

Consider the element of time when you give. Cross stitching is an opportunity to share long-term value with future generations.

# Heirlooms

## YOUR GIFT IN TIME



**Y**our counted cross stitch will likely be a gift for someone you care about or a treasured accessory in your home decor. You know it takes a long time to create even a small, simple project, but did you consider its long-term future and heirloom value?

Sitting quietly in a frame or artfully draped, an ageless beauty speaks one thought with pure simplicity. One glance at a time, one child's question at a time, one day at a time.

It could be a family crest or reminder of an important event -- "Born this day..." or "Wedded this day..." It might contain a cherished statement of family ideals -- "Return with Honor" or "Home is..." High personalized value is seen.

You know who chose the topic, colors and devoted hours to its creation. The work is a proud accomplishment and is a gift to all that view it. You will always remember the colors, illustrations and words -- and what they say to you.

Your holidays take on deeper meaning as heirloom decorations are carefully placed in view. You may recall childhood memories or beloved hands that now lay still.

In time to come, cross stitch art is a tapestry that weaves a path from then to now with a narrow thread that resists corruption.

Stitching time may seem limited, but cross stitch is a pleasurable second task that travels well. Choose carefully and preserve your best in cross stitch for those you love. The gift may last well beyond current or narrow definitions of a life well lived.

### Cross stitch projects, working time and heirloom expectancy comparison

CROSS STITCH PROJECTS*	TIME (ave. speed/daily stitching)	HEIRLOOM LIFE EXPECTANCY
Samplers	weeks to a few months	Several Generations+
Bell Pulls	days to weeks	Several Generations+
Tapestries	many months, year, (years for larger)	Centuries+
Large Framed Art (>5x7 inches)	many months, year	Centuries+
Sm Framed Art (<5x7 inches)	weeks to few months	Several Generations to Centuries+
Decorative Boxes & Tins	days to weeks (size/complexity)	Several Generations to Centuries+
Memory Book Pages	weeks to a month	Several Generations or more+
Throw Pillows	weeks to months (size/complexity)	10-25 years, depending on use
Chair/Seat Covers	weeks to months (size/complexity)	5-10 years, depending on use
Afghans	weeks	5-10 years, depending on use
Quilt Blocks	days to weeks	5-20 years, depending on use
Bed Linens	weeks	5-20 years, depending on use
Table Linens	weeks to months	5-20 years, depending on use
Apparel	days to weeks	1-5 years (note: oldest dated BC)
Yule Stockings	weeks to months (complexity varies)	Lifetime to several generations
Tree Ornaments	days to weeks	Lifetime to several generations
Holiday decor	days to months (complexity varies)	Lifetime to several generations
Gift Bags	hours to days	Seasonal to 5 years+
Cards	hours to days	Season

\*Cross stitch projects and patterns available in late 1900's and early 2000's. General examples only, others and variations not all listed.



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