

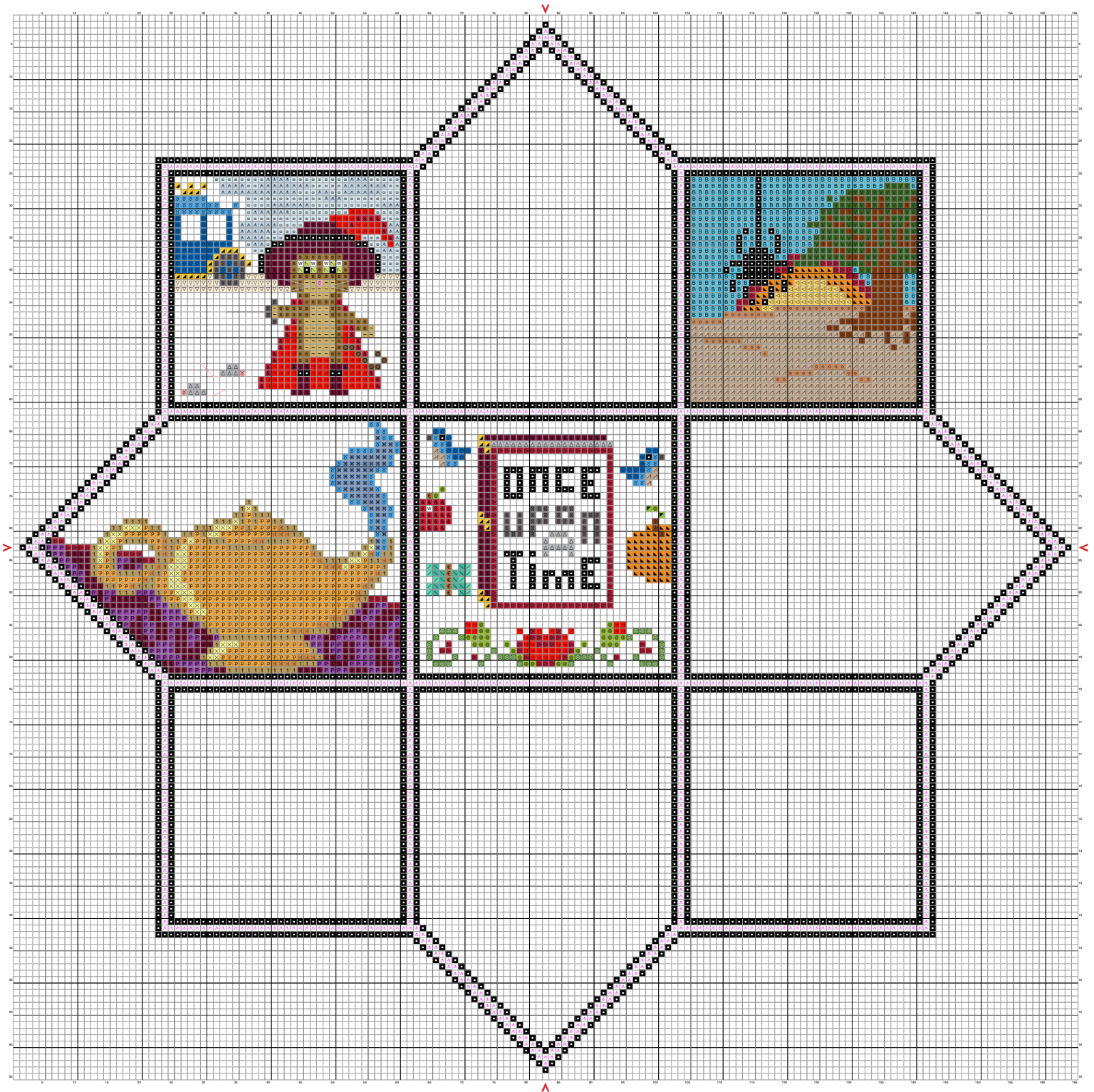
One Thousand and One Nights



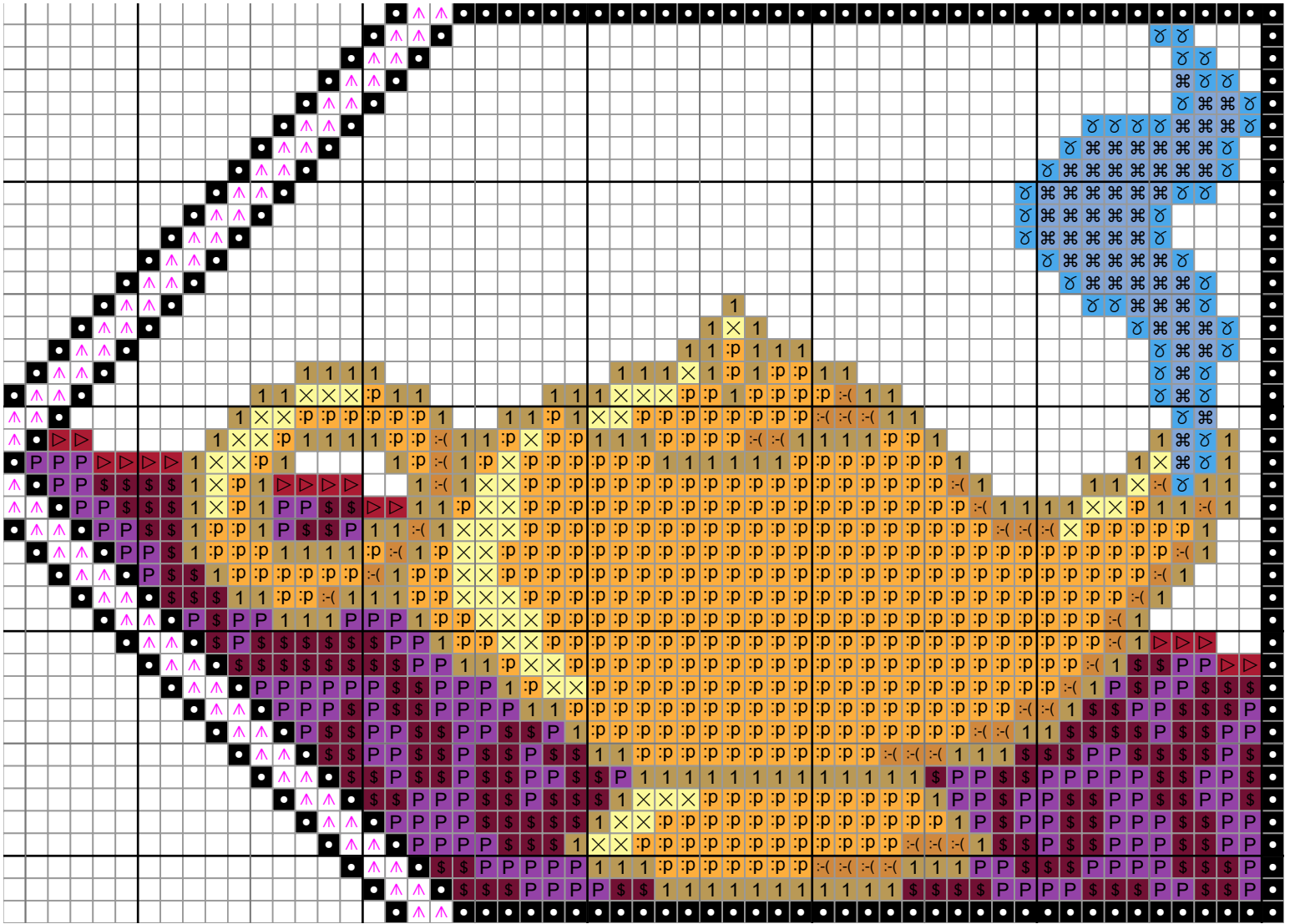
The story of Aladdin comes to us from *The Thousand and One Nights*, a collection of largely Middle Eastern and Indian stories, though this story, along with the stories of *Ali Baba* and *Sindbad the Sailor* were not added until the 18th century, in European adaptations. *The Thousand and One Nights* serves as a frame for the collection of stories, beginning with King Shahryar discovering his wife has been unfaithful and kills her and her lovers. He blames all of womankind and begins marrying a new wife each day and executing her at night. His vizier's eldest daughter, Scheherazade, formulates a plan to save herself and others from this dark fate. She asks her father to give her in marriage to the king and that evening, she begins telling him a story, but leaves off, promising to finish it the next night. The king is eager to hear the end and lets her live another day. Each night, she tells more of the story, but leaves it unfinished and the king continues to push back her execution until he abandons the notion entirely.

