Gambel’s quail at desert sunset

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: navy cotton or linen.

Stitch in this order

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

1. **Long and short stitch**, 1 strand
   Sky, clouds, sun, far mesas, near mesas, desert floor, saguaros, boulder, boulder top, body, flank feathers, tail feathers, far wing, and 18 more
2. **Satin stitch**, 2 strands
   Legs, flank streaks, toes, white bands, eye, bill, cactus fruit
3. **Split stitch**, strands by part on page 2
   Mesa ledges, boulder cracks, boulder light, feather edges, back feathers edges, covert edges, hen feather edges, hen back edges
4. **Stem stitch**, strands by part on page 2
   Saguaro ribs, saguaro light, eye ring, bill light, plume light, breast light, cap light, pad edges, rim
5. **Straight stitch**, strands by part on page 2
   Nape streaks, eye light, fruit crowns, spines

Floss

- **1 DMC 3687 Mauve** Sky (middle dark)
- **2 DMC 154 Very Dark Grape**
  Desert floor and boulder (dark), sky (darkest), flank feathers and 2 more parts
- **3 DMC 3834 Dark Grape**
  Near mesas, desert floor (middle), sky and clouds (dark)
- **4 DMC 351 Coral**
  Sky (middle light), clouds (light), cactus fruit (lighter)
- **5 DMC 3854 Medium Autumn Gold**
  Sky (light), saguaro light and boulder light, sun (darker) and 3 more parts
- **6 DMC 745 Light Pale Yellow**
  Sky (lightest), sun (lighter), plume light, breast light, cap light and eye light
- **7 DMC 3740 Dark Antique Violet**
  Far mesas and mesa ledges, boulder (middle)
- **8 DMC 3858 Medium Rosewood**
  Desert floor and boulder (light), boulder top (darker), hen cap
- **9 DMC 500 Very Dark Blue Green**
  Saguaros, pad edges and saguaro ribs, prickly pear pads (dark)
- **10 DMC 3859 Light Rosewood**
  Boulder top and feather edges (lighter), covert edges and hen feather edges
- **11 DMC 3799 Very Dark Pewter Gray**
  Body and near wing coverts (dark), near wing and back feathers and 12 more parts
- **12 DMC 414 Dark Steel Gray**
  Hen body (dark), body and near wing coverts (middle) and 8 more parts
- **13 DMC 318 Light Steel Gray**
  Hen body, hen wing coverts and hen neck (middle), body (light) and 4 more parts
- **14 DMC 739 Ultra Very Light Tan**
  Spines, flank streaks and white bands, hen body and hen neck (light) and 2 more parts
- **15 DMC 400 Dark Mahogany**
  Hen flank feathers and nape streaks, cap (darker)
- **16 DMC 922 Light Copper** Rim, cap (lighter)
- **17 DMC 816 Garnet** Cactus fruit (darker)
- **18 DMC 501 Dark Blue Green** Prickly pear pads (middle)
- **19 DMC 503 Medium Blue Green** Prickly pear pads (light)

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.

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 3687 Mauve	8	DMC 3858 Medium Rosewood	15	DMC 400 Dark Mahogany
2	DMC 154 Very Dark Grape	9	DMC 500 Very Dark Blue Green	16	DMC 922 Light Copper
3	DMC 3834 Dark Grape	10	DMC 3859 Light Rosewood	17	DMC 816 Garnet
4	DMC 351 Coral	11	DMC 3799 Very Dark Pewter Gray	18	DMC 501 Dark Blue Green
5	DMC 3854 Medium Autumn Gold	12	DMC 414 Dark Steel Gray	19	DMC 503 Medium Blue Green
6	DMC 745 Light Pale Yellow	13	DMC 318 Light Steel Gray		
7	DMC 3740 Dark Antique Violet	14	DMC 739 Ultra Very Light Tan		

How many strands

Split stitch. 2 strands: boulder cracks; 1 strand: mesa ledges, boulder light, feather edges, back feathers edges, covert edges, hen feather edges, hen back edges.
Stem stitch. 3 strands: rim; 2 strands: plume light, breast light, cap light; 1 strand: saguaro ribs, saguaro light, eye ring, bill light, pad edges.
Straight stitch. 2 strands: nape streaks, fruit crowns; 1 or 2 strands: eye light; 1 strand: spines.

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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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