

Amy's

needlework supplies & classes

AUG/SEP 2017

what's inside this month

ORANGE YOU GLAD YOU CAN NEEDLEPOINT!

ORANGE IS THE NEW...

Summer is hitting its stride here in Memphis; we're in our first heat wave of the season, but we haven't let the scorching summer heat get us down. Amy has been busy with our next home study and writing stitch guides. Lori is working on our latest Too Tweet club as well as developing ideas for some fun new clubs. We've shopped for a few new products and are beginning to prepare for 2018 classes. We'll be heading to Dallas in September for the Cash 'n Carry market, so stay tuned for lots of new things. See... lots of ways to avoid the heat.

NEW HOME STUDY

pages 3-5

NEW STITCH GUIDES

pages 6-7

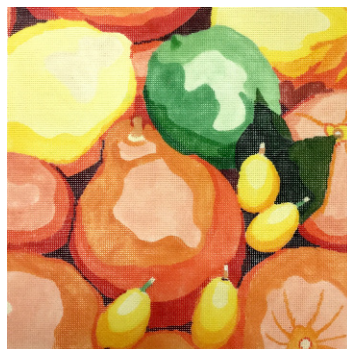
HOW'D YOU DO THAT?

page 10-13

CUSTOMER GALLERY

pages 17-18

AND MORE!



Amy's Golden Strand

3808 Summer Avenue

Memphis, TN 38122

phone: 901.458.6109

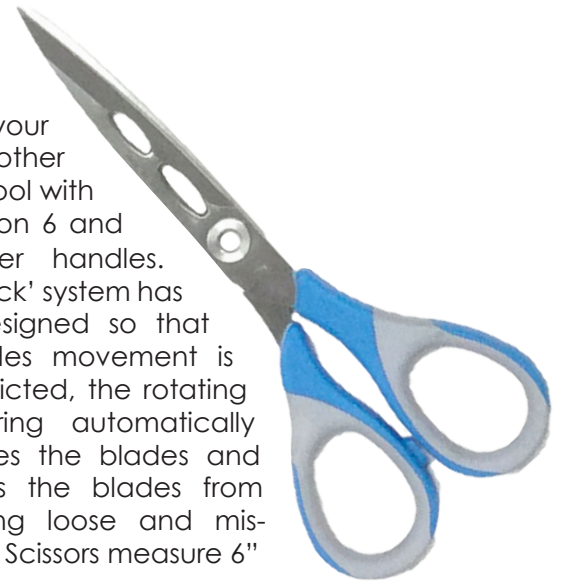
fax: 901.323.4701

NEW PRODUCTS

PREMAX RING-LOCK SCISSORS

The soft and ergonomic handles follow perfectly the shape of your hands. The extremely sharpened blades allow a cut that no other traditional scissors could dream of performing. An exceptional tool with AISI 420 stainless steel blades and with Nylon 6 and

Megol-rubber handles. The 'ring lock' system has been designed so that the blades movement is not restricted, the rotating teflon ring automatically lubricates the blades and prevents the blades from becoming loose and mis-aligned. Scissors measure 6"



COST: \$32⁰⁰

TWITCHETTS

A great new tool for keeping your loose thread in a neat and tidy manner. Just string the Twitchetts on a metal ring and keep everything in easy to reach order. Twitchetts are made of heavy card stock with a glossy finish and have a little hole on the side for that single strand! Sold in packages of 10

