

Garden Robin key

✕ Cross stitch in two strands

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira	
∩	B5200	1	2401	bright white
z	ecru	926	2404	cream
C	415	398	1802	grey
■	433	357	2602	brown
b	434	310	2009	dark tan
o	436	1045	2011	tan
N	437	362	2012	light tan
v	472	253	1414	lettuce green
K	642	903	1905	stone grey
я	644	830	1814	light stone grey
▼	699	923	1303	dark green
▽	702	226	1306	green
◇	704	255	1307	light green
●	721	324	308	copper
o	738	367	2013	very light tan
*	762	234	1804	light grey
t	775	1031	1001	very light blue
♥	815	44	513	dark red
■	817	13	210	red
x	822	390	1805	pearl
●	898	360	2006	dark brown
◆	904	258	1413	dark parrot green
\$	906	256	1410	parrot green
Q	907	754	1308	light parrot green
▲	946	332	207	orange
☆	3033	391	1908	beige
P	3325	129	907	blue
☾	3755	140	1013	powder blue
■	3787	273	1811	smoke grey
■	3799	236	1713	dark grey
J	3841	9159	1001	light blue
3	3861	378	1912	shell grey
■	3862	374	1913	light brown
Q	3864	376	1910	dark beige
—	3865	2	2403	natural white

✕ Backstitch in one strand

—	472	253	1414	lettuce green
—	699	923	1303	dark green
—	779	360	1914	dark shell
—	930	1035	1712	delft blue
—	3371	382	2004	chocolate brown

✕ French knots in one strand

○	B5200	1	2401	bright white
---	-------	---	------	--------------

STITCH COUNT 95 high x 66 wide

DESIGN AREA 14 HPI (28-count evenweave) – 17.5x12cm (6¾x4¾in)

This design was stitched using DMC stranded cotton

► Shopping list

YOU WILL NEED

- ✕ A piece of Zweigart 14-count white aida measuring 28x33cm (11x13in)
- ✕ Stranded cotton as listed in the key
- ✕ Size 24 tapestry needle
- ✕ Frame of your choice with a minimum aperture of 20x15cm (8x6in)

Thread & fabric cost

Approximately £30

tip

Add a little more brightness to the holly berries by working the backstitch on them in a shimmering metallic red thread

► Reader panel



Marje: This 'Garden Robin' design is one of my favourites in the magazine. Christmas wouldn't be Christmas without seeing a beautiful robin, and it would be lovely to stitch this one – a traditional classic!

Evenweave or aida?

On a design with a densely stitched background like this, we often choose to work it on aida as it makes it much faster and easier to complete. This is because you don't need to stitch over the central hole as you would on evenweave, and the regular, rigid grid of aida is a lot more forgiving – this allows you to be a little more relaxed when it comes to keeping an absolute constant tension. However, it does mean that fractional stitches are a little more tricky, as you will need to pierce the centre of the aida block for each one. We recommend you change to a crewel embroidery needle for your fractionals, as its sharp point will help you place the stitches more accurately. Turn to page 97 if you need more advice on this type of stitch.



Our robin is quite densely stitched, so aida is the fabric of choice