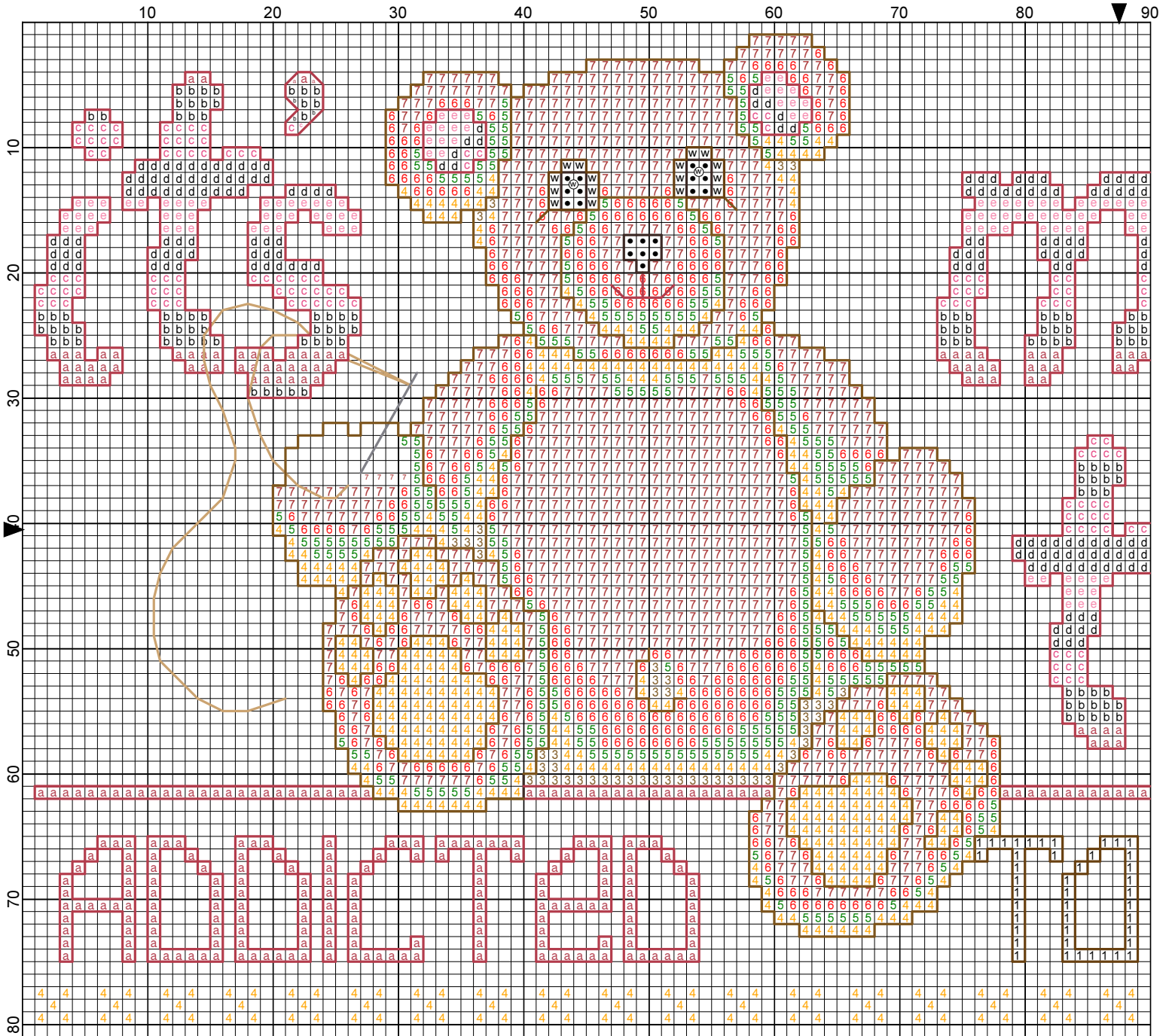


"Addicted to Cross Stitch" by Katherine Martin Tripp

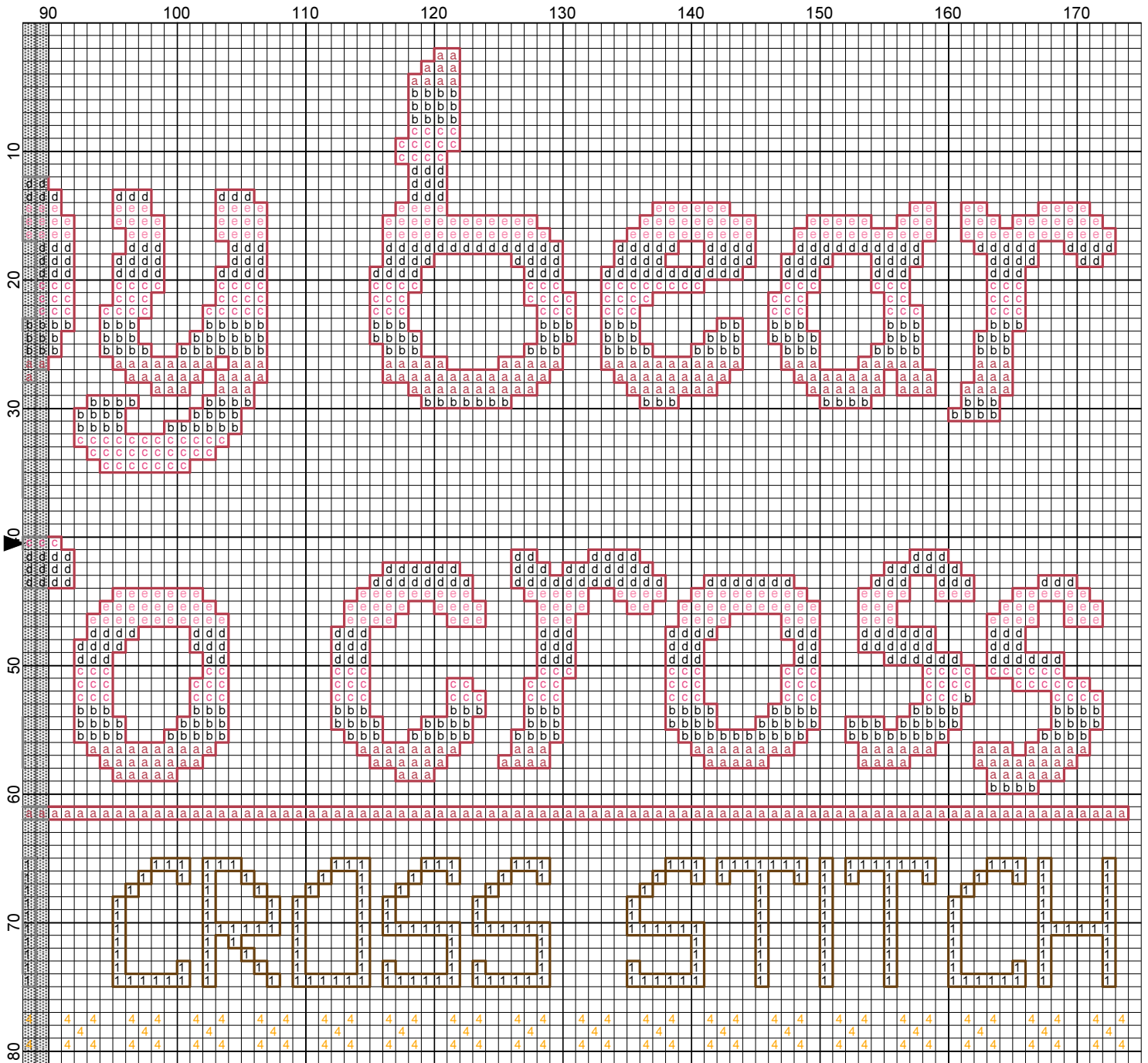


Legend:

1	DMC-801	4	DMC-434	6	DMC-436	•	DMC-3371	a	DMC-326	c	DMC-602	e	DMC-604
3	DMC-433	5	DMC-435	w	DMC-3866	7	DMC-437	b	DMC-601	d	DMC-603		

Backstitches:

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- DMC-801 — DMC-433 — DMC-435 — DMC-414 — DMC-3371 — DMC-437 — DMC-326
- French Knots:
 © DMC-3866



Author: Katherine Martin Tripp
Company: Extra Mile Mercantile
Copyright: Katherine Martin Tripp
Website: www.better-cross-stitch-patterns.com
Fabric: Aida or Evenweave
Grid Size: 175W x 81H
Design Area: 12.36" x 5.64" (173 x 79 stitches)

In the Photograph:

I embroidered "**Addicted to Cross Stitch - It's my bear to cross**" on 14-count Aida. I used DMC floss: 2 strands for cross stitches, 1 strand for backstitches, 2 strands for straight stitches.

You know it. Your family knows it. Now tell the world that you are "Addicted to Cross Stitch!" Mat and frame it, stitch it on a pillow, decorate your embroidery bag or apply it to your shirt. Waste canvas let's you stitch anywhere! Get more ideas by checking out some products already displaying this design at www.cafepress.com/XtraMileMerc.

