

parrot
designed by Sophia Designs
stitch guide by river silks ltd.
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Materials: 10 x 10 stretcher bars, #22 tapestry needles

River silks ltd. 100% silk, hand dyed ribbon
(info 877-944-7444) www.riversilks.com

4mm	color	spools	7mm	Color	spools
258	Liberty blue	1	63	Fir	1
34	Star sapphire	3	172	hunter green	1
189	Black	1	67	Comfrey	1
2	Lemonade	1	82	tendrill	1
155	Autumn orange	1	139	Odye mccaw green	1
157	Flame scarlet	2			
161	Persian red	1			
12	Flame	1			
202	White white	1			
135	Odye golden rod	1			

GENERAL PLANNING

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. 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.

FEATHERS; START STITCHING AT THE TIP OF THE TAIL. ALWAYS BEGIN FARTHEST AWAY FROM THE HEAD AND WORK TOWARDS THE HEAD WITH STRAIGHT STITCHES OVERLAPPING TO GIVE THE EFFECT OF LAYERED FEATHERS.

DARK BLUE FEATHERS: colors 258 and 34

YELLOW FEATHERS: color 2 for lightest yellow feathers

ORANGE FEATHERS: color 155 medium orange color
color 135 lightest orange over dye color
color 12 darkest orange color

RED FEATHERS: color 157 red body feathers
color 161 occasional dark red feathers

EYE: color 189 black Algerian Eye stitch
color 202 white
color 2 yellow knots around the eye

BEAK: color 2 yellow knots around beak area

NOTE: The stitching of the bird has a lot of detail. Minimizing the background to look like a tropical forest of dense leaves stitched with straight stitches makes the parrot stand out. Make your own pattern of foliage.

LEAVES: colors 63 dark green areas
color 172 darkest green
color 67 bluish green
color 82 yellow green
color 139 light green over dye

HELPFUL 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” is quite acceptable if you are pleased with the look. With shorter stitches this is not always the best.

HAVE FUN!