



BASIC COUNTED CROSS STITCH - CANDY CORN

SUPPLIES & TOOLS

- 14 ct. Aida Cloth White #30200414
- Tapestry Needle - size 24 #77649665
- DMC Embroidery Floss - Blanc (White) #77636563
- DMC Embroidery Floss - 740 Tangerine (Orange) #77637827
- DMC Embroidery Floss - 444 Lemon (Yellow) #77637116
- DMC Embroidery Floss - 310 Black #77636712
- DMC Embroidery Floss - 957 Pale Geranium (Pink) #77638924
- Counted Cross Stitch Pattern/Chart
- Embroidery Hoop 6 in. - #77614115 or any comfortable size
- Sharp Scissors
- Calculator - for calculating design and cloth size



NOTE: Figure out what size cloth you need first.

The Aida cloth has a thread count, meaning how many stitches per inch. The most common are 14 count, 18 ct., 22 ct., or 11 ct. You can also use a smaller thread count cloth and stitch over 2 (meaning using 4 squares) this would give it the same size finished design as half the thread count. Example 28 ct. linen will be the same as 14 ct. if you stitched over two.

The design chart will tell you the finished size of the design by stitches in height and width, ex. 36 x 60. You can also count squares. Take the design count and divide it by the thread count of the cloth you want to get the approximate finished design in inches.

Add approximately 3 in. on each side of the design to get the minimal size Aida cloth to use. Keep in mind how you will use the finished piece so that you have more than enough fabric surrounding the design. You also need to take into account the size of the hoop you are using.

EX. - The candy corn design is 25 x 27. The finished design on the 14 ct. cloth is 1.79 in. x 1.93 in., so the cloth should be at least 8 in. x 8 in. Once you have your cloth size, prep the edges before stitching. You can sew or tape over the edges to prevent fraying.

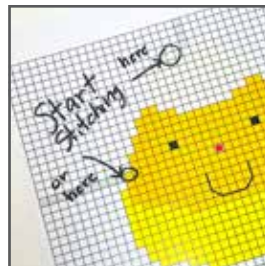
INSTRUCTIONS



1. The embroidery floss has 6 strands twisted together. For the 14 ct. cloth, you will use only 2 strands for the stitching.

Cut a manageable length of floss, pull out two strands and thread the tapestry needle. Don't knot the end.

After preparing the Aida cloth, fold it into fourths to find the center point. Stick the needle in the center point as a placeholder. Place cloth onto the hoop.



2. The center of the chart correlates to the center of the cloth. On this chart it is marked with the red star.

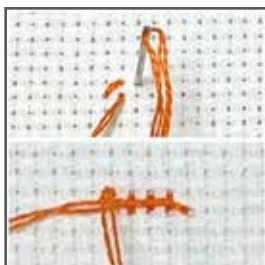
You can start your stitching from the center point row by going to the first square on the left at the start of the row. Count how many squares it is away from the center and that is how many squares from the center of the cloth. You can start your stitching from this point.

You can also start from the top most left square of the chart. Count squares and find the correlating point on the cloth.



3. Start stitching - Starting from the first square of the row you will start with; bring the needle up from the bottom left hole of the cloth. Pull the floss through but leave a 1-inch tail on the back of the cloth.

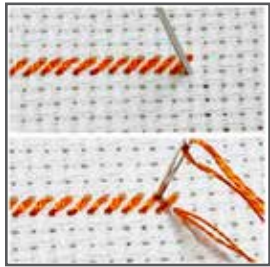
Cross diagonally over to the top right hole of the square and go down. This is a half stitch.



4. Second stitch - Bring the needle up from the hole directly below the hole you just went down in. Go diagonally across to the top right hole of the second square. Bring the needle down.

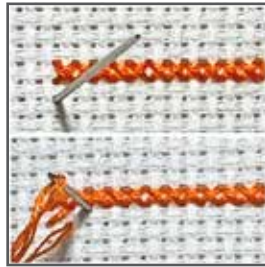
Continue these diagonal stitches until the end of the row if the design calls for the same color. Make sure to catch the tail as you stitch to hold it in place.

INSTRUCTIONS CONTINUED



5. Completing the X stitch -
When you get to the end of the row, come up at the bottom right hole of the square.

Cross over diagonally and have the needle go down the top left hole of the square. This creates the "X".
Bring the needle up at the hole directly below and repeat steps to finish crossing the "X"s in the row.



6. Start the next row below - Bring the needle up through the bottom left of the next square that needs to be stitched in the row below.
Repeat steps 4-6 to complete the rows.

If you started stitching from the middle, count up squares on the chart and cloth to find the top row and complete the stitching all the way down to finish the design.



