

SHENANDOAH SPRING

Version 1.1

Materials needed:

Presencia*

Cotton Floss 4218 (2) *DMC 504
Cotton Floss 4472 *DMC 368 or 503
Pearl Cotton #8 4218 *DMC 503
**may substitute DMC floss and #8 pearl cotton*

Caron Collection

Watercolours 241 Shenandoah

Rainbow Gallery

Neon Rays N62 Sky Blue (3)
Neon Rays N88 Lite Jade
Flair F538 Sea Green

Kreinik

#4 Braid 3214 Blue Zircon (2)
#8 Braid 3214 Blue Zircon (2)

Zweigart

18 ct. Interlock Canvas 9618/503 Light Blue, 16" x 16"

Other Materials needed:

16" stretcher bars
tacks

22, 24 and 26 tapestry needles
laying tool

About DebBee's Designs

Thank you for purchasing Shenandoah Spring. My goal as a designer is to provide the clearest instructions possible so your stitching experience is enjoyable and free of frustrations. Please contact me if you have any questions or problems with your project.

I support my local needlework shop, and I encourage you to do the same for the additional materials needed.

A friendly word about copying—please don't!

Can you tell that blues and greens are my favorite colors? I used similar color values in both shades, relying on texture to convey the design. Feel free to change colors to your favorites, but bear in mind that the different textures of cotton, rayon and metallic, solid and overdye threads contribute to the overall design. A chart is included on the first page for your choices.

Thanks again, and happy stitching!

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REFERENCES

I recommend the following books for additional information on needlework:

Favorite Stitches for Linen and Canvas, Volumes I, II, III and IV, by Linda Driskell, Needlecrafts Unlimited Co., Gadsden, AL, www.888needleu.com

A Collection of Beautiful Stitches by Emie Bishop, published in 2002 by Cross 'n Patch, Box 132, Millville, UT, 84326, www.emiebishopdesigns.com

Ring of Stitches by Betsy C. Stinner, published in 1999 by Earth Threads, 22 Boltwood Avenue Castleton, NY 12033, www.earththreads.com

The Needlepoint Book, by Jo Ippolito Christensen, a Fireside Book by Simon & Schuster, Inc., 1976 and 1999, 1230 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10020

Needlepoint Stitches (1988) and Stimulating Stitches (1992) by Jean Hilton, 43479 Alto Dr., Hemet, CA 92344

RESOURCES

THREADS:

Presencia Hilaturas USA, PO Box 2409, Evergreen, CO 80437, (866) 277-6364, www.presenciausa.com

Kreinik Mfg. Co., Inc., 3106 Lord Baltimore Dr., Ste 101, Baltimore, MD 21244, www.kreinik.com, kreinik@kreinik.com, 1-800-537-2166

Rainbow Gallery, 7412 Fulton Ave. #5, North Hollywood, CA 91605-4126 www.rainbowgallery.com

Caron Collection, 55 Old South Avenue, Stratford, CT 06615, www.caron-net.com

CANVAS:

Zweigart, 262 Old New Brunswick Rd., Ste. E, Piscataway, NJ, 08854-3756, www.zweigart.com

SOFTWARE:

EasyGrapher Stitch Wiz, Davis Computer Services, Inc., PO Box 750141, New Orleans, LA 70175

www.easygrapher.com

Easy Cross DeLuxe, Fulford Software Solutions, 92 Penrhyn Crescent, Chilwell, Nottingham, NG9 5PA

www.easycross.co.uk

Cover Photography by Rod Rowley

Model framed by The Stitcher's Garden, thestitchersgarden@conwaycorp.net

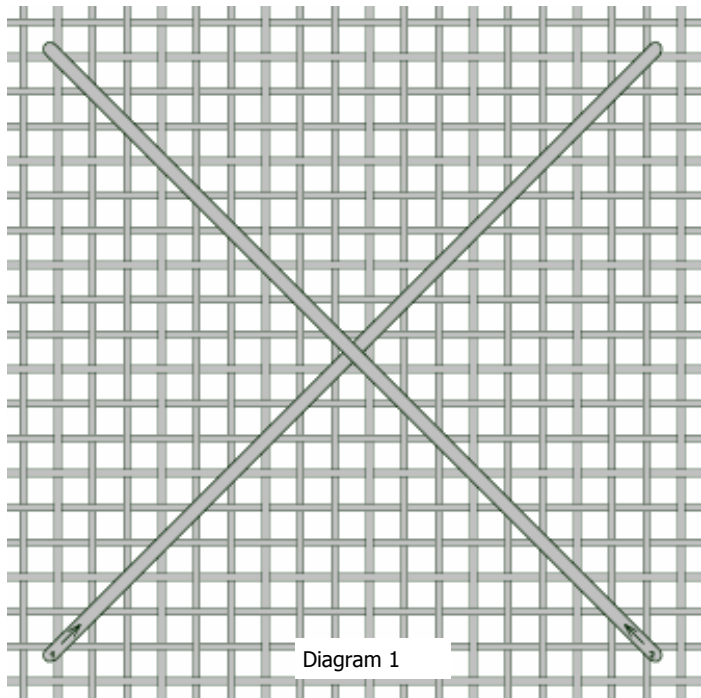
INSTRUCTIONS AND STITCH DIAGRAMS

Begin by stretching the canvas on stretcher bars, and find the center of the canvas. For your convenience if you want to change the color scheme, please refer to the table below. Bear in mind that the different textures of rayon ribbon, cotton and metallic contribute to the design of the piece.

| Thread | Original Colors | Your Colors |
|-----------------------|--|-------------|
| 3 ply Pima Cotton | Caron Collection Watercolours 241 Shenandoah | |
| 6 strand cotton floss | Presencia 4218 | |
| 6 strand cotton floss | Presencia 4472 | |
| #8 pearl cotton | Presencia 4218 | |
| Flat Rayon Ribbon #1 | Rainbow Gallery Neon Rays N62 | |
| Flat Rayon Ribbon #2 | Rainbow Gallery Neon Rays N88 | |
| Nylon Tubular Ribbon | Rainbow Gallery Flair F538 | |
| #4 Metallic Braid | Kreinik 3214 | |
| #8 Metallic Braid | Kreinik 3214 | |

- Waffle Star**—Work this stitch using 1 strand of Neon Rays. If you have never worked with Neon Rays before, this flat rayon ribbon behaves best if you slightly dampen it, and use a laying tool to make it flat and straight when stitching. This will also be hard to anchor at this time, so you may want to glue the ends of the ribbon when you have completed this stitch (the glue will not show through to the front).

