Owl on a leafy branch

6 inch (15 cm) hoop, 4.5 × 4.7 in (11.4 × 11.9 cm)



Colors by number: page 2.

What you need

A 6 inch (15 cm) hoop.

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

Embroidery needles, size 9, and size 5 for 4 strands.

6 colors of floss (page 2): 2 skeins of DMC 3852; one of each other 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
   Tail, leaves, tulips, tulip centers, sepals, branch, berries, breast, inner wings, wing bands, wings, toes, feathered legs, head, face discs, irises, eyes, brows, beak, heart



2. **Chain stitch**, 2 strands, color 6
   Branch grain



3. **Fly stitch**, 2 strands, colors 1, 3, 4
   Tail marks, breast marks, leg marks



4. **Stem stitch**, colors 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
   2 strands: tail edges, stalks, scallop edges, wing edges, lines of the wing sprig, leg edges, head edge, disc edges
   1 strand: toe edges, beak edge, heart edge
   3 strands: eye rings

5. **Straight stitch**, colors 1, 2
   4 strands: claws
   2 strands: face rays



6. **Lazy daisy stitch**
   2 strands, color 3
   Loops of the wing sprig, crown



7. **French knot**
   2 strands, two wraps, color 3
   Eye highlights, cheek knots



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

For your own stitching, gifts and handmade pieces you sell. Do not resell or share this PDF or copies of it.

Owl on a leafy branch

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 336 Navy Blue
2 DMC 3852 Very Dark Straw
3 DMC 712 Cream
4 DMC 3777 Very Dark Terra Cotta
5 DMC 730 Very Dark Olive Green
6 DMC 733 Medium Olive Green

For your own stitching, gifts and handmade pieces you sell. Do not resell or share this PDF or copies of it.

Owl on a leafy branch

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 loop is one lazy daisy, begun at its point.



1 in
25.4 mm

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

For your own stitching, gifts and handmade pieces you sell. Do not resell or share this PDF or copies of it.

Owl on a leafy branch

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%.

For your own stitching, gifts and handmade pieces you sell. Do not resell or share this PDF or copies of it.