



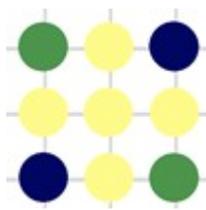
****Notice:** This is a free report from [Stitching the Night Away](#). If you find that this report helps you in any way feel free to pass it on to a friend or share it on your website. This is a free report designed to help stitchers further enjoy their hobby.

How To Cross Stitch on Linen or Evenweave

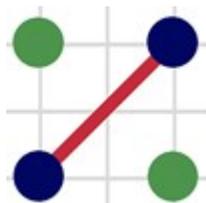
Cross stitching on linen or evenweave fabrics might be intimidating to someone who has only stitched on aida cloth before. But, I assure you that it's not as hard as one might think.

In fact, in most cases it's easier, especially when it comes to quarter and three-quarter stitches that give a piece detail and finished edges to a design, or to add turns inside borders.

Here are few illustrations to help you out with your first "over two" project. Over two basically means over two threads of the fabric. If you were stitching on aida cloth, you would be stitching "over one".

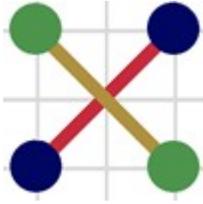


This diagram is your unstitched fabric. We're preparing to make the first full cross stitch. The yellow dots represent the unused holes in our cross stitch, the grey lines the fabric threads. The blue dots represent one leg of the cross, the green dots represent the other. Which you connect first will depend on which direction you are stitching. For this example we'll be going left to right, and back again to complete the cross stitch.



This is to illustrate the first leg of the cross stitch, as stitching from left to right. If you happen to be a right-to-left stitcher you would connect

the green dots for your first leg. Don't worry, you will not be able to see the center hole after your stitch is completely crossed. Linens actually have a smoother overall appearance than aida fabric, which adds to your final presentation.



Now, here's the second leg of your full cross stitch stitched "over two" on evenweave or linen fabric. I hope you enjoy your new found fabric.

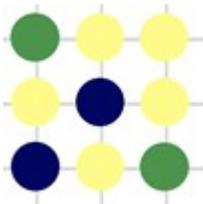
If you have any further questions or need help with something please visit our [Stitching the Night Away Message Board](#) and ask me or ask

our other stitchers. We're happy to share our stitching experience with you.

Now that you've created a whole stitch "over two" let's look at the $\frac{1}{4}$ stitch and the $\frac{3}{4}$ stitch. This is one of the best perks of working with linens and evenweave fabrics instead of aida.

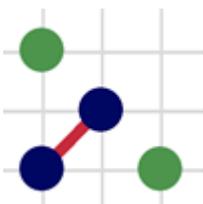
If you've ever had a project with a lot of fractional stitches for shaping and you were stitching that project on aida, you know how difficult it is to properly place that stitch. On evenweave style fabrics that quarter stitch is always going to be perfectly placed, because of the thread counts and how you are stitching.

Let me show you exactly what I mean.



This diagram is your unstitched fabric. We're preparing to make a quarter cross stitch. The yellow dots represent the unused holes in our cross stitch, the grey lines the fabric threads. The blue dots represent one leg of the cross, the green dots represent the other. Which you

connect first will depend on which direction you are stitching. For this example we'll be going left to right, and back again to complete the cross stitch. This is with the "quarter" in the bottom left corner of the X.



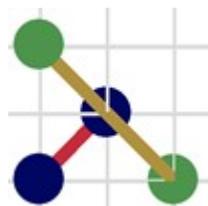
Here is leg one of our quarter stitch, showing the "quarter" at the lower

left position. Of course it won't always be in this position, so you would stitch it in whichever corner of the X it belongs in for the pattern you're following.

I know from experience that you'll find placement of a quarter stitch on evenweave much easier than on aida cloth, because there's a hole exactly where you need to go through the fabric with your evenweave.

If you were stitching on aida you could possibly pierce the threads be off center.

Quarter stitches also tend to lay more smoothly on evenweaves and linens.



