

Sublime Stitches' consist of 12 numbered pages which joined together complete the Master Chart

'Sublime Stitches' Aida Pages 1 - 3 Patterns 1 - 45

To help position the patterns correctly on the fabric and to see how they relate to each other look carefully at the embroidery.

If only a small part of a pattern is shown on one page leave it until the following month and work the pattern as a whole.

This month the design worked is Page 2 which is the middle one of the three. Look carefully at the patterns either side of the blue lines.

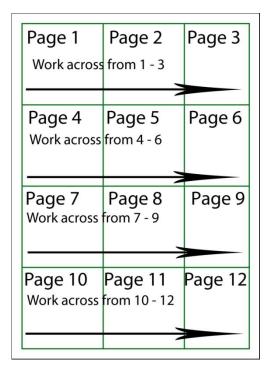
Sublime Stitches' Aida Page 2

Design Area: 16.07 x 29.57 inches worked on 14 count AIDA, 225 x 414 stitches

Material: Minimum size - 26 x 40 inches to allow for embroidery frame and mounting

Suggested fabric: Zweigart 14 count Aida, white, antique white or cream

The sample was worked on Zweigart 14 count Aida, white

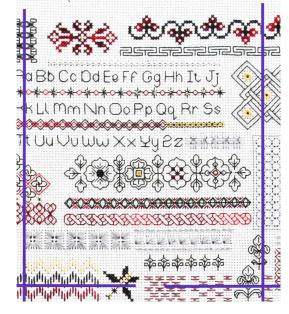


There are 12 pages of patterns. One page will be placed in 'Freebies' in Blackwork Journey every month. Each pattern or group of patterns have their: **Individual numbers**,

Technique, Threads and beads used, Chart, Picture

and Method.

Print out the Page 2 Chart and join to Page 1 Chart. This will complete some of the patterns from Page 1 and start some of the patterns on Page 3.



Page 2 The chart will be found at the back of this pdf.

Where patterns overlap between the pages do not start the pattern. The part patterns are there to help in the placing of the design. As additional pages are added the part patterns will be complete. Do not add beads to the design until all 12 pages have been worked.

The sample was worked in DMC and Anchor floss in four shades including DMC 310 as the base colour. Cross stitch is worked in TWO strands over two threads, back stitch is worked in ONE strand over two threads unless the pattern instructions state otherwise.

Threads used:

DMC 310 Black, three skeins

Anchor 1206 variegated, or DMC 815 Garnet, three skeins



DMC 415 Pearl grey, one skein DMC 414 Steel grey, one skein

Metallic threads used:

Rainbow Gallery Petite Treasure Braid PB01, one card or DMC Lights Effects E3852 Dark Gold, one skein

DMC Lights Effects E317

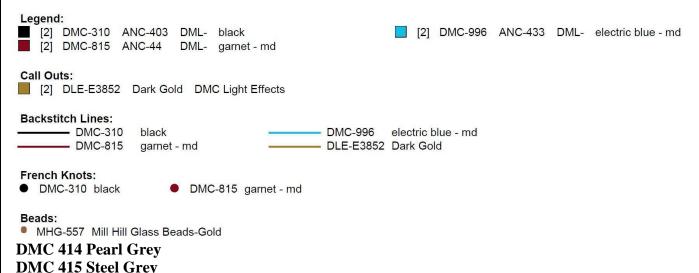
DMC 996 electric blue is used on the chart to show ONE strand of 415 and ONE strand 414 together to make two strands for pulled thread work stitches.

DMC Precious metal threads and Rainbow Gallery Petite Treasure Braid PB01

Beads used:

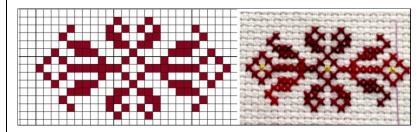
Mill Hill Glass Beads 557 Gold or 2011 Victorian Gold, one packet Size 11 (2.5mm) Mill Hill Glass Beads 2022 Black /Grey/ Silver, one packet Size: 11/0 (2.5 mm)

Key or Legend



DMC 996 electric blue is used on the chart to show ONE strand of 415 and ONE strand 414 together to make two strands for pulled thread work stitches.

