



SUSAN BATES' DESIGNER SECRETS

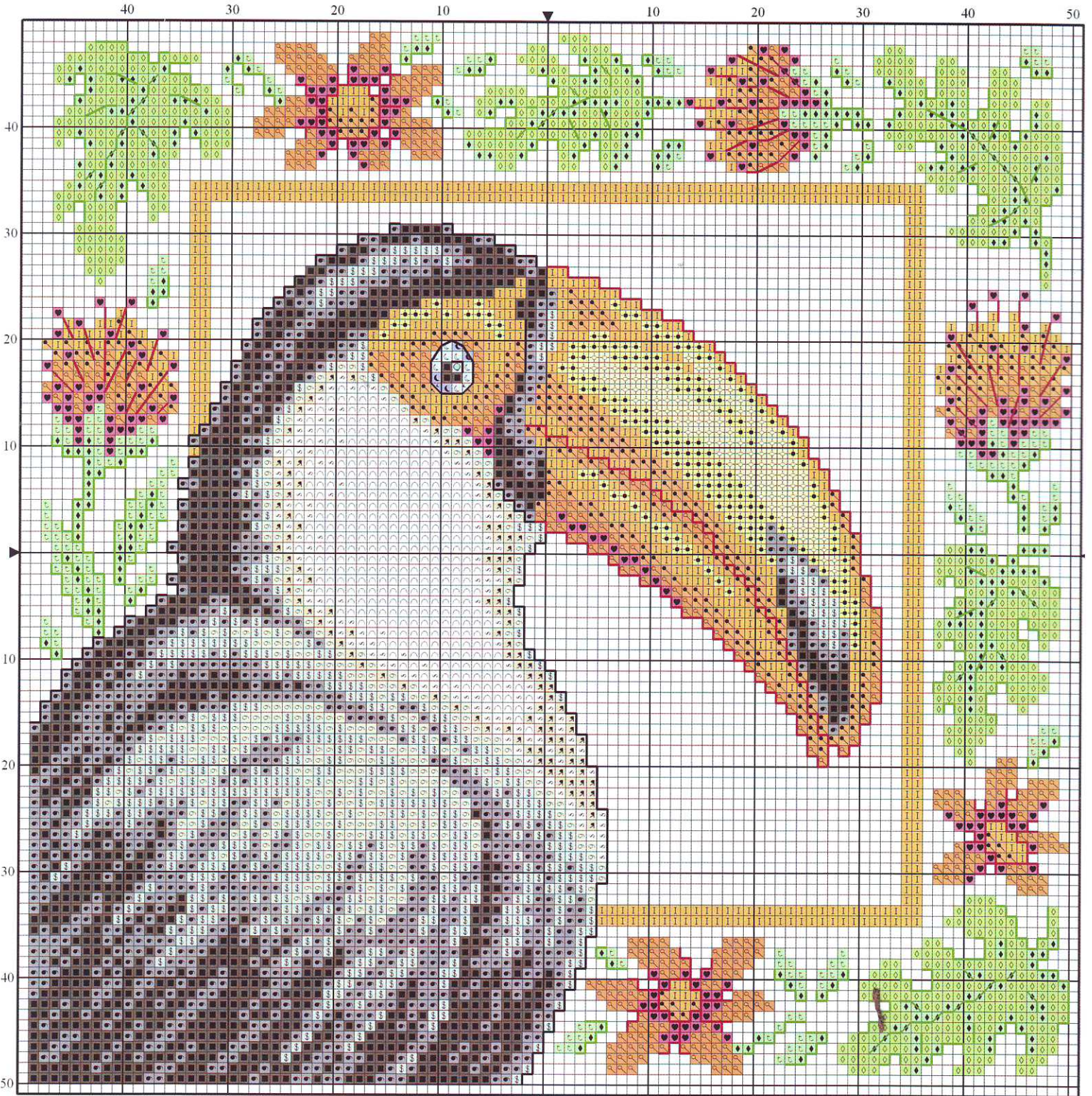
COLOUR COLLECTION

I've used around 20 colours for each design – I think they're all necessary to bring out the birds' vibrancy. I've limited the number of fractional stitches so, though there are a number of colour changes, the stitching itself isn't too complex.



