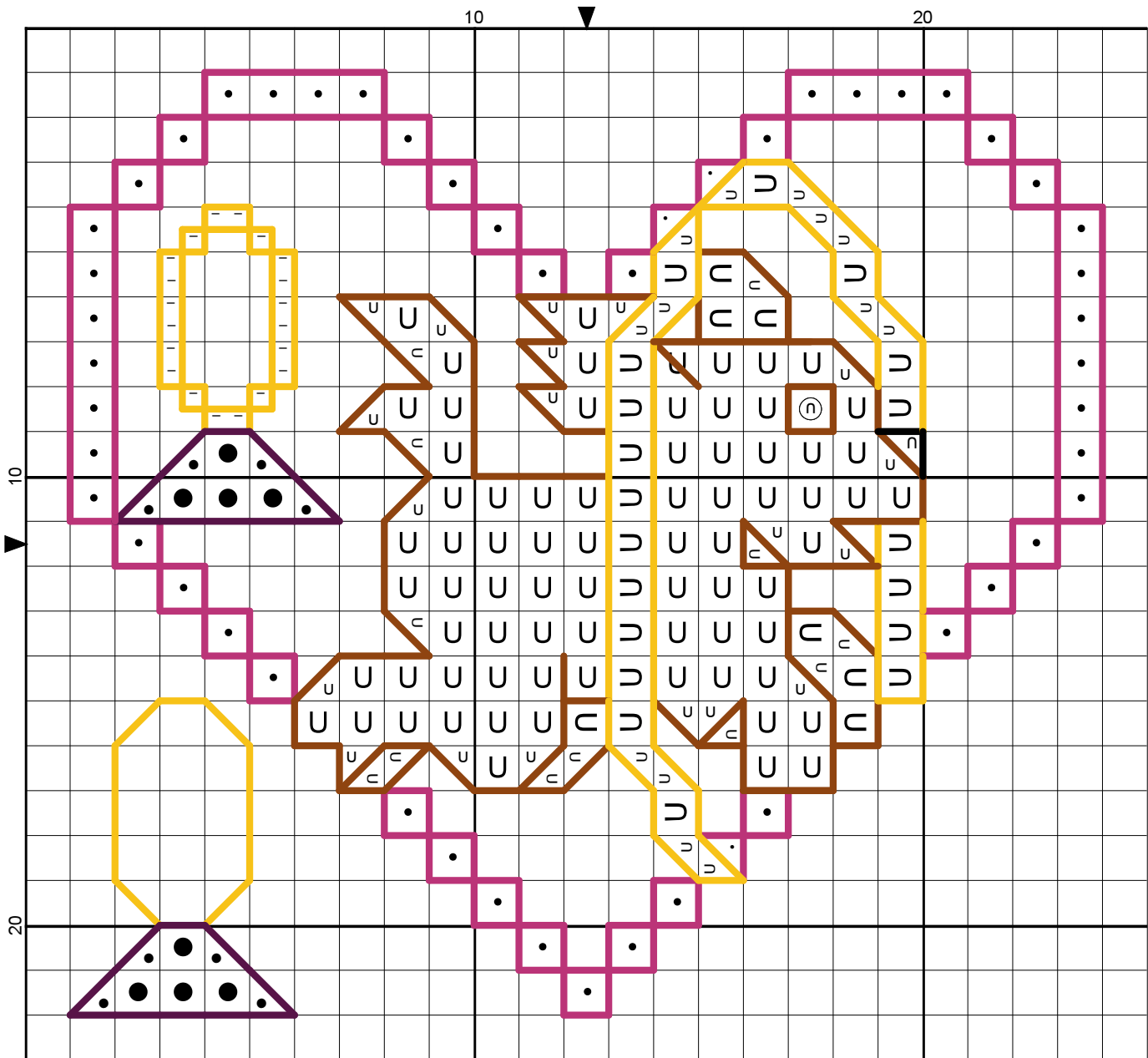


"Heart - Circus Dog" by Katherine Martin Tripp



Katherine Martin Tripp

Legend:

