Easy cactus in a pot

6 inch (15 cm) hoop, 3.8 × 4.9 in (9.7 × 12.4 cm)



Colors by number: page 2.

Stitch in this order

Where a stitch page says otherwise, follow this list.

1. **Stem stitch**, 3 strands
   Cactus arms (color 5), cactus edges, cactus trunk (color 5)
2. **Chain stitch**, 4 strands
   Cactus trunk (colors 4 and 6)
3. **Satin stitch**, 2 strands
   Flower petals, flower centers, flower cups, saucer, pot, pot triangles, pot rim
4. **Running stitch**, 3 strands
   Inner arch
5. **Chain stitch**
   3 strands: arch, sill
   4 strands: cactus arms (colors 4 and 6)
   2 strands: cords
6. **Back stitch**, 3 strands
   Pot zigzag
7. **Stem stitch**, 3 strands
   Pot lines
8. **Straight stitch**
   3 strands: spines, tassels, tassel ties
   2 strands: lines of the stamens
9. **French knot**
   2 strands, two wraps
   Knots of the stamens, rim dots

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

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.

The back is seen: no knots. Start with tiny stitches; end around the backs of four or five stitches.

Every stitch in pictures: flossfield.com/embroidery/stitches.

New to this: flossfield.com/embroidery/guides/how-to-start.

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.

Buy: 7 colors of floss (page 2), one skein of each color (an estimate from the drawing's lines and shapes), embroidery needles size 7, and size 5 for 4 strands, a 6 inch (15 cm) hoop, a 9 inch (23 cm) square of white or light cotton or linen, a water-soluble pen.

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Easy cactus in a pot

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 725 Medium Light Topaz
2 DMC 3830 Terra Cotta
3 DMC 3731 Very Dark Dusty Rose
4 DMC 503 Medium Blue Green
5 DMC 500 Very Dark Blue Green
6 DMC 502 Blue Green
7 DMC 712 Cream

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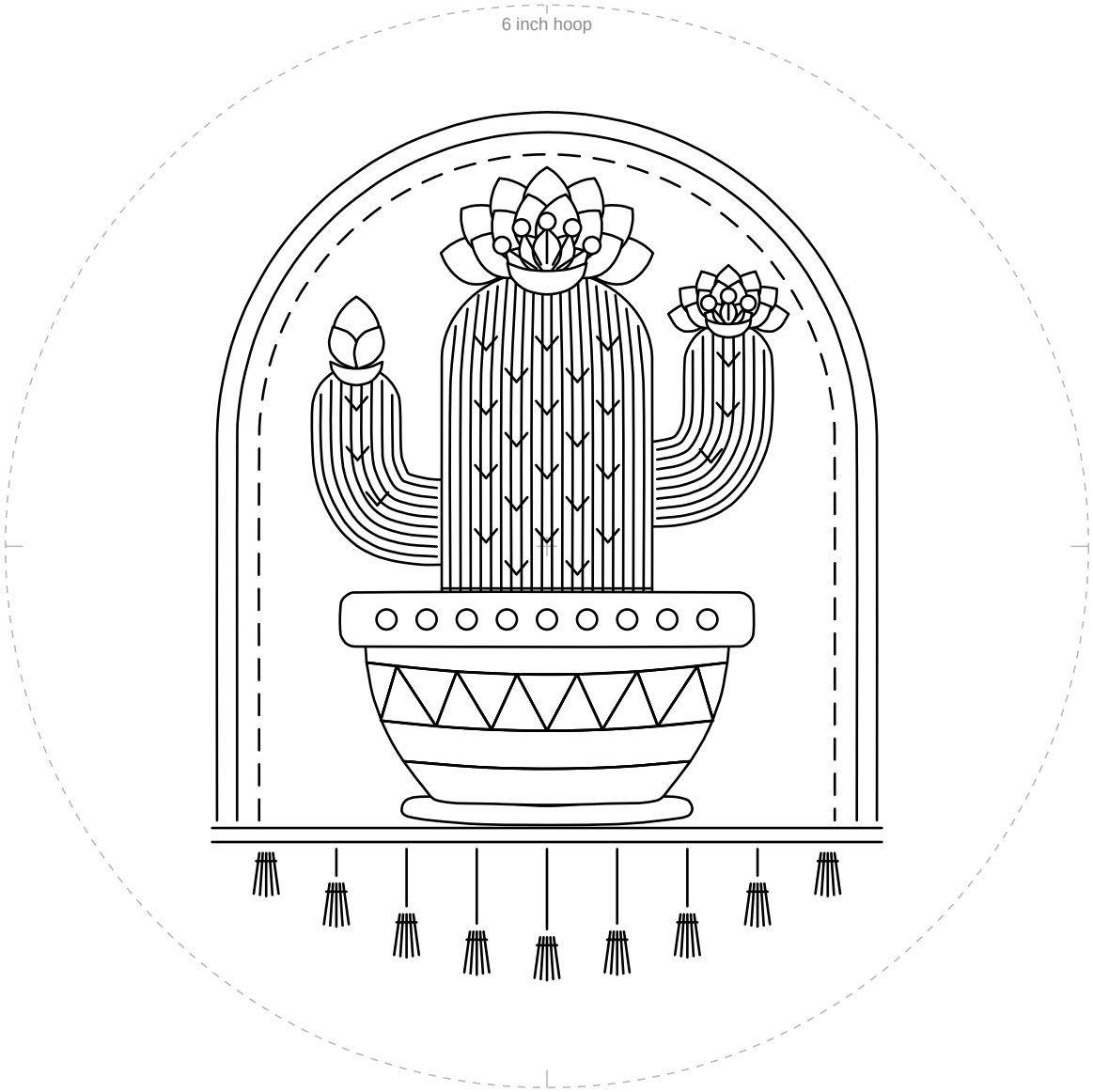
Easy cactus in a pot

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 dashed line is running stitch.



1 in
25.4 mm

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

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Easy cactus in a pot

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%.

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