Beginning with the N62, work the bottom layer as shown in Diagram 1. This is a large cross stitch over 18 horizontal and 18 vertical fabric threads. Proceed as shown in Diagram 2 on the next page.



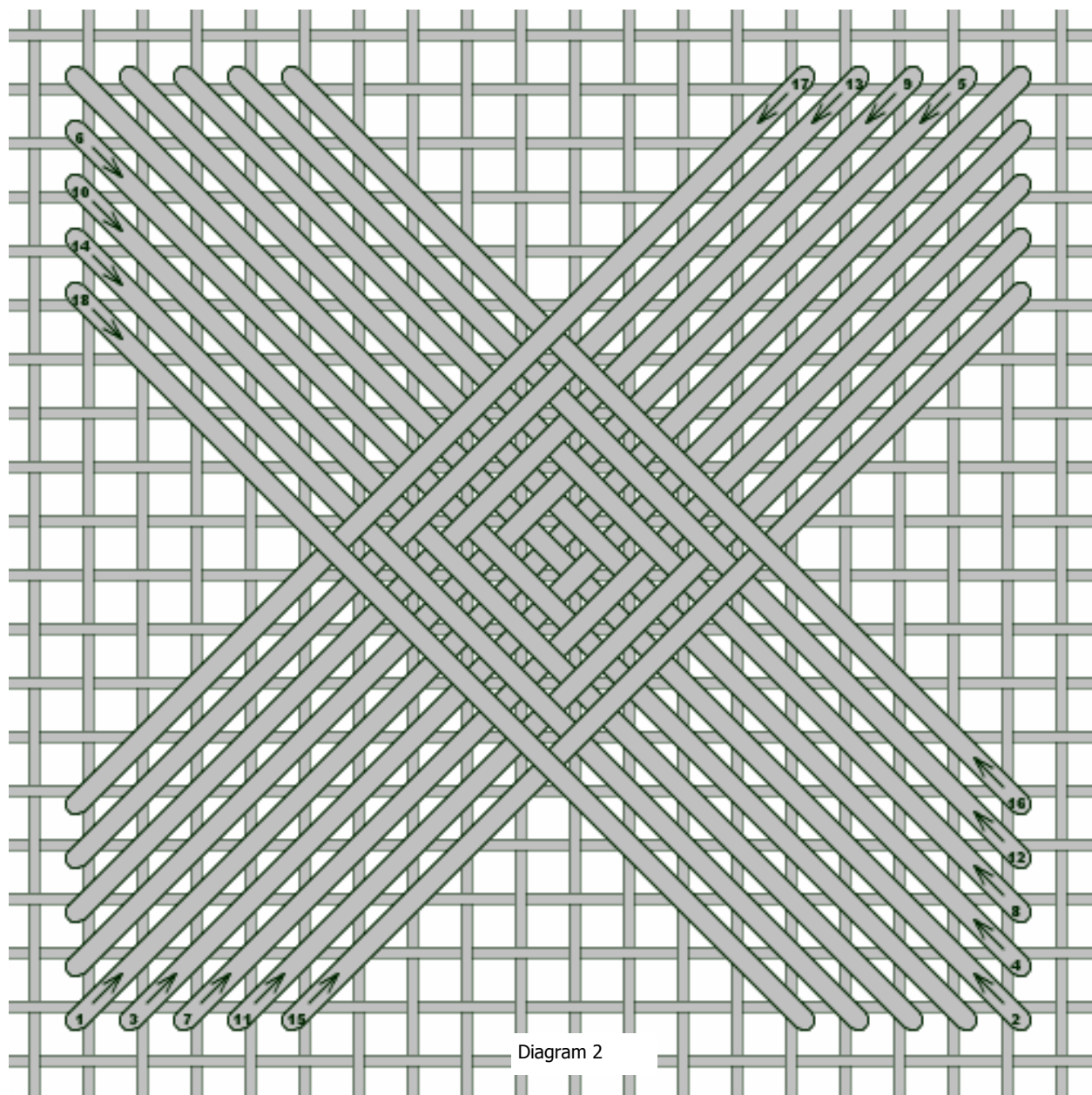
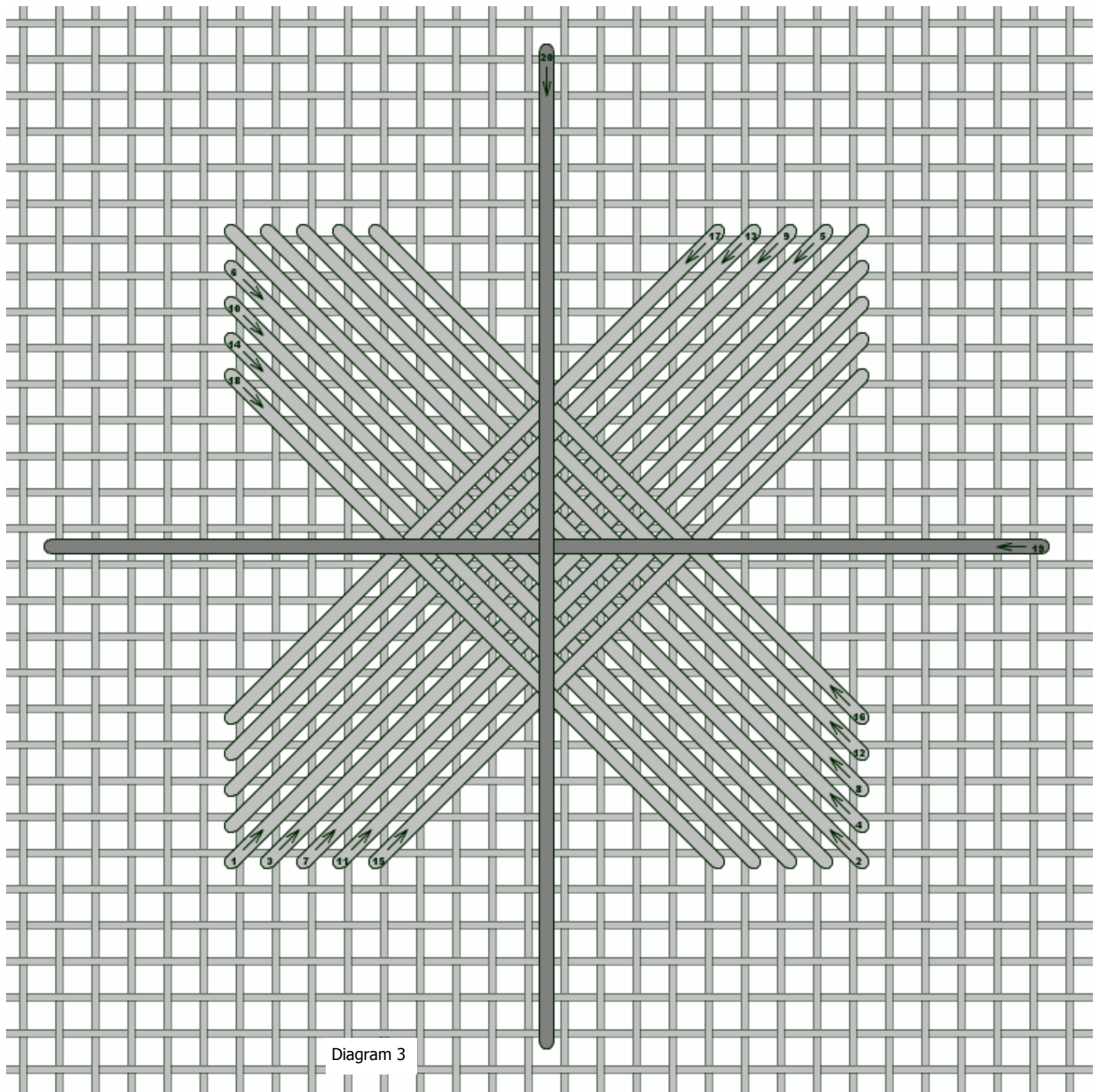


