Ducks and bulrushes

6 inch (15 cm) hoop, 4.9 × 4.7 in (12.4 × 11.9 cm)



Colors by number: page 2.
Fabric: pale blue cotton or linen.

What you need

A 6 inch (15 cm) hoop.

A 9 inch (23 cm) square of pale blue 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
   Spikes

2. **Satin stitch**, 2 strands
   Water, sun on the water, hen wing bar, hen bill, hen eye stripe, hen eye, drake tail curl, drake wing bar, drake bill, drake collar, drake eye, reflection, dragonfly wings, dragonfly body



3. **Long and short stitch**, 1 strand
   Sun, far leaves, bulrush heads, near leaves, hen tail, hen body, hen wing tips, hen wing, hen head, hen crown, drake tail, drake body, drake rump, drake breast, drake wing tips, drake wing, drake head, lily pads, lily petals



4. **Stem stitch**, 3 strands
   Stalks

5. **Fly stitch**, 1 strand
   Hen feather marks



6. **Split stitch**
   1 strand: far leaves edge, bulrush head edges, near leaves edge, hen tail edges, hen body edge, hen wing edges, hen bill edge (colors 11 and 12), hen head edge, drake tail edges, drake wing edges, drake bill edge (colors 11 and 12), lily petal edges, dragonfly wing edges
   2 strands: drake body edge, drake head edge

7. **Straight stitch**, 1 strand
   Hen bill edge (color 11), drake bill edge (color 11)



8. **French knot**, two wraps
   1 strand: knots of the hen eye, knots of the drake eye, lily center
   2 strands: dragonfly head



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

For your own stitching, gifts and handmade pieces you sell. Do not resell or share this PDF or copies of it.

Ducks and bulrushes

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 3823 Ultra Pale Yellow	9	DMC 434 Light Brown	17	DMC 783 Medium Topaz
2	DMC 3855 Light Autumn Gold	10	DMC 301 Medium Mahogany	18	DMC 318 Light Steel Gray
3	DMC 3849 Light Teal Green	11	DMC 3371 Black Brown	19	DMC 762 Very Light Pearl Gray
4	DMC 3848 Medium Teal Green	12	DMC 801 Dark Coffee Brown	20	DMC 414 Dark Steel Gray
5	DMC 3847 Dark Teal Green	13	DMC 300 Very Dark Mahogany	21	DMC 3790 Ultra Dark Beige Gray
6	DMC 3346 Hunter Green	14	DMC 436 Tan	22	DMC 3782 Light Mocha Brown
7	DMC 3364 Pine Green	15	DMC 738 Very Light Tan	23	DMC 3731 Very Dark Dusty Rose
8	DMC 500 Very Dark Blue Green	16	DMC 797 Royal Blue	24	DMC 3733 Dusty Rose

For your own stitching, gifts and handmade pieces you sell. Do not resell or share this PDF or copies of it.

Ducks and bulrushes

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%.

For your own stitching, gifts and handmade pieces you sell. Do not resell or share this PDF or copies of it.

Ducks and bulrushes

6 inch hoop

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



1 in
25.4 mm

Not 1 inch (25.4 mm)? Print again at 100%.

For your own stitching, gifts and handmade pieces you sell. Do not resell or share this PDF or copies of it.