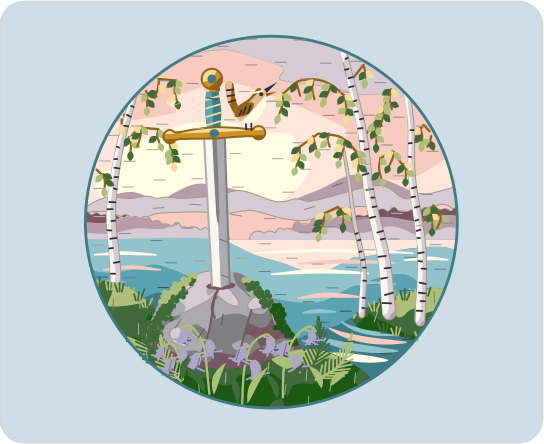
Excalibur, the sword in the stone

Sized for a 6 inch hoop (15 cm). The stitched design is about 4.7 × 4.7 in (11.9 × 11.9 cm).



Which color goes where: by number on page 2.
Fabric: pale blue cotton or linen.

Stitch in this order

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

1. **Long and short stitch**, 1 strand
   Sky, far hills, wooded shore, pool, right bank, left bank, boulder, wren, near bank
2. **Satin stitch**, 2 strands
   Ripples, birches, birch leaves, slot, blade light side, blade dark side, blade groove, grip, hilt, pommel jewel, guard, guard jewel, and 5 more
3. **Padded satin stitch**, 2 strands
   Pommel
4. **Stem stitch**, strands by part on page 2
   Birch twigs, boulder cracks, ferns, bluebell stems, edge
5. **Straight stitch**, strands by part on page 2
   Grass, bark marks, grip wire, wren legs, wren bars, wren brow, bluebell stems, bluebell rims
6. **Split stitch**, 1 strand
   Boulder cracks, blade edges, hilt edges
7. **Fly stitch**, 2 strands
   Ferns
8. **French knot**
   strands by part on page 2, two wraps
   Wren eye, moss

Floss

- **1 DMC 948 Very Light Peach** Sky (light), pool (lightest)
- **2 DMC 3743 Very Light Antique Violet**
  Wooded shore (light), birches and far hills (middle), sky (darkest), boulder (lightest)
- **3 DMC 754 Light Peach** Far hills (light), sky (dark), ripples (middle)
- **4 DMC 3823 Ultra Pale Yellow**
  Sky (lightest), ripples and wren (light), wren brow
- **5 DMC 3042 Light Antique Violet**
  Wooded shore (middle), far hills and birches (dark)
- **6 DMC 3740 Dark Antique Violet**
  Boulder (darkest), wooded shore (dark), boulder cracks and slot
- **7 DMC 3809 Very Dark Turquoise**
  Pool (darkest), edge, guard jewel and pommel jewel, grip (darker)
- **8 DMC 597 Turquoise** Pool (dark), grip (lighter)
- **9 DMC 598 Light Turquoise** Pool (light), ripples (dark)
- **10 DMC 3346 Hunter Green**
  Left bank, near bank and right bank (middle), ferns (darker) and 4 more parts
- **11 DMC 3345 Dark Hunter Green**
  Near bank, left bank, moss and right bank (dark)
- **12 DMC 471 Very Light Avocado Green**
  Birch leaves (middle), ferns (lighter), bluebell stems and 6 more parts
- **13 DMC 780 Ultra Very Dark Topaz**
  Birch twigs, hilt edges and wren wing, wren tail (darker), wren (dark) and 4 more parts
- **14 DMC 3865 Winter White** Birches (light), blade light side
- **15 DMC 3371 Black Brown**
  Bark marks, wren bars, wren legs and wren eye, wren beak (darker)
- **16 DMC 3822 Light Straw**
  Birch leaves, pommel, guard and hilt (light), grip wire
- **17 DMC 318 Light Steel Gray**
  Boulder (light), blade dark side, blade edges (lighter)
- **18 DMC 414 Dark Steel Gray**
  Boulder (dark), blade edges (darker), blade groove
- **19 DMC 783 Medium Topaz** Guard, pommel and hilt (middle)
- **20 DMC 437 Light Tan** Wren (middle), wren tail (lighter)
- **21 DMC 340 Medium Blue Violet** Bluebells (lighter), bluebell rims
- **22 DMC 333 Very Dark Blue Violet** Bluebells (darker)

Three ways to transfer the pattern

1. **Fabric you can see through**
   Tape page 3 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 3 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 4, 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 3 and 4 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.

