Christmas lights edging

6 inch (15 cm) hoop, 4.7 × 3.9 in (11.9 × 9.9 cm)



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

What you need

A 6 inch (15 cm) hoop.

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

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

24 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.

The back is seen: no knots. Start with tiny stitches; end around the backs of four or five stitches.

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. **Whipped back stitch**, 4 strands
   Cord (colors 13 and 14)

2. **Straight stitch**, 3 strands
   Fir needles



3. **Stem stitch**, 2 strands
   Fir twigs, cord (color 14)

4. **Long and short stitch**, 1 strand
   Tails, bodies, wings, small wing feathers, shoulders, heads, crests, mask (color 9), bulbs



5. **Satin stitch**
   1 strand: mask (color 15), eye rings
   2 strands: bills, eyes, bulb caps, bows



6. **Straight stitch**
   2 strands: ice flowers, eye highlights, feet, cap ribs
   1 strand: bill lines, bulb lights



7. **Split stitch**
   2 strands: scallop edges
   1 strand: feather edges, bulb edges, star edge

8. **Padded satin stitch**, 2 strands
   Snow scallops, scallop beads, star



9. **French knot**
   2 strands, two wraps
   Ice flower knots, berries



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

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



1	DMC BLANC White	9	DMC 3862 Dark Mocha Beige	17	DMC 780 Ultra Very Dark Topaz
2	DMC 747 Very Light Sky Blue	10	DMC 3781 Dark Mocha Brown	18	DMC 712 Cream
3	DMC 3766 Light Peacock Blue	11	DMC 3864 Light Mocha Beige	19	DMC 783 Medium Topaz
4	DMC 666 Bright Red	12	DMC 738 Very Light Tan	20	DMC 782 Dark Topaz
5	DMC 498 Dark Red	13	DMC 501 Dark Blue Green	21	DMC 3822 Light Straw
6	DMC 814 Dark Garnet	14	DMC 702 Kelly Green	22	DMC 3808 Ultra Very Dark Turquoise
7	DMC 321 Red	15	DMC 310 Black	23	DMC 704 Bright Chartreuse
8	DMC 3705 Dark Melon	16	DMC 3340 Medium Apricot	24	DMC 503 Medium Blue Green

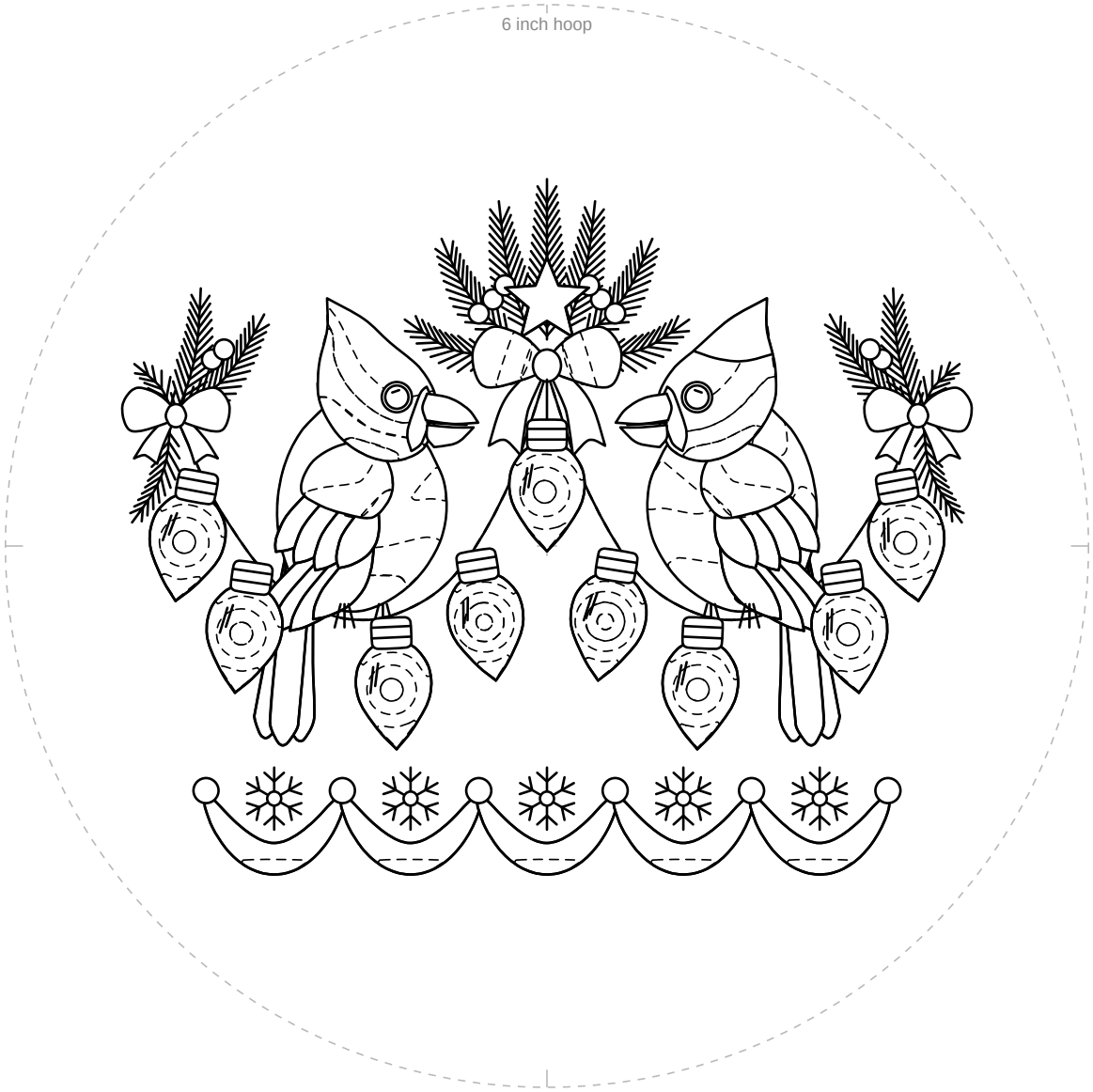
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6 inch hoop

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 dashed line is whipped back stitch; a finer one 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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