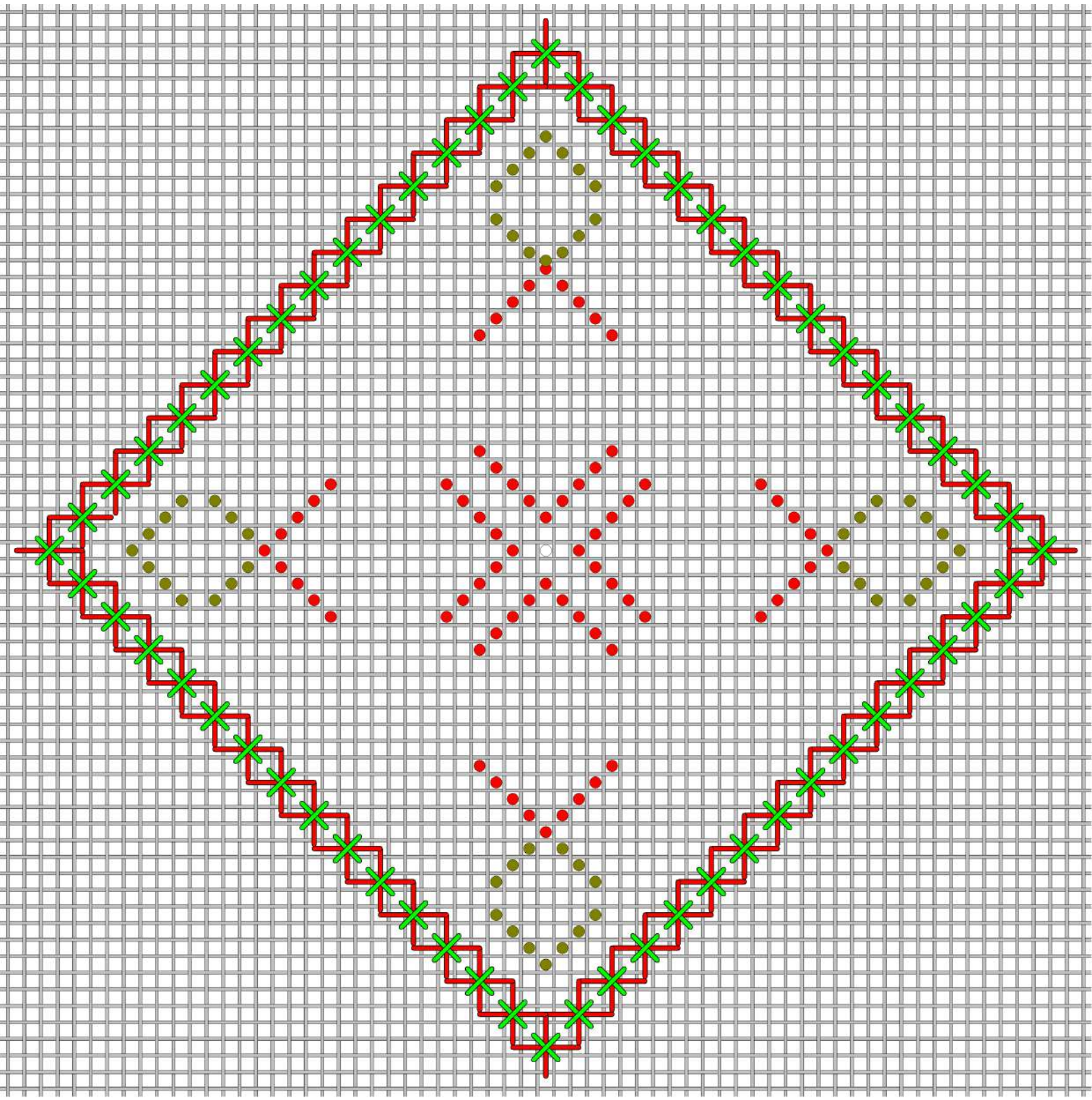
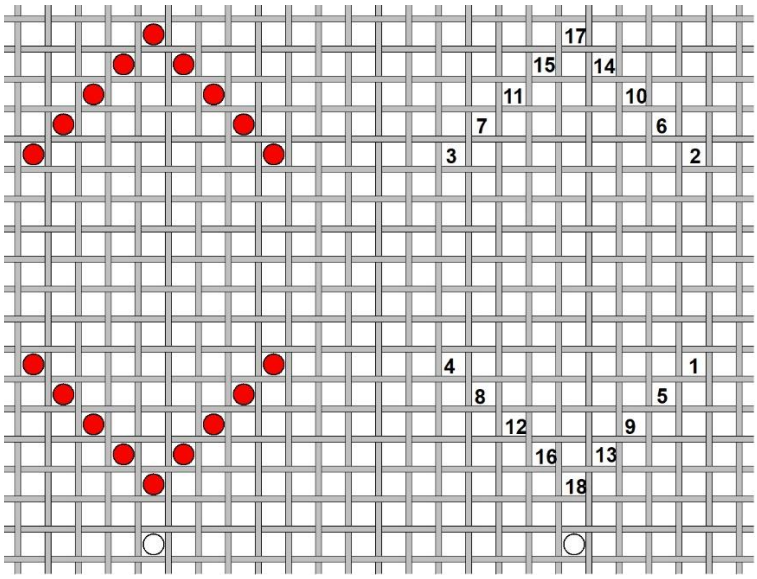
Candles at Christmas