7. Change floss colors as needed and start the stitching the same way, catching the tail behind. You can add the pink cheeks on the chart or just fill in with orange as shown.

If the design has shorter stitches, like a 1/4 stitch, then just go down the middle of the square instead of the corner hole of the square. Sometimes, you will not complete the "X" and leave it as a half stitch.



8. Use a backstitch to outline the design or add details like the candy corn's mouth.
For backstitch, use 1-2 strands of floss.
You can frame your finished piece or sew it onto a little pouch or make it into a small pillow decoration.

PATTERN

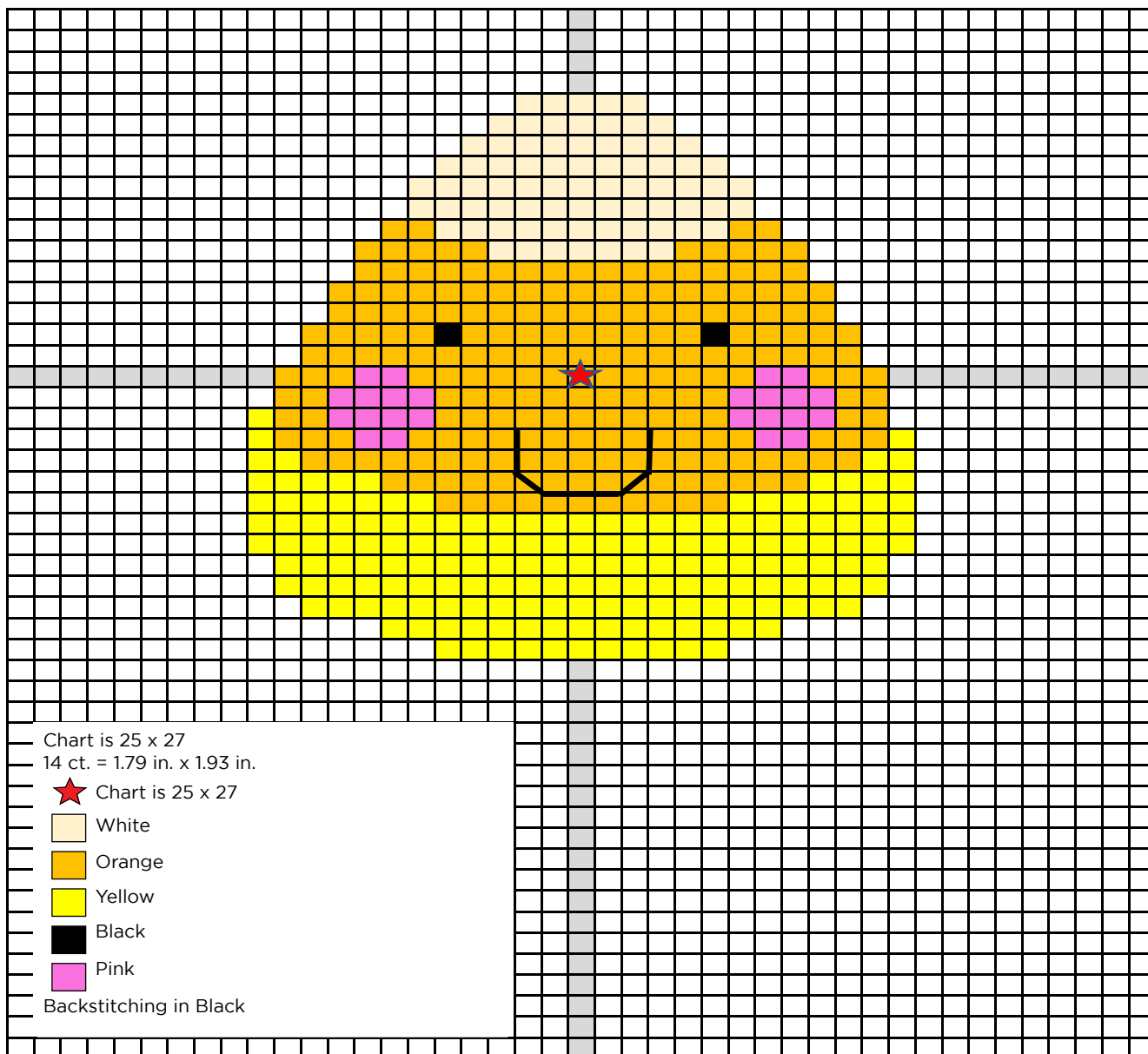


Chart is 25 x 27
14 ct. = 1.79 in. x 1.93 in.

★ Chart is 25 x 27

White

Orange

Yellow

Black

Pink

Backstitching in Black