What You'll Need:

- Fabric
- Floss

Stitch Complexity:

- Full cross stitches
- Half stitches (only 4 of these in the paw on the left)
- Backstitches
- Straight stitches

How to Cross Stitch this Design:

If you already know how to cross stitch, the Quick Start checklist below will get you on your way. Just learning? Simply return to "Home" and click on the "Getting Started" button on the left. There, you will find links to more detailed instructions and diagrams.

Quick Start

Step 1 - Review this Chart

Eliminate surprises by reading these instructions and reviewing the chart thoroughly before you begin stitching. Identify and learn any unfamiliar stitches listed in "Stitch Complexity" above. Simply click on the "How to...." button on the left menu of the home page, then select the needed stitch tutorials from the bottom of the page.

Step 2 - Select and Prepare Your Fabric

To stitch the design exactly as it is shown in the photograph, simply use the materials as described. If you have a favorite fabric type and thread count, or if you have a specific size in mind for the finished piece, translate inches to thread count to determine your initial fabric size. If you need help, click on the "Stitch Counts" button on the left website menu. Decide how you'll display the finished design and add enough inches to the length and width before cutting it. Be generous.

Treat the outside edges of your fabric to prevent fraying. Find and mark the center. Baste in gridlines to match the gridlines on the pattern. If you need help with this step, click on the "How to..." button on the left menu of the home page, and select "Preparing Fabric for Stitching" from the list at the bottom of the page.

Step 3 - Select and Prepare Your Floss

Use the colors listed above or substitute ones of your own. If using fabric with a different thread count, you may need to adjust the number of strands of floss you'll use. For help with this, click on the "How to..." button on the left menu and select the "Floss Coverage and Why it Matters" link at the bottom of the page. Still uncertain? Work a few sample stitches in the corner of your fabric.

If you are stitching this design on something that will be worn or washed, it may be necessary to launder the floss before stitching. Some floss runs.

As you use each color, cut the floss into strips of 15" to 18". For fuller and thicker stitches, separate all six strands and then recombine them into the number of strands you will ultimately use. You can view a short video demonstrating the proper technique for separating floss. Select the "How to..." button on the left of the Home Page, and choose "A Tip for Separating Floss..." at the bottom.

Step 4 - Stitch the Design

Each square containing a symbol represents one stitch; the legend indicates which color to use. There are only full cross stitches, half stitches (4 in the paw on the left), straight stitches (for the "floss" and needle on the left), and backstitches used in this design.

This pattern can be completed easily by stitching in the following order:

First:

- Cross stitch the bear first to give you a good reference point for the lettering. If you are stitching on white cloth, the white area surrounding the pupils of his eyes can either be stitched with white floss or left unstitched. Notice that the paw on the left has full cross stitches in the lower portion, four half stitches above those, then the remainder is left unstitched. (The top of that paw will be defined later with backstitches.)

NOTE: If you are working over two threads, on fabric such as linen, the placement of the first stitch is critical. Select the "How to . . ." button on the left and follow the instructions described in the "Working Over Two Threads" link at the bottom.

- Cross stitch the horizontal pink line.
- Cross stitch the letters.
- Cross stitch the horizontal row of "X's" at the bottom of the design.

Next:

- Backstitch the letters.
- Backstitch the horizontal pink line.
- Backstitch the outline and interior features of the bear. The eyes and nose are backstitched in dark brown DMC #3371. The ears and mouth are backstitched in pink DMC #326. The rest of the bear is backstitched in brown DMC #433.

Finally:

- Straight stitches are used to create only the "floss" and "needle" detail at the paw on the left. The legend lists these colors as backstitches.
- Use two strands of tan DMC #437 to straight stitch the "floss" detail. Straight stitch the "needle," using two strands of silver DMC #414, **OR**
- Use an actual needle. The "eye" end of the needle lays on the front of the fabric. To do this, Insert the point of the needle exactly where you would insert it to continue cross stitching. Run the tip at an angle through some of the stitches on the back and tack it into place. Then, to have your tan floss actually be "threaded" through this needle, bring two strands of tan up to the top of the fabric where indicated at the lower part of the pink letter "s". Thread the floss end through the eye of the tacked-on needle. Then bring that same end of floss down to the back of the fabric near the same point on the "s". Pull the floss taut until it lays flat against the front of the fabric. Bury the end on the back in the usual manner. Using a real needle would obviously be appropriate only for a framed piece.