Merle border collie in a flower wreath

Sized for a 6 inch hoop (15 cm). The stitched design is about 4.8 × 4.9 in (12.2 × 12.4 cm).



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

Stitch in this order

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

1. **Fishbone stitch**, 2 strands
   Leaves
2. **Satin stitch**, 2 strands
   Buds, daisies, poppies, poppy hearts, nose, brow spots
3. **Long and short stitch**, 2 strands
   Coat, merle patches, thigh, paws, shadow folds, foreleg, tail, tail tip, collar, head, cheeks, blaze, ears
4. **Stem stitch**, strands by part on page 2
   Wreath stem, bud stems, folds, closed eyes
5. **Straight stitch**, 2 strands
   Sepals, toe lines
6. **Split stitch**, 1 strand
   Poppy edges, ear edges
7. **French knot**
   strands by part on page 2, two wraps
   Daisy hearts, poppy stamens

Floss

- **1 DMC 3363 Medium Pine Green**
  Leaves (darker), wreath stem and bud stems
- **2 DMC 3012 Medium Khaki Green**
  Leaves (lighter), sepals and poppy hearts
- **3 DMC 223 Light Shell Pink**
  Buds (darker)
- **4 DMC 224 Very Light Shell Pink**
  Buds (lighter)
- **5 DMC 3865 Winter White**
  Collar, daisies and tail tip (lighter), paws (light), blaze
- **6 DMC 415 Pearl Gray**
  Coat, tail and thigh (light), head (lighter), daisies (darker) and 3 more parts
- **7 DMC 3820 Dark Straw**
  Daisy hearts
- **8 DMC 3854 Medium Autumn Gold**
  Poppies (lighter)
- **9 DMC 301 Medium Mahogany**
  Poppy edges, cheeks and brow spots, poppies (darker)
- **10 DMC 3799 Very Dark Pewter Gray**
  Merle patches, ears, shadow folds and folds (darker), poppy stamens and 2 more parts
- **11 DMC 318 Light Steel Gray**
  Coat, tail and thigh (middle), head (darker), foreleg (lighter), ear edges, paws (dark)
- **12 DMC 414 Dark Steel Gray**
  Merle patches (lighter), foreleg (darker), coat, tail and thigh (dark) and 4 more parts

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.

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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.

Each small ring is one French knot. 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 3363 Medium Pine Green	**5**	DMC 3865 Winter White	**9**	DMC 301 Medium Mahogany
2	DMC 3012 Medium Khaki Green	**6**	DMC 415 Pearl Gray	**10**	DMC 3799 Very Dark Pewter Gray
3	DMC 223 Light Shell Pink	**7**	DMC 3820 Dark Straw	**11**	DMC 318 Light Steel Gray
4	DMC 224 Very Light Shell Pink	**8**	DMC 3854 Medium Autumn Gold	**12**	DMC 414 Dark Steel Gray

How many strands

Stem stitch. 3 strands: wreath stem, closed eyes; 2 strands: bud stems, folds.
French knot. 2 strands: daisy hearts; 1 strand: poppy stamens.

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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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