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Excalibur, the sword in the stone

6 inch hoop

How to read it

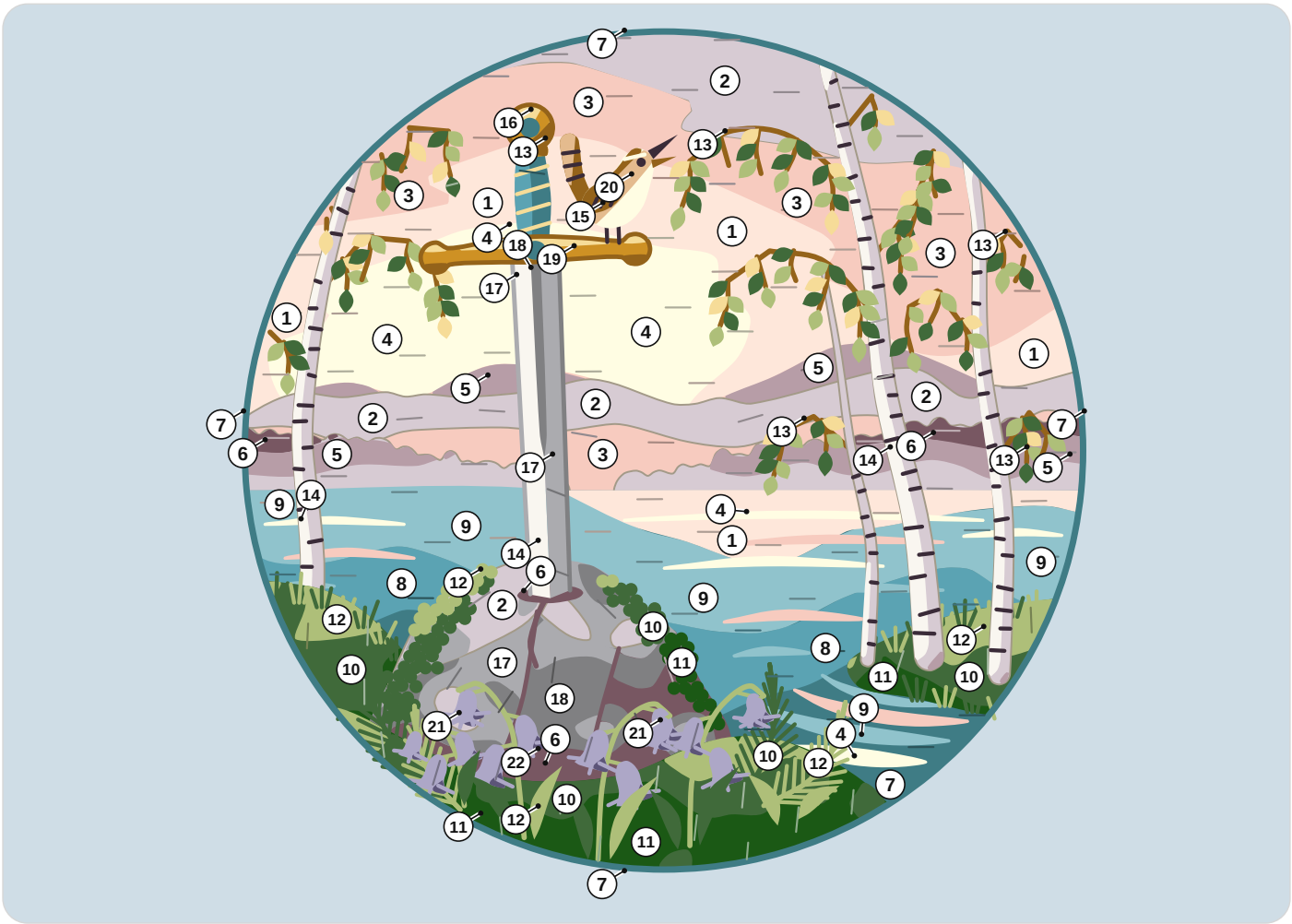
Floss is six strands. Cut 18 inches (45 cm), pull out the number given one at a time, and lay them together.

Inside a filled shape start with two or three tiny stitches, which the filling covers. Start a line with a small knot on the back. End each thread by running the needle under the backs of a few stitches.

Each small ring is one French knot. A fine broken line inside a shape is where two shades meet: trace it, do not stitch it.

A number on the picture is a color of the list of floss on page 1. The fine lines on the colors show which way the stitches lie.

