

UKRAINIAN VEST

October 1996

Design Inspiration

The design for this vest originated in an Embroiderers' Guild of America (EGA) correspondence course on Ukrainian embroidery techniques. The goal of the course was to produce a sampler containing a variety of traditional Ukrainian motifs. I researched a number of texts on Ukrainian embroidery to come up with the design for the vest. It was a pleasure to hunt for just the right motif to fit in the space allowed by the design lines of the vest. I used the traditional bright colors and black outlines to unify the design.

Fabrics

36 count Edinburgh linen, 100% rayon bengaline (vest back).

Embellishments

Hand-embroidered traditional Ukrainian patterns using cotton floss, sequins, metallic thread, vest edges and seams accented with piping.

Patterns

Simplicity 9616.

Special Sewing Techniques

The shape of the pattern pieces are basted onto the linen, but not cut out. The linen fabric is then framed and hand stitched. The stitching is designed to fit within the basted guidelines. After the stitching is complete, the vest is cut out and constructed as usual.

Exhibitions and Awards

1st place, Wearables, 1997 National Counted Cross Stitch Show, Rockome, IL, June 1997.