Now, here is our finished quarter-cross stitch on evenweave or linen fabric. Now, that wasn't so bad was it? Nah, I didn't think it would be.

Open Up a New World of Cross Stitching Possibilities

I hope you enjoy using these types of fabrics for your stitching. Of course there is no right or wrong fabric, use whatever you are most comfortable stitching with.

Remember, if you do need help or want to share a project visit our [Cross Stitching Message Boards](#). We have a variety of stitchers of different levels.

The best news is that now you have opened a world of new stitching possibilities. If you've ever looked at a new cross stitch patterns and thought to yourself, "That's too complicated for me. I could never stitch all those fractional stitches," Now you can without doubt.

This also allows you to improve the appearance of your final finished product.

Because aida fabric tends to be a little more stiff and less flowing, a project that has a lot of fractional stitches will look smoother and more together stitched on this type of fabric.

In addition to having more flexibility with fractional stitches, you can also begin using some new specialty stitches that simply just don't work on aida fabric. We'll save that lesson for another day!

The best way to master stitching over two on evenweave and linen fabrics is to just do it. You don't need to be afraid of the fabric anymore.

Quick tip ~ you will find 28 count evenweave type fabrics to be the same sizes at 14 count aida. So, if that's what you're used to stitching on it helps makes the transition a little easier, because the visual aspect is very similar.

Just like any other aspect of a hobby, learning a new technique, something new that you're not used to doing, is going to take a little practice.

- Pick up a few pieces of [evenweave needlework fabric](#) to get started
- Print out a few [free cross stitch patterns](#) to practice your new skill
- Be proud of your new work and enjoy the new flexibility in your hobby



Happy Stitching!

Sincerely,

Loretta Oliver

Stitching the Night Away

<http://www.stitchingthenightaway.com>

<http://craftblog.stitchingthenightaway.com>

P.S. If you're looking for a kit that includes evenweave or linen fabrics there are plenty of

those available. My very first project on evenweave fabric was actually a Lanarte Kit that I didn't even realize was evenweave fabric instead of aida! Once I figured it out I was so happy that I stopped buying aida fabric all together.

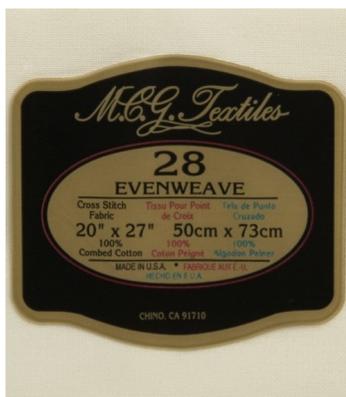
P.P.S. Joann.com fills orders quickly and offers free shipping for orders over \$50! <--Click [here to order your cross stitch kits now.](#)

A few things you might need....



My favorite needles for stitching!
[John James Petites](#)

I used to break needles left and right until I started using John James. I find the petites are perfect for cross stitching and very sturdy despite the petite name.



Some extra [evenweave fabric in a neutral color](#) for those spur of the moment projects that come up from time to time.

You can pick up these project size pieces at any JoAnn Fabric Store. I like to order online and have it sent to my house, I usually also order some [fusible interfacing](#), because I can never find any locally.

