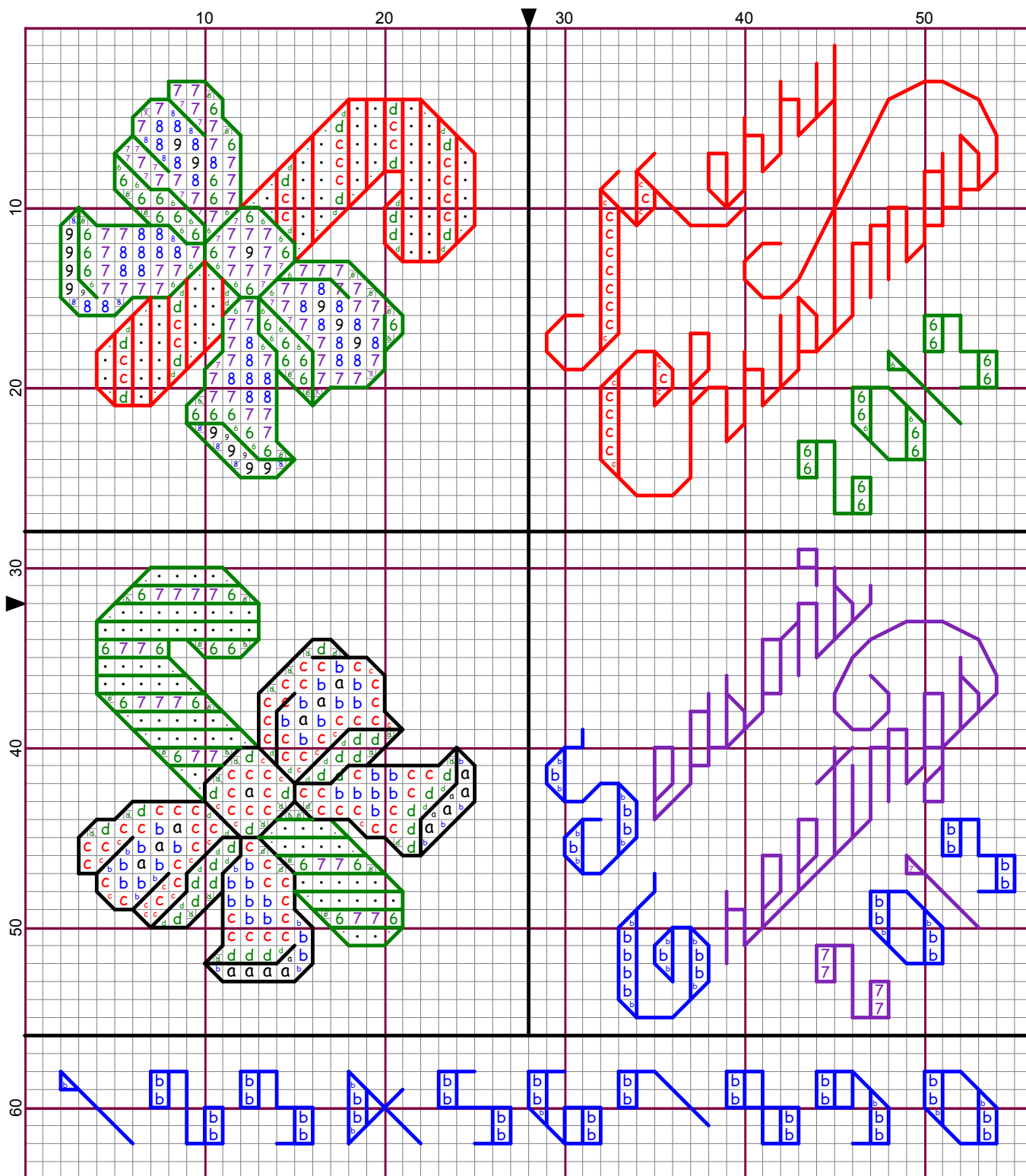


Christmas Ornament Mini - Candy Canes by www.better-cross-stitch-patterns.com



Katherine Martin Tripp

Legend:

- b DMC-666 christmas red - br
- c DMC-321 christmas red
- d DMC-498 christmas red - dk

Backstitches:

- DMC-666 christmas red - br
- DMC-321 christmas red

- 6 DMC-986 forest green - vy dk
- 7 DMC-987 forest green - dk
- 8 DMC-988 forest green - md

