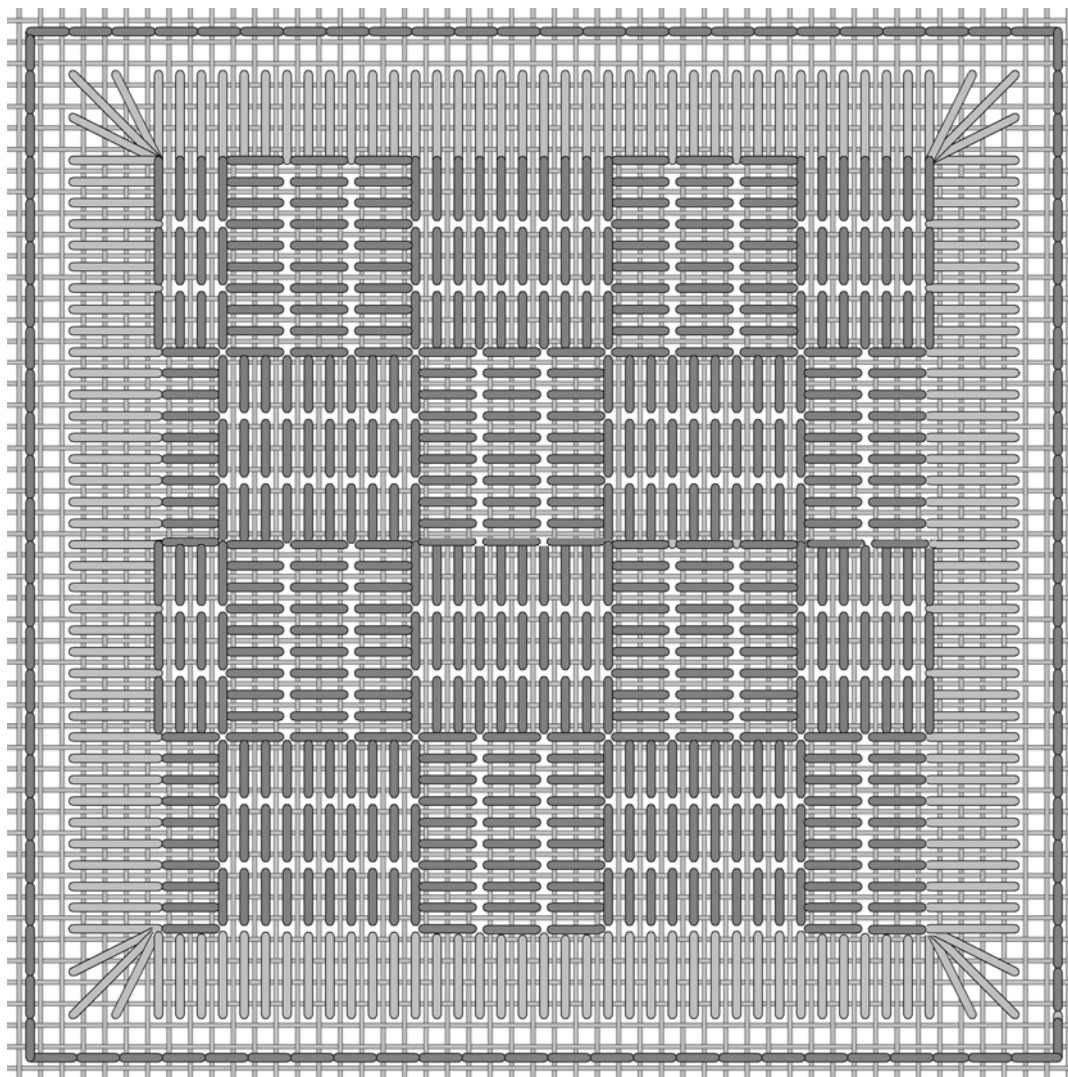


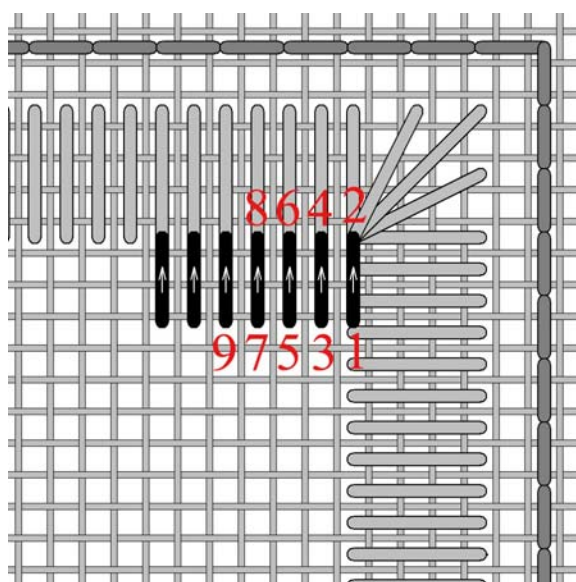
14. Chessboard Filling Stitch



Even though this pattern is very straight forward, I thought that showing the completed square along with the verbal description would make it easier to visualize.

A block of stitches is comprised of 3 rows of 10 satin stitches, and each satin stitch is stitched over 3 linen threads.

The neighbouring block is then worked in the opposite direction.



