

Dreiburgen Populace Badge Cross Stitch Project

Thank you to THL Jerusha a'Laon, Kenari Aldgytha of Ashwood, THL Keinvyrd ferch Talan, THL Juanica Montañes, Baroness Fionnghuala de Buchanan, Her Excellency Tyne MacPhersone, and Baroness Megan de Barri for making this project happen! A special thanks to Dame Lynnette de Sandoval del Valle de los Unicornios for donating the Aida cloth and sending countless messages back and forth over all the little details: you are a treasure!

Yours in service,
Lady Kungund Benehonig

- Kit includes:
 - One 4-inch embroidery hoop
 - One skein DMC 796 Blue embroidery floss
 - One skein DMC Blanc (white) embroidery floss
 - One size 26 tapestry needle
 - One 6"x6" square of 18-count Aida cloth
 - Printed pattern grid. Also available at <https://www.StitchFiddle.com/c/si3gry-7mhwp/quickview>
 - Printed page entitled "Counted Cross Stitch Info" which can also be accessed at <http://lynnette.housezacharia.com/CrossStitch/>. This page will help you understand the black stitching on your fabric square.

Stitched on 18 count Aida cloth, the finished size of this pattern is just over 3"x3" which is a great size for an applique. You can stitch it on any count cloth. 16 count will yield a badge that is just over 4"x4". 14 count is just over 5"x5."

On your pattern, the blue squares are stitched with the DMC 796 blue floss. Only the inside white area of the badge will be stitched in DMC Blanc (white). You may also stitch outside the badge if you choose, but you may need additional floss. This can be purchased at your local craft store.

The blue slashed lines in the pattern (/) indicate an optional blue $\frac{3}{4}$ stitch. The pattern looks great without these stitches. These advanced stitches are included in case you would like the blue outline to appear smoother.

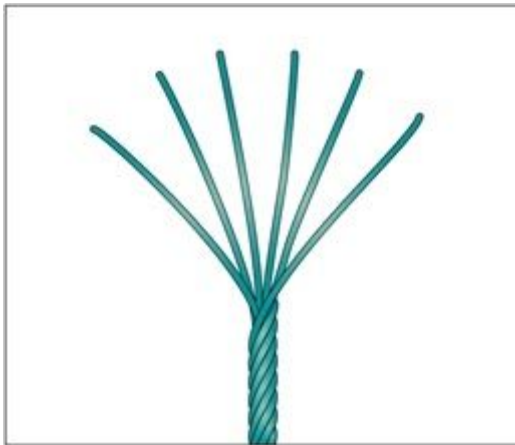
If this is your first cross stitch project, this video is a great beginner's guide! The part you need to see starts at the 7:19 mark in the video. https://youtu.be/c1_ijkQizzs

Prepare your materials

- Loosen the screw on the outside ring of the embroidery hoop and separate the rings. Center your Aida fabric over the smaller inner ring, then fit it back inside the outer hoop.

You may need to loosen the outer screw more to accommodate the inner ring and the fabric. Once you have your hoops together, tighten the screw, tugging gently on the edges of the fabric to create a smooth, tense surface.

- The embroidery floss included in your kit consists of 6 strands which can be separated. The 18 count cloth requires just two strands for thorough coverage. If you use a different cloth, you may need more than two strands. To separate your strands, follow these instructions from the DMC website (<https://www.dmc.com/us/p-Cross-Stitch-Quick-Start.html>)



“Find the end of the thread on your skein of DMC Thread. Slowly pull the end out from the skein until you have a 50cm (18”) length of thread and cut it off. To separate the thread into individual strands, pull one strand up and out slowly until it is completely separated from the remaining strands. Continue to pull out the number of strands you need to stitch with. To rejoin the threads, hold them together at one end then gently pass your hand over the lengths of thread to smooth and recombine them.”

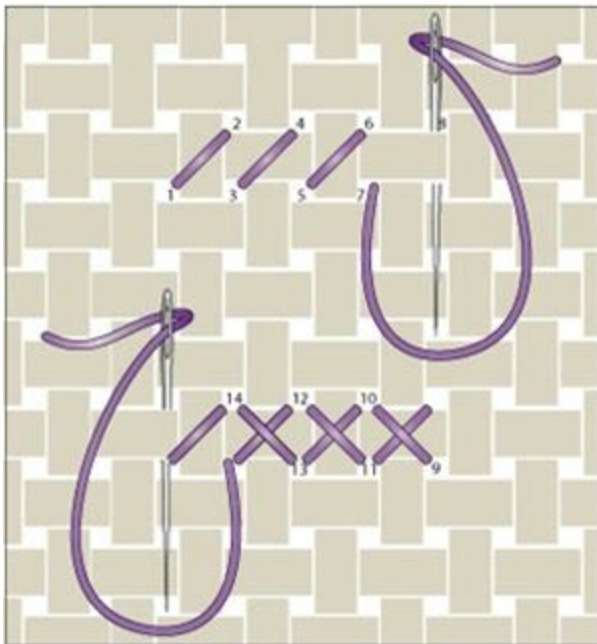
- Thread the two strands through the needle. Leave a small tail of thread near the eye of the needle. Do not pull the ends even, as this will double your threads. You do not need to tie a knot.
- Decide where you will start stitching your design. You can start from the top or bottom. I chose the lowest, left square at the bottom of the circle to begin, and stitched left to right.

Let's Start to Stitch!

The following beginning cross stitch instructions are found on the DMC website, available here: <https://www.dmc.com/us/p-Cross-Stitch-Quick-Start.html>

- Start stitching by pulling the threaded needle up onto the front side of the fabric, leaving a 2.5cm (1”) end of thread on the back. Hold the end of thread against the back of the fabric in the direction you plan to stitch and work the first 4 to 5 stitches over it to secure it into place. Be sure to check the back to confirm that your stitches are covering the thread and clip any loose ends before continuing to stitch.

- To end a thread, run your threaded needle under the last few stitches on the back of the Aida, then clip off the end of the thread. After you re-thread the needle to continue, simply run the needle under several stitches on the back to secure the thread and resume stitching.
- Quick Tip: When stitching make sure your thread lies flat, if your thread becomes twisted while stitching, drop the needle and allow the needle to hang freely. The thread will untwist by itself.
- Cross stitch is usually worked in horizontal rows from left to right. To make a cross stitch bring the needle up at point 1, lower left hole of one square of the fabric and down at point 2 upper right hole of one square of the fabric. Then up at 3 down at 4, up at 5 down at 6. Complete the row. To complete your cross stitches The return row is stitched right to left, make crosses by bringing the needle up at 9 and down at 10, up at 11 down at 12. Complete the return row and repeat the stitching sequence until the area is stitched as charted.



For further cross stitch instructions, and all your other fiber related questions, please explore Dame Lynnette's website at <http://lynnette.housezacharia.com/CrossStitch/>