



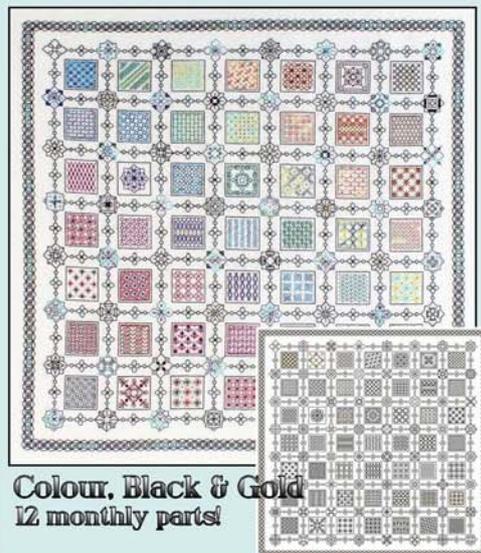
Blackwork Journey Blog

October 2018

'TINY TREASURES' Introduction

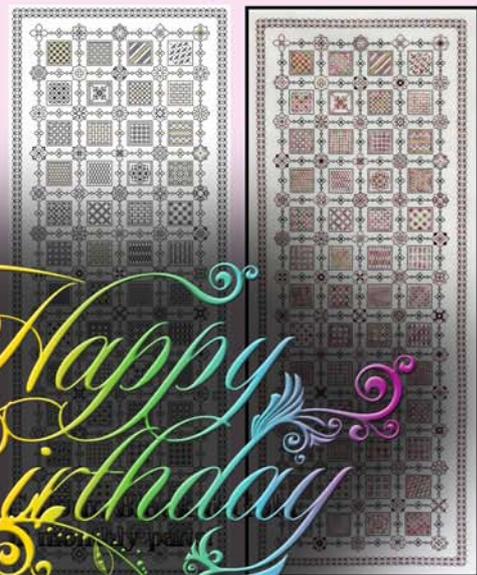


'TINY TREASURES' Square - Part 1



Colour, Black & Gold
12 monthly parts!

'TINY TREASURES' Rectangle - Part 1



*Happy
Birthday*

CELEBRATING



na stitch

Blackwork Journey Blog, October 2018

Blackwork Journey is 10 years old this month, so to celebrate I am sending out a challenge to all readers who would like to participate in the next major project called, "Tiny Treasures".

This design can be worked on Zweigart evenweave or Aida fabric and comes in two shapes and sizes. Two alternative patterns are provided for both the square design and the rectangular design in both colour and black and gold.

a. Square design

Design area:

15.29 x 15.29 inches

Stitches:

214 x 214

Material:

