

Blackwork Ornament

Cross-stitch chart by LooseThreadStitchery

2023



A small ornament is a great way to practice your blackwork skills. Chart is 50x50 stitches; design is 40x40 stitches. Pattern includes the chart, as well as assembly instructions with images.

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Notes




These ornaments use the following stitches:

- back stitch*
- double running stitch*
- ladder stitch*
- blanket stitch*

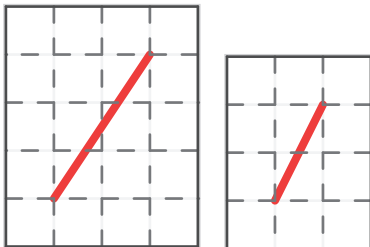
Materials:

- Aida cloth (shown here on 18-count)*
- Embroidery floss (shown here in colour DMC 991)*
- Cotton sewing thread (I've used dark thread here for visibility, but usually match this to the Aida cloth)*
- Stuffing or fiber fill*

Reading the chart:

-  Back stitch (single strand of embroidery floss)
-  Back stitch or double running stitch to sew the two sides of the ornament together (double strand of cotton sewing thread)
-  Stitch placement for blanket stitch border (six strands of embroidery floss)

Each of the following is worked as a single long stitch:



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Assembly

1. Work the blackwork design twice. I usually work each copy on a square of Aida cloth measuring roughly 60 x 60 stitches.
2. With right sides together, stitch the two pieces together along the blue line on the chart. I use a double running stitch for this, with doubled cotton thread.



3. Clip the corners of the squares close to the seam. This allows the corners to be sharper on the finished piece.



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4. Turn the ornament right side out. It should now be shaped like a small bag or pillowcase, partly open at one end.



5. Lightly stuff the ornament.



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6. Using ladder stitch, sew the opening together to complete the pillow shape.



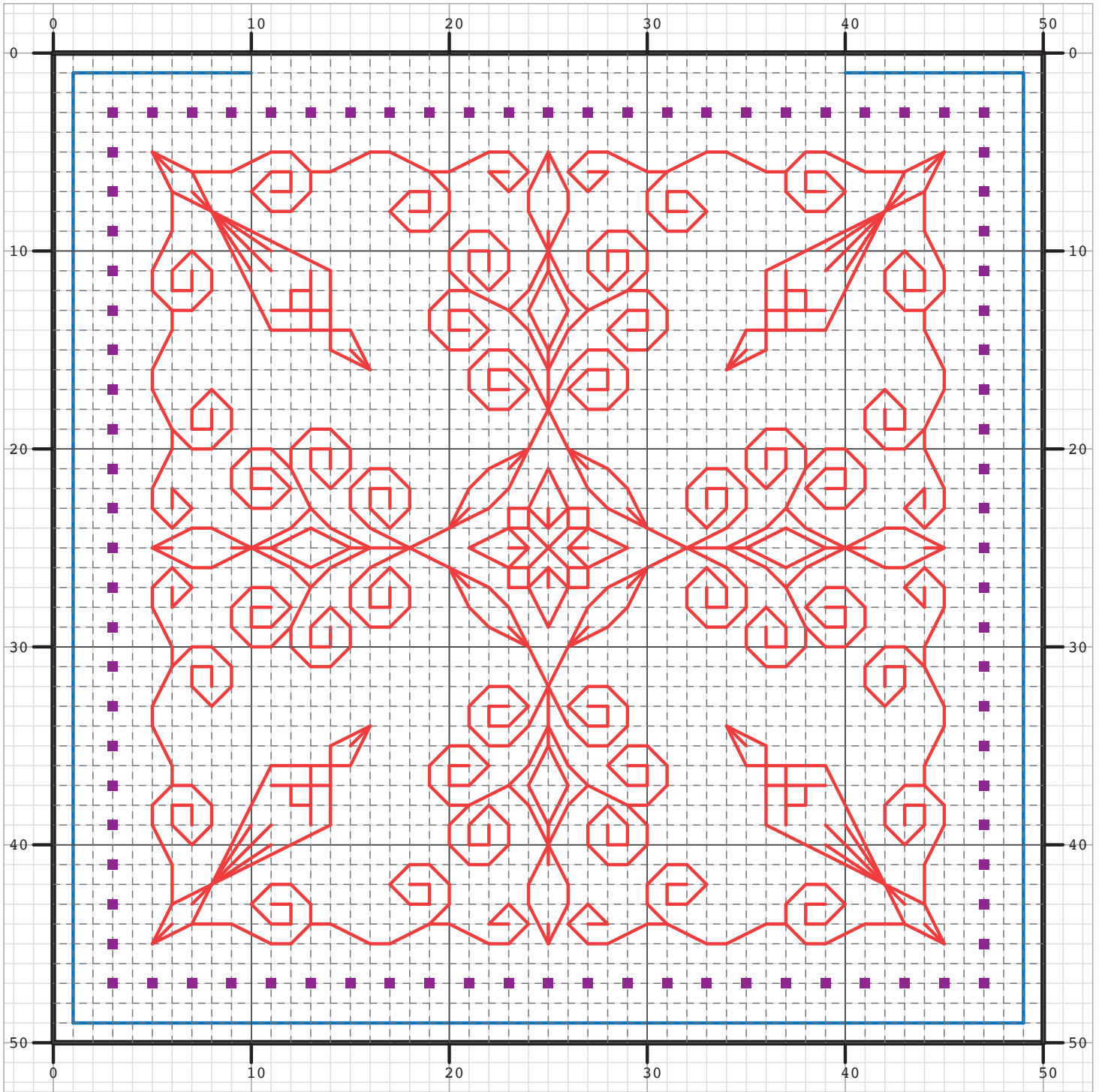
7. Starting at a corner, work around the ornament in blanket stitch, placing one stitch for every two squares of the Aida cloth, as shown by the purple squares on the chart. Work two stitches in each corner. I use six-stranded embroidery floss for this. Use the tail of your thread to make a loop with which to hang the ornament.



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Ornament Chart



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