



**Tip**  
Keep the back of your stitching neat to prevent the threads from getting tangled

Display your finished cushion wherever you normally sit to enjoy a cuppa

# Tea party

Fancy stitching something out of the ordinary? This novel cushion featuring pretty chinaware will be just your cup of tea

It's hard to imagine daily life without tea. How else would we wake ourselves up in the morning? And what other excuse would there be for a leisurely sit-down and chinwag with

friends? This circular cushion is a wonderful celebration of the UK's favourite beverage, with its vintage-style china teapot, and cups and saucers, adorned with pretty flowers, polka dots and checks. Even

the steam rising up from the tea looks beautiful, worked in delicate lines of raspberry backstitch and forming heart shapes in places. Not only is this design eye-catching, we love its circular shape.



Designed by  
**Lesley Teare**

**Threads:** Stranded cotton as listed in the key

**Needle:** Size 26 tapestry needle

**Fabric:** 28-count pastel pink cashel linen, measuring 48x48cm (19x19in)

**Extras:** Backing fabric of your choice; cushion pad to fit

## Stitching Factbox

**Stitching time:**  
20 hours

**Type of stitches:**  
Cross stitch, backstitch

**Level:** Intermediate





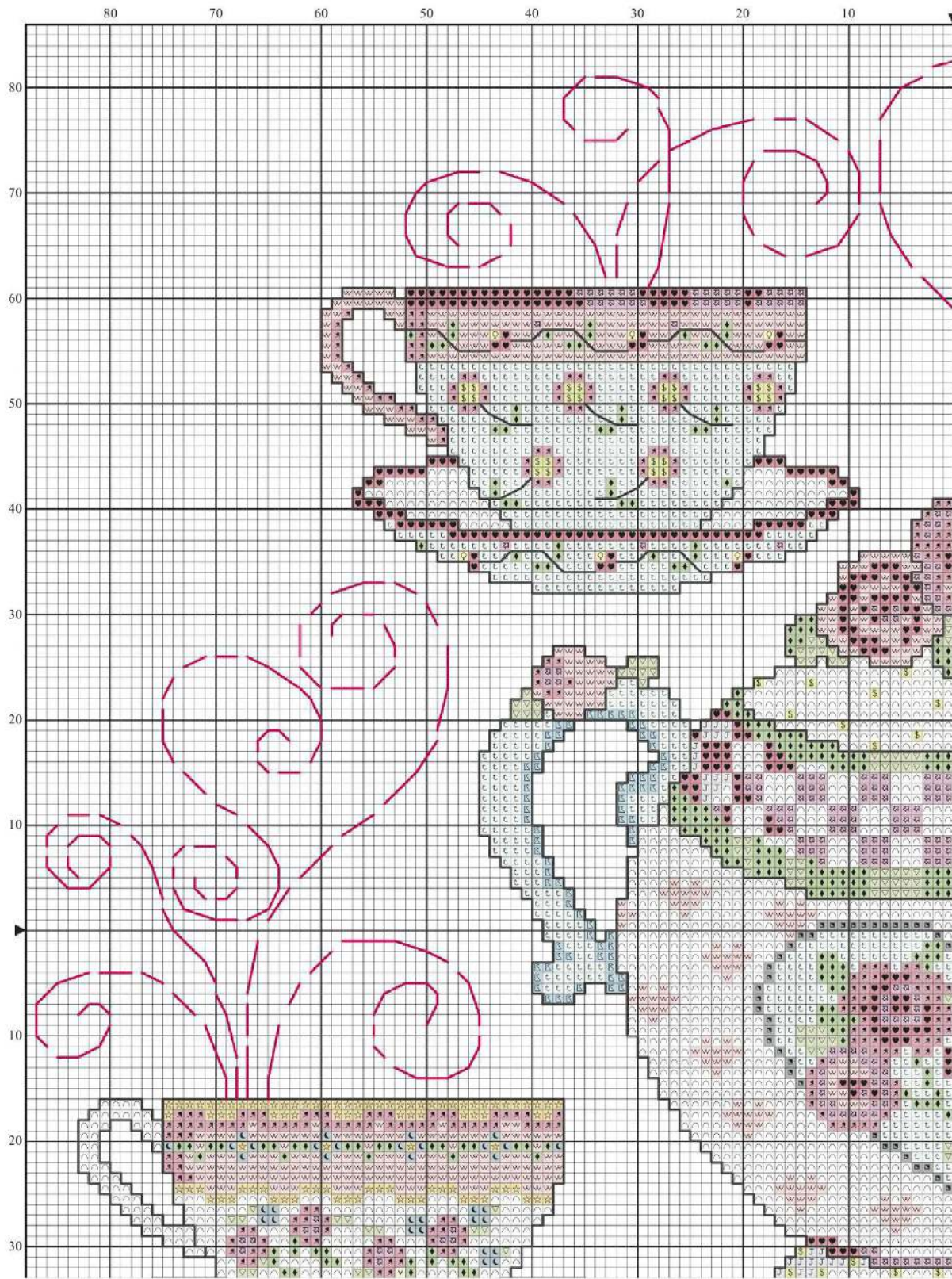
### Tip

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Teatime cushion



Top left



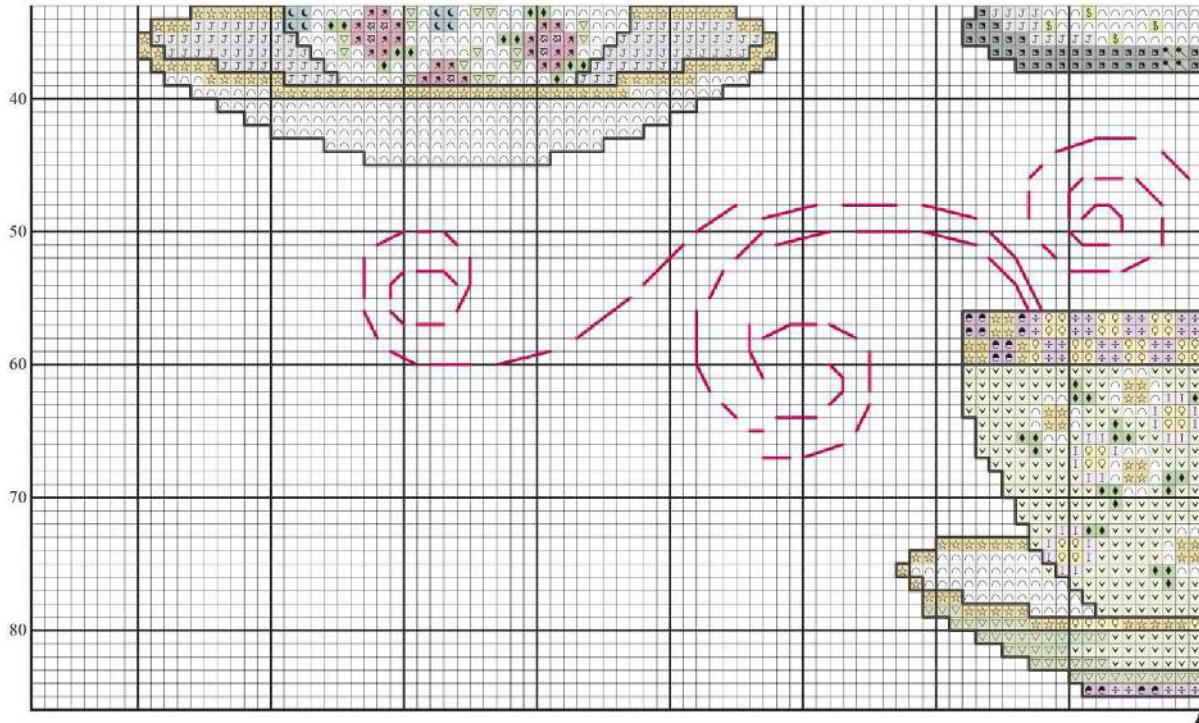
Teatime cushion



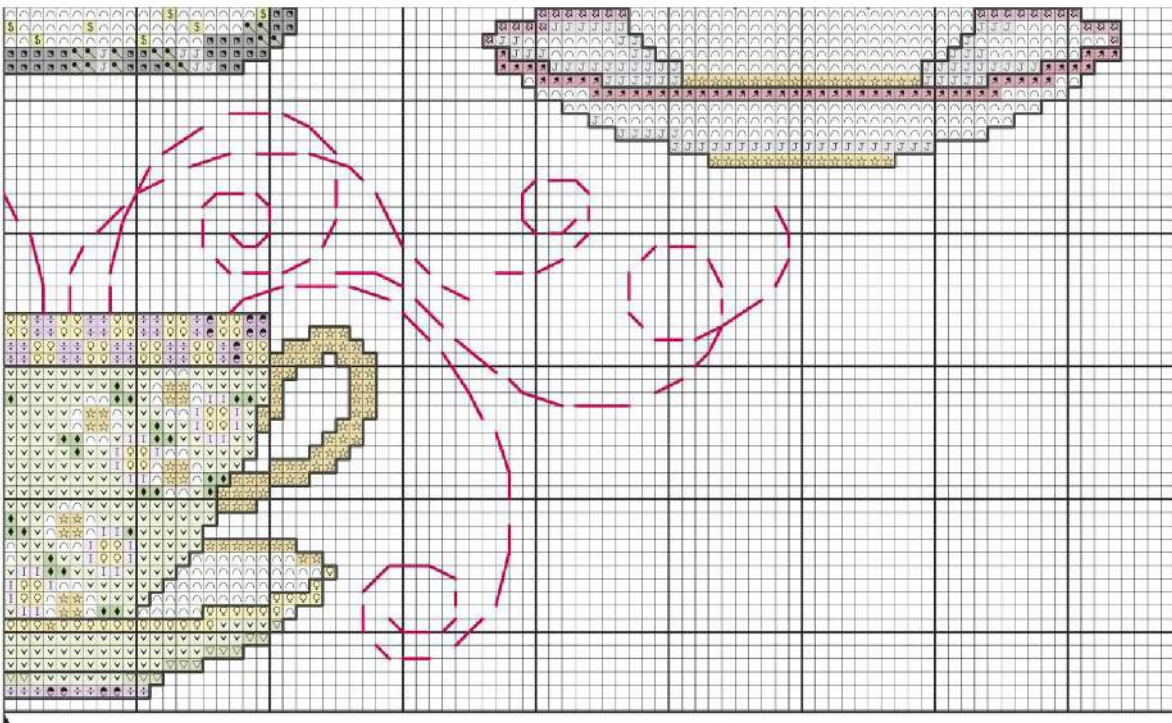
Top right



Teatime cushion



Bottom left



Bottom right





## How to make up the cushion

**1** Cut out your stitched piece in a circle shape, measuring 45cm (17¾in) in diameter.

**2** Cut out two semi-circular pieces of your backing fabric, measuring 25x45cm (9x17¾in) for the envelope-opening back panel of the cushion cover.

**3** Turn over and machine stitch a 1cm (¼in) double hem on each long edge, and press with an iron.

**4** With the right sides facing, pin one panel at the top of the cushion and one at the bottom, so that the two backing fabric panels are overlapping each other.

**5** Stitch all the way around the edge using a 2cm (¾in) seam. Turn through and press, then insert a cushion pad to fit, smoothing down the edges so there is no puckering. Finally, put the kettle on!

*“This design is fairly large, but it uses simple stitches and isn’t densely stitched so anyone can attempt it.”*

Sarah Heys, charting editor

