Learn how to cross stitch with these easy instructions:

1. Center your Aida fabric. Fold your fabric in quarters to find the center. You can also center the Aida fabric in the embroidery hoop.

2. Cut your embroidery floss to approximately 12-14 inches.

3. Embroidery floss had six strands. You will need two strands, carefully pull them one at a time. *Pulling two strands at once might cause the thread to tangle.

4. To begin a cross stitch, come up at 1 and go down at 2. You will have to anchor the floss in some way so that this first stitch won’t come loose later.

5. To complete the cross, come up at 3, then go down at 4.

6. To stitch a row, make the first half of all the stitches working from left to right. Up at 1, down at 2, up at 3 and so on.

7. Complete the crosses, by working from right to left.

8. Your completed work should look like this.

Additional Tips:
- Wash your hands.
- Start small. It is best to start a piece that you can easily finish.
- Resist making your thread longer than arm’s length to avoid knotting.
- Remove your piece from the hoop when not working to avoid permanent creases.
- Make sure all top stitches face the same direction.
- The back of the piece should look as nice as the front — if you need to carry thread over many squares, secure and restart where you need.
- Count and double count your stitches. It is always easier to add a square later (that you missed) than to have to undo squares because you had too many.
- Always iron when done and before framing.