CAThedral

an original Needlepoint project from Blue Dogwood Designs

www.BlueDogwoodDesigns.com

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This is a 7" square design. A study in stitches and colors as a cat sits in a cathedral window.

You can follow along with me each month and watch the sun pour in.

Here's a glimpse of the color selections.

Welcome to the new 2013 project. I will provide the instructions and a monthly guide for this project. Print these 3 pages with diagrams and template to start. On 18 count, I am using a variety of threads, all readily available at your LNS. I will also provide the Anchor Floss numbers for each thread. You can change up, switch out or use what's handy.   Have fun and try something new!

This first installment is how to prepare your canvas and create the line drawing. Take the time to follow the counts at the very beginning. Trust me, it will save you in the end. The following instructions take you through a step by step 'get ready'. **If you know already at this second paragraph that this prep step is not for you, purchase a line drawn canvas here for $21 plus shipping.**
http://www.bluedogwooddesigns.com/newdesigns.php

The design is 7 inches x 7 inches. Take a piece of 18 count canvas that is 12 inches x 12 inches.
That will give you 2.5 inches around the design. I use Zweigart mono canvas that has a weave - you can see where a stitch could be over a thread that is horizontal (a step) and also if a stitch were to be on a vertical weave (a pole). See *terminology diagrams. This is where we used to say if you were doing basketweave, you would "climb up the steps and slide down the poles". Too techy? Then just go for it.

When you begin to mark the canvas, use a mechanical pencil - that way you can erase if points don't meet.
Once it is all drawn out, you can go over with a thin Micron 0.05 permanent marker, lightly. Sometimes pencil will rub off as you stitch.

If you have a 12 inch square canvas, "Start Here" point is 2.5 inches from the top edge and in the middle from side to side. Follow my Start Here and mark 32 "steps" diagonally to the left for Line 1.
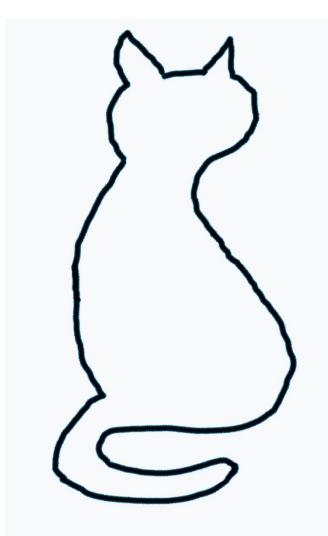Line 2 is 32 steps diagonally right. They share the first step for the point. Line 3 is 32 steps diagonally to the bottom of this diamond. That top point and that bottom point should be on the same vertical line... if so... good job. Then proceed with Line 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9. See all the diagrams below.
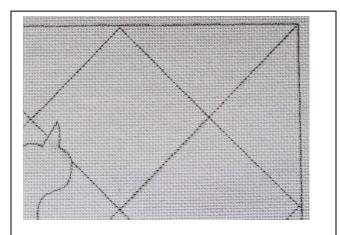
Now time to draw the outside perimeter line. I drew this line right on the stitch line and not in the ditch (*Terminology).
Look closely at the picture of the top right corner to see how the outside line does not share with the point. Start with the top line (Line 10), then the right side (11) Next draw that horizontal line under the point made by Line 5 & 7 (that would be Line 12). Stop near where the cat will be. (See where I misjudged that? It's okay, the cat is a darker color).

For Line 12, Line 13 and Line 14 are all drawn on the stitch line. There are 20 open threads in between 12 and 13. There will be 9 open threads in between Line 13 and Line 14. Now you can draw the left perimeter Line 15 on the stitch line.

Ready for the cat. You must print out these instructions. Use the "Actual Size for the Cat".
Lay the cat under your canvas and position as you see in the first diagram.
Draw the cat in Outline 16. All that is left to do is Line 17, 18 and 19.
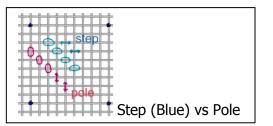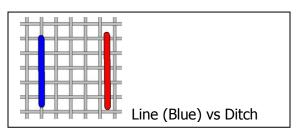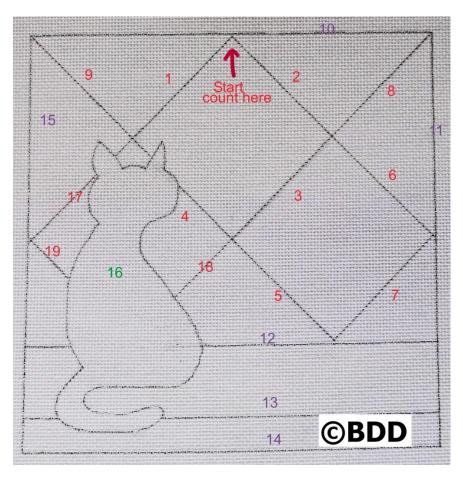

This is actual size for the cat.

Here is look at that first diamond and how the points and perimeter line should look.

*Terminology

Step (Blue) vs Pole

Line (Blue) vs Ditch

Here is how your line drawn canvas will look ready for the first installment (without the colored numbers of course).

Stand by, the stitching will begin with February newsletter. The first step will be to tent stitch these lines with black to outline.

Your friends and fellow 'pointers' can sign up for the newsletter with instructions and other bits of stitchery news on my website where it says "Join Email List".

Best, My best friends are stitchers,

Kay @ Blue Dogwood Designs

Questions? Email me at Email@BlueDogwoodDesigns.com