Bee in honeycomb ring

6 inch (15 cm) hoop, 4.7 × 4.7 in (11.9 × 11.9 cm)



Colors by number: page 2.
Fabric: indigo cotton or linen.

What you need

A 6 inch (15 cm) hoop.

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

Embroidery needles, size 9, and size 5 for 4 strands.

13 colors of floss (page 2): one skein of each color (an estimate from the drawing's lines and shapes).

A white pencil, and small scissors.

Onto the fabric

Fabric that lets light through: page 3 on a bright light, the fabric over it; trace with a white pencil.

Other fabric: print page 3 on a sticky wash-away sheet, stick it on, stitch through it and rinse it away.

Or white or yellow carbon paper, colored side down, page 3 on top; trace with a ballpoint and go over a faint line with a white pencil.

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.

Stitch in this order

Where a stitch page says otherwise, follow this list.

1. **Split stitch**, 1 strand
   Wing veins (color 10)
2. **Stem stitch**, 3 strands
   Wing edges
3. **Trellis stitch**, 1 strand
   Latticed cells
4. **Satin stitch**, 2 strands
   Fanned cells, legs, abdomen, abdomen bands, head, eyes
5. **Chain stitch**, 1 strand
   Lines of the chained cells
6. **Blanket stitch**, 1 strand
   Lines of the spoked cells
7. **Back stitch**
   2 strands: bare cells
   1 strand: wing veins (color 10)
8. **Stem stitch**
   4 strands: wax walls
   3 strands: lines of the legs
   2 strands: antennae
9. **Straight stitch**
   2 strands: honey shine
   1 strand: eye highlights
10. **Split stitch**, 1 strand
    Edges of the eyes
11. **Padded satin stitch**, 2 strands
    Filled cells, honey drop
12. **French knot**, 2 strands, two wraps
    Knotted cells, knots of the fanned cells, knots of the spoked cells, knots of the chained cells
13. **Turkey work**, 2 strands
    Furry back

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

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6 inch hoop

A number is a color of the list. Fine lines show which way the stitches lie: do not stitch them.



1	DMC 976 Medium Golden Brown	6	DMC 3822 Light Straw	11	DMC 898 Very Dark Coffee Brown
2	DMC 977 Light Golden Brown	7	DMC 3826 Golden Brown	12	DMC 3371 Black Brown
3	DMC 3820 Dark Straw	8	DMC 975 Dark Golden Brown	13	DMC 433 Medium Brown
4	DMC 780 Ultra Very Dark Topaz	9	DMC 746 Off White		
5	DMC 783 Medium Topaz	10	DMC 3753 Ultra Very Light Antique Bl...		

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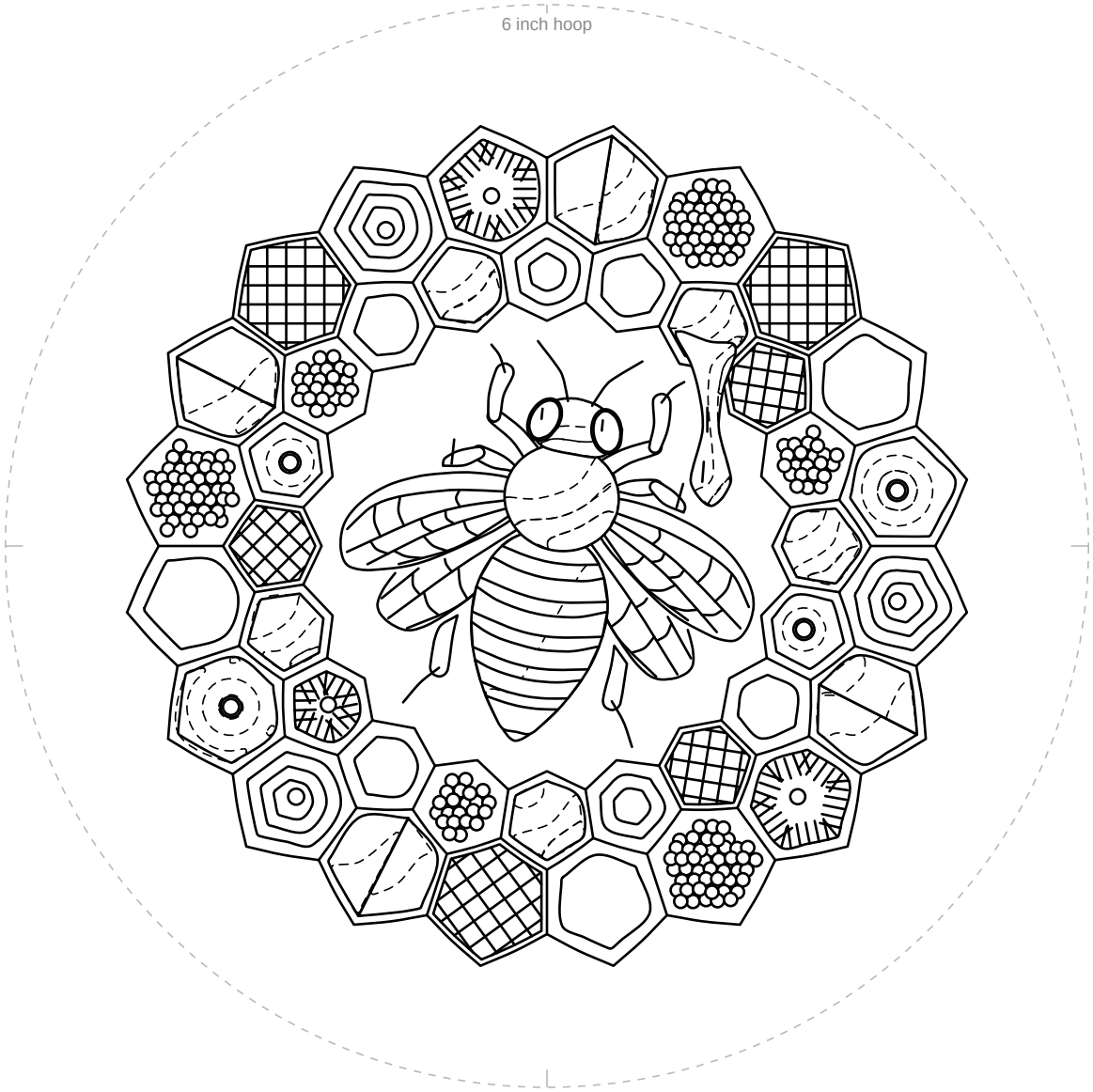
6 inch hoop

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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