Southwest cactus flower bargello

Needlepoint pattern | 72 x 72 canvas threads | 4 x 4 in (10.2 x 10.2 cm) on 18 mesh | 6 colors



Thread key

			squares	yards	skeins of pearl
●	**DMC 986**	Very Dark Forest Green	1,308	6	1
■	**DMC 524**	Very Light Fern Green	1,216	6	1
▲	**DMC 718**	Plum	1,052	5	1
◆	**DMC 602**	Medium Cranberry	840	4	1
▼	**DMC 225**	Ultra Very Light Shell Pink	708	4	1
★	**DMC 744**	Pale Yellow	60	1	1

Each stitch covers 4 canvas threads, shorter where the quarters meet and at the edges: upright in the top and bottom quarters, lying across in the left and right ones. One chart square is one canvas thread, and each outlined bar is one stitch, with its symbol in the middle.

Cut the canvas at least 8 x 8 in (20.3 x 20.3 cm) for 18 mesh: the design and 2 in (5.1 cm) of margin on every side.

5,184 chart squares stitched in all. Start from the center: the red arrows above and to the left of the chart mark it. The center is a hole, with 36 canvas threads on each side of it. Work the round outlined in red first: 24 stitches in DMC 744, over 1 to 4 threads. Then work outward, a round at a time.

Thread: pearl cotton size 5, 1 strand in the needle on 18 mesh, about 6 skeins of 27.3 yd in all. Or six-strand floss, 4 to 6 strands, about 6 skeins of 8.7 yd; or Persian wool, 1 strand, about 6 skeins of 8 yd. Wool is numbered differently: match it by eye. Needle: tapestry, size 22.

Yards and skeins are estimates: the thread a stitch takes on the front and back of 18 mesh canvas, plus 30 percent, rounded up for each color (about 26 yards in all, as the thread lies in the needle).

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

Make it up yourself: also have the blank it goes into: a fob, a coaster or a tray with an opening this size. Measure the opening before you stitch: a row or two of tent stitch all round may be needed to fill it. "How to use a self-finishing blank" is a guide linked from this pattern's page.

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Needlepoint pattern

Chart: 72 x 72 canvas threads



Key

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- **DMC 524** Very Light Fern Green
- **DMC 718** Plum
- **DMC 602** Medium Cranberry
- **DMC 225** Ultra Very Light Shell Pink
- **DMC 744** Pale Yellow