Eliza's Pyn Pillow

I hope that this pyn pillow will be a welcome addition to your stitching basket. The word "pyn pillow" was an old term used for what we call today a "pincushion". Other common names were "pinkeep", "pimpillow", and "pin-poppet". This design is dedicated to the memory of my grandmother, Eliza Ellen.

Visit www.withmyneedle.com to see a photograph of the finished pyn pillow.

Model Information

Linen: 32-count cream (#222, Zweigart)
Stitch count: 64 by 64, each of two pieces
Recommended amount of linen to buy: 6-by-10 inches

General Directions

Each square on the charts represents one linen thread. Use one strand of overdyed thread unless otherwise specified.

Special Directions

Start stitching two inches down from the top of your linen and two inches in from the left side. Leave two inches of linen between the front and back pieces.

Front

Alphabet, diamond motifs, and acorn cap. Cross stitch over one linen thread.
Carnations, stems, and leaves. Tent stitch.
Basket. Work in rows of narrow closed herringbone.
Heart. Satin stitch with two strands of Frosted Auburn.
Acorn. Using two strands of Latte, satin stitch the part of the acorn indicated on the chart.
Outside border. Backstitch over two linen threads using one strand of Slate Blue.

Back

Stitch the border as on the front of the pillow. If desired, personalize your pyn pillow with your name or initials.

Finishing Supplies

Light-weight iron-on interfacing, such as Pellon®, two pieces, 2-by-2 inches
Upholstery interfacing (Skirtex), two pieces, 2-by-2 inches
Light-weight batting, such as Thermolan Plus, three pieces, 2-by-2 inches
Ribbon, 4-mm Slate Blue from *The Thread Gatherer*
White glass-head pins, 32

Assembly Instructions

Dry press both stitched pieces.

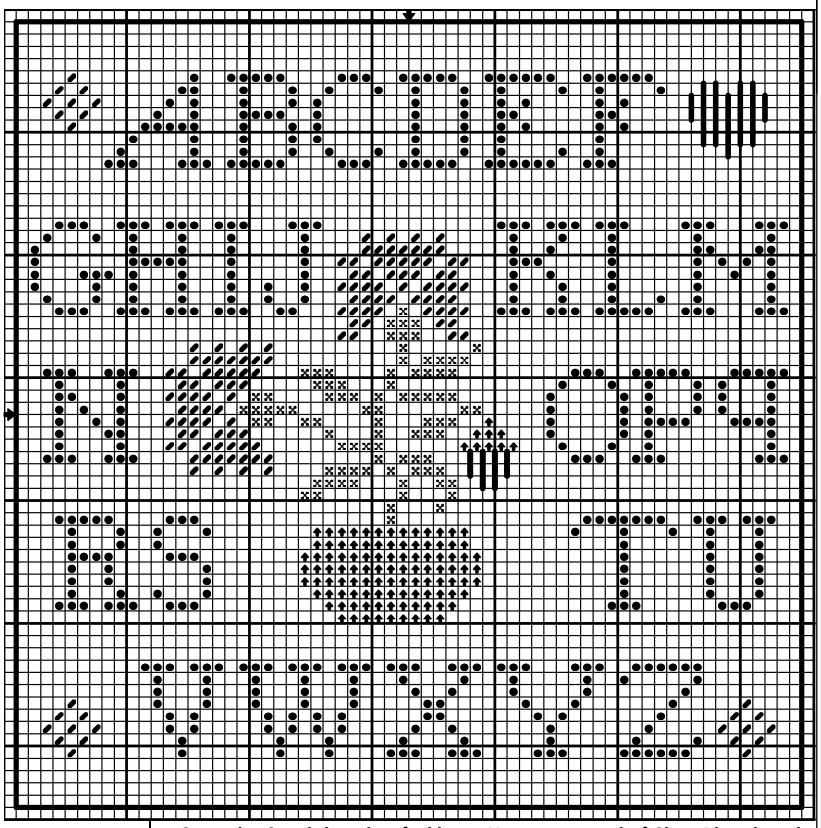
Trim the linen 1/2-inch from the backstitched borders. Cut the iron-on interfacing and upholstery interfacing to fit inside the backstitch borders. First attach the iron-on interfacing to the back of the linen, then place the upholstery interfacing on top of the iron-on interfacing. Fold the extra linen to the back along the backstitches, and press the back to hold the four seam allowances in place. Repeat the process for the second linen piece.

Cut a 10-inch length of ribbon. Using one strand of Slate Blue thread, attach the edge of ribbon to one of the linen pieces through the backstitches: start 1/4-inch from a corner, attach going toward that corner, and stop when you reach the starting place.

Turn this assembly linen-side-down and add three layers of batting. Now attach the other linen piece to the other edge of the ribbon. Neatly turn under the end of the ribbon so that the fold falls on the corner, and finish stitching all the loose edges.

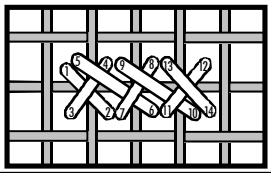
Overdyed silks from *The Thread Gatherer*

- Dried Thyme
- Frosted Auburn
- Latte
- Slate Blue

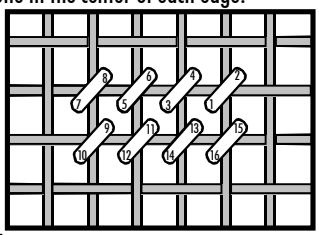


Cut eight, 8-inch lengths of ribbon. Using one stand of Slate Blue thread, attach the middle of a ribbon to each corner and to the center of each edge of the pyn pillow. Take one ribbon piece from a corner and another from an adjacent edge and tie them together in a bow. Repeat this all the way around the pyn pillow. Put three glass-head pins into the edge under each bow, one pin in each corner, and one in the center of each edge.

Stitch Diagrams



Narrow Closed Herringbone



Tent Stitch

Steps 1-2 create a short stitch to begin a row. Steps 3-6 establish the pattern repeated across the row. Steps 13-14 show the short stitch to end the row.

Credits.

Linen: Zweigart; Jean Toggit, Ltd.; 262 Old New Brunswick Rd., Unit E; Piscataway, NJ 08854
Finisher: Jackie du Plessis; *It's Fine-ally Finished*; 15 Country View Drive; Attleboro, MA 02703; phone: 508-226-1762; http://www.itsfineallyfinished.com
The Thread Gatherer: 2108 Norcrest Drive; Boise, ID 83705; phone: 208-387-2641; http://www.threadgatherer.com
Stitch Diagrams, Photography, and Editing: T. L. Chester

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