

Gingerbread Tree Etui

FABRIC LAYOUT AND STITCH PREP INSTRUCTIONS

Here is your Fabric Layout for the Gingerbread Tree Etui design.

Model: 28ct “Antique Almond” Overdyed Cashel Linen
1 piece - 13.5” wide x 36” high (along selvedge)

Of course you can cut your pieces from a different size piece of linen.. but this is a good suggestion. Print out and bring to your needlework shop to guide them to cutting a piece of linen for you.

EACH GRAPH SQUARE ON OUR CHARTS EQUALS TWO FABRIC THREADS.

Getting started:

1. Unpack your Acc Pack and sort your threads according to the BUNDLES shown on the Materials list of your Student Notes. Sorting your threads is easier if you sort ONE Bundle at a time. Each bundle has one easily identifiable thread in it, so take out each bundle, identify the ones you know first, and then identify the ones left. Label them or put them in plastic baggies for your project. Please do this before you come, as it helps save time during class!

2. Overcast or zig zag raw edges of linen to prevent unraveling. Work basting lines on fabric as shown on diagram at right. You can also remove fabric threads at the basting lines to save time, but be very sure when you do! Then baste the horizontal and vertical centers of each section to prepare for stitching.

**Optional: make grids by basting every 10 squares = 20 fabric threads.. to align with the heavy lines of the charts, so that in class you can find your way more easily.. it's an extra counting idea!*

3. A roller frame is recommended to prevent distortion and handling of the fabric. Each of the specialty stitches, including backstitch, can be started with a waste knot as follows: make a knot at the end of the thread, and push threaded needle through the front of the fabric near the whipstitched edge. Come up at the appropriate spot and begin stitching. Later, cut the knot from the front of the fabric, pull the tail to the back and carefully weave through stitches already in place. Give yourself plenty of thread to finish these waste knots, after you've finished stitching.

4. Cross Stitch any of the areas that appeal to you. Having your green trees and some of the scenes done makes stitching much more fun, and you'll be able to work some of your specialty stitches later! For instance, I recommend that you work all the Cross Stitch on MAIN Charts, and then do the backstitched Vines on ALL 4 charts.. so you can place all the specialty stitch flowers where they belong later! You also need to have a spare piece of fabric around as a doodle cloth for any areas you need to practice. Happy Stitching! - Thea