COST: \$3²⁵

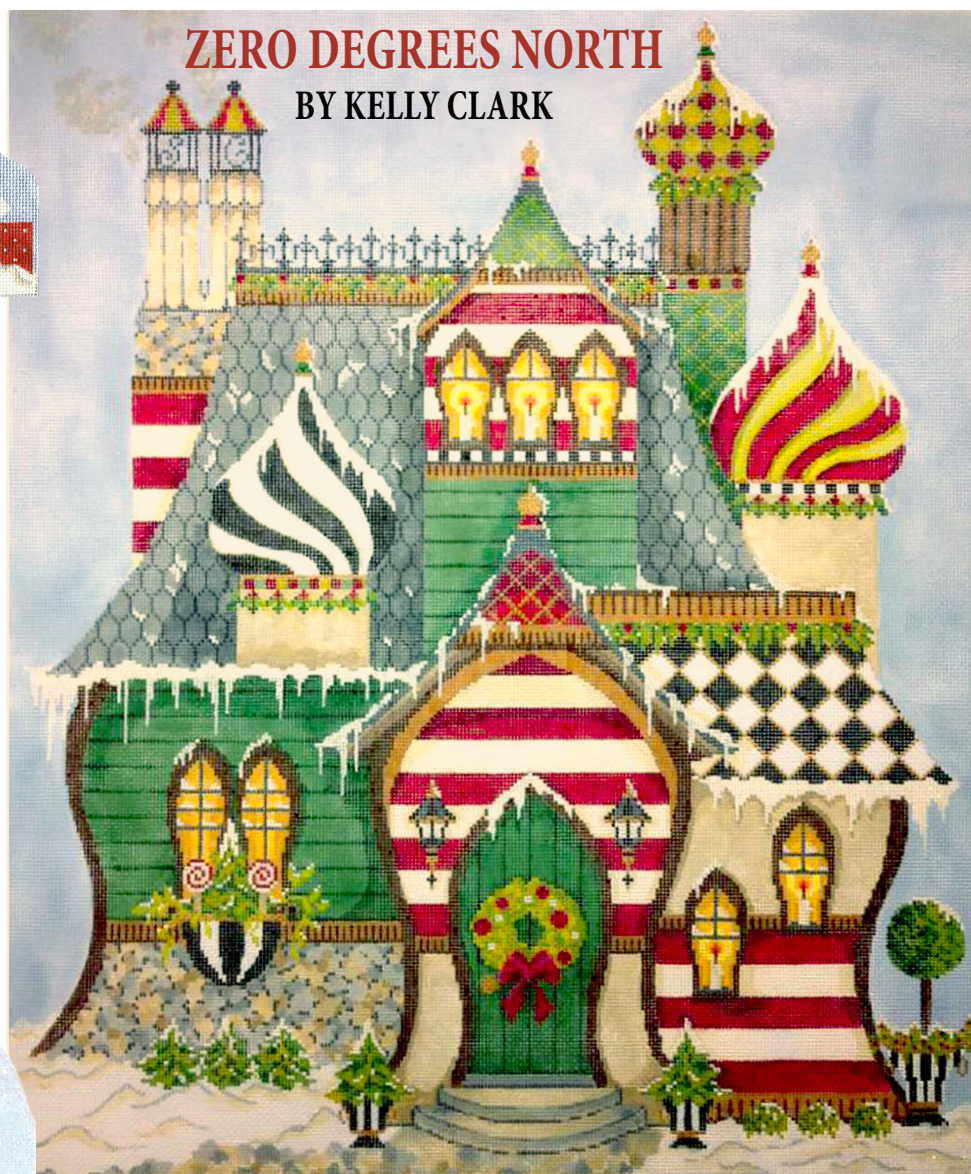
LEATHER COIN THIMBLE

With this leather coin thimble you are able to get a stronger push of the needle through difficult fabrics. Finger-molding soft leather thimble with dimpled metal coin disk inserted at the fingertip. Read more about this product in the article on page 10. Available in size Medium.

COST: \$12⁰⁰



NEW HOME STUDY!



AND THIS
ISN'T EVEN ALL
OF THEM!

Read more about this home
study on the following
pages.



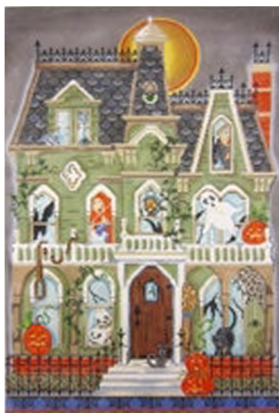
NEW HOME STUDY!

ZERO DEGREES NORTH

BY KELLY CLARK

Reality is sometimes a little too "real" for me. I love to escape into a little fantasy now and again and Kelly Clark has certainly delivered a wonderful magical world for me to visit frequently and for long periods of time.

Kelly's lovely sense of color and whimsy are touched liberally with a sense of humor that peeks out between my stitches. I enjoyed working with her on the Nativity Home Study with the simplicity of the Crèche companion Home Study. I returned to Kelly for the fun and haunting experience of working the Halloweenies Characters & the companion Haunted House Home Studies. Now we are headed to Zero Degrees North (the North Pole) for more holiday-based Home Studies of eight Christmas characters and one chilly abode.



