



Bright Birdhouses chart (top left)



Shopping list

- ✕ Zweigart* 14-count white aida measuring 35x30cm (13¾x11¼in)
- ✕ Stranded cotton as listed in the key
- ✕ Size 24 tapestry needle
- ✕ Frame of your choice with a minimum aperture of 27x21cm (10½x8¼in)

Thread & fabric cost
Approximately £27

*For stockists see page 84

Bright Birdhouses key

✕ Cross stitch in two strands

| | DMC | Anchor | Madeira | |
|---|-------|--------|---------|--------------|
| ∩ | B5200 | 1 | 2401 | white |
| ● | 209 | 98 | 803 | lilac |
| ÷ | 211 | 342 | 801 | light lilac |
| ↗ | 349 | 1098 | 212 | red |
| w | 351 | 10 | 214 | coral |
| ⊗ | 415 | 398 | 1802 | grey |
| b | 434 | 310 | 2009 | dark brown |
| Q | 435 | 1046 | 2010 | brown |
| x | 437 | 362 | 2012 | light brown |
| A | 602 | 57 | 702 | dark pink |
| 3 | 604 | 55 | 614 | pink |
| ◆ | 703 | 238 | 1307 | green |
| ☆ | 725 | 305 | 113 | yellow |
| ⊙ | 726 | 295 | 109 | light yellow |
| * | 762 | 234 | 1804 | light grey |
| ☾ | 798 | 131 | 912 | dark blue |
| t | 800 | 144 | 908 | light blue |
| ⊠ | 809 | 130 | 909 | blue |
| ♥ | 816 | 1006 | 513 | dark red |
| ⊕ | 907 | 255 | 1308 | light green |
| ☺ | 963 | 73 | 502 | light pink |
| ● | 972 | 298 | 107 | orange |
| ▽ | 3819 | 279 | 1610 | lime green |

✕ Backstitch in one strand

| | | | | |
|---|------|-----|------|-----------|
| — | 3799 | 236 | 1713 | dark grey |
|---|------|-----|------|-----------|

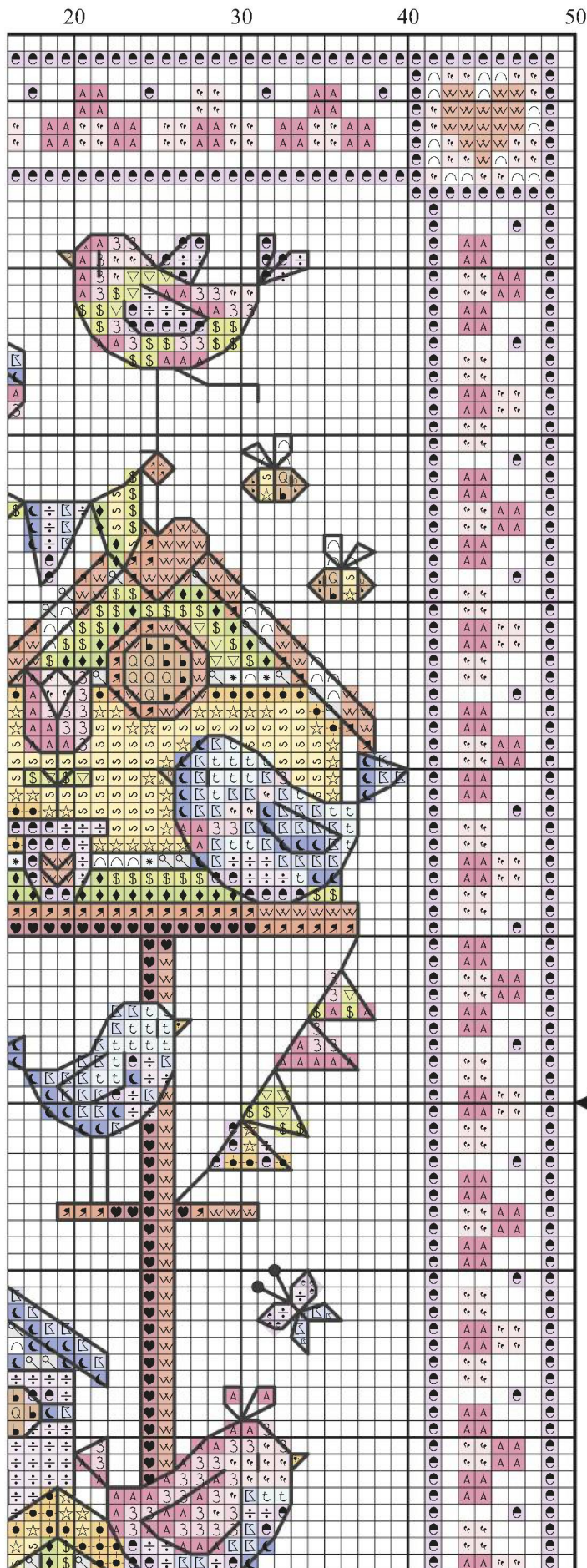
✕ French knots in one strand

| | | | | |
|---|------|-----|------|-----------|
| ● | 3799 | 236 | 1713 | dark grey |
|---|------|-----|------|-----------|

