

Apple placemat

Blackwork is a stitch technique that dates back centuries. Originally worked with a fine thread on lightweight fabric, mainly black on white, these days it is also worked in colour. The main features of the embroidery are the delicate filling patterns set inside outlines forming figurative or abstract shapes. Mainly linear stitches are used, first and foremost backstitch. Other decorative stitches can be added to provide special accents – in our designs we have used cross stitch and star stitch.

General instructions:

All the designs are worked following the appropriate charts. The lines of the grid represent the fabric threads. The colours shown on the charts are those used for the designs. The accompanying stitching diagrams are given in several colours for clarity.

Tip: Always work cross stitch with a blunt-ended needle. Always work the cross stitch first, then the backstitch and straight stitch. Each square on the chart represents one cross stitch. The lines/strokes represent backstitch.

Cross stitch: Cross stitch is worked in two stages – first work the lower stitch (from left to right) and then work the upper stitch (from right to left).

Backstitch: Bring the needle up through the fabric from underneath, make a single stitch down through the fabric to the right and bring the needle out again a double stitch length to the left. Pull the thread through. Then make a stitch back to the right where the thread first emerged. The stitches should all be the same length.

Instruction

Size 14 x 15 cm.

Materials

Yarn quantity/colour: Anchor Stranded Cotton, worked with 2 strands, 1 skein each #55, 63, 255, 329, 360, 366 and 1006 (1 skein each #253, 255, 258, 360 and 366)
Fabric: for each placemat about 43 x 33 cm white evenweave fabric (112 threads/10 cm), Free Spirit fabric from Coats 48 x 47.5 cm Park Slope Art. QEM o800-oGREE (48 x 47.5 cm Park Slope Art. QEM o800-oGREE), by Erin McMorris. All fabric measurements include 1.5 cm seam allowance.



