Couching six-petal flower

6 inch (15 cm) hoop, 4.3 × 3.9 in (10.9 × 9.9 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 3 for 4 to 6 strands.

15 colors of floss (page 2): one skein of each 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. **Couching**, 6 strands
   Stems
2. **Long and short stitch**, 1 strand
   Leaves, bud, petals, folded tip, flower center
3. **Stem stitch**, 1 strand
   Leaf veins
4. **Split stitch**, 1 strand
   Petal ribs
5. **Couching**, 6 strands
   Leaf rims, bud rim, petal rims
6. **Straight stitch**, 2 strands
   Filaments
7. **French knot**
   2 strands, two wraps
   Stamen tips, flower center

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 501 Dark Blue Green	6	DMC 3829 Very Dark Old Gold	11	DMC 210 Medium Lavender
2	DMC 500 Very Dark Blue Green	7	DMC 209 Dark Lavender	12	DMC 211 Light Lavender
3	DMC 502 Blue Green	8	DMC 154 Very Dark Grape	13	DMC 3743 Very Light Antique Violet
4	DMC 503 Medium Blue Green	9	DMC 29 Eggplant	14	DMC 712 Cream
5	DMC 680 Dark Old Gold	10	DMC 3835 Medium Grape	15	DMC 3820 Dark Straw

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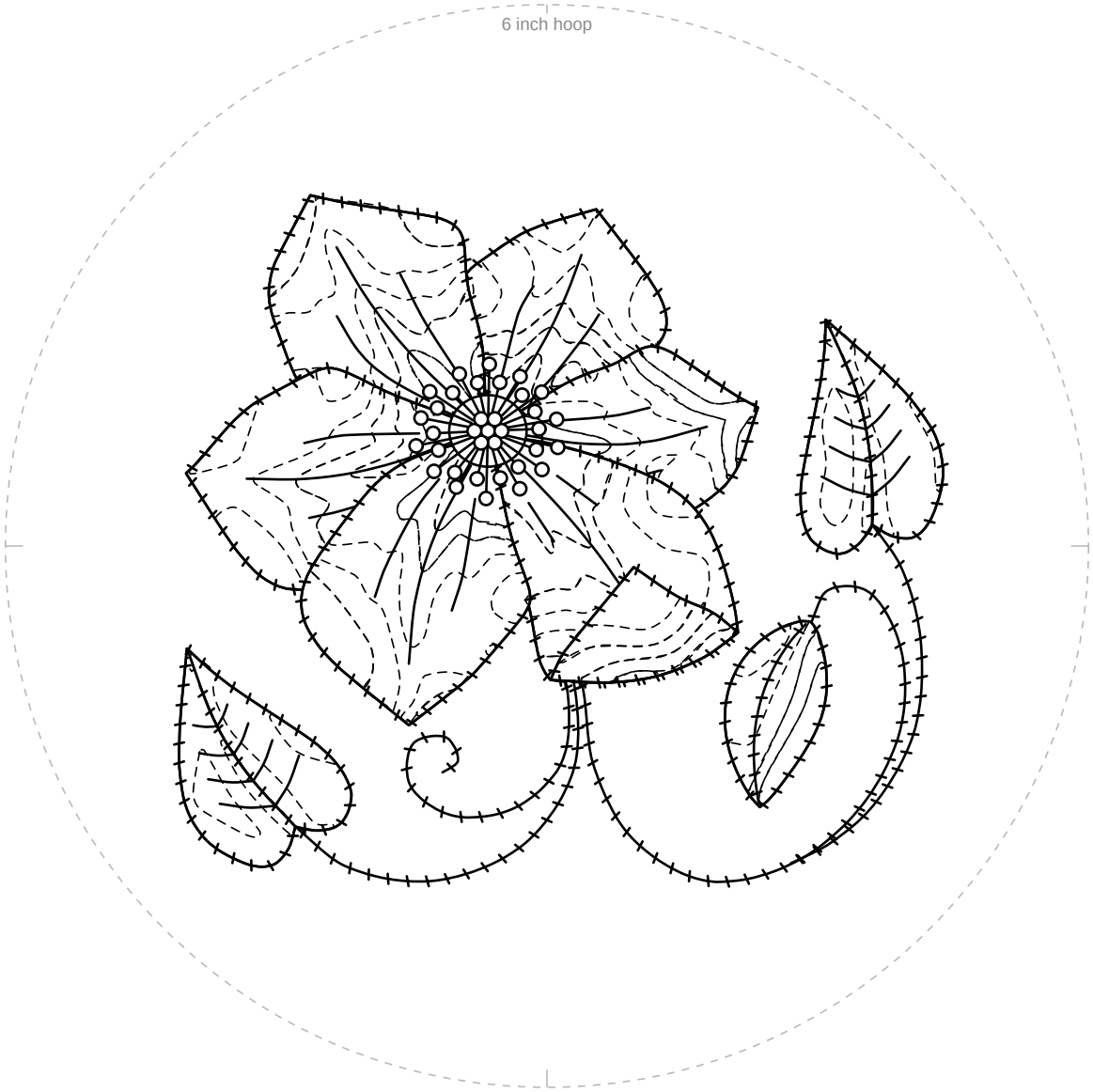
Couching six-petal flower

