



## Stitched Greeting Card

A stitched greeting card is a lovely way to show you care, and make something unique for a friend or family member. Once you get the idea, you can easily individualise your cards and make your own designs.

### Pattern:

Print the pattern on page 2 on A4 paper.

### Materials and equipment:

You will need:

- A4 card, in your choice of colours, 2 sheets
- A4 paper, for insert, in your choice of colour, 1 sheet
- Thread, in your choice of colours, 2-4 metres of each of 4 colours
- Needle, scissors, ruler, pencil, pin, adhesive tape, double-sided tape, glue, towel

### Choosing your thread:

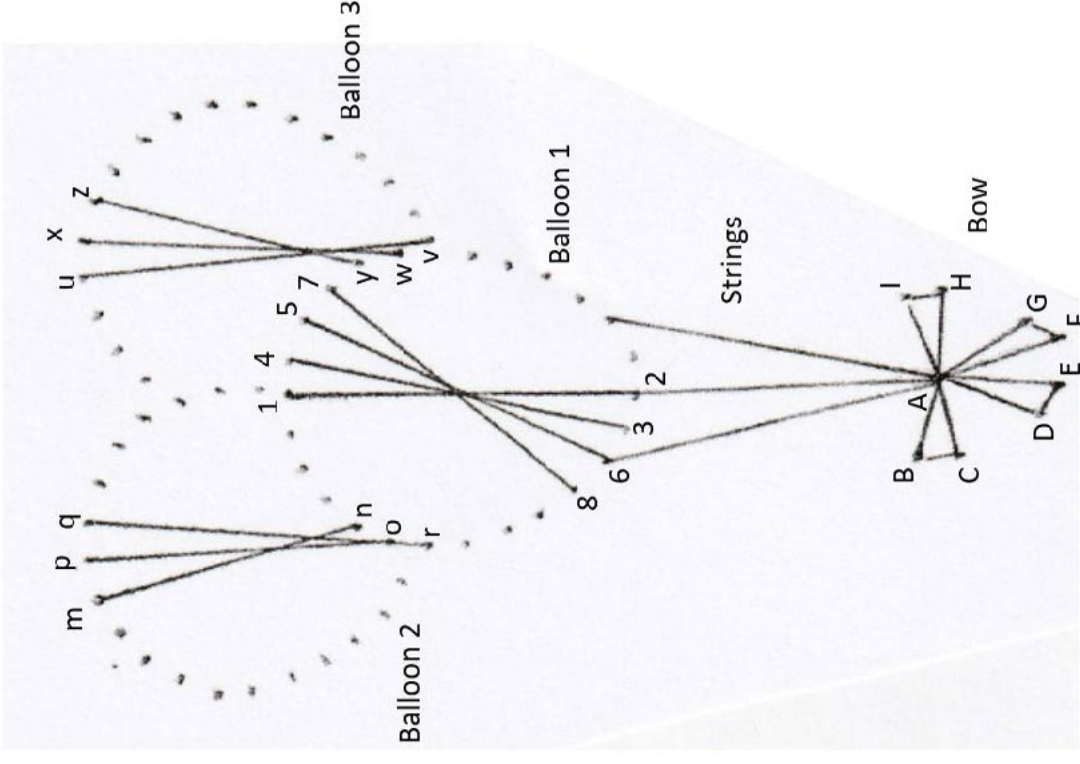
You can use many different kinds of thread to make these stitched cards, and the effect will be different depending on your choices. The thread should be fairly fine: stranded cotton is suitable, using just one strand at a time, or fine crochet cotton. I used Kreinik Metallics Very Fine #4 Braid, colours #001 (silver), #002 (gold), #012 (purple), and #014 (light blue). The metallic thread gives extra sparkle to your card.

### Pricking your pattern onto the card:

The pattern is transferred to the card by pricking tiny holes through the pattern onto the card. Trim the paper pattern along the dotted line. Decide on the colour card you will use (I chose light blue), cut the sheet of card in half and place the paper pattern on top of it, centring it. Put a couple of small pieces of adhesive tape at the edges to hold it in place. You will be trimming the card later, so any marks left by the tape will be trimmed off. Place the card and pattern on a folded towel, so that you will not be pricking your furniture.

Use a pin (one with a large head is easier) to prick holes through the pattern and the card for every dot on the pattern, including all the dots around each balloon, the dots at the corners of the bow, and all the dots on the lettering. When you lift up the card and turn it over, you should be able to see all the little holes on the other side. Remove the paper pattern, but keep it for reference.

