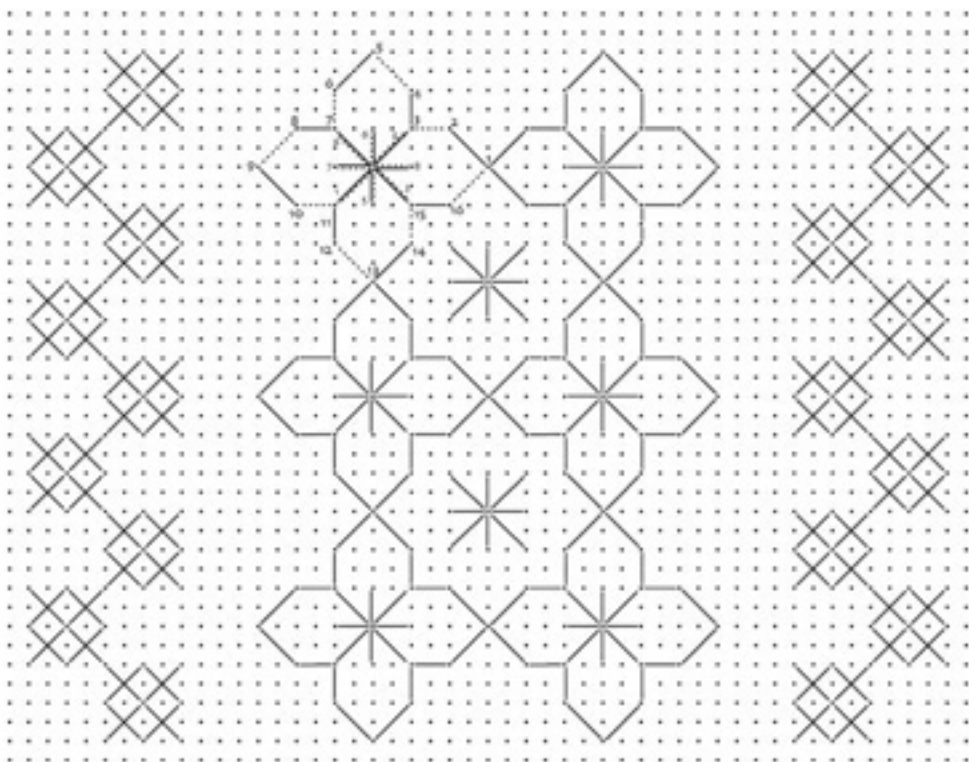
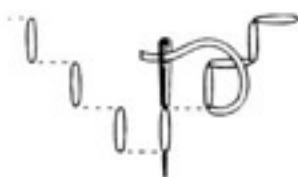


# Bookmark in counted thread

FOR THE QUEEN'S TREASURE CHEST



Once the embroidery is completed, sew the two pieces of material together, right sides facing, on three of the four sides, leaving the top open. Then turn sewn fabric inside out and stitch up the fourth side. For added decoration, add a tassel or some beads at the bottom.



## 1. Basic double-running stitch

The double-running or Holbein stitch is the basic stitch of blackwork embroidery. This stitch is reversible — that is, it looks the same on the back and front.

Work the stitch in two passes or “journeys.” On the first journey, work every other stitch, following the pattern. On the return journey, work the “in between” stitches, ending where you began. The pattern should look the same on the back and on the front.

In the center to make the star, come up at the center, go down at the outer point of the star, and return underneath to the center for the next stitch.

## Materials

10 x 2 inch evenweave linen for embroidery

10 x 2 inch fabric for backing

Needle included

1/2 skein silk thread for blackwork design (use 1 thread)

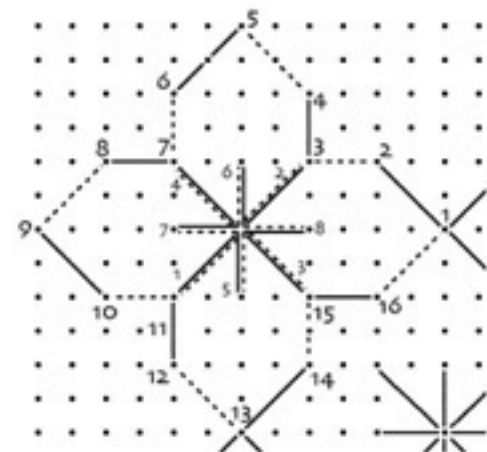
1 skein DMC thread for borders (use 2 threads)

## Instructions

See charted design and suggested stitches. For blackwork, use Holbein (double running) stitch with 1 strand of silk thread.

For borders, use either the cross stitch (as charted) or long-armed cross stitch, doing 2 vertical rows on each side of the blackwork design. Use 2 threads of the DMC floss for this.

*Detail of the chart, showing with numbers the order of the stitches.*





## 2. Cross stitch

Working from right to left, make a row of evenly spaced slanting stitches over two threads of the cloth. If the needle is always kept vertical and the stitches are spaced evenly apart, the slant of each stitch will always remain the same.

Working from left to right, return along the line, again keeping the needle vertical, and going into the exact holes of the first row of slanting stitches. This forms a continuous line of cross stitches as in the diagram. It is important to always keep the final stitch of the cross slanting in the same direction. When blocks of stitches are worked, this has a much tidier effect than if some stitches slant from right to left, others from left to right.

## 3. Long-armed cross stitch (shown at right)

Size: 4 threads wide by 2 threads high

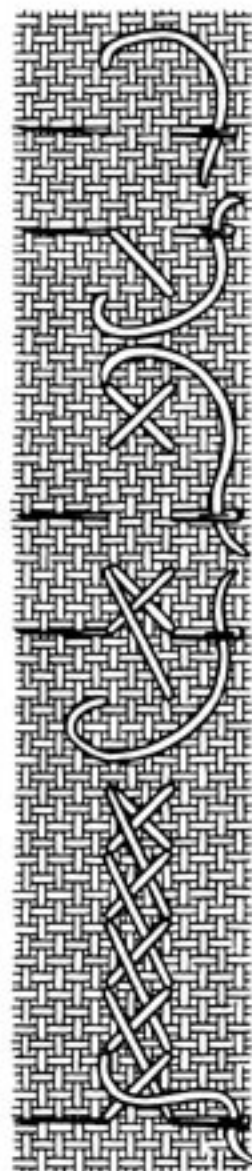
One of the earliest known embroidery stitches. Examples dating from the 13th century can be seen in London's V&A Museum. This type of stitch creates a braid-like effect. Excellent for covering large background spaces in a short amount of time.

For the first row, begin at the top and work toward the bottom. For the second row, begin at the bottom and work toward the top. Always begin each row with a normal cross-stitch.

## Notes

The purpose of this project is three-fold. First, this project provides instruction on three different "period" stitches, and an introduction to using evenweave linen and silk and cotton thread. Second, when finished, this piece can be presented for evaluation in the Counted Thread category of the Guild's Apprenticeship Program. Third, the bookmark can be contributed to the Queen's Treasure Chest in service to Their Majesties.

Please bring finished projects for the Queen's Treasure Chest to any Crown Tournament, or mail to the Guild at the address below. If you have any questions about this project, please contact Isela di Bari at 831-385-3040.



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