

MIRKWOOD DESIGNS presents...

Hearts and Violets Cousinet Biscornu

Page 1 of 5

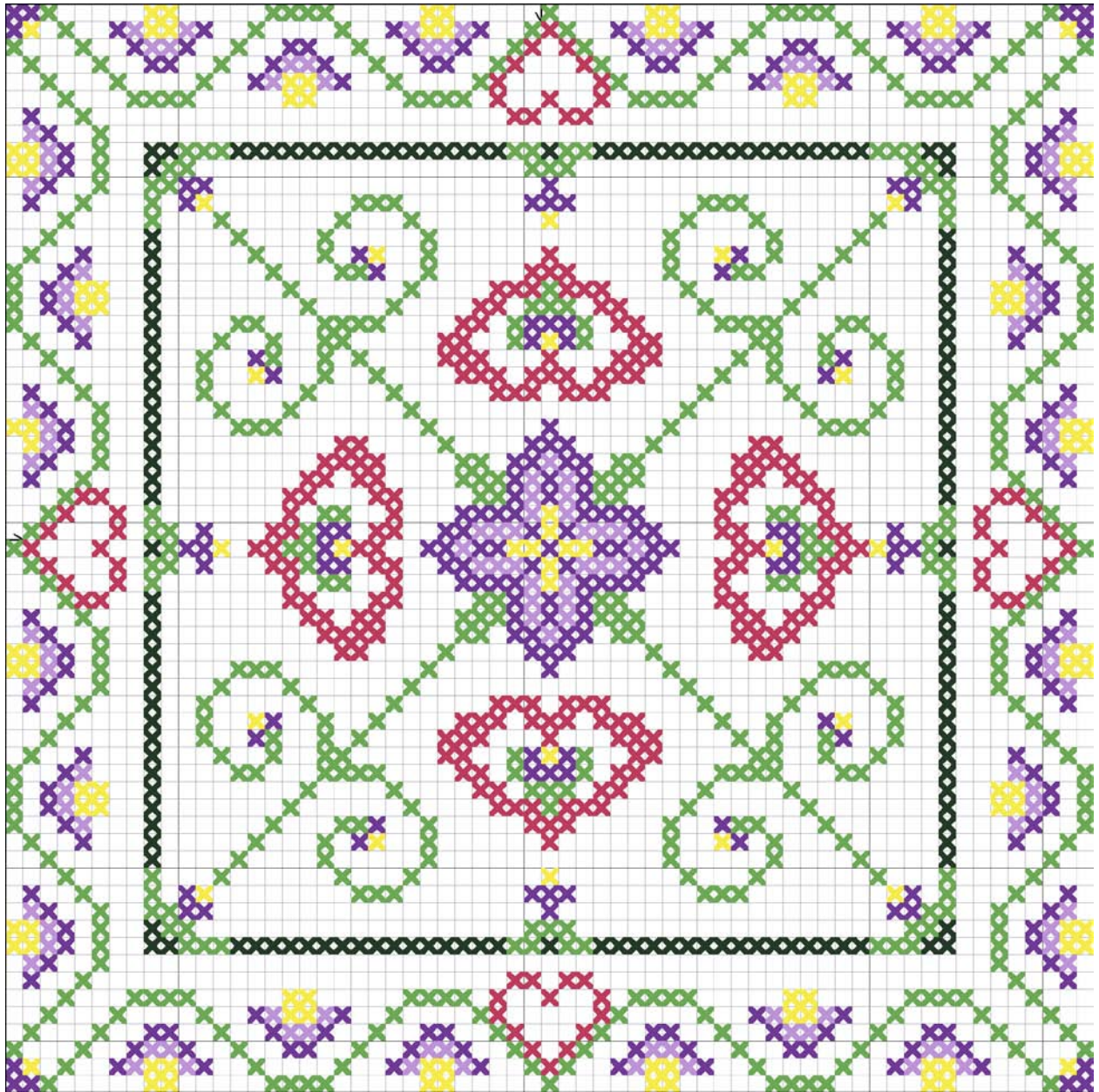


Cross Stitched Pin Cushion

Hearts and Violets Cousinet Biscornu

Page 2 of 5

Cross Stitch Chart



Copyright 2009 by Ruthann Logsdon Zaroff for Mirkwood Designs.

This pattern is for personal use only and may not be sold or otherwise distributed without this copyright information.

MirkwoodDesigns.com

Hearts and Violets Cousinet Biscornu

Page 3 of 5

Supplies

- Cross stitch pattern (previous page)
- 4.5-inch square 18-count white Aida cloth
- 4.5-inch square backing fabric (or another piece of Aida cloth)
- Size 26 tapestry needle
- Embroidery floss colors (feel free to choose your own colors):
 - DMC 208 Lavender- very dark
 - DMC 210 Lavender-medium
 - DMC 307 Lemon
 - DMC 319 Pistachio Green-very dark
 - DMC 335 Rose
 - DMC 703 Chartreuse
 - Optional: Kreinik metallic blending filament
- Filling (polyester fiberfill, for example)
- Hand sewing needle
- White sewing thread
- Long needle (such as for doll making)
- Two small buttons or beads

Note: You can machine stitch the biscornu, but hand stitching is actually easier.