- DMC-986 forest green - vy dk
- DMC-987 forest green - dk

- 9 DMC-989 forest green
- . DMC-White white
- a DMC-3801 christmas red - lt

- DMC-815 garnet - md

Christmas Ornament Mini - Candy Canes



Author: Katherine Martin Tripp
Company: Extra Mile Mercantile
Copyright: Katherine Martin Tripp
Website: www.better-cross-stitch-patterns.com
Grid Size: 56W x 64H
Design Area: 4.00" x 4.43" (56 x 62 stitches)

Legend:

	[2]	DMC 666	christmas red - br		[2]	DMC 986	forest green - vy dk		[2]	DMC 989	forest green
	[2]	DMC 321	christmas red		[2]	DMC 987	forest green - dk		[2]	DMC White	white
	[2]	DMC 498	christmas red - dk		[2]	DMC 988	forest green - md		[2]	DMC 3801	christmas red - lt

Backstitch Lines:

	DMC-666	christmas red - br		DMC-986	forest green - vy dk		DMC-815	garnet - md
	DMC-321	christmas red		DMC-987	forest green - dk			

Strands for other stitches:

- Backstitches with DMC [1]
- Couching stitches with floss to secure the Memory Thread [1]
- Stitches to join sides [2]

In the Photograph:

I embroidered these **Christmas Ornament Mini--Candy Canes** on 14-count Aida with DMC 6-strand cotton floss, then accented it with DMC Color Illusions Memory Thread. The front and back are stitched on two separate squares, then connected with whip stitches. The ornament is padded, then finished off with a decorative hanger made of twisted Memory Thread.

You can also complete the ornament with a traditional ribbon hanger, as shown in our other ornaments, and without the Memory Thread embellishment on the cross stitch.

Below, you will find several references to links that can provide you with additional help. These topics, shown [in blue](#), can be found on the "Tutorials" menu.

What You'll Need:

- Fabric
- DMC (or other 6-strand cotton) Floss
- Batting or other material for padding
- DMC Memory Thread or Ribbon

Stitch Complexity:

- [Full cross stitches](#)
- [1/4 and 3/4 cross stitches](#)
- [Backstitches](#)
- Couching stitches (instructions in [Memory Thread](#) page)

If you are unfamiliar with any of these stitches, click on the specific stitch under the Tutorials section of the menu.

How to Cross Stitch this Design:

If you already know how to cross stitch, the instructions below will get you on your way. Just learning? Simply click on [Getting Started](#).

Step 1 - Review this Chart

Eliminate surprises by reading these instructions and reviewing the chart thoroughly before you begin stitching.

- The left charts, upper and lower:** the front design for the red and green candy canes.
- The upper right chart:** the back design for the red candy cane. If you wish to use this design for the back of the green candy cane instead:
 - replace red 321 with red 666
 - replace green 986 with green 987
- The lower right chart:** the back design for the green candy cane. If you wish to use this design for the back of the red

candy cane instead:
replace red 666 with red 321
replace green 987 with green 986

- **The numbers at the bottom** can be used to customize the year.

Disregard the fabric and design measurements listed under "Grid Size" and "Design Area" at the top of this page. The finished ornament is 28 stitches square. The black lines separate the charts and are not to be stitched.

Step 2 - Select and Prepare Your Fabric

For an ornament exactly like the photograph, you will need two identical pieces of 14-count Aida. Each should be 28 stitches wide and 28 stitches high for the stitching area, plus 1/2 inch on all four sides for seaming. Add another 1/2 half inch fudge factor on all sides, and each piece of fabric should be 56 stitches square.

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 (be sure to include enough around all sides to finish the piece). If you need help converting, the [Stitch Counts](#) link shows you an easy formula and a handy table.

Bright white Aida really stands out on a green tree. But if you like your decorations to have an "antique" feel, try using off-white or cream fabric.

Treat the edges with Fray Block. Though the design is small enough to eliminate the gridlines, review [Preparing Fabric](#) for other tips and techniques.

Step 3 - Select and Prepare Your Floss

Use the colors listed or substitute ones of your own.

- **Cotton Floss:** Check out Step 3 in [Getting Started](#) for some tips on preparing your floss. [Separating Floss](#) will show you a quick and easy method for separating your floss strands.
- **DMC Color Infusions Memory Thread:** Review our [Memory Thread](#) tutorial. If you want to use this design on something that requires frequent laundering (napkins, bread cloths, clothing, etc.), and don't want to hand launder, consider eliminating it.

