

Project 4: Using Rhodes stitches project

This is a small project to experiment with using just Rhodes stitches in a random pattern. The resulting project has interesting shapes and textures.

Rhodes stitches are lovely, textured stitches that can be stitched in several sizes and shapes. The variations on the basic Rhodes stitches include square, rectangular, triangular, heart, and diamonds. All of these variations are delicate stitches suitable for projects that aren't handled much, like ornaments, scissor fobs, box tops, etc.

My intention when I started this project was to use a random arrangement of square Rhodes stitches and make a Christmas ornament. So I found some 18 count white canvas and an assortment of gold, yellow-gold and yellow stranded cotton fibers. I decided on a 4 in by 5 in finished size and centered the first Rhodes stitch on my canvas. I made that stitch 14 threads by 14 threads in the darkest color fiber.

I put various sizes of square Rhodes stitches around that center one ranging from larger to medium ones. Then I filled in with smaller Rhodes stitches and then Smyrna stitches and finally filling in the smallest spaces with tent stitches.

After I got the stitching finished, I realized something. My ornament looked more like an Autumn ornament than a Christmas one. So now I have to figure out how it will be finished.

Karen posted instructions for several Rhodes stitches as part of the Menagerie of Mystery Project. You can find those on the RMWS website under Members only.

Instructions for Rhodes stitches from Internet:

<https://www.needlework-tips-and-techniques.com/rhodes-stitch.html>

<https://www.thespruce.com/the-decorative-rhodes-needlepoint-stitch-2479733>

There are also several You Tube videos showing how to stitches Rhodes stitches.

Have fun with this project.

I'll post my finished project as soon as I figure out what it is going to be. Okay this project was supposed to be for December 2017, but it didn't get posted.