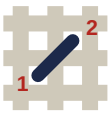
Classic shih tzu with a topknot

Needlepoint pattern | 72 x 72 stitches | 4 x 4 in (10.2 x 10.2 cm) on 18 mesh | 14 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 BLANC): 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, 14 colors, about 16 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				stitches	skeins
●	**931**	Medium Antique Blue	2,358	3	X	**809**	Delft Blue	175	1
■	**BLANC**	White	592	1	◆	**728**	Topaz	122	1
★	**783**	Medium Topaz	408	1	V	**797**	Royal Blue	100	1
▲	**415**	Pearl Gray	384	1	H	**666**	Bright Red	33	1
A	**798**	Dark Delft Blue	379	1	=	**310**	Black	33	1
❖	**433**	Medium Brown	306	1	+	**498**	Dark Red	23	1
▼	**435**	Very Light Brown	267	1	Z	**351**	Coral	4	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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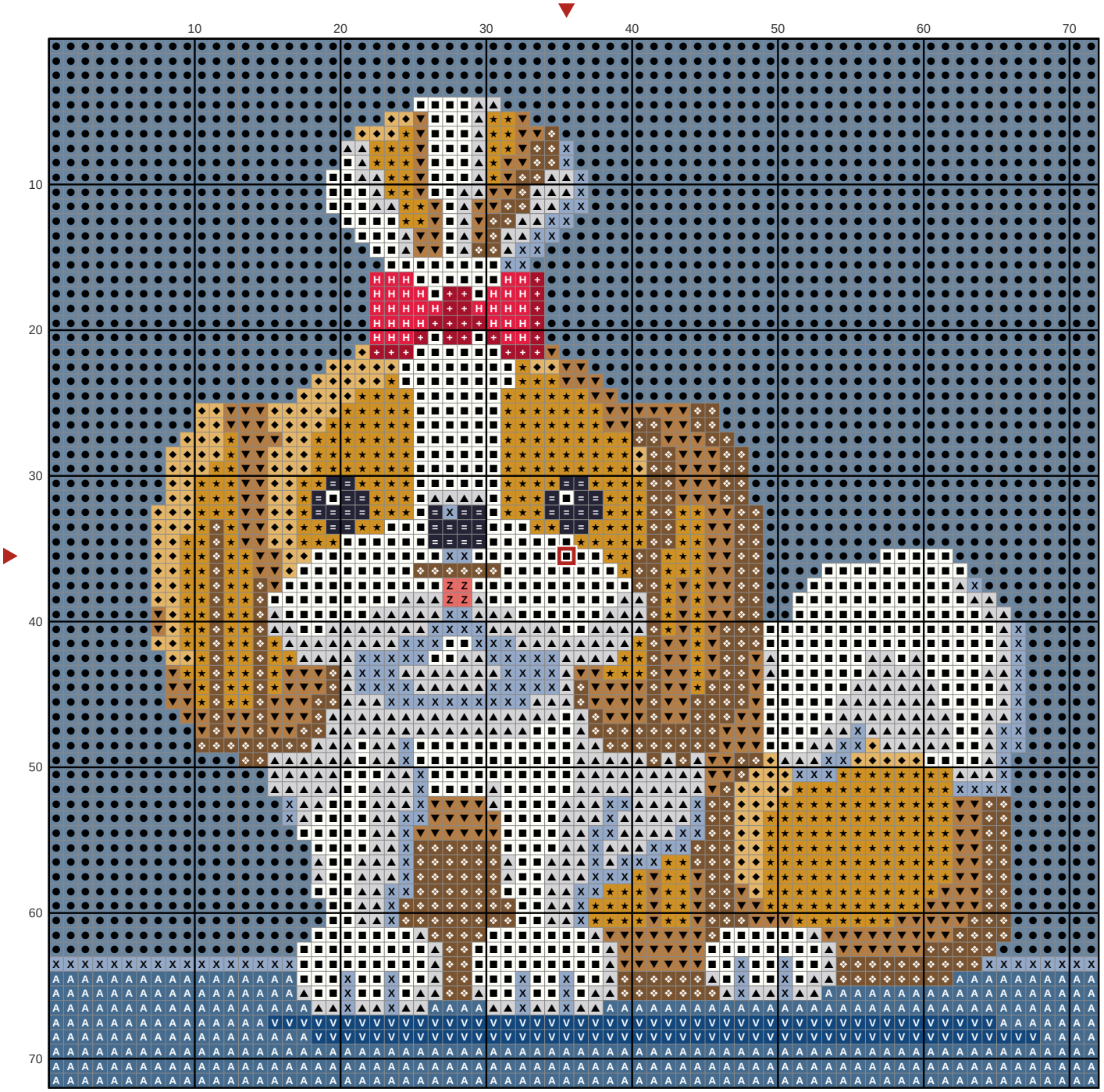
Chart: 72 x 72 stitches. Start at the red outline



Key

- **DMC 931** Medium Antique Blue
- **DMC BLANC** White
- **DMC 783** Medium Topaz
- **DMC 415** Pearl Gray
- **DMC 798** Dark Delft Blue
- **DMC 433** Medium Brown
- **DMC 435** Very Light Brown
- **DMC 809** Delft Blue
- **DMC 728** Topaz
- **DMC 797** Royal Blue
- **DMC 666** Bright Red
- **DMC 310** Black
- **DMC 498** Dark Red
- **DMC 351** Coral