

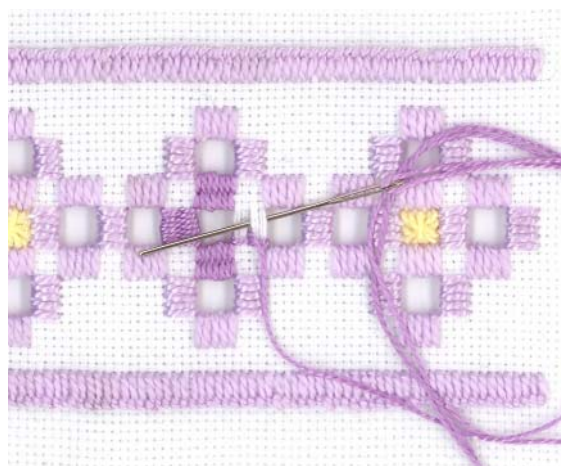


# A Hardanger Napkin Ring to Make

KAREN J. OLSEN

Karen Olsen's napkin ring worked  
in Hardanger embroidery.  
*Photograph by Joe Coca.*

The inspiration for this project is a lamp rug pattern worked in Hardanger embroidery published in the September 1901 issue of *Kvinden og Hjemmet* [*Woman and Home*], a magazine published in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, from 1888 to 1947. The magazine was written in Dano-Norwegian (a language containing elements of both Danish and Norwegian and understood by both Danes and Norwegians). The pattern specified a 24-inch (61.0-cm) square of white linen fabric and light and dark lilac and yellow silk floss. It was an elaborate (embroidery almost completely covered the fabric) and pretty piece but the recommended colors are what caught my attention. I had always thought that Hardanger embroidery worked in colors was a modern trend, but many of the patterns featured in *Kvinden og Hjemmet* used colored threads or colored ground fabric or a combination of both. For more on *Kvinden og Hjemmet*, see “A Bridge of Thread for Scandinavian Women in American Homes” by Laurann Gilbertson and Karen J. Olsen in the November/December 2007 issue of *PieceWork*.



Detail of woven bars in progress.