Similar to these past Home Studies, we are offering these as separate Home Study Classes. The eight Christmas Characters in the Character Series are: North Pole, Santa's Sleigh, Christmas Tree, Sack Full of Presents, an Elf, Santa, Mrs. Claus, and Reindeer. Each of these characters will be shipped separately with their kit and guide. The second series is Santa's House, which will be broken into four separate kits with guides (canvas included with the first kit).



*Coming
Soon!*

NEW HOME STUDY!

ZERO DEGREES NORTH

BY KELLY CLARK



I have already finished stitching the first two kits of Characters: the North Pole and Santa's Sleigh in preparation for the long task on the night before Christmas. The Christmas Tree canvas is started and putting me in the mood for the Christmas season. Soon I will start stitching the Zero Degrees North Santa's House Series and, as most of you know, I dearly LOVE to stitch architecture so I am a major "happy puppy" over this. I hope that you can join me on this trek through Christmas artwork. Give us a call to sign up for one or both series.

SEP kit #1 <i>North Pole</i> \$216.25 canvas, guide, & threads	OCT kit #2 <i>Santa's Sleigh</i> \$86.50 guide & threads TBD	NOV HOUSE <i>A</i> \$295.00 guide & threads TBD	DEC <i>Break</i>
JAN kit #3 <i>Christmas Tree</i> \$109.00 guide & threads TBD	FEB kit #4 <i>Sack of Presents</i> \$82.50 guide & threads TBD	MAR HOUSE <i>B</i> guide & threads TBD	APR <i>Break</i>
MAY kit #5 <i>to be announced</i>	JUN kit #6 <i>to be announced</i>	JUL HOUSE <i>C</i> guide & threads TBD	AUG <i>Break</i>
SEP kit #7 <i>to be announced</i>	OCT kit #8 <i>to be announced</i>	NOV HOUSE <i>D</i> guide & threads TBD	



NEW GUIDES BY AMY BUNGER

STITCH GUIDES!

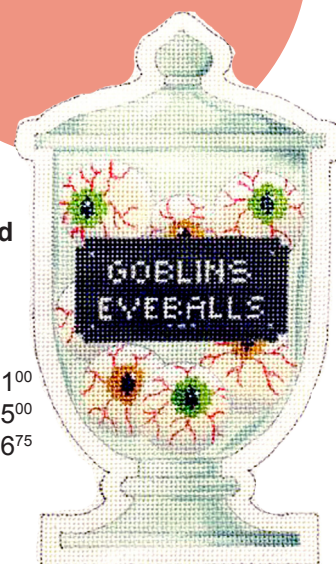
Have a canvas and want to know if Amy has written a stitch guide for it...Our stitch guide catalog is now searchable by Designer and Subject.



Huppe Bird Framed

by Zecca
18m
18" x 13"

Canvas	\$341 ⁰⁰
Stitch Guide	\$245 ⁰⁰
Thread Kit	\$346 ⁷⁵



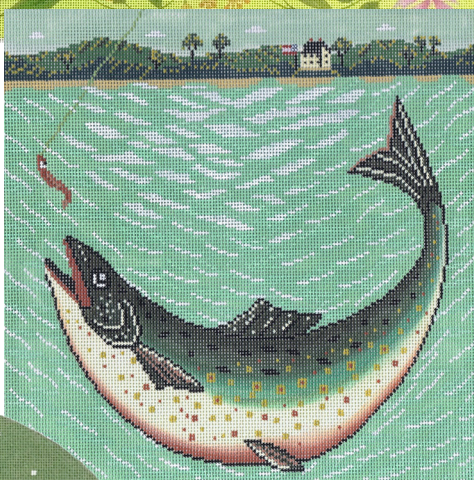
Goblin Eyeballs

by Kirk & Bradley
18m
4" x 7"

Canvas	\$ 66 ⁰⁰
Stitch Guide	\$ 35 ⁰⁰
Thread Kit	\$ 61 ⁷⁵

Lake Trout
by Warren Kimble
from Cooper Oaks
13m
12" x 12"

Canvas	\$161 ⁰⁰
Stitch Guide	\$ 87 ⁵⁰
Thread Kit	\$194 ⁵⁰



Hagetha Standup

by Melissa Shirley
18m
11" x 14.75"

Canvas	\$240 ⁰⁰
Stitch Guide	\$175 ⁰⁰
Thread Kit	\$270 ⁵⁰



Poppy

by J. Malahy
18m
12" x 12"

