Cow skull with desert roses

Sized for a 6 inch hoop (15 cm). The stitched design is about 4.4 × 4.5 in (11.2 × 11.4 cm).



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

Stitch in this order

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

1. **Satin stitch**, 2 strands
   Teeth, buds, bud cups, petals, rose hearts, fallen petal
2. **Fishbone stitch**, 2 strands
   Leaves
3. **Long and short stitch**, 1 strand
   Petals, fallen petal
4. **Split stitch**, 1 to 3 strands
   Horns, horn edges, teeth, brow and jaw, cheek, nose bones, socket edges, nose edges, outline, cracks, petal edges, petal shadow
5. **Stem stitch**, 1 to 3 strands
   Leaf veins, bud stems
6. **Straight stitch**, 1 strand
   Throat lines
7. **French knot**, 2 strands, two wraps
   Rose hearts

Floss

- **1 DMC 712 Cream**
  Brow and jaw, horns and nose bones (lightest), teeth (light)
- **2 DMC 839 Dark Beige Brown**
  Horns, cheek and brow and jaw (darkest), petal shadow
- **3 DMC 840 Medium Beige Brown**
  Cheek, horns and brow and jaw (dark), horn edges and outline and 4 more parts
- **4 DMC 841 Light Beige Brown**
  Brow and jaw and horns (middle dark), cheek (middle), nose bones and teeth (dark)
- **5 DMC 842 Very Light Beige Brown**
  Brow and jaw and horns (middle light), nose bones (middle), cheek (light)
- **6 DMC 3033 Very Light Mocha Brown**
  Brow and jaw, horns and nose bones (light), cheek (lightest), teeth (middle)
- **7 DMC 522 Fern Green**
  Leaves (middle), bud stems, bud cups (lighter)
- **8 DMC 520 Dark Fern Green**
  Leaves (dark), leaf veins and bud cups (darker)
- **9 DMC 524 Very Light Fern Green**
  Leaves (light), leaf veins and rose hearts (lighter)
- **10 DMC 3685 Very Dark Mauve**
  Petal edges, buds (darkest)
- **11 DMC 3350 Ultra Dark Dusty Rose**
  Petals and fallen petal (darkest), buds (dark), throat lines
- **12 DMC 3354 Light Dusty Rose**
  Petals and fallen petal (light), buds (lightest)
- **13 DMC 3731 Very Dark Dusty Rose**
  Petals and fallen petal (dark), buds (light)
- **14 DMC 819 Light Baby Pink**
  Petals and fallen petal (lightest)
- **15 DMC 3820 Dark Straw** Rose hearts (darker)

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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Cow skull with desert roses

6 inch hoop

How to read it

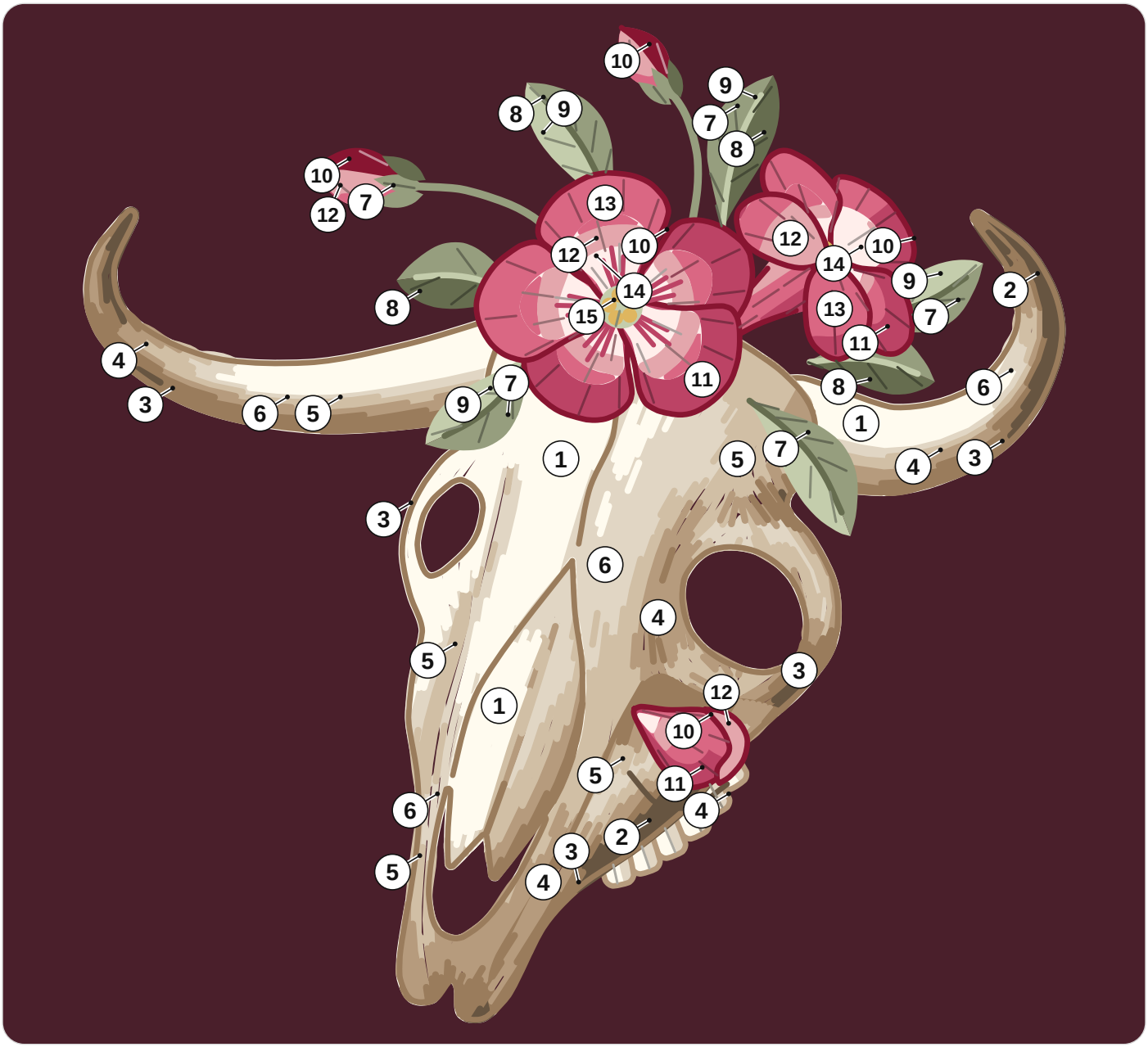
Floss is six strands. Cut 18 inches (45 cm), pull out the number given one at a time, and lay them together.