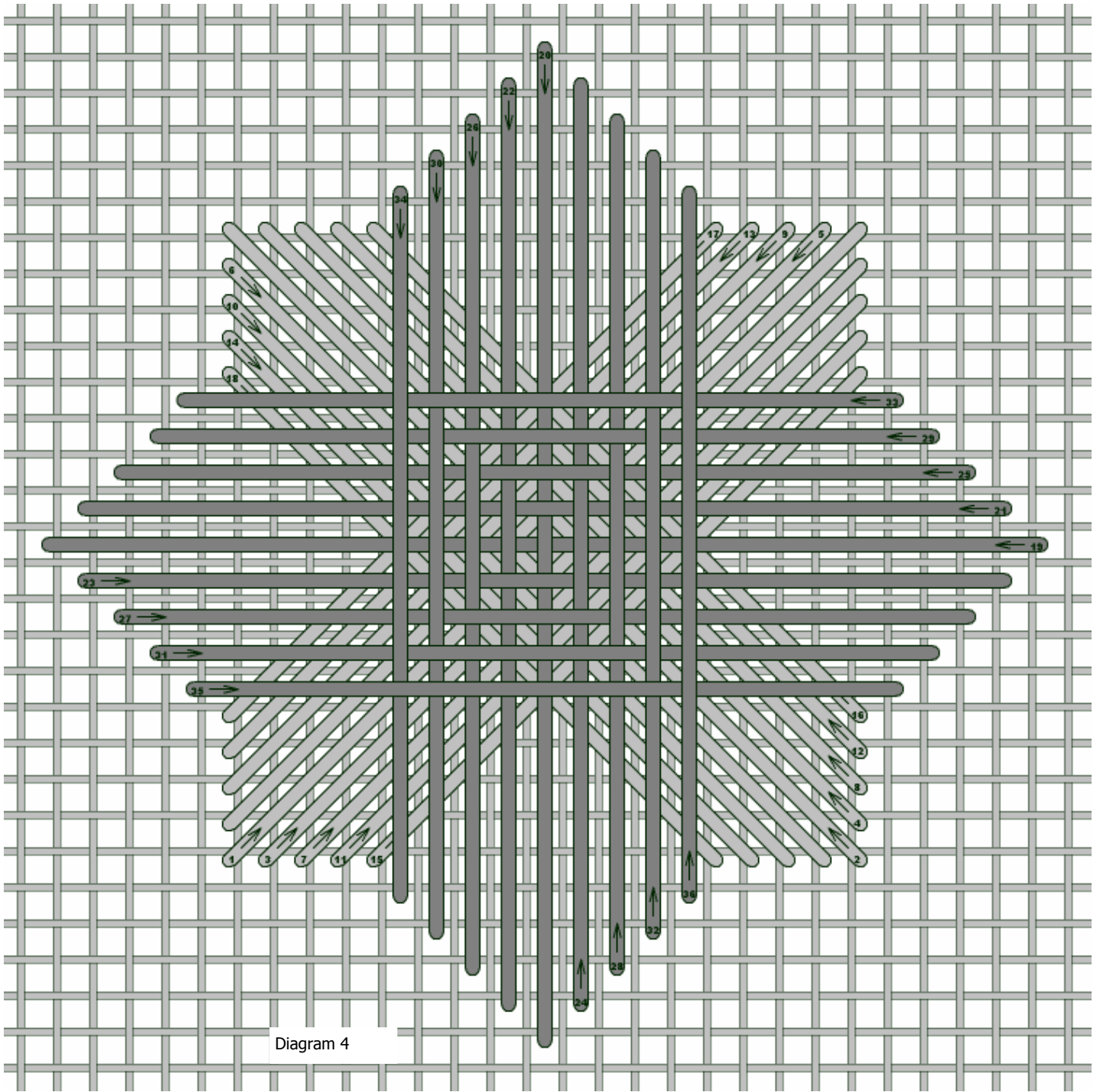
Diagram 2

You will notice that after the initial cross stitch (Diagram 1), the subsequent stitches are made in a way that will make a square on the wrong side of the canvas.