Canvas	\$ 88 ⁰⁰
Stitch Guide	\$ 70 ⁰⁰
Thread Kit	\$ 95 ²⁵

NEW GUIDES BY AMY BUNGER



Bunny Butt

by Pepperberry
18m
4.75" x 4.5"

Canvas \$ 44⁰⁰
Stitch Guide \$ 25⁰⁰
Thread Kit \$ 22⁷⁵

Halloween Houses

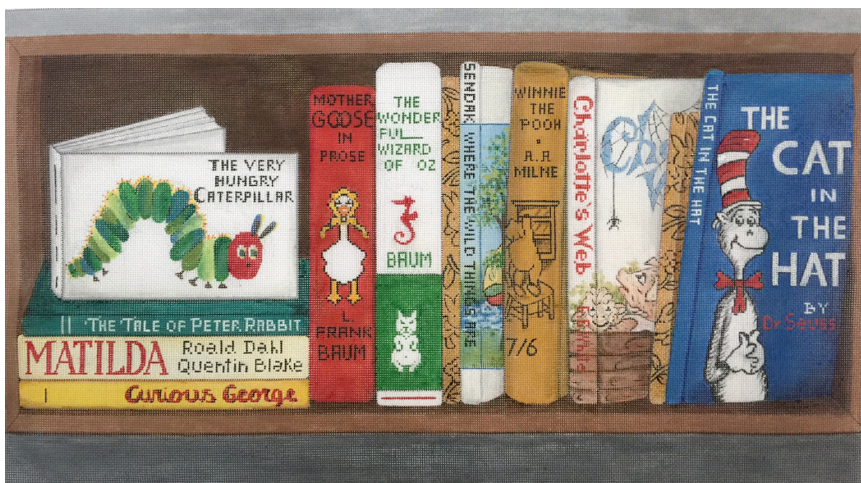
by Melissa Shirley

18m
17" x 10"

Canvas \$308⁰⁰
Stitch Guide \$175⁰⁰
Thread Kit \$234⁰⁰



NEW GUIDES COMING SOON BY AMY BUNGER



CLASSIC BOOKS

by Alice Peterson
18m

"Children's Classics" Books

22" x 12"

Canvas \$185⁰⁰
Stitch Guide \$TBD
Thread Kit \$TBD

"The Classics" Novels

14.5" x 10.75"

Canvas \$163⁰⁰
Stitch Guide \$TBD
Thread Kit \$TBD



Squarely Squash

by Kathryn Read (Holly Berry)
from Dreamhouse Ventures

18m
10" x 10"

Canvas \$161⁰⁰
Stitch Guide \$TBD
Thread Kit \$TBD



BOOK REVIEW

HOLEY STICHES

A new booklet by Michele and Renee (the Gone Stitching Gals) hit the scene recently. You probably know how I feel about books... I ordered the book sight unseen. This slim volume is a guide to Judaic themed needlepoint and aimed at stitchers from beginner/intermediate and above. At first glance (unfortunately the way that most people judge books) it is a relatively small collection of stitches that are not uncommon, but a stitching bibliophile will read the words, not just look at the diagrams. I feel that there is good advice to accompany the stitches leading the stitcher to choosing the right stitch and also some suggestions on threads or number of colors to use for the desired effect.

My absolute favorite quote from the book is, "For those green areas that you know in your heart should be trees..." As a guide writer I must admit that made me laugh. The subjects covered in the book are specific to items you would see on Judaic themed canvases, but also will adapt to a wider variety of canvases that are not Judaic interpretations. Doves, walls, domes, sky, mountains, trees, buildings are found everywhere on our canvases, but this booklet also covers Star of David, Challah, Lion & Tablets, Sheva Minim (The Seven Species) AND includes a charted Hebrew Alphabet...that should be helpful for sure.

The specifics -- 19 color pages on good quality glossy paper, color-printed card stock covers, and spiral bound for laying flat.



COST: \$16⁰⁰

PICK YOUR POISON CLASS



October 12th thru 14th, 2017

Class Fee: \$450⁰⁰ per person
\$100⁰⁰ non-refundable deposit due at sign up

Stitch guides for these canvases will be available for purchase Oct 15.