IN THE FRAME

It's always a challenge to create a border that's detailed, but doesn't overwhelm the subject. I think the chains of plants I've added – ones you'd find in the toucan and pheasant's own natural habitats – add the perfect amount of colour and perspective to the designs.



Toucan



How to stitch these designs on aida

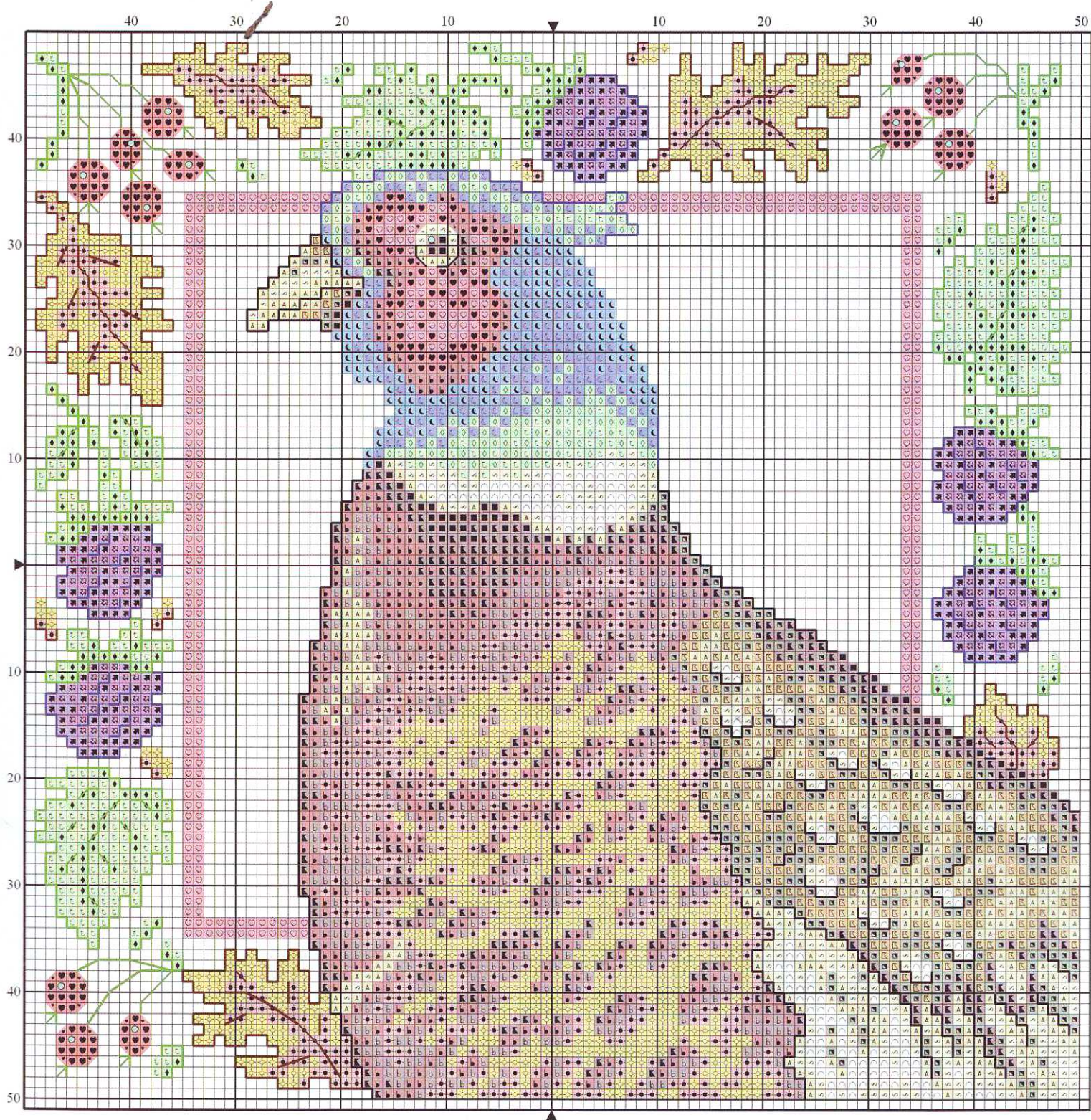
If you prefer stitching on aida rather than evenweave, you'll need a sharp, pointed needle to pierce the aida, when working the fractional stitches. A small, size 26 needle is better than a size 24. As Susan has used very few fractional stitches in her designs, they shouldn't take you any extra time to complete, and the finished sizes on 14-count aida will be the same as they'll be on 28-count evenweave.