Zweigart 28 count

evenweave or 14

count Aida, 22 x 22

inches

If 25 count Lugana

is used: 24 x 24

inches

64 Flower motifs

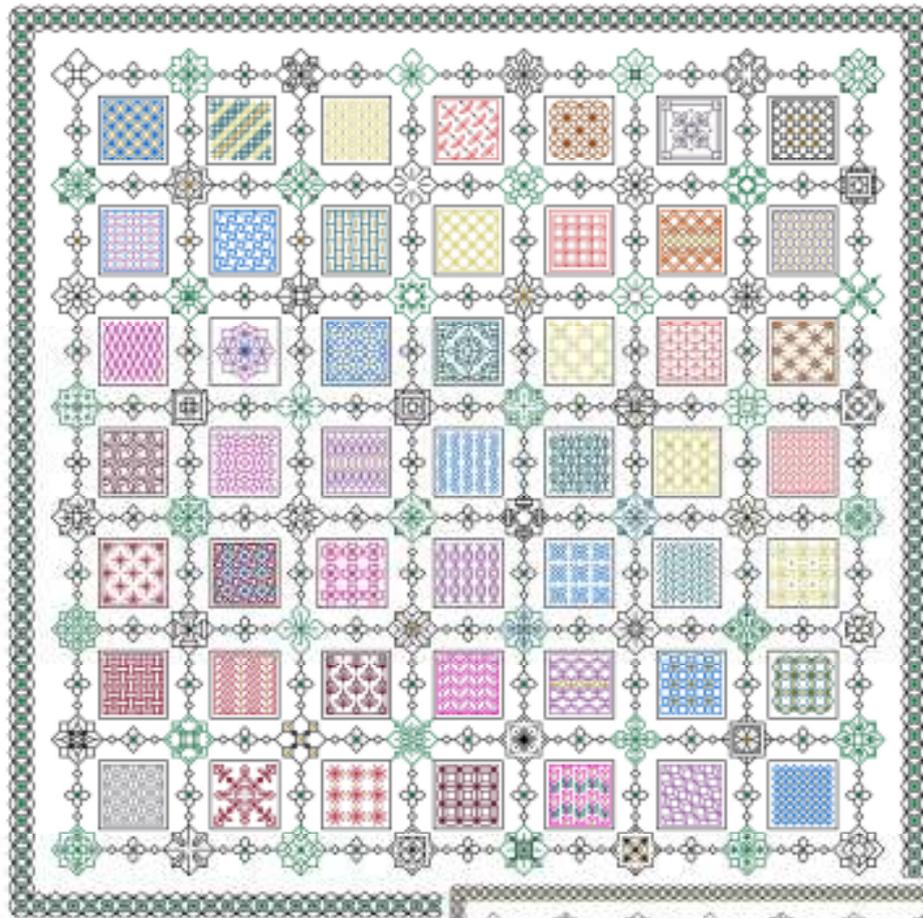
49 Pattern Blocks

1 border and 112

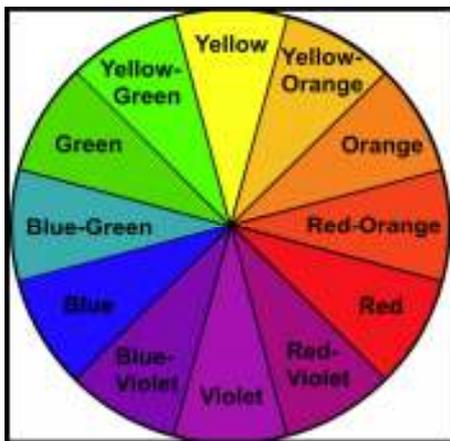
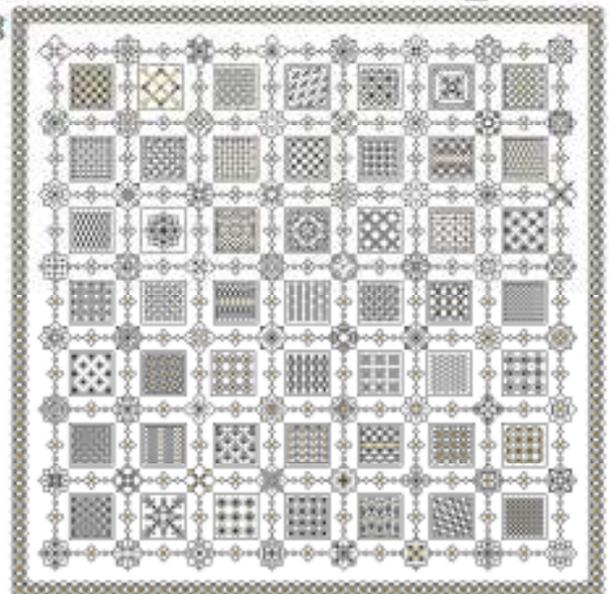
mini links

Total: 226 Tiny

Treasures



Tiny Treasures Square
Colour or Black & Gold



The Colour Wheel will help you make your colour choices Full details on alternative colour schemes are included in the 'Introduction'.

b. Rectangular design suitable for framing or a runner.

The rectangular design is less complicated than the square design.

