Death’s-head hawk moth with moonflowers

6 inch (15 cm) hoop, 4.8 × 4.2 in (12.2 × 10.7 cm)



Colors by number: page 2.
Fabric: wine red cotton or linen.

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.

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.

Buy: 16 colors of floss (page 2), one skein of each color (an estimate from the drawing’s lines and shapes), embroidery needles size 9, and size 3 for 4 to 6 strands, a 6 inch (15 cm) hoop, a 9 inch (23 cm) square of wine red cotton or linen, a white pencil.

Stitch in this order

Where a stitch page says otherwise, follow this list.

1. **Couching**, 6 strands
   Crescent
2. **Stem stitch**, 3 strands
   Vines
3. **Long and short stitch**, 2 strands
   Flower tubes, moonflowers, hindwings, forewings, abdomen, skull mark (color 8)
4. **Satin stitch**, 2 strands
   Leaves, moonflower buds, sepals, star pleats, flower throats, hindwing bars, wing bands, wing edges, wing spots, abdomen bands, back stripe, skull mark (color 11), antennae
5. **Stem stitch**, 1 strand
   Tendrils, leaf veins, bud edges, flower edges, edges of the wing edges, body edge
6. **Split stitch**
   1 strand: bud folds, wing veins
   2 strands: wing lines
7. **Straight stitch**, 1 strand
   Lines of the skull mark
8. **Padded satin stitch**, 2 strands
   Sequins
9. **French knot**, two wraps
   2 strands: gold beads, eyes
   1 strand: knots of the sequins
10. **Turkey work**, 2 strands
    Thorax, head

Take out lines that still show, press face down, finish the hoop.

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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 783 Medium Topaz	**7**	DMC 520 Dark Fern Green	**13**	DMC 898 Very Dark Coffee Brown
2	DMC 3820 Dark Straw	**8**	DMC 3865 Winter White	**14**	DMC 435 Very Light Brown
3	DMC 780 Ultra Very Dark Topaz	**9**	DMC 644 Medium Beige Gray	**15**	DMC 437 Light Tan
4	DMC 3822 Light Straw	**10**	DMC 642 Dark Beige Gray	**16**	DMC 931 Medium Antique Blue
5	DMC 522 Fern Green	**11**	DMC 3371 Black Brown		
6	DMC 524 Very Light Fern Green	**12**	DMC 433 Medium Brown		

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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 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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