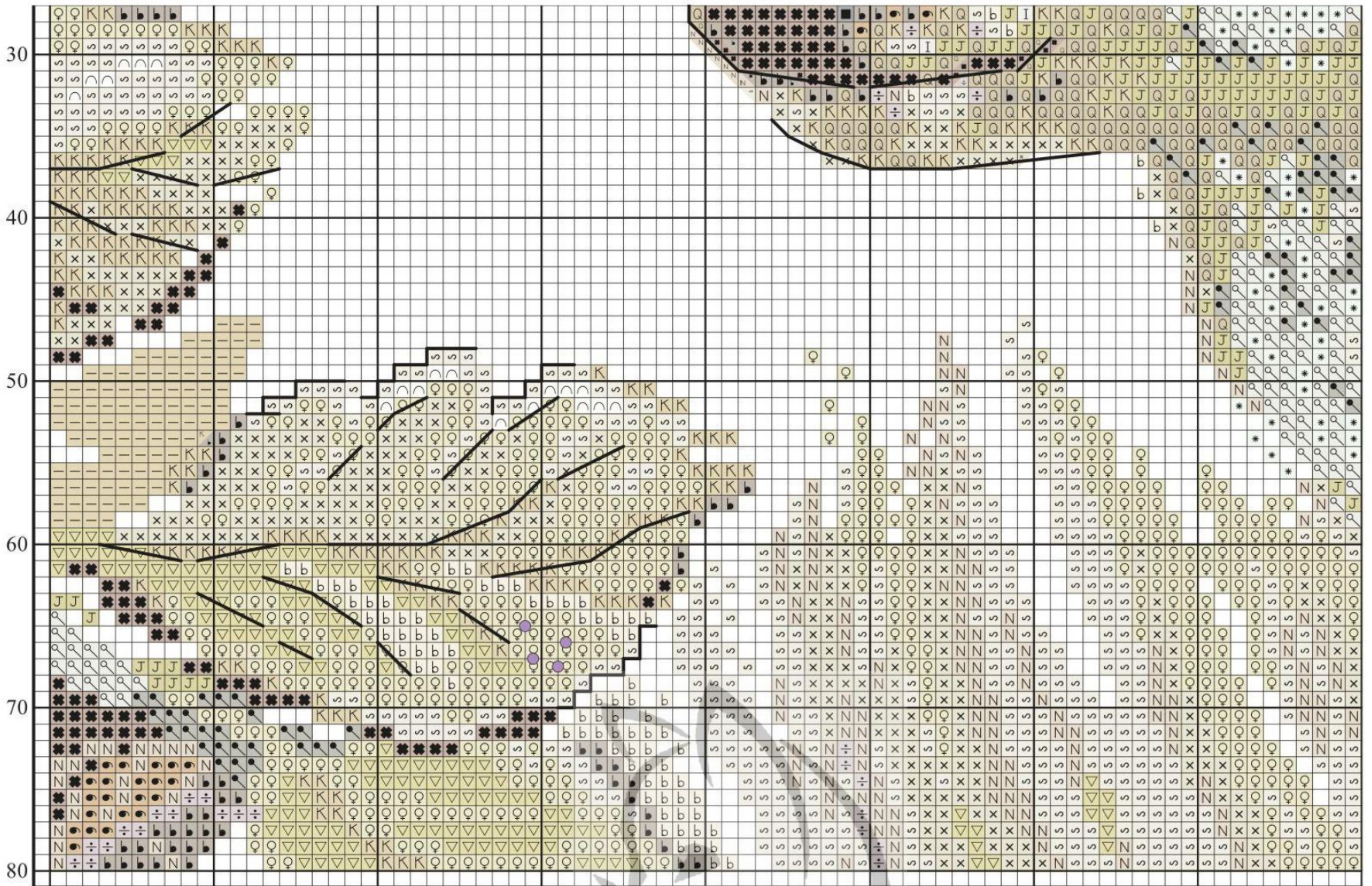
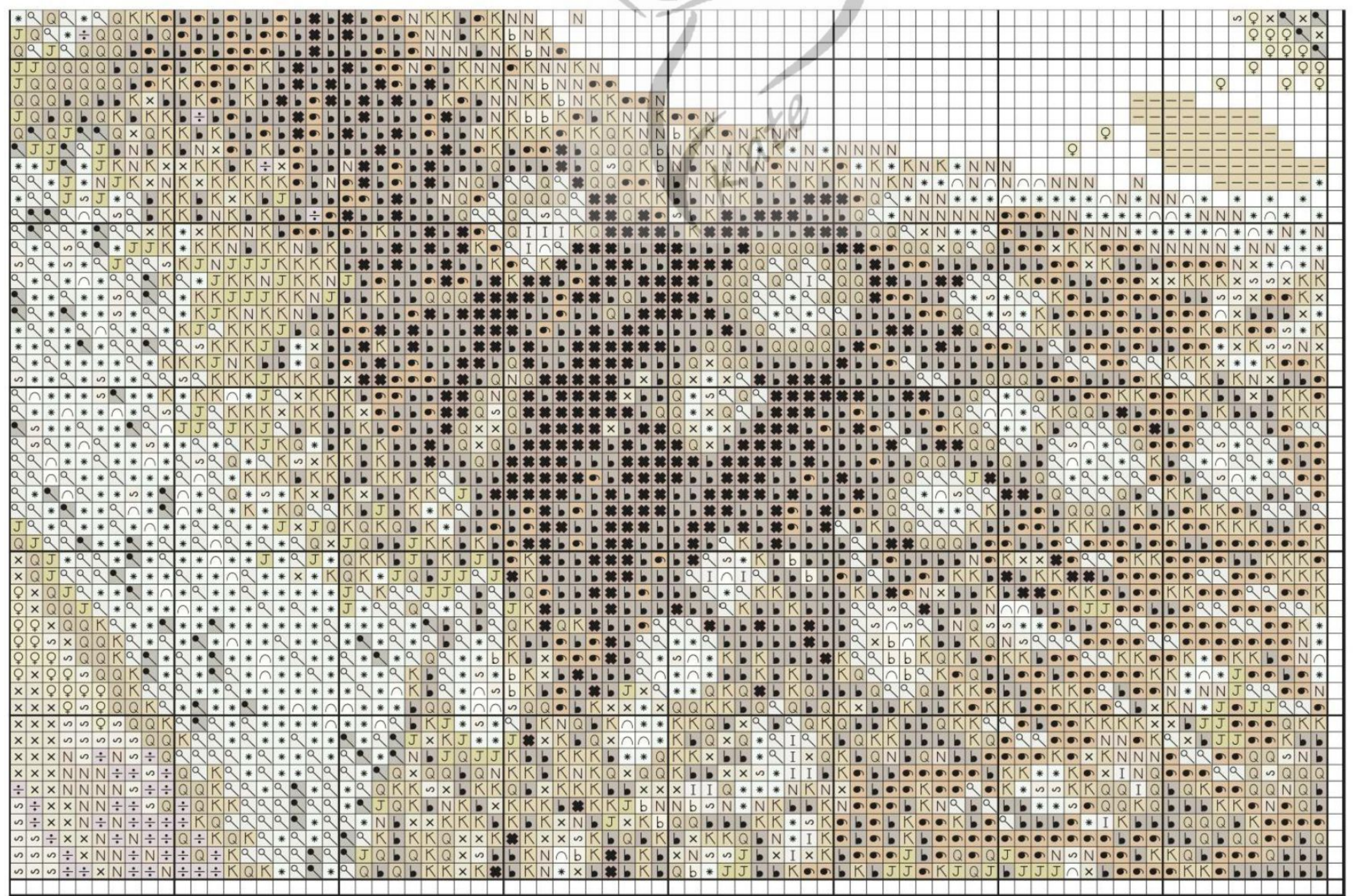


