

Deruta Christmas Ornament

2008

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Copyright By: Giulia Manfredini
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Special dedication

To my sister Sissi for being such a wonderful woman, a dedicated mother, a loving daughter and sister. Have a wonderful Christmas 2008 together with your wonderful family!

Instructions

Design size: 63W x 63H stitches

The original model has been stitched on 36 ct Edinburgh linen Peacock Fantasy by Stitches and Spice www.stitchesandspice.com.au, with the Stitches and Spice Sampler Threads and Stranded Cotton threads www.stitchesandspice.com.au, The Thread Gatherer Silk'N Colors www.threadgatherer.com, and Madeira Metallic Gold 3 - 3008 www.madeira.de.

One skeins each of silk or cotton threads, and one skein of metallic are needed to stitch the design.

Finishing materials are listed in the finishing sections. DMC conversions will not give the same results.

Symbol Key

	The Thread Gatherer Silk'N Colors	DMC
ç	Monsoon Sky SNC 1036	3807
	Stitches and Spice	
t	Firecracker Stranded Cotton	4200
Á	Firecracker Sampler Thread	4200 (three or four strands)
■	Ocean Waves Stranded Cotton	4030
W	Ocean Waves Stranded Cotton	4030 (three or four strands)
Z	Madeira Metallic Gold 3 - 3008	5284

Needle: # 26 Tapestry Needle

Cross stitch

Cross stitch over two threads of fabric with two plies of silk thread, stranded cotton and metallic threads.

Cross stitch over two threads of fabric with one ply of sampler thread.

Backstitch

Backstitch over two threads with one ply: stems of four flowers at the corners in **t** Firecracker Stranded Cotton, pistils of small red flowers at the middle of four sides in **Z** Metallic Gold 3 - 3008, and lower stems of the same flowers in **■** Ocean Waves Stranded Cotton (see also the color diagram).

Backstitch over two threads with one strand: inside and outside borders of the ornament in **W** Ocean Waves Sampler Thread.

Rhodes Stitch over four

Work with one ply of ç Monsoon Sky SNC 1036 over four threads of fabric.

Deruta Ornament finish

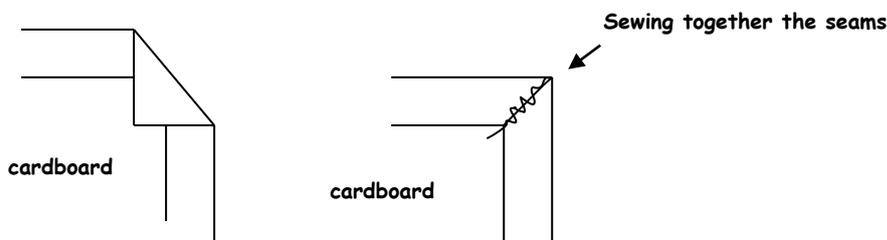
Materials Needed

- **Deruta carved bead with gold foil:** available from Giulia Punti Antichi. This bead, with antique Byzantine designs, is produced in Deruta, Umbria, Italy, a medieval town, worldwide famous for its majolica and pottery.

However, any other majolica or glass bead, matching with the threads colors, will do anyway.

- Coral pink Dupioni Silk
- interfacing
- cardboard 1/8 in (3 mm) thick
- quilt batting
- Acid free stick glue and Tacky Glue
- leftover threads after the stitching
- 31 in (80 cm) gold thick cord
- sewing thread, matching with the linen fabric

Iron press the stitched piece. Measure the stitched area and cut two pieces of interfacing of the same size. Trim seams 3/4 in (2 cm) beyond the outer backstitched border. Cut a piece of Dupioni Silk of the same area. Cut two pieces of interfacing to fit inside the stitched area; center and fuse one piece to the back of the stitched panel and the other piece to the Dupioni Silk Panel. Cut two squared pieces of cardboard large enough to exceed the outside backstitched border of 3/16 in (4 mm) on four sides. Glue the batting to both cardboard tiles. Trim exceeding batting. Center one tile to the back of the stitched panel, the batting against the interfacing. Pin along the edges for a perfect fit. First turn seams at back over the corners (figure at left here below), finger press and iron press against the glue. Then turn seams back again over the edges (figure at right here below) and apply more glue if needed. Finger press and iron press if you wish. Secure seams by sewing together the mitered seams with small stitches. Repeat for the Dupioni tile. Concerning the glue, I like to use acid free stick glue when I work over the cardboard near the edges, because it is easy to apply, it is thicker than other fabric glues, and doesn't cause any humidity which might affect hand dyed fabrics and threads.



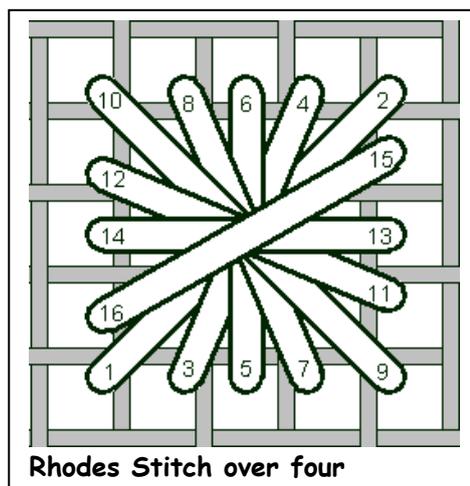
Once both panels are ready, apply Tacky glue over one tile and cover with the other tile, right sides outside. Let the glue dry under pressure. Slipstitch with sewing thread over the four edges.

