Gather in holly

6 inch (15 cm) hoop, 4.4 × 4.5 in (11.2 × 11.4 cm)



Colors by number: page 2.
Fabric: wine red cotton or linen.

What you need

A 6 inch (15 cm) hoop.

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

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

7 colors of floss (page 2): 2 skeins of DMC BLANC; one of each other 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. **Stem stitch**, 4 strands
   Vine
2. **Split stitch**, 3 strands
   Outline leaves
3. **Back stitch**, 2 strands
   Berry stalks
4. **Trellis stitch**, 1 strand
   Trellis leaves
5. **Back stitch**, 2 strands
   Leaf veins
6. **Split stitch**
   1 strand: white leaf edges
   3 strands: trellis leaf edges
7. **Straight stitch**, 1 strand
   Berry highlights
8. **Stem stitch**
   2 strands: trellis leaf veins, sprig stems
   1 strand: letter edges
9. **Lazy daisy stitch**, 2 strands
   Sprig leaves
10. **Padded satin stitch**, 2 strands
    White leaves, berries, letters
11. **French knot**, 1 strand, two wraps
    Berry eyes

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

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A number is a color of the list. Fine lines show which way the stitches lie: do not stitch them.



1	DMC 739 Ultra Very Light Tan	**4**	DMC 666 Bright Red	**7**	DMC 3371 Black Brown
2	DMC BLANC White	**5**	DMC 815 Medium Garnet		
3	DMC 712 Cream	**6**	DMC 321 Red		

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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 loop is one lazy daisy, begun at its point.



1 in
25.4 mm

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

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