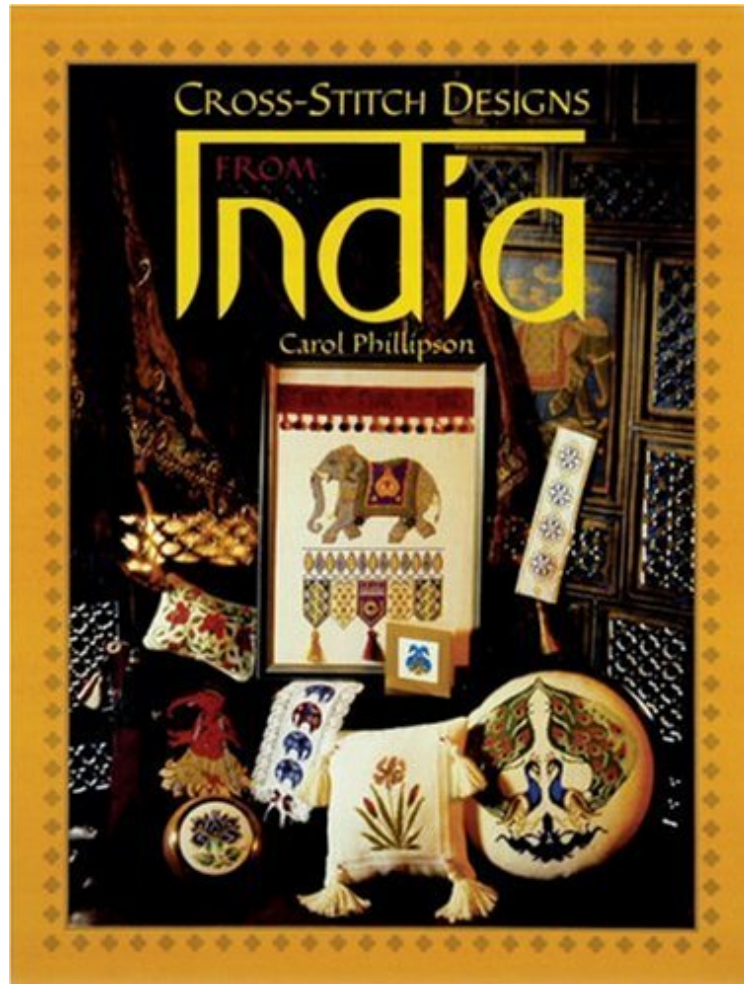


Cross Stitch Designs From India

Carol Phillipson

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Carol Phillipson : Cross Stitch Designs From India before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Cross Stitch Designs From India:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Really gorgeous pictures! And they ARE authentic By Jane in Milwaukee I strongly disagree with the reviewer who says that only 10% of these designs are accurate...I think her living in India may have caused her to lose her perspective--she's "too close to the situation." This is largely because...they don't do cross stitch in India! At least, I've never seen any. All the textiles are woven or knotted--as in carpets--or painted or screen-printed. If they are embroidered, they're EXTREMELY intricate and not via counted work on a grid but are freestyle embroidery using a lot of textural stitching like raised chain stitch, sequins, beading, even mirrors via shisha. Author Carol Phillipson who is from Yorkshire in England is very careful to explain what images from India all of her projects are based on. For example: the large India elephant on the front cover has a

match facing to the left. She explains that one was adapted from a painting in Bijapur from the mid-1600's showing Muhammed Adil Shah and Ikkhalas Khan riding on decorated elephants. The other picture is from a painting from Gujarat. The heraldic bases are from Torans--friezes above the main doorways in the house. We see the Taj Mahal and matching Humayum's Tomb which are pretty large. There is also a picture from a "phad" or story-telling illustration of the heads of two stylized women facing to the right. This is the largest project. There are flowers from Afghanistan but there is an explanation why they are included in this book. And I also disagree with the reviewer who says all the projects are too huge for any but an advanced stitcher. What about the book marks shown on the cover? Just one of those elephants shown below the large elephant picture takes only 2 colors of floss and the stitch count is 26 by 29 stitches. The pattern calls for 28 count fabric stitched over 2 threads but you could easily use 14-count aida which is really easy to stitch on. If you get a pre-finished book mark to embroider on, this project could be done within 3 evenings. There are several more book marks, some cards, a set of coasters and even a small pendant. So there is a wild variety of sizes of projects. Finally (lots of complainers here!) the chart in the back for Anchor, DMC and Madeira threads states: "This conversion chart is for guidance only, as exact comparisons are not always possible." I don't think I've ever stitched something that I didn't change some part of the pattern or the colors to suit me. Nothing is written in stone. I think this book is well laid out, there are great explanations of the origin of each design and good instructions how to make them. This is a really nice addition to my library of hundreds of needlework books!

13 of 13 people found the following review helpful. Beautiful Indian Designs By Lucy K This is one of my absolute favorite cross stitching books. I have always loved Indian arts, and this book did not disappoint me. The charts are beautiful, and there is a wonderful variety of projects, large and small. I feel it was worth every penny I spent for it. You can make beautiful, small keepsakes and gifts or you can make intricate samplers, pictures, pillow covers, keychains, purses, and wall hangings. Some projects are relatively quick to make, and others take longer. I absolutely love the floral and paisley motifs. There are some other projects that require beading, but they are very beautiful. The only thing I found a little cumbersome is the threads are listed as Anchor only, and I only have access to DMC threads where I live. Also, the color conversion chart at the end of the book does not list all of the colors used. Some of the Anchor threads do not have a DMC equivalent, so I ordered a few colors online. If you aren't very picky like I am, you might be satisfied to just look at the pictures and choose a color that is close to the picture. The author did a wonderful job with this compilation of Indian art as cross stitch. She borrowed designs from Indian architecture, metal work, pottery, rugs, and clothing. This is by far one of my favorite cross stitch books.

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Exactly What I Wanted! By Heather D. Maliaka I have had this book for 4 years now and have made several of the designs. I LOVE THEM! My Husband is from India, so I was excited to show him what I had found, he even liked many of the patterns! The patterns are easy to read and very clear in their instruction. I'm not an "advanced" stitcher, with that said, I've had no problems with the patterns. I've substituted some colors, but that's easy :) Would I recommend this book... You bet I would!

A striking needlework image of the Taj Mahal, a framed picture featuring an elephant wearing a brightly-hued rug, a footstool adorned with 2 embroidered peacocks: these cross-stitch projects capture all the heat and color of India. The lustrous patterns decorate cushions, box lids, bookmarks, cards, bell pulls, bags, and more. Intricate motifs, beautiful beadwork, and lavish metallic threads adorn many of the designs, resulting in ornate and sumptuous items that are a pleasure to create and to own.

About the Author Carol Phillipson is a recognized crossstitch and needlearts designer in the United Kingdom with many articles and exhibitions to her credit. She was a partner in Wrencraft Needlework kit producers. Carol is the author of several books on stitchery and patchwork, including "Designing Patchwork on Your Computer" (Krause Publications).