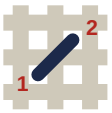
Whimsical caboose on a starry night

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 919): start there. Count threads, not holes.
4. Go on from it: picture first, background last. End the thread before crossing another color. Empty squares stay bare.
5. Last, two more rows all round in DMC 783: 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 15 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
●	**783**	Medium Topaz	898	2
□	**939**	Very Dark Navy Blue	614	1
▲	**3799**	Very Dark Pewter Gray	569	1
◆	**BLANC**	White	361	1
▼	**3841**	Pale Baby Blue	278	1
★	**744**	Pale Yellow	272	1
❖	**809**	Delft Blue	228	1
X	**919**	Red Copper	202	1
H	**336**	Navy Blue	172	1
+	**743**	Medium Yellow	145	1
=	**414**	Dark Steel Gray	126	1
Z	**720**	Dark Orange Spice	125	1
A	**798**	Dark Delft Blue	48	1
V	**721**	Medium Orange Spice	22	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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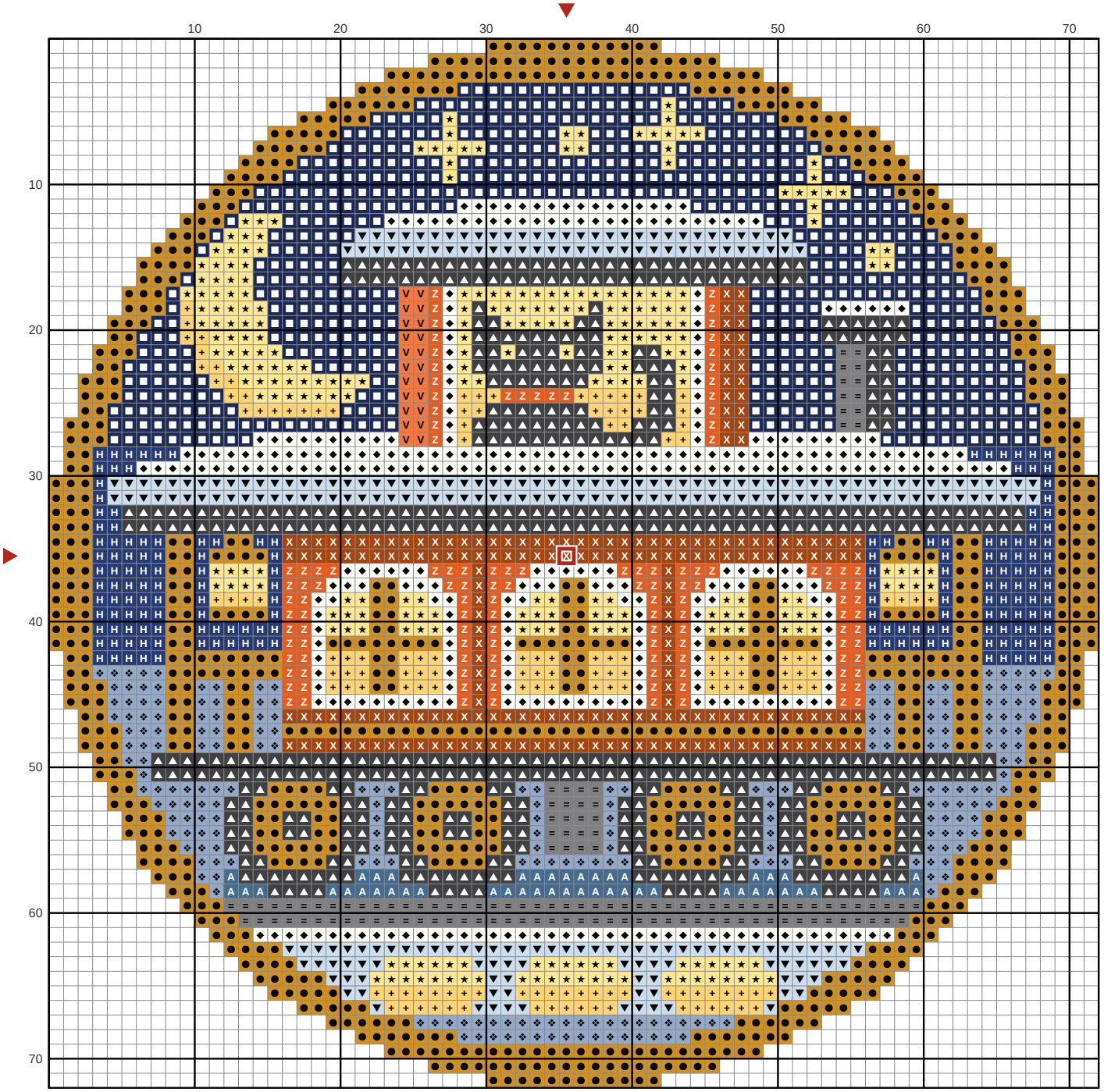
Chart: 72 x 72 stitches. Start at the red outline



Key

- ● **DMC 783** Medium Topaz
- ■ **DMC 939** Very Dark Navy Blue
- ▲ **DMC 3799** Very Dark Pewter Gray
- ◆ **DMC BLANC** White
- ▼ **DMC 3841** Pale Baby Blue
- ★ **DMC 744** Pale Yellow
- ❖ **DMC 809** Delft Blue
- X **DMC 919** Red Copper
- H **DMC 336** Navy Blue
- \+ **DMC 743** Medium Yellow
- = **DMC 414** Dark Steel Gray
- Z **DMC 720** Dark Orange Spice
- A **DMC 798** Dark Delft Blue
- V **DMC 721** Medium Orange Spice