

EGA Stitch-a-long 2024 October: Small Overdyed Maple Leaf by Stephanie K. Murphy



Picture of Finished Project: Small Overdyed Maple Leaf,
 Picture on Right: Tracing Design of Maple Leaf—you can enlarge or shrink it as you would like!
 Above fob stitched by Barbara Henderson, Indian River Chapter EGA, Melbourne, FL USA

Welcome Autumn with this quick and easy maple leaf using one skein of an overdyed fiber in autumn colors (or colors of your choice)! Simply transfer the design (above) onto your favorite ground fabric and fill it in with stitches and possibly beads! Stitch the leaf, then add the stems on top. Fill in whatever background you like (or none, if you use linen or aida) and you're done! Use it as a scissor fob, a big needle minder, or an ornament. Have fun. See what other colors you can make your leaf (or even try other leaves).

Supply List

ITEM	DESCRIPTION
Needles:	Tapestry Size 26
Hoop or Frame	4" hoop for evenweave or fabric ground or 6" x 6" for canvas or perforated paper
Ground Fabric:	6" x 6" piece of canvas or evenweave
Threads:	1 Overdyed Fiber in autumn colors (or red, orange, yellow mix) , like DMC 4122 or 4510 (has more yellow) or Gloriana Autumn Gold #041 or Apricot Grove #076 or maybe even Topiary #115 1 Solid DMC or Kreinik Gold, to stitch stems (and background, if you desire)
Bead Set:	NONE
Cording	Twisted color – 2 color – was used in the finishing of this ornament

Let's get started with stitching:

1. Center your canvas over the design on this sheet and trace with a black permanent marker.
2. Fill in the outline with overdyed (OD) floss or pearl #5 (on #18 canvas) or specialty thread (like Gloriana OD silk).
3. I used diagonal mosaic stitches first and just stitched diagonal rows of Mosaic stitch (over 1, over 2, over 1 creating a square). I used 3 ply of 6-strand DMC variegated autumn-colored floss.
4. Then I filled in all the empty spaces with tent stitch. I used 3 ply of 6-strand DMC variegated autumn-colored floss.
5. You can fussy move the thread around to get more of a color in an area. In general, I just did the diagonal mosaics as the thread came off the spool.
6. Add stems with stem stitch or straight lines; I used a metallic.
7. Couch down the metallic thread around the outside of the leaf using 1 ply of the 6 plies of your floss (or any floss that coordinates if you stitched with pearl cotton).
8. I decided the leaf needed to be in a circular shape, so I didn't put on a border. You may decide to do a square, in which case, go ahead and do a border. Barbara Henderson's turned out so pretty!
9. Make a coordinating cording to edge the fob and long enough to fold over to attach to your scissors! Barbara did a two-color cording.