Cut one section of **Z** Metallic Gold 3 - 3008 long enough to make one twisted cording 11 in (28 cm) long. Fold cording in two and make an overhand knot at 1 in (2.5 cm). Make a 4 in (10 cm) long tassel by wrapping together what is leftover of **t** Firecracker Stranded Cotton, **Á** Firecracker Sampler Thread, **■** Ocean Waves Stranded Cotton, **W** Ocean Waves Sampler Thread and the same length of **Z** Metallic Gold 3 - 3008. Cut and lay the tassel skirt sections against the knot of twisted cording and secure the threads sections with a strong knot which will be hidden inside the head of the tassel. Make the tassel neck with **t** Firecracker Stranded Cotton. Trim tassel skirt to make it even. Pass the cording loop through the bead hole and set the beaded tassel aside.

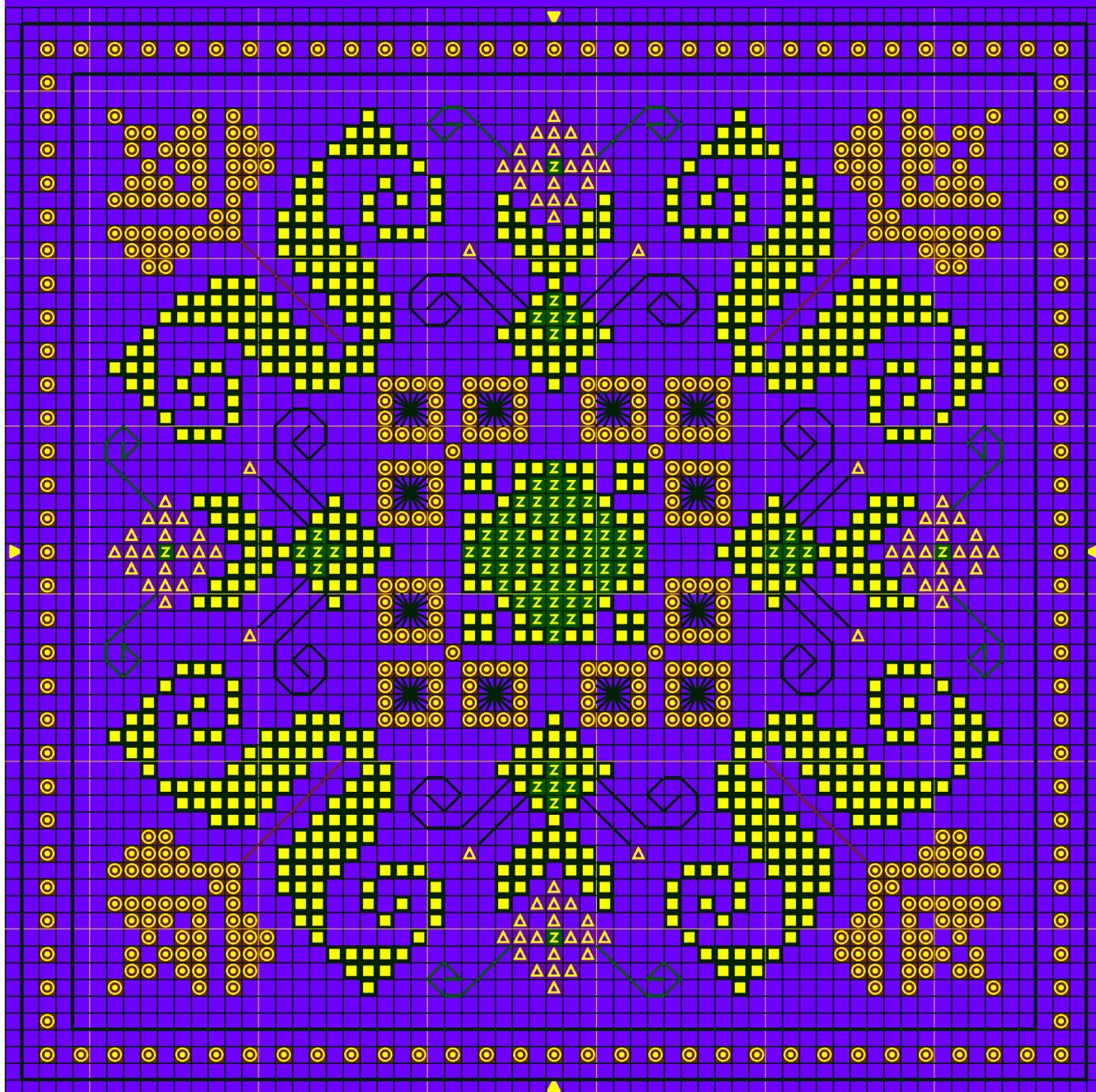
Fold gold thick cord in two. Starting from one corner of the ornament, leave a hanging loop of 4 in (10 cm) and sew the cord along four sides. Close the loop near the corner by whipping several times around it with **Z** Metallic Gold 3 - 3008. Attach the beaded tassel to the corner opposite to the loop. Twist one end of the thick gold cord around the beaded tassel above the majolica bead. Trim both ends of gold cord and sew them together at the back of the ornament.

We are deeply obliged toward **Stitches and Spices** for providing us with the wonderful threads and fabric, as well as toward **The Thread Gatherer** for the lovely silk thread.

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Fabric: 36 ct Edinburgh linen Peacock Fantasy by Stitches & Spice

Cross Stitch over two in:

 Firecracker Sampler Thread S&S
 Gold 3 - 3008 Madeira Metallics

 Firecracker Stranded Cotton S&S
 Ocean Waves Stranded Cotton S&S

Back Stitch over two in:

 Firecracker Sampler Thread S&S
 Ocean Waves Stranded Cotton S&S

 Gold 3 - 3008 Madeira Metallics
 Ocean Waves Sampler Thread S&S

Rhodes over 4

 Monsoon Sky SNC 1036