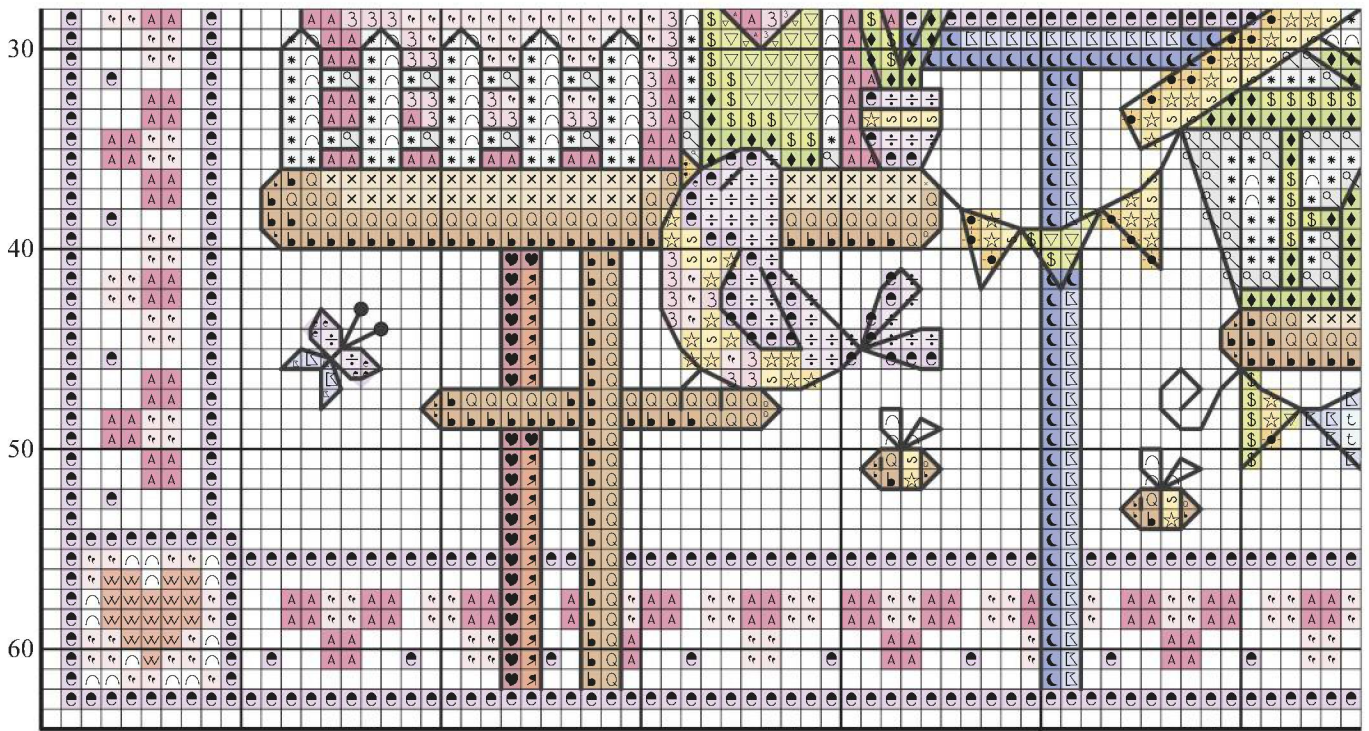
STITCH COUNT 126 high x 98 wide

DESIGN AREA 14 HPI (28-count evenweave) – 23x18cm (9x7in)

This design was stitched using DMC stranded cotton



Bright Birdhouses chart (top right)

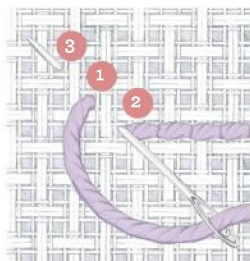


Bright Birdhouses chart (bottom left)

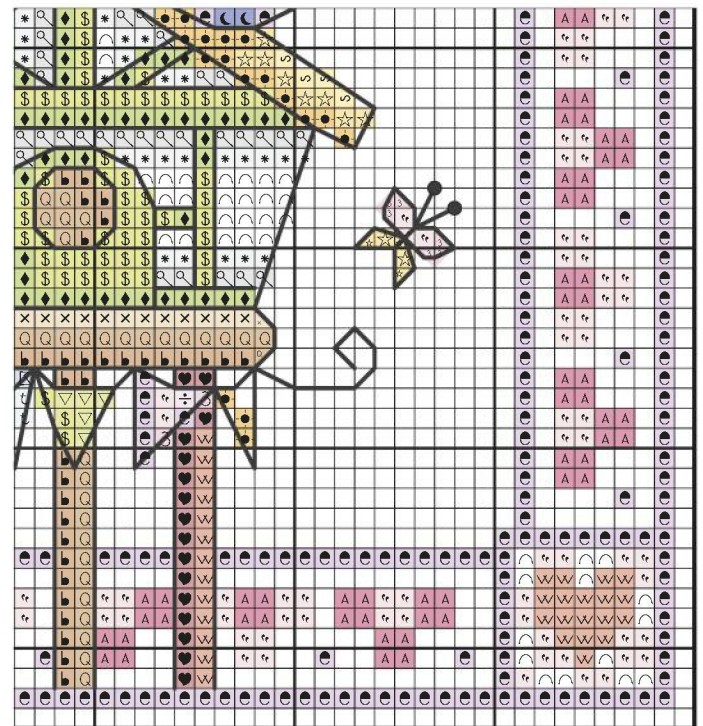
How to...

perfect your backstitch

When you've finished all the cross stitches, load your needle with one strand of thread using the colour specified in the key. Here, it's dark grey. Following the backstitch line on the chart, make your stitches as in this diagram. Bring your needle up at 1, down at 2 then back up at 3, stitching in a two steps forward, one step back motion. Keep it neat by using short lengths, to prevent them fuzzing up with wear.



TOP TIP
Use a sharp needle for the backstitch – it'll make it easier to complete, working around other stitches



Bright Birdhouses chart (bottom right)



Graham READER PANEL

“ I love these bright funky birdhouses. This would be a fun project to stitch and then frame. I want to have it hanging in the conservatory so we could look at it, as well as the wild birds out in our back garden. ”