

# FOLDED STAR CROSS STITCH ORNAMENTS

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## Introduction

I always loved the old fashioned folded star Christmas ornaments and made them each year as gifts for my family. I hated them too. Pinning the first side is easy; the hard part is getting the opposite side to line up. One year, I wanted to make an ornament with pigs, to add to the collection of a cousin who collected all things piggy. No pig fabric was to be found, so I cross stitched a little piglet then had to figure out how to get the cross stitch fabric on the folded star ornament. Easy, right? No, it was terrible!

After taking measurements, pulling out some old math books, and a lot of trial and error, I not only got the pig on her ornament, but figured out how to make the ornaments using cross stitch centers. The best part was that by using 14 count aida cloth as my guide, the fabric on the opposite sides of the folded star ornaments lined up perfectly, every time.

Having never seen this technique before, I mustered my courage and shared my ideas with a publisher. The result? *Easy Cross Stitch Folded Star Ornaments* was produced by ASN Publishing in 1989. Twenty years later, I still have folks asking me where they can get the book, which is now out of print. With a lot of encouragement, this second collection has been compiled and published.

### About The Designs

Aligning the elements on both sides of the ornament is guaranteed when using the cross stitched centers. The charts show exactly where to cut your aida cloth squares then place your folded quilt fabric to form the folded stars. The best part? The triangles that form the stars will line up perfectly on a 3 inch Styrafoam ball. By counting squares on the 14 count aida cloth and using our charts as your guide, you'll place the fabric and fold like an expert.

You can stitch matching designs to go on the opposite sides of the ornament or stitch one design for one side and then something simple for the opposite side, such as the year, or a message using the Alphabet & Numeral charts.

These designs are not for the holidays only; they can be made using any fabric & color combination for home décor & special gifts.

## Getting Started

Before you start, PLEASE read all the instructions and keep them handy when you make your ornament. We've painstakingly written every detail and drawn illustrations so that you will be pleased with the result of your work. When the first book was published, I taught how-to classes at craft shops. The biggest problems occurred when folks bought the book, then just started to assembly their ornaments, assuming they could make the ornament without actually reading the directions! If you have made folded star ornaments in the past, this technique is different so please, take the time to read all of our directions.

Our instructions assume that you already know how to cross stitch and can read a cross stitch chart. There are many fine books & instruction pamphlets available in craft stores or online that can teach you how to cross stitch. These ornaments are perfect for a cross stitch beginner – they're small, easy to stitch and you'll have a beautiful ornament when you're finished.

### Supplies

14 count Aida Cloth - minimum is two 4 x 4 inch pieces  
STYROFOAM™ Brand Foam - One 3" Ball for each ornament  
Two fabrics - 1/8 yard each 44/45" wide  
1 pkg. dressmaker straight pins - about 240 pins per ornament  
One Large Pearl Head Pin

### Trim

This is where you have LOTS of options, but you will need a minimum of

10 Inches of 1 Inch wide flat lace

10 Inches of ribbon

Options:

Additional ribbon for bow(s) in desired colors

Additional trims as desired – be creative!

### Also

Scissors

Ruler

Iron & Ironing Board

Hot Glue gun

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Effort has been made to make these charts easy to read & accurate; however, individual techniques may vary and for that, we cannot be responsible for errors or variations in the application of these instructions.

Note of Thanks - To all who helped & offered encouragement for the production of this book, your support means so much! To Gail, Linda, Cathy, Claudia, Dianne, Carmen, Karen & Connie - ladies, you mean the world to me. And a big thank you to my family for your continued toleration of my various ventures!

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