African carved wooden mask

Sized for a 6 inch hoop (15 cm). The stitched design is about 4.1 × 4.8 in (10.4 × 12.2 cm).



Which color goes where: by number on page 2.
Fabric: tan cotton or linen.

Stitch in this order

Filled parts from the back of the picture forward, then lines.

1. **Long and short stitch**, 1 strand
   Ears, face, hollows under the brow, eyelids, brow and nose, lips, carved hair
2. **Satin stitch**, 2 strands
   Eye slits, rim band, rim notches, split
3. **Straight stitch**, strands by part on page 2
   Raffia, nostrils, mending stitches
4. **Split stitch**, strands by part on page 2
   Ears, brow and nose, mouth line, carved hair, rim band
5. **Couching**, 5 strands
   Cheek chevrons
6. **Chain stitch**, 3 strands
   Raffia cord
7. **Stem stitch**, 2 strands
   Mask edge

Floss

- **1 DMC 434 Light Brown**
  Raffia (dark), face, carved hair and brow and nose (shade 5 of 7) and 5 more parts
- **2 DMC 3828 Hazelnut Brown**
  Raffia (middle), raffia cord
- **3 DMC 676 Light Old Gold**
  Raffia (light), cheek chevrons (lighter)
- **4 DMC 435 Very Light Brown**
  Face and carved hair (shade 6 of 7), rim band (lightest) and 4 more parts
- **5 DMC 436 Tan**
  Face, brow and nose, ears and carved hair (shade 7 of 7), eyelids and lips (lightest)
- **6 DMC 938 Ultra Dark Coffee Brown**
  Carved hair and face (shade 1 of 7), mask edge, rim band (darkest) and 8 more parts
- **7 DMC 801 Dark Coffee Brown**
  Face, carved hair and brow and nose (shade 3 of 7) and 5 more parts
- **8 DMC 898 Very Dark Coffee Brown**
  Hollows under the brow (dark), face and carved hair (shade 2 of 7) and 4 more parts
- **9 DMC 433 Medium Brown**
  Face, carved hair and brow and nose (shade 4 of 7) and 5 more parts
- **10 DMC 783 Medium Topaz**
  Cheek chevrons (darker), mending stitches

Three ways to transfer the pattern

1. **Fabric you can see through**
   Tape page 3 to a sunny window or lay it on a light box, tape the fabric over it and trace the lines with a sharp pencil or a water-soluble pen.
2. **Fabric you cannot see through**
   Lay dressmaker's carbon paper colored side down on the fabric with page 3 on top, tape the layers and trace the lines firmly with a ballpoint pen.
3. **Iron-on: the lines stay**
   Go over the lines of page 4, the mirrored page, with an iron-on transfer pen, lay it ink side down on the fabric and press with a dry iron, as the pen's packet says.

Pages 3 and 4 are the pattern at actual size. Print them at 100% with scaling turned off. Then put the fabric in the hoop: inner ring under, drawing up, tight as a drum.