Step 4 - Stitch the Design

Each square containing a symbol represents one stitch; the legend indicates which color to use. If you are using a fabric with an obvious over-under weave (like linen), the placement of the first stitch is critical. Follow our illustrations in our [Over Two Threads](#) tutorial.

Next to the floss colors listed in the legend, there will be a number enclosed in brackets, for example [2]. This tells you how many strands to use when cross stitching (full and partial cross stitches) with that particular color. If using fabric with a different thread count, review [Floss Coverage](#) to decide whether to adjust the number of strands of floss.

The partial stitches on the edges of the candy cane should be 1/4 stitches. The backstitch outline then completes the stitch, resulting in a straight, crisp outline depicting the "hard" candy. The partial stitches in the ribbon should be 3/4 stitches, which result in a rounder, fuller appearance to the "soft" ribbon.

To chart your year, select [Graph Paper](#) to print blank graph paper. Use the numbers provided at the bottom of the chart.

Step 5 - Add the Memory Thread

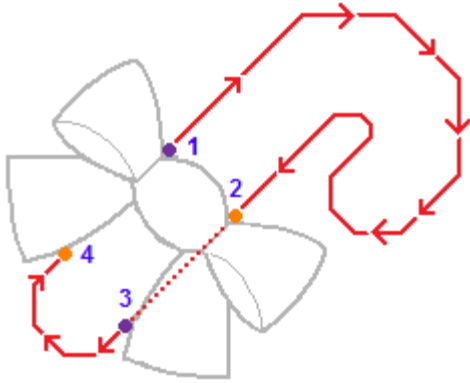
To learn how to add the Memory Thread to your completed cross stitch, select [Memory Thread](#) from the "Tutorials" menu.

Key:

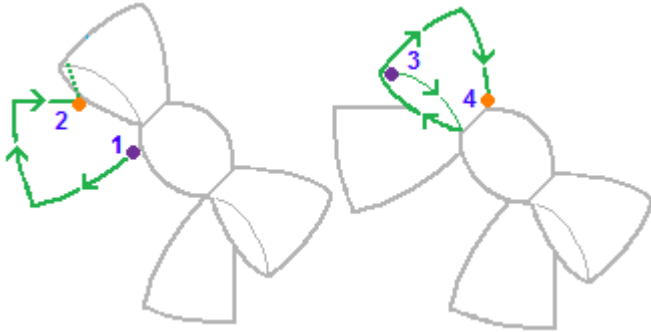
- thread MT from the back to the front
- thread MT from the front to the back
- ■ ■ ■ carry MT across back from one point to another

The diagrams below show the order to follow. The blue numbers, indicating the steps, restart with each new strand of Memory Thread.

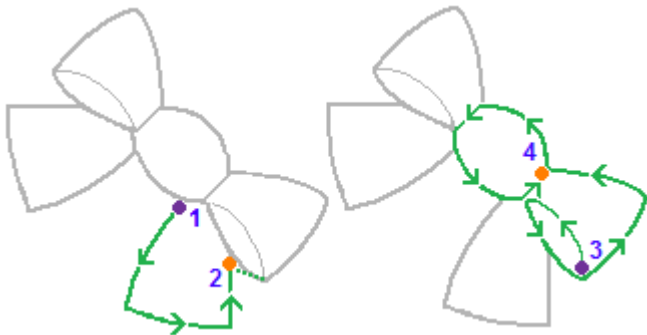
Outline the candy cane first. Remember, you can carry the MT on the back of the fabric from #2 to #3 instead of cutting a new strand. End at #4 and secure the tail.



Start a new strand at #1. Carry it on the back from #2 to #3. Finish at #4 and thread it to the back. Cut and secure.



Start a new strand at #1 below. Carry it on the back from #2 to #3 and end at #4. Thread it to the back, cut and secure.



Step 6 - Assemble the Ornament

- **Sew the sides together.** Select [Join Sides](#) from the "Tutorials" section of our menu. Click on the link "[if you prefer a straight clean finished edge](#)" near the top of the page.

Stop when you have only one half of one side left open.

- **Lightly stuff the inside** with batting or other filler to about 1/2 inch thick
- **Stitch the ornament closed.** Bury the end of the floss by running your needle into the center of the stuffed ornament, then out again. Pull the floss taut, and cut. Flatten the ornament, and the ends should disappear back into the center of the ornament padding.
- **Add the Memory Thread hanger.** Click on the [Memory Thread](#) button. Diagrams and instructions are at the bottom of page 3.