



Cross? Stitch?

Create 10 Simple Recipes Class 9

Today we're going to have a play at making some cross stitch embellishments. You'll need some aida or you can just use some plain fabric if you prefer. You'll also need some embroidery thread and a needle. As usual you'll need to pick out some more supplies to make your layout or cards. We're making our usual recipe of a basic colour cardstock plus an accent colour plus any extras in basic colours.

For my accent colour this time I've chosen yellow and a basic kraft coloured cardstock for my background. I've picked out two yellow based full sheets of patterned paper and some off cuts of paper too. Some yellow alphabet stickers and some stickers with yellow in them plus yellow ric rac. As the layout features cross stitching pick out something with texture like a ric rac or a chunky ribbon etc. The stickers I'm using have layers of fabric on them but you could also use actual layered up fabric pieces if you wanted to.



First I'm going to make the cross stitched embellishments. There are two kinds I've made one counting stitches to make a simple heart pattern and the other idea is using a stamp.

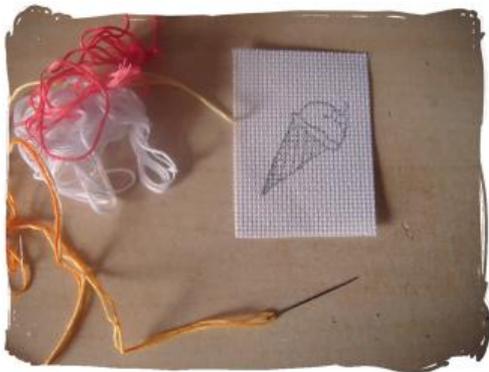
Stamped Image Cross Stitch Embellishment

The first step is to choose a suitable motif for your photo from your stamps. We're going to use a stamp image as a pattern to follow so pick out a stamp from your collection that works with your photo or layout theme. If you don't have any stamps don't worry as I'll also be showing an idea to make a simple heart shape.

Begin by stamping the image onto a piece of aida fabric.



Pick out your embroidery thread colours, I'm making an ice-cream cone so I've picked out yellow, pink and white. Thread your needle with one of the colours.



All we're doing is filling in the stamp design just like you'd colour in normally but using cross stitch. You can also use regular stitches if you prefer to make an embroidery design instead. The aida fabric makes it easy to make the crossed stitches as all you're doing is following the squares in the fabric from corner square to corner square.

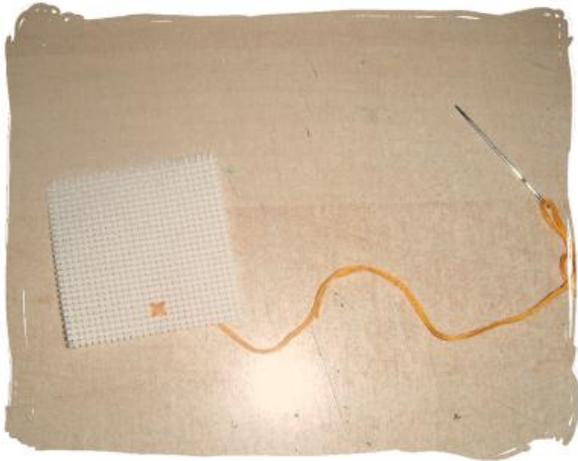


Keep going until your entire design is filled with stitches.

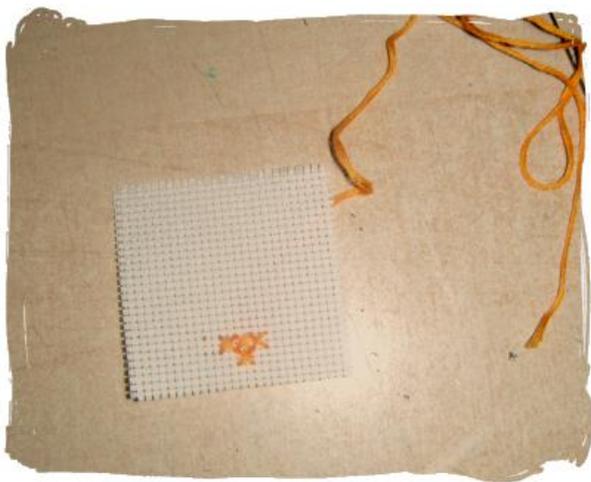


Counting Stitches Cross Stitch Embellishment

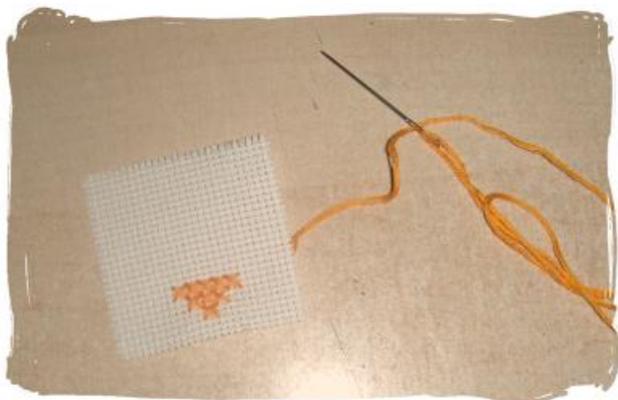
This is really simple to have a go at; we're going to make a heart embellishment. I'm going to make larger stitches this time; I'm using every other hole in the aida rather than every hole to make the stitches bigger. Begin with one stitch in the centre near the bottom of your piece of aida. Don't worry about getting it perfectly in the centre as you can trim it down afterwards.