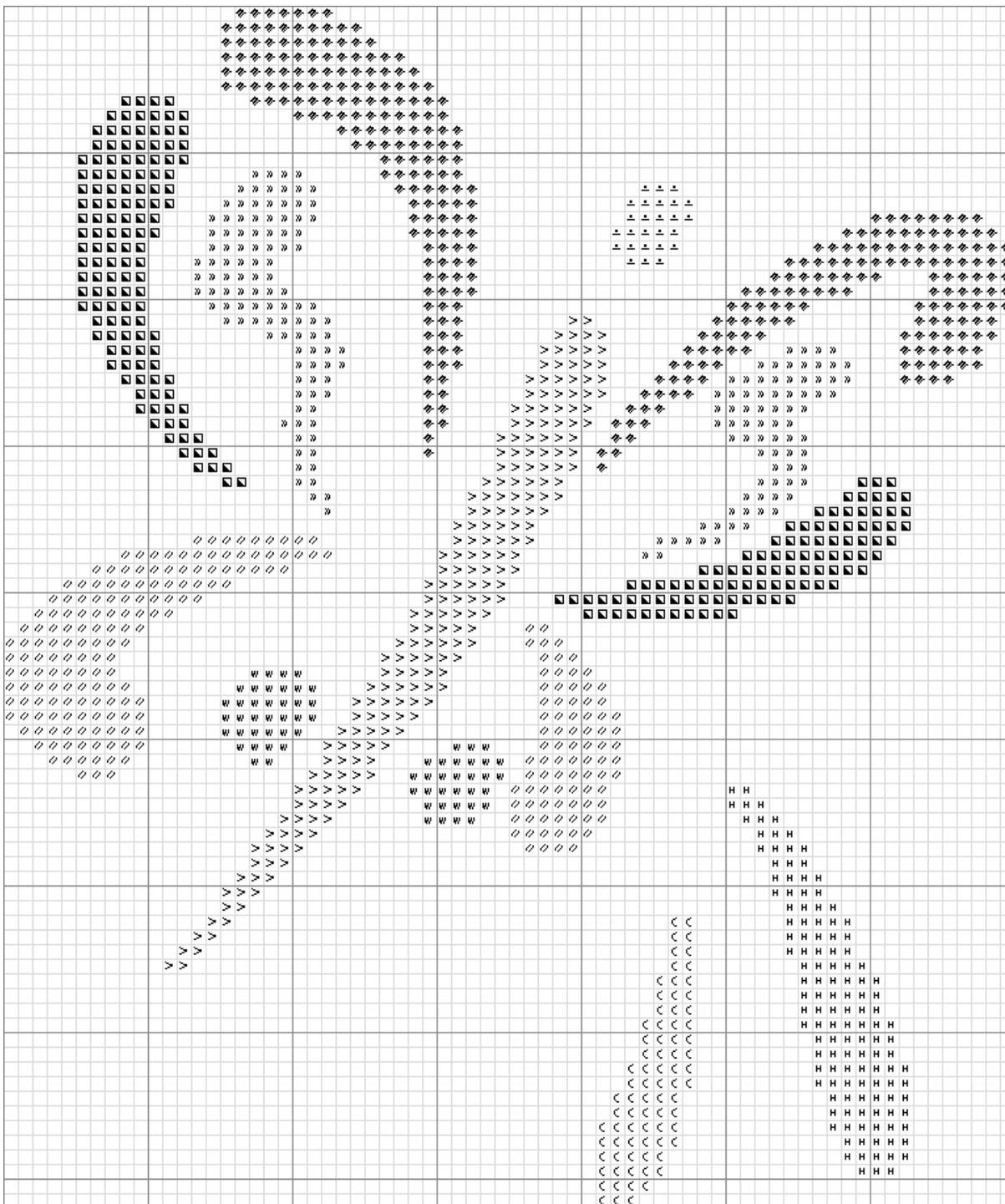


[Q-Snaps!](#) Way better than a traditional style hoop for tension and won't mess up your already completed stitches.

The [8 inch size](#) is my favorite since I can use it on just about any project, even the small ones. But, I also have the [11 inch](#) and [6 inch sizes](#) and use them often.

Here's one of *Stitching the Night Away's* [free cross stitch patterns](#) so you'll have something to stitch on your new evenweave and linen fabrics!

Brushstroke Butterfly



Symbol Legend for suggested colors:

∕∕	DMC 210 lavender - md
•	DMC 437 tan - lt
»	DMC 445 lemon - lt
✕	DMC 519 sky blue
◡	DMC 597 turquoise
◼	DMC 600 cranberry - vy dk
>	DMC 676 old gold - lt
∕∕∕	DMC 704 chartreuse - br
w	DMC 3848 teal green - md

Remember these are only the suggested color, feel free to use whatever you have in your floss stash to make this butterfly your very own creation! Here's 2 stitched versions

