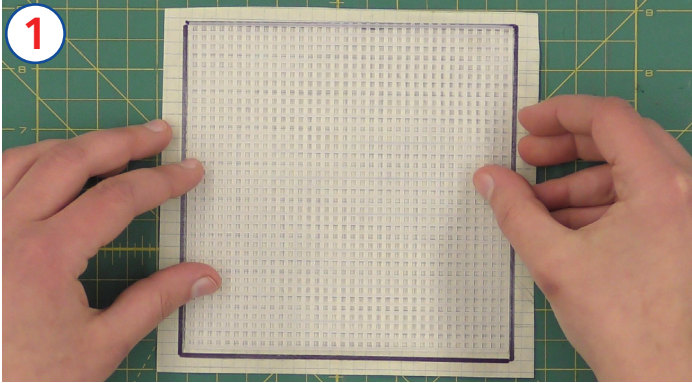
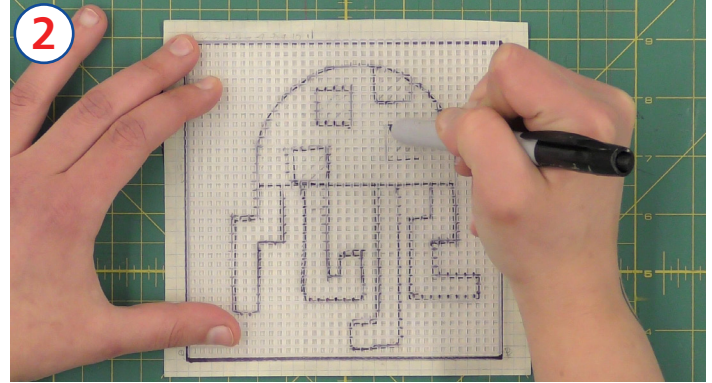


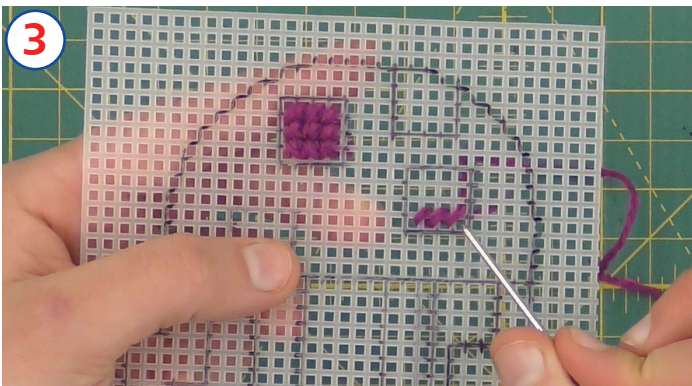
CROSS STITCH CRITTERS



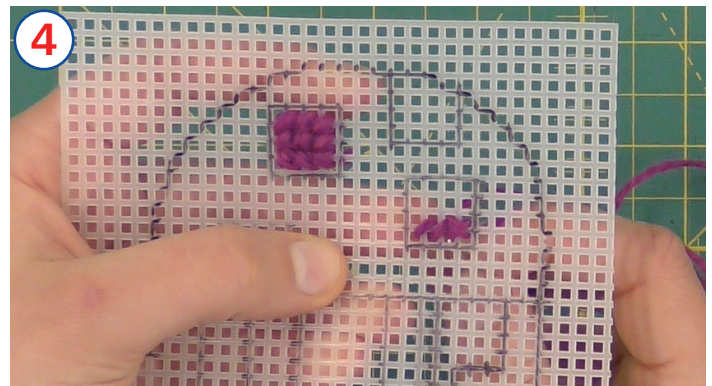
1 Trim plastic mesh with a pair of scissors to the desired size of your project. Place the mesh over a piece of graph paper and trace the border on to the paper.



2 Draw your creature on your graph paper inside the traced line – try to use geometric shapes or straight lines to keep your design simple and not too complex. Place the plastic mesh on top of the graph paper and trace the lines with a marker.



3 Measure an arm's length of yarn, cut, and thread your needle. Choose the color and space you want to start. Imagine each hole in your mesh is a corner of a square. Starting in one hole, bring your needle up from the back of the mesh, pull the yarn through, being sure to catch the tail of the yarn before it goes all the way through. Find the hole diagonal from your starting hole, moving upward to the right, and push the needle through from front to back. Next, push your needle from back to front, through the hole directly below the one you just threaded. Repeat the diagonal stitch, continuing to thread up to the right, then directly down.

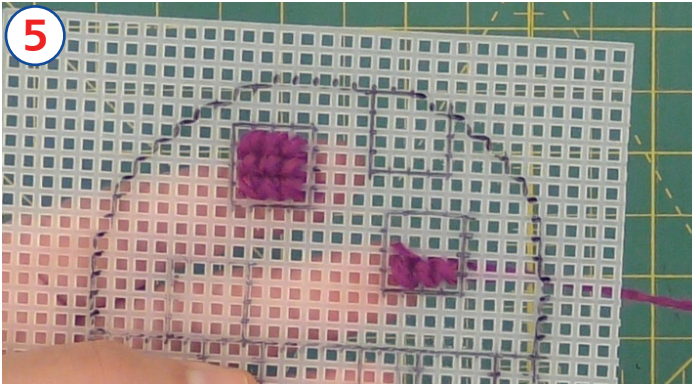


4 With the thread coming up from the back, thread the hole that's upward to the left, moving the needle from front to back. You should now see an "X". Repeat this motion – insert the needle from the back, through the hole directly below the one you just filled, moving upward to the left.

For more information please go to youthfiberart.org

*Materials in kit may differ from ones pictured.

CROSS STITCH CRITTERS



Begin your next row one square above the line you just created. Start by stitching your diagonal lines that go upward to the right, and you'll notice you're overlapping the row you just finished. Repeat the same process once you've reached the right-most edge of the section you're working on, creating diagonal stitches that go upward to the left. Now you know how to cross stitch!



Repeat this process. When you run out of thread or you want to start a new color, thread the yarn through the back of some stitches you've created, and then cut the tail of the yarn. Once you've filled in one section, simply choose your next starting point, thread a new piece of yarn, and use your cross stitching skills to 'color in the lines' of your design!



Stitch the border. Thread your needle, poke through the edge hole from back to front and bring the yarn through, being sure to catch the tail on the back of your project. Bring the needle around to the back again, and push through to the front, looping around the edge of the plastic mesh. Use the same technique to bury the end of your yarn when you have finished, and trim the end. Now you're done! Options to display your project could be as a coaster or a wall hanging.



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