Instructions

1. Mark the center of the Aida cloth.
2. Cut the floss into 18-inch lengths and separate the strands. If you want, you can also add a single strand of Kreinik metallic blending filament to lend shimmer to the design.
3. Follow the chart, centering the design on the Aida cloth, and use two strands of floss to stitch the design.
4. Trim the stitched top $\frac{1}{4}$ inch beyond the outer border.
5. Cut the piece of backing fabric (or another piece of Aida cloth) exactly the size of the stitched top.
6. Cut the piece of backing fabric (or another piece of Aida cloth) exactly the size of the stitched top.

The photo at right shows the trimmed front and back, and all of the supplies I used to stitch the top. Note that I used slightly different colors from the suggested floss list, including a beautiful satin floss by DMC (the fuchsia).



Copyright 2009 by Ruthann Logsdon Zaroff for Mirkwood Designs.

This pattern is for personal use only and may not be sold or otherwise distributed without this copyright information.

MirkwoodDesigns.com

Hearts and Violets Cousinet Biscornu

Page 4 of 5

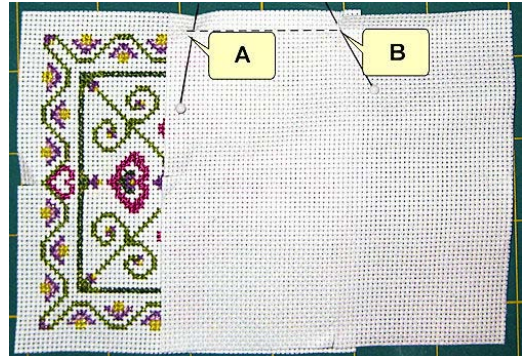
7. On both the stitched top and the backing mark the halfway point on each side. Cut nearly (but not quite) $\frac{1}{4}$ inch into the sides at the marks.

The photo at right shows the $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch cuts into each side of the top and bottom.



8. With wrong sides together, match up one corner of the top with one side center mark.
Note: You will be matching up the stitching lines, not the edges.

The photo at right shows the sewing line and where you begin and end stitching on each segment. At “B” you carefully pivot the top piece of fabric and continue to the next corner/center. After the first segment you won’t need to use pins.



9. Begin stitching. Because you’ll be turning the piece right-side out, make sure to secure the beginning stitch well, otherwise it might come undone. Remember to maintain a $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch seam allowance. Each corner/center should meet. Carefully pivot at each corner/center junction. I find it helps to take a second stitch at each corner to secure it before pivoting.
10. Stitch until you have only one corner/center segment left (about $2\frac{1}{4}$ inches). Knot the thread securely.

The photo at right shows the stitched piece ready to turn right-side out.



Hearts and Violets Cousinet Biscornu

Page 5 of 5

11. Turn the stitched piece right-side out, making sure to push the corners outward. Aida cloth is quite stiff. Be patient while turning. You'll be glad you secured the beginning and ending stitches well!

The photo at right shows the biscornu all ready for stuffing.

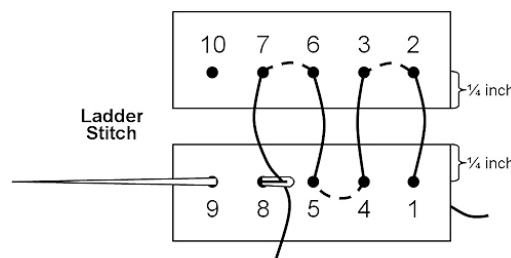


12. Stuff the piece fairly tightly and stitch the opening closed.

The photo at right shows the last segment sewn and ready to be closed using the ladder stitch as described below.

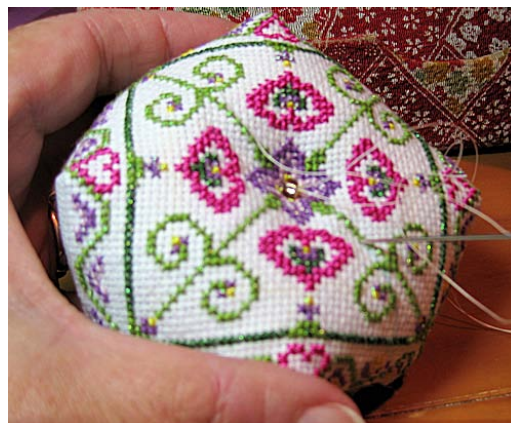


13. The illustration at right shows the ladder stitch. Keep the stitching fairly loose as you are sewing. When you have reached the end of the area you're closing, carefully pull the thread tight. The raw edges should fold to the inside, and the stitching will be nearly invisible. Knot securely then stitch into the cushion and back out an inch or so away. Pull the thread tight and cut close to the cushion. The end of the thread will be buried inside.



14. With the long needle and several strands of sewing thread, sew small beads or buttons to the top and bottom center of the cushion, pulling the thread tightly to make a nice indentation.
Note: You don't have to do this step, but it's so pretty if you do!

The photo at right shows the center bead being sewn.



Copyright 2009 by Ruthann Logsdon Zaroff for Mirkwood Designs.

This pattern is for personal use only and may not be sold or otherwise distributed without this copyright information.

MirkwoodDesigns.com