

Crimson Chat Stumpwork Instructions

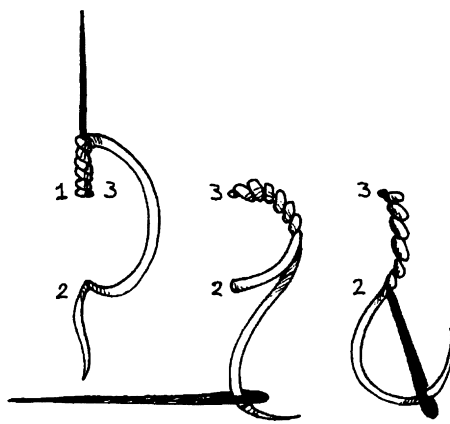
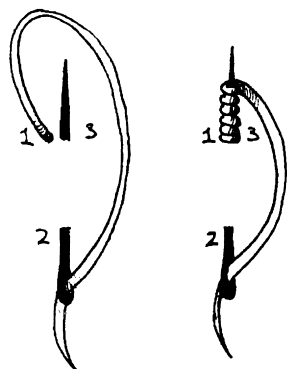
Stitches used:

Stem stitch, whipped chain stitch, fly stitch, straight stitch, buttonhole, bullion

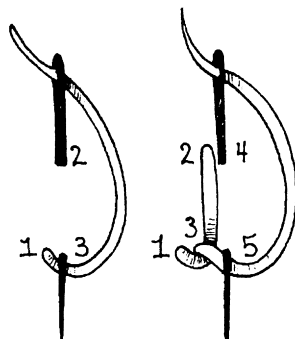
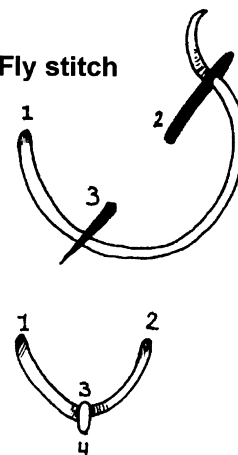
To begin:

Using a light box or your preferred light source and a sharp HB pencil, trace the design as shown onto the smooth side of your background fabric. Mount this and the larger calico square together in the larger hoop, with the traced design on top, and pull both layers taut before tightening the screw firmly. The fabric should be kept taut in the hoop at all times.

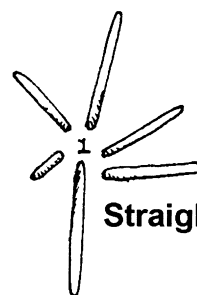
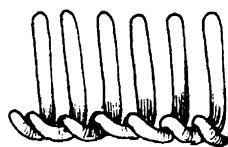
Bullion



Fly stitch



Buttonhole stitch



Straight stitch

Instructions and order of working: one strand is used unless otherwise stated.

1. Lily Leaves and Stems: Using one strand of Mori 4206 in the crewel needle work rows of stem stitch to fill in each leaf. These stitches can be half an inch long to give a realistic appearance. Work the top of each leaf as shown with Mori 4033. Still using the 4033 work a row of chain stitch along the line of each flower stem, and with the same thread 'whip' the chain stitches by sliding the needle under each chain stitch loop from the same direction each time. These stitches do not go through the background fabric. For the buds work some short straight stitches in Mori 5203, and work 3 or 4 fly stitches in the 4033 around the 5203, extending the tack of the last fly stitch to form a stalk to join to the main stem.

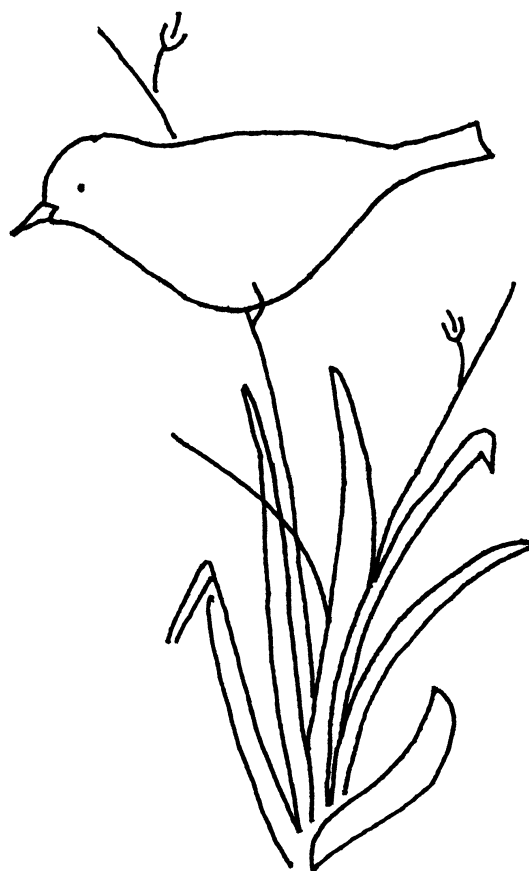


Diagram 1

2. Bird: from the felt cut the 4 pattern pieces

Lay the smallest piece (a) in the center of the out-lined body and using one strand of 7014 catch through the background fabric with a stitch at each end, using stab stitches (up through the fabric, down through the edge of the felt) so as not to flatten the felt. Piece (b) is laid over piece (a) and attached in the same way. Repeat with piece (c). The largest body piece (d) is placed over the three smaller pieces, but this time bring the needle up through the background fabric on the pattern line, and down through the edge of the felt, the stitches about half a centimeter (quarter inch) apart around the edge, and allowing the felt to mound slightly over the previous layers.