- DMC-310 black
- DMC-327 violet - vy dk
- DMC-400 mahogany - dk

Backstitches:

- DMC-310 black
- DMC-327 violet - vy dk

French Knots:

- DMC-310 black

- DMC-726 topaz - lt
- DMC-972 canary - dp
- DMC-3607 plum - lt

- DMC-400 mahogany - dk
- DMC-718 plum

- DMC-3776 mahogany - lt

- DMC-972 canary - dp

# Heart - Circus Dog



**Author:** Katherine Martin Tripp  
**Company:** Extra Mile Mercantile  
**Copyright:** Katherine Martin Tripp  
**Website:** www.better-cross-stitch-patterns.com  
**Fabric:** Evenweave  
**Grid Size:** 25W x 23H  
**Design Area:** 2.56" x 2.33" (23 x 21 stitches)

## Legend:

		[3] DMC-310	ANC-403	black			[3] DMC-972	ANC-303	canary - dp
		[3] DMC-327	ANC-112	violet - vy dk			[3] DMC-3607	ANC-87	plum - lt
		[3] DMC-400	ANC-351	mahogany - dk			[3] DMC-3776	ANC-1048	mahogany - lt
		[3] DMC-726	ANC-305	topaz -lt					

## Call Outs:

[2] DMC-972 canary - dp DMC Stranded Cotton

## Backstitch Lines:

DMC-310 black DMC-400 mahogany - dk DMC-972 canary - dp  
 DMC-327 violet - vy dk DMC-718 plum

## French Knots:

⊙ DMC-310 black

## In the Photograph:

I embroidered "Heart - Circus Dog" on 18-count Aida stitched over two threads. I used DMC floss: 3 strands for cross stitches, 2 strands for backstitches and French knots.

## Stitch Complexity:

Full cross stitches, 1/4 cross stitches, 3/4 cross stitches, backstitches, French knots and Petite 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 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.

### 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. Next, 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 (basting the gridlines is optional on these small heart patterns).

### 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. 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.

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.

### Step 4 - Stitch the Design

Each square containing a symbol represents one cross stitch; the legend indicates which color to use. Squares containing more than one symbol are stitched with a combination of a 1/4 cross stitch and a 3/4 cross stitch. Likewise, squares with only a single, smaller symbol tucked into one corner represents either a 1/4 cross stitch or a 3/4 cross stitch alone. If there is a French knot on top of a cross stitch, the symbol representing it may obscure the symbol for the underlying cross stitch. Use common sense and refer to the photograph for clarification.

