Gather in laurel

6 inch (15 cm) hoop, 4.9 × 4.7 in (12.4 × 11.9 cm)



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

What you need

A 6 inch (15 cm) hoop.

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

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

23 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. **Long and short stitch**
   2 strands, colors 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 16, 19, 20
   Dusk sky, far hills, lavender hills, meadow, clothes, tablecloth top, tablecloth drop



2. **Fishbone stitch**
   2 strands, colors 9, 21, 22
   Table laurel, laurel leaves



3. **Satin stitch**
   2 strands, colors 1, 2, 3, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 23
   Cypress trees, clothes, faces, hair, sleeves, hands, head scarf, plates, napkin, candles, flames, baby, letters, lanterns, lantern caps



4. **Straight stitch**
   1 strand, colors 13, 16, 17
   Eyes and mouths, wheelchair (color 17), silverware



5. **Split stitch**, 1 strand, colors 4, 15
   Plate rims (color 4), sleeve edges

6. **Stem stitch**
   colors 2, 4, 6, 9, 15, 17, 18, 19, 22
   1 strand: lavender rows, lantern light, plate rims (color 4), lavender stems, lantern strings
   2 strands: wheelchair (color 17), tablecloth edge
   3 strands: edge
   4 strands: boughs

7. **French knot**
   two wraps, colors 6, 7, 17
   2 strands: knots of the wheelchair
   1 strand: lavender



Take out lines that still show, press face down, finish the hoop.

In a 6 inch hoop the widest satin stitch shape is 1/2 in (13 mm) across. Satin stitches longer than about 12 mm (just under 1/2 in) tend to work loose: divide the shape into sections, or work it in long and short stitch.

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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 3856 Ultra Very Light Mahogany	9	DMC 500 Very Dark Blue Green	17	DMC 415 Pearl Gray
2	DMC 158 Medium Very Dark Cornflo...	10	DMC 924 Very Dark Gray Green	18	DMC 782 Dark Topaz
3	DMC 792 Dark Cornflower Blue	11	DMC 3768 Dark Gray Green	19	DMC 746 Off White
4	DMC 793 Medium Cornflower Blue	12	DMC 3064 Desert Sand	20	DMC 3747 Very Light Blue Violet
5	DMC 794 Light Cornflower Blue	13	DMC 3031 Very Dark Mocha Brown	21	DMC 3363 Medium Pine Green
6	DMC 3042 Light Antique Violet	14	DMC 632 Ultra Very Dark Desert Sand	22	DMC 3362 Dark Pine Green
7	DMC 3041 Medium Antique Violet	15	DMC 3855 Light Autumn Gold	23	DMC 3820 Dark Straw
8	DMC 3740 Dark Antique Violet	16	DMC 3802 Very Dark Antique Mauve		

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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; a broken line inside a shape is where two shades meet: trace it, do not stitch it.



1 in
25.4 mm

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

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