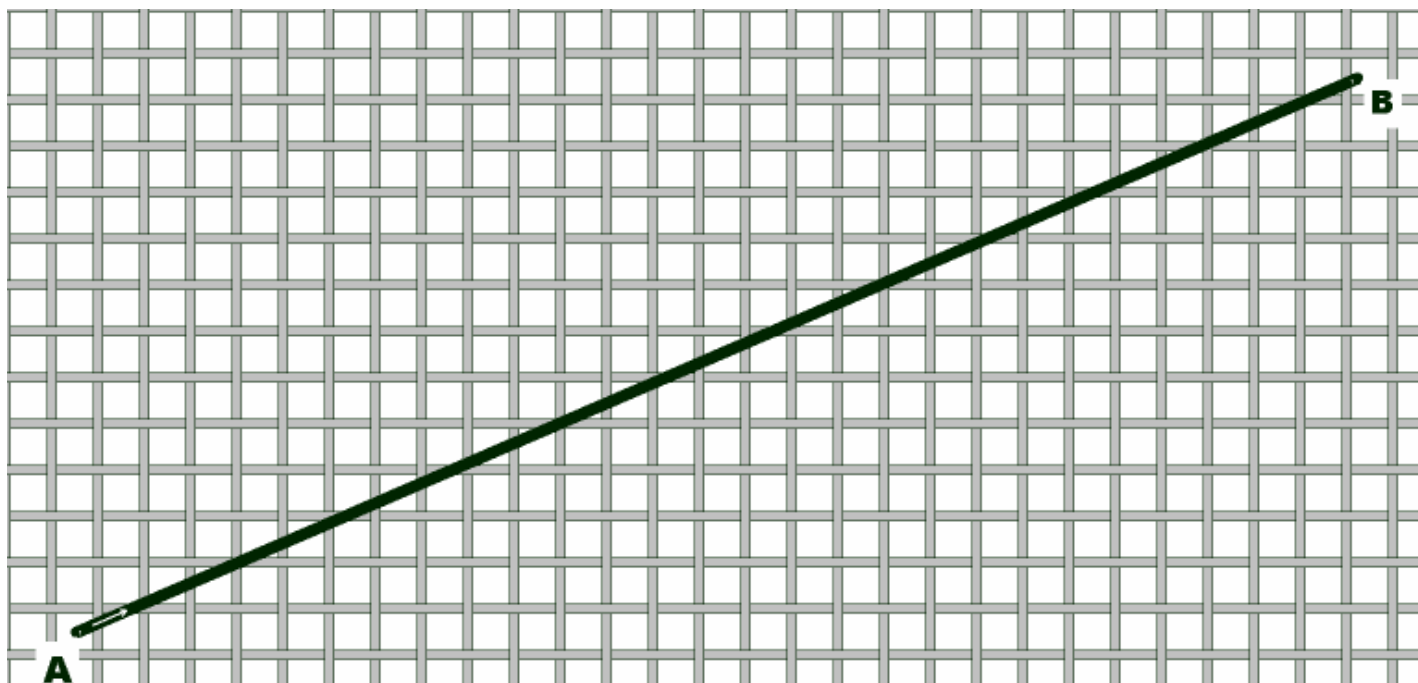
Now, using 1 strand of N88, work the next layer as shown on the following pages. You will begin with a single large upright cross stitch shown in Diagram 3.



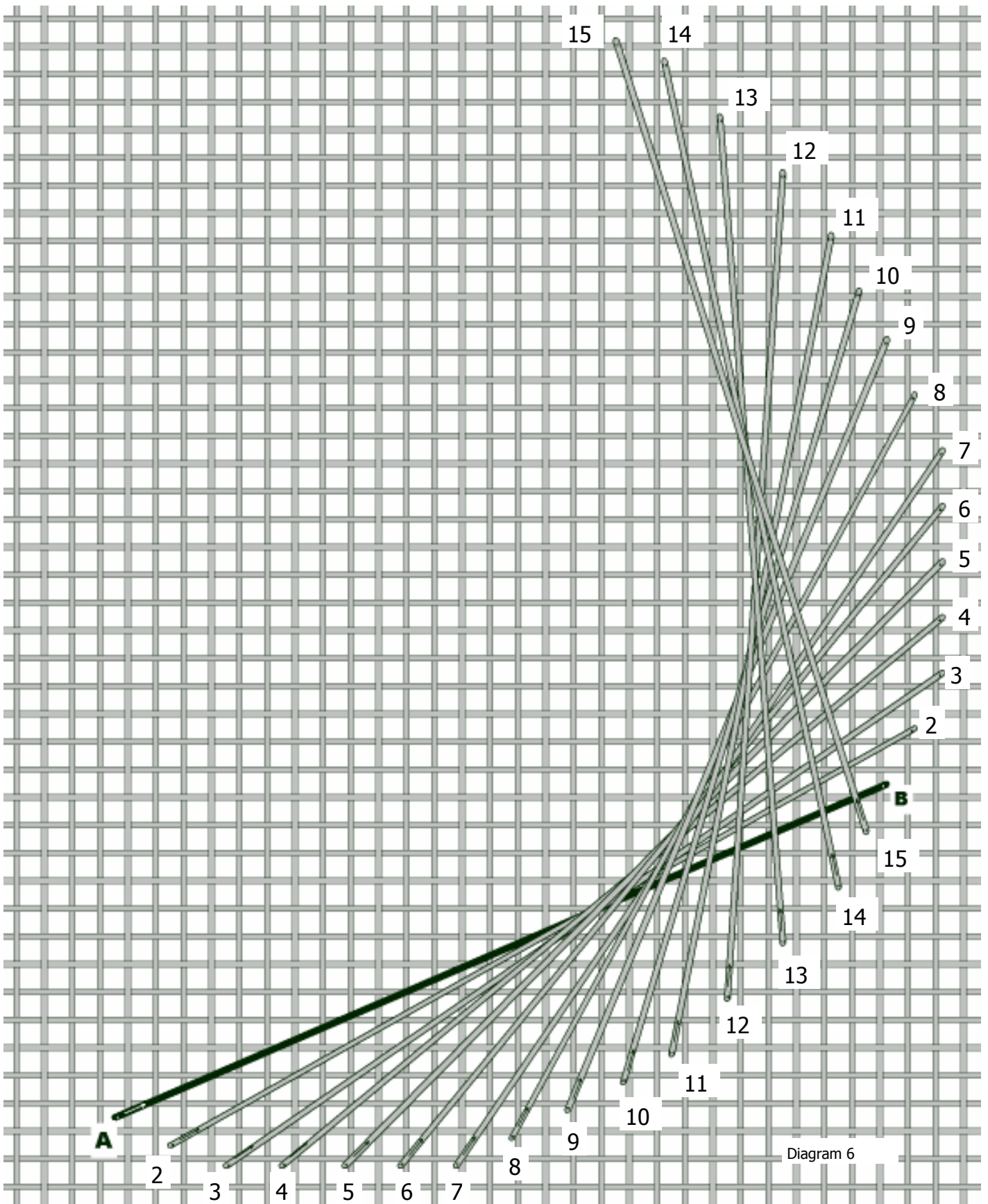
Note that the upright cross extends 5 vertical and 5 horizontal threads on all four sides from the previous layer. Subsequent stitches will be made on alternating sides of the initial upright cross, as shown in Diagram 4, with the ends points decreasing one fabric thread each time to make the star shape.