*Photograph courtesy of the author.*

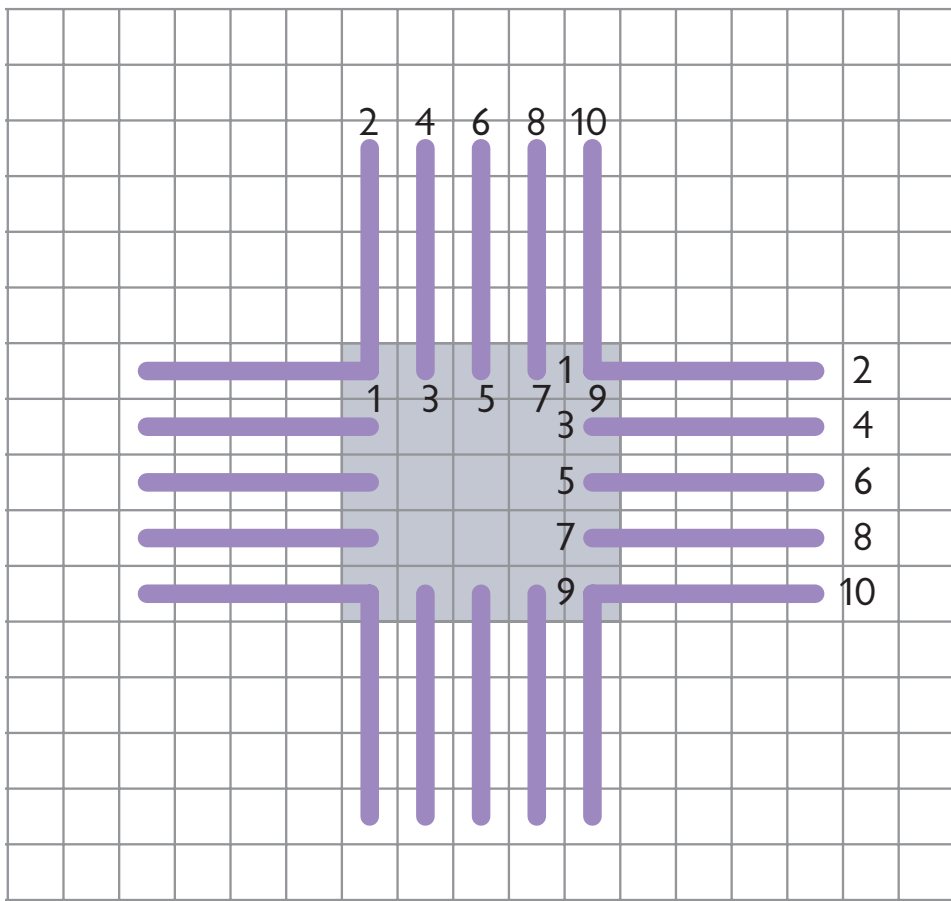
#### M A T E R I A L S

Presencia Pearl Cotton, Size 5, 100% cotton thread, 48 yards (44 m)/ball, 1 ball of #2606 Light Violet  
Presencia Pearl Cotton, Size 8, 100% cotton thread, 77 yards (70 m)/ball, 1 ball each of #1137 Pale Yellow and #2615 Violet  
Zweigart Hardanger, 22 count, 100% cotton fabric, white, 1 piece, 5 x 12 inches (12.7 x 30.5 cm) for one napkin ring or 20 x 12 inches (50.8 x 30.5 cm) for four napkin rings  
Sewing thread, white  
John James Needle, tapestry, size 24  
Scissors, small, sharp, fine-pointed embroidery for cutting ground threads

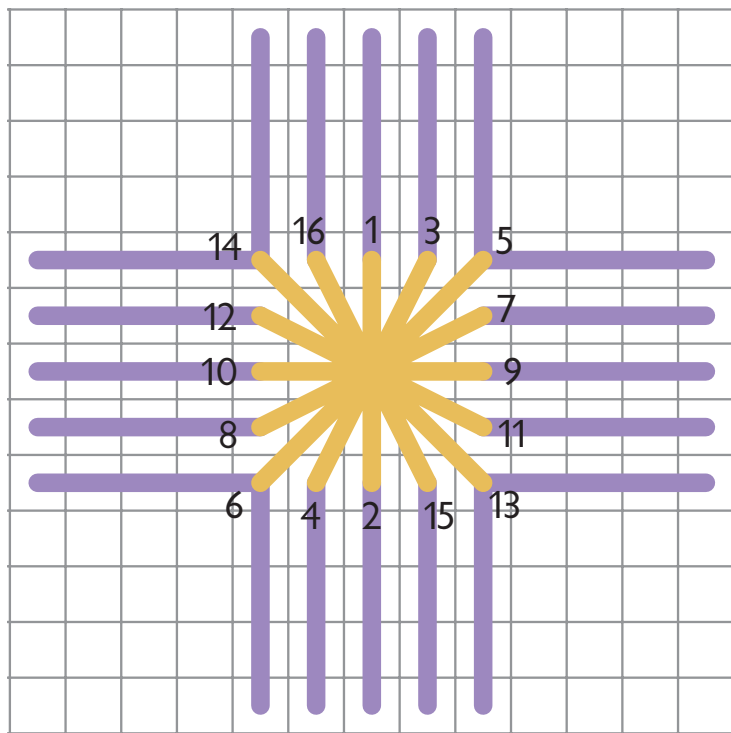
*Materials are available at needlework and fabric stores or from mail-order or online resources.*

Finished size: 2 x 6 inches (5.1 cm x 15.2 cm)





Kloster block



Star stitch

Come up at top center of square and go down in the opposite diagonal hole.

Star stitch

Woven bar

Kloster block

Buttonhole stitch