Notions: 1 reel matching Coats sewing thread

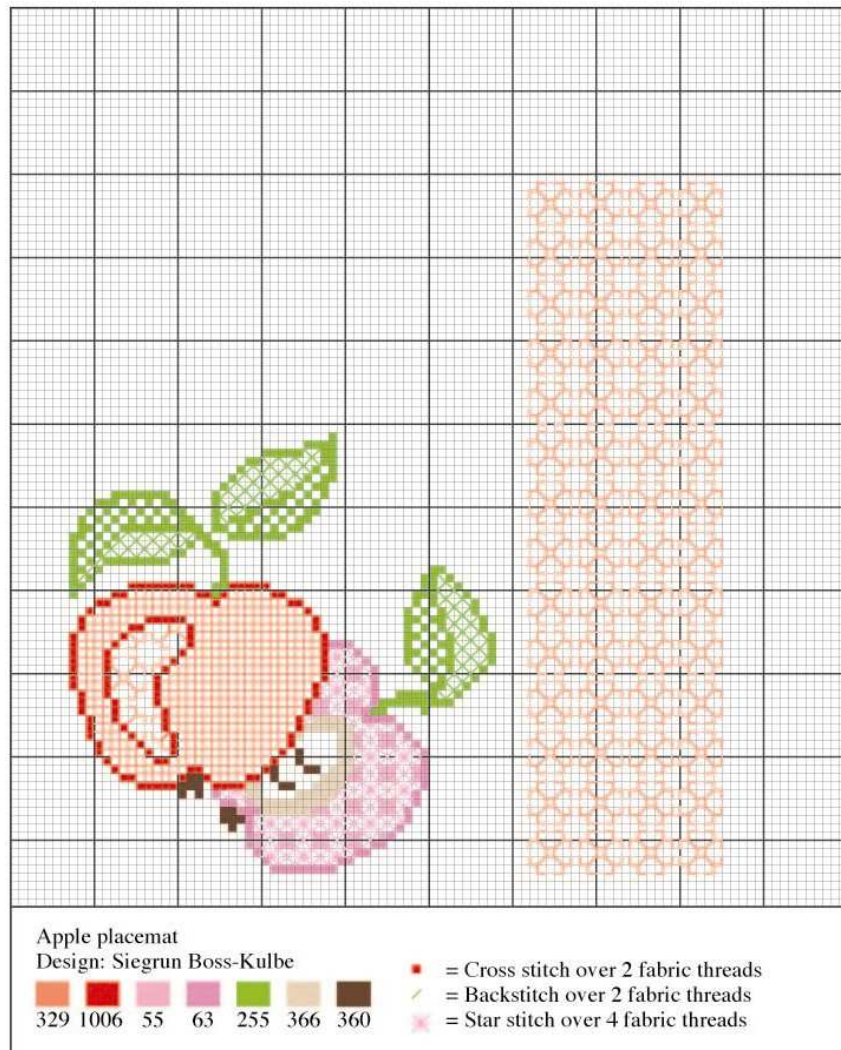
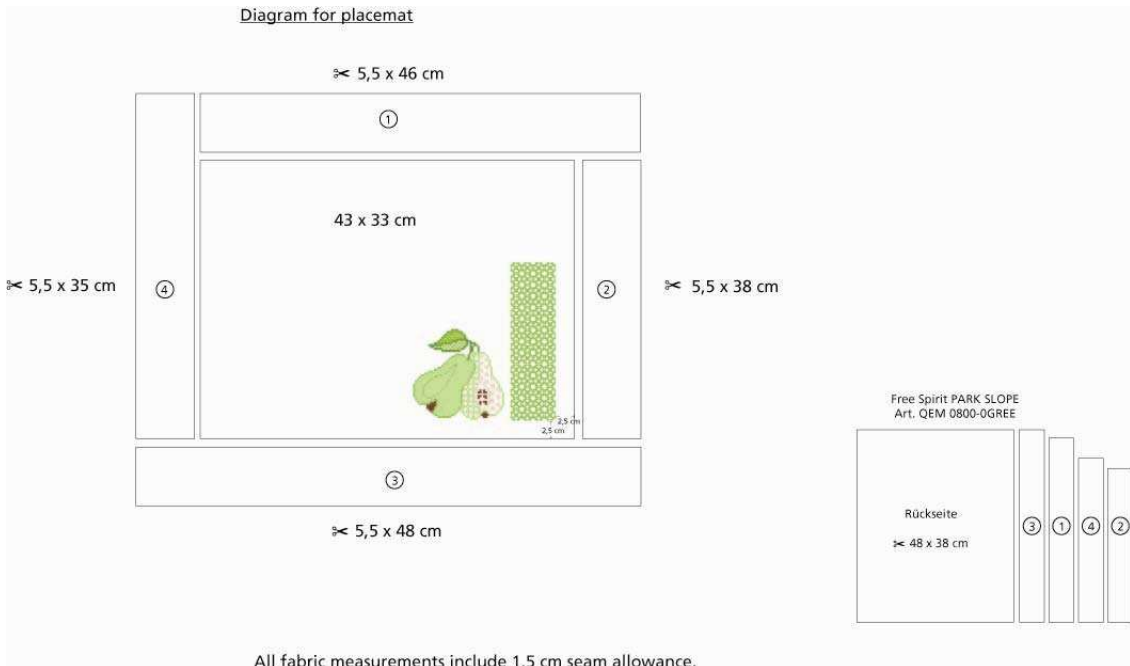
Finished size: about 45 x 35 cm