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6 inch hoop

How to read it

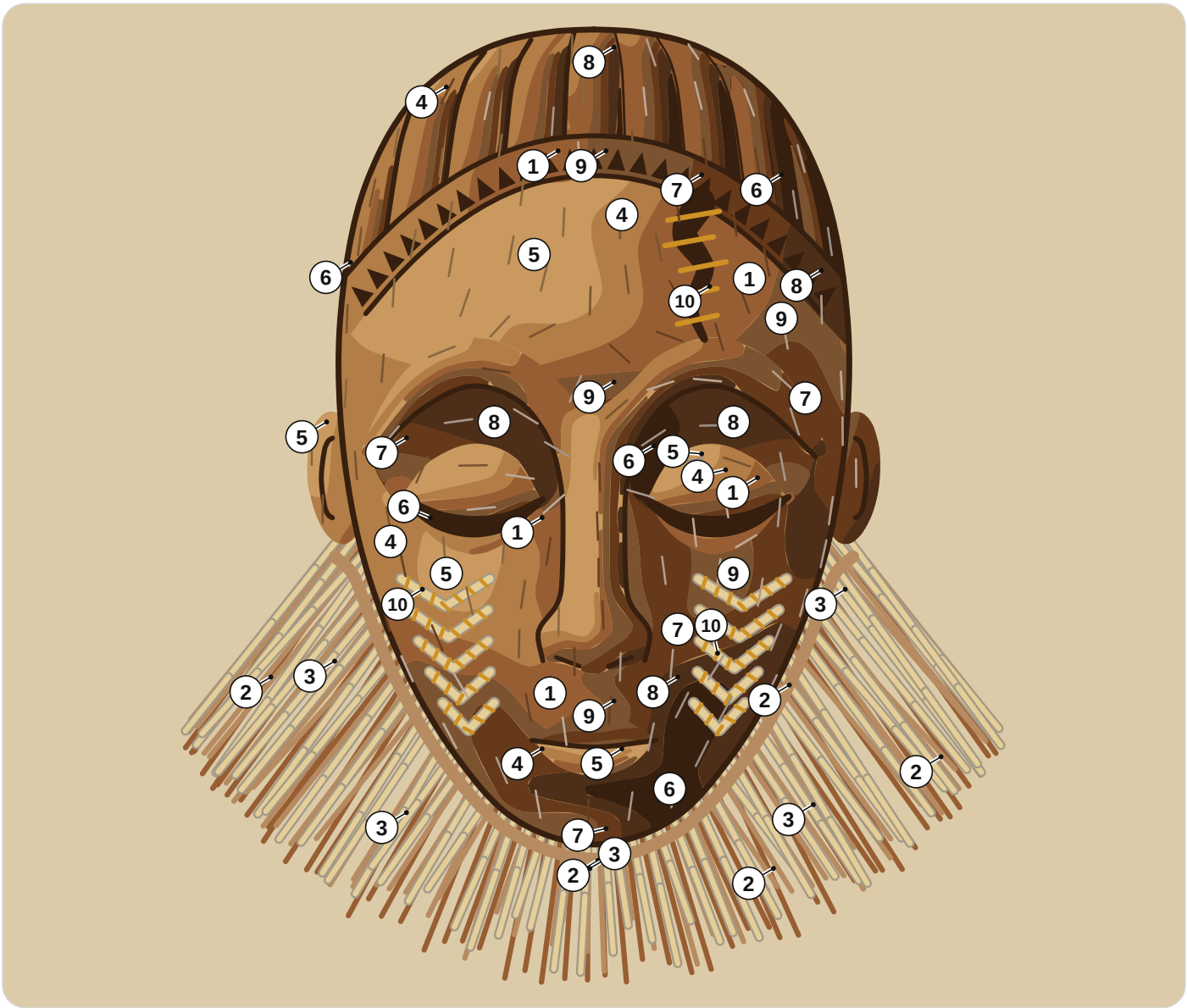
Floss is six strands. Cut 18 inches (45 cm), pull out the number given one at a time, and lay them together.

Inside a filled shape start with two or three tiny stitches, which the filling covers. Start a line with a small knot on the back. End each thread by running the needle under the backs of a few stitches.

A fine broken line inside a shape is where two shades meet: trace it, do not stitch it.

A number on the picture is a color of the list of floss on page 1. The fine lines on the colors show which way the stitches lie.

Every stitch in pictures: flossfield.com/embroidery/stitches. The first time: flossfield.com/embroidery/guides/how-to-start.



1 DMC 434 Light Brown
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5 DMC 436 Tan
6 DMC 938 Ultra Dark Coffee Brown
7 DMC 801 Dark Coffee Brown
8 DMC 898 Very Dark Coffee Brown
9 DMC 433 Medium Brown
10 DMC 783 Medium Topaz

How many strands

Straight stitch. 4 strands: raffia, mending stitches; 2 strands: nostrils.
Split stitch. 2 strands: ears, mouth line; 1 strand: brow and nose, carved hair, rim band.

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6 inch hoop

Print at 100% and check the square below with a ruler. Fold the fabric in four: the folds meet the four ticks of the ring.



1 in
25.4 mm

Check square: 1 inch (25.4 mm) on each side.
If it measures anything else, print again at 100% with scaling off.

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6 inch hoop

Mirrored. Trace this page with an iron-on transfer pen or pencil, then press it ink side down on the fabric.



1 in
25.4 mm

Check square: 1 inch (25.4 mm) on each side.
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