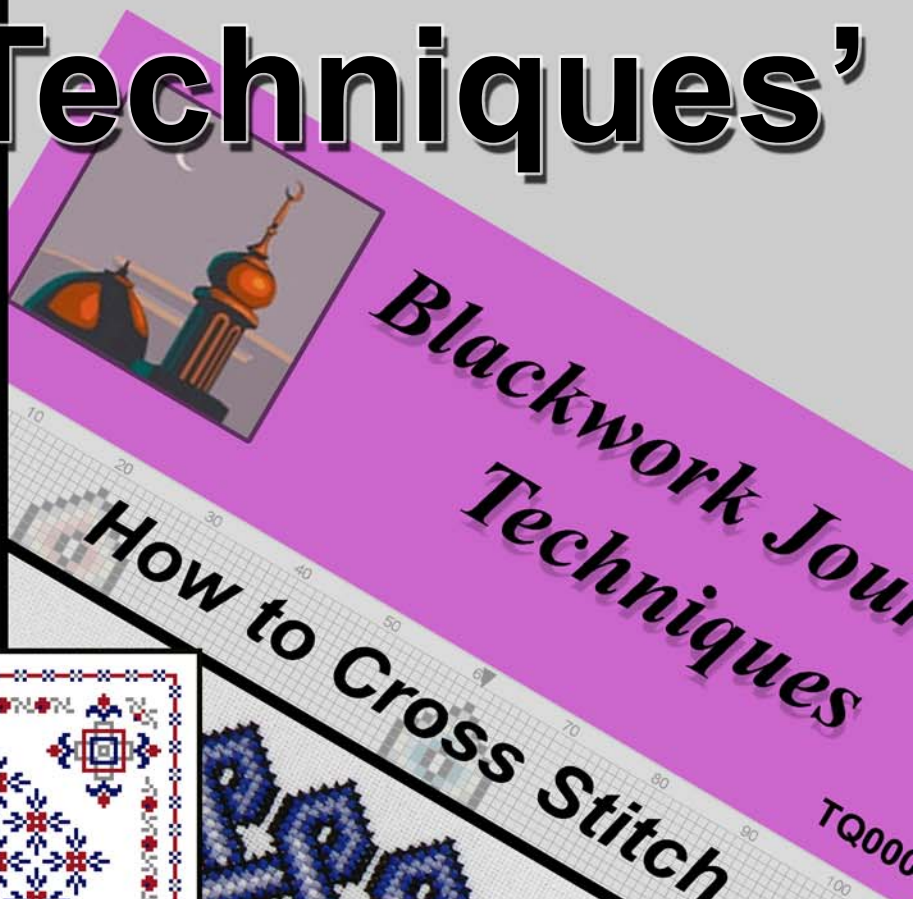




Blackwork Journey Blog

January 2012

'Techniques'



Cross stitch designs



The Working Environment



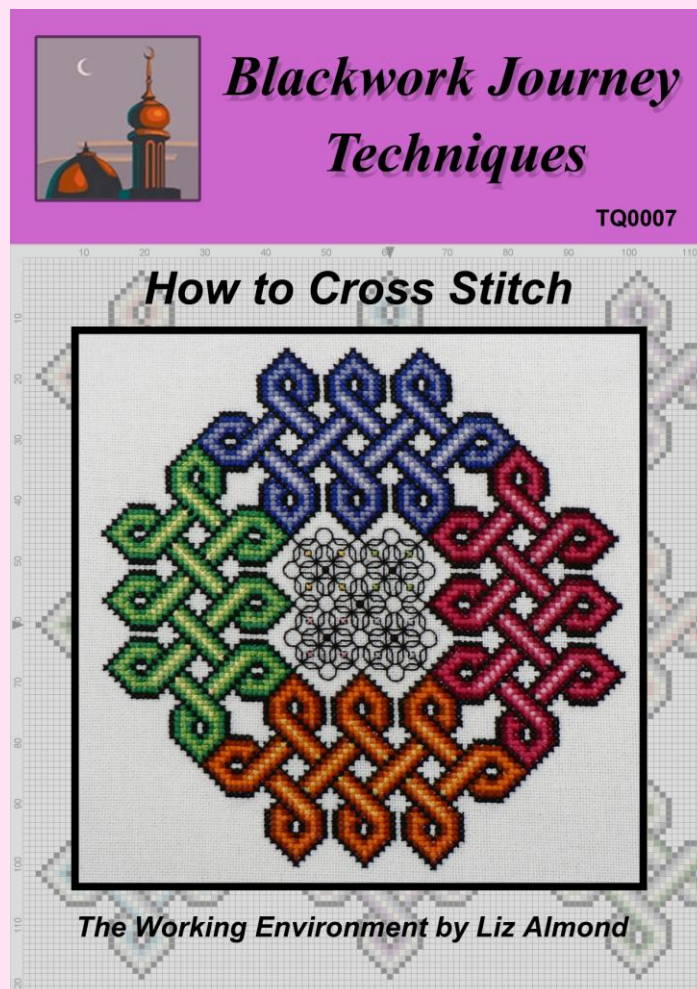
January 2012

January is the start of another year, with new challenges and adventures to pursue.

