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In Splendid Detail: Needlepoint Art



Synopsis

The versatility of decorating with contemporary needlepoint is explored through the designs created by Catherine Reurs. The author has drawn on the heritage of European, Oriental, American and contemporary styles for her own designs for cushions, teacosies, slippers and floor coverings. A hundred colour photographs showing the needlepoint pieces in a variety of traditional and contemporary interiors and an appendix of four-colour patterns of selected designs show the reader how to achieve the same style as seen in the book.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Catherine Reurs is a well-known and very talented needlepoint designer. This book provides a sampling of her work. Although many of the designs were quite nice, the book was ultimately a disappointment. There were instructions provided for only a small percentage of the designs illustrated in the book (and in many cases not the ones I liked best). In fact, only two of the four pictured on the front and back cover had instructions. I would have preferred a few less atmospheric pictures, minimal text, and a few more actual charts. On the other hand, the author did provide several examples of alternate colorways to spur the reader's imagination. The charts that were given I found to be sometimes problematic. Because the designs were squeezed onto one page each, the tiny squares in the printed charts would be hard for the stitcher to follow. In the case of designs with dark colors, there would be an added difficulty because the typical 10 square guide lines are almost impossible to see. The charts could be copied and enlarged to make them easier to follow, but I

would rather that Reurs had spread them over two or more pages instead of crammed into one. Compared to the charts for Beth Russell's technically more difficult William Morris designs, the ones in this book definitely come up lacking. For those of use with middle-aged eyes, this is not a user-friendly book.

I had been able to get this book at my local library long ago and bought a copy. I made several of the charted designs and love how many more were charted. I don't understand any one criticizing amount of charts as the craft was explained. I made beautiful things with the help of this book.

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