Dolphin with hibiscus flowers

6 inch (15 cm) hoop, 4.4 × 4.2 in (11.2 × 10.7 cm)



Colors by number: page 2.

What you need

A 6 inch (15 cm) hoop.

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

An embroidery needle, size 9.

24 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. **Stem stitch**
   2 strands: frond ribs
   3 strands: stems

2. **Satin stitch**, 2 strands
   Eye ring, eye, fern fronds, sepals, stamen columns



3. **Long and short stitch**, 1 strand
   Flippers, tail flukes, dorsal fin, body, leaves, buds, yellow hibiscus petals, yellow hibiscus throat, pink hibiscus petals, pink hibiscus throat, coral hibiscus petals, coral hibiscus throat



4. **Stem stitch**, 1 strand
   Mouth, lines of the leaves

5. **Split stitch**, 1 strand
   Back edge, belly edge, beak crease, brow, bud folds, yellow hibiscus veins, yellow hibiscus petal edges, pink hibiscus veins, pink hibiscus petal edges, coral hibiscus veins, coral hibiscus petal edges

6. **Straight stitch**
   2 strands: eye highlight
   1 strand: stigmas



7. **French knot**
   2 strands, two wraps
   Pollen knots, stigma knots



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

In a 6 inch hoop the French knots are drawn smaller than about 2 mm (a little over 1/16 in). Use one strand of floss for them there, or choose a larger hoop.

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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 312 Very Dark Baby Blue	9	DMC 503 Medium Blue Green	17	DMC 3733 Dusty Rose
2	DMC 823 Dark Navy Blue	10	DMC 895 Very Dark Hunter Green	18	DMC 3731 Very Dark Dusty Rose
3	DMC 322 Dark Baby Blue	11	DMC 3346 Hunter Green	19	DMC 963 Ultra Very Light Dusty Rose
4	DMC 3755 Baby Blue	12	DMC 3347 Medium Yellow Green	20	DMC 3823 Ultra Pale Yellow
5	DMC 3325 Light Baby Blue	13	DMC 352 Light Coral	21	DMC 3822 Light Straw
6	DMC 3841 Pale Baby Blue	14	DMC 349 Dark Coral	22	DMC 783 Medium Topaz
7	DMC 3865 Winter White	15	DMC 351 Coral	23	DMC 815 Medium Garnet
8	DMC 501 Dark Blue Green	16	DMC 353 Peach	24	DMC 817 Very Dark Coral Red

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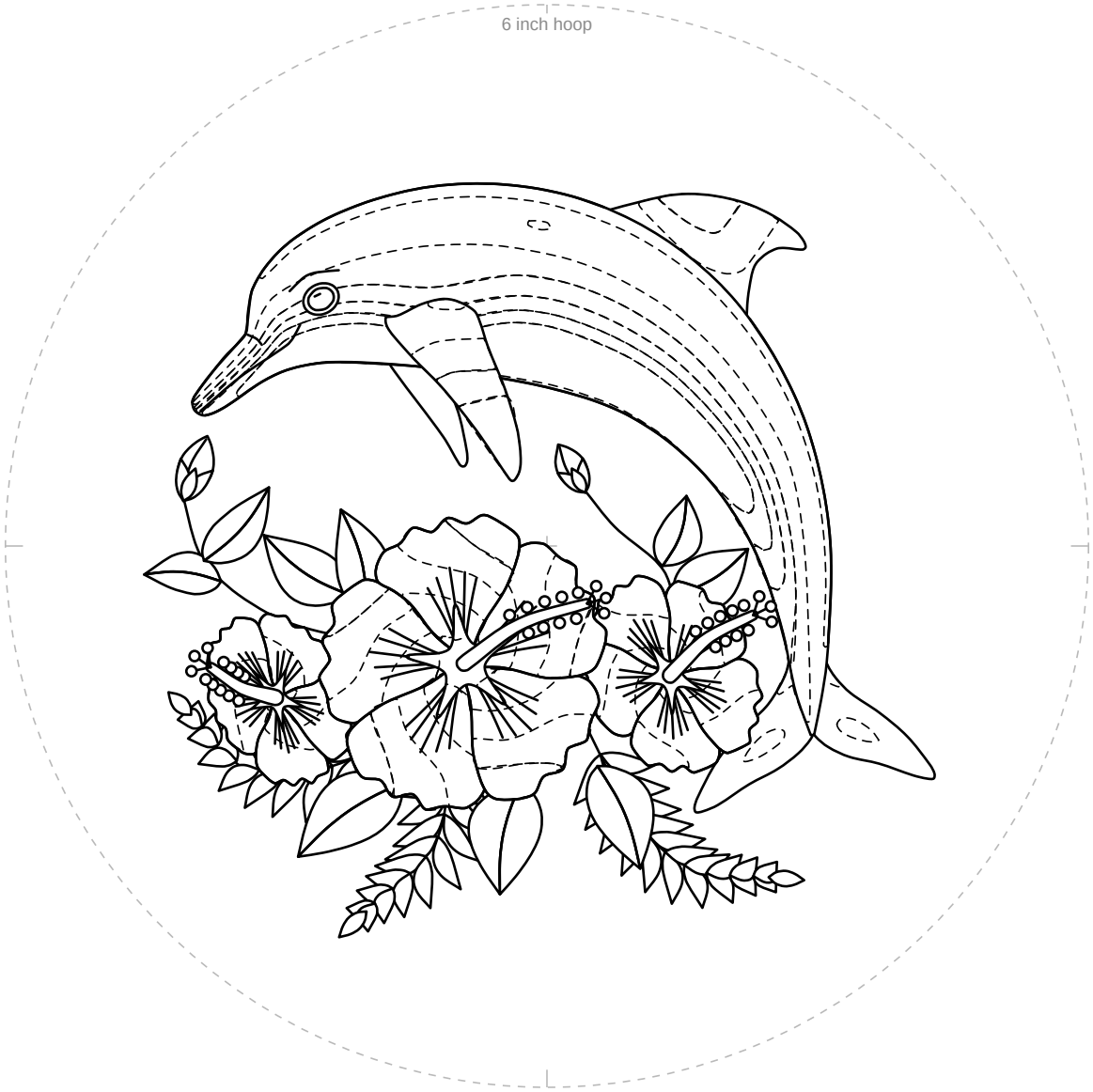
6 inch hoop