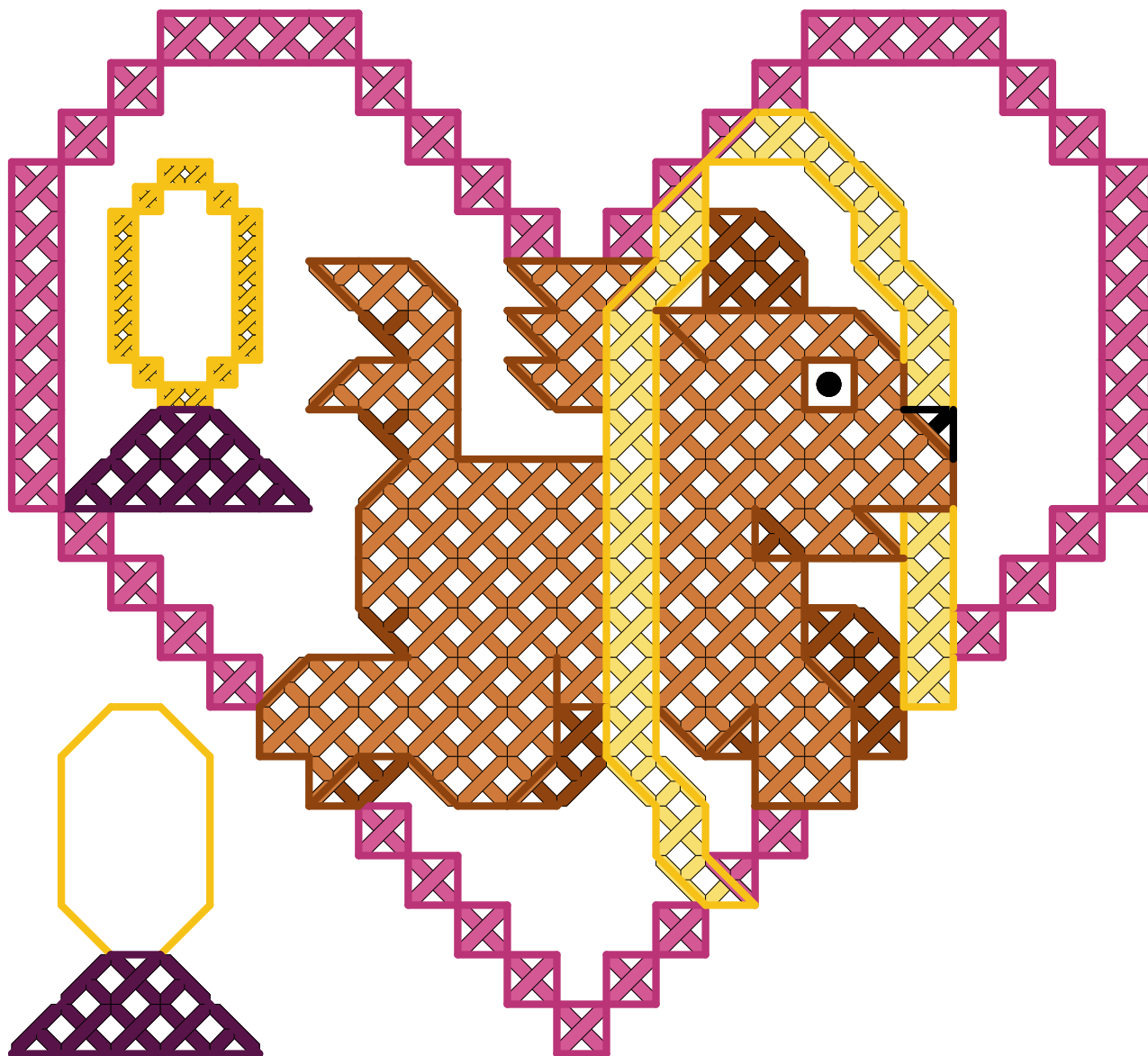
The legend above contains a section named "Call Outs," wherein "Petite Stitches" are listed. These are terms applied by the software that I use when creating my counted cross stitch patterns. Simply put, one Petite Stitch is a small, full cross stitch placed in one of the four corners of a square. Therefore, a square or block on your pattern (and on your fabric) can contain up to four Petite Stitches. Use Petite Stitches when working over two threads. On other fabric, replace each Petite Stitch with a 1/4 cross stitch. Another option specifically for "Circus Dog" is to use *three strands* of DMC 972 and create the hoop using backstitches (as demonstrated on the hoop insert located below the heart).

From the center of your fabric, count down to the bottom-most point of the heart border and place your first stitch there. Continue stitching the rest of the border and you'll coast through counting the rest of the pattern.

If you are working over two threads, on fabric such as linen, the placement of the first stitch is critical. To prevent puckering and provide stability, the first diagonal of the first cross stitch must start and end where a vertical fabric thread crosses over a horizontal thread.

Work cross stitches and quarter stitches first. Think three-dimensionally: begin with the subjects farthest away in the background, then work your way forward. Therefore, objects in the front of the design are the last ones stitched. Work the backstitches in the same back-to-front manner with this exception: backstitch the heart border last. Finally, add any French Knots and specialty stitches.

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Legend:

- DMC-310
  - DMC-327
  - DMC-400
  - DMC-726
  - DMC-972
  - DMC-3607
  - DMC-3776
- Backstitches:
- DMC-310
  - DMC-327
  - DMC-400
  - DMC-718
  - DMC-972
- French Knots:
- DMC-310