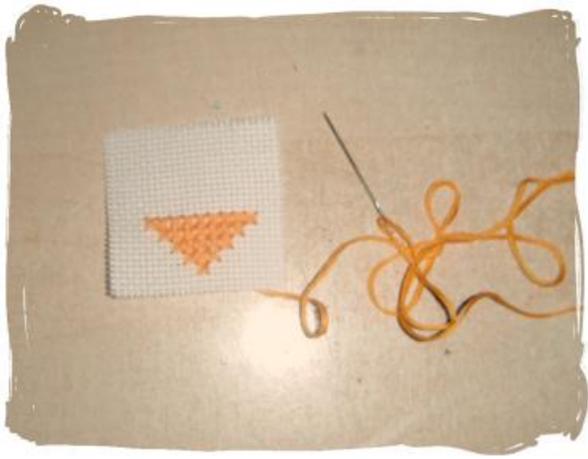
Then make three more stitches directly above it.



Then make five more stitches above those. Then seven more above those.



Then the next row has nine stitches. Make three rows of nine stitches above one another.



Finally on the top row make a row of six stitches leaving a space at both ends and one in the middle. Tie a knot in the back to finish it off.

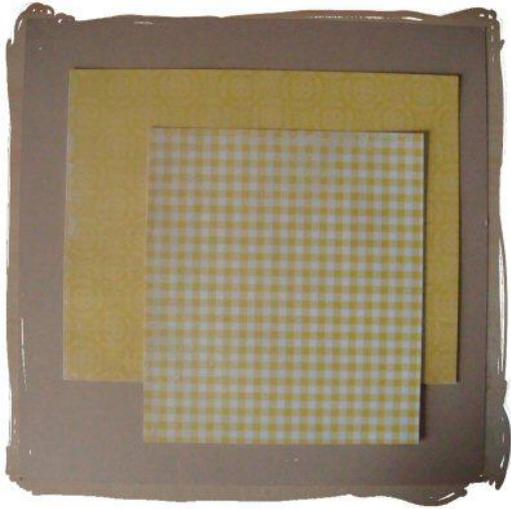


Here I've made some more hearts in a similar way. If you change up the amount of stitches you make in the rows you can get different shapes. You can also make different sized stitches to make tighter or looser shapes.

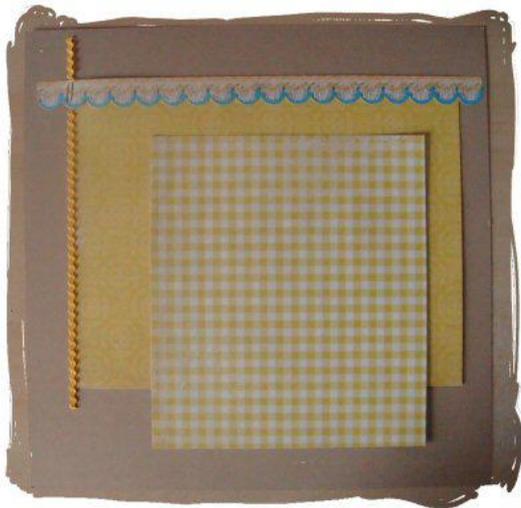


Layout

To make the layout first I cut two pieces of patterned paper out for the background, one 10x8 inches and one 7x8 inches then layered them together on my background cardstock.



Next I've added a border along the left side and top of the larger paper piece.



Next I've added the photo and a sticker underneath it. I'm going to use these journalling stickers from the Sassafras Mix and Mend collection because they have lovely layered fabric motifs on them that will work really well with the cross stitch.



I've added one of my cross stitch embellishments over the sticker along with some more of the ric rac fixed in place with staples. I've added a cross stitch boarder underneath. This is just a row of large cross stitches on another piece of aida that I've cut out.



Next I've cut out a piece of paper in a strip and cut the ends in a V shape so it's like a piece of ribbon. The edges have been distressed then it's been added in the bottom left corner of the layout.



I've then added the three cross stitch heart embellishments to the same corner.



Next I've added another sticker above the hearts with more ric rac and another cross stitch boarder above it.



Finally I've added the title. I picked out some larger alphabet stickers to contrast with the smaller ones I picked out earlier.



There we have the finished layout:



Cards



You can use the cross stitch embellishment idea to make cards too. Here's a fun passed your driving test congratulations card.



Have fun!

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