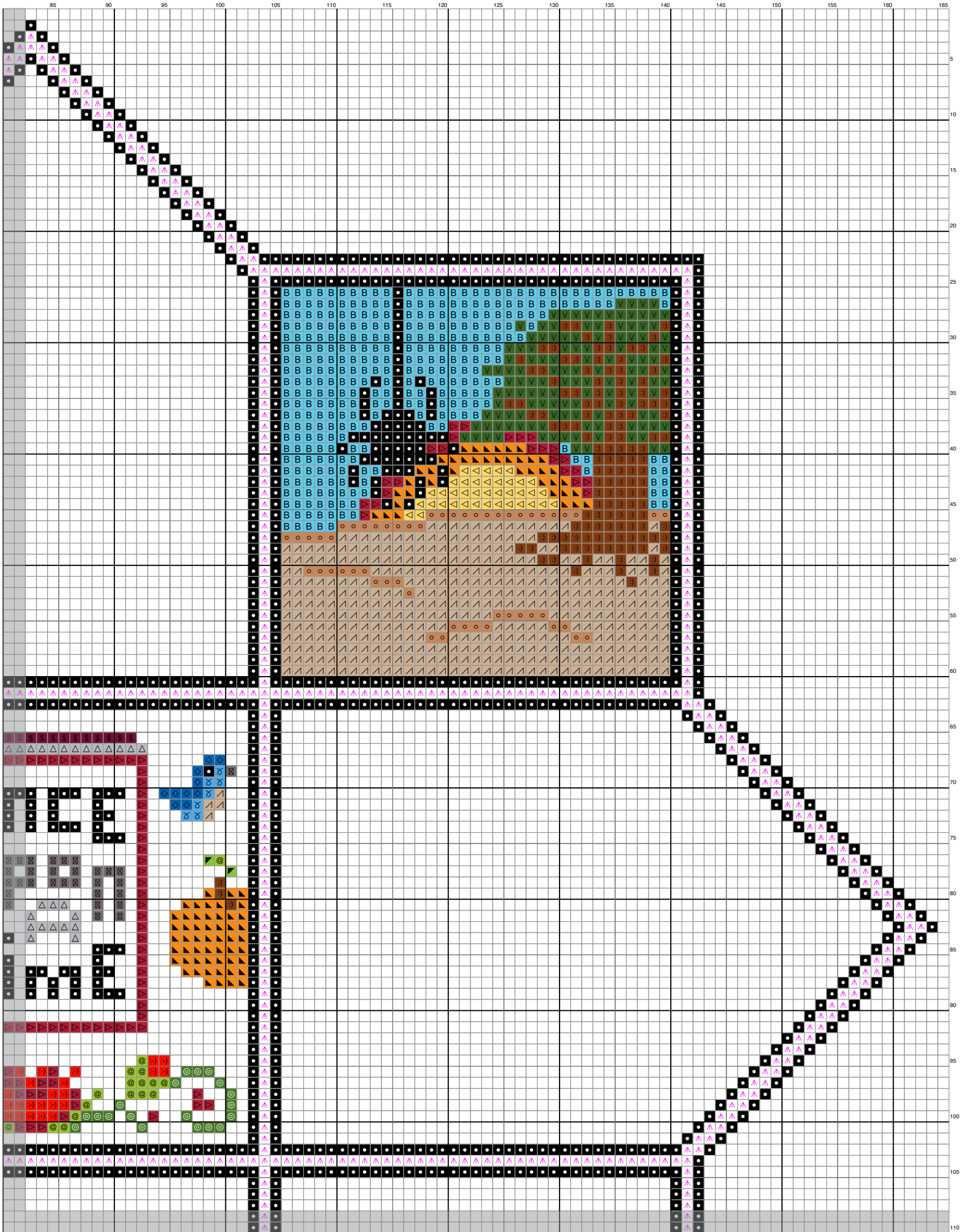
One of Scheherazade's stories (or, at least, a story later added to her tale) is *Aladdin and the Wonderful Lamp*. In it, a young man is promised wealth in exchange for helping a sorcerer retrieve an oil lamp from a magic cave, full of traps, but lends Aladdin a magic ring to keep him safe. When the sorcerer attempts to double-cross Aladdin, he finds himself trapped in the cave. When he accidentally rubs his hand on the ring, a genie appears and helps him to escape, taking the lamp with him. At home, his mother tries to clean the lamp and releases a more powerful genie who is bound to do the bidding of the person holding the lamp. Aladdin uses the genie to become rich, powerful, marry the sultan's daughter, and build a palace for them to live in. When the sorcerer hears what has happened, he returns and tricks the princess into trading her old lamp (which she does not know the true power of) for a new one and uses the genie to take all that Aladdin has. Aladdin uses the lesser genie of the ring to transport himself and the princess to their stolen palace and with the help of the princess, Aladdin recovers the lamp and kills the sorcerer, taking back his palace and fortune.

