

The lively needle

Stitch it; then charge it

BY MARY KAY DAVIS

The credit cards in my wallet weigh more than the wallet does, which may tell you something about my weekly allowance. Whenever my purse opens, the cards slither to the floor and everybody plays 52-pickup.

Here's one solution to the Credit Card Crisis — a case to keep them in, under control and off the floor.

You'll need a piece of 14-gauge canvas, interlock or otherwise, measuring 34 threads by 64 threads. Cut away a square of five threads from each corner. Fold under the flaps thus formed so that two threads (from her on called "railroad tracks") form the fold. One of these tracks will be the last thread cut, and the other will be the first thread snuck. Baste the flaps in place so that meshes match.

Stitch the railroad track edge in the Long-Armed Cross, using blue yarn. Fold the canvas in half and then unfold, so that a crease marks the center fold.

I WORKED my eagle in red, white and blue. What else for the 4th of July? The background is red, the eagle — blue, and all stars and cross stitches are white.

On one half of the case, work a frame of Rice Stitches in blue as diagrammed next to the Long-Armed Cross. Each Rice Stitch covers a square of four canvas threads and is worked through both layers of the folded-over canvas.

Within the Rice Stitch frame, stitch your eagle in blue. Work Cross stitches and Double Straight crosses in white. Be sure that all top threads on each "v" slant in the same directions. Fill in the background with red Basketweave.

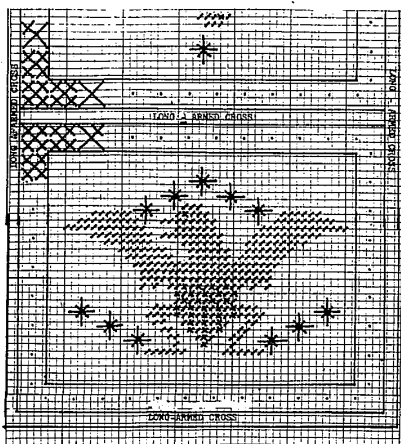
WORK A ROW of blue Long-Armed Cross down the center fold, touching the Rice Stitch frame. You've finished one half of the cover.

Turn the canvas around and repeat the above pattern on the other half of the cover.

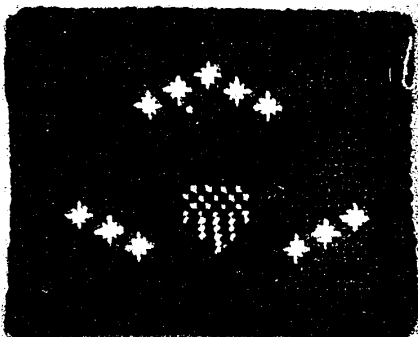
Cut a lining one-half inch larger than your finished case and machine sew two card pockets to it before you attach the lining to the needlepoint. One pocket is on each side and I faced mine toward the center. Hint: measure your cards. All of mine are not the same size.

Fold under one quarter inch seam allowance and hand stitch the lining to the needlepoint along the line between the Long-Armed Cross edge and the Rice Stitch frame.

Then put in your cards and charge!



Follow the pattern above for a handy case for credit cards, shown below in its completed form. (Staff photo)



Ideas to be offered on hunting for that job

Two new programs on job hunting are being offered this summer by the Continuum Center for Adult Counseling and Leadership Training at Oakland University in Rochester.

"How to look: Job Hunting Skills" will be offered from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, July 28, at the Holiday Inn on Telegraph south of 11 Mile in Southfield.

One day of sound practical advice is offered on the process of finding a job in today's market. It includes information on how to research employers, use an employment agency, write resumes, develop an information network and look realistically at the job market.

A second job-related program, called "In Control: Assertive Interviewing,"

will be held at the same location from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday Aug. 4.

A third program, which already has been taken by more than 2,000 teachers during the past two years, is "Alternative Career Options for Teachers." It will be held at the same place and time on Saturday, Aug. 11.

For advance registration, contact the Continuum Center at 377-3033.

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Volunteers

The Oakland County Volunteer Bureau, a program of the Volunteer Action Center of United Community Services, has weekly listings of volunteer opportunities. Further information about these and other volunteer needs at over 200 agencies may be obtained by calling the bureau at 642-7372. Any non-profit organization needing volunteer assistance may also call the bureau.

NURSES, LAB TECHNICIANS — Common Ground in Birmingham has an urgent need for retired nurses and lab technicians to work in their Human Service Program. Nurses assist the physician with examinations and lab technicians run pregnancy tests. Help is especially needed 7-10 p.m. Monday and Thursday.

OUTREACH — The Rochester-Avon Recreation Authority is looking for volunteers who enjoy older people for their outreach program. Duties include visiting with clients to assess their needs and completing an assessment report. Training is provided.

PLUS VOLUNTEER — Birmingham Youth Assistance is currently organizing a PLUS (People Listening, Understanding, Sharing) program. Training is scheduled for July 10 and 17 for volunteers interested in being involved on a one-to-one basis with area young people who need a friend.

LUNCH AIDES — The Birmingham Nutrition Site is looking for volunteers to assist with meal serving and clean up. Some light kitchen work is involved. Hours are 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. weekdays.

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