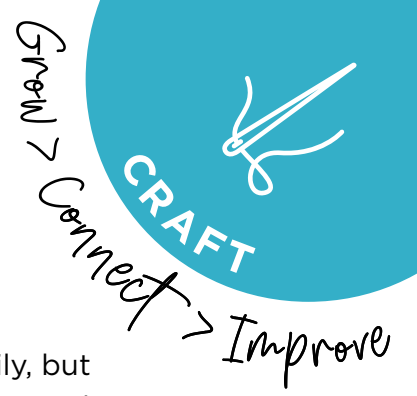




HAPPY BIRTHDAY



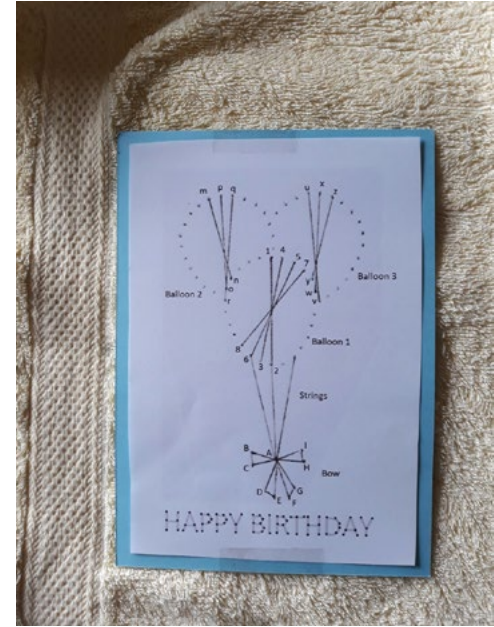
# Week Thirteen



## Stitching the card:

Use a 30-40cm length of thread. Choose a needle which you can thread easily, but which is not too much fatter than your pin, so that you do not make the holes too big.

Work one section at a time. Where the instructions say “Out at” this means passing the needle and thread through a hole from the back of the card to the front. “In at” means passing the needle and thread through a hole from the front of the card to the back. To start, find your starting hole, and pass the needle and thread from the back of the card to the front, until all but about 1-2cm of thread is at the front of the card. Secure the end of the thread by taping it down with 1cm of adhesive tape – so far as possible, do this so that you do not cover holes yet to be worked. It is easier to pass the needle through the hole if you can see the hole, so you will be turning your card over to the back to see the next hole, then over to the front for the next stitch, and so on. When you have only 5-6 cm of thread left, finish the stitch by bringing your needle to the back of the card, and secure the end of the thread by taping it down with 1cm of adhesive tape. Cut off any excess thread.



## Balloon 1

Purple thread

Out at 1, in at 2.

Out at 3, in at 4.

Out at 5, in at 6.

Out at 7, in at 8.

Continue this sequence, until Balloon 1 is complete.

Note that Balloons 2 and 3 share some holes with Balloon 1, so not all stitches are the same length. Look at the finished card on page 1 for guidance.

## Balloon 3

Silver thread

Stitch balloon in a similar way to Balloon 1, starting with:

Out at u, in at v.

Out at w, in at x.

Out at y, in at z.

## Strings and bow

Gold thread

## Balloon 2

Blue thread

Stitch balloon in a similar way to Balloon 1, starting with:

Out at m, in at n.

Out at o, in at p.

Out at q, in at r.

Starting at A, use the pattern as a guide, and stitch the three strings and the bow. At times you will have to take your thread back to a previous hole on the back of the card (backstitch) in order to work the shape.

## Words

Purple thread

Starting at the top left dot of the H, work the lettering, making a stitch between each dot to form the letters. At times you will have to take your thread back to a previous hole on the back of the card (backstitch) in order to work the shape.



# Week Thirteen



## Finishing the card

Now that you have finished stitching your card, you need to make it into a greeting card. Score your backing card (I used white A4 card) down the centre and fold it in half so that the opening is on the right hand side. Trim the stitched card by 1cm on all sides. Turn it over, and attach strips of double-sided tape to each of the 4 sides on the back of the card, quite close to the edge. Peel off the backing strips on the double-sided tape. Turn the card over, and place it on top of your backing card, right side up, and centre it. Press firmly to ensure the tape is well attached. Give your card an insert, by trimming a piece of A4 paper (I used pale blue) by 1cm on all sides, folding it in half, and positioning the crease along the crease on the inside of your card. Use a line of clear glue down the centre crease to attach. Your finished card will be A5 size, and will fit into a C5 envelope.

## More stitched cards

If you enjoyed making this card, you might like to explore some of the designs available on the internet – or invent your own. Here are some sites you may like:

[www.form-a-lines.net](http://www.form-a-lines.net)

[www.stitchingcards.com](http://www.stitchingcards.com)



The wrong side of the card, showing ends of thread secured with adhesive tape, and the need to backstitch when working the bow and lettering.