Design area: 9.86 x 26.43 inches

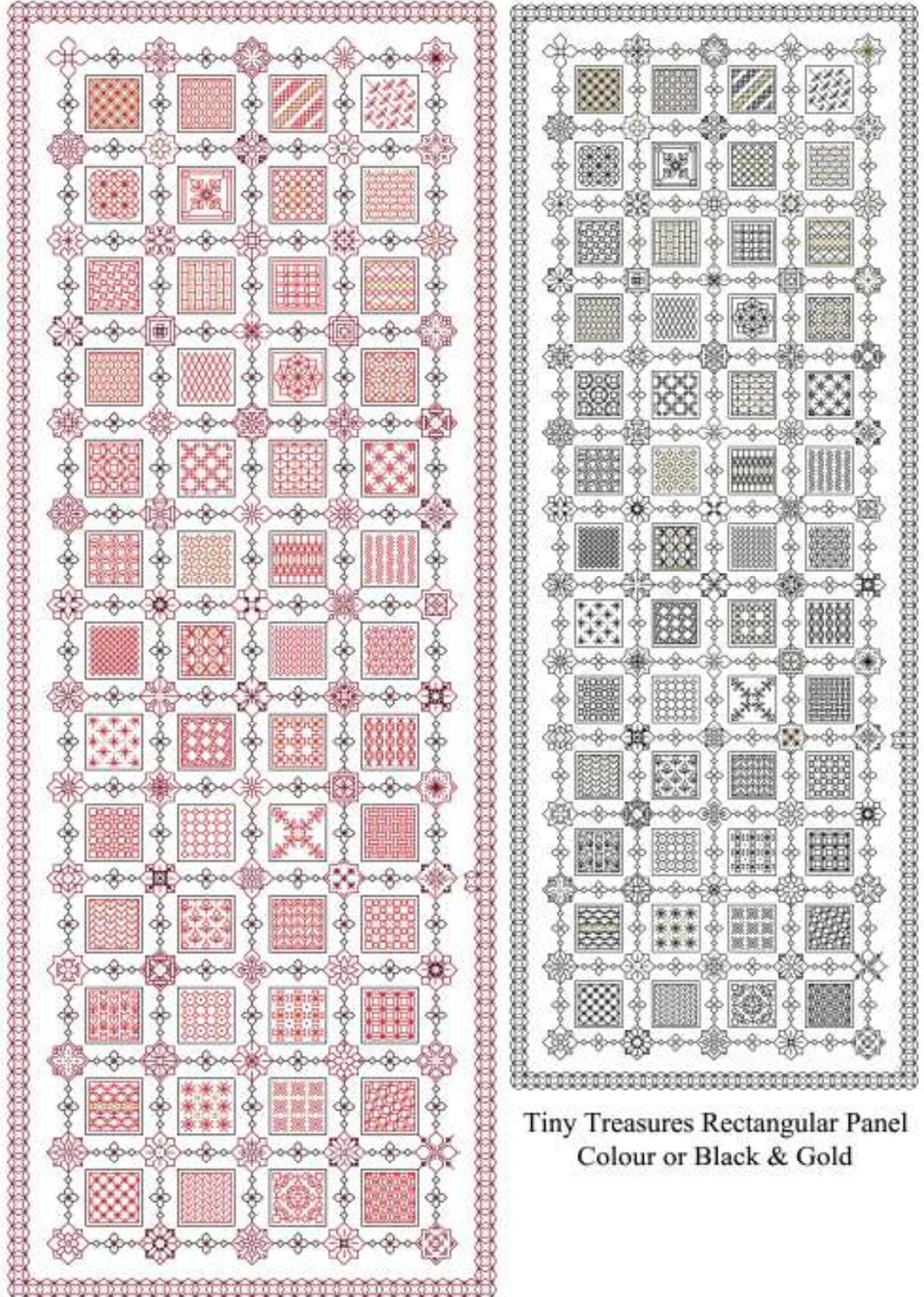
Stitches: 138 x 370

Material:

Zweigart 28 count evenweave or 14 count Aida, **15 x 33 inches**

If 25 count Lugana is used: 17 x 35 inches

70 Flower motifs
52 Pattern blocks
1 border and 120
mini links
Total: 243 Tiny
Treasures



Tiny Treasures Rectangular Panel
Colour or Black & Gold



“Tiny Treasures” Square Embroidery

Many different ways of working the design can be found in the ‘Introduction’ to the project. Please read all the information carefully before purchasing your materials.

If you have any queries please contact me either by e-mail:

lizalmond@blackworkjourney.co.uk or through the Facebook group. All pictures of readers work will be presented in the closed Facebook group:

Blackwork Journey - Elizabeth Almond Designs
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/blackworkjourneydesigns/>

"Tiny Treasures" Rectangular Embroidery

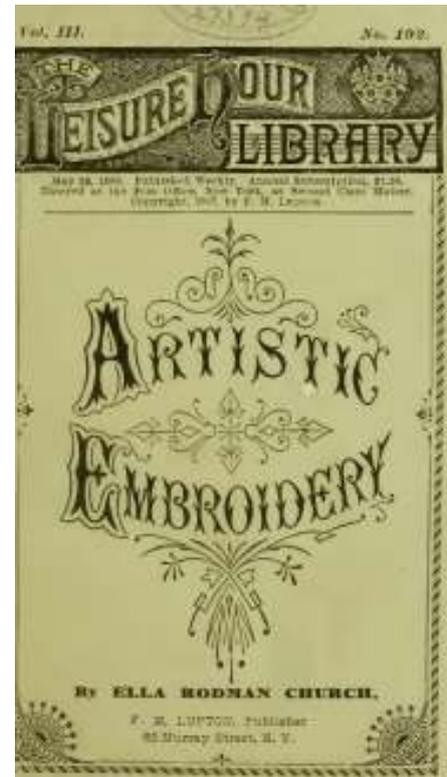
Choosing colour for designs is never easy, but we are not alone in finding it difficult. When thumbing through a very old book on Embroidery written in 1887 I found these some very good advice on this subject:

*"Choose such judicious force of shade and light,
As suits the theme and satisfies the sight;
Weigh part with part, and with prophetic eye
The future power of all thy tints descry."*

"An eye for colour is of the same nature as an ear for music—one knows intuitively what is right; but this is by no means a very common gift; and there are some rules to be observed, independently of the guidance of taste, that are within the reach of all....."