One Thousand and One Nights

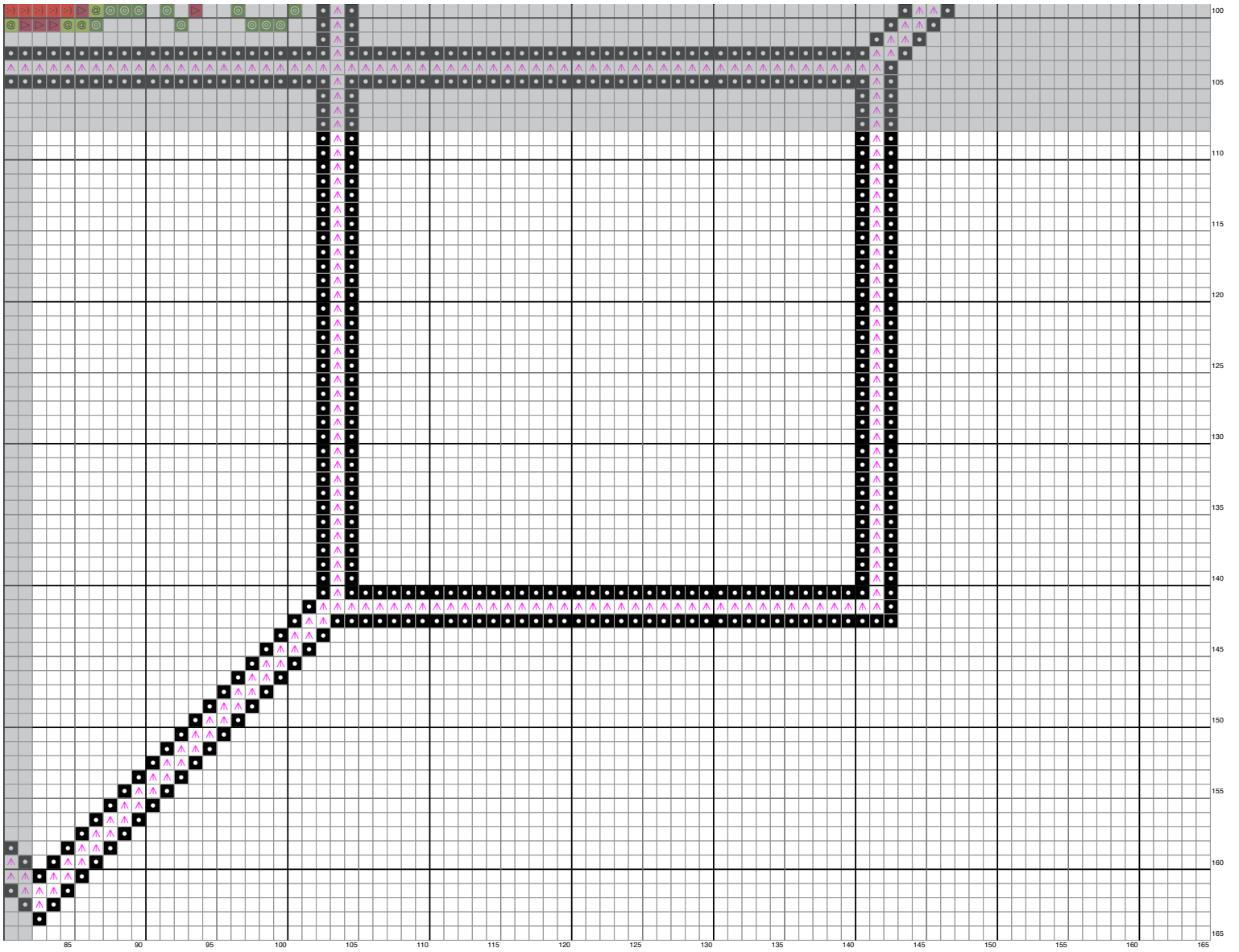


P 208	Δ 415	& 666	:P 742	B 832	/ 842	▲ 973	P 996	∞ 3841
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P 347	N 472	▽ 718	P 814	○ 840	# 906	/ 993	P 3755	^ 3770
P 414	P 606	▲ 741	P 828	^ 841	@ 907	P 995	▽ 3770	^ Variegated Multicolor Floss





5 - upper right



5 - lower right

Winter 2020-2021 Stitch-Along Materials List

Every Saturday, you'll get the next piece of the puzzle in your inbox! Everyone stitches at their own pace, but we also have a monthly check-in on Zoom to Socialize, ask questions, and share your progress with others. Below is a list of items you'll need to complete this project. Tips on purchasing cross stitch supplies are available at elmlib.org/crossstitch.