CANVAS CHOICES:

Bergama Upholstery

by CanvasWorks, 18m, 14.5" x 14.5" \$330⁰⁰

Decisions, Decisions

by Sandra Gilmore, 18m, 15" x 15.5" \$286⁰⁰

Moon Gazer

by Brenda Stofft, 18m, 7" x 16.5" \$231⁰⁰



NEW CANVASES

Local Ornaments

Whether you've been to Memphis to take a class at Amy's, have a child in college, or just passing through our great city, we now have a new line of Memphis ornaments to commemorate your visit. From Rogue Designs, small and quick to stitch, they are the perfect carry along project.



2.5" R

COST: \$22⁰⁰



Triptych Nativity Scene

From Strictly Christmas and Deux Bijoux Bijoux, this beautiful triptych nativity scene and coordinating frame is a showstopper.

COST:

CANVASES

\$414⁰⁰

GOLD FRAME

\$200⁰⁰



3-D Sodas

If the small soda ornaments weren't quite your style, check out these new 3-D versions from Rogue Designs. We currently have a Tab in the shop, but are happy to order other designs as well.

COSTS: \$90⁰⁰ - \$116⁰⁰



Shark Week

Get ready for next year's Shark Week with this new ornament from Rogue Designs. 4" x 2.5"

COST: \$36⁰⁰

HOW'D YOU DO THAT?

SAVE THOSE FINGERS

When I sit down to stitch, I really dig into hours of good hard stitching. This is super for staying on top of all my projects but it can be really tough on my hands. There are two big hand problems I deal with on a regular basis: 1) digging a hole into the end of my middle finger from trying to push the needle through the canvas and 2) hand and finger fatigue where my hands get so tired and weak that I can't pull the needle through the canvas if there is any resistance. In my younger years I had Super Woman hands; I could have pushed a hypodermic needle through elephant hide bare-handed. With my advancing years I have had to rely more on the aids that are available for sight and hands. I hope to have many more years of stitching ahead of me so I try all the products that are designed to help.

Clover Coin Thimble

I have tried numerous hard thimbles over the years with no success. Either my fingernail hits the inside of the thimble, keeping it from sitting snug on my finger, or it feels so alien I hold the thimble-finger up in the air like an extended tea-drinking pinkie finger while I use an unprotected finger to push the needle. I have however, found success using a Coin Thimble, a leather thimble with a small metal reinforced pad at the tip. The leather conforms and fits snug and comfortable on my finger. I use a medium size, which should fit most fingers except for exceptionally slender or very wide digits. The leather will cover your finger down to the first joint but not beyond so it does not hinder you bending your finger. The small metal coin shape is recessed into the leather preventing the needle from slipping off the coin and piercing your finger. The metal is as strong as a typical thin metal thimble.

CLOVER THIMBLE \$12⁰⁰

Colonial ThimblePad

This little jewel is great for every day protection of finger tips. It is a small leather pad with a reusable adhesive backing. If I place it over the spot on my middle finger that shows a dent or is calloused it will give me protection of that tender skin while I repeatedly hit that spot pushing my needle through canvas or other stitching. The tiny size and weight make it almost undetectable, which is nicer than a thimble, BUT the downside to this little spot of protection is no raised edge. Your needle can slip off the pad and puncture your skin if you are not careful to keep the end of the needle well on the pad and not at an angle. When you stop stitching, peel the pad off your finger and put it back on the strip with the others or on any hard surface until you need it again.

COLONIAL THIMBLE PAD \$8⁰⁰
(12 PER PACKAGE)



HOW'D YOU DO THAT?

SAVE THOSE FINGERS

Colonial Thimble-It

Like the ThimblePad these have an adhesive backing that sticks to your skin. These are clear plastic flexible ovals which are 7/8" long and 1/2" wide. These are not reusable, or I have not had success reusing them. Place the long oval on the back of your finger pad, not up and over the end of your finger. They are flexible but do not bend around the end of your finger well. They work well, but for me they do not sit in the perfect position for pushing my needles. I tend to use the very top of my finger...wish I didn't because I have run a needle under my fingernail too many times! My fingers are short and stubby, so the longer coverage this offers doesn't help me, but might be just what the doctor ordered for those with longer, more graceful fingers.

COLONIAL THIMBLE-IT PAD \$6⁰⁰
(64 PER PACKAGE)



OK, the three products listed previously deal primarily with pushing a needle through the canvas. What about PULLING a needle through the canvas, previous stitching, or even under tight stitching to anchor a thread?

