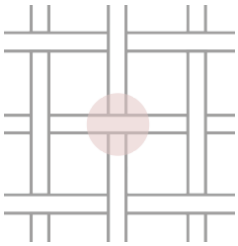
Christmas Deer

by Abigail Cecile

How to Use the Charts

**USE THE CHART TO PAINT YOUR NEEDLEPOINT CANVAS!
OR STITCH DIRECTLY ONTO A BLANK CANVAS - THIS METHOD OF NEEDLE-POINT INVOLVES COUNTING INTERSECTIONS* RATHER THAN FOLLOWING THE PAINT ON THE CANVAS. THE PATTERN IS CREATED ON THE CANVAS AS YOU STITCH.**

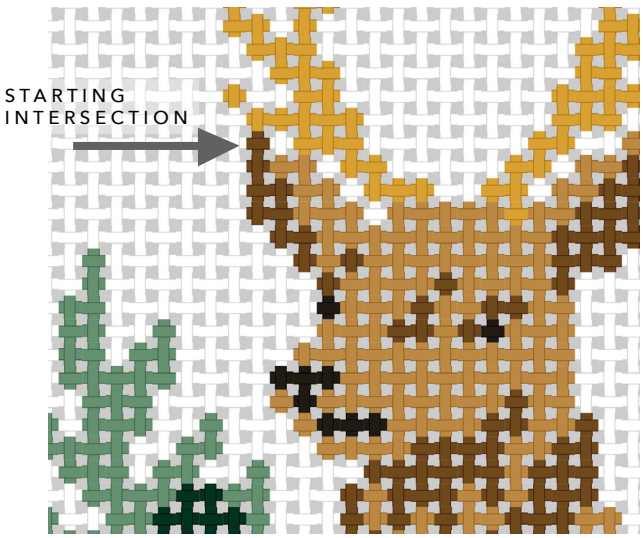


*An intersection is where the horizontal and vertical threads of the canvas cross over each other. See illustration.

This chart represents the pattern as it would appear painted on the needlepoint canvas.

1. Begin by finding the starting intersection which is marked for you here on the chart (you'll begin by stitching the dark brown of the deer ear). Start your thread, leaving a waste knot 3/4 of an inch to the right of the starting intersection.
2. Place your first Tent Stitch over the starting intersection.
3. Count the intersections in the first row. There are four in total so take three more stitches down from your starting intersection.
4. Count one intersection down from your last stitch and begin a new row - stitching up three intersections, to complete the row.
5. Continue counting and stitching.

I suggest completing sections, rather than colors, as you stitch. This ensures that the pattern is being stitched correctly. If you stitch all of a single color in the design before moving on the the second and third, there is a greater risk of miscounting and mis-stitching.



A traditional grid chart is also included for those stitchers familiar and comfortable with working from a grid. Each little box on the chart represents one intersection* of the canvas and therefore one stitch.

Each colored box represents a single stitch in a given thread color.