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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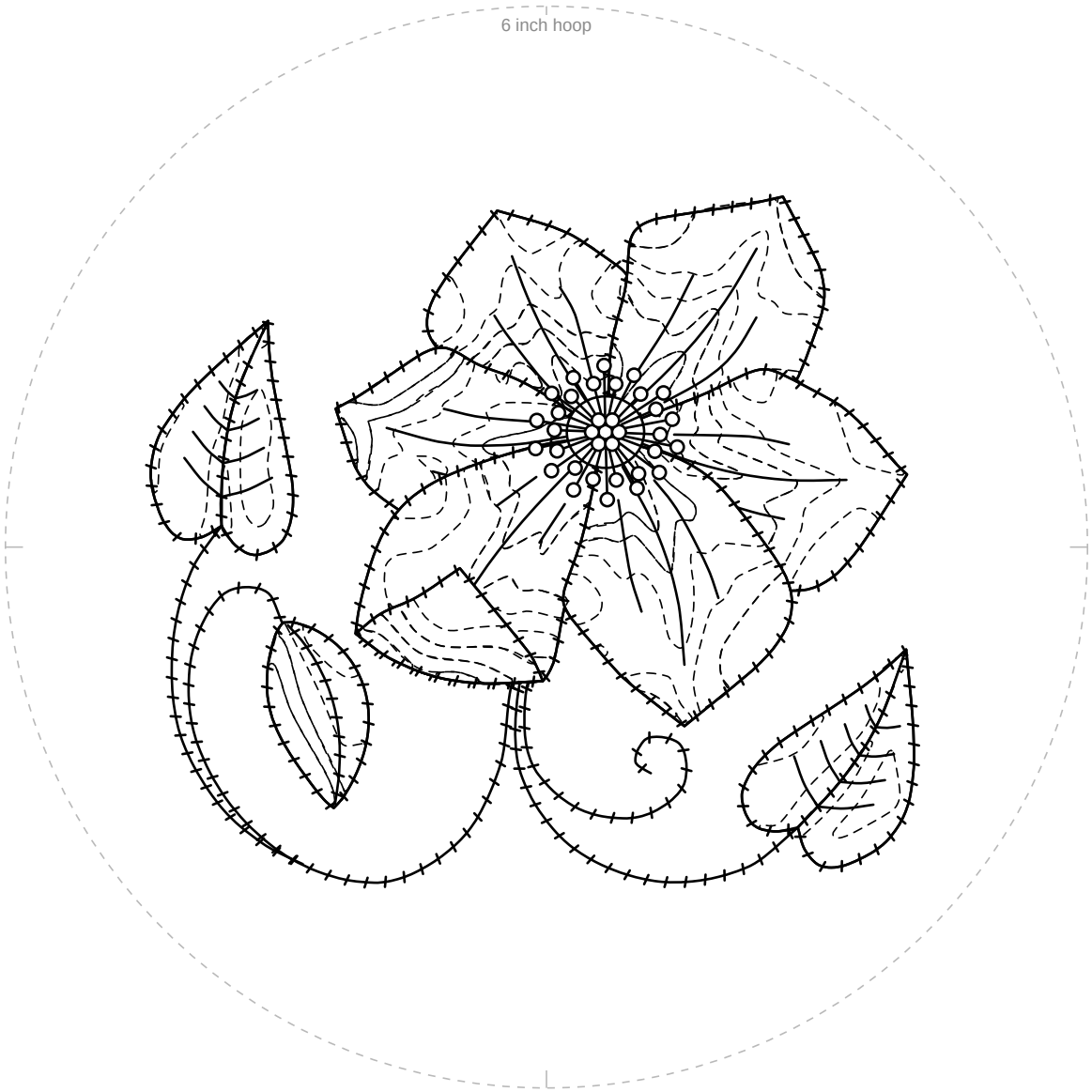
Couching six-petal flower

6 inch hoop

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



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