Colonial Needle Grip-It

If you are NOT wearing a thimble these are heaven for turning your fingers into sumo wrestlers. Study your fingers when you are pulling your needle through the canvas. You want to place one pad on the the end of your thumb and another pad on the end of your index finger where you would normally grip a needle. The back of the pad has adhesive to attach to your skin, but the top of the pad is a tacky surface like a bead matte to increase your gripping strength and control. This eases finger and wrist fatigue greatly and also allows you to pick up those tiny little needles, sequins, threaders, and pins that are so hard to grab. The adhesive is not reusable. The tacky surface can also pick up lint and fuzz from some threads making them less tacky, but will not hurt your threads.

COLONIAL NEEDLE GRIP-IT \$4⁷⁵
(70 PER PACKAGE)



HOW'D YOU DO THAT?

SAVE THOSE FINGERS



3" Mini Flat Nose Pliers

For those times when you are just stitching for a short while and don't want to waste two of your Needle Grip-Its, just grab a mini flat-nosed pair of pliers. These handy little tools will not take up much room on your table or in your sewing kit. They are strong for those EXTRA tight jobs and the flat inside edge of the pliers will not mar or ridge your needles. Certainly not as convenient as your own fingers, but a very quick fix to pick them up, do the job, and set them down again (they usually rest in my lap).

3" MINI FLAT NOSE PLIERS \$ 4⁰⁰

MINI TOOL SET (W/5 VARIOUS 3" PLIERS) \$15⁰⁰



Beaders' Tool Set

A small pair of flat-nosed pliers are also in the Beaders Tool Set. This pair is 4.5" with a non-slip grip. They come in a fastened envelope style pack along with the greatest little set of tools you could have. Five different types of pliers, two types of tweezers and a wire cutter. What does a needlepointer need with all of these tools? We have already discussed the flat-nosed pliers, but the little needlepoint tweezers (Knotting Tweezers) are great for picking out the tiniest of threads that you can't grab easily with just your fingers. Split-Ring Tweezers are super duper for adding a new key to a tight key ring...they separate the rings on coiled wire!!! Chain Nose Pliers are good for opening

rings as well, either pulling apart or swinging open on a split jump ring to attach jewels and more to your canvas. Round Nose Pliers are perfect for bending DMC Memory Thread or Artistic Wire into smooth tendrils, or any round or curved shape. The Side Cutting Wire Cutter is good for cutting thin wires used in Needle Weaving or Stumpwork techniques. There is a second pair of Flat Nose Pliers, these have a nylon jaw. The grip is not as powerful or non-slip, but they are perfect for delicate wires or coated needles that might scratch if you use a metal jaw. The Bent Chain Nose Pliers look like they would be the most useful to maneuver your needle in those hard to reach areas near stretcher bars and more, but I find that I use them less than the other tools.

BEADER'S TOOL SET \$42⁰⁰

(8 VARIOUS TOOLS, INCLUDING TWEEZERS & PLIERS)

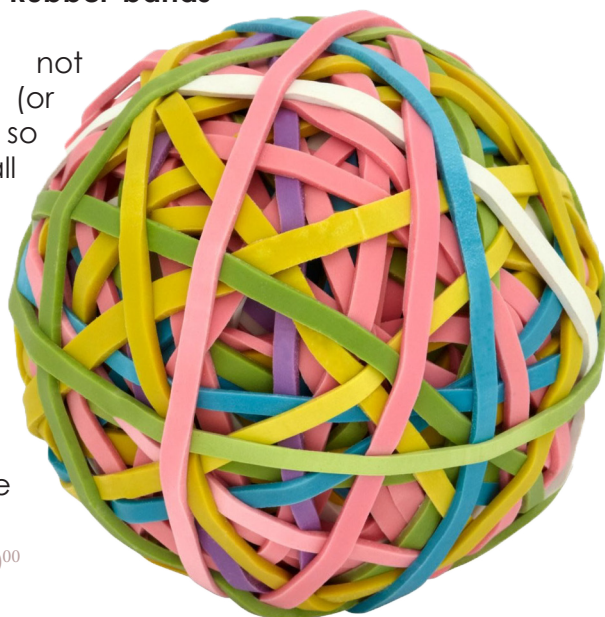
HOW'D YOU DO THAT?