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



1	DMC 948 Very Light Peach	**9**	DMC 598 Light Turquoise	**17**	DMC 318 Light Steel Gray
2	DMC 3743 Very Light Antique Violet	**10**	DMC 3346 Hunter Green	**18**	DMC 414 Dark Steel Gray
3	DMC 754 Light Peach	**11**	DMC 3345 Dark Hunter Green	**19**	DMC 783 Medium Topaz
4	DMC 3823 Ultra Pale Yellow	**12**	DMC 471 Very Light Avocado Green	**20**	DMC 437 Light Tan
5	DMC 3042 Light Antique Violet	**13**	DMC 780 Ultra Very Dark Topaz	**21**	DMC 340 Medium Blue Violet
6	DMC 3740 Dark Antique Violet	**14**	DMC 3865 Winter White	**22**	DMC 333 Very Dark Blue Violet
7	DMC 3809 Very Dark Turquoise	**15**	DMC 3371 Black Brown		
8	DMC 597 Turquoise	**16**	DMC 3822 Light Straw		

How many strands

Stem stitch. 3 strands: edge; 2 strands: boulder cracks, bluebell stems; 1 or 2 strands: birch twigs; 1 strand: ferns.
Straight stitch. 2 strands: grass, grip wire, wren brow, bluebell rims; 1 or 2 strands: bark marks; 1 strand: wren legs, wren bars, bluebell stems.
French knot. 2 strands: moss; 1 strand: wren eye.

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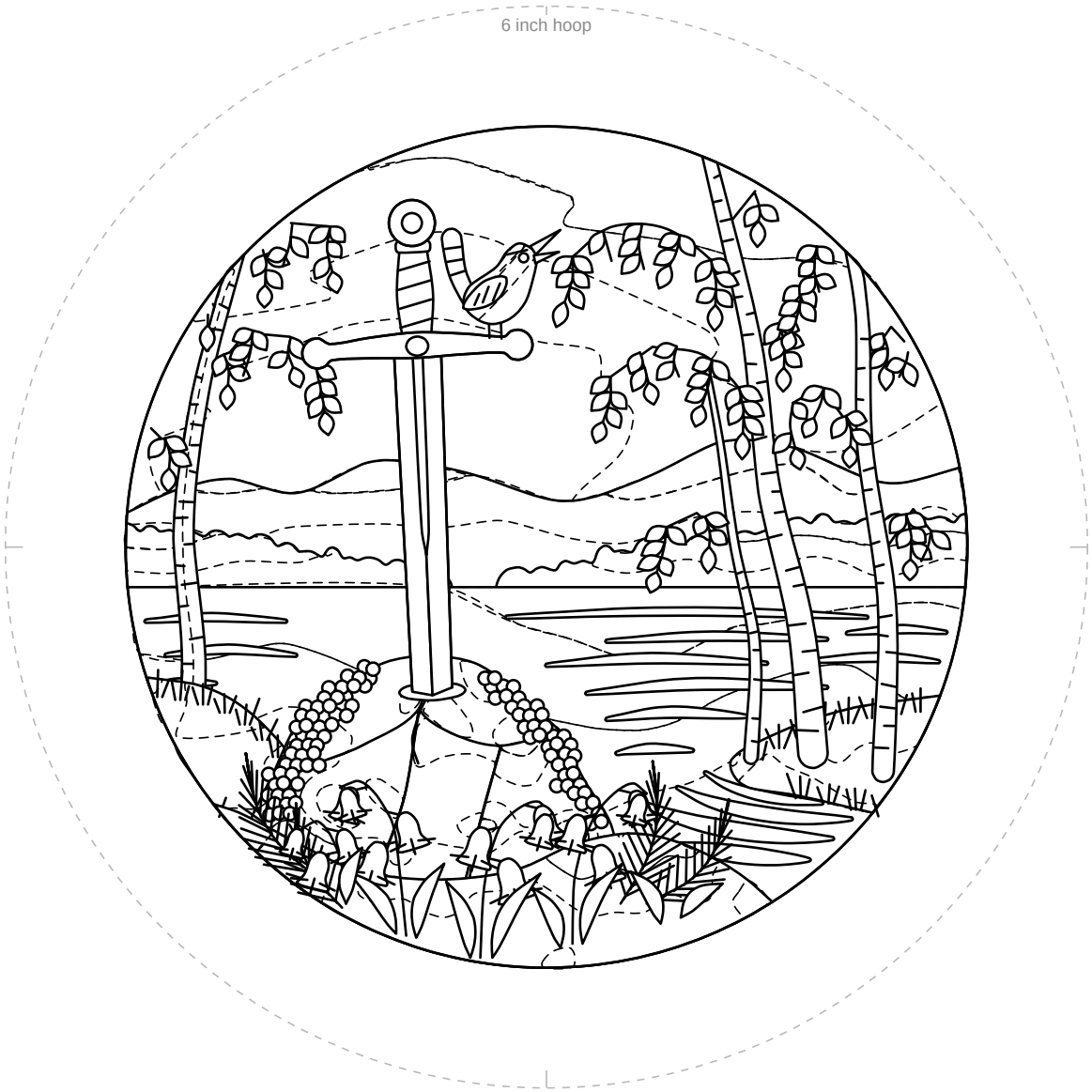
6 inch hoop