The first block in the top right corner is a compensated block. Although each of the satin stitches is stitched over 3 linen threads, there are only 7 stitches in each row.

Stitch **1** begins 3 linen threads down from the top right corner. Stitch up at **1** and down at **2** (over 3 linen threads from **1**). Stitch up at **3** (the next hole to the left of **1**) and pull. Stitch down at **4**, up at **5**, and pull. Stitch down at **6**, up at **7**, and pull. Stitch three more satin stitches to complete this row.

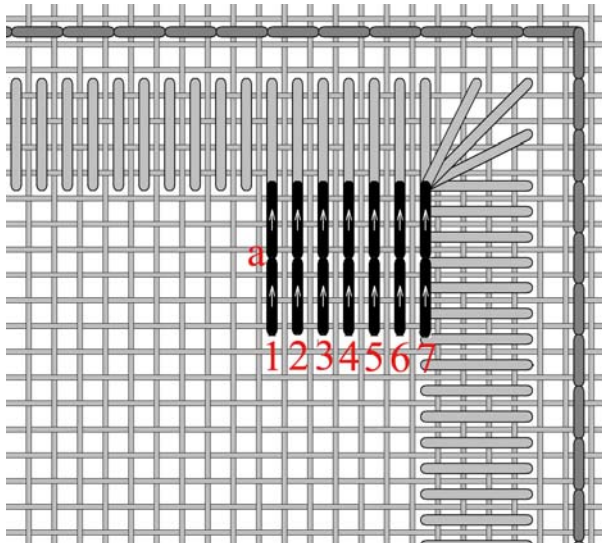
The arrows indicate the direction of the stitches.