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3 X 4 INCHES ON 18 COUNT

54 X 72 CANVAS THREADS

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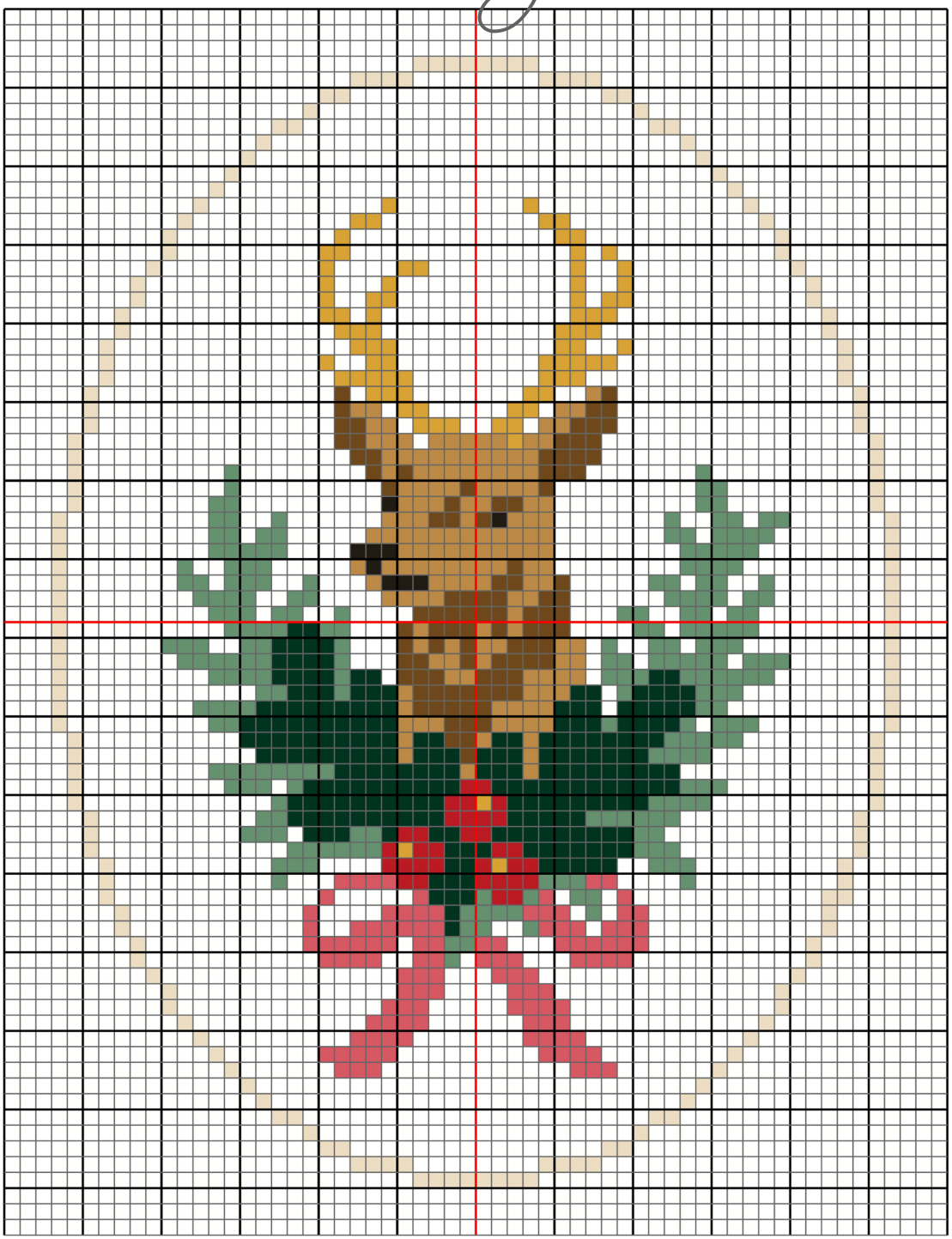
Traditional Grid Chart



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INSTRUCTIONS

Suggested Threads:
DMC 6 Strand Cotton ECRU (for the background), DMC 6 Strand Cotton 320, DMC 6 Strand Cotton 349, DMC 6 Strand Cotton 829, DMC 6 Strand Cotton 895, DMC 6 Strand Cotton 3045, DMC 6 Strand Cotton 3712, DMC Pearl Cotton Metallic 5282 (for the antlers and berry centers).

1. Stitch the deer, pine boughs, berries, and bow in Tent Stitch.
2. Stitch the background in Tent Stitch or a decorative stitch of your choice. Brick Stitch, Reverse Basketweave, Skipped Tent, or Woven Stitch are all lovely choices!
3. Self finish into an oval shaped Christmas ornament. Pair with perfect pre-cut oval finishing boards and velvet backing (find these at www.abigailcecile.com).

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abigail_cecile Abigail Cecile WWW.ABIGAILCECILE.COM

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