



**BUSTLE & SEW**  
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# *Simple Cross Stitch Design*



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As we enter the summer exam season I remember how my daughter Rosie was always very nervous beforehand and worried about disappointing results. But I used to say to her - I shall never be disappointed as long as you have done your best - cos you can't do better than your best. I think that holds true for all of life - not just exams, so I thought you might like this simple cross stitch design. It is stitched on a thrifted vintage doily (these are really easy to find) and then mounted on some very modern fabric for a nice contrast.



Finished project shown mounted on an A3 artist's canvas block.

## Materials

- 15" x 20" non-stretchy background fabric - I used Grid in Pink from the Nordic Design Studio ([available from M is for Make](#) in the UK)
- Thrifted cotton doily - the centre of mine measured 5 ½" across - if yours is a different size then you may wish to resize the pattern.
- Stranded cotton floss in colour of your choice - I used a dark greeny-blue
- White thread
- A3 or near equivalent size artist's canvas block
- Staple gun.
- Temporary fabric marker pen





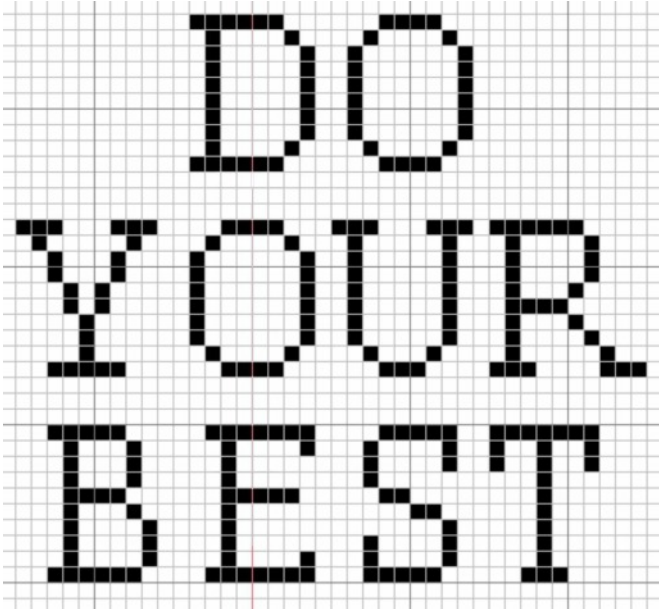
## Method

- Launder and press your thrifted doily.
- Transfer the cross stitch pattern to the centre. The template is actual size and one black square represents one cross stitch. Alternatively you could use waste canvas if you prefer. Work the cross stitch design using two strands of floss.
- Remove any transfer lines. Place face down on a clean flat surface and press again. You may like to use a towel beneath your work when pressing to avoid flattening the stitches.
- Press your background fabric and place face up on a clean flat surface.
- Place your canvas block in the centre and draw around it with a temporary fabric marker pen. This will help you position your doily.
- Pin or spray baste the doily in place with the top approximately 1 ½" down from your temporary fabric marker pen. Stitch to the background fabric with white thread using small stitches that won't show.
- Press your work again.
- Place face down on a clean flat surface, then position your canvas block on top so your design is centred.
- Turn the excess fabric to the back and staple in place working from the centre of each side outwards. Pull the fabric fairly taut, but be careful not to stretch and distort it. Mitre the corners and trim away excess fabric. Neaten the back - it's a nice idea to cover the raw edges with washi tape if you have any.
- Remove temporary fabric marker pen lines.
- FINISHED!!



# Simple Cross Stitch Design

Template is actual size



Either transfer the pattern and work as you would a printed cross stitch design or work on 14 count waste canvas.



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Why do we love to stitch? After all you can purchase mass-produced textile items at many high streets stores for very little cost. These days handmade means something special - a unique item created with love, a gift from the heart, not one that can be bought.

Hand stitching is also a great way to personalise an item, or perhaps to breathe new life into an old favourite that has seen better days.

[Bustle & Sew](#) offers my own unique patterns, designed to appeal to all skill levels and bring out all your natural creativity. And you can keep up to date with all the latest news from Devon where I live as well as the newest patterns and much more over on the [Bustle & Sew Blog](#).



**PS** If you love stitching, then you're sure to enjoy my Bustle & Sew Magazine. It's delivered by email to your in-box each month and is crammed full of ideas, projects, features, articles, patterns and more to inspire you. Your family and friends will soon be queuing up to take delivery of your new Bustle & Sew creations. To learn more please visit the [Bustle & Sew website](#).

*Helen xx*



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Thank you.