SAVE THOSE FINGERS



Balloons & Wide Rubber-bands

Needlepoint is not a poor man's (or woman's) hobby, so usually the cost of the small hand-held tools is not a consideration, but it is nice to find relatively FREE solutions for our every day needs. Some of the best needle grippers out there are wide rubber bands and deflated balloons. They are small and easy to carry in your tool kit. If lost you won't shed a tear. No airport security guard will confiscate them. All you need to do is wrap them around the needle and tug. Look around and I bet you will find rubbery discs, bands and more that you can use in this way.



BALLOONS & RUBBER BANDS \$0⁰⁰
AVAILABLE IN YOUR JUNK DRAWER AT HOME!

2017 HOME STUDY



4TH OF JULY BANNER

by Melissa Shirley
18m
22.5" x 5"

We thought you would enjoy seeing how one of our customers completed and finished her home study. Please contact us if you would like to sign up for this project.



stitched by LaQuieta O'Dell
finished by Vikki Pinson

Kit #1
Border & Background
COST: \$331⁷⁵
canvas, guide, & threads

Kit #2
"4th of"
COST: \$64⁰⁰

Kit #3
"JU"
COST: \$65⁰⁰

Kit #4
"LY"
COST: \$61²⁵



TOO TWEET! A NEW BIRD BASED CLUB

Our first bird, the colorful Spring Bluebird, will be flying out the door this month to begin our 4 month series of seasonal birds. Coming in September, the Summer Hummingbird features bright jewel-toned colors and is embellished with specialty beads and coordinating metallics. These lovely painted canvases from Rebecca Wood are sure to brighten your



Fall stitching days and will make great gifts for any backyard bird lover. Stitch guides by Lori Carter.

each canvas	\$55 ⁰⁰
each stitch guide	\$20 ⁰⁰
threads vary per month:	
spring bluebird	\$31 ²⁵
summer hummingbird	\$35 ⁰⁰
fall green-winged partridge	\$25 ²⁵
winter cardinal	\$TBD



A LIGHT-HEARTED CLUB

HOW MANY STITCHERS DOES IT TAKE TO CHANGE A LIGHTBULB?

Our light-hearted club will be wrapping up in September. Shipping this month is the Harlequin bulb. This colorful ornament consists of repeating motifs stitched with shiny silk and sparkly Accentuate. September's Green Peppermint Swirl bulb features an open blackwork pattern with beads. Each ornament in this club is a quick and fun stitch that can still be finished for Christmas. Canvases by Associated Talents with stitch guides by Lori Carter.



each canvas	\$40 ⁰⁰
each stitch guide	\$15 ⁰⁰
threads vary per month:	
snowflakes on blue	\$29 ²⁵
jaunty snowman	\$29 ⁵⁰
gingerbread boys	\$27 ⁰⁵
harlequin	\$33 ⁰⁰
green peppermint swirl	\$12 ⁵⁰

WORTH A RE-VIEW

GARNITURE AND KREINIK TRIMS

Garniture Trim



I was thrilled when Access Commodities started their line of Garniture Trim a few years ago. They have searched the world over for the most intriguing threads, tools and TRIMS. I am not a seamstress, but I have found many uses for these lovely braids, laces, and leather cords as embellishments on my needlepoint canvases. They have a wide variety of patterns and materials from raw linen rick rack to delicate metallic lace. You can tell they had the stitcher in mind when they selected these creative additions to our thread, bead, and charm arsenal. The prices and lengths vary per type so read carefully when choosing your trims. Unfortunately these are limited supplies... but, they do add NEW STYLES frequently.

