

2024-2025 Stitch-Along: Astrology

A stitch-along is a mystery cross-stitch pattern where new parts of the design are released each week. Every Sunday, we send you the next piece until you have a completed pattern. This is an asynchronous program where everyone stitches at their own pace.

This year's theme is astrology and each week's design will contain information about the twelve signs. Because the astrological calendar is dictated by the equinoxes (first day of each season), it is important to look at the year you were born when determining your own sun sign, as well as other placements. To create a free chart online, visit <http://alabe.com/freechart> and input your birth date, place of birth, and time of birth. If you do not know your time of birth, enter 12:00 p.m.

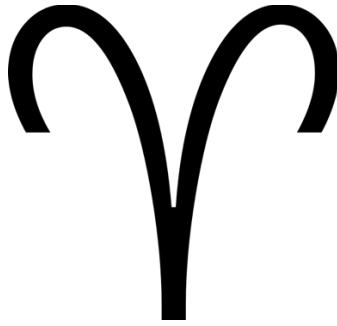
A Note on Long Stitches

In this year's pattern, we are using a long stitch, also called a long backstitch, in addition to the traditional cross stitch. The long stitch is the easiest stitch in embroidery and cross-stitching. We will be using this for the text below each design. All of the long stitches will be made using DMC 3820, the same color used for the outlines in week 1.

Each line of the letter will be a separate backstitch, stretching from each end of the line you want to create, rather than individual stitches like you would do in backstitching. Some may be only one stitch long, while others may be five or six.

You can watch a video on backstitch and long stitch here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rR99JbiLVb4>





























Week 2: Aries

While the new calendar year begins in just a few weeks on January 1, the astrological calendar won't turn over until March 20 with the vernal equinox and the start of Aries season.

The first astrological sign in each season is a cardinal sign. Cardinal signs are known for taking initiative, having lots of ideas, and wanting to forge their own path. As the first cardinal sign in the cycle, Aries is not one to wait around for anyone else and attacks any problem head-on, just like its symbol, the ram. As a fire sign, Aries are incredibly determined and focused with a strong sense of purpose.

Those who have their sun in Aries are highly competitive, driven by their ruling planet Mars. They enjoy risk-taking and view it as a way to prove themselves. Aries are clearheaded and think quickly in an emergency. They prefer to work on their own whenever possible so they can act more quickly, but when it is necessary to work on a team, they take charge and insist on calling the shots.

2024 Stitch Along Week 2

-  No stitch
-  DMC 310 - Black
-  DMC 740 - Tangerine
-  DMC 971 - Pumpkin
-  DMC 946 - Medium Burnt Orange
-  DMC 972 - Deep Canary
-  DMC 3820 - Dark Straw
-  DMC 498 - Dark Red
-  DMC 919 - Red Copper
-  DMC 918 - Dark Red Copper
-  DMC 3777 - Very Dark Terra Cotta
-  DMC 221 - Very Dark Shell Pink
-  DMC 815 - Medium Garnet
-  DMC 823 - Dark Navy Blue
-  DMC 930 - Dark Antique Blue
-  DMC 931 - Medium Antique Blue
-  DMC 813 - Light Blue
-  DMC 807 - Peacock Blue
-  DMC 597 - Turquoise
-  DMC 3766 - Light Peacock Blue
-  DMC 598 - Light Turquoise
-  DMC 747 - Very Light Sky Blue
-  DMC 3821 - Straw
-  DMC 3822 - Light Straw
-  DMC 744 - Pale Yellow
-  DMC 745 - Light Pale Yellow
-  DMC 936 - Very Dark Avocado Green
-  DMC 3362 - Dark Pine Green
-  DMC 3346 - Hunter Green
-  DMC 3347 - Medium Yellow Green
-  DMC 988 - Medium Forest Green
-  DMC 470 - Light Avocado Green
-  DMC 471 - Very Light Avocado Green
-  DMC 741 - Medium Tangerine
-  DMC 742 - Light Tangerine

