



## Stitch & Craft 2010 - Basic Design Workshop

*This is a very basic beginners workshop in which I will show you how to create a cross-stitch chart using basic tracing & graph paper. The same technique can be followed with computer cross-stitch design programs as most have the facility to lay a grid over an image. I do hope you enjoy your hour with me and trust this will give you confidence in your own ability to create patterns.*

### Transposing an image

1. Looking carefully at your chosen image think about the amount of detail you wish to include, try to keep it simple only include what is vital. Trace the out line of the picture.
2. Transfer your sketch onto graph paper. You may remember this method from your school days scribble on the back of the tracing paper, place it over the graph paper and draw over your sketch.
3. Using a slightly darker pencil line match up the outline to the grid. Now you have the basic outline to your design you need to decide if you want to shade your design or use simple block coloured areas.
4. Colour your picture, square by square. It is also best at this stage to create a key so each time you use a different shade or colour make a block along side. *(try to keep your shading a light as possible even if you want to stitch using dark colours, as it will make your chart easier to read.)*
5. If you wish to include backstitch to add detail to your picture, we draw it in at this stage. You can simply use your previously drawn grid outline or if you want something a little less blocky follow your outline but cut diagonally across some of the corners. It is probably best not to use too many different colours of backstitch to start with. *(I often use coloured felt pens here which makes the outline easier to see but It doesn't leave any scope for mistake so suggest you stick to pencils until you are sure you are happy with the lines)*
6. Finally allocate each colour a thread code. You may want to decide on the number of thread shades you wish to use before colouring your design (step 4)