Page 2 Pattern 14 Hungarian Folk design



Technique: Cross stitch Threads: Anchor 1206 variegated Stitch used: Cross stitch, two strands

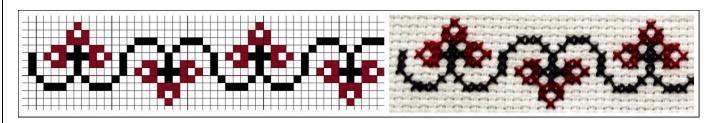
Leave the tacking lines in when working the embroidery. It will help in placing the patterns.

Simple motif designs are used throughout eastern Europe on costumes and household linen. They are frequently worked on red and black. They can be built up into overall patterns or used as borders. (See Pattern 15)

Pattern 15 Floral band

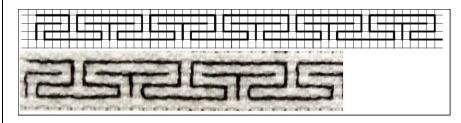
Technique: Cross stitch Threads: Anchor 1206 variegated, DMC 310

Stitch used: Cross stitch, two strands



Pattern 16 Greek Key

This is a decorative border constructed from a continuous line, shaped into a repeated motif. There are many variations and are found in architecture, mosaics, pottery, jewellery and fabric designs. The example is from the Villa Kerylos on the French Riviera, Italy and a pebble pavement in Rhodes.



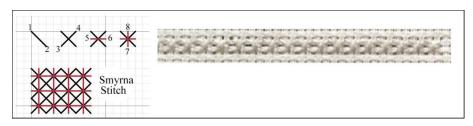
Technique: Blackwork Threads DMC 310

Stitches used: Back stitch, one strand Work the band from left to right



Pattern 17 Smyrna Stitch

Technique: Embroidery/pulled thread work



Threads: DMC 415 Pearl grey, two strands Stitch used: Smyrna stitch

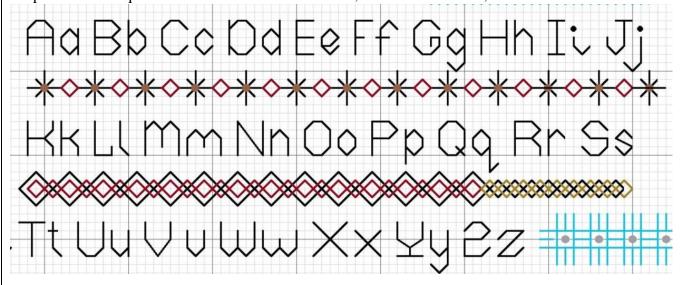
Top stitch always faces in the same direction

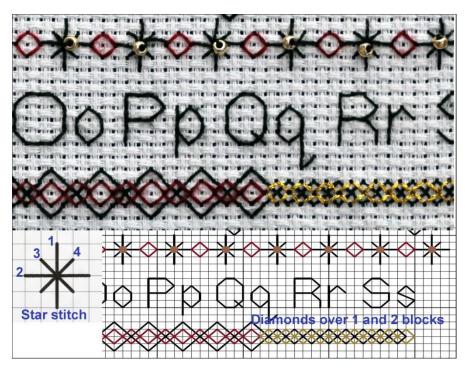
Can be worked in rows or as a filler stitch. Do not pull the stitch tight.

Pattern 18 Alphabet over 2 blocks with decorative bands 19a and 19b (The first letters can be found on Page 1)

Alphabets with capital and lower case letters are always useful additions to the needlewoman's library and can be used for personalising designs. Many traditional samplers are named and dated adding to their interest and value.

Alphabet Technique: Blackwork Threads: DMC 310, one strand Stitches; Back stitch





Separate the rows of letters with different pattern bands to add variety and interest.

Star Stitch worked over four blocks. Always lay the final stitch in the same direction. They can be worked in rows, in isolation or with diamonds in between.

