

Free pattern

Lilly Pads

Table runner finished approximately 15" x 48"

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Christine's Swedish Weaving.

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GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

The most important rule is to wash the fabric before starting. On a sewing machine, Zigzag the raw edges of the fabric and the selvages (the finished edge of the fabric that runs the length of the fabric) before washing the fabric. Wash with like colours and then dry in a medium/hot clothes dryer. The fabric can shrink up to 15%. Do not over dry the fabric and remove as soon as it's dry to the touch. Let it air dry on a bed or somewhere flat if needed.

The next important item is to find the middle (starting point) of the fabric. Fold the fabric in half (selvage to selvage) and baste the center line by hand with regular sewing thread. Then fold the fabric in the other direction and mark the center of the basted line with a pin. Check the pattern (chart) to see where to start. You might have to move your pin up or down a row to match the starting point on the pattern (chart). Starting in the middle of the fabric and weaving toward the edge, will prevent the fabric from distorting and keep the design centered while reducing wear on the yarns.

The yarn measurements for the rows are indicated on the chart page. The rows are also marked on the sides of the patterns for right and left handed individuals. The yarns are measured by using the width of the prepared fabric. Lay the yarn across the fabric selvage to selvage (project width) and straighten it but do not stretch it (relaxed) that is one width. For example, if the row requires 2 1/2 widths, measure the width of the fabric two and a half times before cutting the yarn.

Thread the bodkin (needle) by pulling the yarn through until the bodkin is in the middle of the yarn. Weave the bodkin through the first float (stitch) just a few inches then pull one-half of the yarn through the float. Recheck to make sure half the yarn is on each side of the float (stitch). The first designed row is the most important row, be especially careful in the counting. Make sure to glide the needle under the vertical float and over the horizontal float making sure not to pierce the fabric. After finishing a row, pull the extra yarns to the back of the fabric. Weaving a section and then turning it around and finishing the other side of the section (most common method) or weave half a row and then turn it around and finish the row.

To correct mistakes weave backward, carefully undo the weaving until reaching the mistake, make the corrections then continue weaving. That is the easiest way to fix any errors.

The correct yarn tension is when the yarn lays flat on the fabric and the vertical floats are not being pulled in any direction. If you can lift the yarn with your fingernail it's loose, pulled vertical floats signifies it is too tight. Keep checking the tension every few stitches when starting out. The tension is at your discretion.

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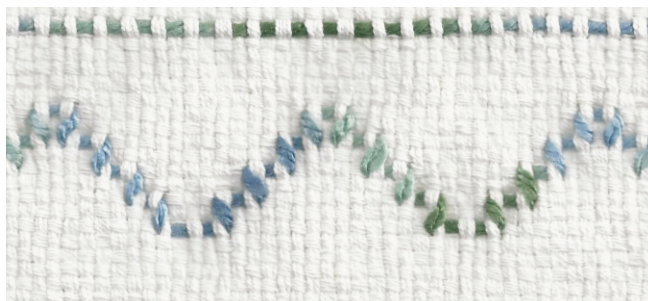
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Now that the weaving is completed, count down about 7 rows from the bottom of the last woven row at each end of your piece. Pull out the marked horizontal row (4 threads) from selvage to selvage. Then sew a zigzag line just above the pulled thread, from selvage to selvage making sure to re-enforce the selvaged ends. This will be the starting point of the fringe.

From the zigzagged row count down about 10 rows for your fringe and pull out another horizontal row (4 threads) but this time cut along the pulled line. Pull away the horizontal threads from the cut line up to the zigzagged line and that is your fringe.

Then to finish the selvage sides. Sew a straight line along the inside edge of the selvages making sure to catch all the yarns locking them in place. Trim the yarns to just shorter than the selvages. Turn under the selvages and sew them into place from the back close to the selvage edge.



