

The Lively Needle

Here's a cardinal in time for spring

A pair of cardinals live beside our house and I wanted to give them inside, as well. Here's how to stitch a cardinal decoration to hang in your window.

Collect the following: a five-inch square of 10-gauge plastic needlepoint canvas; stranded needlepoint yarns in red, black, gold and soft green; tapestry needle, sharp pair of small, pointed scissors; and a piece of red felt.

Most of the bird is worked in the Bayeux stitch from the 11th century. Bayeux tapestry. It's stitched in layers with long, straight stitches worked first. These are held in place by differently angled long, "couching" stitches latched down by individual tent stitches.

First, look at your canvas. The holes are not exactly square. Work with the longer edge of holes pointing left and

right. Cut a square of canvas measuring 40 threads across the top and 42 threads per side. Trim away nubs so that edges are smooth.

Stitch the beak with gold yarn. Place the arrowed stitches first and then stitch the line at right angles to them. Finally outline the beak.

Stitch black basketweave around the beak next, as diagrammed. Use red yard to work long stitches that form the bird's breast and neck. In the breast area, yarn moves from wing to wing in one long stitch. Use as many strands per needlefull as needed to cover the canvas.

Use one strand of red wool to lay four couching threads at right angles to the long stitches. Position couching threads and tack them to the canvas with tent stitches where indicated.

Lay long stitches that form the bird's wings, positioning them as dia-

grammed. Notice that the inside wing stitches cover the ends of breast stitches. Position couching threads and work tent stitches as diagrammed. Stitch the bird's crest in long lines of red wool. Notice that these stitches are not couched down.

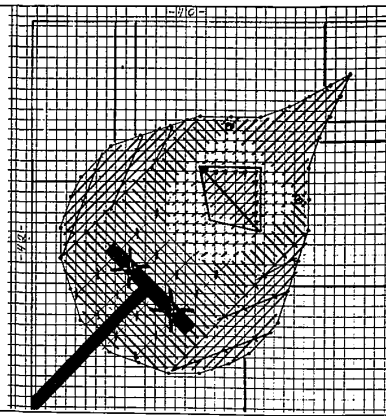
Work two long, green stitches for the bird's perch, and two long stitches at right angles to the perch for its base. Wrap green yarn tightly around and around these stitches so that they become fat, round bars. Below the bird, the wrapping stitches should enter the canvas at each hole. Over the bird, the wrappings should enclose the long stitches without penetrating either the bird or the canvas below.

Stitch the bird's feet with two long, gold cross stitches. Work the green border over two canvas threads in a straight stitch, as diagrammed.

Carefully cut away canvas between border and bird, leaving only the eight threads indicated. Trim around the bird carefully, not cutting into wool. A sliver of canvas thread may be left outside the stitching if necessary. Remove all possible nubs around the edge and the remaining threads.

Thread two needles with red wool one with the usual number of yarn strands, and the other with only one strand. Anchor both behind the bird. Lay the multiple strands around the outer edge of the bird, and whip into place with the single strand. This will hide any remaining canvas edges.

Tack felt over the back of the bird and trim so that no felt shows from the front. And there's your cardinal. Loop green yarn over the top and hang him wherever he will make you happy.



The beachcomber at left shows off his fully-lined, hooded poplin jacket with a drawstring waist and two pockets. He's all set for the leisure outdoor season. The dapper dude at right, meanwhile, is ready to face some of the better aspects of life in an open-weave, unconstructed cotton blazer. The proper look here is with the collar turned up and the sleeves pushed back.

The Fashion Plate

Men get loose

By RUSTLE SHAND

Unconstructed, unbuttoned and under-it-all describe the new concepts underlying warm weather leisure dressing for men. Add looser fit, natural fibers and dust colors and the direction is clear... the liberated man.

As his clothes begin to more closely parallel her clothes, achieving a softer more relaxed look, the inter-facing, lining and padding is being eliminated from blazers. Permanent press fibers are nowhere; and buttons have no real purpose except perhaps decorative—they are no longer required to fulfill their prime function as closures.

Ambiance for men starts with color underwear. According to "Jockey," only 1/3 of the male population is still holding out for white underwear. The rest of the men are wearing exotic colors, prints and patterns in a mix of fabrics including nylon-lycra spandex

which can do double duty as swim wear.

"Jockey" maintains a man who appears to be a traditional Ivy Leaguer may pop into a telephone booth at lake or pool side, emerge in his colorful underwear and jump right into the water.

The game of "button, button—who has a button" may disappear entirely for spring-summer casual wear if the bib front shirt takes over as promised.

The bib front design, borrowed from the formal wear department, is worn buttonless or unbuttoned—often pulled over the head, it may be tucked in or left worn out over trouser waist bands. And the sleeves have to be worn rolled or pushed up.

The '50s madras shirt and the straight leg poplin trouser or front pleat shorts have also returned to make a clean, classic statement. But, this time around, the madras doesn't bleed.



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