

GREEN PLAID SQUARE SANDAL
DESIGN BY PEASE ON EARTH
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MATERIALS: 8 X 7 STRETCHER BARS, #22 TAPESTRY NEEDLES

RIVER SILKS LTD 100% SILK, HAND DYED RIBBON

Toll free information (877) 944-7444 www.riversilks.com

4MM	COLOR	SPOOLS
241	ISLAND GREEN	6
132	OVER DYED WILD LIME	6
135 H	OVER DYED GOLDENROD	1
7MM		
202	WHITE WHITE	1

YOU WILL USE BOTH 4MM AND 7MM SILK RIBBON

GREEN SQUARES: COLORS 241 and 132.

FLOWER PETALS: COLOR 202

YELLOW CENTER: COLOR 135.

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. This is called the "Needle Eye Lock Stitch".

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

GREEN SQUARES - These are done in a Scotch Stitch. When a square is done park the needle off to the side but do not cut the ribbon. Do the next square in the alternate color. Continue alternating squares and colors to complete the checkerboard pattern. You will have to compensate for the flower in the center. Use a Cashmere Stitch along the edges.

While it may be tempting to complete all the squares of one color first this will end up causing you problems. You will find it much easier to stitch the squares alternating light and dark.

FLOWER PETALS – These can be done with a simple Straight Stitch. You may have to go over a petal more than once to get the desired effect. You can also do this with a Ribbon Stitch*.

FLOWER CENTER – use single or double wrapped French Knots or Colonial Knots.

The sandals are ready for finishing! Have Fun!

*** THE CLASSIC RIBBON STITCH**

Come up through the canvas as though you were doing a six hole Satin Stitch. To go down the needle should pierce the ribbon before going through the canvas. Pull the ribbon through and you have a classic Ribbon Stitch which looks a lot like a pointy Satin Stitch. Do another Ribbon Stitch but this time keep the ribbon flat and don't pull tight as you come down through the ribbon and canvas. A needle or laying tool sometimes helps here. This leaves a little loop at the end which is the looped version of the ribbon stitch. Do another of these piercing the ribbon at the right hand edge. Note the different effect for the loop. Do the same piercing the left hand side. These are perfect stitches for many flowers.

By now you may have discovered that the Ribbon Stitch is very fragile. The slightest tug on the ribbon destroys the loop. You must be very careful with every next stitch. If you do eliminate the loop just go right over it with another Ribbon Stitch.

Another technique is to “lock” the Ribbon Stitch in place. Just add a French Knot to the needle before you pierce the ribbon for the Ribbon Stitch: Make a knot loosely snugged on the needle. Form the loop and hold it in place with a laying tool or needle. Pierce BOTH layers of ribbon at the loop but tighten knot first before pulling through canvas. Depending on the desired effect you could use double or triple wrapped French Knots or even do the same with Colonial Knots.

