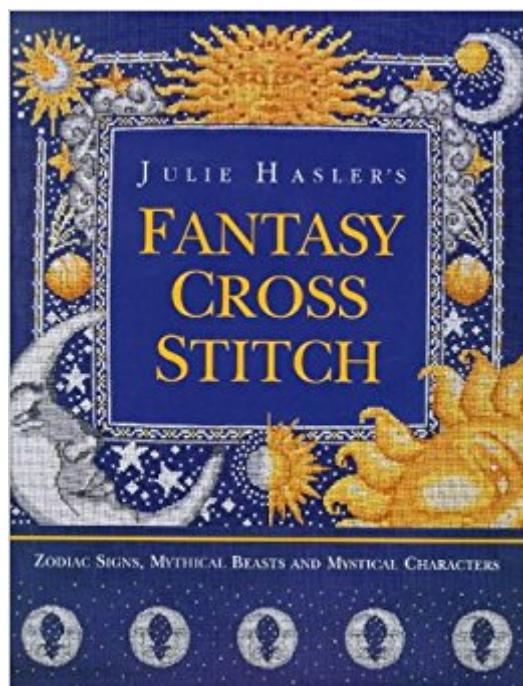


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Julie Hasler's Fantasy Cross Stitch: Zodiac Signs, Mythical Beasts And Mystical Characters



Synopsis

Sew celestial beauty with 12 zodiac designs: make window hangings, cards, and box lids, and decorate clothes. Embellish cushions and small gift items with mythical beasts like Pegasus. It's a whiz to sew a wizard throw and bed linen, and mermaid pictures. 35 charted designs illustrate the power of symbols. It's fantastic! Best-selling author Julie Hasler has turned her considerable talents to the intriguing world of myth, mystery and magic. This marvelous gallery of over 60 cross-stitch patterns takes its inspiration from different cultures and ages. A guide that's beautiful to gaze at and simple to use. A Selection of BOMC's Crafters Choice Book Club.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I have found this book to be wonderful. I bought it whilst on holiday in England, (New Zealand is my home) and have used several of the designs already. The Pegasus and Unicorn are very good with only using 3 colours for the main design (4 if you count the one accent in black) The star signs are really wonderful, very colourful. The oriental Dragon is striking, the wizard is, though just the top half, good to do in any fantasy background. I love Frey and Sif the Vikings, then of course there is the mermaid as well, I just hope I get time to do more of Julie Hasler's talented work.

I really wanted to like this book, and I love most of the designs themselves. What I have an extreme difficulty with is the horrific charts. The small projects are fine. The larger ones are dreadful, being that in order to squeeze them all in, they are so reduced in size that they are nearly illegible. The lack of stitch-counts (or none that I could find, anyway) is also a minus for me; for those of us who

rarely use the "recommended" fabric (particularly Aida, which I loathe and never use), this creates the necessity of hand counting the projects (and some of them are massive) in order to calculate fabric size--a hassle and very annoying. So the book as a whole gets 3 stars based on the designs themselves and the pretty pictures. The charting gets a 0.

Julie Hasler's Fantasy Cross Stitch book contains a broad variety of fantasy designs. The patterns are in full colour and contain a materials list and an explanation regarding the significance of each fantasy icon. The book is divided into 3 fantasy themes: Celestial Heavens - signs of the Zodiac, Sun, Moon & Planets. Mythical Beasts - Unicorn, Pegasus, Oriental Dragon, Egyptian Mythology, Heraldic Beasts. Wizards and Warlocks - Wizard, Viking and Greek Mythology, Mermaid. There is also a 'Symbol Library' with an assortment of 34 symbols ranging from Ying-Yang to the Eye of Horus. Nearly half of this book is dedicated to the Zodiac Patterns, these designs are by far the most detailed and richly coloured I have seen. However they are all circular - which may or may not be a problem for people looking to frame their work. If you are looking for Cross stitch book covering Signs of the Zodiac then this is a fantastic source. However if you are looking for cross stitch patterns covering other themes such as Dragons, Wizards and Unicorns, then this book is fairly limited.

Great group of designs in this book. I purchased it hoping for Sun/moon designs. I wasn't disappointed. It also has all the astrology signs in it and they are quite wonderful. Like any cross stitch book you'll find some you like and some you don't.

Julie Hasler's renditions of the zodiac symbols are WONDERFUL!!! I have not seen better anywhere else (and I've looked!) However, my praise must be tempered by the rest of the book. Except for one chart of the moon, the rest of the designs were nowhere near the quality of the zodiac, and at almost \$28 this was a pricey buy!

This is a brilliant book if you are fed up with stitching teddies and other "cute" images. The designs are charted using symbols and colour together which make them easy to follow whichever method you prefer. The designs range from huge fantasy figures such as mermaids and vikings to tiny symbols from various religions and cultures both ancient and modern. Julie is a bit of a maverick in the world of cross stitch. She started stitching while laid up from a serious motorcycle accident. She must be the only cross stitch designer with a shaved head and tattoos. So if you are looking for

something different this one is a must.

The designs in "Julie Hasler's Fantasy Cross Stitch" are rich and textured looking, without using difficult stitches, blended threads, or backstitch. Indeed, Hasler keeps backstitch to a minimum, using darker stitches for outlines and detail. The zodiac signs are particularly appealing. The Pegasus and Unicorn designs are also lovely. The use of darker stitches instead of backstitching gives the feeling of painting to these designs (rather than pen and ink!) I would highly recommend this book, both for the ease of stitching and for the unusual designs.

This book seems to have been created by two people. The first half is dedicated to charts depicting the signs of the zodiac and the results are stunning. I have rarely seen such powerful cross-stitch designs. The second half of the book is disappointing, substandard figures of wizards, unicorns and viking gods. The sun/moon design is ok, but not better than other such designs out there. Overall, I would recommend the book highly because you'll never find anything like the first half - it's worth the wasted back pages.

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