BROKEN STAR QUILT
Designed by NAPA NEEDLEPOINT
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Materials needed: 8 x 8 stretcher bars, #22-24 tapestry needles

River Silks Ltd. 100% silk, hand dyed ribbon
Information (877) 944-7444   www.riversilks.com

4mm	Color	SPOOLS
158	CHINESE RED	3
48	YOLK YELLOW	4
168	PINE GREEN	3

QUILT COLORS: 158, 168

BACKGROUND: 48

BORDERS: 21, 48, 168

GENERAL PLANNING

Attach the canvas to the stretcher bars preferably using tacks.

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.

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.

SECURING THE RIBBON TO THE CANVAS: We have chosen not to use an "away knot" as it is unnecessary with River Silks ribbon. **There is an easier way**. Bring the needle up through an empty hole where you want to begin. Pull the needle and ribbon through the canvas leaving about a one-inch tail of ribbon on the back of the canvas. With a finger press that tail flat against the canvas. Go back down through an adjacent hole passing through both the canvas and the ribbon tail. Try not to stitch through your finger! With your finger still pressing on the tail pull the needle and ribbon through the canvas and keep pulling until the ribbon is secure on the canvas. Check the back of the canvas to see that there are no loose ends. This is called the "Canvas Lock Stitch".

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.

I RAN OUT OF RIBBON. NOW WHAT? When you need to add more ribbon to continue stitching or to change color or width of ribbon use this easy technique. Select your new piece of ribbon and secure it to a new needle using the "Needle Lock Stitch" described previously. On the wrong side of the canvas cut the ribbon you had been using (removing the old needle) leaving about a 1 1/2 inch tail. Hold that tail and pierce it with your new needle and ribbon very close to the surface of the canvas, keep pulling the new ribbon leaving another 1 1/2 inch tail. Put that tail over the next hole that you want to stitch and put the needle through that new tail and the canvas. Keep on pulling until secure. Turn the canvas to the right side and continue stitching. You may trim those tails to a half-inch as desired.

CANVAS MANAGEMENT

BROKEN STAR: Stitch Broken Star as charted using the green ribbon for the solid lines and the rose red ribbon for the open lines. All stitches are over four threads and are worked in Straight Goblelin Stitch. Thee are two rows of Straight Goblelin Stitches in each diamond. Count carefully because some diamonds have six stitches, some five and some four.

BACKGROUND: Stitch the Background in Continental Stitch using the yellow ribbon. Be certain to stitch so that the background is completely covered. Stitch up to the points of the star, making a square.

STAR BOARDERS: Around the star are four borders. The outermost border is worked in Continental Stitch using red ribbon. The other three borders are worked in Straight Goblelin Stitch with mitered corners. All straight Goblelin Stitches are over four canvas threads. From inside to outside the borders are: red, green, yellow.

FILLING: With silk ribbon where two straight parallel stitches meet, some of the canvas will show. This space will be covered with Backstitch. In the star, the Backstitches are on the diagonal lines and go over one thread. In the borders the Backstitches are on either side of the green border and are over two threads.

NOTE: Ribbon does not need to be pulled tightly. Untwist the ribbon as you stitch and lay ribbon to show the surface. Stitching style will affect the number of spools required.

Ribbon will naturally gather where it enters and exits the canvas. This is correct.

HAVE FUN!