Using Mori 1114 and long and short stitches, carefully work the top of the head, remembering the way the feathers lie. With the same red thread work a few long stitches on the back where indicated. Work the throat area in White 8000, again using long stitches. Fill in the breast area with 1114 and complete the underbody again using 8000. Using Very Dark Charcoal 8077 and straight stitches work the tail drawn on the background fabric, with some short white stitches for the tip of the tail. Return to the face and work a narrow strip between the throat and red cap. Continue with 8077 and fill the back and wing area with long stitches which should reach from the back of the head to the tail. With Very Fine (#4) Braid 005 and a few straight stitches work the beak, and with the same thread attach the seed bead for the eye where indicated, with the hole uppermost. Catch with 3 stitches to hold the bead in place. Work a few long stitches in Medium Lead Grey 7014 along the wing, and a couple on the tail. With the same thread work the leg and toes in detached chain stitches, with the toes curling around the stalk.

Diagram 2

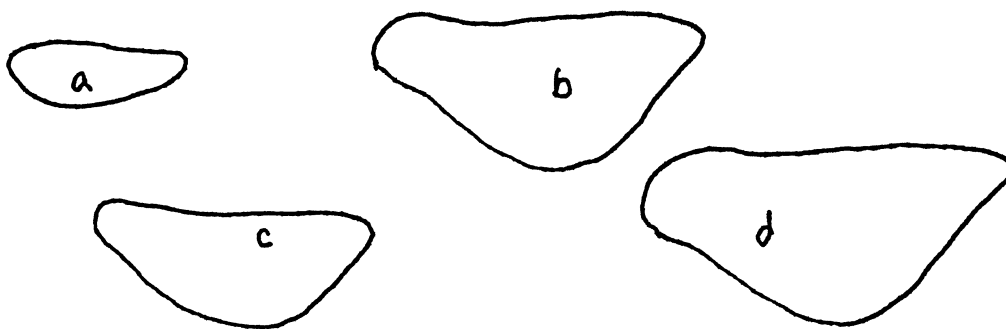
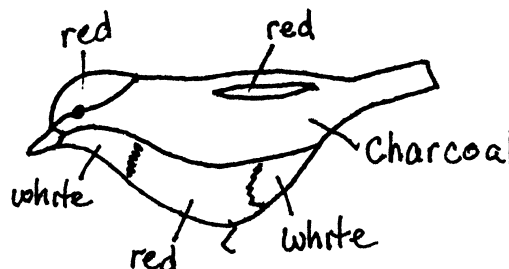


Diagram 3



3. Detached Petals: mount the smaller square of calico tightly in the smaller hoop. Cut a length of wire into 4 equal lengths. Bend one short length of wire in half to the shape illustrated.

Diagram 4

Using one strand of Mori 5203 catch the wire to the calico in 3 to 4 places, one stitch to hold the two wires together at the base, one on each side and one at the top of the petal. Do not cut off the ends of the wire as this is used to attach the petal later. Still using the 5203 work buttonhole stitches closely over the wire around the outside of the petal (loops on the outside of the wire), working through the calico and keeping the stitches very close up against the wire. Fill in the petal with long straight stitches the length of the petal, and if you wish you may work 2 to 3 stitches in the darker blue Mori 5204 up the center. Work 9 of these petals.



When all the petals have been worked cut out as closely as possible to the outside of the buttonhole stitches, holding your scissors on a slant and taking care not to cut the stitching. Run the back of your scissors around the cut edge and carefully trim off any little 'whiskers.'

4. Assembly: At a point on the little circle at the top of one flower stalk insert the large chenille needle straight down through the background fabric down to the eye which will open the fabric sufficiently to slide the two wires of a petal down alongside the needle eye. Pull gently through from the back until the base of the petal is resting on the fabric. Insert two more petals evenly around the flower center. Turn hoop over, take one wire from each of 2 adjacent petals and attach these 2 wires for about a half inch by working a few overcasting stitches to the backing calico ONLY. When you have attached the wires for this distance bend them back on themselves and make a few more stitches to hold before cutting off the surplus wire. Attach all the petals in this way, 3 petals to each flower. With 3 strands of Buttercup 2024 work a 25-wrap Bullion stitch from the center of each flower. Make the 'bite' for the bullion only about a quarter inch so that the bullion will be fat and curve up nicely. Bend the petals gently to the desired shape, and if you wish you may attach the top of each petal with a stitch in matching thread, over the wire at the top and back through the fabric, finishing off at the back of the work.