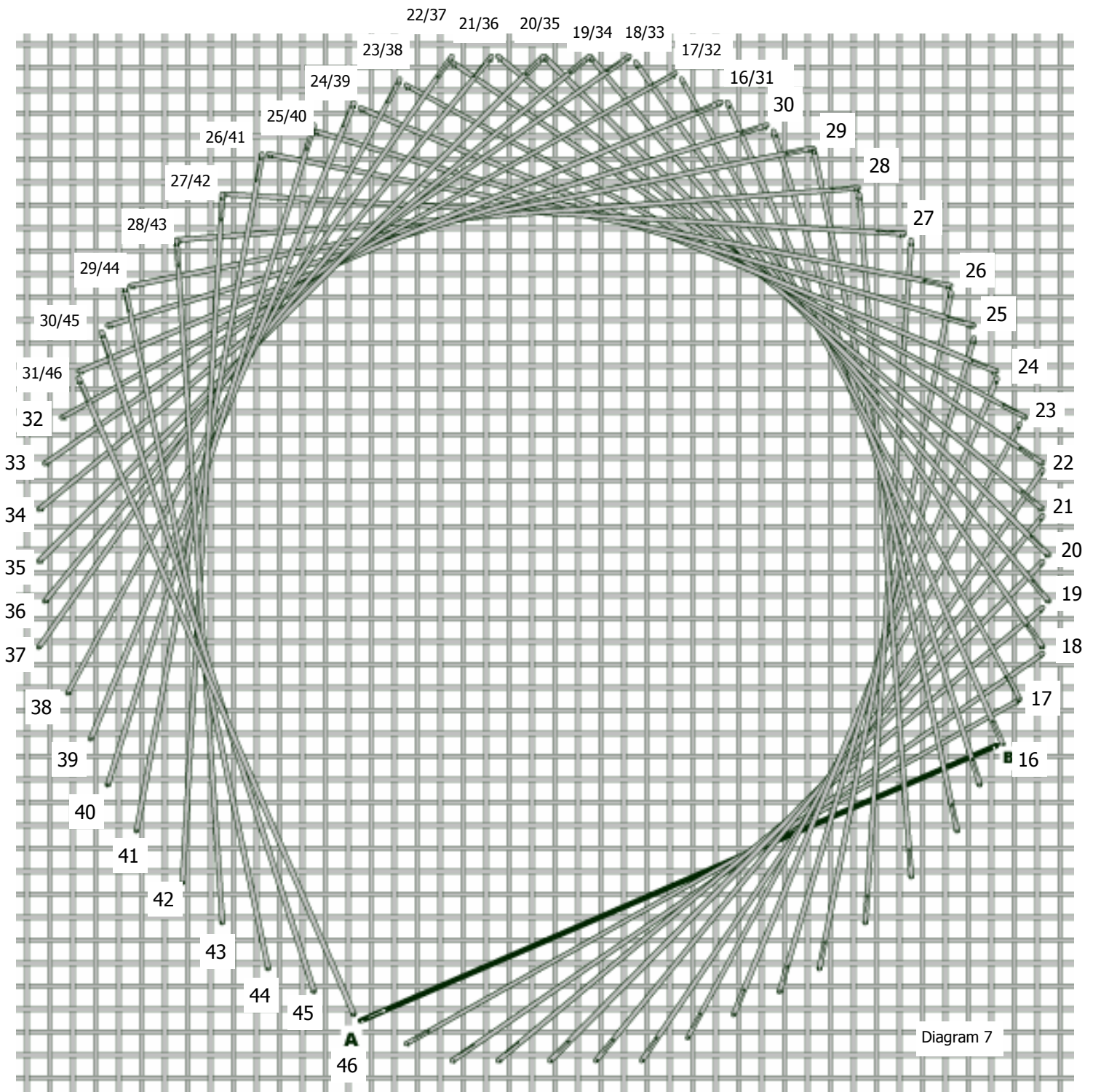
2. Jessica—If you have never worked this lovely circular stitch before, don't despair! You can do it! Work this stitch using 1 strand of Caron Collection Watercolours (Watercolours easily separates into 3 strands). Begin at Point A, shown in Diagram 5, and lay a single long stitch to Point B. Note that this stitch is worked around the waffle star.



Begin the Jessica 11 horizontal fabric threads below, and 1 vertical fabric thread right of the starting point of the waffle star (Diagram 1). This first stitch of the Jessica will extend 28 vertical fabric threads right, and 12 horizontal fabric threads up. In subsequent diagrams, this first stitch will be shown in black to give you a point of reference.



Beginning with Stitch 16, the next stitches will share their beginning with the end of a previous stitch.



From this point on, each remaining stitch will share a hole at the beginning and the end. Also, each stitch will end under the first stitches made, as shown in Diagram 8. This will make the circle look like there is no beginning or end. To end each stitch, bring the needle up to begin the stitch, slide the needle flat against the canvas to go under the first stitches made, and end the stitch. The remaining stitches will be shown in dark gray for clarity.

