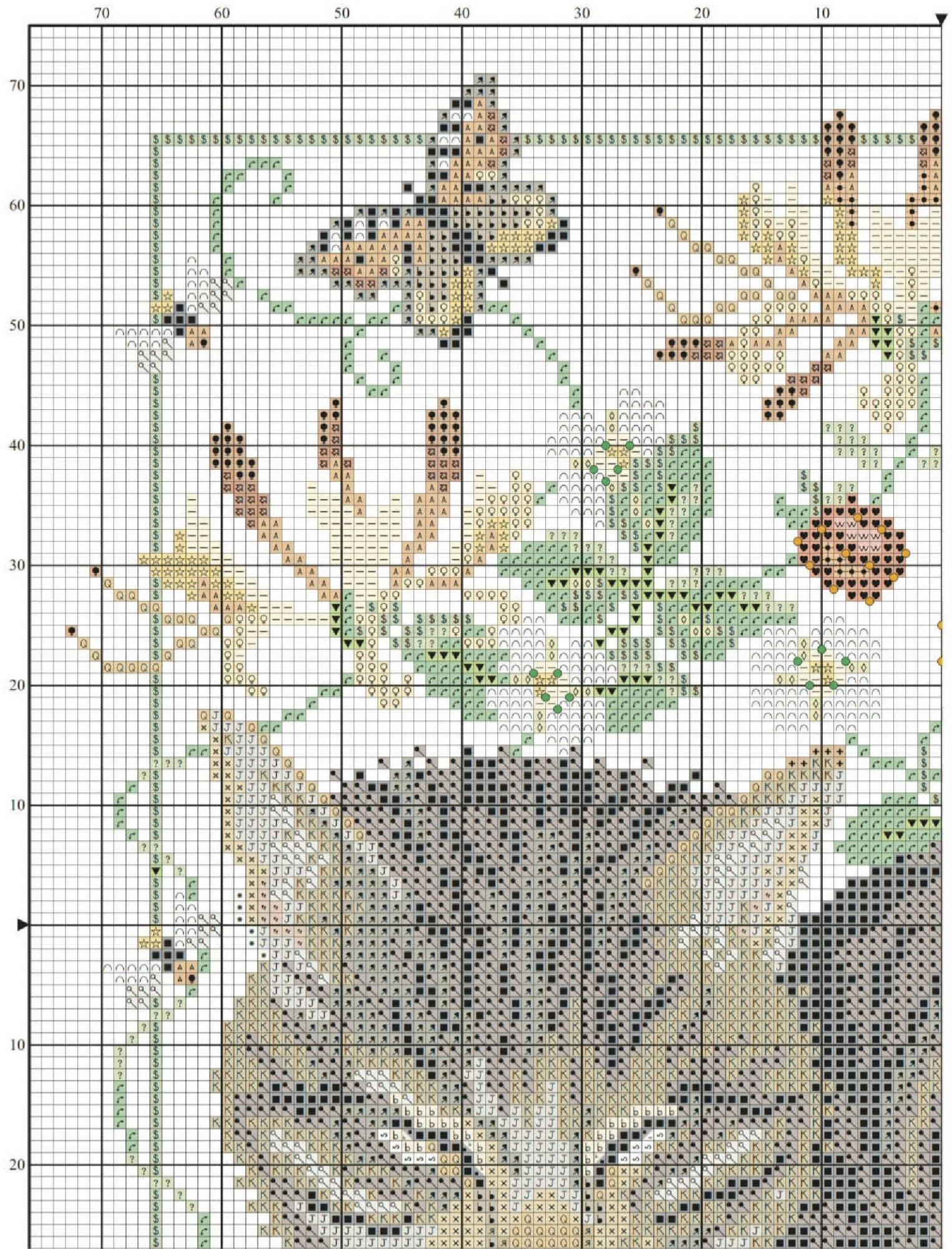


# Cat cushion



Top left





Top right







### How to make the cushion

- 1 Trim the stitched piece, leaving a 2cm (¾in) border.
- 2 Cut two 31x8cm (12¼x3¼in) strips of backing fabric for side panels. Place panels on top of stitching with right sides facing and sew in place using a 1cm (¼in) seam allowance. Press seams open.
- 3 Repeat step 2, using two 41x8cm (16¼x3¼in) strips of backing fabric for the top and bottom of cushion.

