Christmas lights heart with a bow

6 inch (15 cm) hoop, 4 × 4.6 in (10.2 × 11.7 cm)



Colors by number: page 2.
Fabric: sage green cotton or linen.

What you need

A 6 inch (15 cm) hoop.

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

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

22 colors of floss (page 2): 2 skeins of DMC 3345; one of each other 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 3 taped to a sunny window, the fabric over it; trace.

Other fabric: dressmaker's carbon paper, colored side down, page 3 on top; trace with a ballpoint.

Iron-on pen: go over page 4, 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.

Stitch in this order

Where a stitch page says otherwise, follow this list.

1. **Straight stitch**, 4 strands
   Plug prongs



2. **Long and short stitch**, 1 strand
   Pine garland, bulbs, bow tails, bow loops



3. **Satin stitch**, 2 strands
   Bulb sockets, plug



4. **Straight stitch**
   1 strand: pine needles, edges of the bulb sockets
   2 strands: glints, plug outline (color 6)



5. **Split stitch**, 1 strand
   Bulb outlines, plug outline (color 21), bow edges

6. **Whipped back stitch**, 3 strands
   Cord

7. **Stem stitch**, 1 strand
   Bow folds

8. **Padded satin stitch**, 2 strands
   Bow knot



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 500 Very Dark Blue Green	9	DMC 321 Red	17	DMC 3846 Light Bright Turquoise
2	DMC 3345 Dark Hunter Green	10	DMC 3706 Medium Melon	18	DMC 3806 Light Cyclamen Pink
3	DMC 987 Dark Forest Green	11	DMC 3865 Winter White	19	DMC 3804 Dark Cyclamen Pink
4	DMC 989 Forest Green	12	DMC 742 Light Tangerine	20	DMC 3708 Light Melon
5	DMC 739 Ultra Very Light Tan	13	DMC 740 Tangerine	21	DMC 414 Dark Steel Gray
6	DMC 841 Light Beige Brown	14	DMC 744 Pale Yellow	22	DMC 814 Dark Garnet
7	DMC 3801 Very Dark Melon	15	DMC 3844 Dark Bright Turquoise		
8	DMC 498 Dark Red	16	DMC 3765 Very Dark Peacock Blue		

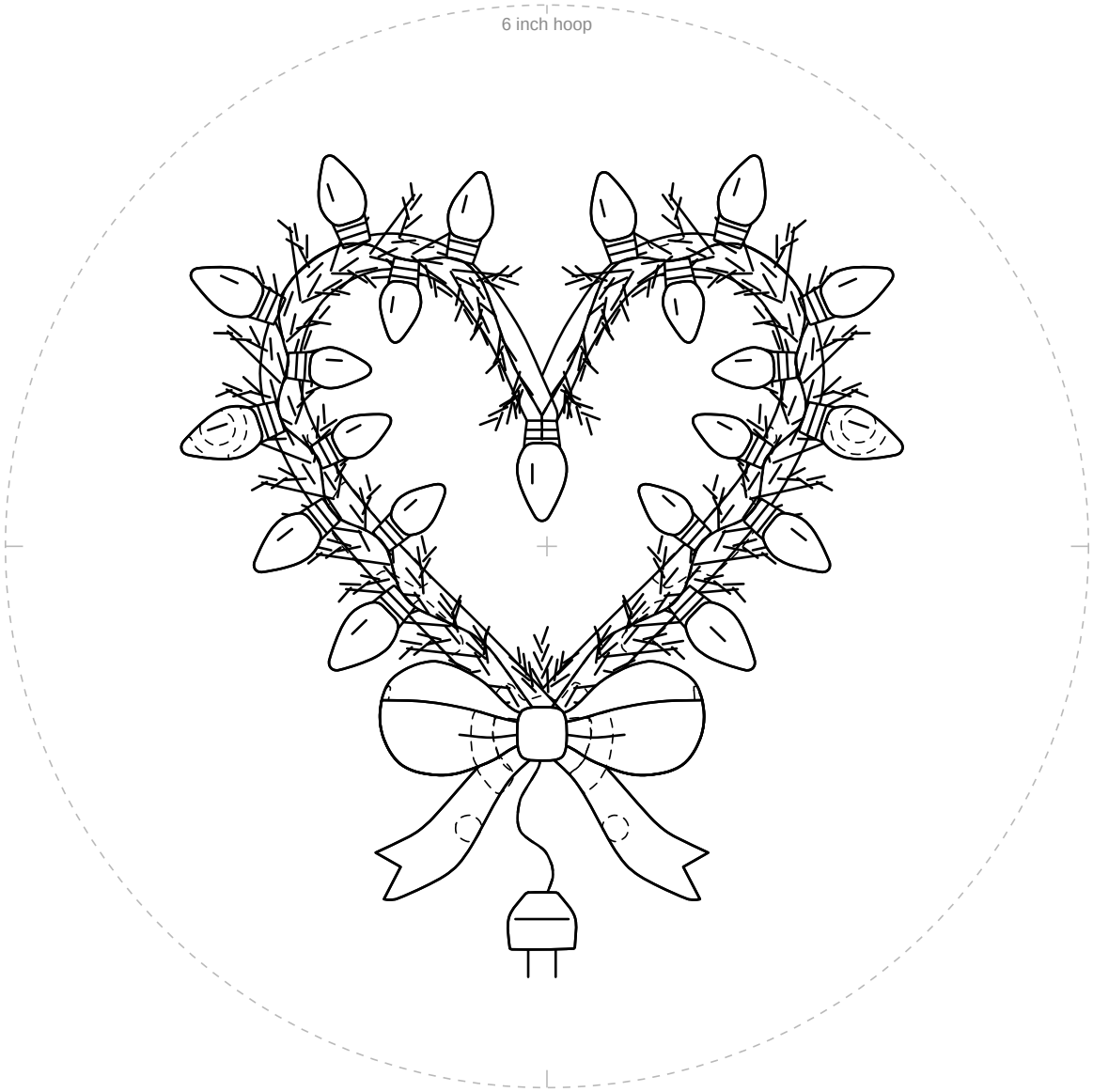
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6 inch hoop