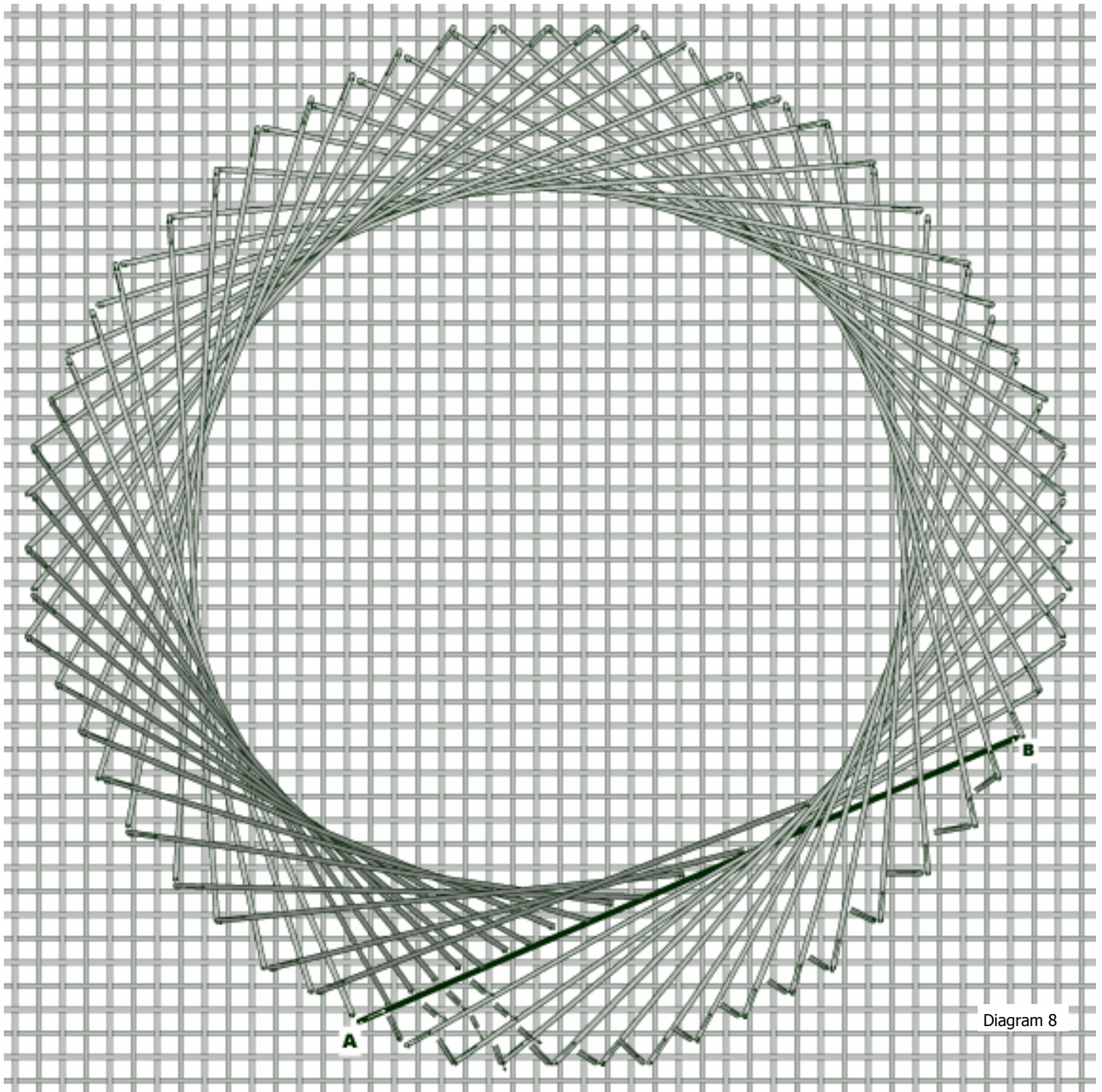
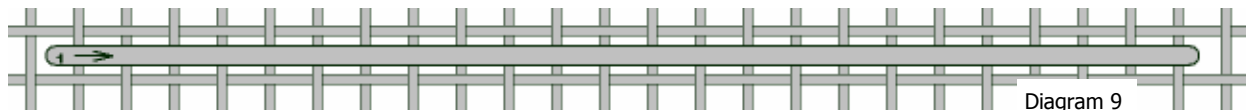


Diagram 8

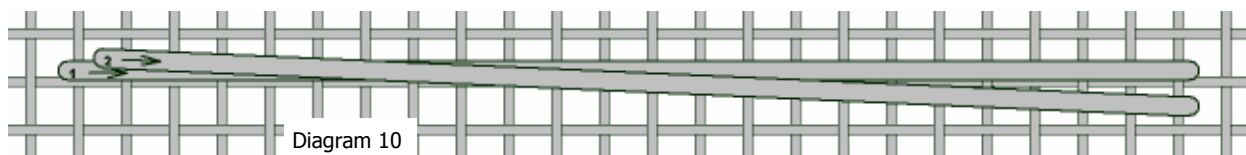
The dark gray stitches are not shown numbered as the previous diagrams, because from this point each stitch will begin in a shared hole and end in a shared hole (no counting necessary!). It is easier to slide the needle flat to the canvas under the beginning stitches, pull out the slack, then insert into the shared hole to end the stitch.

The Jessica should now be complete. Each stitch should share a hole at its beginning and end. If you have any stitches that don't, you may need to try again!

3. Crescents—After the Jessica, these should be a piece of cake! Using 1 strand of #4 Braid 3214, work the crescents as shown starting in Diagram 9. Begin with the upper right crescent. Bring the needle out 2 horizontal fabric threads above the center of the Jessica, and end in a long straight line 24 vertical fabric threads to the right.



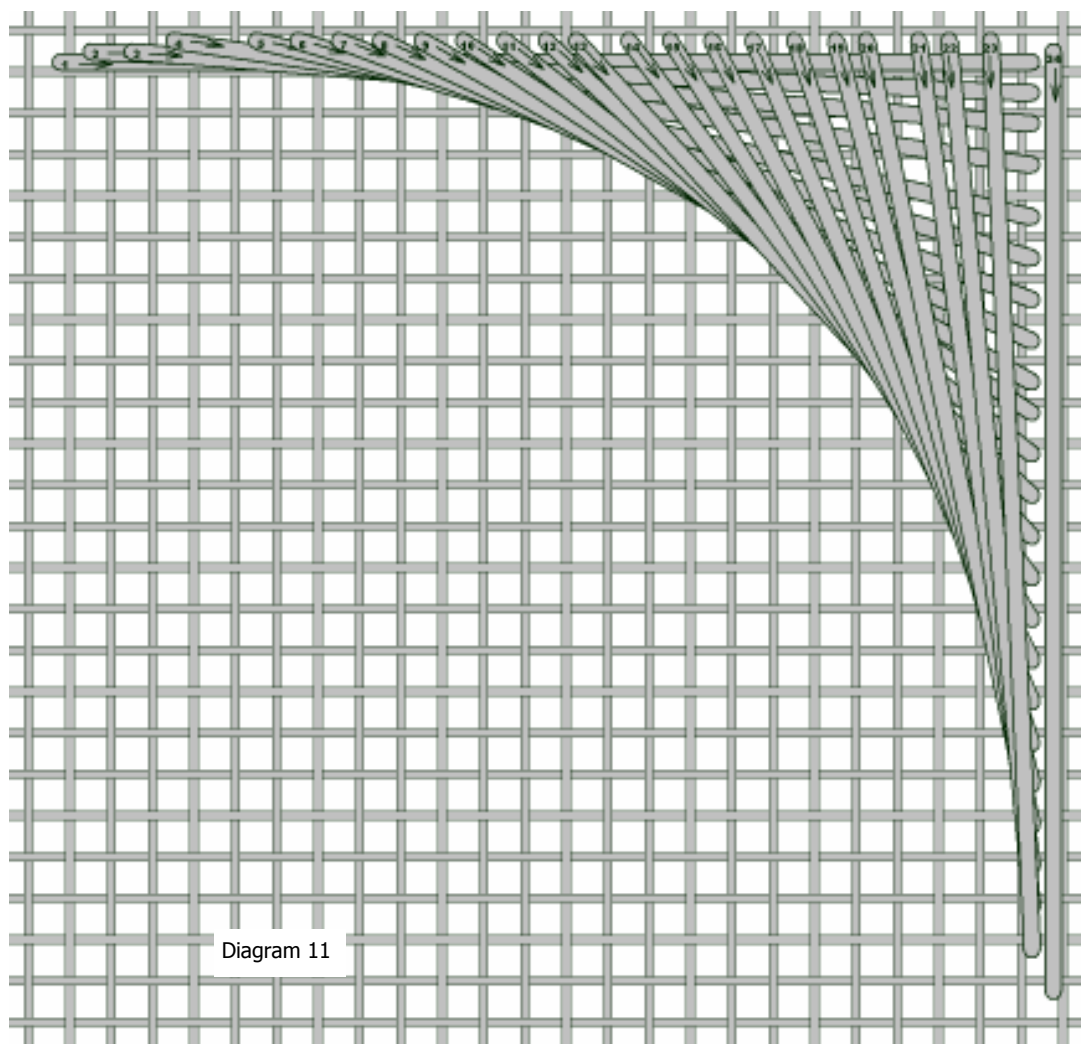
The next stitch will begin 1 vertical fabric thread to the right of the first stitch, coming over the first stitch, and end 1 horizontal fabric thread below the end of the first stitch as shown in Diagram 10.



