Faceted star of Bethlehem

6 inch (15 cm) hoop, 4 × 4.8 in (10.2 × 12.2 cm)



Colors by number: page 2.
Fabric: indigo cotton or linen.

What you need

A 6 inch (15 cm) hoop.

A 9 inch (23 cm) square of indigo cotton or linen.

An embroidery needle, size 9.

16 colors of floss (page 2): one skein of each color (an estimate from the drawing's lines and shapes).

A white pencil, and small scissors.

Onto the fabric

Fabric that lets light through: page 3 on a bright light, the fabric over it; trace with a white pencil.

Other fabric: print page 3 on a sticky wash-away sheet, stick it on, stitch through it and rinse it away.

Or white or yellow carbon paper, colored side down, page 3 on top; trace with a ballpoint and go over a faint line with a white pencil.

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**, 3 strands
   Palm trunks

2. **Satin stitch**, 2 strands
   Star, light half, star, dark half, heart of the star, palm leaves, house fronts, house sides, lit window



3. **Split stitch**, 1 strand
   Silver rays

4. **Back stitch**, 2 strands
   Flat roofs

5. **Straight stitch**, 3 strands
   Windows



6. **Stem stitch**, 2 strands
   Ground line

7. **French knot**, 1 strand, two wraps
   Ray tips



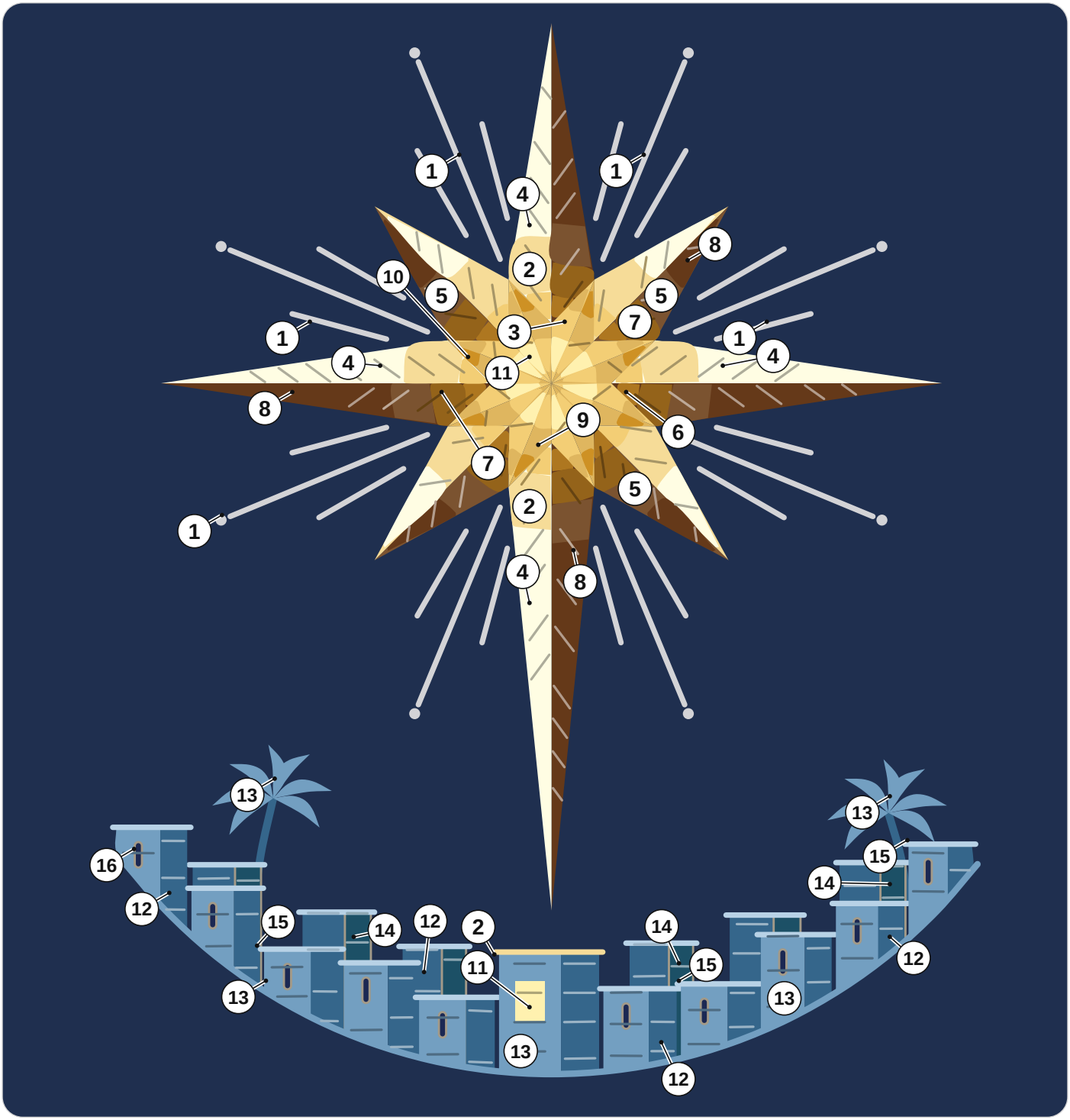
Take out lines that still show, press face down, finish the hoop or sew a pillow.

