

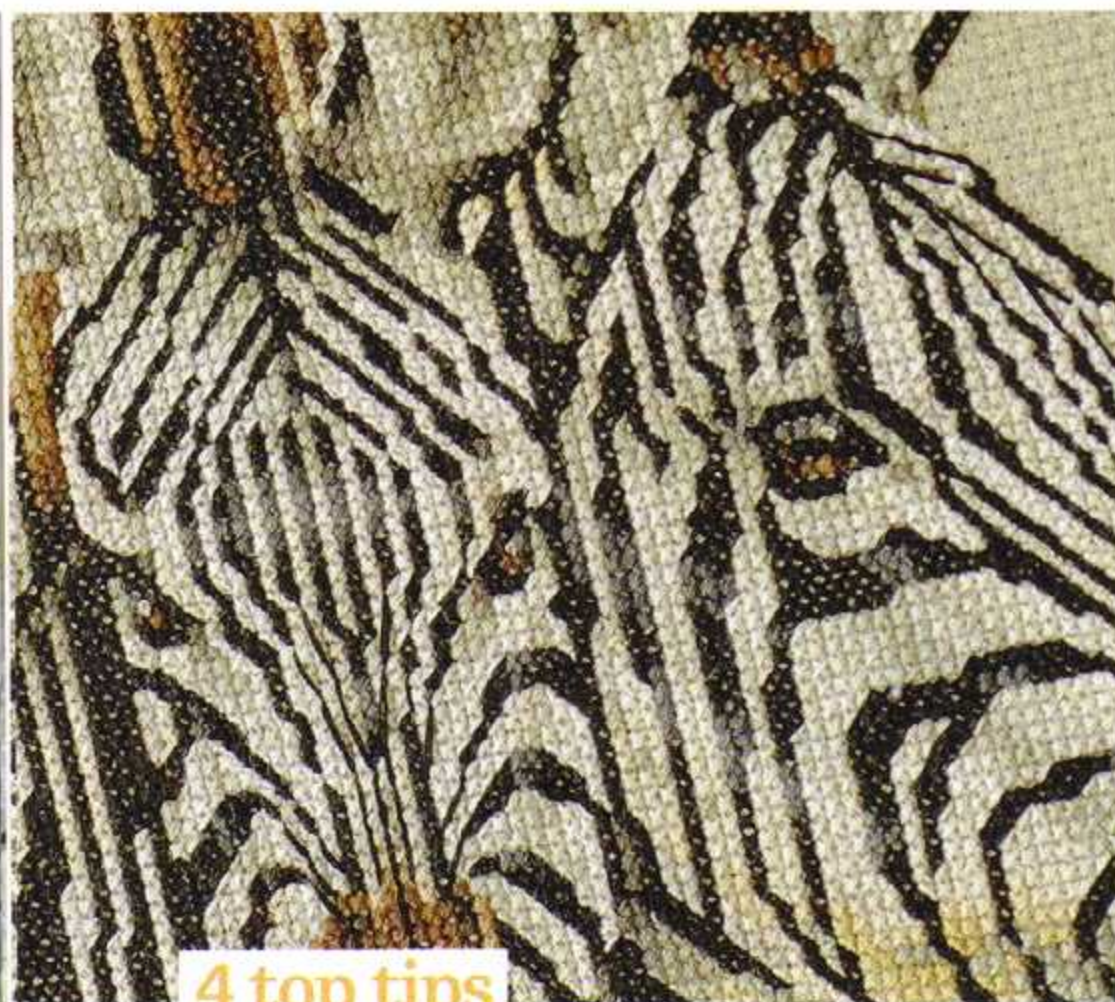
Reader guest...



"The beauty of this design is its realism – it looks more like a photo than cross stitch! They look so bold and powerful and their eyes seem to speak to you." Jackie Milenkovski

Write to us...

We'd love to see a photo of your finished stitching! You can write or email – turn to page 3 for contact details



4 top tips

Perfect fractionals

1 If you find it tricky to read fractional symbols on the chart, try enlarging it on the photocopier or alternatively use a magnifier to help.

2 With quarter stitches, you'll find it easier to split the centre of an aida block with a sharp embroidery needle. A size 7 or 9 will be fine.

3 Avoid pulling your stitches too tightly, as this can distort your fabric, making your stitches look too tight.

4 Work fractional stitches as you go rather than leaving them until last. Not only will this be confusing, but there's a chance you'll end up missing some out too!

Instant expert

Your stitching tension

Your stitching tension varies from day to day and is especially noticeable when working a solid block of colour. To avoid uneven looking stitches, come to a convenient finishing point before you pack up for the day.



Stretch the fabric over a wooden frame and a contemporary finish to your project.

Racing stripes

DMC Anchor Madeira

Cross stitch in two strands

✕	White	002	2401
■	310	403	2400
●	413	401	1713
②	422	943	2102
▶	645	273	1811
◎	646	8581	1812
□	647	1040	1813
⊞	648	900	1814
1	712	926	2101
▲	738	372	2013
I	739	366	2014
●	801	359	2007
J	822	390	1908
◐	844	1041	1810
■	938	381	2005
~	3072	847	1805
◆	3371	382	2004

DMC Anchor Madeira

Cross stitch in two strands

■	3799	236	1713
⊞	3828	373	2104
#	3862	358	1913
⊗	3863	379	1912
⊞	3864	376	1310

Backstitch in two strands

—	310	403	2400
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all outlines and details

French knots in one strand

○	3072	847	1805
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eyes

Our design has been stitched on 14 count aida

Design stitch count
110 high x 94 wide

Design area
20x17cm (7¾x6¾in)

Step-by-step

Canvas mounting

1 To mount our design we've used a basic frame with an outside measurement of 24x20cm and a mount board insert to fit. Measure and mark off the centre points along the frame and fabric edges.

3 Keep the fabric taut and fold along the same fabric grain to keep the fabric square. Carefully fold the excess fabric at each corner to lie neatly.

2 Place some carpet foam – found at your local hardware store – on the reverse of your frame. Measure up the centre points of the fabric and frame and begin to stretch the fabric around your frame.

4 Finally trim the excess fabric, then place a piece of white mount board in the frame aperture. Next, just secure any fabric edges with strips of masking tape.