### Nifty quick-stitch ideas for cards

It’s wonderful working on a fairly large picture and being able to reproduce it in its entirety but this design can also be broken up into separate elements that can be used individually. If you’re short on time, why not work one of the teacups and mount it inside an aperture card? It could be sent to say ‘Happy Birthday’, ‘Thank You’ or simply, ‘Let’s meet for afternoon tea!’



**Tip**  
We stitched Lesley’s china design on pastel pink linen; try blue or yellow too

### Teatime key

#### ✦ Cross stitch in two strands

	DMC	Anchor	Madeira	
○	blanc	2	2402	white
◻	168	1096	1708	light grey
◼	169	1040	1707	grey
◻	209	98	803	lilac
◻	211	342	801	light lilac
◻	367	217	1312	dark green
◻	368	214	1310	green
◻	369	1043	1309	light green
◻	413	236	1713	dark grey
◻	727	293	112	yellow
◻	747	158	1104	light turquoise
◻	807	168	1108	dark turquoise
◻	3350	42	603	dark pink
◻	3687	68	604	raspberry
◻	3716	25	503	light pink
◻	3733	75	605	pink
◻	3766	167	1106	turquoise
◻	3819	279	1610	lime green
◻	3821	305	2510	straw
◻	3837	111	713	dark lilac

#### ✦ Backstitch in one strand

—	413	236	1713	dark grey
—	3687	68	604	raspberry

**STITCH COUNT** 170 high x 174 wide

**DESIGN AREA** 14 HPI (28-count evenweave) – 31x31.5cm (12¼x12½in)

**SKEINS NEEDED** 3xblanc (white)

This design was stitched using DMC stranded cotton on 28-count evenweave over two threads of the fabric