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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.



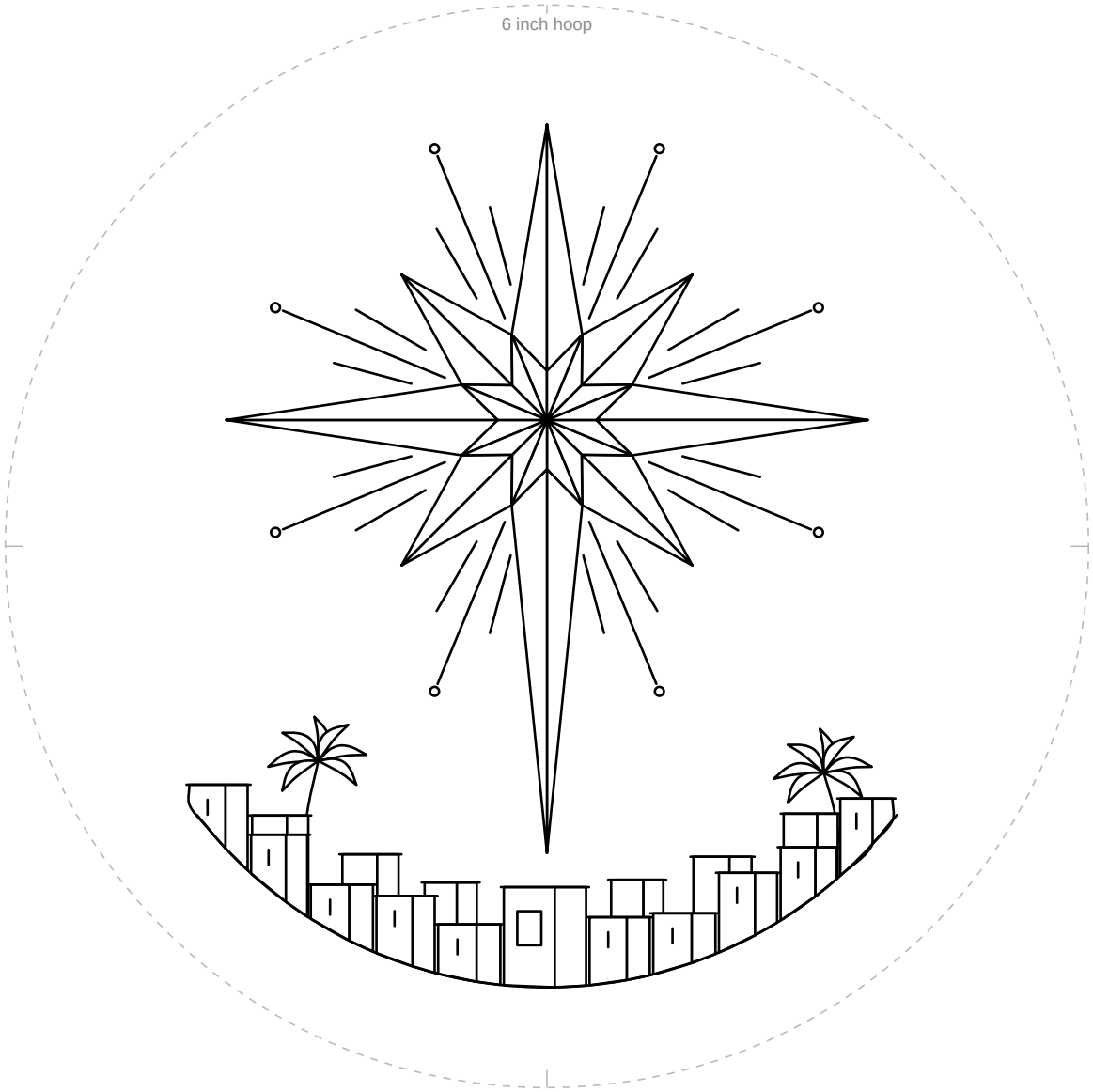
1	DMC 415 Pearl Gray	**7**	DMC 780 Ultra Very Dark Topaz	**13**	DMC 334 Medium Baby Blue
2	DMC 3822 Light Straw	**8**	DMC 801 Dark Coffee Brown	**14**	DMC 311 Medium Navy Blue
3	DMC 3821 Straw	**9**	DMC 3820 Dark Straw	**15**	DMC 3325 Light Baby Blue
4	DMC 3823 Ultra Pale Yellow	**10**	DMC 783 Medium Topaz	**16**	DMC 939 Very Dark Navy Blue
5	DMC 433 Medium Brown	**11**	DMC 727 Very Light Topaz		
6	DMC 782 Dark Topaz	**12**	DMC 312 Very Dark Baby Blue		

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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.



1 in
25.4 mm

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

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