February bluebird with a love letter

Sized for a 6 inch hoop (15 cm). The stitched design is about 4.8 × 4.8 in (12.2 × 12.2 cm).



Which color goes where: by number on page 2.

Stitch in this order

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

1. **Fishbone stitch**, 2 strands
   Leaves
2. **Satin stitch**, 2 strands
   Buds, sepals, blossoms, far wing, tail, letter, letter sides, bill, eyes, near wing, little hearts, month scallop
3. **Long and short stitch**, 1 strand
   Head and back, breast and belly, shoulder
4. **Padded satin stitch**, 2 strands
   Heart seal
5. **Buttonhole stitch**, 2 strands
   Scallops
6. **Stem stitch**, strands by part on page 2
   Stem, eye lights, ring
7. **Split stitch**, 1 strand
   Fine edges, feather shafts, fine lines
8. **Straight stitch**, 1 strand
   Petal veins

Floss

- **1 DMC 3362 Dark Pine Green** Leaves (darker), stem
- **2 DMC 3347 Medium Yellow Green**
  Leaves (lighter), sepals
- **3 DMC 761 Light Salmon** Blossoms and buds (lighter)
- **4 DMC 3712 Medium Salmon**
  Blossoms and buds (darker)
- **5 DMC 3371 Black Brown**
  Fine edges, fine lines, feather shafts, bill and eyes
- **6 DMC 321 Red**
  Petal veins, little hearts, heart seal and letter border
- **7 DMC 3821 Straw**
  Month scallop, ring knots and blossom centers
- **8 DMC 930 Dark Antique Blue**
  Far wing (darker), near wing, head and back and tail (darkest), shoulder (dark)
- **9 DMC 931 Medium Antique Blue**
  Near wing and head and back (dark), scallops, far wing (lighter) and 3 more parts
- **10 DMC 3752 Very Light Antique Blue**
  Near wing and tail (light), letter sides, head and back (lightest)
- **11 DMC 932 Light Antique Blue**
  Near wing and tail (middle), shoulder and head and back (light)
- **12 DMC 3753 Ultra Very Light Antique Blue**
  Near wing and tail (lightest)
- **13 DMC 921 Copper** Breast and belly (dark)
- **14 DMC 920 Medium Copper**
  Breast and belly (darkest)
- **15 DMC 3853 Dark Autumn Gold**
  Breast and belly (light)
- **16 DMC 3865 Winter White**
  Letter and eye lights, breast and belly (lightest)

Stitches, continued

9. **Running stitch**, 2 strands
   Letter border
10. **French knot**, strands by part on page 2, two wraps
    Blossom centers, eye lights, ring knots

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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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 dashed line is running stitch. 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 3362 Dark Pine Green	**7**	DMC 3821 Straw	**13**	DMC 921 Copper
2	DMC 3347 Medium Yellow Green	**8**	DMC 930 Dark Antique Blue	**14**	DMC 920 Medium Copper
3	DMC 761 Light Salmon	**9**	DMC 931 Medium Antique Blue	**15**	DMC 3853 Dark Autumn Gold
4	DMC 3712 Medium Salmon	**10**	DMC 3752 Very Light Antique Blue	**16**	DMC 3865 Winter White
5	DMC 3371 Black Brown	**11**	DMC 932 Light Antique Blue		
6	DMC 321 Red	**12**	DMC 3753 Ultra Very Light Antique Bl...		

How many strands

Stem stitch. 3 strands: stem, ring; 1 strand: eye lights.
French knot. 3 strands: ring knots; 2 strands: blossom centers; 1 strand: eye lights.

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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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