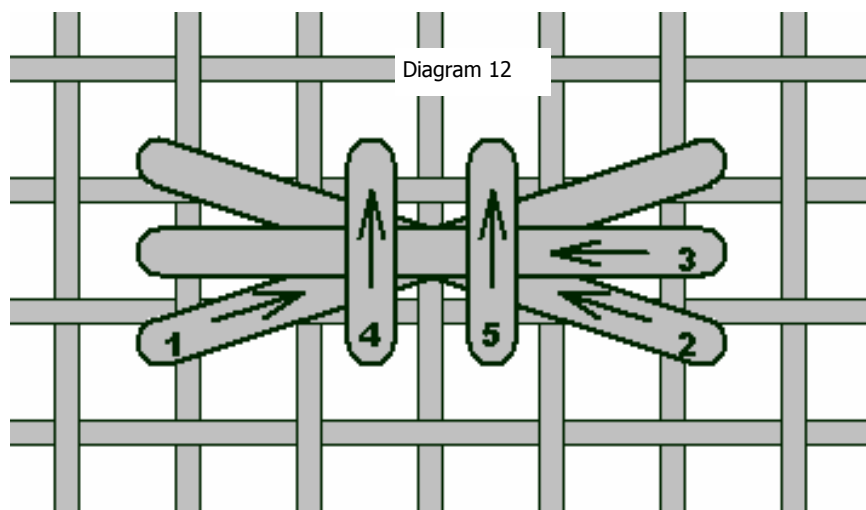
Each subsequent stitch will come over the previous stitches, as shown in Diagram 11.

The crescent ends with a single long straight vertical stitch, which begins where the first stitch ends.

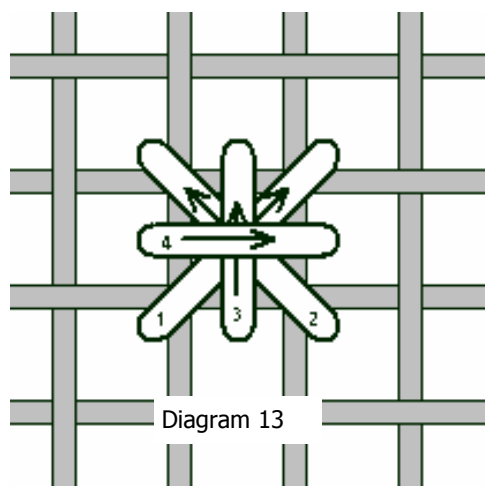
Begin the next crescent in the hole where the first crescent ended, and continue around until the 4th crescent ends where the first crescent began.



4. Tied Oblong Smyrna—I wasn't sure what to call this stitch, so I guess this will do. Work this stitch using 1 strand of Flair. If you've never worked with Flair before, use a laying tool to coax this stretchy ribbon to lay flat. Cut the ends of the ribbon at an angle to help retard fraying, and work with a shorter length. If you stretch the ribbon it will flatten and thin somewhat. You may stretch it as much or as little as you like. The stitch is shown in Diagram 12.



At the corners of the square, work a regular Smyrna, as shown in Diagram 13



The entire section is shown on the following page.