MONTHLY STITCH-ALONG CHECK-IN

Thursday, Dec. 10 • 7 p.m.

Thursday, Jan. 14 • 7 p.m.

Tuesday, Feb. 23 • 7 p.m.

Live on Zoom: Register at elmlib.org/athome.

FABRIC

Begin your project by purchasing cloth. **14 count White 15x18 Aida cloth** is recommended. You need (at minimum) 12x12 inches for this pattern.

THREAD

The pattern uses DMC cotton embroidery floss. You can find these at a store like Michaels or Joann. Each floss color has a corresponding number. FYI: Purchasing floss online can be confusing and expensive, however if you must purchase online, we recommend 123Stitch.com.

Floss storage is important to keep your floss from tangling in knots. You need some kind of bobbin or storage to organize. Two videos on how to wind are available at elmlib.org/crossstitch.

Purchase one skein of each of these colors:

208	436	680	743	833	904	975	3371	3841
301	445	704	783	834	905	992	3716	3846
347	472	718	814	840	906	993	3755	3865
414	606	741	828	841	907	995	3770	
415	666	742	832	842	973	996		

Purchase two skeins of each of these colors:

310	Variegated Multicolor Floss *
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*Variegated Multicolor Floss is multicolored embroidery thread. Every few stitches, the color changes to another hue. Get any color you want!

NEEDLE

You need a blunt tipped tapestry needle, size 24-26. Usually available in packs of 4-6. Needles break, the pack is worth it!

HOOP

A hoop is not necessary, but is usually helpful for beginners. You don't need a large one for working. A five or six inch wood or plastic hoop is ideal.

SCISSORS

Nothing special here- just make sure you have a pair of scissors.

GETTING STARTED WITH CROSS STITCHING

A NOTE ABOUT THREAD

Your “thread” is actually Embroidery Floss, made up of 6 strands, which can be separated into individual strands by pulling them apart gently. Most designs use two strands of floss at a time: the patterns you’re using today use two strands. You want to work with pieces of floss that are no more than 12-18” long, as floss tangles and weakens the longer you work with it.

STARTING A PROJECT

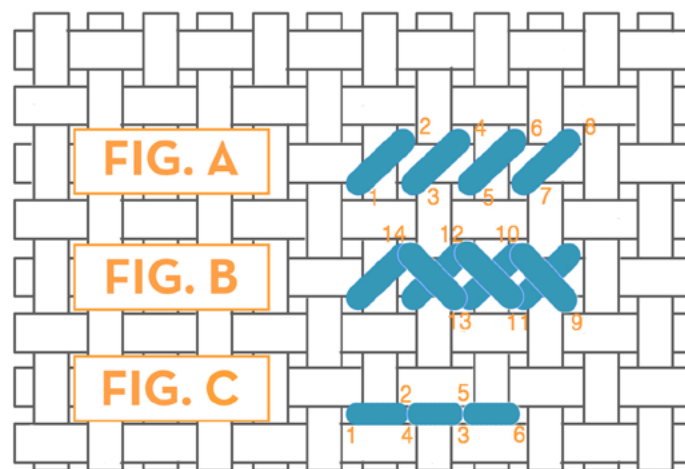
Start by finding the center of your fabric. Because of the small size of our projects, you can simply eyeball the center and mark the reverse with a pencil. Cross-stitch patterns should always have the center lines marked on the pattern, often with two small arrows on the edges of the grid. Start your stitching at the center of the design and work your way out to the edges.

When starting to stitch, there is no need to knot the end of your thread. Simply leave a tail of an inch or so at the back of your work, and then catch this tail under the stitches as you work the first row. A few stitches will be enough to secure it. When you are ready to cut your thread, first slip your needle under a few stitches on the back side, pull your thread through them, and cut the thread close to the fabric.

THE STITCHES

The **basic cross stitch** is simple. The most important thing to remember is to keep all your stitches going in the same direction across the whole project, which will give it a nice, even appearance. In Fig. A below, you can see that you will do all your bottom stitches for one row, then go back the other direction for your top stitches (Fig. B). When you look at the back of your work, the stitches shouldn’t look like crosses, just rows of short, straight stitches.

Back stitches (Fig. C) are often used for outlining parts of the design. They are indicated on the pattern with a solid line in the color of the floss to be used. Each back stitch will be the length of one square on your Aida cloth. Back stitches can also be done diagonally across a square, as you would do one half of a cross stitch.



If you need more help, check out Youtube.com, where you can find lots of tutorial videos that will guide you step by step. Find a method that works for you and enjoy your new hobby!