

RED HAT
A LEIGH DESIGNS EXCLUSIVE
STITCH GUIDE BY RIVER SILKS LTD.
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**MATERIALS: 9 X 9 STRETCHER BARS, #22 TAPESTRY NEEDLE, FORCEPS OR
 BLUNT NOSED PLIERS.**
RIVER SILKS LTD. 100% SILK, HAND DYED RIBBON
 (TOLL FREE 877-944-7444) WWW.RIVERSILKS.COM

4MM	COLOR	SPOOL	7MM	COLOR	SPOOLS
158	CHINESE RED	1	204	PRISM VIOLET	1
218	ODYE CHINESE RED	1	142	ODYE FOREST SHADE	1
202	WHITE WHITE	2	110	ODYE PAISLEY PURPLE	1
22	ORCHID PETAL	11	13MM		
26	IMPERIAL PURPLE	1	158	CHINESE RED	1
			110	ODYE PAISLEY PURPLE	1

GENERAL PLANNING

You will use 4m, 7mm and 13mm River Silks 100% Silk Ribbon.
 The entire canvas will be stitched in all colors in the chart.

HAT: Red Brim and Top of Hat use 4mm 158 in straight stitches. Do not pull tightly giving the effect of a straw hat. In the Shaded Areas use 4mm 218. Stitch though the overhanging purple flowers. These flowers will be stitched on top of the hat stitches.

BACKGROUND: Extend the background boarder 6 holes if you plan to frame this piece. Stitch with 4mm 22 in continental or tent stitch up to the edges of the hat and flowers. Leave a single line open for the white rack and purple ribbon bow. Many stitches will overlap the background to give a natural look.

BLUE/PURPLE BOW/RIBBON ON HAT: use 7mm 204 in long straight stitches across the bow width and 4mm 26 in tent or continental for the lining or backside of the ribbon bow on the hat.

LEAVES: use 7mm 142 stitch in a scalloped or fanned pattern with straight ribbon stitches. Remember only the tips of the leaves show, so imagine the stem at a distance. Stitch into the Rose area and purple flower area. You can add more

greenery at the end but the flowers will overlap some of these areas.

PURPLE TRAILING FLOWERS ON HAT: use 13mm 110 for the larger flowers and 7mm 110 for the smaller flowers trailing over the hat brim. Stitch with a knotted folded stitch. A single French Knot is best. Use a forceps or blunt nosed pliers to pull the ribbon through the canvas. You will save your fingers and not hurt the canvas or ribbon. Arrange the flowers covering the painted area and overlapping the hat, ribbon, leaves and background. As the flowers become smaller use the 7mm ribbon and make smaller flowers with fewer folds. One fold or loop like a ribbon stitch works well at the end.

WHITE HAT STAND: Use 4mm 202 in single wrapped French knots around the stand. You can always add extra background stitches if spaces are showing.

PURPLE BOW ON THE WHITE STAND: use 4mm 26 stitched in short back stitches. After following the lines of the bow completely, stitch back over the entire bow for more dimension and fullness.

RED ROSE: use some 7mm 158 for the spokes of the spider rose and 13mm 158 for the petals. Make a circle in the painted rose area. Your center of the space may be different than the painting. Extend the 5 straight stitches from the center to the outer rim of the circle with the 4mm ribbon.

Now with the 13mm ribbon come up next to the center between two spokes. This ribbon will be woven over and under the spokes around the circle many times. You should work slowly putting two twists in the ribbon ALWAYS in the same direction (to the right or to the left, your choice) as you weave over one spoke and before you slide your needle under the next spoke. The needle does not enter the canvas as the weaving is done unless you need to end the ribbon and start a new length.

Continue twisting the ribbon in the same direction pulling the ribbon into place gently laying them in a pleasing way. When the rose seems full enough you will begin a whipped stitch or stem stitch curving around the outer edge of the rose to fill in the edges, cover any spokes showing, and hold the rose attractively at the base. Put a twist in the ribbon when you come up through the canvas and before going back down through the canvas. End on the back of the canvas when you are pleased with the rose.

LET'S GET STARTED

1. Attach the canvas to the stretcher bars preferably using tacks.

2. There is no need to ply the silk ribbon. You will want to work with 2 to 3 foot lengths of ribbon. The ribbon won't show wear so don't worry.
3. **THREADING THE NEEDLE:** Cut the ribbon on the diagonal. Insert point of the ribbon through the eye of the needle. Then insert the point of the needle through the ribbon cut end about 1/2" from the cut (see diagram). Pull the long tail to secure the ribbon to the needle.
4. **SECURING THE RIBBON TO THE CANVAS:** Start at a corner square and bring the needle up through the canvas leaving a 1" tail behind. Go back down through an adjacent hole passing through both the canvas and the ribbon tail. Pressing the tail to the canvas from behind makes this easier. Keep pulling the ribbon through until it is secure on the canvas.
5. Starting at the outside edge of this square do Straight Stitches or Satin stitches blending colors using longer stitches on the outside, shorter stitches as you near the center. Overlap the stitches. It is no problem to stitch into a previously laid stitch. Stitch around the canvas before moving closer to the center.
6. The second row of stitches should pierce the previous row like overlapping petals. Continue mixing colors to your liking.

HELPFUL HINT: While it may be tempting to complete all the squares of one color first this will end up causing you problems. When working the second color squares you will often be going from a stitched area to another stitched area. It is much easier to "go up in an empty hole and go down in a full hole".

MORE HINTS: The ribbon does not need to be pulled tightly. Untwist the ribbon as you stitch and lay the ribbon with a laying tool to show the surface. Stitching style will affect the number of spools required. The "economy stitch" (see diagram) is quite acceptable if you are pleased with the look. With shorter stitches this is not always the best.

1. The second circle of stitches should pierce the ribbon of the previous row like overlapping petals.
2. The very center should be stitched in short stitches like continental.

The project is ready for finishing as you desire. **HAVE FUN!**

