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Sheila Marton, Mimi Selick

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before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Decorative Background Patterns for Needlepoint (Dover needlework series):

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. I agree with the other reviewer...even about references to other authors
By Jane in Milwaukee This is one of many in the Dover Needlework Series. This book is nicely set up, the majority of it consisting of 233 separate square grids with repeat patterns on them. Some graphs take up most of one page and other simpler ones are bunched together. The graphs are quite clear. The authors discuss ideas how to make your design your own, how to choose the project, fabric, fibers, colors, etc. If you do needlepoint, you might get some good use out of it. And it's very inexpensive!
1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Extremely well packed guide.
By Georgina This is an unabridged but slightly altered republication of their earlier book for Van Nostrand Reinhold, "Patterned Backgrounds for Needlepoint" c. 1977. This one has 29 projects in color on the covers, a preface, an introduction, runs about 92 pages with color help, ideas for projects, how to make a kit and then the actual patterns grouped from easiest A to hardest D. The idea is to take one of the patterns and put a picture on top of it and worked via complements contrasts a design. In the Color portion they explain that fully. They also explain how to adapt the designs via pattern paper and colored pencil, and ideas for the stitches to use for the patterns so that the main focal piece is highlighted to good effect. The major problem is that since it is from the Seventies, the designs in the book are

too, so you will have to look at another book, like Jo Ippolito's or even one of the Ehrman's to see how to use this for something more up to date, or to start with just designs for small things and work up to larger projects like the authors suggests. That aside, the directions are clear, and thorough.