- 4 Cut two 41x26cm (16¼x10¼in) pieces of fabric for the envelope-opening back panel. On each piece, sew a 1cm (¼in) double hem along one long edge, then press.
- 5 With right sides facing, pin one panel at the top of the cushion and one at the bottom, so the two panels overlap.
- 6 Pin and sew around the edge with a 1cm (¼in) seam. Trim corners, turn through and press, then insert the cushion pad to finish.



### Lesley Teare's Designer Secrets

#### The cat's whiskers

My sleepy tabby wouldn't be complete without her sleek white whiskers. I've worked these in long stitch as this offers a more realistic outline than backstitch would be able to create. Long stitch is very much like backstitch – it just covers a greater area and as a result it gives a more naturalistic and flowing effect – as you can see here!



#### Beautiful butterflies

I've based my butterflies on tortoiseshell and red admiral butterflies, which can commonly be seen fluttering in my own garden. These little motifs add extra colour, and a sense of movement to the cat's surroundings, and I think they'd make great designs to stitch on their own – maybe as part of a greeting or to make a gift tag or bookmark?

### Cat key

#### ✦ Cross stitch in two strands

|    | DMC   | Anchor | Madeira |                  |
|----|-------|--------|---------|------------------|
| ∩  | blanc | 2      | 2400    | white            |
| ■  | 310   | 403    | 1005    | black            |
| ♥  | 349   | 1098   | 212     | red              |
| ∩  | 352   | 9      | 303     | coral            |
| ?  | 368   | 214    | 1310    | light green      |
| •  | 407   | 914    | 2312    | beige            |
| •  | 420   | 374    | 2104    | light hazelnut   |
| ×  | 422   | 943    | 2102    | very lt hazelnut |
| Q  | 436   | 1045   | 2011    | tan              |
| ◇  | 472   | 253    | 1414    | lettuce green    |
| \$ | 562   | 210    | 1205    | sea green        |
| •  | 632   | 936    | 2311    | brick red        |
| K  | 640   | 393    | 1905    | dark stone grey  |
| J  | 647   | 1040   | 1813    | stone grey       |
| ∩  | 648   | 900    | 1814    | light grey       |
| •  | 721   | 324    | 308     | orange           |
| ☆  | 728   | 305    | 107     | yellow           |
| b  | 739   | 366    | 2014    | cream            |
| ∩  | 844   | 1041   | 1809    | dark grey        |
| •  | 869   | 375    | 2105    | dark hazelnut    |
| ∩  | 904   | 258    | 1413    | parrot green     |
| •  | 918   | 341    | 314     | terracotta       |
| ∩  | 921   | 884    | 311     | dark copper      |
| A  | 922   | 1003   | 2306    | copper           |
| ∩  | 988   | 243    | 1402    | green            |
| *  | 3072  | 847    | 1805    | light stone grey |
| +  | 3772  | 1027   | 812     | light brick red  |
| ∩  | 3787  | 273    | 1811    | grey             |
| —  | 3823  | 386    | 2512    | light yellow     |
| N  | 3828  | 373    | 2103    | hazelnut         |
| ♀  | 3855  | 311    | 2513    | apricot          |
| ∩  | 3866  | 926    | 2101    | pearl            |

#### ✦ Long stitch in one strand

|   |       |   |      |       |
|---|-------|---|------|-------|
| — | blanc | 2 | 2402 | white |
|---|-------|---|------|-------|

#### ✦ French knots in one strand

|   |      |     |      |              |
|---|------|-----|------|--------------|
| ● | 904  | 258 | 1413 | parrot green |
| ● | 3855 | 311 | 2513 | apricot      |

**STITCH COUNT** 149 high x 150 wide

**DESIGN AREA** 14 HPI (28-count evenweave) – 27x27.5cm (10½x10¾in)

**SKEINS NEEDED** 2x310 (black), 2x844 (dark grey)

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

“Not only does this work well as a cushion, Lesley's sleepy cat would also look great in a traditional frame.”  
Abi Barker, *Special Projects Coordinator*