Geisha crossing a red bridge

6 inch (15 cm) hoop, 4.2 × 4.8 in (10.7 × 12.2 cm)



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

What you need

A 6 inch (15 cm) hoop.

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

An embroidery needle, size 9.

24 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. **Stem stitch**, 1 strand
   Water lines, willow twigs

2. **Long and short stitch**, 1 strand
   Moon, clouds, robe, sleeves, lantern, banks, willow trunk, irises



3. **Satin stitch**, 2 strands
   Bridge piers, far rail, far posts, planks, under robe hem, robe lining, hand, nape, collar, obi, obi cord, cheek, hair, hair tie, comb, lantern caps, beam, rails, posts, post caps, ripples, moon path, pier reflections, reeds, iris leaves, willow leaves



4. **Split stitch**, 1 strand
   Hand lines, sleeve edges, obi edges, cheek edge, lantern ribs, bark lines

5. **Stem stitch**
   2 strands: lantern stick, collar edge
   1 strand: lantern cord, rail lights, post lights, post shades
   3 strands: iris stems

6. **Straight stitch**
   2 strands: lines of the hairpins, lantern tassel, post cap lights, grass tufts
   3 strands: iris signals



7. **French knot**, 1 strand, two wraps
   Plum blossoms, knots of the hairpins, hair blossoms



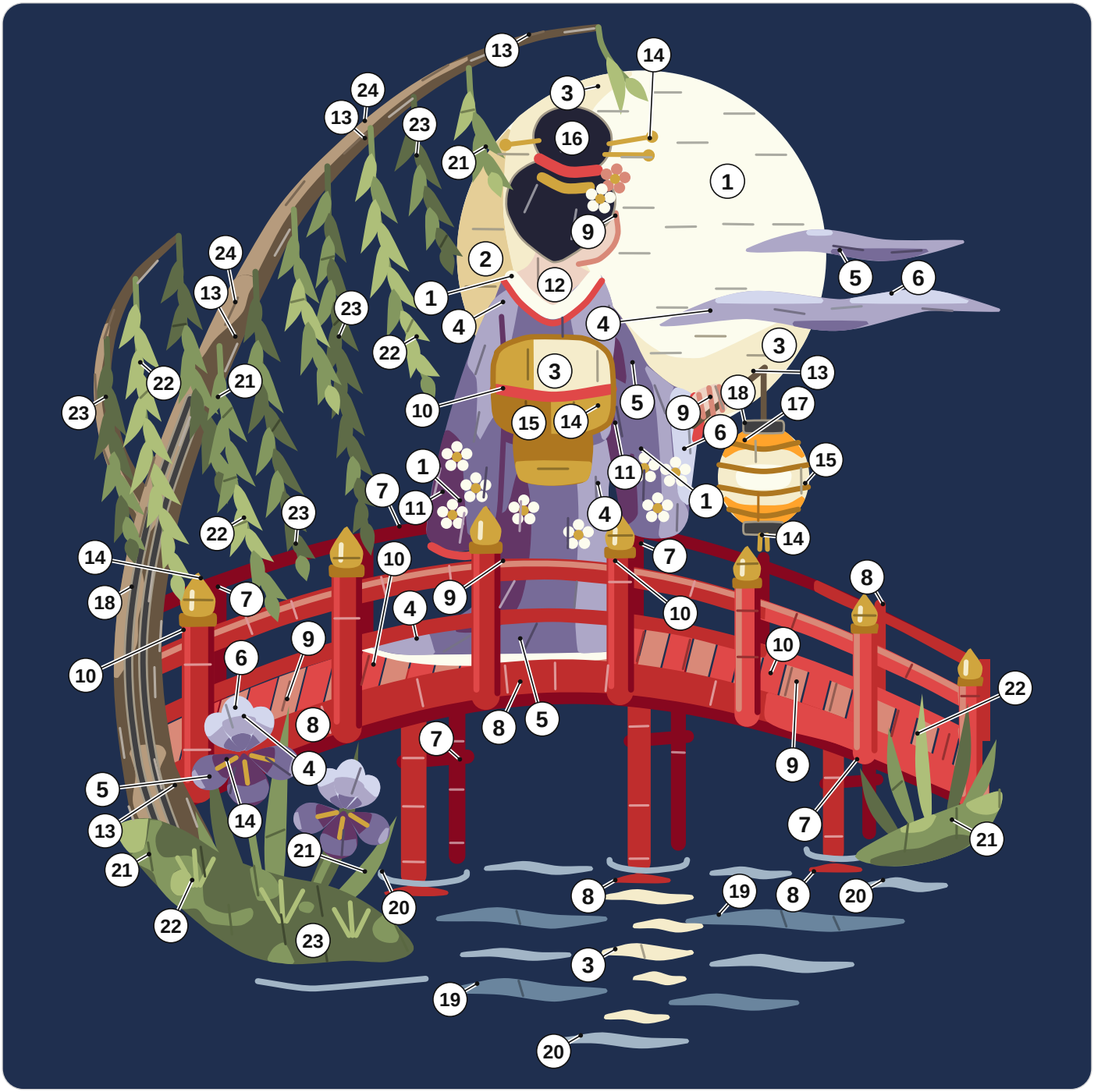
Take out lines that still show, press face down, finish the hoop.

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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 746 Off White	9	DMC 3778 Light Terra Cotta	17	DMC 741 Medium Tangerine
2	DMC 676 Light Old Gold	10	DMC 350 Medium Coral	18	DMC 3799 Very Dark Pewter Gray
3	DMC 677 Very Light Old Gold	11	DMC 327 Dark Violet	19	DMC 931 Medium Antique Blue
4	DMC 340 Medium Blue Violet	12	DMC 950 Light Desert Sand	20	DMC 932 Light Antique Blue
5	DMC 3746 Dark Blue Violet	13	DMC 839 Dark Beige Brown	21	DMC 3364 Pine Green
6	DMC 3747 Very Light Blue Violet	14	DMC 729 Medium Old Gold	22	DMC 471 Very Light Avocado Green
7	DMC 815 Medium Garnet	15	DMC 782 Dark Topaz	23	DMC 3362 Dark Pine Green
8	DMC 347 Very Dark Salmon	16	DMC 310 Black	24	DMC 841 Light Beige Brown

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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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