



News Blast

June 2017

A Message from Jill

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A Message from Jill

Yeah....that stitch!

Karen Chrissinger discusses the basic types of stitches and how they are worked.

Classes

Don't miss out on a wonderful new class beginning soon at Louise's.

A Few of Our Newest Arrivals

Canvases just added – available in the store and online.

Working with Neon Rays

Diane Snyder gives several helpful hints on working with this beautiful, but sometimes frustrating, ribbon.

Store Calendar

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Little Shoppe Canvas Co.

Birthday Coupon

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Store Hours: (EST)

Monday: 10am to 4pm
Tuesday: 10am to 7pm
Wednesday: 10am to 4pm
Thursday: 10am to 4pm
Friday: 10am to 4pm
Saturday: 10am to 4pm

On October 1, 2009, I took a big step in my and my family's life - I purchased Louise's Needlework. Being an owner of a small business is one of the hardest yet most fulfilling jobs there is. I love the challenge of growing Louise's every year and we have come so far yet there is still more growing to do. Our move has been one of the best changes we made. We love our space, light and parking. In fact we wish we had more space than we have now! We have added new thread lines and continue to grow others.

We have had great success with our clubs and will continue to add new and exciting ones in the near future. New classes have been added on Thursdays and we have hosted Laura Taylor (who will be back in 2018), and will be hosting Kelly Clark in September.

Even employees have changed. We have added Karen Chrissinger as a teacher. If you haven't taken a class from her you should. Karen has spread her love of needlepoint to many of our customers and loves teaching. Our newsletter is up and running again due to the help of Diane Snyder and Lana Moore.



The addition of the Birthday Bucks has been well received and continues to be a fun treat for all of you customers. Diane Snyder has gotten our website up and running and the response to our online sales has been great! We have also initiated our frequent buyer program which everyone loves.

These 8 years have been busy, challenging and so much fun! I am and will remain committed to Louise's success for many years to come. That being said, as Louise's has grown, life has changed. I try to be in the shop 5 days a week but as parents age and children move around the country I may have to be away at times. Just remember that our staff loves needlepoint as much as I do and they are happy to serve our customers. If I am not here I am always in touch with the staff and what is happening at the shop. Our commitment to our customers never changes and we plan to take you with us on the journey that is Louise's Needlework!

Happy Stitching!

Jill

Yeah...that stitch!

Have you ever been asked by someone what stitch you used in a particular area of your canvas and the blank stare comes across your face? Like...I know the stitch...done it many times...hope I placed it correctly on the canvas... what's its name? And as a teacher, the lack of quick stitch name recall is even more exasperating for both me and the student. I sometimes even stumble over the basic definitions for various needlepoint stitches. Don't know why, just do! So, this month we are going to define the basic type of stitches used in needlepoint.

Tent Stitch: A single stitch over one canvas thread intersection, worked from the lower left to upper right. If you are right handed that is! We left handers stitch the tent stitch from upper right to lower left! Whichever way you choose to insert the stitch...it is simply over one canvas thread at an angle!

Basketweave: A series of tent stitches worked in a DIAGONAL direction across the canvas. You have heard us many times recite in class "Up the stairs, down the pole" when inserting this stitch. It is very important that you follow the "grain" of the canvas when doing basketweave. When you turn your piece to the backside, the stitches should look like a woven basket. It is a sturdy stitch and the preferred method of installing a series of tent stitches. It also eliminates those "humps" that can appear on our canvas if we stitch in horizontal rows (back and forth). Jill will tell you that if you have a painted area on your canvas that encompasses more than a requirement of three stitches, you better be doing basketweave!

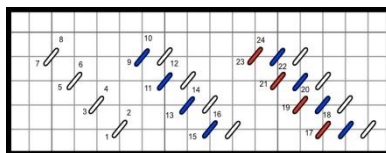
Continental Stitch: A series of tent stitches worked in rows and used when the painted area on the canvas is small. Back in the old days when canvases were pre-stitched with a design and we would fill in the background, continental stitch was the preferred method of installment...like the typewriter...back and forth, back and forth.

Diagonal stitches: A tent stitch by definition is a diagonal stitch! These stitches are worked across the canvas at a 45 degree angle. The diagonal stitch can typically cross 1,2,3,4 or more canvas intersections. In the old days we referred to them as a "Satin" stitch...I am old...therefore, I frequently slip and refer to a diagonal stitch that crosses over more than one canvas thread a "Satin" stitch.

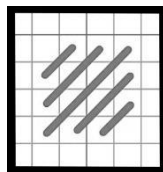
Straight stitch: A straight stitch is placed on the canvas vertically or horizontally and is parallel to the warp or weft threads of the canvas. A straight stitch can cross 1,2,3,4 or more canvas threads. The small and large brick stitch is actually a straight stitch. A stitching hint when inserting straight stitches. Always work them moving away from your body. Working the threads away from the body helps control the twisting of the thread that can become an eyesore if not laid properly.

Oblique stitch: A stitch that is not straight or at a 45 degree angle when placed on the canvas. It can be slanted at any angle. In my opinion, the only way to truly understand what an Oblique stitch looks like is to actually stitch some!

