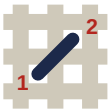
Whimsical skull and crossbones

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



How to stitch it



1. Each square is one tent stitch: up at 1, down at 2. Work a row right to left, then turn the canvas upside down for the next.
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 310): 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 in DMC BLANC: 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, 6 colors, about 9 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

			stitches	skeins of floss
■	**DMC 310**	Black	3,110	3
●	**DMC BLANC**	White	1,826	2
▲	**DMC 321**	Red	188	1
◆	**DMC 498**	Dark Red	30	1
▼	**DMC 415**	Pearl Gray	26	1
★	**DMC 726**	Light Topaz	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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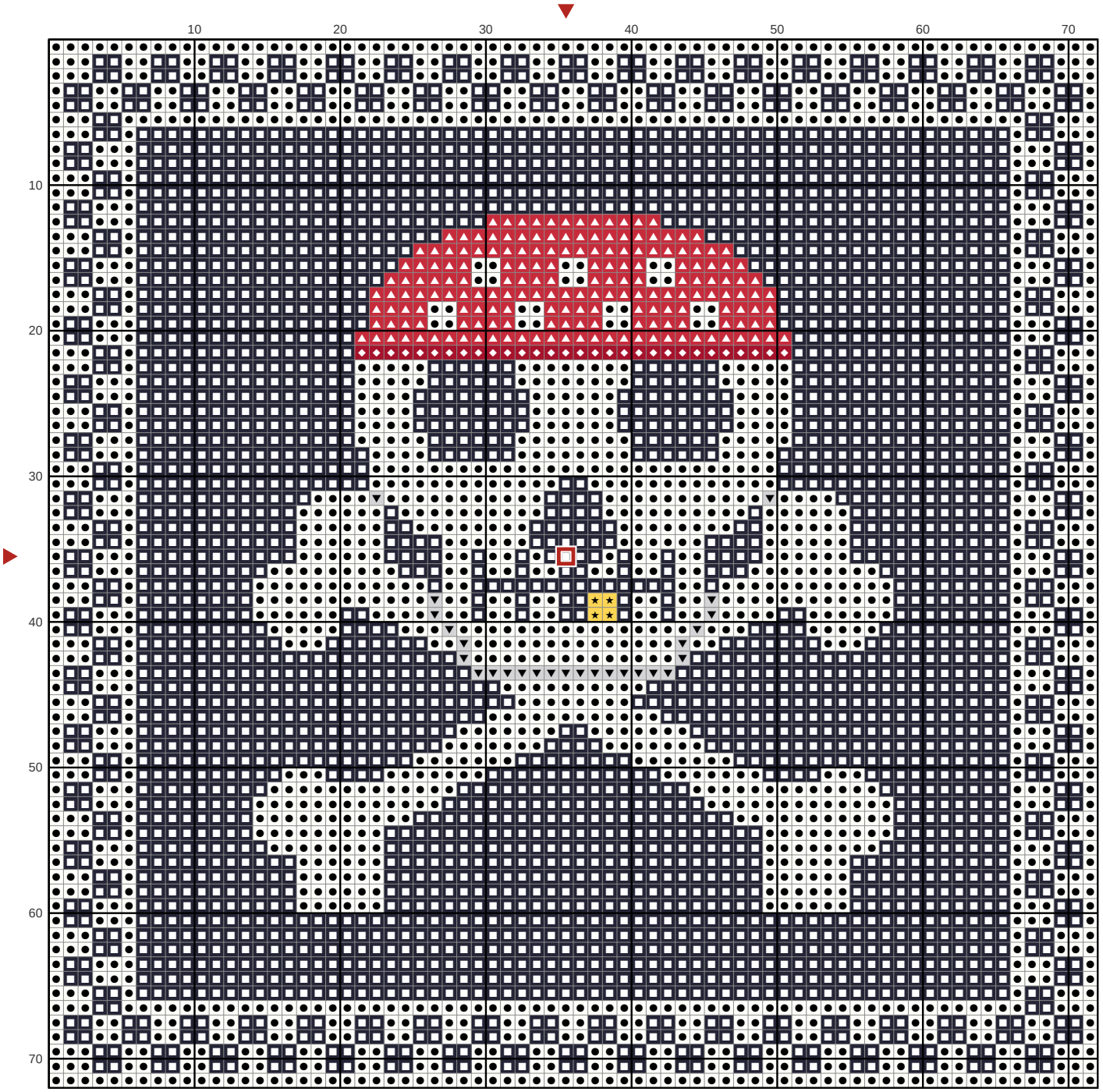
Chart: 72 x 72 stitches. Start at the red outline



Key

- DMC 310 Black
- DMC BLANC White
- DMC 321 Red
- DMC 498 Dark Red
- DMC 415 Pearl Gray
- DMC 726 Light Topaz