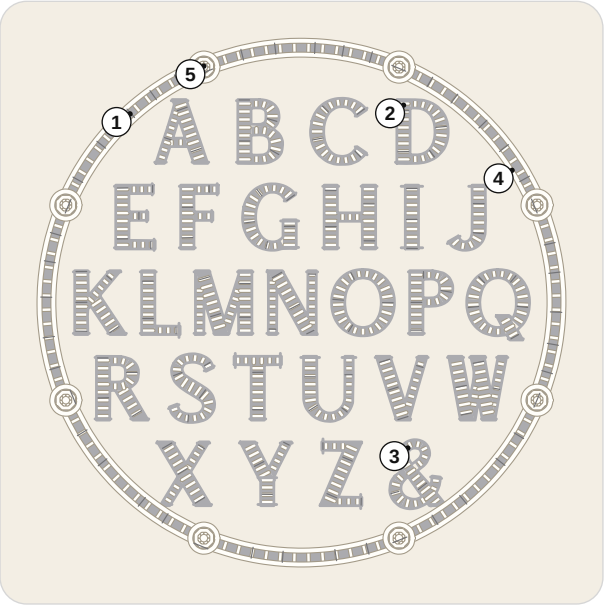
Openwork letters, hemstitched A to Z

Sized for a 6 inch hoop (15 cm). The stitched design is about 4.9 × 4.9 in (12.4 × 12.4 cm).



Which color goes where. Each number is a stitch of the list.

Stitch in this order

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

1. **Satin stitch**, 1 strand
   Gray shade



2. **Straight stitch**
   4 strands: hem bars
   2 strands: openwork bars, spider's webs



3. **Back stitch**
   2 strands: spider's webs
   1 strand: letter outlines

4. **Stem stitch**, 3 strands
   White outlines

5. **French knot**
   2 strands, two wraps
   Web hearts



Floss

DMC 318 Light Steel Gray
Gray shade, letter outlines and hem bars

DMC BLANC White
Openwork bars, white outlines, spider's webs and web hearts

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.

Begin with no knot on the back where it is seen and washed, as on a towel, a napkin or clothes; for a piece in a hoop a small knot is fine. End each thread by whipping it around the backs of four or five stitches, with one small hitch.

Each small ring is one French knot.

Every stitch in pictures: flossfield.com/embroidery/stitches. The first time: flossfield.com/embroidery/guides/how-to-start.

Three ways to transfer the pattern

1. **Fabric you can see through**
   Tape page 2 to a sunny window or lay it on a light box, tape the fabric over it and trace the lines with a sharp pencil or a water-soluble pen.
2. **Fabric you cannot see through**
   Lay dressmaker's carbon paper colored side down on the fabric with page 2 on top, tape the layers and trace the lines firmly with a ballpoint pen.
3. **Iron-on: the lines stay**
   Go over the lines of page 3, the mirrored page, with an iron-on transfer pen, lay it ink side down on the fabric and press with a dry iron, as the pen's packet says.

Pages 2 and 3 are the pattern at actual size. Print them at 100% with scaling turned off. Then put the fabric in the hoop: inner ring under, drawing up, tight as a drum.

What you need

Intermediate. A 6 inch (15 cm) hoop, and a 9 inch (23 cm) square of plain cotton or linen, white or another light color. Embroidery needle: size 9 for 1 strand, size 7 for 2 or 3, size 5 for 4 (a lower number is a thicker needle). Skeins: 2 of DMC 318; one of each other color. An estimate for the 6 inch hoop, from the length of each line and the area of each filled shape, with a fifth added for tails.

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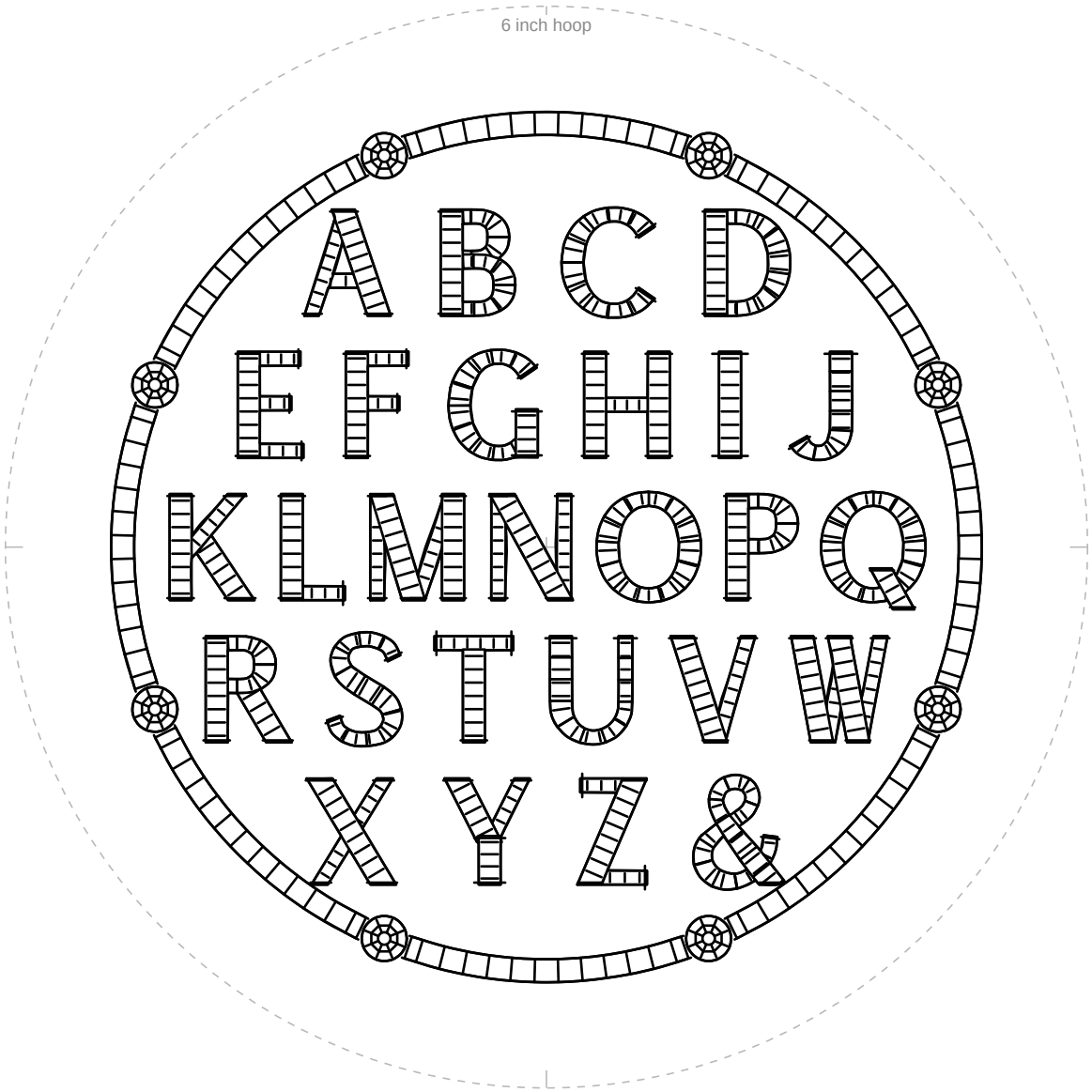
6 inch hoop