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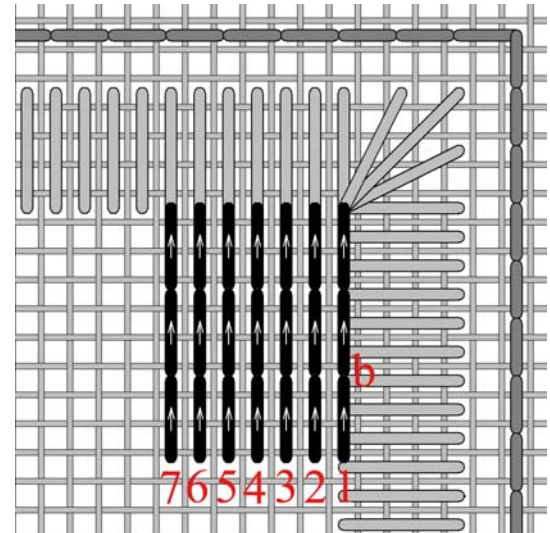
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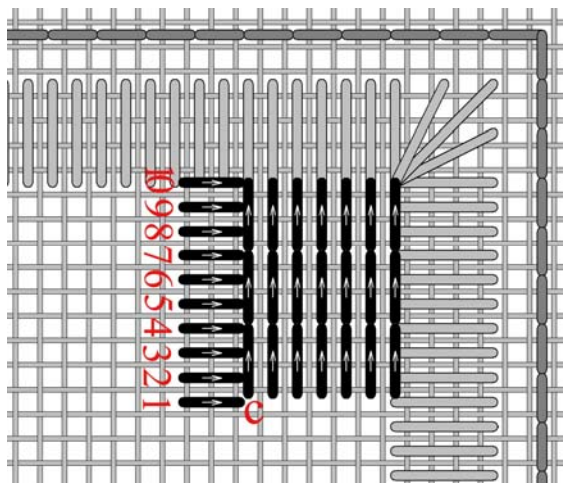
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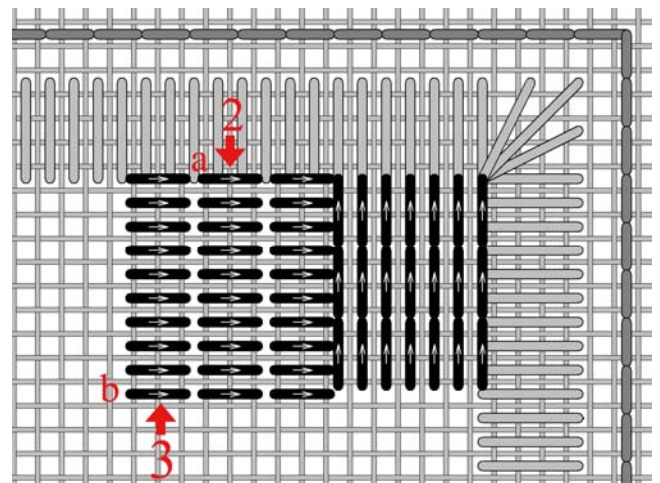
The first row of satin stitches moved right to left. In the second row the stitches will move left to right. Stitch up at **1**, 3 linen threads down from **a** (the bottom of the last stitch in the first row). Stitch up at **2** (the next hole to the right of **1**), and pull. Following the numerical sequence, always stitch up in the next hole to the right and stitch down into the hole 3 linen threads above (the same hole as the bottom of the above stitch). As in the row above there are seven satin stitches in this row as well.



The third row of satin stitches (as the first) moves right to left. Stitch up at **1**, 3 linen threads down from **b** (the bottom of the last stitch in the second row). Stitch up at **2** (the next hole to the left of **1**), and pull. Following the numerical sequence, always stitch up in the next hole to the left, and stitch down into the hole 3 linen threads above (the same hole as the bottom of the above stitch). Again, there are seven satin stitches in this row.

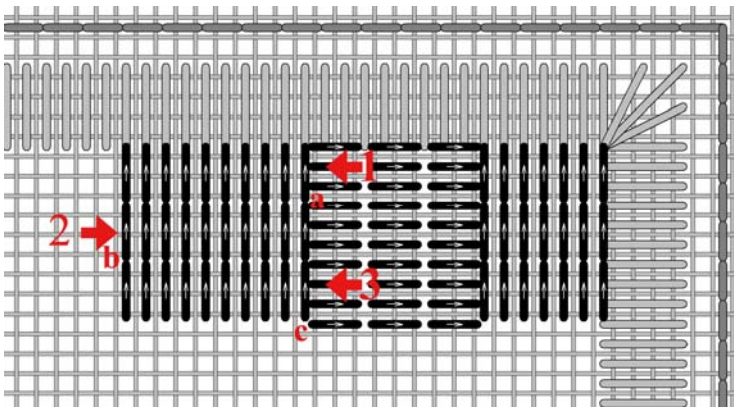


The next block of stitches is worked in the opposite direction, with three columns of 10 satin stitches. Begin the first column of stitches at **1**; **1** is 3 linen threads to the left of **c** (the bottom of the last stitch in the previous block), stitch down at **c**. Stitch up at **2** (the next hole above **1**), and pull. Following the numerical sequence, always stitch up in the next hole above and stitch down into the hole three linen threads to the right.



