



AUTUMN CASTLE ON A WINDING HILL

Corrected Hand Embroidery DMC Master Guide

INTERMEDIATE

8 in / 20 cm HOOP

15-COLOR DMC

DESIGN ARCHITECTURE

Fabric: warm ivory linen or cotton-linen, medium-fine weave. Needles: #7-9 crewel; #10 for tiny stars, fence bars and candle details. Strands: 1 for stars, fence, door markings, candle flames and fine branch curls; 2 for castle planes, leaves, stems, path and most hill shading; 2-3 for larger leaf fills and candle bodies. Visible motifs: a plum-burgundy storybook castle with black roofs and outlines on a rounded sage hill, a pale winding path, small fence, three- and two-candle clusters, sweeping autumn branches with burgundy, sage and golden-tan leaves,...

CORE STITCH DIRECTORY

Castle - split-stitch outlines with compact satin or directional long-and-short fill; roofs and fence - split / stem with dense satin in the darkest areas; hill and path - contouring stem, split and long-and-short. Branches - stem stitch; leaves - fishbone stitch with vein-led direction; candle bodies - padded satin with straight-stitch flames; stars - straight stitch or tiny woven/star stitch; dot accents - French knots. Keep the winding path and light candle...

CORRECTED DMC PALETTE - VISUAL MATCH TO SUPPLIED ARTWORK

DMC	SWATCH	COLOR NAME	VISIBLE ELEMENT	PRIMARY STITCH	STRANDS
310		Black	roof tips / outlines / fence	split / satin	1-2
3371		Black Brown	deep castle and ground lines	split / stem	1-2
154		Grape Very Dark	castle shadows / dark leaves	satin / fishbone	2
3721		Shell Pink Dark	castle midtone accents	long-short / satin	1-2
315		Antique Mauve Med. Dark	castle walls / plum foliage	satin / fishbone	2
3041		Antique Violet Medium	castle highlights / roof planes	long-short	1-2
3011		Khaki Green Dark	hill shadows / sage leaves	long-short / fishbone	2
3012		Khaki Green Medium	main hill / green foliage	long-short / fishbone	2
3363		Pine Green Medium	deep leaf and hill accents	fishbone / stem	1-2
420		Hazelnut Brown Dark	golden leaves / warm hill stripe	fishbone / long-short	2
3045		Yellow Beige Dark	leaf highlights / warm stems	fishbone / stem	1-2
3828		Hazelnut Brown	stars / candle warmth / dots	straight / knots	1-2
3852		Straw Very Dark	flames / bright star accents	satin / straight	1
822		Beige Gray Light	path / candle shade / star fill	satin / long-short	1-2
3865		Winter White	candle bodies / brightest details	padded satin	1-2

IMAGE-SPECIFIC STITCHING SEQUENCE

1. Transfer & anchors

Trace the castle, hill crest, winding path, fence and both candle groups first. Add the upper-left and lower-right branch structures, then place all stars and small dot accents.

2. Castle & fence

Split-stitch the black-brown outer contours. Fill the plum castle in directional satin / long-and-short, keeping roofs and window recesses darker. Work fence bars last so they stay sharp.

3. Hill & path

Shade the hill with sage and khaki stitches that follow the slope. Add the warm ochre stripe along the lower contour. Keep the path pale, narrow and clean as it curves toward the door.

4. Branches & leaves

Stem-stitch burgundy and brown branches before filling leaves. Use fishbone stitch from central vein to edge, alternating dark plum, sage green and golden tan to match the visible autumn rhythm.

5. Candles & stars

Lightly pad candle bodies, cover with cream or white satin, then add gold-brown wax shadows and one-strand flame details. Use straight or star stitches for larger stars and French knots for tiny dots.

6. Refinement & finish

Add door markings, small window highlights, fine curls and scattered cream star points last. Keep the castle silhouette crisp and the empty ivory fabric visible. Block, then press face-down on thick padding.

MASTER TENSION & COLOR-MATCH GUIDELINES

Use the black and black-brown only for the sharpest outlines, roof tips, fence and deepest seams. Keep the castle clearly plum-burgundy rather than black, with antique mauve/violet highlights to preserve its stitched dimensionality. Let khaki and sage dominate the hill and green leaves; reserve hazelnut and yellow-beige for warm autumn leaves, hill accents and branch warmth. Cream and winter white should stay limited to the candles, pale path and selected star highlights, while straw-gold is best for flames, stars and small knots. Keep fishbone leaves flat and directional, hill stitches gently sloped, and satin fills compact so the piece remains handmade rather than overly solid.

MOTIF THREAD-AND-DIRECTION MAP

MOTIF	DMC	DIRECTION	STR.
Castle + roofs	310 / 3371 / 154 / 315	vertical / roof-slope	1-2
Hill + path	3011 / 3012 / 420 / 822	contour-following	1-2
Plum leaves	154 / 315 / 3041	vein outward	2
Green leaves	3011 / 3012 / 3363	vein outward	2
Gold leaves	420 / 3045 / 3828	vein outward	1-2
Candles + stars	3865 / 822 / 3852	vertical / radial	1-2

FINAL CHECK

Guide follows the visible plum gothic castle, black roofs and fence, sage hill with pale winding path, ivory candles, gold-and-cream stars, and burgundy /...