

## Getting Started

### *1. How to determine the right size to cut your fabric.*

If you are using "20 count" linen that means there are 20 threads per inch. (If your fabric is 19 count I will usually round it up and consider it 20 count just because it is easier).

*If you go over TWO fabric strands, then what would your stitch count be?*

It would be 10 count.

A "stitch count" on linen is different than the fabric count simply because you go over two strands and up two strands (see the pictures in *How to Cross Stitch on Linen*).

*If the fabric you are using is 35count linen and you go over two fabric strands, what is your stitch count?*

It would be 17 count. Just remember that your stitch will always be HALF of your fabric count on linen.

Next, you need to determine the stitch count of the "design size" on the chart you are making. The design size means how many stitches there are across the width and how many stitches there are lengthwise.

I will always give you the stitch count of the design. It will usually be included in the instructions. It will read, "design size: 67w x 85h".

*Now using that design size, what size should you cut your linen if you use 20 count linen?*

Just do a little math!

**67w x 85h**

**67** (width of design)  $\div$  **10** (stitch count) = **6.7** inches wide (add 4" to this number for a 2" border on the sides) = **10.7** width total

**85** (height of design)  $\div$  **10** (stitch count) = **8.5** inches height (add 4" to this number for a 2" border on the top and bottom) = **12.5** height total

Cut the linen for this design 11" (round up) wide x 12 1/2" lengthwise

*Now what size should you cut your linen if it is 35 count linen?*

$67 \div 17 = 3.94$  inches ( I would call it 4") wide + 4" border = 8" width total

$85 \div 17 = 5.00$  inches height + 4" border = 9" width total

Cut the linen what size?

If it is 26 count linen?

$67 \div ?$  (stitch count) = ? + 4" (border) = ? total width

$85 \div ?$  (stitch count) = ? + 4" (border) = ? total height

Cut the linen what size?

## 2. How to read the chart

Each of the colors used in a design is represented by a symbol. Look at the color code example I have on this page. On the color code you will see the numbers to the right. They are DMC embroidery floss numbers. There are numerous DMC colors and each color has a number. To the left is the symbol I use to represent that color in the graph. Since your first chart, the marking sampler, has only one color there is only one symbol on the chart.

### Color Code

Symbol	Color Number
^	632
e	355
+	950