

LESSON #1

*Lessons in Abecedarian*  
**SUMMER SCHOOLHOUSE**  
design by Brenda Gervais









## Summer Schoolhouse – Lessons in Abecedarian




### Lesson #1

<b>Fabric:</b>	Lugana 28 count, color – Mushroom (worked over 1 thread)
	140w X 103h Stitches
<b>Size:</b>	28 Count, 5w X 3-5/8h in

#### Floss Used for Full Stitches:

Symbol	Strands	Type	Number	Color
	1	Weeks	1124	Sandcastle
	1	Weeks	1239	Flatfish
	1	Weeks	2197	Oscar
	1	Weeks	2211	Olive
	1	GA Shaker	7018	Woodrose
	1	GA Shaker	7045	Mountain Mist
	1	GA Shaker	7055	Uniform Blue
	1	Classic Colorworks		Eggshell
	1	Classic Colorworks		Used Brick
	1	Classic Colorworks		Cayenne
	1	Classic Colorworks		Hazelnut

#### Floss Used for Straight Stitches:

Symbol	Strands	Type	Number	Color
	2	Weeks	2197	Oscar (grass)
	1	Weeks	2211	Olive (string on strawberry emery)
	1	Classic Colorworks		Hazelnut (large bird's legs)

- Begin with a piece of 28 count Mushroom linen that measures 9" x 7 5/8". Fold linen in half lengthwise & widthwise, finger-creasing the folds. The center of the linen is marked where the folds intersect. Matching the center of chart to center of fabric, begin your cross stitch. You will be using 1 strand of floss, working over 1 linen thread for all areas, except the grass. The grass is worked in long straight stitches over three threads, using 2 strands of floss.
- After cross stitch is complete, lay piece on clean terrycloth towel, wrong side facing up. Gently mist with water and iron.
- Measure out 3/4" beyond the outer most stitch on all four sides of the cross stitched design and pull a thread at these locations. Use of chart is helpful in locating the outermost stitches. Cut piece down, using the missing threads as your cutting lines. When cut down the piece should measure 6 3/8" x

5 1/16".

- Cut two pieces of linen that measure 3 7/16" x 5 1/16" for the backing. Pin pieces together along the 5 1/16" sides. Machine sew a 1/4" seam, leaving a 2" opening at the center of the seam. Press seam open.
- Pin backing to front, wrong sides together.
- Machine sew around entire piece, using a 1/4" seam allowance. Trim seam allowance down to about 1/8" beyond stitching.
- Turn piece right sides out.
- Stuff piece firmly with polyester fiberfill. Hand stitch the opening on the backside shut.
- Now we are going to flatten out the piece with our iron and some water in a bottle. Spray backside of piece with water and iron, using firm pressure, keeping the iron moving. Continue spraying and pressing until piece has flattened out and the corner dips are less noticeable.
- Hand stitch narrow ric rac to outside seam line of piece with matching thread.
- String a few old buttons onto a piece of ivory pearl cotton or crochet cotton and pin to upper left hand corner of pin keep.

## Abecedarian

[ey-bee-see-dair-ee-uh n]

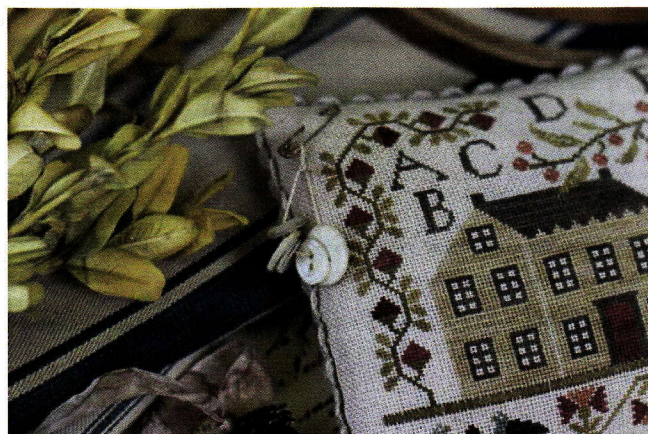
noun

1. a person who is learning the letters of the alphabet.
2. a beginner in any field of learning.

adjective

3. of or relating to the alphabet.
4. arranged in alphabetical order.
5. rudimentary, elementary, primary

In its oldest documented English uses in the early 1600s, *abecedarian* was a noun meaning "one learning the rudiments of something"; it specifically referred to someone who was learning the alphabet. The adjective began appearing in English texts around 1665.



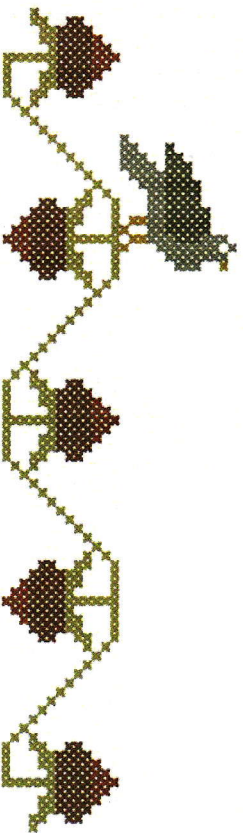
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Stitch count – 140 wide X 103 high  
Finished size – 5" wide X 3 5/8" high

1. 9" x 7 5/8" piece of 28 count Lugana\*, color – Mushroom
2. Two pieces of 28 count Mushroom Lugana\* that measure 3 7/16" x 5 1/16" (backing)
3. Weeks Dye Works embroidery flosses – 1124 Sandcastle, 1239 Flatfish, 2197 Oscar & 2211 Olive
4. Gentle Arts embroidery flosses – 7018 Woodrose, 7045 Mountain Mist & 7055 Uniform Blue
5. Classic Colorworks embroidery flosses – Eggshell, Used Brick, Cayenne & Hazelnut
6. Size 26 or 28 tapestry needle \*
7. Stuffing
8. Matching sewing thread,
9. 6 or 7 various sized antique mother of pearl buttons
10. Small safety pin
11. Ivory size 12 pearl cotton or crochet cotton
12. 2/3 yard of ¼" natural linen ric rac\*, or Bird's Nest by Lady Dot Creates\*

*Items marked with an \* are available online at [www.countrystitchesonline.com](http://www.countrystitchesonline.com)*



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