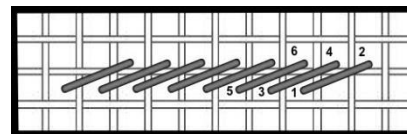
Cross stitch: The thread is stitched in an "x" shape or a "+" shape or even a combination of both (Smyrna Cross). The cross can be made from stitches that are straight, diagonal, or oblique. A helpful hint: complete each cross stitch unit before inserting the next one (In counted cross stitch you place the bottom row across an area and then, place the top stitches).



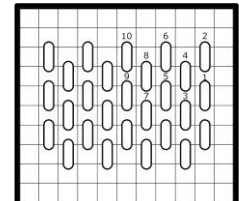
Basketweave Stitch



Scotch Stitch (Diagonal stitch)



Oblique stitch, up one, over two



Small Brick (Straight stitch)

So there you have it! At Louises Needlework we encourage students and customers to purchase the "Stitches to Go" book by Suzanne Howren and Beth Robertson. It has a wealth of usable stitches from easy to difficult. The diagrams are easy to follow simply by following the numbers. And the book is very affordable. As you learn each and every stitch within its pages, one of the above definitions will come to mind! And if you do not remember the actual names of stitches in the book...just refer to them as "Yeah...that stitch"!

Classes

Kelly Clark Kitchen Rooster September 22 -23, 2017

Join us for this fabulous 2 day class with Kelly Clark. Learn stump work techniques as well as silk ribbon techniques on this beautiful canvas. Breakfast and lunch are included along with many other surprises. Call the shop for details. 614-436-3905. The total class cost is \$600, with a deposit of \$200. Seating is limited so call soon.



Some of Our Newest Arrivals



Garden Sampler \$228
Cooper Oaks Designs. Handpainted on 18 mesh. Canvas size 15 x 15.



English Riding Pillow \$70
English Horseback Riding Pillow hand painted by Liz on 18 mesh. Canvas size 13 x 8.



Gourmet \$290
Lani Designs. Handpainted canvas on 13 mesh. Canvas size is 20 x 20.



Bunny w/Pearls and Glasses #103
Exclusive to Louise's Needlework! Adorable bunny handpainted on 18 mesh canvas. Total canvas size 12 x 12.



God Belss My Therapist \$135
Lycette Designs. Handpainted canvas on 13 mesh. Canvas size is 9 x 15.



Love Wedding \$90
Funda Scully Designs. Handpainted canvas on 18 mesh. Canvas size is 10 x 11.

Working with Neon Rays -----without losing your mind!

Rainbow Gallery makes Neon Rays, a 100% Rayon ribbon, in 10-yard lengths wrapped around a card. The beautiful sheen and smooth appearance of this thread creates a finished effect that is well worth some extra time and effort! Here are a few tips.

Rayon benefits from steaming or ironing. Use a wet paper towel or sponge and draw the thread across it. Prepare a number of thread lengths ahead of time so that they can dry before use. If time is an issue, you can try running the thread through a mini flatiron. These preparation techniques also help remove the kinks in the thread that are formed from being wrapped around the card.



After threading the needle, pierce the ribbon near the eye to lock it into place and avoid slipping. Begin and end threads by using a Bargello tuck; leave a long enough tail when starting so that you can rethread the needle with enough thread to work the tuck after you've finished stitching the area. Pierce through the stitches on the back to lock the beginning and ends tails in place.

Use a laying tool to keep the stitches flat. Lay your stitches on both the front side and the back side of the canvas. This extra step eliminates the little twist that appears when bringing the thread to the front of the canvas. Be careful of knots and loops forming. A knotted loop on the back of the stitching is guaranteed to work loose and appear on the front at some point. You definitely don't want this to happen after your completed piece is framed! Watch your tension as well; a too-tight tension will stretch and thin out the stitch while a too-loose tension will expand and sag on the canvas.

Rayon is prone to snagging, so be sure to keep your canvas edges taped. Watch for any rough edges on your stretcher bars or frame. It is also a good idea to make sure your fingernails and hands are smooth - what a great excuse for a manicure!

June Calendar

Stitch In - Our next monthly ***Stitch In*** will be Saturday, June 24, 2017 from 1:00 to 4:00 pm. . No instruction or fees – just a fun time with other great stitchers. Share your ideas and learn from others. Refreshments are provided.

Threads, Stitches and More - every Monday, 1:00 to 4:00 pm - an informal canvas embellishment class with Karen Chrissinger. Classes are \$11 for two hours and \$15 for three hours.

Sip and Stitch – every Tuesday, 7:00 to 9:00 pm - an informal canvas embellishment class, with Jill Elia - and wine. Classes are \$11.

Thursdays with Karen - every Thursday, 1:00 to 4:00 pm - an informal canvas embellishment class. Classes are \$11 for two hours and \$15 for three hours.

Private Classes – One-on-one sessions are also available. These sessions are \$25/hour and require advance arrangements.

Trunk Show

In June we are featuring The Little Shoppe Canvas Co. They specialize in 3-dimensional needlepoint canvases. Canvases are exclusively designed by Elaine Oliverio. Here are just a few examples:



June Birthday Bucks



Louise's Needlework

244 W. Olentangy St.
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E-mail: jill@louisesneedlework.com

20% OFF Your Total Purchase

During the month of June, bring this coupon and proof of your June birth date. One coupon per year per newsletter subscriber. May not be combined with other coupons and may not be used for the purchase of gift certificate or trunk show canvases. To use this coupon for special orders, coupon must be present and payment received at the time special orders are placed.

Expires June 30, 2017

Happy Stitching!