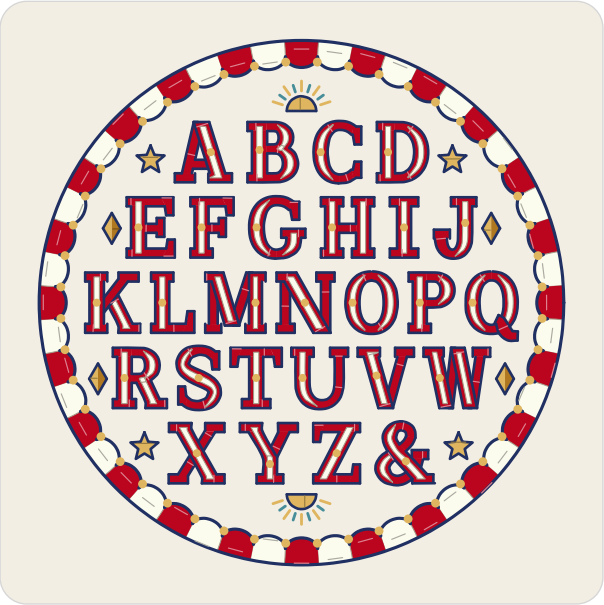
Circus letters with stripes A to Z

Sized for a 6 inch hoop (15 cm). The stitched design is about 5 × 5 in (12.7 × 12.7 cm).



Which color goes where: by number on page 2.

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.

Floss

- **1 DMC 817 Very Dark Coral Red**
  Letters, valance (darker)
- **2 DMC 746 Off White**
  Valance (lighter), cream bands
- **3 DMC 823 Dark Navy Blue**
  Outline, valance edge, star edge, diamond outline and sun edge
- **4 DMC 3820 Dark Straw**
  Knots, stars and suns, diamonds and sun rays (lighter)
- **5 DMC 782 Dark Topaz**
  Diamonds (darker)
- **6 DMC 3810 Dark Turquoise**
  Sun rays (darker)

Stitch in this order

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

1. **Satin stitch**, 2 strands
   Valance, letters, cream bands, stars, diamonds, suns



2. **Stem stitch**, 2 strands
   Valance edge

3. **Back stitch**
   strands by part on page 2
   Outline, star edge, diamond outline, sun edge

4. **Straight stitch**, 4 strands
   Sun rays



5. **French knot**
   2 strands, two wraps
   Knots



What you need

Advanced. A 6 inch (15 cm) hoop, and a 9 inch (23 cm) square of plain cotton or linen, white or another light color. Embroidery needle: size 9 for 1 strand, size 7 for 2 or 3, size 5 for 4 (a lower number is a thicker needle). Skeins: 2 of DMC 823; one of each other color. 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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Circus letters with stripes A to Z

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 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 817 Very Dark Coral Red
2 DMC 746 Off White
3 DMC 823 Dark Navy Blue
4 DMC 3820 Dark Straw
5 DMC 782 Dark Topaz
6 DMC 3810 Dark Turquoise

How many strands

Back stitch. 2 strands: outline, diamond outline, sun edge; 1 strand: star edge.

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Circus letters with stripes A to Z

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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Circus letters with stripes A to Z

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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