

How To Stitch a Cross Stitch

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Cross-Stitch Expert

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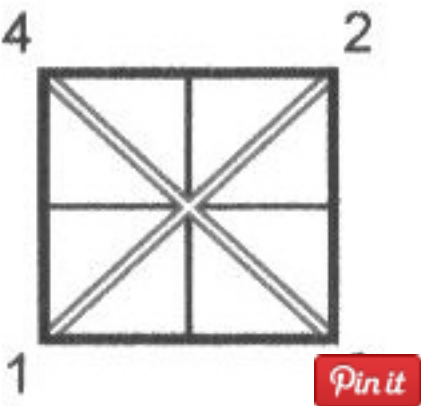
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This diagram represents one square of Aida fabric. Graphic © Connie G. Barwick, licensed to About.com, Inc.

Stitch a [cross stitch](#) by following these simple steps.

Difficulty: Easy

Time Required: Varies

Here's How:

1. Thread the [needle](#) with two strands of the [floss](#) cut to a length of about 12 inches. To begin the stitch, start with the needle behind the fabric. Bring the needle and floss up through a hole in one of the squares in the [Aida fabric](#) near the center of the piece of fabric. This hole is represented by 1 on the diagram.

2. Insert the needle in the hole that lies diagonally from hole one as indicated by 2 on the diagram.

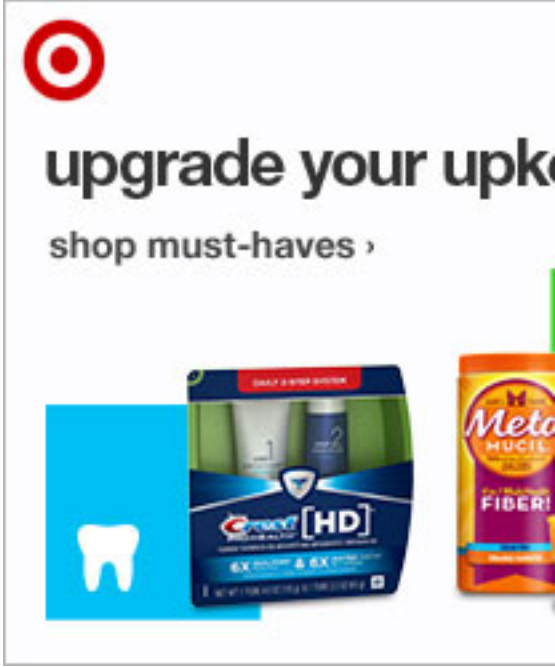
3. Bring the needle back up through hole 3 - directly under hole 2.

4. Complete the cross stitch by inserting the needle at 4.

5. Flip to the back of the fabric. Secure the "tail" of the floss by pulling it under the thread.

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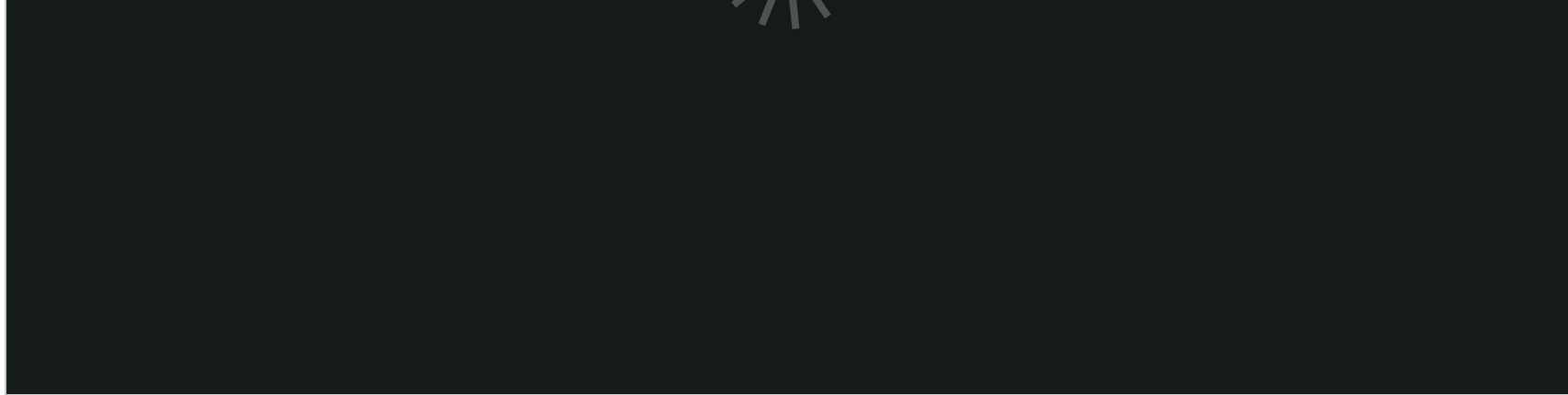
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6. Practice stitching cross stitches until you feel comfortable with the stitch.

Tips:

1. Try stitching with a [hoop](#).
2. The floss should lay flat against the Aida fabric. As you practice, you will find the right amount of [tension](#) to place on the floss.
3. Need help? Get it in the [About.com Cross Stitch Forum](#). Become a part of a world-wide stitching community.
4. Stay up-to-date with when new tutorials, articles, and patterns are added to About.com Cross Stitch. Sign up for the [free newsletter](#) today.

What You Need:


- [fabric](#)
- short length of [floss](#)
- [tapestry needle](#)
- scissors
- [hoop](#) (optional)


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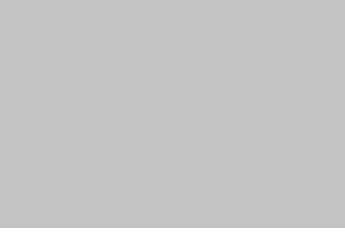
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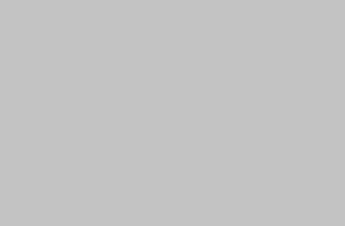
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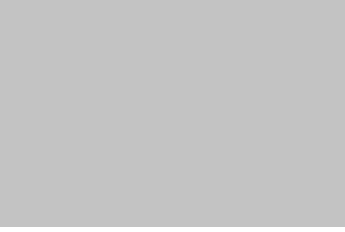
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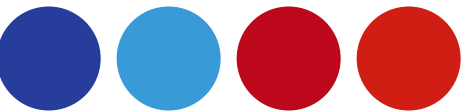
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