Fall seahorse with oak leaves and acorns

Sized for a 6 inch hoop (15 cm). The stitched design is about 4.4 × 4.6 in (11.2 × 11.7 cm).



Which color goes where: by number on page 2.
Fabric: dark teal cotton or linen.

Stitch in this order

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

1. **Long and short stitch**
   strands by part on page 2
   Leaf fin, large oak leaf, small oak leaf, acorns, head
2. **Satin stitch**, 2 strands
   Body rings, twig, twig cut end, acorn cups, coronet, eye
3. **Trellis stitch**, 1 strand
   Acorn cup trellis
4. **Split stitch**, 2 strands
   Leaf fin edge, large oak leaf edge, small oak leaf edge
5. **Stem stitch**, strands by part on page 2
   Leaf fin veins, body edge, twig bark, large oak leaf veins, small oak leaf veins, acorn stalks, acorn cup edge, head edge, snout bands, eyelid
6. **Chain stitch**, strands by part on page 2
   Chain bands, cheek spiral

Floss

- **1 DMC 720 Dark Orange Spice**
  Leaf fin and body rings (dark), head (middle), large oak leaf edge and 4 more parts
- **2 DMC 919 Red Copper**
  Body rings and leaf fin (darkest), small oak leaf (dark) and 8 more parts
- **3 DMC 722 Light Orange Spice**
  Head, leaf fin and small oak leaf (light)
- **4 DMC 3822 Light Straw**
  Body edge and leaf fin edge, acorns and large oak leaf (light) and 9 more parts
- **5 DMC 712 Cream**
  Body rings (lightest), leaf fin veins and large oak leaf veins and 7 more parts
- **6 DMC 783 Medium Topaz**
  Large oak leaf and acorns (middle), body rings (light), coronet (lighter)
- **7 DMC 436 Tan** Twig, acorn cups and acorn stalks
- **8 DMC 898 Very Dark Coffee Brown**
  Acorn cup trellis, twig bark, acorn cup edge and acorn tips, eye (darker)

Stitches, continued

7. **Herringbone stitch**, 2 strands
   Herringbone bands
8. **Feather stitch**, 2 strands
   Feather bands
9. **Straight stitch**, 3 strands
   Acorn tips
10. **Lazy daisy stitch**, 2 strands
    Lazy daisy bands
11. **French knot**, strands by part on page 2, two wraps
    Knot bands, coronet tips, eye light

In a 6 inch hoop the French knots are drawn smaller than about 2 mm (a little over 1/16 in). Use one strand of floss for them there, or choose a larger hoop.

Three ways onto dark fabric

1. **Light shines through it**
   Lay page 3 on a bright light box, tape the fabric over it and trace the lines with a white marking pencil or pen.
2. **No light shines through**
   Print page 3 on a sticky wash-away sheet, smooth it onto fabric that can be washed, stitch through both and rinse it away.
3. **White or yellow carbon paper**
   Lay it colored side down on the fabric with page 3 on top, tape the layers and trace firmly with a ballpoint pen. Go over a faint line with a white pencil.

Page 3 is the pattern at actual size (page 4 is its mirror, for an iron-on pen on a light fabric). Print it 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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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. Each small loop is one lazy daisy: come up at its point. 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.



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5 DMC 712 Cream
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7 DMC 436 Tan
8 DMC 898 Very Dark Coffee Brown

How many strands

Long and short stitch. 2 strands: leaf fin, large oak leaf, small oak leaf, head; 1 strand: acorns.
Stem stitch. 4 strands: acorn stalks; 1 or 3 strands: leaf fin veins; 2 strands: body edge, snout bands, eyelid; 1 or 2 strands: large oak leaf veins, small oak leaf veins, head edge; 1 strand: twig bark, acorn cup edge.
Chain stitch. 2 strands: cheek spiral; 1 or 2 strands: chain bands.
French knot. 2 strands: knot bands, coronet tips; 1 strand: eye light.

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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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6 inch hoop

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



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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