2011 was a difficult year for many people, both financially and personally and for many, crafts proved to be a welcome break from the daily routine. There has been a rising interest in the old skills of knitting and crochet, especially amongst the young and a number of new magazines have braved the current climate to tempt and challenge. I really welcome this revival because to lose the old skills would be to lose part of our heritage. As parents and grandparents, I believe we can do much to encourage young minds as well as developing our own skills.

Techniques

This month, I have added two new sections to Blackwork Journey. ‘Techniques’, which will take an ‘in depth’ look at various aspects of embroidery and cross stitch which will be similar to my current Charts and Freebies sections. For the cross stitchers amongst you there is a PDF in ‘Techniques’ called ‘How to Cross Stitch’ which is suitable for both beginners and experienced embroiderers.



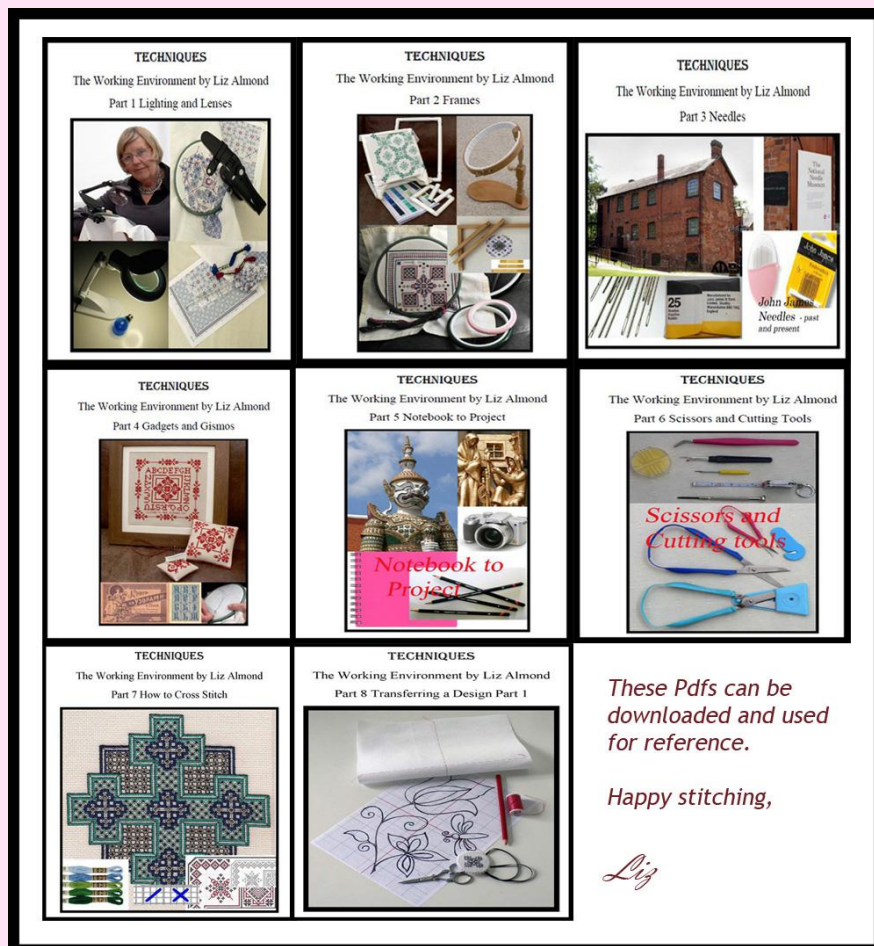
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‘Techniques’ is based on my experience as a teacher and embroiderer and I hope you will find this section useful. I welcome your comments. Whilst there are many ways of gaining information it can help to have a simple guide to different aspects such as materials.

During the course of the year I will also be adding free style embroidery charts along with stitch instructions to expand and develop the site. It is possible to combine a number of different techniques within the same piece of work using simple embroidery stitches, thereby transforming what may be a very simple piece of work. It is very often a lack of confidence which stops us reaching the next stage or taking the initial steps to try a new technique.

Running a site such as Blackwork Journey is more than producing charts or selling designs. It is an attempt to create a bridge between the reader and myself. Feedback is important and has an influence on the way I work. Magazines such as ‘Just Cross Stitch’, ‘The World of Cross Stitch’, ‘Cross Stitch and Embroidery’ and ‘The Gift of Stitching’ play an important role in my life. Working to deadlines, worrying about the delivery of embroidery, all adds to the fun as so far, my embroideries have been held up by floods, volcanic eruptions, earthquakes, forest fires and postal strikes.

I wonder what 2012 will hold in store?



PDFs available for download for use as reference!

Two new cross stitch charts have been added to ‘Blackwork Journey’ this month.



CS0001 Fuchsia ABC and CS0002 Irenka

Happy stitching,

Liz