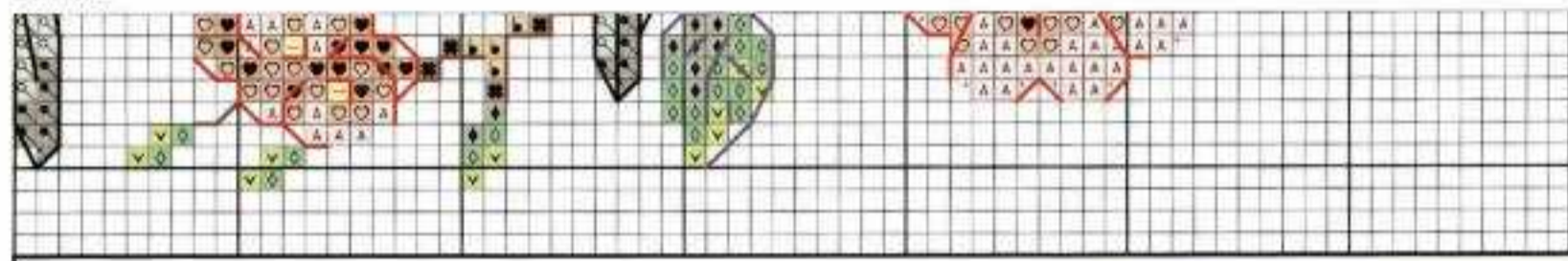


Bottom left



Bottom right

"The budgies' colours would also work nicely on white fabric if that's what you prefer to use!"
Susan Bates, Designer

How to change the thread colours

Perhaps you have a budgie you'd like to see in the design? It's easy to change the colours to match your own pet if you have an Anchor shade card. This lays out all the threads in colour groups, so you can see the shades that tone together to let you create realistic shading in your portrait. You can purchase an Anchor shade card from www.country-designs.co.uk for £2.95.

Budgies key

	Anchor	DMC	Madiera	
Cross stitch in two strands				
∩	2	blanc	2402	white
∪	9	352	303	light coral
♥	11	350	213	coral
A	23	963	502	pink
☾	132	798	912	blue
☼	134	820	904	dark blue
⊂	140	3755	907	light blue
∇	187	958	1202	emerald green
▼	189	3812	2706	dark emerald green
J	206	966	1211	mint green
•	234	168	1708	grey
∨	255	704	1308	green
◊	257	905	1412	dark green
◆	268	937	1504	moss green
§	279	166	1501	lime green
♣	281	732	1613	olive green
⊙	291	444	106	dark yellow
—	295	726	109	yellow
b	367	738	1908	light tan
♣	369	436	1910	tan
♣	371	975	2303	ginger
Z	386	746	2511	cream
P	1037	3756	1804	light china blue
⊙	1040	647	1812	light ash grey
⊙	1041	844	1809	ash grey
⊙	1043	369	1604	light green
x	9159	828	908	baby blue
Backstitch in one strand				
—	134	820	904	dark blue <i>(for budgie's tail and green oval)</i>
—	263	3362	1514	almond green <i>(green and yellow feathers)</i>
—	359	898	2005	brown <i>(branches)</i>
—	403	310	2400	black <i>(all other backstitch)</i>
—	683	500	1705	bottle green <i>(soot)</i>
—	1006	304	511	red <i>(feet)</i>

Stitch count 106 high x 138 wide

Design area 25-count evenweave – 21.5x 28cm (8½ x 11in)

This design was stitched using Anchor stranded cotton on 25-count evenweave over two threads of the fabric



Susan Bates's Designer Secrets

Fabric forward

Using lime green fabric is a bit of a departure, but it really adds something special to this scene, bringing out the blues, yellows and pinks. I think I will try using a few other different shades of fabric in my work from now on – sometimes it takes one successful project to get you moving in a different area.



Smoothly does it

I normally use 'stepped' backstitch around each cross stitch, but for this design I used a more fluid outline, especially for the birds. Their smooth feathers look much more realistic with these gentle contours. I also used many fractional stitches for the same reason. I hope you won't be deterred by these, as they're quite easy to do on evenweave!