The damaging effects of light on embroidery were summed up in the following lines.

*"Know first that light displays and shade destroys
Refulgent Nature's variegated dyes;
Thus bodies near the light distinctly shine
With rays direct, and as it fades decline."*





Working with Textured Stitches

CH0 Smyrna Christmas

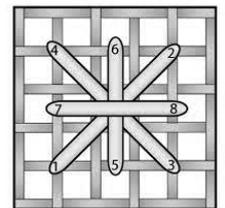
Having stitched both versions of “Tiny Treasures” I was in need of a break from counting and had a desire to stitch something textured. What better than creating a design for all the readers who like to start stitching early for Christmas?

I worked on three designs in Smyrna stitch, one very straightforward and the others more complex including some pulled thread work. These will be published in November.

Whilst there are a number of textured stitches that can be used, this stitch is especially effective and is very easy to stitch.

Change the colour to create gifts for all occasions!

Smyrna stitch consists of two crosses, one diagonal and one vertical. All the top stitches must lie in the same direction. It is worked over 4 x 4 threads on evenweave fabric or over 2 x 2 blocks on Aida. Cotton P erle No. 12 was used to stitch the design, but stranded floss can also be used.



More success from Blackwork Journey readers

This month I have received several photographs from readers who have been very successful in winning prizes at major shows with Blackwork Journey designs. I am delighted that their hard work has been recognised and that they have chosen to work my designs. It is very encouraging for other readers, many of whom are new to blackwork, to see what can be achieved.



“My ‘Save the Stitches’ project won "Class Runner Up" and an "Award of Appreciation" at the State Fair!

Amy Crum



Sue Nope won First Prize in the New Mexico State Fair with her embroidery of PR0035 Natalie





Yet another fantastic winner!

Karen Word won first place at Indiana State Fair and went on to win Best of Show 2018 with her 'Save the Stitches'

I cannot say how proud I am of you all.

Many congratulations!

Members are always finding ingenious ways of mounting their embroideries, but Nancy Meffe's clock was the first time I have seen a piece used in this way and it has caused a great deal of interest and admiration.



Readers who are trying a technique for the first time and produce a finished piece of work should be proud of their efforts, so well done Estelle! For someone who says they cannot stitch, I think you are doing rather well!

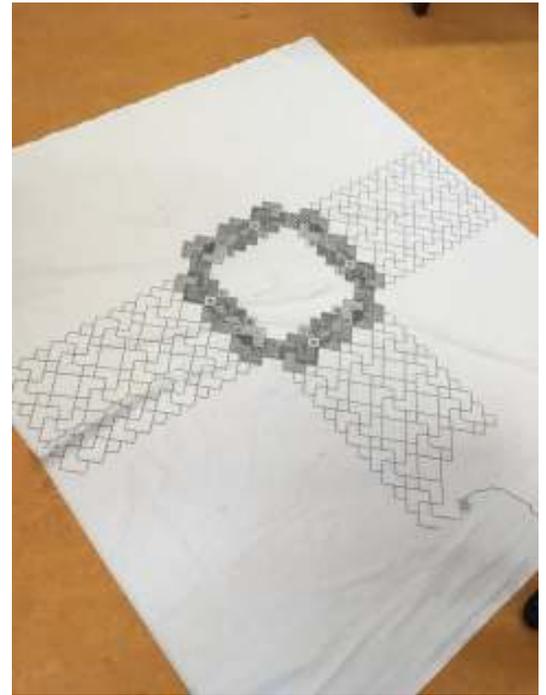


Nancy's clock

Blackwork Journey Blog, October 2018

Tineke Steyn of the group Handwerkcafé Waddinxveen in the Netherlands has won my untold admiration for her interpretation of 'Save the Stitches'.

Lilian Kok, a member of my Facebook group posted pictures of Tineke's work. It is so beautiful and will take such a long time to complete so I would like to take this opportunity of sharing her work with you.



Tineke's work in progress



Evelyn's first counted piece!

I am always delighted when I receive pictures from young readers. Evelyn's first piece of pattern darning! She was helped by her Granny in Canada, but proved to be an enthusiastic student.

As a teacher of many years standing, I feel we have a responsibility to pass our skills on to the younger generation. Free time in school is limited and fewer practical subjects are being taught, so unless we pass on what we know there will be future generations with very limited knowledge of the practical arts and we will all be the poorer for it.

Happy stitching, *Liz*