Always, two swans under a willow

6 inch (15 cm) hoop, 3.6 × 3.6 in (9.1 × 9.1 cm)



A number is a row of the list.

What you need

A 6 inch (15 cm) hoop.

A 9 inch (23 cm) square of white or light cotton or linen.

An embroidery needle, size 9.

One skein of each color (an estimate from the drawing's lines and shapes).

A water-soluble pen, and small scissors.

Onto the fabric

Fabric you can see through: page 2 taped to a sunny window, the fabric over it; trace.

Other fabric: dressmaker's carbon paper, colored side down, page 2 on top; trace with a ballpoint.

Iron-on pen: go over page 3, the mirrored page, and press it ink side down as the pen's packet says. The lines stay.

Then hoop it, inner ring under, tight as a drum.

How to read it

Floss has six strands: cut 18 inches (45 cm), pull out the number named one at a time, and lay them together.

Start a filling with tiny stitches, a line with a small knot; end under stitches on the back.

Every stitch in pictures: flossfield.com/embroidery/stitches.

New to this: flossfield.com/embroidery/guides/how-to-start.

Floss

DMC 797 Royal Blue
Frame, swan outlines and scrolls, willow trunk (middle), willow leaves, willow strands, scroll leaves and reed leaves (darker), water and corner flowers (dark), reeds and cygnet outline (lighter)

DMC 823 Dark Navy Blue
Inner frame, flower edges, letters, cattails, bills, buds and eyes, willow trunk (dark), cygnet outline and reeds (darker)

DMC 799 Medium Delft Blue
Willow leaves, willow strands, reed leaves and scroll leaves (lighter), water and corner flowers (middle), feathers, ripples and flower centers, cygnet and swan shading (darker), willow trunk (light)

DMC 800 Pale Delft Blue
Water and corner flowers (light), swan shading and cygnet (lighter), far bank

Stitch in this order

Where a stitch page says otherwise, follow this list.

1. **Split stitch**, 2 strands
   Swan outlines

2. **Long and short stitch**, 1 strand
   Willow trunk, far bank, water, swan shading, cygnet, corner flowers



3. **Satin stitch**, 2 strands
   Ripples, bills, cattails, reed leaves, scroll leaves, frame, letters



4. **Straight stitch**
   2 strands: willow leaves
   1 strand: reeds (DMC 823)



5. **Split stitch**
   1 strand: willow strands, flower edges
   2 strands: feathers, cygnet outline

6. **Stem stitch**, 2 strands
   Reeds (DMC 797), scrolls, inner frame

7. **French knot**, two wraps
   1 strand: eyes
   2 strands: flower centers, buds



Take out lines that still show, press face down, finish the hoop or sew a pillow.

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6 inch hoop

Print at 100% and measure the square. Trace the black lines only. The gray ring is the hoop: fold the fabric in four and lay the folds on its ticks.

On the drawing a ring is one French knot: mark a dot; a broken line inside a shape is where two shades meet: trace it, do not stitch it.



1 in
25.4 mm

Not 1 inch (25.4 mm)? Print again at 100%.

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Always, two swans under a willow

6 inch hoop

For an iron-on pen only. Go over the lines, press ink side down.

6 inch hoop



1 in
25.4 mm

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