For this type of chicken, use a more neutral color for the beak and legs (or match to the real-life chicken you're choosing to portray.) For a lightly "marbled", light brown color, combine two light brown or tan colored strand of floss with one slightly lighter strand of floss in a very similar color. The difference in floss colors should be subtle.

For a white chicken, follow the tan or black pattern, above, and differentiate the wing in either of the wing styles shown with a light gray floss. If you feel the white of the chicken is difficult to see against a light colored Aida fabric, use one strand of light gray floss to outline the entire chicken to help it subtly "pop" from the fabric.

To create very small stripes of black and white, stitch the entire chicken in a combination of floss colors. Try one of the following combinations: two black strands with one white strand of floss, or one strand black floss, one strand white floss and one strand medium gray floss. Feel free to change the criss-cross pattern of your $X$ shaped stitches to correctly portray the direction of the stripes (e.g. on the "wing" section of the pattern, create your X shapes with a top-left to bottom-right stitch below, and a top-right to bottom left stitch above, but do the opposite on the remainder of the chicken's body, to help the wing to stand out.)

For a multi-colored brown chicken (Rhode Island Red?) follow the pattern on the far right, above. Use three different shades of similar hue for the dark, medium and light areas of the chicken. If you're feeling fancy, in the few stitches where the colors begin to "fade" together, try combining two strands of the darker floss with one thread of the lighter floss to help the change in color seem more natural, and less stark.