The second column is worked from the top down. Begin at **a**, and complete the 10 satin stitches. Always stitching over 3 linen threads to the right and don't forget to pull. The third column is worked upwards. Begin at **b**, and complete the 10 satin stitches. Always stitching over 3 linen threads to the right and don't forget to pull.

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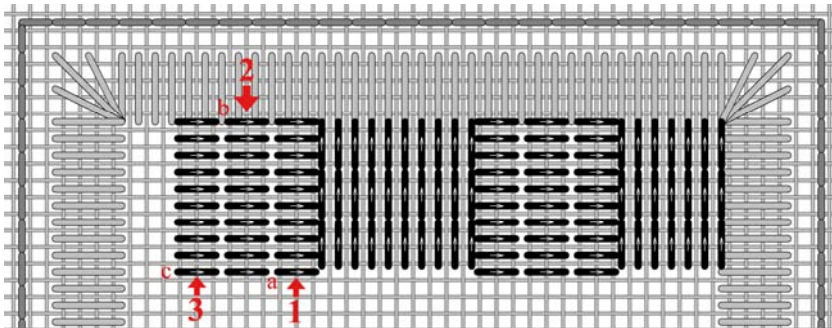


The next block of 3 rows is in the same direction as the first, but has 10 stitches in each row.

To begin row **1**, start at **a** (3 linen threads down from the last stitch of the previous block). Move towards the left.

Row **2** begins at **b** (3 linen threads down from the last stitch of the previous row). Move towards the right

The **3rd** row begins at **c** (3 linen threads down from the last stitch of the previous row). Move towards the left

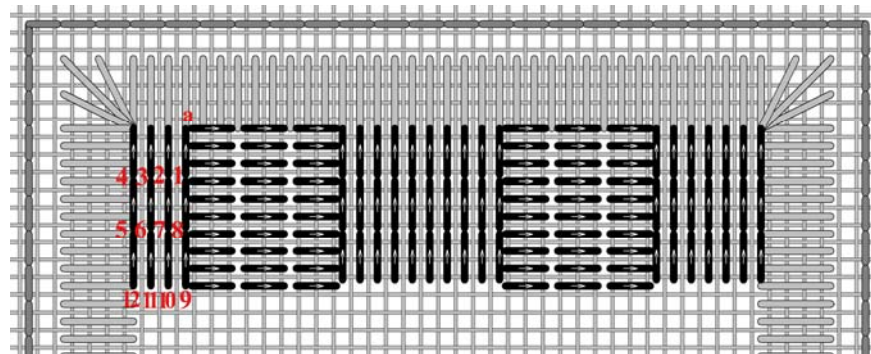


The next block is again worked in columns.

Start with the first column at **a**.

The second column is worked down beginning at **b**.

