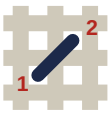
Classic mermaid tail

Needlepoint pattern | 72 x 72 stitches | 4 x 4 in (10.2 x 10.2 cm) on 18 mesh | 12 colors



How to stitch it



1. Each square is one tent stitch, up at 1, down at 2. Lines in continental, right to left, the canvas upside down for the next row; wide areas in basketweave.
2. Cut 18 in of thread. Start and end it without a knot left behind.
3. Mark the middle of the canvas. It is the outlined square, column 36, row 36 (DMC 959): start there. Count threads, not holes.
4. Go on from it: picture first, background last. End the thread before crossing another color.
5. Last, two more rows all round, each stitch in the color it lies beside: the board's edge hides them.

First time? How to needlepoint: flossfield.com/needlepoint/guides/how-to-start/
How to read a chart: flossfield.com/needlepoint/guides/how-to-read-a-chart/

What you need

Canvas: blank mono canvas, 18 mesh (18 threads to the inch), cut 8.5 in square (21.6 cm).

Needle: blunt tapestry, size 22. Also masking tape for the cut edges, and small scissors.

Thread: six-strand floss, 12 colors, about 14 skeins in all (an estimate). Stitch with 4 strands (5 or 6 if canvas shows).

Make it an ornament: board, thin batting, backing fabric and twisted cord.
How to finish an ornament.

Thread list, DMC

			stitches	skeins
●	**353**	Peach	3,014	3
H	**825**	Dark Blue	426	1
▲	**3812**	Very Dark Seagreen	352	1
+	**797**	Royal Blue	312	1
Z	**823**	Dark Navy Blue	236	1
◆	**959**	Medium Seagreen	222	1
X	**BLANC**	White	170	1
▼	**909**	Very Dark Emerald Green	167	1
■	**3844**	Dark Bright Turquoise	110	1
★	**3811**	Very Light Turquoise	107	1
=	**800**	Pale Delft Blue	61	1
❖	**890**	Ultra Dark Pistachio Green	7	1

Skeins are estimates, with the two extra rows: the thread a stitch takes on the front and back of 18 mesh canvas, plus 30 percent, rounded up for each color.

Thread colors are approximate screen matches to DMC numbers. Check against real thread before you buy.

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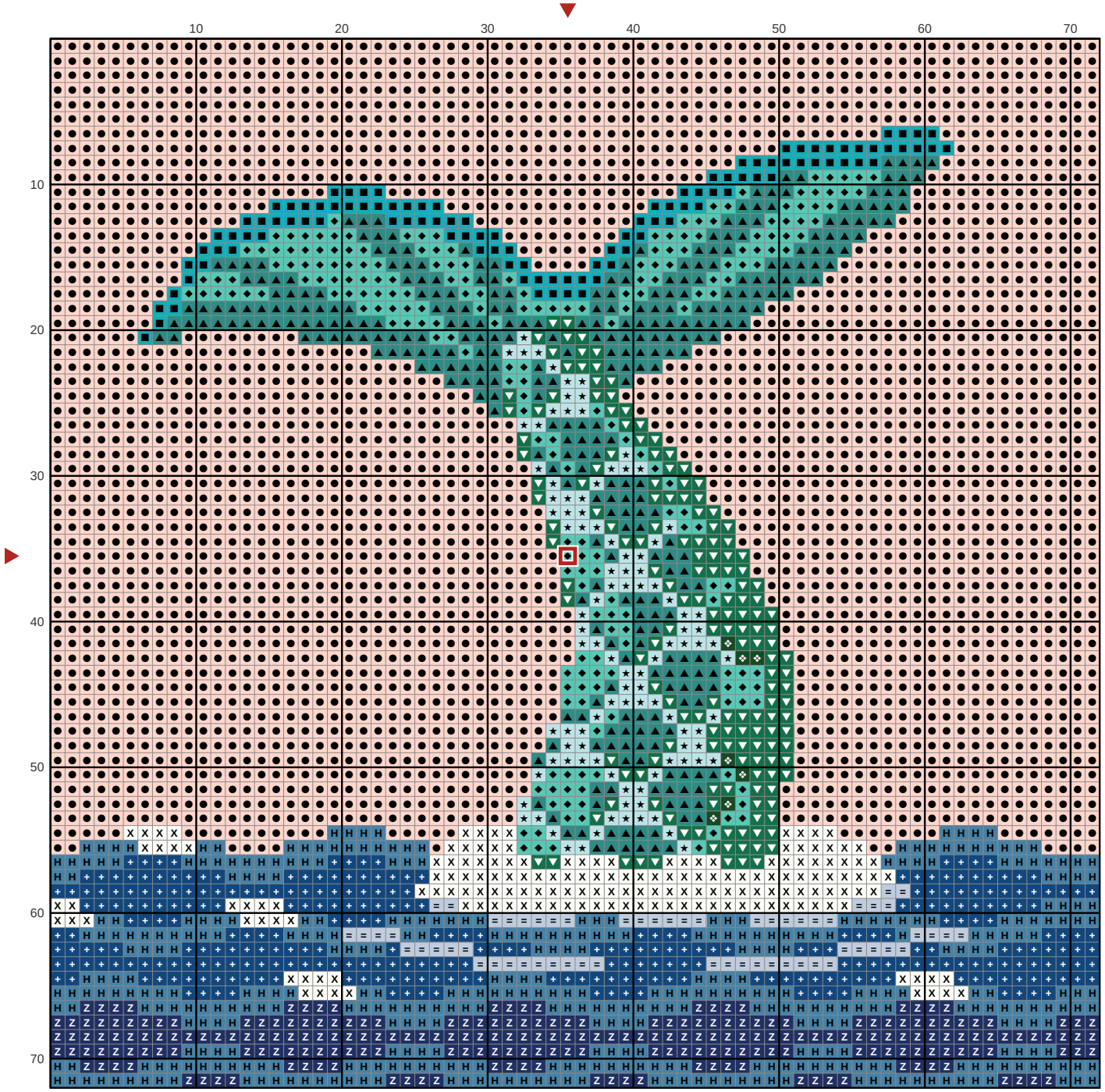
Chart: 72 x 72 stitches. Start at the red outline



Key

- ● **DMC 353** Peach
- H **DMC 825** Dark Blue
- ▲ **DMC 3812** Very Dark Seagreen
- \+ **DMC 797** Royal Blue
- Z **DMC 823** Dark Navy Blue
- ◆ **DMC 959** Medium Seagreen
- X **DMC BLANC** White
- ▼ **DMC 909** Very Dark Emerald Green
- ■ **DMC 3844** Dark Bright Turquoise
- ★ **DMC 3811** Very Light Turquoise
- = **DMC 800** Pale Delft Blue
- ❖ **DMC 890** Ultra Dark Pistachio Green