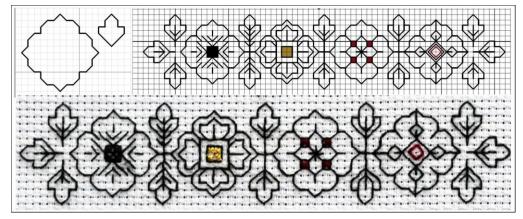
Diamond in Row 19b

the larger diamonds are worked first and then the smaller diamonds overlaid. The smaller row is of diamonds is worked over two blocks in black and gold and creates a much heavier effect.

The density of the pattern in not achieved by increasing the number of strands of floss but by placing the stitches closer together.

Pattern 20 Flower and Leaf Band.

Technique: Blackwork, Cross stitch Threads: DMC 310 Stitches; Back stitch, one strand. Cross stitch, two strands.



Learning how to build shapes up into patterns is fundamental in blackwork embroidery.

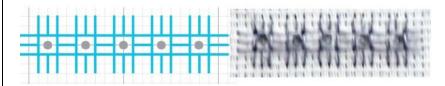
From the two simple shapes a whole series of different flowers and leaves can be created. as a band or as a bouquet. Cross stitch adds depth, gold metallic adds sparkle.

Many more patterns could be developed, just use imagination!

Pattern 21 Hardanger for Aida

Technique: Embroidery. Threads: DMC 415, one strand

Hardanger stitch usually consists of five vertical and five horizontal stitches worked on an evenweave fabric.



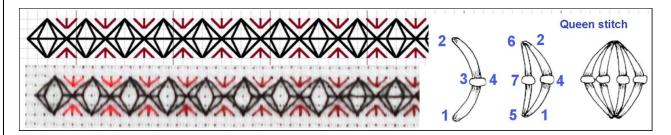
By using the block structure and just three vertical and horizontal stitches it is possible to create a 'mock' hardanger stitch.

Add a bead to the square to add depth and texture. Do not 'pull' the stitches. Work in rows or build up into blocks.

Pattern 22 Queen Stitch

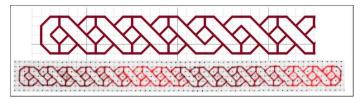
Technique: Embroidery Threads: one strand

A very useful sampler stitch where four long straight threads are bent and held into place by four smaller threads. Whilst it is easier to do on evenweave fabric it is possible to work it over 4 x 4 blocks. The embroidered band below shows two variations one with a band across the centre as an extra stitch and one without. Decide which effect you prefer.



Pattern 23 Interlocking Band

Technique: Blackwork Threads: DMC 815 one strand Stitch: Back stitch



Open, simple and effective!

Contrast Pattern 22 with the lighter weight band Pattern 23.

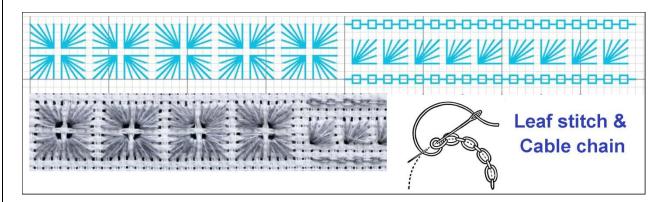
A sampler should be full on interest and contrast. All the stitches need to be practised but a sampler is a means of displaying a variety of stitches within a small area.

Patterns 25 Leaf Stitch and Pattern 25 Leaf Stitch variation and Cable Chain stitch

Technique: Pulled thread work adapted for Aida, Embroidery - cable chain band.

Thread: DMC 415, two strands.

Leaf stitch is a very effective pulled thread work stitch which has been adapted as an embroidery stitch for Aida. Pattern 25 is a variation on leaf stitch bordered with cable chain band which is an embroidery stitch. Five long stitches make up the 'leaf'. Work from the outside in to the centre.