PHEASANT KEY

	Anchor	DMC	Madeira	
★ Cross stitch in two strands				
∩	2	blanc	2402	white
♡	9	352	303	coral
♥	11	350	213	dark coral
↖	85	3609	710	pink
↗	98	553	712	mauve
☾	134	820	904	dark blue
☾	147	797	912	blue
◇	187	958	1202	mint green
◆	227	910	1302	green
t	241	954	1603	light green
⊖	305	725	2509	yellow
♣	340	919	313	terracotta
▲	359	898	2005	brown
A	367	738	1908	light tan
⊞	369	436	1910	tan
■	382	3371	2004	dark brown
s	885	739	2014	very light tan
▣	944	433	2007	dark tan
⊖	1002	977	2513	dark yellow
b	1049	301	2306	dark ginger
★ Backstitch in one strand				
—	134	820	904	dark blue <i>head</i>
—	212	561	1205	dark green <i>leaves, stems</i>
—	382	3371	2004	dark brown <i>pheasant</i>
—	944	433	2007	dark tan <i>leaves</i>
★ French knots in one strand				
●	2	blanc	2402	white <i>eye, berry detail</i>
★ STITCH COUNT 99 high x 99 wide				
★ DESIGN AREA				
14 HPI (28-count evenweave) – 18 x 18cm (7 x 7in)				
16 HPI – 15.5 x 15.5cm (6 ¹ / ₄ x 6 ¹ / ₄ in)				
18 HPI – 14 x 14cm (5 ¹ / ₂ x 5 ¹ / ₂ in)				
This design was stitched using Anchor stranded cotton on 28-count evenweave over two threads of the fabric.				

TOUCAN KEY

	Anchor	DMC	Madeira	
★ Cross stitch in two strands				
∩	2	blanc	2402	white
♥	13	817	407	red
☾	129	157	907	light blue
☾	146	322	911	blue
t	204	913	1212	light green
◆	227	910	1302	dark green
◇	238	703	1307	green
⊖	292	745	111	light yellow
⊖	295	726	109	yellow
I	298	972	107	dark yellow
♣	314	741	202	orange
s	387	ecru	2404	stone
↖	388	842	1907	dark stone
☾	397	3024	1901	light grey
\$	399	318	1801	grey
●	400	413	1714	dark grey
■	403	310	2400	black
♣	925	740	204	dark orange
★ Backstitch in one strand				
—	212	561	1205	very dark green <i>leaves, flowers</i>
—	403	310	2400	black <i>toucan</i>
—	1005	498	513	dark red <i>toucan, flowers</i>
★ French knots in one strand				
●	2	blanc	2402	white <i>eye</i>
★ STITCH COUNT 99 high x 99 wide				
★ DESIGN AREA				
14 HPI (28-count evenweave) – 18 x 18cm (7 x 7in)				
16 HPI – 15.5 x 15.5cm (6 ¹ / ₄ x 6 ¹ / ₄ in)				
18 HPI – 14 x 14cm (5 ¹ / ₂ x 5 ¹ / ₂ in)				
This design was stitched using Anchor stranded cotton on 28-count evenweave over two threads of the fabric.				



Pheasant

How to choose the right frame

Spend some time thinking about how to mount your work, to give it the perfect finish. These pictures have borders incorporated into them, and quite a lot of white space around the edges, so we didn't feel we needed to set them off with a mount.

We chose brightly-coloured orange frames that pick out the colour of the toucan's beak and the pheasant's chest, but you might like to try another colour that features in the

designs. Perhaps the green in the leaves, or blue from the pheasant's head. If you're hanging the designs as a pair, it's best to choose the same frame colour for each one.

Remember that your work shouldn't be overshadowed by the frame and that where you hang it should also play a part in your choice of colour.

