Alpine folk border from northern Italy

Sized for a 6 inch hoop (15 cm). The stitched design is about 4.7 × 1.6 in (11.9 × 4.1 cm).



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

Three ways onto dark fabric

1. **Light shines through it**
   Lay page 3 on a bright light box, tape the fabric over it and trace the lines with a white marking pencil or pen.
2. **No light shines through**
   Print page 3 on a sticky wash-away sheet, smooth it onto fabric that can be washed, stitch through both and rinse it away.
3. **White or yellow carbon paper**
   Lay it colored side down on the fabric with page 3 on top, tape the layers and trace firmly with a ballpoint pen. Go over a faint line with a white pencil.

Page 3 is the pattern at actual size (page 4 is its mirror, for an iron-on pen on a light fabric). Print it at 100% with scaling turned off. Then put the fabric in the hoop: inner ring under, drawing up, tight as a drum.

Floss

- **1 DMC 349 Dark Coral**
  Chain rails, carnation petals, finch caps, center heart and berries
- **2 DMC 3820 Dark Straw**
  Gold chain rails, edelweiss centers, finch legs and wing bars and 2 more parts
- **3 DMC 3347 Medium Yellow Green**
  Scrolls, scroll leaves, stems, leaves and carnation cup and 3 more parts
- **4 DMC 798 Dark Delft Blue**
  Finch wings, gentian petals, finch tails, gentian buds and finch eyes
- **5 DMC 712 Cream**
  Finch breasts, carnation inner petals and edelweiss petals

Stitch in this order

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

1. **Satin stitch**, 2 strands
   Leaves, berries, scroll leaves, scrolls, gentian petals, edelweiss petals, finch breasts, finch caps, finch wings, wing bars, finch tails, and 9 more
2. **Chain stitch**, strands by part on page 2
   Chain rails, gold chain rails
3. **Stem stitch**, 2 to 3 strands
   Stems
4. **Straight stitch**, 2 strands
   Finch legs
5. **French knot**, strands by part on page 2, two wraps
   Gentian centers, edelweiss centers, finch eyes

What you need

Easy. A 6 inch (15 cm) hoop, and a 9 inch (23 cm) square of plain cotton or linen, in black. Embroidery needle: size 9 for 1 strand, size 7 for 2 or 3 (a lower number is a thicker needle). Skeins: one of each color is enough. An estimate for the 6 inch hoop, from the length of each line and the area of each filled shape, with a fifth added for tails.

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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.

Begin with no knot on the back where it is seen and washed, as on a towel, a napkin or clothes; for a piece in a hoop a small knot is fine. End each thread by whipping it around the backs of four or five stitches, with one small hitch.

Each small ring is one French knot.

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 349 Dark Coral
2 DMC 3820 Dark Straw
3 DMC 3347 Medium Yellow Green
4 DMC 798 Dark Delft Blue
5 DMC 712 Cream

How many strands

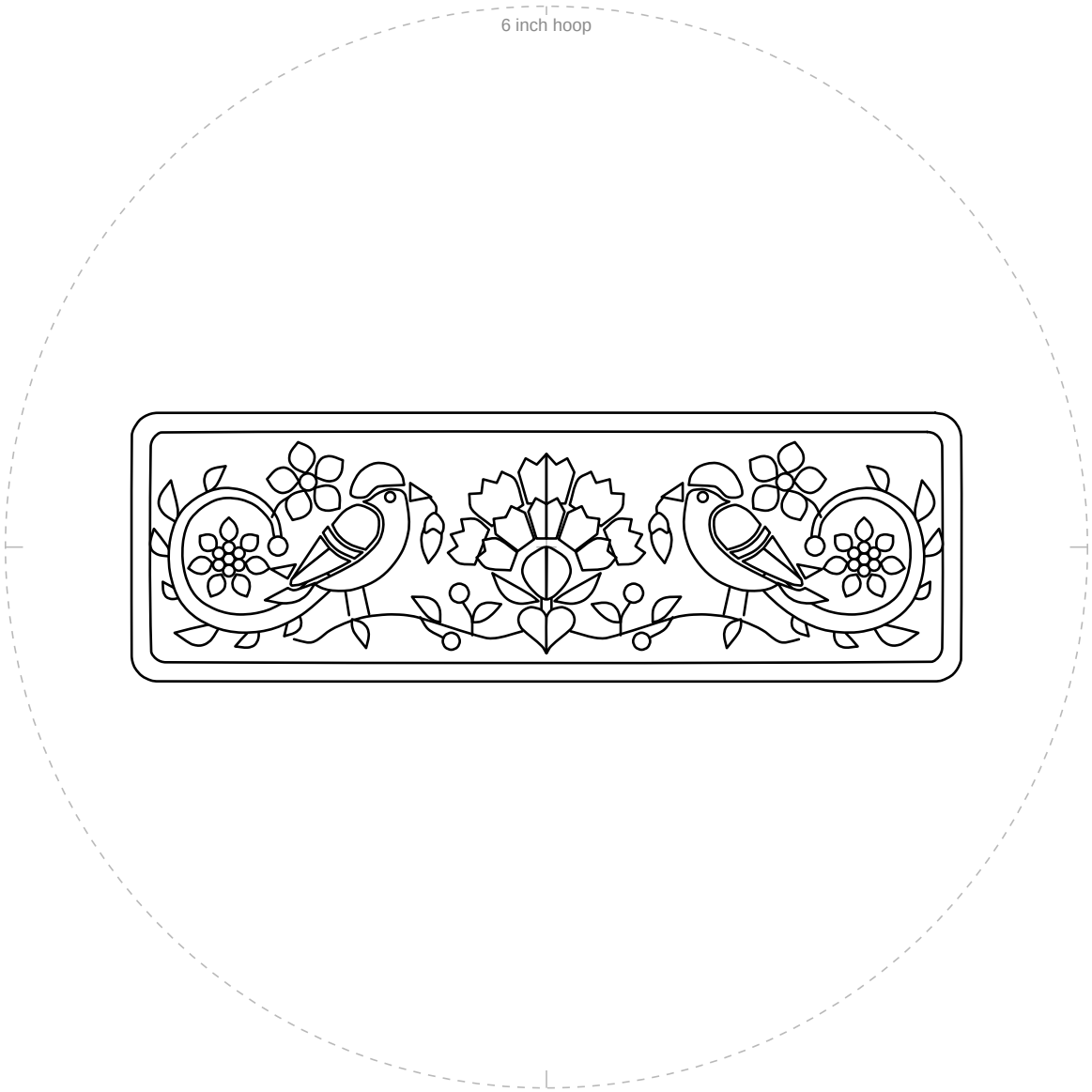
Chain stitch. 2 strands: chain rails; 1 strand: gold chain rails.
French knot. 2 strands: gentian centers; 1 strand: edelweiss centers, finch eyes.