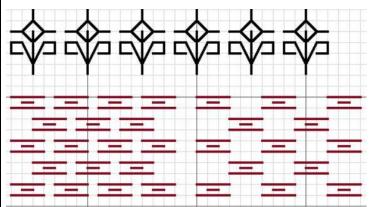


Work one leaf and then repeat three more times to complete the square. Medium pull to create a set of holes in the centre of each square

Cable chain stitch takes practice. The chains are linked to each other by a cable instead of being directly linked to the next chain. Follow the diagram or watch Mary Corbet's excellent video on YouTube and work along with her. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4v_r-beCyEM

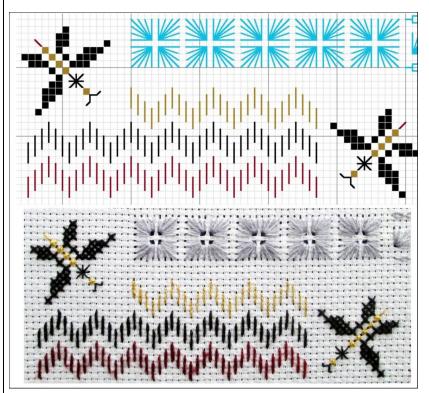
YouTube is a good source of stitch videos, especially those by Mary Corbet of Needle'nThread www.needlenthread.com

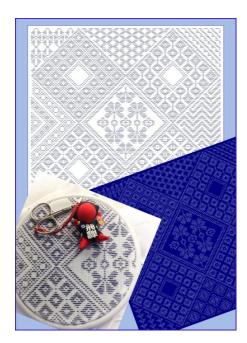
Pattern 26 Pattern Darning



Pattern darning is a simple and ancient embroidery technique in which contrasting thread is woven in-and-out of the ground fabric using rows of running stitches which reverse direction at the end of each row. The length of the stitches may be varied to produce geometric designs. Traditional embroidery using pattern darning is found in Africa, Japan, Northern and Eastern Europe, the Middle East, Mexico and Peru. Pattern darning is also used as a filling stitch in Blackwork embroidery.

Technique: Pattern darning. Threads: two strands Stitches: Long stitch
This pattern starts on Page 1 and is completed here. The butterfly is repeated from Page 1.
On evenweave fabric there would be one thread between each stitch, on Aida there is one block between each stitch but two strands of floss are used to give weight to the pattern.

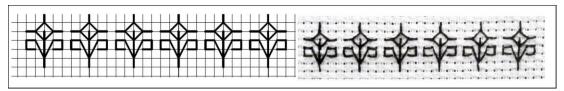




CH0340 Sumiko Japanese Kogin pattern darning can be found in 'Charts' in Blackwork Journey

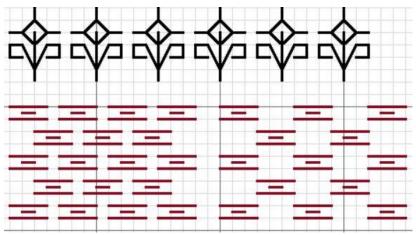
Pattern 27 Simple Stitches

Technique Blackwork: Threads, one strand Stitch: Back stitch Building up patterns from simple motifs starts here.



There are many variations in this sampler.

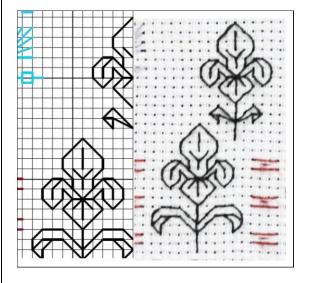
Pattern 28 Pattern Darning Japanese style



Technique: Pattern darning. Threads: two strands Stitch: Back stitch
This is worked over three blocks but to add the centre stitch of the three SPLIT the block using a sharp needle.

Pattern 29 Iris Flowers

Blackwork was traditionally used as decoration on caps, collars and cuffs and frequently depicted small floral motifs in the repeat design. Iris Flowers follows on that tradition of floral embroidery. Technique: Blackwork Threads: one strand Stitches: Back stitch
This pattern starts on Page 2 and overlaps onto Pages 3 and 5



Queen Elizabeth I with a Fan, 1585-1590. Artist Unknown. © The Royal Collection.

Freestyle floral blackwork displayed in Queen Elizabeth's gown.

This completes Page 2.



