Baby's first Christmas elephant

Needlepoint pattern | 72 x 72 stitches | 4 x 4 in (10.2 x 10.2 cm) on 18 mesh | 16 colors



Thread key, DMC

			stitches	yards	skeins
●	**3808**	Ultra Very Dark Turquoise	1,613	12	2
■	**453**	Light Shell Gray	920	7	1
▲	**318**	Light Steel Gray	671	5	1
◆	**3865**	Winter White	384	3	1
▼	**414**	Dark Steel Gray	298	3	1
★	**224**	Very Light Shell Pink	218	2	1
❖	**413**	Dark Pewter Gray	183	2	1
X	**932**	Light Antique Blue	182	2	1
O	**304**	Medium Red	180	2	1
+	**3753**	Ultra Very Light Antique Blue	143	1	1
=	**223**	Light Shell Pink	100	1	1
Z	**500**	Very Dark Blue Green	80	1	1
A	**815**	Medium Garnet	63	1	1
V	**3822**	Light Straw	61	1	1
T	**3820**	Dark Straw	48	1	1
N	**3371**	Black Brown	40	1	1

One chart square is one tent stitch over one canvas intersection.

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 stitches in all. Start from the center: the red arrows above and to the left of the chart mark it.

Thread: six-strand floss, 4 to 6 strands in the needle on 18 mesh (counted at 6), about 17 skeins of 8.7 yd in all. Or pearl cotton size 5, 1 strand, about 16 skeins of 27.3 yd; or Persian wool, 1 strand, about 16 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 45 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 an ornament: also have board, thin batting, backing fabric and twisted cord. Stitch two or three extra rows of background all round: the edge of the board takes them. "How to finish an ornament" is a guide linked from this pattern's page.

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Chart: 72 x 72 stitches