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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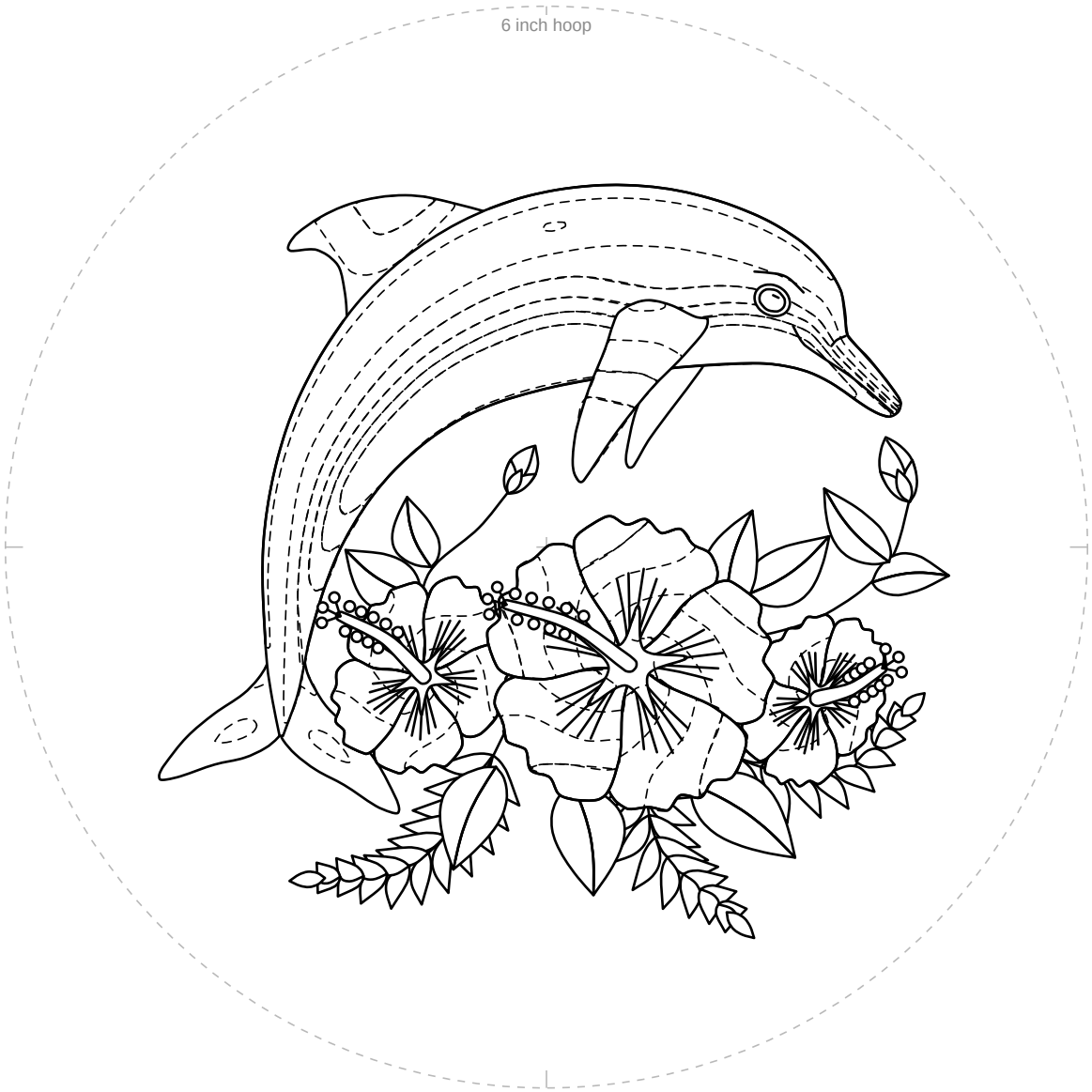
6 inch hoop

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



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