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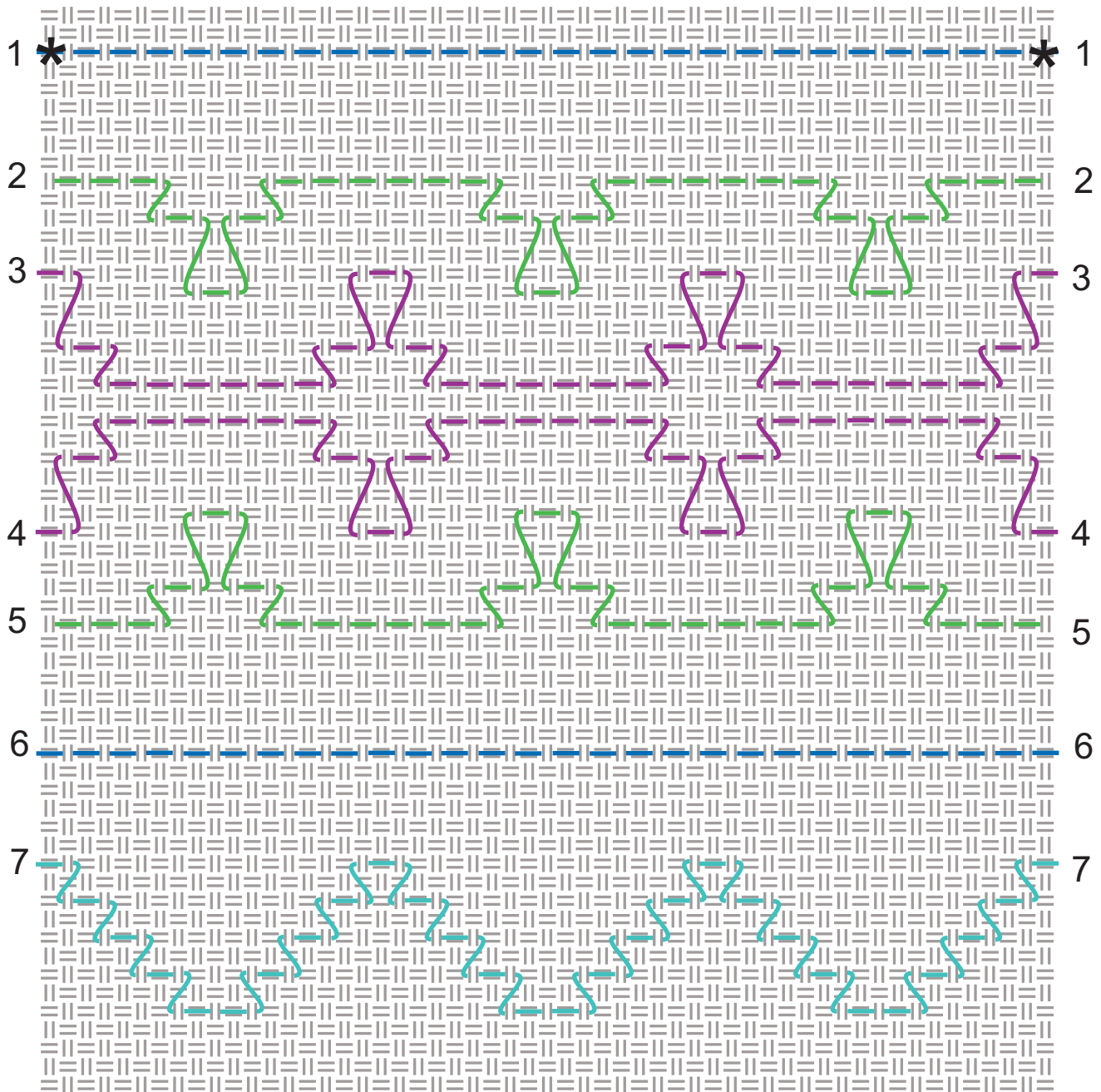
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Materials

This pattern uses ½ a yard of white Monk's Cloth
 1 ball Caron Simply Soft # 0004 Spring Brook
 1 bodkin needle or a # 13 tapestry needle

Yarn measurements

Rows 1 & 6 cut 1.25 widths of yarn
 Rows 2 to 5 cut 2.50 widths of yarn
 Row 7 cut 3.00 widths of yarn

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