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.



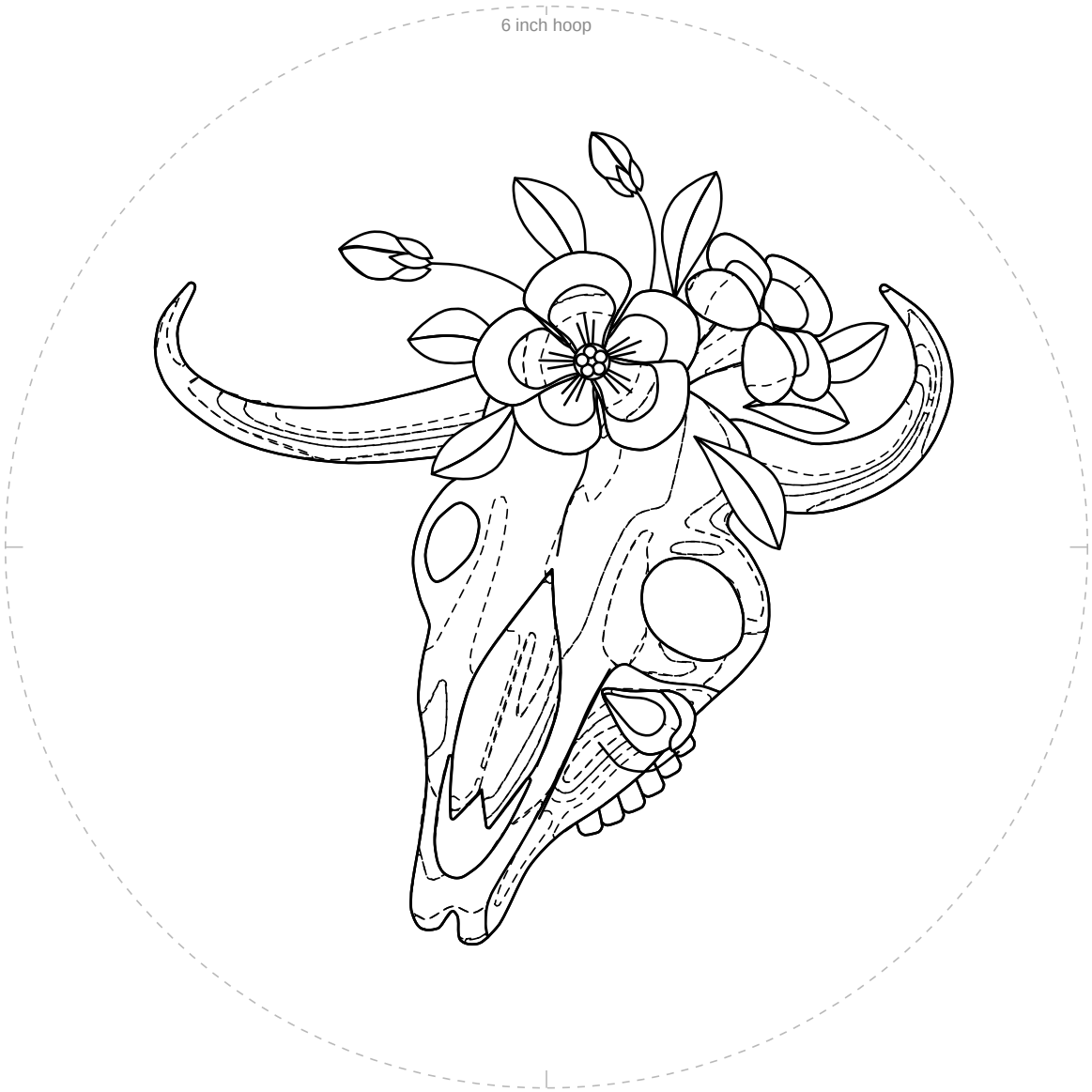
1	DMC 712 Cream	**6**	DMC 3033 Very Light Mocha Brown	**11**	DMC 3350 Ultra Dark Dusty Rose
2	DMC 839 Dark Beige Brown	**7**	DMC 522 Fern Green	**12**	DMC 3354 Light Dusty Rose
3	DMC 840 Medium Beige Brown	**8**	DMC 520 Dark Fern Green	**13**	DMC 3731 Very Dark Dusty Rose
4	DMC 841 Light Beige Brown	**9**	DMC 524 Very Light Fern Green	**14**	DMC 819 Light Baby Pink
5	DMC 842 Very Light Beige Brown	**10**	DMC 3685 Very Dark Mauve	**15**	DMC 3820 Dark Straw

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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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