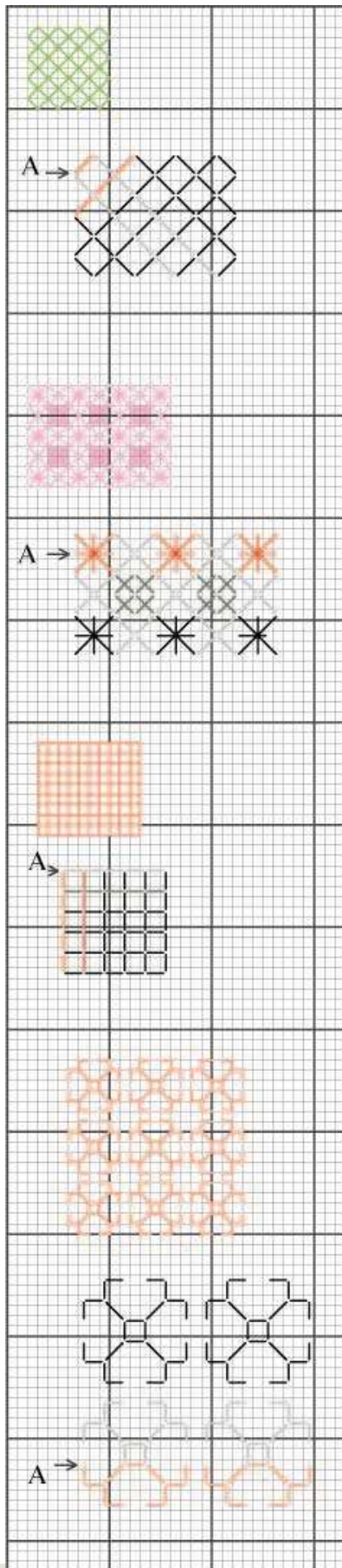
All you need to do: Neaten the raw edges of the fabric with zigzag stitch. Work the embroidery, positioning it as shown in the diagram.

Cross stitch for Pear Placemat only: Left-hand pear inner area #253, stem #258, lower half of leaf #255, right-hand pear outlines and stem #366 and 360.

Cross stitch for Apple Placemat only: inner area of leaf #255, stem #255, right-hand apple #55, 366 and 360.

Cut out the strips as shown in the diagram, stitch around the evenweave fabric with right sides facing (1.5 cm seam allowance) and press the seams open. With right sides facing, stitch the front to the back, leaving a small opening for turning through. Press the seams, turn the placemat through and close the opening with small stitches.





✓ = Backstitch over 2 fabric threads

A = Begin here; work backstitch in diagonal lines

- = Cross stitch over 2 fabric threads
- ✓ = Backstitch over 2 fabric threads
- * = Star stitch over 4 fabric threads

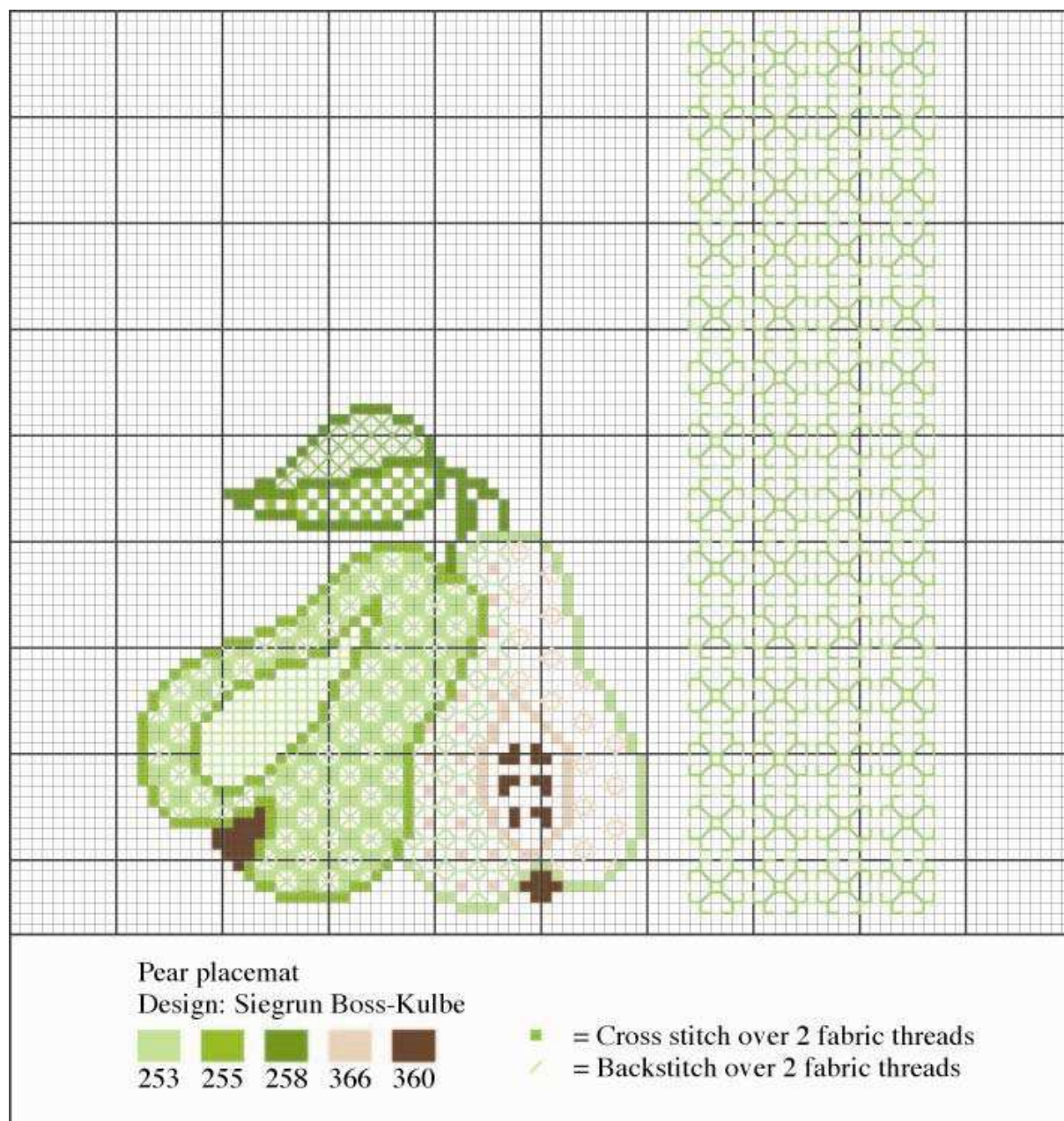
A = Begin here; work star stitches and cross stitches at regular intervals, work diagonal lines in backstitch