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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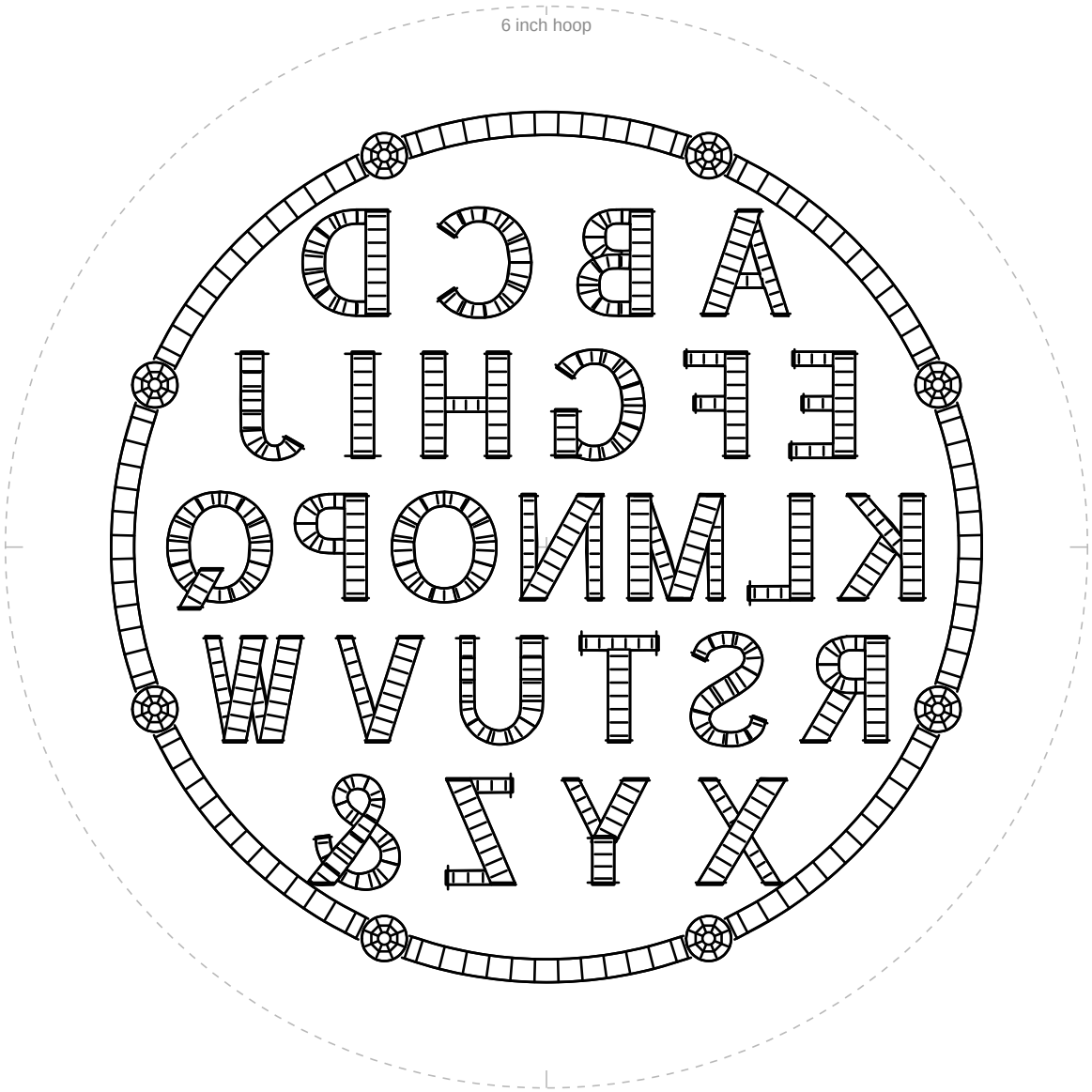
6 inch hoop

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.
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