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 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

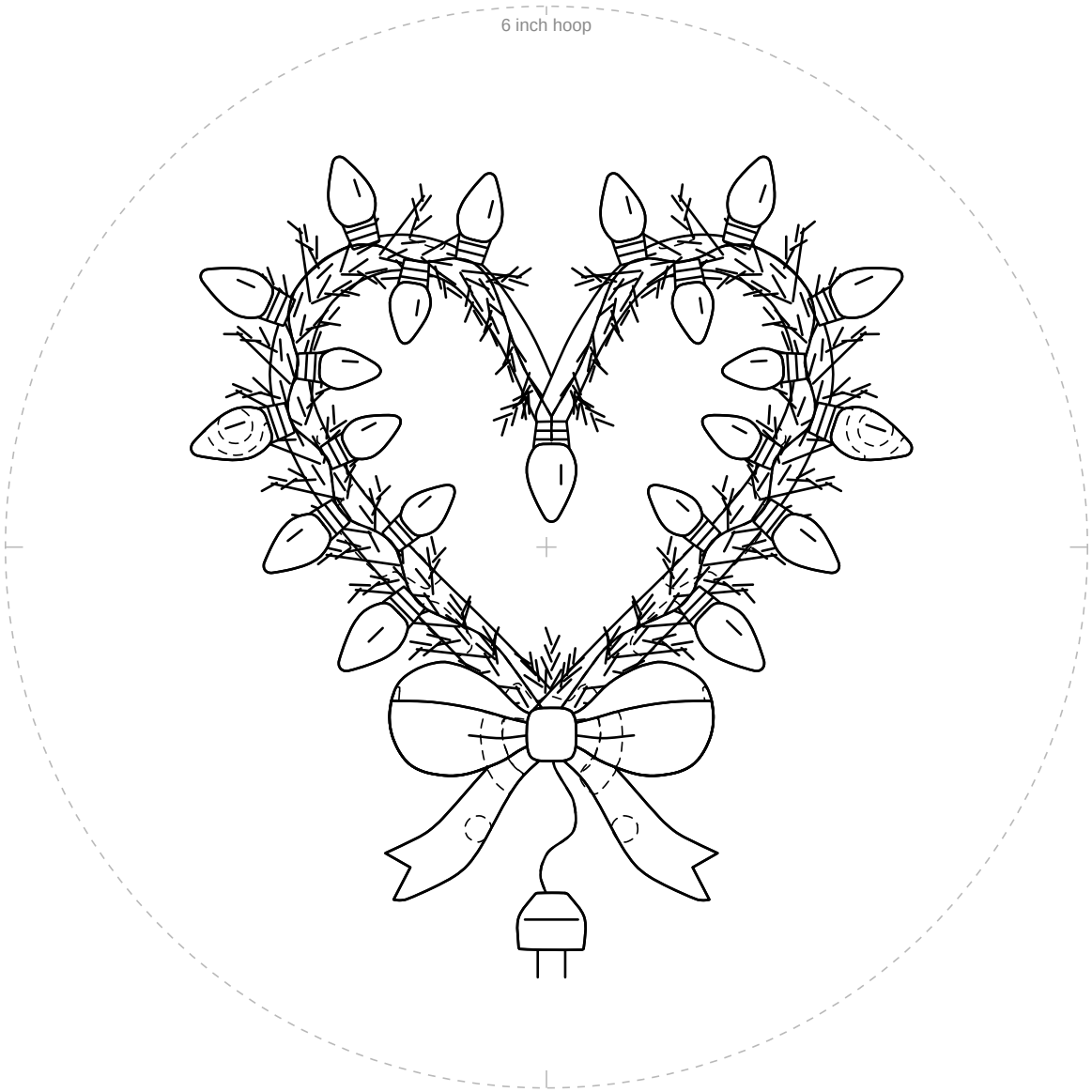
Not 1 inch (25.4 mm)? Print again at 100%.

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6 inch hoop

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



1 in
25.4 mm

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

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