Welcome to week one – Joyous-designs first Mystery Stitch-A-Long! I'm so glad you're here and stitching with me. If you have any questions please feel free to post your questions to my Facebook Group **- Joyous-Designs**

I designed this ornament originally as a 4 inch round but as I was stitching it the second time I decided to make it a square with just a bit of modification. It works well either way so it is up to you to decide at some point which way you want to go when we get to the end. I will be showing you my version each week so you can see what yours is supposed to look like and when the time comes at week three you will see what you can do to go from round to square. No need to decide yet.

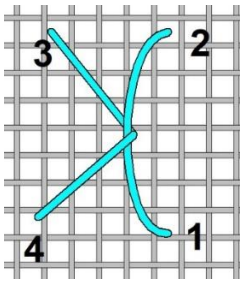
Let's get started - Happy stitching!



1. 

1. Double Fans – DMC #8 Pearl – 321 - Red – I Strand (Candle Motif)

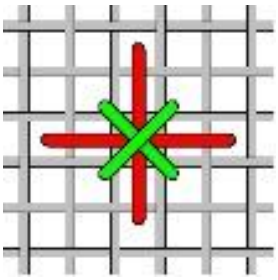
There are four Double Fan stitches that comprise the center of this design. Find the center point of your canvas (represented by the white dot on the above graph) and use this as the starting point to count to position #1 for the Double Fan. The red dots represent where the double fans are placed, the numbering above corresponds to these dots to show the stitching order.



Stitch the Double Fan by coming up at 1 and going down at 2, leaving the stitch loose. Come up at three and go under stitch 1-2 then go down at 4. This will create an X on the canvas. The diagram above illustrates the looseness of the first/second stitch and the interaction it has with the third/fourth stitch. Snug the stitches into a tidy X shape before continuing with the stitches that follow.

Continue stitching using the numbering on the master chart, always going under the previous stitches on the beginning of the stitch and over the stitches to complete the pass. Example: Come up at 5, go under stitch 1-2 cross over and go down into hole number 6. Come up at 7, go under 3-4 cross over and go down into hole number 8. Continue in this manner to complete the double fan. Note that the last stich goes from the top under all previous stitches to be completed at the bottom of the motif.

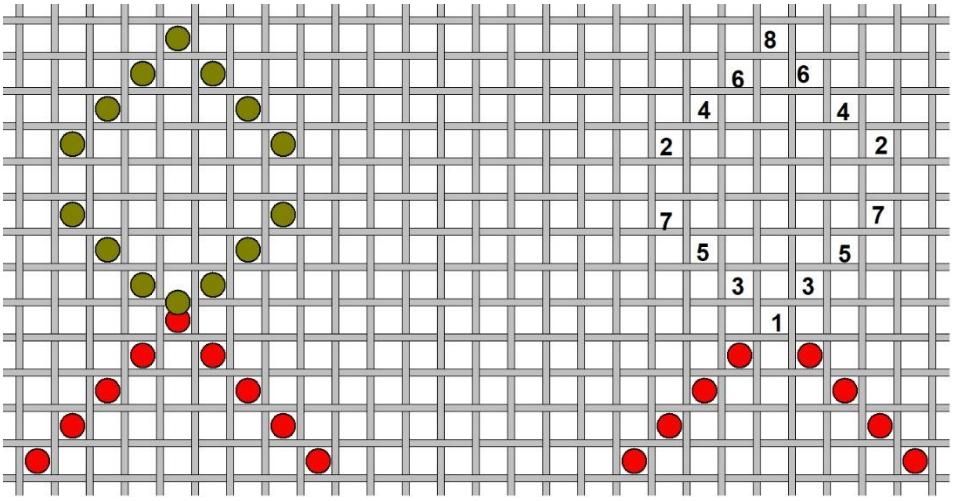
After stitching the first Double Fan rotate your canvas 90 degrees and stitch the next Double Fan motif using the same starting point as the first one. Continue stitching the third and fourth Double Fans referring to the master chart for placement.

2. 

2. Double Straight Cross Border – Neon Rays Plus – NP119 – Red & Petite Treasure Braid – PB84 – Green – 1 strand each

Refer to the main graph for placement and stitch the Double Straight Cross border as indicated. The red stitches represent the Neon Rays Plus and the green stitches are the Petite Treasure Braid. There are 11 threads between the top of the Double Fan and the bottom of the Double Straight Cross at each point.

