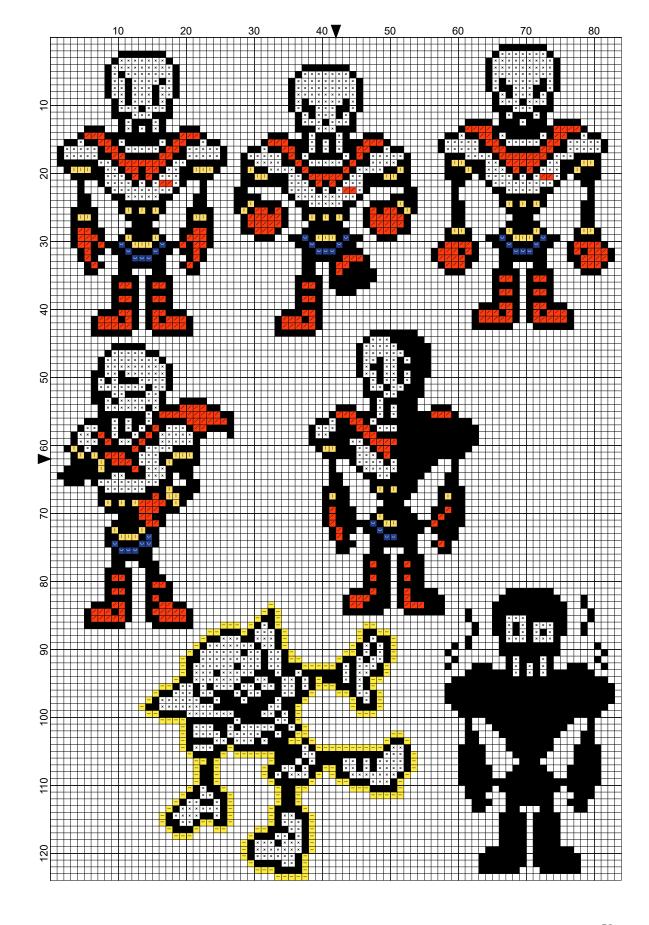
*For a shattered Mercy button, you can omit the marked stitches (or stitch them using 310); otherwise, just stitch them in the same color as the rest of the button.