Stag cushion



Bottom left



Bottom right



CAROL THORNTON'S Designer Secrets

Lovely leaves

There's still much beauty to be found in winter leaves, despite their more subdued colours compared to summer and autumn. I've added touches of mauve to lift the browns, beiges and greys in this piece.



Winter companion

For some people, Christmas stitching isn't really their thing, but they do love a cosy project to see them through the season. If that sounds like you, this stag will keep you company on the long winter nights ahead. Imagine yourself snuggled up on the sofa with the fire roaring, surrounded by stitchy stash – absolute heaven!



Stag key

✦ Cross stitch in two strands

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira	
■	169	1040	1707	pewter grey
■	310	403	2400	black
■	433	357	2602	dark tan
●	435	1046	2010	tan
I	453	231	1806	shell grey
Q	640	393	1905	dark grey
○	648	900	1814	grey
○	822	390	2404	cream
▽	833	945	2203	olive green
N	842	1080	1910	brown
J	3023	899	1813	stone grey
■	3031	360	2003	chocolate brown
b	3033	391	1908	beige
÷	3042	870	2612	mauve
♀	3046	887	2206	straw
*	3072	847	1805	light grey
x	3782	388	1911	mocha brown
K	3828	373	2103	hazelnut brown
∩	3865	2	2403	natural white

✦ Half cross stitch in two strands

—	3828	373	2103	hazelnut brown
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✦ Backstitch in one strand

—	310	403	2400	black
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✦ French knots in one strand

●	822	390	2404	cream
●	3042	870	2612	mauve

STITCH COUNT 160 high x 160 wide

DESIGN AREA 14 HPI (28-count evenweave) – 29x29cm (11½x11½in)

SKEINS NEEDED 2x433 (dark tan), 2x640 (dark grey), 2x822 (cream), 2x3046 (straw), 2x3782 (mocha brown), 2x3828 (hazelnut brown)

STITCHED BY Karen Purnell

This design was stitched using DMC stranded cotton on 28-count evenweave over two threads of the fabric

How to make the cushion cover

- 1 Trim your finished stitching, leaving a 1cm (½in) border around the sides.
- 2 Cut two pieces of backing fabric measuring 31x21cm (12¼x8¼in) for the envelope-opening back panel. Sew a 2cm (¾in) double hem along one long edge of each piece.
- 3 With right-sides facing, place these panels over the front, so the raw edges match and the hemmed edges of the panels overlap in the middle to create an envelope opening.
- 4 Pin and sew all the way around the edge of the cushion, using a 1cm (½in) seam allowance. Trim the corners, turn through to the right side and press.



“Carol’s unique style really comes through in this project, with an emphasis on fantastic shading. I love her use of half cross stitch, too, for some of the leafy details around the edge of the cushion.”
Fiona Baker, Technical Editor

Stitch tip

Before making your cushion cover, wash your finished stitching, then pin it to shape and size and leave to dry naturally