COST: PRICES VARY

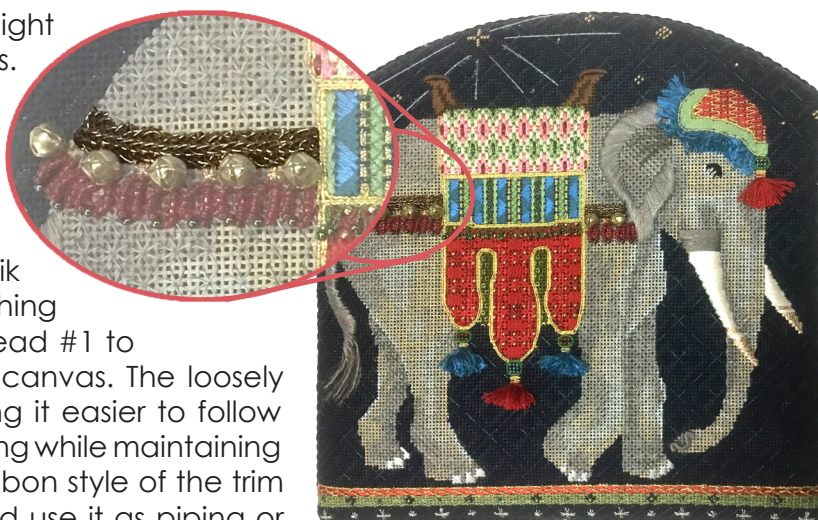


WORTH A RE-VIEW

GARNITURE AND KREINIK TRIMS

3/8" Kreinik Embellishment Trim

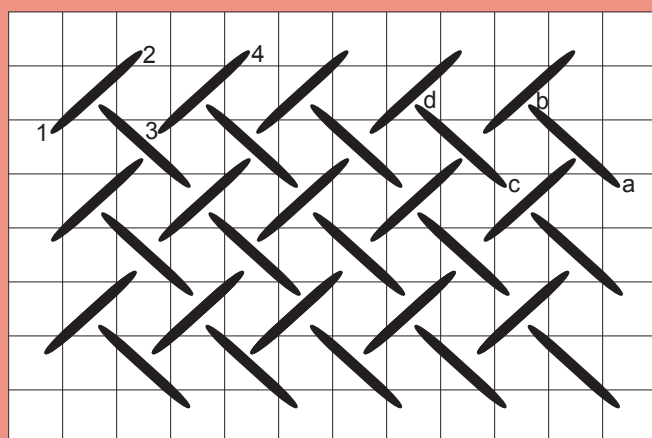
You are all familiar with Kreinik, but might not be aware of ALL of their products. They make and sell a wide range of threads and trims that are unusual. We carry 3/8" Embellishment Trim with and without wire. This is a wider ribbon of braided small strands of Kreinik metallic thread. The braid is made of Kreinik metallic thread and there are matching cords, blending filaments, or Japan Thread #1 to use to Couch (tack) the braid to your canvas. The loosely braided threads are very flexible making it easier to follow curves and circles without kinking or folding while maintaining the decorative braided look. The flat ribbon style of the trim enables you to fold it over an edge and use it as piping or torsade around the rim of an ornament or even pillow. The flat character of this trim will also allow you to sew it into a seam or run it under a mat on the sides of the canvas rather than sinking it. If you want to sink it through the canvas, unravel the braid and sink smaller groups of strands through adjacent holes along the end of the braid.



COST: \$4²⁵ & \$5⁷⁵ (WITH WIRE)

STITCH OF THE MONTH

FROM LORI CARTER



Woven Stitch

The Woven Stitch is one of my favorite go-to stitches. It is one of the most versatile stitches available to needlepointers while being one of the easiest to execute. In addition, the compensation is easy, as all compensating stitches are simple tent stitches.

Woven stitch works well in both large and small spaces and gives the appearance of an over/under weave. It's the perfect stitch for straw hats, woven fabric, garden fences, porch lattices, or even Santa's sack. I have also utilized the stitch for labels and backgrounds where I want a stitch that moves faster than Basketweave, but offers good though not necessarily complete coverage of the canvas.

Almost any fiber can be used to stitch the woven stitch. When using a lighter coverage fiber, a more open look develops, while heavier coverage produces a tighter "weave" that makes the stitch look more fabric-like.

CUSTOMER GALLERY



Lake Trout
by Warren Kimble
from Cooper Oaks
stitched by Donna Carey
stitch guide by Amy Bunger



Suite Santa
by Sandra Gilmore
stitched by Jan Pakalka
with suggestions from Amy Bunger
during Rent Amy Day



Hagetha Tree Top Witch
by Melissa Shirley
stitched by Jeanne Kunzman
stitch guide by Amy Bunger



12 Vases
by Julia's Needleworks
stitched by Chris Allen
stitch guide by Amy Bunger

CUSTOMER GALLERY



Who Gives a Hoot
by JP Needlepoint
stitched by Alison Olsen
stitch guide by Robin King



Squarely Squash
by Kathryn Read (Holly Berry)
from Dreamhouse Ventures
stitched by Pam Lemire
stitch guide by Amy Bunger

Quail Scene

by Quail Run Designs
stitched by Pam Lemire
with suggestions from Amy Bunger during Rent Amy Day



Summer Blossom
by Labors of Love
stitched by Judy Intrologator
stitch guide by Amy Bunger