◻ = Backstitch over 2 fabric threads

A = Begin here; work backstitch in vertical and horizontal lines






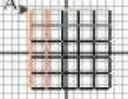

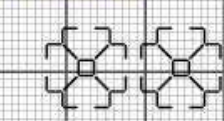




✓ = Backstitch over 2 fabric threads

A = Begin here; work backstitch in horizontal rows



Suppliers:

Zweigart & Sawitzki GmbH & Co. KG, Postfach 120, 71043 Sindelfingen/Germany, www.zweigart.de
 Westfalenstoffe AG, Albrecht-Thaer-Strasse 2, 48147 Muenster/Germany, www.westfalenstoffe.de
 I. C. Leibfried GmbH, Am Feger 5-7, 71063 Sindelfingen (Baden-Württemberg)/Germany
 RAYHER HOBBY GmbH, Fockestrasse 15, 88471 Laupheim/Germany, www.rayher-hobby.de
 Freudenberg Vliesstoffe KG, 69465 Weinheim/Germany, www.nonwovens-group.de
 Prym Consumer GmbH, Zweifaller Strasse 130, 52224 Stolberg/Germany, www.prym-consumer.com

	<p>↖ = Backstitch over 2 fabric threads</p>
	<p>A = Begin here; work backstitch in diagonal lines</p>
<p>1</p>	
	<p>■ = Cross stitch over 2 fabric threads</p>
	<p>↖ = Backstitch over 2 fabric threads</p>
<p>2</p>	<p>A = Begin here; work cross stitches at regular intervals, work diagonal, vertical and horizontal lines in backstitch</p>
	<p>■ = Backstitch over 2 fabric threads</p>
	<p>A = Begin here; work backstitch in vertical and horizontal lines</p>
<p>3</p>	
	<p>↖ = Backstitch over 2 fabric threads</p>
	<p>A = Begin here; work backstitch in horizontal rows from left to right</p>
<p>4</p>	
	<p>↖ = Backstitch over 2 fabric threads</p>
	<p>A = Begin here; work backstitch in vertical rows</p>
<p>5</p>	
	<p>■ = Kreuzstich über 2 Gf</p>
	<p>↖ = Backstitch over 2 fabric threads</p>
<p>6</p>	<p>A = Begin here; work backstitch from left to right, then work back from right to left</p>
<p>7</p>	<p>Work cross stitches at regular intervals</p>