

## WESTIE II

Designed by **BARBARA RUSSELL - BARBARA RUSSELL DESIGNS**

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**Materials needed:** 16 X 16 stretcher bars, #22-24 tapestry needles

**River Silks Ltd. 100% silk, hand dyed ribbon**

Information (877) 944-7444

4mm	Color	Spools	7mm	Color	Spools
#165	TRUE BLUE	10	#251	CARMEL	1
#189	BLACK	1	#215	Odye Silver / Gold	1
#158	CHINESE RED	10			
#46	MELLOW YELLOW	1	#266	Odye Silver / Shale	1
#40	POOL GREEN	1	#180	GRAY MORN	1
#206	CORDOVAN	12	#202	WHITE WHITE	8
#219	EGGPLANT	3	#287	Odye Carmel / Brown	1
#233	CHOCOLATE	1	#181	ATMOSPHERE	1
#20	BUBBLE GUM	1	#176	NOUGAT	1
#205	ONION BLUE	1	#175	CREAM TAN	1

**BLUE COMFORTER/FLOOR:** Colors 165, 158, 46 and 40.

**SHADOW:** Color 205

**BACKGROUND PLAID:** Colors 158, 40, 46, 219 and 206

**DOG:** Colors for HAIR/FUR 251, 215, 266, 180, 181, 202, 176, 175

TONGUE 20

NOSE & EYES 233, 189, 202

### 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**

ALL BACKGROUND AND FLOORING SHOULD BE SMALL STITCHES TO ALLOW THE DOG TO STAND OUT AND RIVET YOUR FOCUS ON WESTIE II. **THESE MUST BE STITCHED FIRST BEFORE THE DOG.**

**BLUE COMFORTER / FLOOR:** Stitch BLUE area in TENT STITCH or a horizontal BRICK over three holes. Color spots can be stitched in single wrap FRENCH KNOTS or CROSS STITCHES. **SHADOW** at base of the dog should be stitched the same as the blue area but eliminate the color spots. If stitched those spots would need to be very muted shades of red, yellow and turquoise silk threads.

**PLAID BACKGROUND:** Stitch all in TENT STITCH or VERTICAL BRICK STITCH over three holes to keep it small. The entire background can be the same stitch or you can use Brick on the burgundy wide stripes and Tent on the red sections. Small and simple will allow the WESTIE to stand out.

**DOG:** Begin working from the outside edge of the fur overlapping the background starting with IRREGULAR STRAIGHT STITCHES, some can be stitched over seven holes. These need to be longer than desired so there is space to overlap with the next round of stitches. When the edge of the dog’s fur is covered with some stitches over lapping as the colors are mixed mimicking the painting, then begin the next layer of fur overlapping the first row, again mixing colors and stitch lengths to mimic the painting. Continue to fill in the fur working towards the center of the dog overlapping the fur in a natural appearance. Laying the ribbons will help give a smooth appearance. If you want some twisted fur, twist some strands of ribbon once or twice before entering the canvas. **BE CERTAIN TO HAVE HAIR/FUR HANGING OVER AND ONTO THE BACKGROUND AND BLUE COMFORTER.** Make this WESTIE yours by mixing colors and lengths of stitches as you fill in the fur coat.

**TONGUE:** TENT STITCHES

**EYES & NOSE:** stitch with knots where you want a matte look.

RIM OF MOUTH: Black edge of mouth can be stitched with very short **BUTTONHOLE STITCH** or **SMALL CHAIN STITCH** if you want texture.

**GO DOG, GO; GO STITCHER GO!**

**WHOOF, WHOOF!**

**HAVE FUN!**