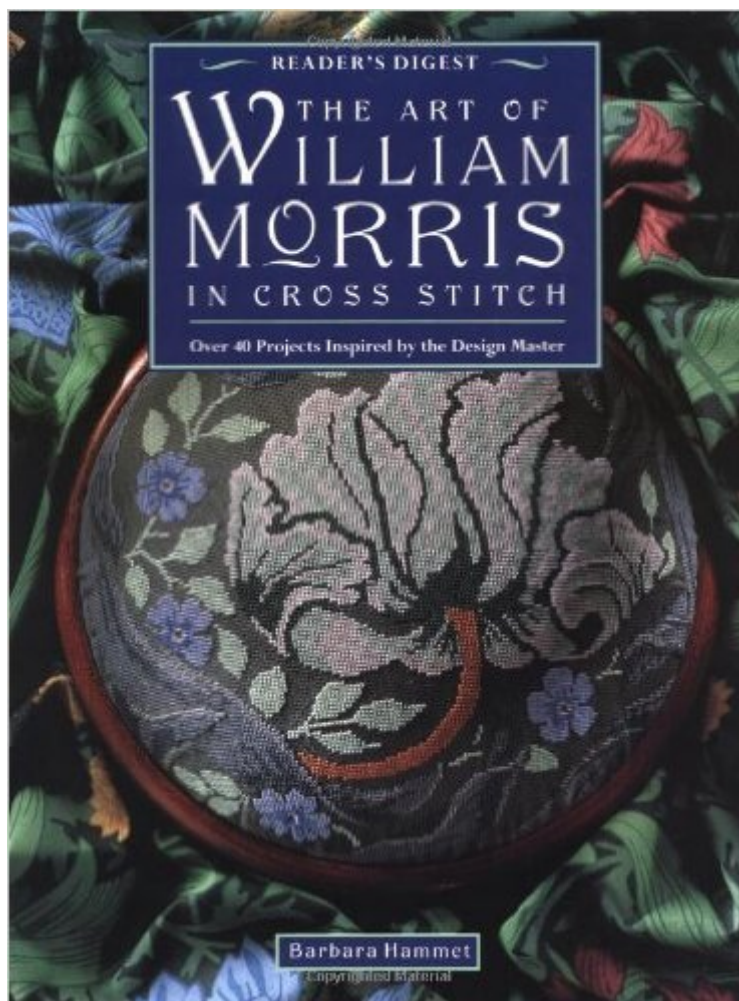


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# The Art Of William Morris In Cross Stitch



## Synopsis

A collection of over 40 cross stitch designs inspired by William Morris, the famous 19th century decorative artist, whose designs are as popular today as they were during his lifetime more than a century ago.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This is my least favorite of the spate of design books honoring the centennial of Morris' death in 1896. I found most of the designs using pale, pastel or heavily toned--the hue or color mixed with a lot of grey--rather than the clear, natural, and more saturated colors that Morris favored. Ms. Hammett's designs usually wander very far from the original--often only one motif is used out of a large project. This gives the designs a 1920's Art Deco feel, far from the rich Medievalism so lovingly expressed in Morris' tapestries, cloth, and wallpapers. Anyone wanting a more faithful Morris look should look to Beth Russell's work, especially "Victorian Needlepoint." On the plus side, Hammett offers an extraordinary variety of finishing techniques. I'll probably use them for other designs...

Barbara Hammett has created a wonderful tribute to William Morris in this work. For those unfamiliar with William Morris, she provides a work biography of the master artist. Though short, she gives examples of his work, and explanation of his background. Once this is explained, she launches into the rest of the book, where she offers more than 40 charts that are Hammett's interpretations of

Morris' style. Pillows, bell pulls, small motifs, wall hangings, broaches, bookmarks, and even a full alphabet are some of the items she offers. She even gives the design and instructions for a 3-D treasure box! There are small motifs in a few colors, or larger items in less than 4 colors which would be very well suited to the beginning stitcher and many things that are large and complex for the experienced stitcher. Another reviewer said these are poor examples of William Morris's work. I must disagree. These items are beautiful, and they are Barbara Hammet's art she BASED on William Morris. Still, any of these finished works would be the perfect compliment to Morris's art. Because of the wide variety of skill levels and project scales I would highly recommend this book to any level of cross stitcher. Even those needle artists not interested in Morris might find a few projects they find enjoyable in this diverse volume. Hammet does offer instructions for finishing the projects and a few basic cross stitch instructions, but I would recommend purchasing the Cross Stitcher's Bible in addition if you have NEVER cross stitched before, as you will probably need more instruction than is provided here. Highest recommendations!

I completed 5 of the projects in the book. Patterns relatively easy to follow and projects vary from simple to very complicated. Works were gorgeous on completion. I found one or two minor typos in the thread coding.

I was fairly warned by the other reviews, but I bought this book anyway because I really like William Morris. There are a couple of very nice projects that I might actually do, but not nearly as many as I was hoping for in a book of this size. I am probably going to buy a book from Dover of Morris' designs and chart my own. These just wouldn't be up to Morris' standards. You should also know that many of these projects are tiny. So tiny that if you saw them stitched, you might not recognize them as William Morris patterns. I think most stitchers looking at this book are hoping for some large, lovely, tapestry-like patterns. Look somewhere else if that's what you're hoping for.

This is a great book on William Morris cross stitch with beautiful designs. Besides larger projects (you can look inside this book, which will show you what is included), there are many smaller motifs that can be pulled from the larger designs and used in small projects you may want to make. I often pull a flower or leaves or some other small motif from larger designs and make needle books or scissor holders. It's a very nice book; the used copy I received was in great shape.

This book is not a novel!! It is a beautiful book of many of this ARTIST'S creativity as an artist of

poetry, painting, and was also a craftsman of fine, elegant furniture. This particular book is about his elegant Cross Stitch designs, with a beautiful introduction, with a lot of history, and then, the wonderful artistry. This book was published by Reader's Digest.

Fantastic book full of great project and amazing pictures. Great for experienced cross stitcher's. I am sure that you will find at least one project that you have to do. My problem is choosing which one to do first. Enjoy.

I first purchased this book prior to hearing about Beth Russell. The projects in this book are relatively straightforward and attractive, however, they do veer off from what William Morris was really trying to accomplish (i.e. rich, medieval tapestry, etc..). Please compare to Beth Russell's interpretation of W. M. I have made a couple of projects from the Barbara Hammett book, but in future, I will work on Beth Russell's William Morris interpretations which capture the Arts and Crafts essence a lot better. Some of the skein counts in B. Hammett's book were inaccurate as well. Overall, if you want a basic book on William Morris, without anything too complicated or costly, this book is for you. The materials for Barbara Hammett's projects average between the 20 and 30 dollar range per project. Beth Russell's book patterns average over 100 dollars since you have to buy costly wool and heavy duty top notch canvas. Still, there is no comparison between B. Hammett and B. Russell. Although I have enjoyed doing B. Hammett's projects, I will do B. Russell in future, despite the cost. B. Russell's projects are truly for heirloom quality keepsakes.

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