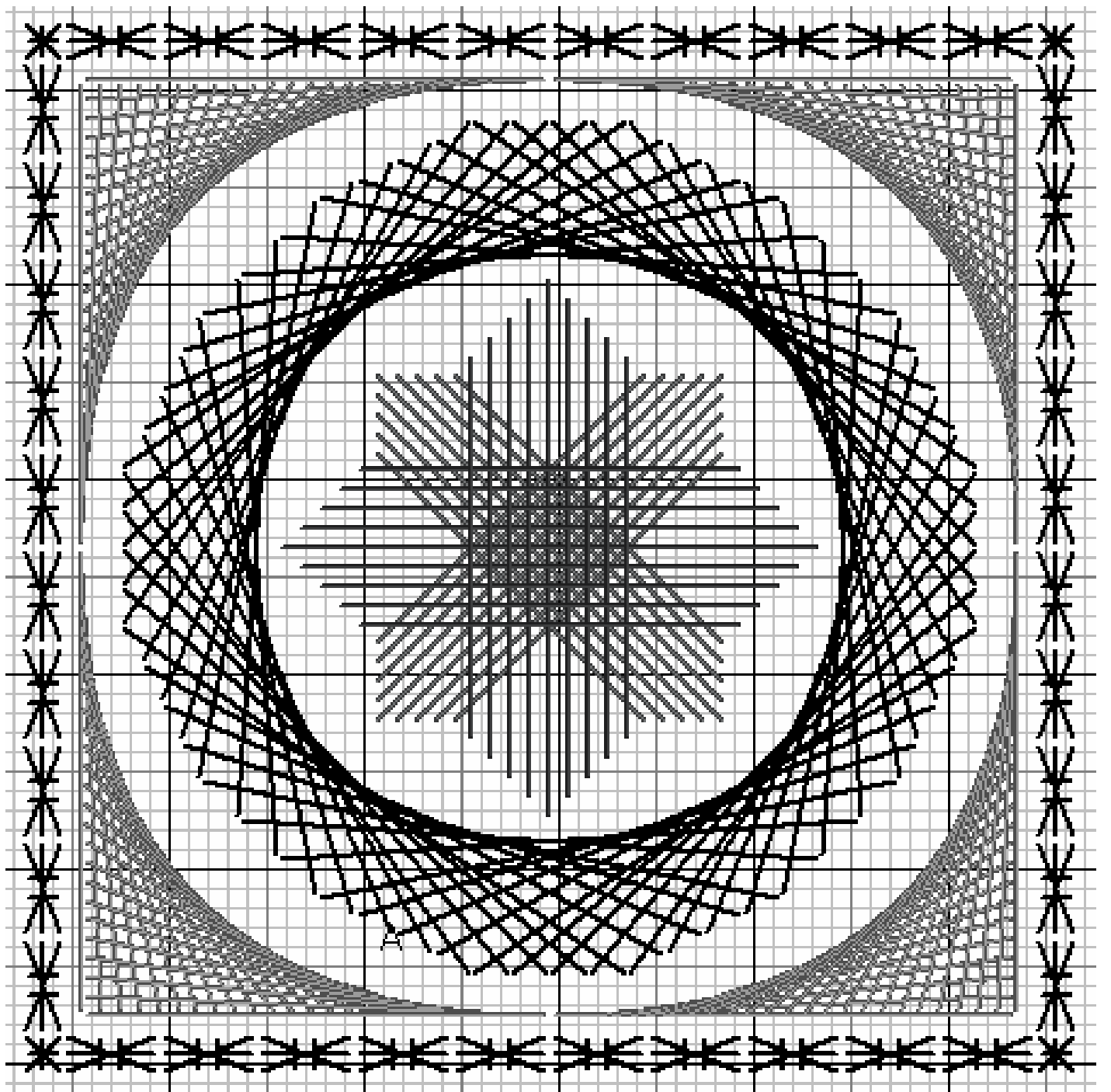
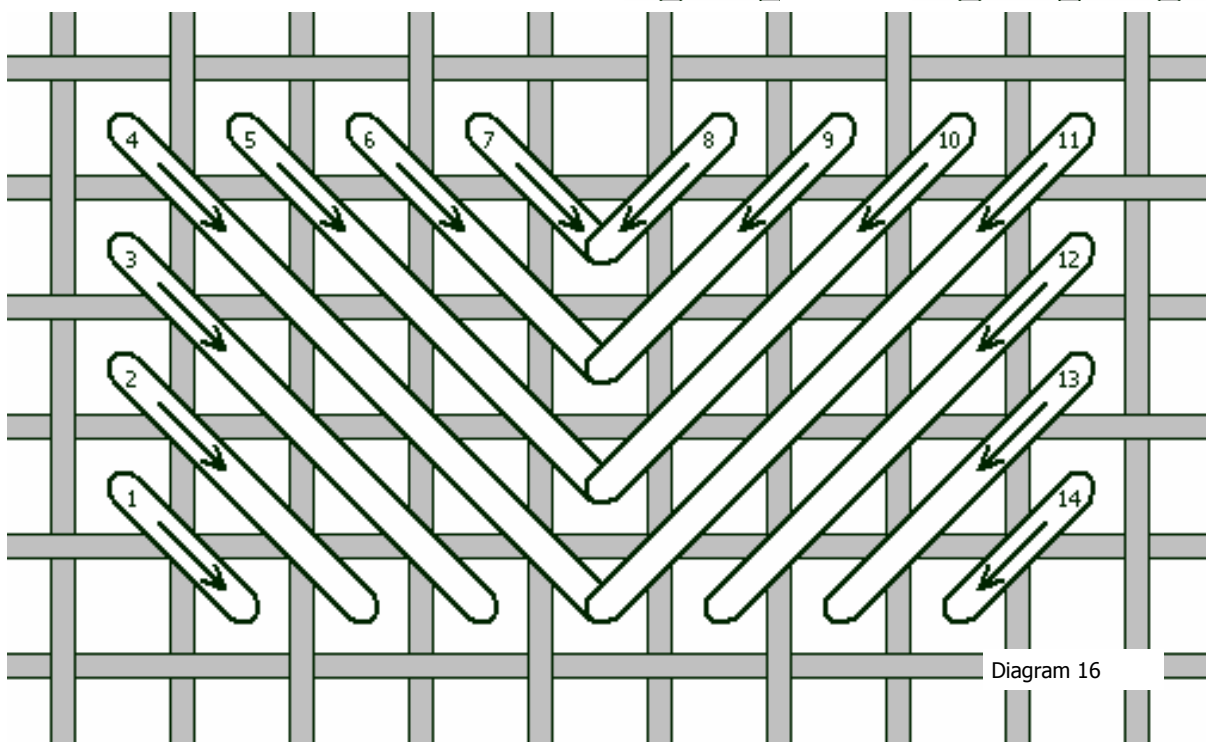
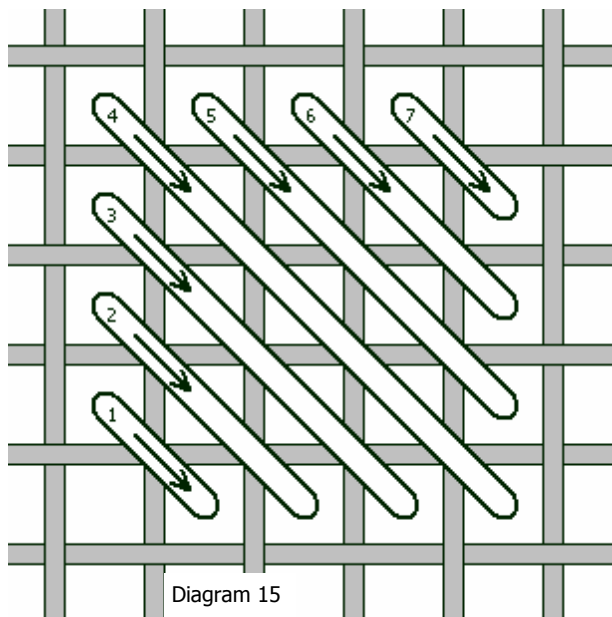


Diagram 14—Center Section

5. Reverse Scotch stitch—These stitches will border the inside section. The stitch is shown in Diagram 15; work it using 3 strands of cotton floss 4218. So that the stitches will lay flat and not be twisted on each other, use a laying tool when making the stitches. Begin 17 vertical fabric threads left of the upper left Smyrna, and 14 horizontal fabric threads above the upper left Smyrna. This makes 1 block.

(Note: If it is easier counting for you, you may stitch the beginning block directly above the previous section. Count up 4 fabric threads and left 1, and begin stitching at that point. This block is the reverse of the one shown in Diagram 15, so begin stitching as shown in Diagram 16 with stitch 8. Continue around the center square as shown in the main graphs.)



Now, make a block that is the reverse of this block, as shown in Diagram 16 (hence the *reverse* Scotch stitch). For the prettiest stitching, try to come up in an empty hole and down in a shared hole.