

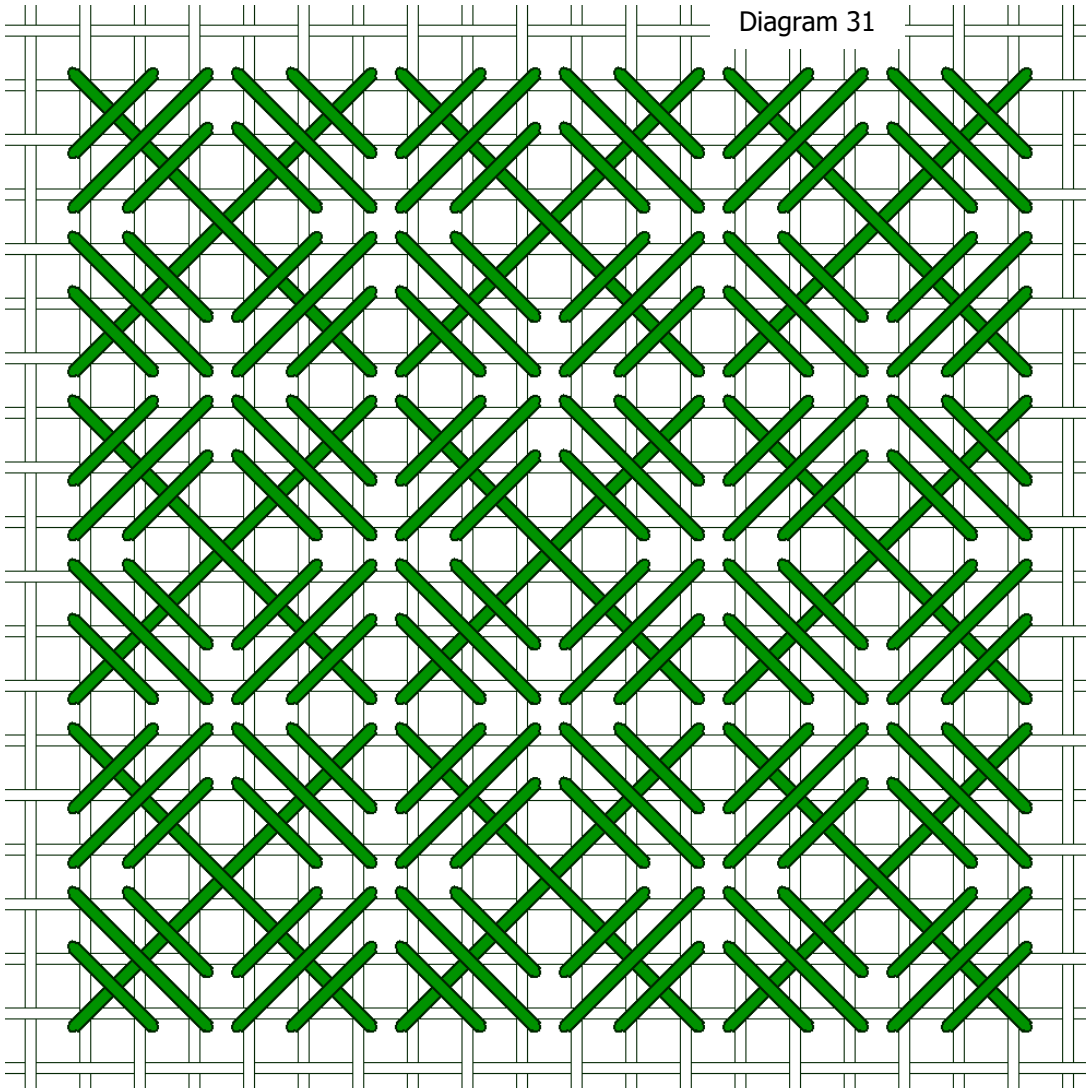
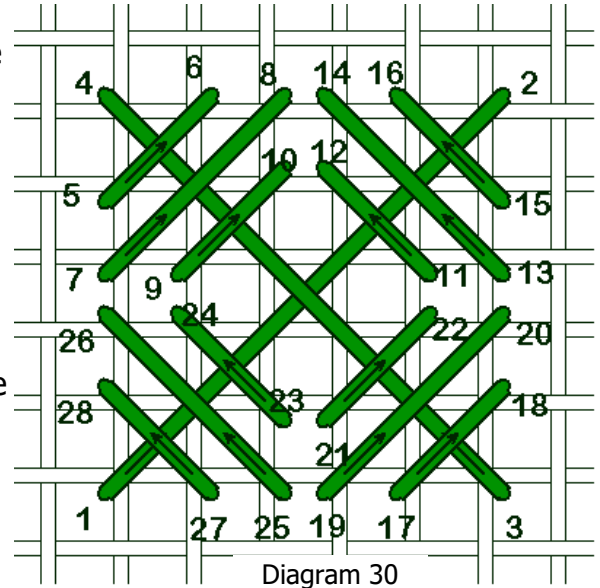
Rice Stitches

Thread Type	As Shown	Your Choice
Rayon twist	Rainbow Gallery Panache PN23 Forest Green	

The next block is made up of rice stitches over 6 canvas threads with the rayon twist. I really love this thread, shine without metal, but I know some find it difficult to use. Unlike rayon flosses and ribbons, this round twisted thread shouldn't be flat-ironed because it will flatten it and loosen the twist. So, I make sure that I keep good tension above and below the canvas when stitching with it. I hold the thread underneath the canvas while I'm starting the next stitch, then I hold the thread above the canvas while I'm completing the stitch. This keeps the thread in place on the canvas and makes it a little less difficult. You can also try dampening the thread slightly, but be aware that I've found dampening rayons dulls the shine a bit. If you decide to do this, do it for all of the lengths or you'll be able to see the difference.

OK, now for the rice stitch. It begins with a large cross stitch over 6 canvas threads, then each of the legs is tied with three diagonal stitches crossing the base stitch.

Here's the whole block of rice stitches:



Here's where the rice stitch blocks go in the design:

