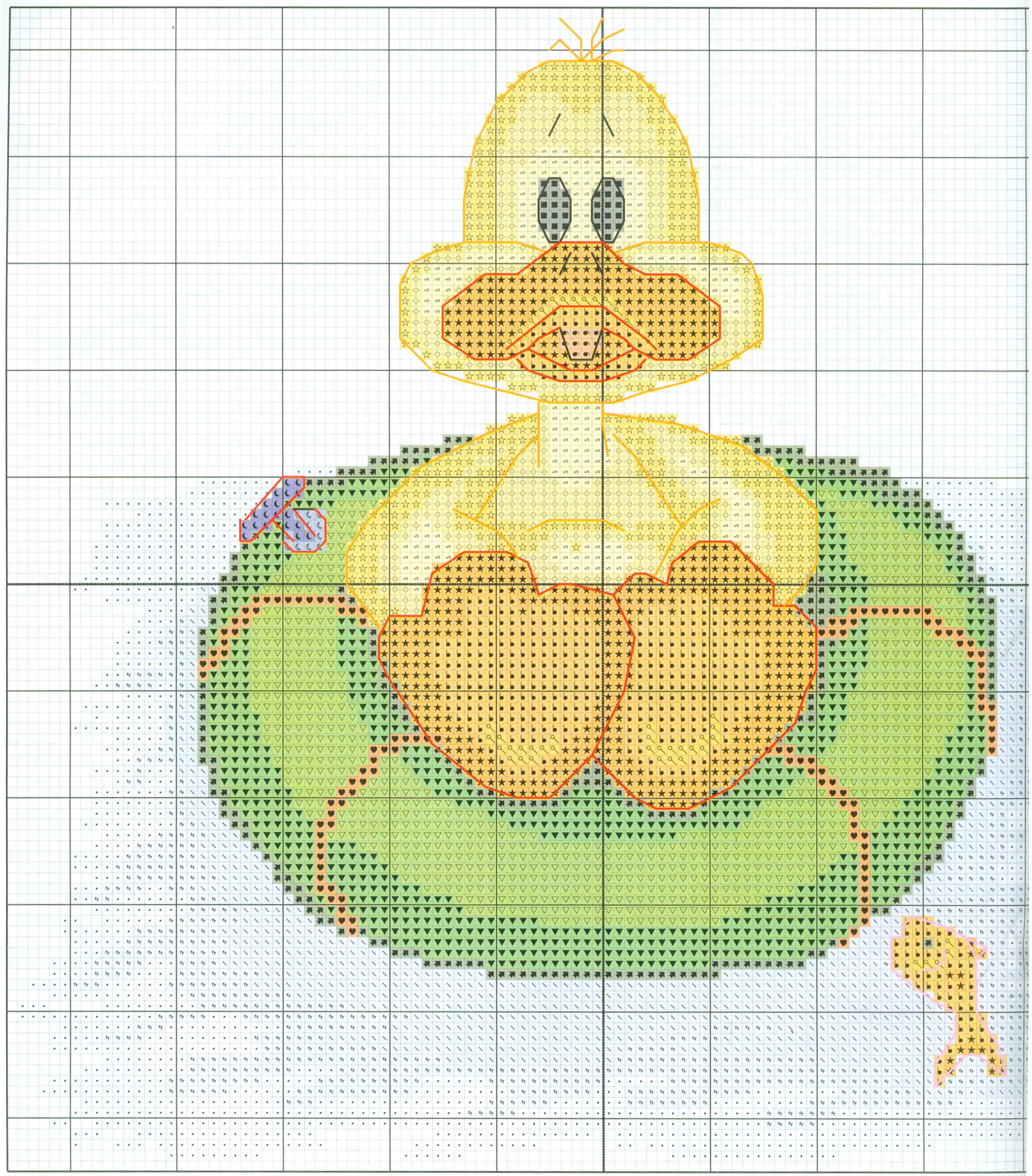
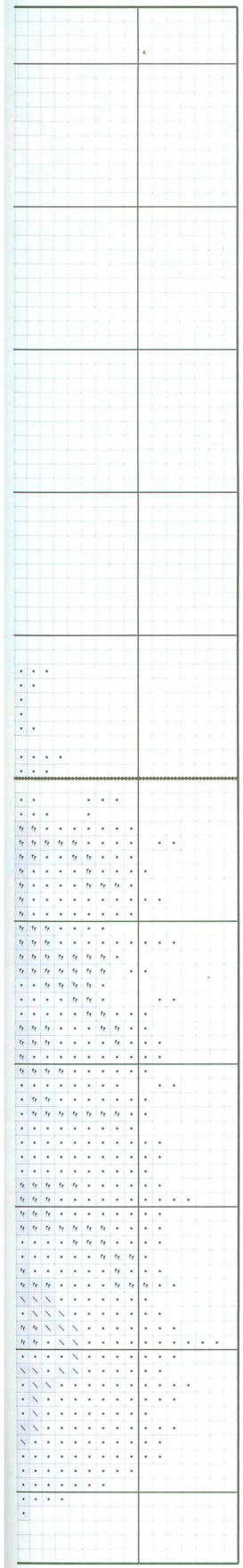




