

The lively needle**Stitch up an ornament**

Thanksgiving is over and it's time for your Christmas present. Here's a reversible Christmas ornament that doesn't need any finishing.

You'll need a 3/4-inch square of 10 gauge plastic needlepoint canvas. Since plastic canvas isn't exactly even, you'll notice that threads in one

Oct. 27 and Nov. 3. (If you missed them, reprints are available from me in care of the Birmingham Eccentric. Send a quarter and a self-addressed, stamped envelope. Or look up the back issues in the library.)

Use white yarn to work two white foundation and two red foundation rows. Continue alternating red and white every two rows until the foundation is finished.

Turn the canvas a quarter turn to the right so that the foundation stripes run up and down. Work cross hatching stripes, beginning with two rows of red. Alternate red and white rows until the square is filled.

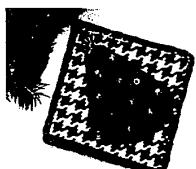
Stitch the seven ribs of the Christmas tree right over the houndstooth check, as diagrammed. There are two rows of the Holbein stitch where each row is stitched twice. Use two strands of green wool. Begin and end yarns at the tree ribs where the ends will be covered by the tree itself. Since the Holbein stitch is reversible, you will finish with identical tree ribs on both sides of the ornament.

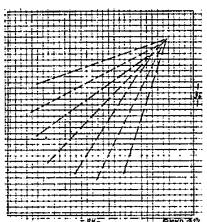
Weave needlefloss of green yarn over and under the tree ribs from the top down until the tree is completely woven. The needle never penetrates the canvas while weaving. Pack wool tightly so that the ribs are checked firmly. When one side is finished, work the reverse in the same way.

Trim the trees as you wish with French knots, sequins, strings of beads, crocheted popcorn, gold stars or whatever. I attach sequins with a

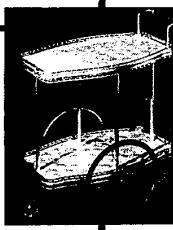
tiny French knot worked with one strand of wool and a crewel needle.

Cover the whipped stitches and yarn ends on the outside edge of the ornament with Gold Bond satin stitch. Use four strands of green wool. Keep cover everything. Loop green yarn through the top corner of the ornament and hang it wherever you like.

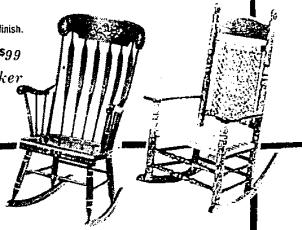




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Further information may be obtained from Louis Panush, coordinator, Junior Science and Humanities Symposium, Room 229, College of Education, Wayne State University, phone 577-0955 or 569-1219.

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