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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

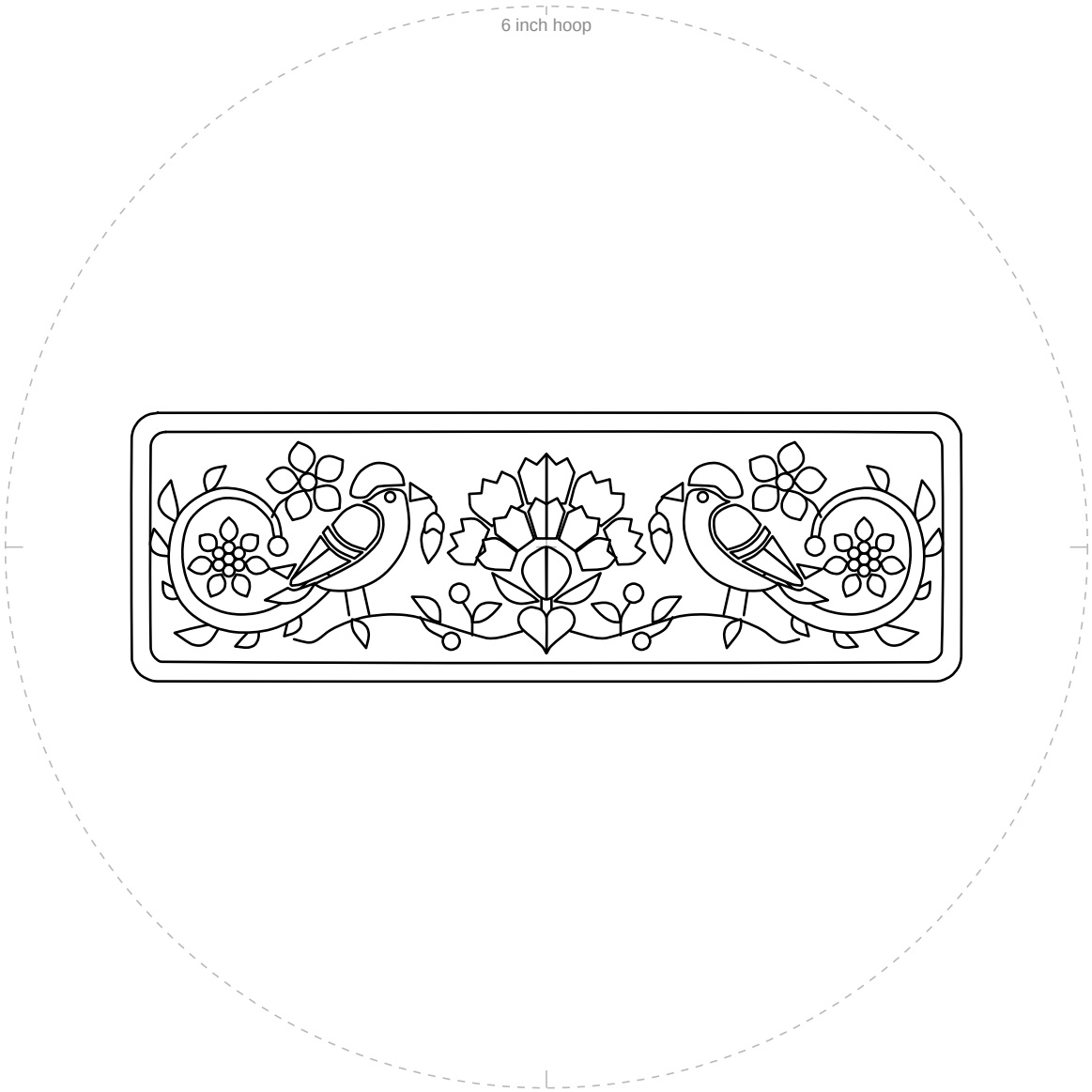
Check square: 1 inch (25.4 mm) on each side.
If it measures anything else, print again at 100% with scaling off.

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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.
If it measures anything else, print again at 100% with scaling off.

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