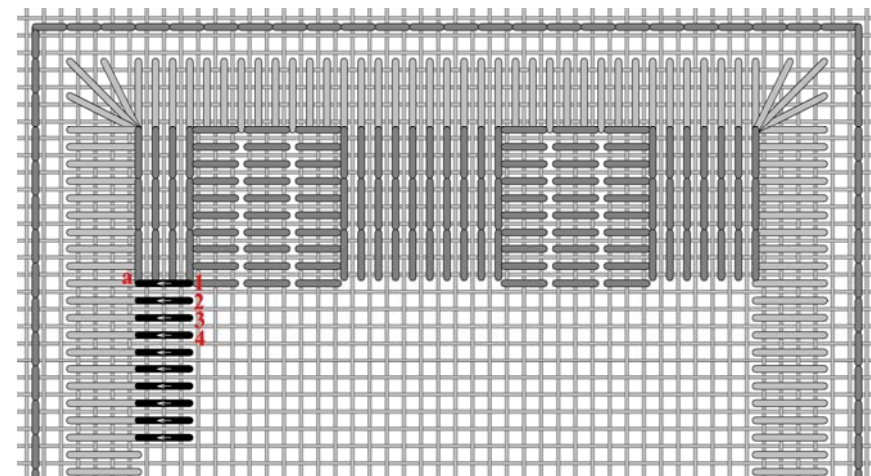
The third column is worked up starting at **c**.



The last block is worked in rows, with only 4 satin stitches in each row.

Start at **1** (3 linen threads down from **a**)

Follow the sequence to complete the block.



The first block in the next row is again compensated. Beginning at **1** (3 linen threads to the right of **a**, the bottom of the last stitch or the previous block).

Following the sequence, stitch only 1 column of 10 satin stitches. The arrows indicate the direction of the stitches.

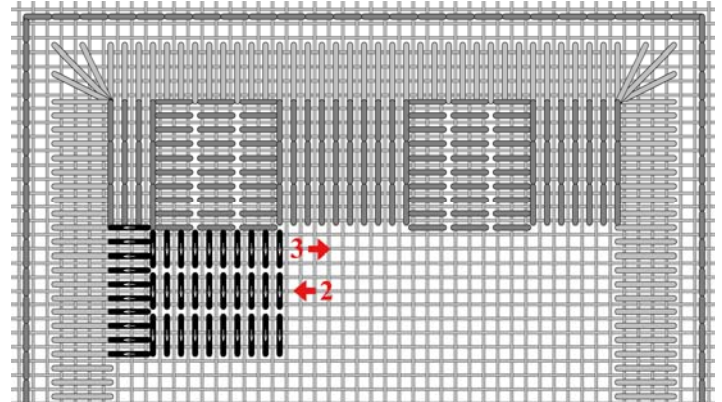
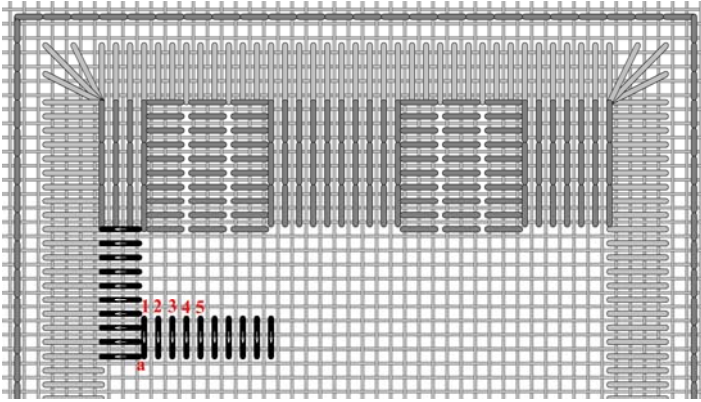
Being right handed and stitching in hand, I find it easier to hold my fabric in my hand. I would first count over and stitch up in the starting hole, and then turn my fabric appropriately, so I can stitch the satin stitches in a sewing motion.

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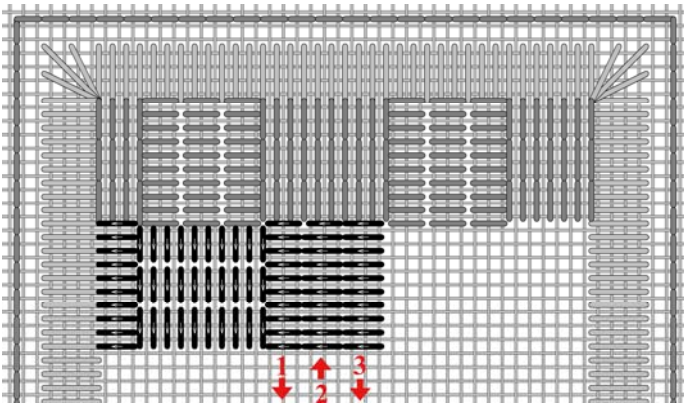


To ensure a clean path, the satin stitches of these block of rows and block of columns are stitched in the reverse. The satin stitches in the columns are stitched right to left and the satin stitches in the rows are stitched from the top down.