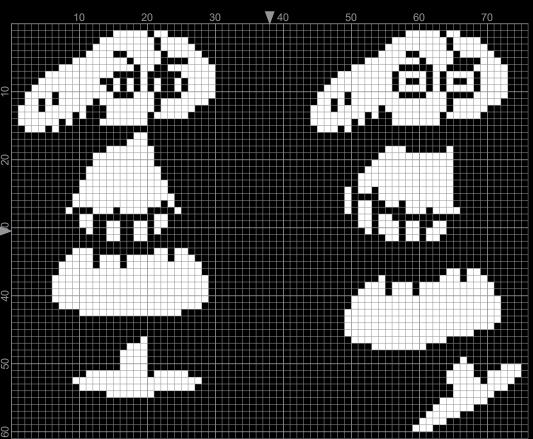






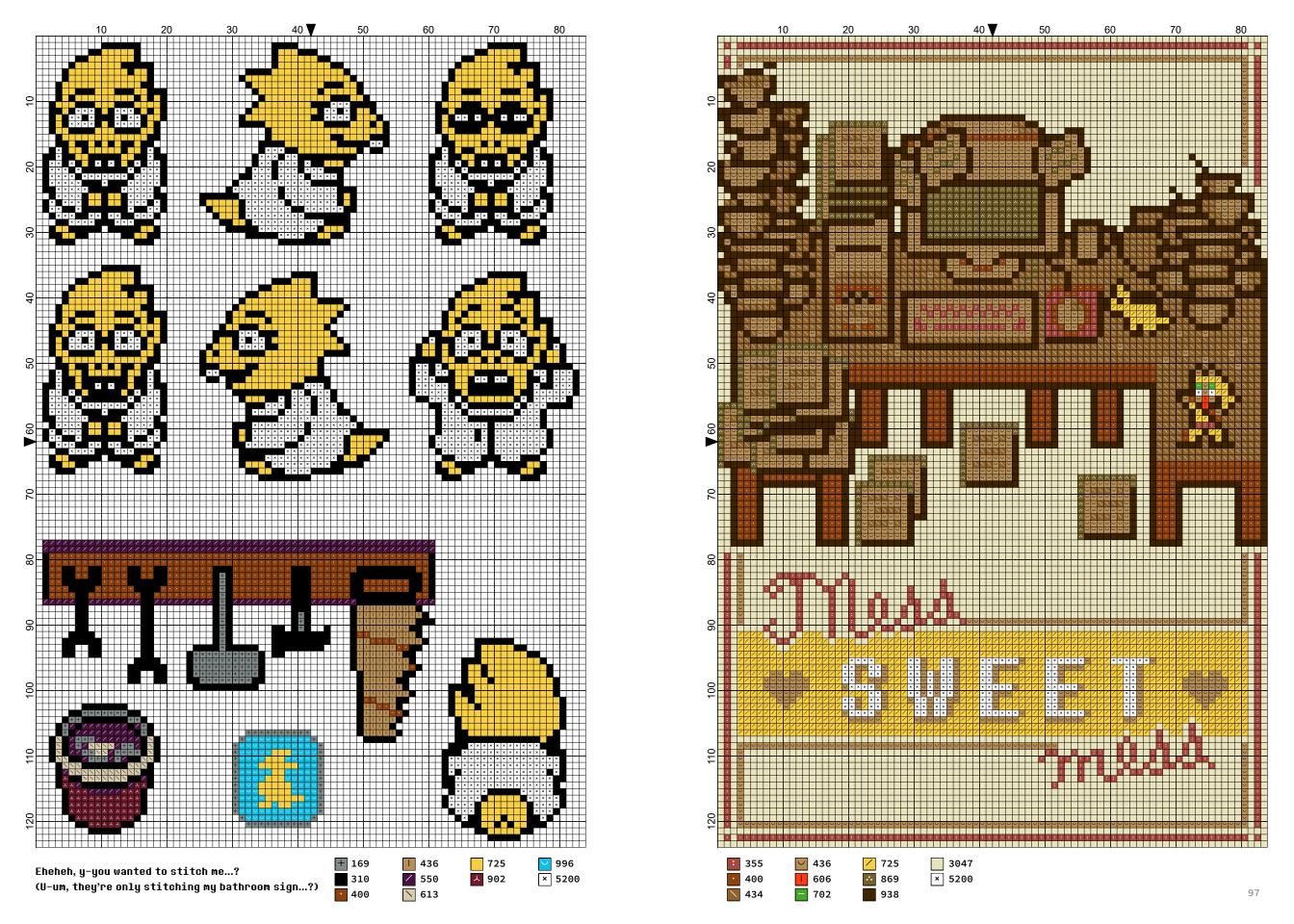


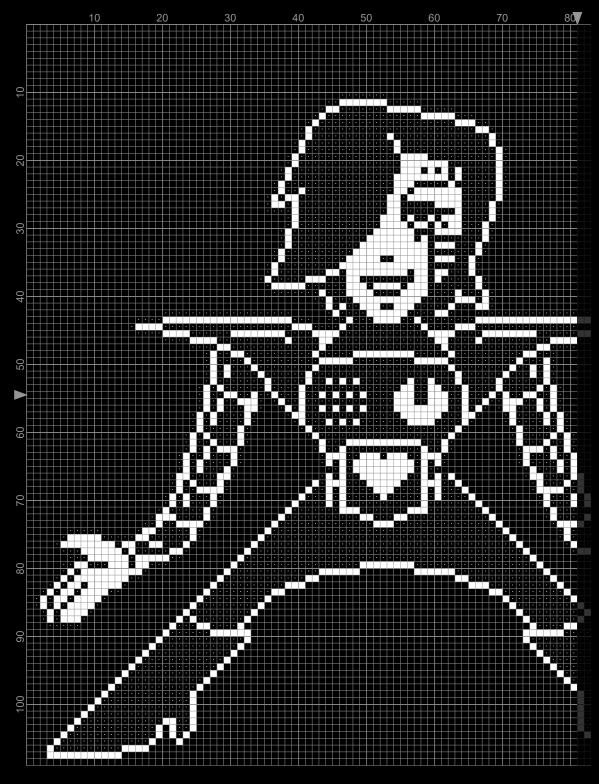




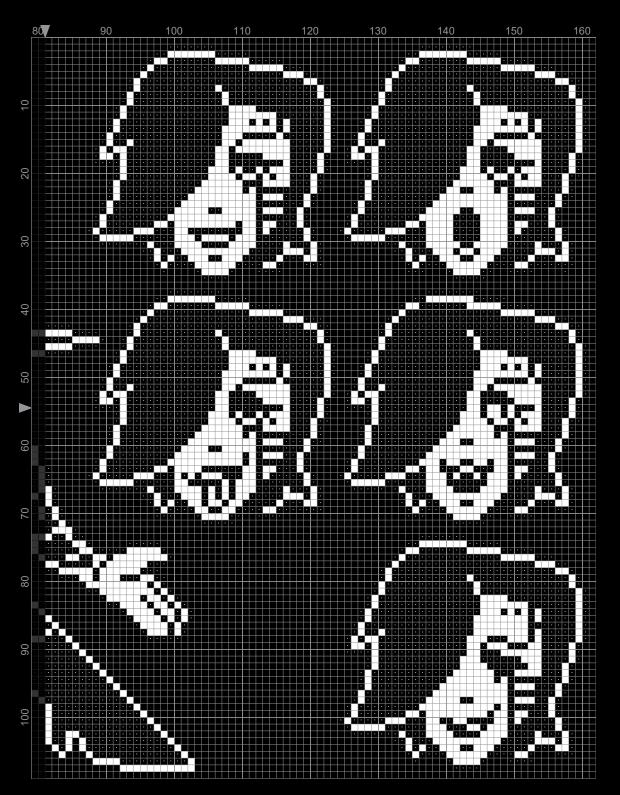


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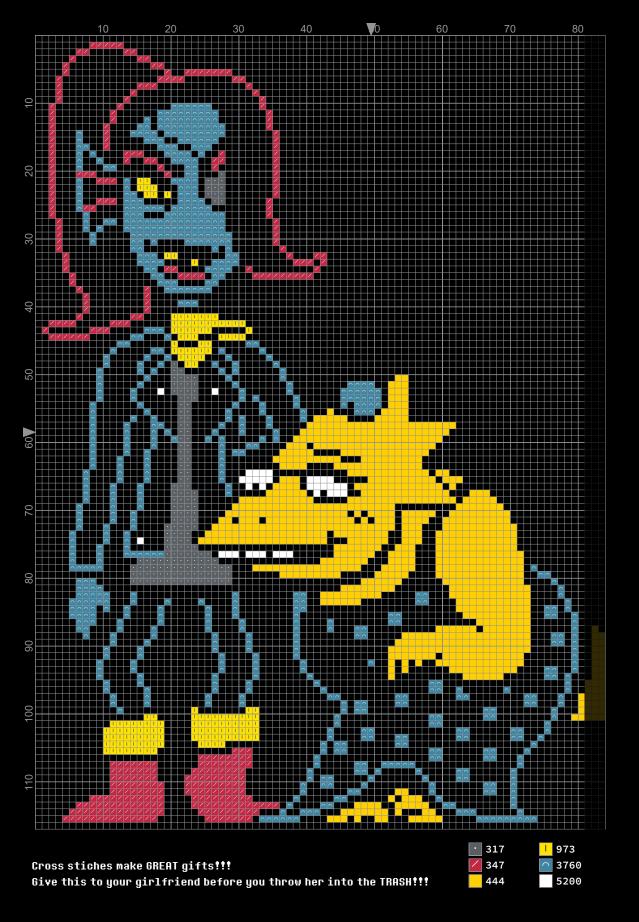


