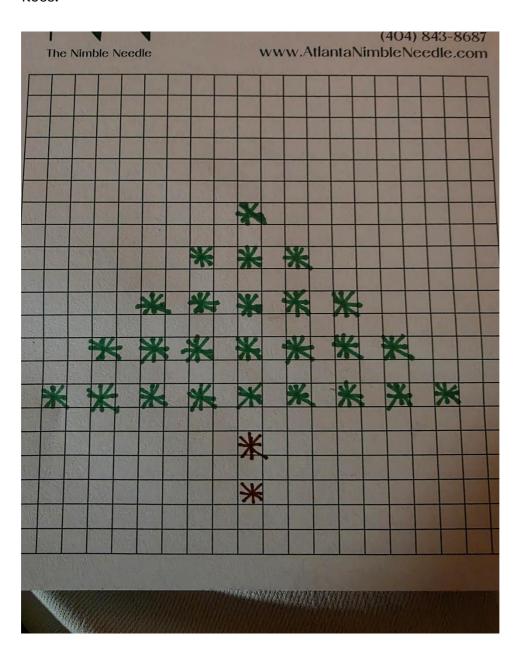
December 2025 EGA Stitch-a-long Project Chicken Scratch Tree

Designed by Nancy Cope, Pajarito Chapter

Chicken scratch embroidery is a form of cross stitch worked on gingham fabric that creates an optical illusion of lace overlay. It is also called depression lace since it was popular in the 1930s,

1. Following the design stitch Smyrna crosses on the dark squares in your gingham fabric using 2 or 3 strands of white floss. A Smyrna cross is a double cross stitch x then + over the top. Stitch the tree trunk Smyrna crosses with 2 or 3 strands of brown floss.



2. To create the fringe, cut out a square on the outside corners of the rectangle. Then loosen a horizontal thread from the top side raw edge of fabric with a straight pin and pull the woven thread. Continue until you have removed all horizontal threads from the cut edge leaving only vertical threads. Repeat for the bottom raw edge. Then pull the vertical threads from the short sides in the same manner leaving only horizontal threads.



The size of your finished piece is determined by the size of your gingham squares.