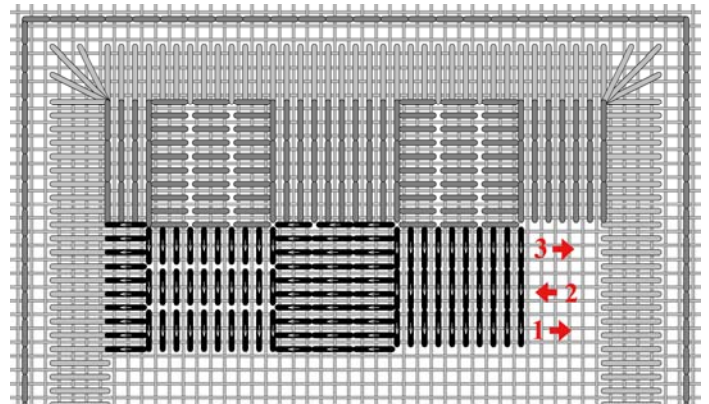
Row 2 is worked moving to the left, stitching from the top of the stitch down to the bottom of the stitch.

Follow the sequence. The arrows show the direction of the stitches.

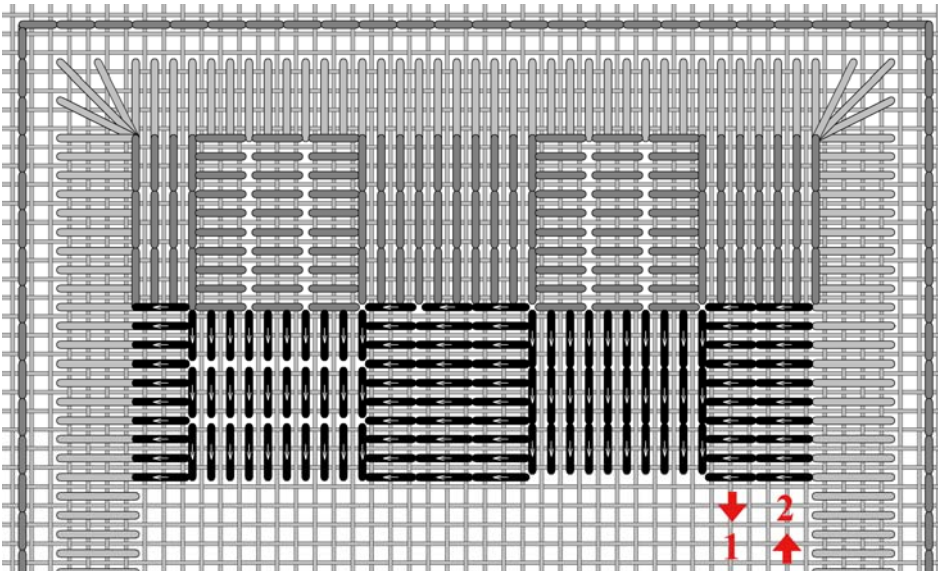
Row 3 is worked moving to the right, stitching from the top of the stitch down to the bottom of the stitch.



The arrows indicate the direction of the columns.



The arrows indicate the direction of the rows.



The last block in this row only has 2 columns.

Slip through the satin stitch border on the reverse side towards the starting stitch of the next row (3 linen threads down from the bottom stitch of the column above)

Then stitch the next two rows of satin stitch blocks to fill the square, by repeating the two rows you just stitched. Begin at the first diagram.

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