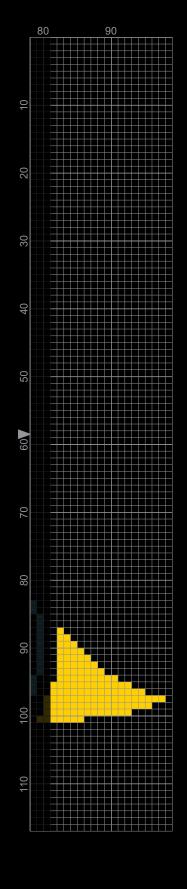


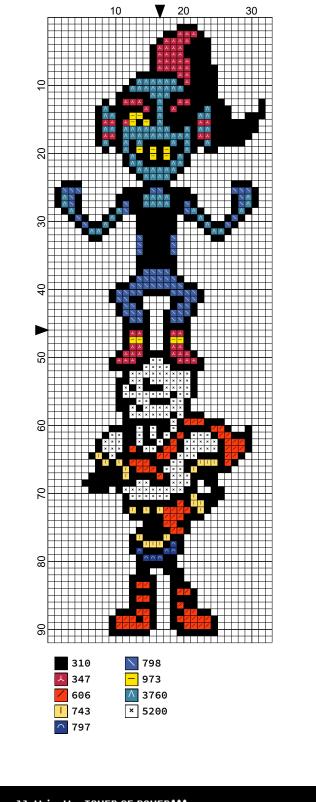
What do you think of my new body? Hahaha...



I'm so glamorous, I can't even be fit on one page.







We call this the TOWER OF POWER!!!

You like it, punk!?