Duck in a ring

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira
Cross stitch in two strands			
	157	129	0907
	310	403	2400
	334	977	1003
	606	334	0209
	666	46	0210
	740	925	0204
	741	304	0202
	742	303	0201
	743	302	0113
	744	301	0112
	745	292	0111
	797	147	0912
	890	683	1404
	905	257	1412
	906	239	1411
Half cross stitch in one strand			
	800	144	0909
Half cross stitch in two strands			
	800	144	0909
Backstitch in one strand			
	310	403	2400
	606	334	0209
	666	46	0210
	741	304	0202

Contains whole stitches only

Stitch count 107 high x 111 wide
Design area on 16-count fabric
17x17cm (6¾x7in)

Linda's tips on large projects

4 expert tips

"If you're new to cross stitch, my duck is a superb introduction to a medium-sized project. Here are some handy hints to help you get the most out of your stitching."

Linda Hill

1 If you're intending to mount and frame your finished piece, make sure you leave a good border of fabric round the edge. After working out the size of your design, add about 10cm (4in) to each side of the fabric to ensure you have a decent margin left over.

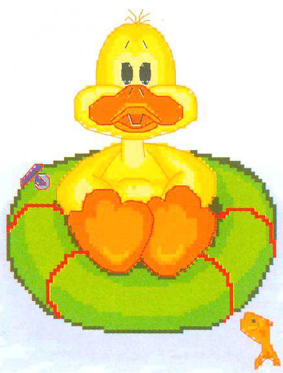
2 There aren't many colour changes in my design, making it an easier project to complete. But if you find the blocks of one colour a little tiring after a while, make sure you take lots of little breaks. Set yourself targets, such as finishing one of the duck's feet by teatime to keep your interest.

3 For extra texture and to give the impression of the water gently flowing and lapping around the duck in his inflatable ring, I've used half stitches in one strand and dotted in patches of half stitches in two strands. To make these stitches quicker, thread two needles before you start – one with a single strand, and one with two strands.

4 The backstitch really adds definition and dimension to your design. Make sure you always complete the backstitches after you've finished the whole stitches so that they sit neatly on top of your work.

MOUNTING tip

Are your kids water babies? Stitch just the duck sitting in his rubber ring to make into a patch for their swim bag



Stitchingtip

The varying shades of blue give the impression of gentle movement and flow of the water. It's easy to lose your place here though, so make sure you mark off the squares on your chart as you stitch these blue sections

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Coming soon to crazy

Next month, take a deep breath of French air as we bring you a luscious Provencal lavender field *Crazy* 62 is in the shops from 15th June!