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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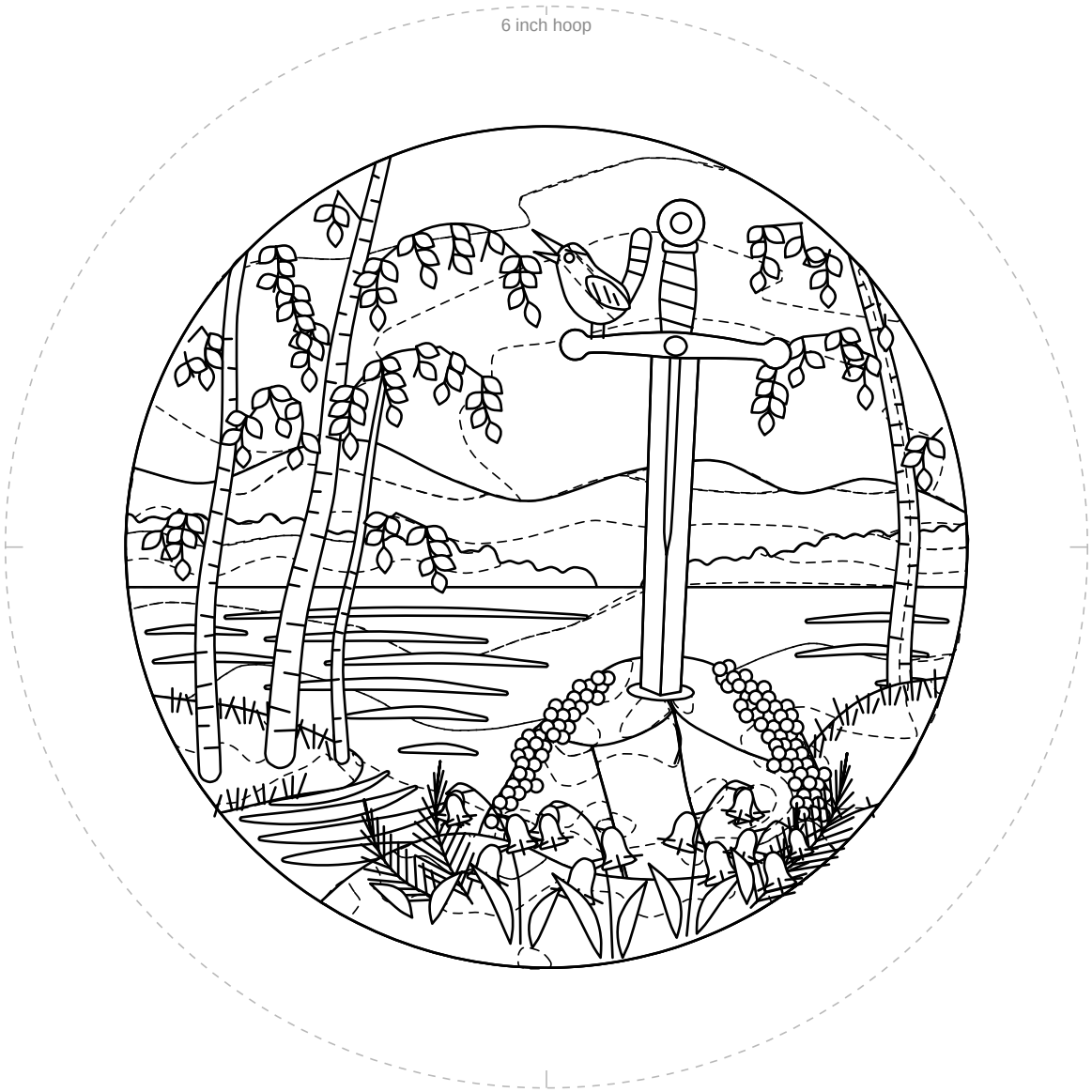
Excalibur, the sword in the stone

6 inch hoop

Mirrored. Trace this page with an iron-on transfer pen or pencil, then press it ink side down on the fabric.



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