Stitch this area before the Candle Crescents so that you have an area to hide your threads.

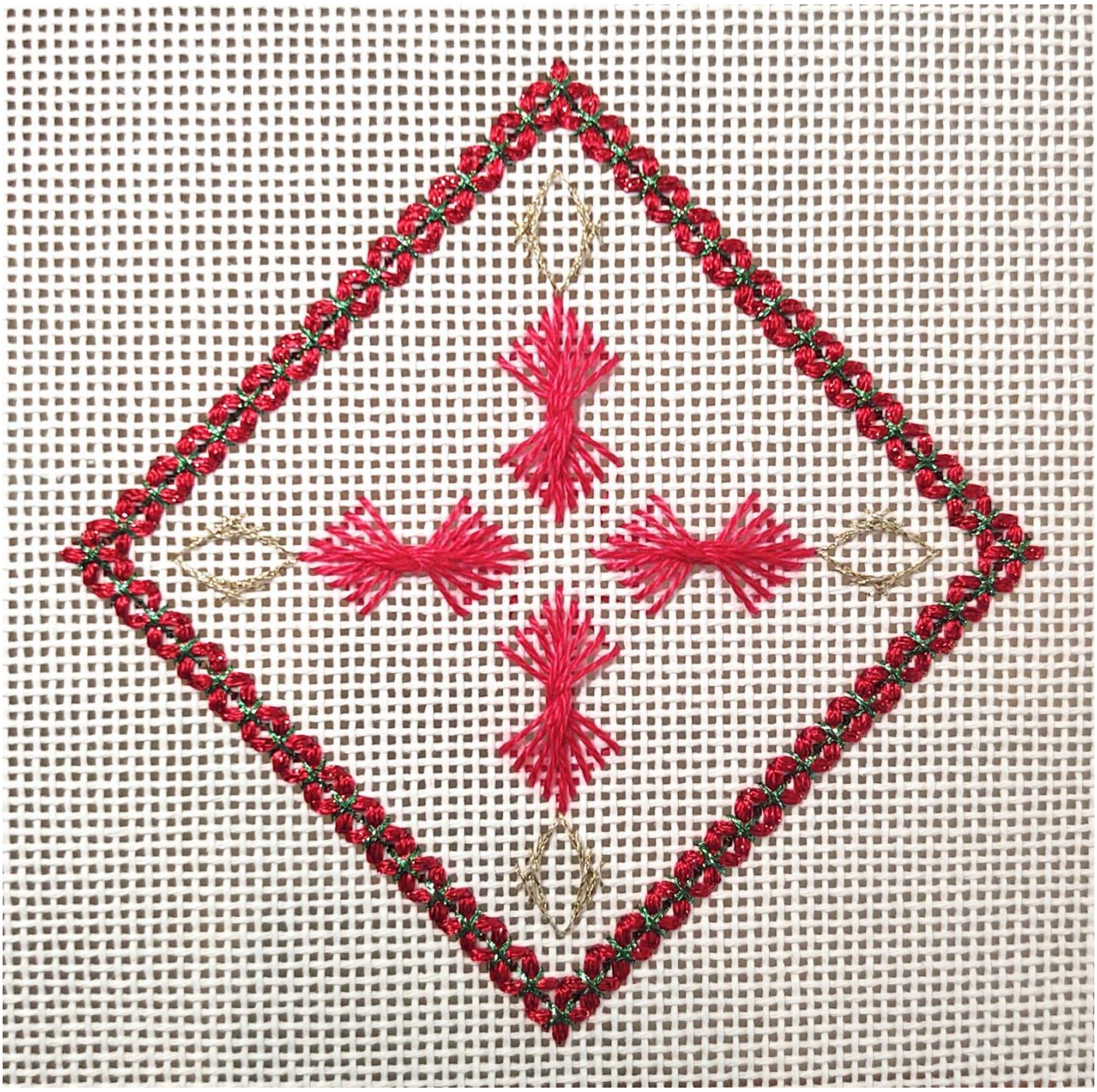


3. Crescents – Sparkle Braid – SK03 – Blanc – 1 ply (Candle Light Glow)

The diagram above shows the gold double crescents that are above the Double Fans. **Note that they share a hole with the double fans** – designated by the overlapping red and gold dot on the left side of the diagram. Since the Sparkle Braid is such a fine thread I found it easier to use the border in the second step to hide my thread end and I did a pinhead under the double fan to start the Crescents.

Stitch the first Crescent to the left (stitches 1 - 8 on the left), the take a tuck stitch under the crescent to take your thread back down to position 1 so you can complete the second Crescent to the right (stitches 1 - 8 on the right). Repeat this at the top of each Double Fan until you have completed a set of 4 Double Crescents. **Remember when stitching the crescents, all stitches go <u>over</u> the previous stitches.**

That completes Week #1. This is what your piece should look like at this point –



See you next week! Thanks for stitching along with us.

Joyce

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