Easy nautical alphabet on the waves

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

Embroidery needles, size 9, and size 3 for 4 to 6 strands.

6 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. **Satin stitch**
   2 strands, colors 1, 2, 3, 4
   Sun, lighthouse tower, lighthouse lamp, lighthouse roof, rock, mainsail, jib, hull, hull stripe, pennant, letters, fish



2. **Whipped back stitch**
   6 strands, colors 1, 2
   Rope border

3. **Straight stitch**, 3 strands, color 3
   Sun rays



4. **Back stitch**, 3 strands, color 4
   Gulls

5. **Stem stitch**, colors 3, 4, 5, 6
   3 strands: lines of the sun, mast, waves (colors 5 and 6)
   1 strand: lighthouse edges
   2 strands: sail edges, hull edges

6. **Running stitch**
   4 strands, color 2
   Waves (color 2)

7. **French knot**
   1 strand, two wraps, color 4
   Fish eyes



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 321 Red
2 DMC BLANC White
3 DMC 783 Medium Topaz
4 DMC 823 Dark Navy Blue
5 DMC 825 Dark Blue
6 DMC 807 Peacock Blue

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Easy nautical alphabet on the waves

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 whipped back stitch.



1 in
25.4 mm

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

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Easy nautical alphabet on the waves

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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