Iced gingerbread heart

6 inch (15 cm) hoop, 4.9 × 4.3 in (12.4 × 10.9 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.

An embroidery needle, size 7.

10 colors of floss (page 2): 2 skeins of DMC 433 and 2 of DMC 801; 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. **Long and short stitch**
   2 strands, colors 4, 5, 6, 7
   Gingerbread



2. **Buttonhole stitch**
   2 strands, color 3
   Icing frill



3. **Satin stitch**
   2 strands, colors 1, 2, 3, 5
   Ribbon tails, eyelets, bills, ribbon, bow



4. **Whipped back stitch**
   3 strands, color 3
   Icing cord

5. **Stem stitch**, colors 3, 5, 8
   3 strands: gingerbread rim, stems
   2 strands: icing lines

6. **Straight stitch**
   2 strands, colors 3, 9
   Wing feathers, legs



7. **Padded satin stitch**
   2 strands, colors 1, 2, 3, 8, 9, 10
   Leaves, tulip, tulip center, bird tails, birds, bird wings, daisies, daisy centers, bow knot



8. **French knot**
   2 strands, two wraps, colors 3, 5, 9
   Icing pearls, tulip knots, eyes



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

In a 6 inch hoop the French knots are drawn smaller than about 2 mm (a little over 1/16 in). Use one strand of floss for them there, or choose a larger 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 321 Red	**5**	DMC 801 Dark Coffee Brown	**9**	DMC 3820 Dark Straw
2	DMC 815 Medium Garnet	**6**	DMC 434 Light Brown	**10**	DMC 932 Light Antique Blue
3	DMC 3865 Winter White	**7**	DMC 435 Very Light Brown		
4	DMC 433 Medium Brown	**8**	DMC 3347 Medium Yellow Green		

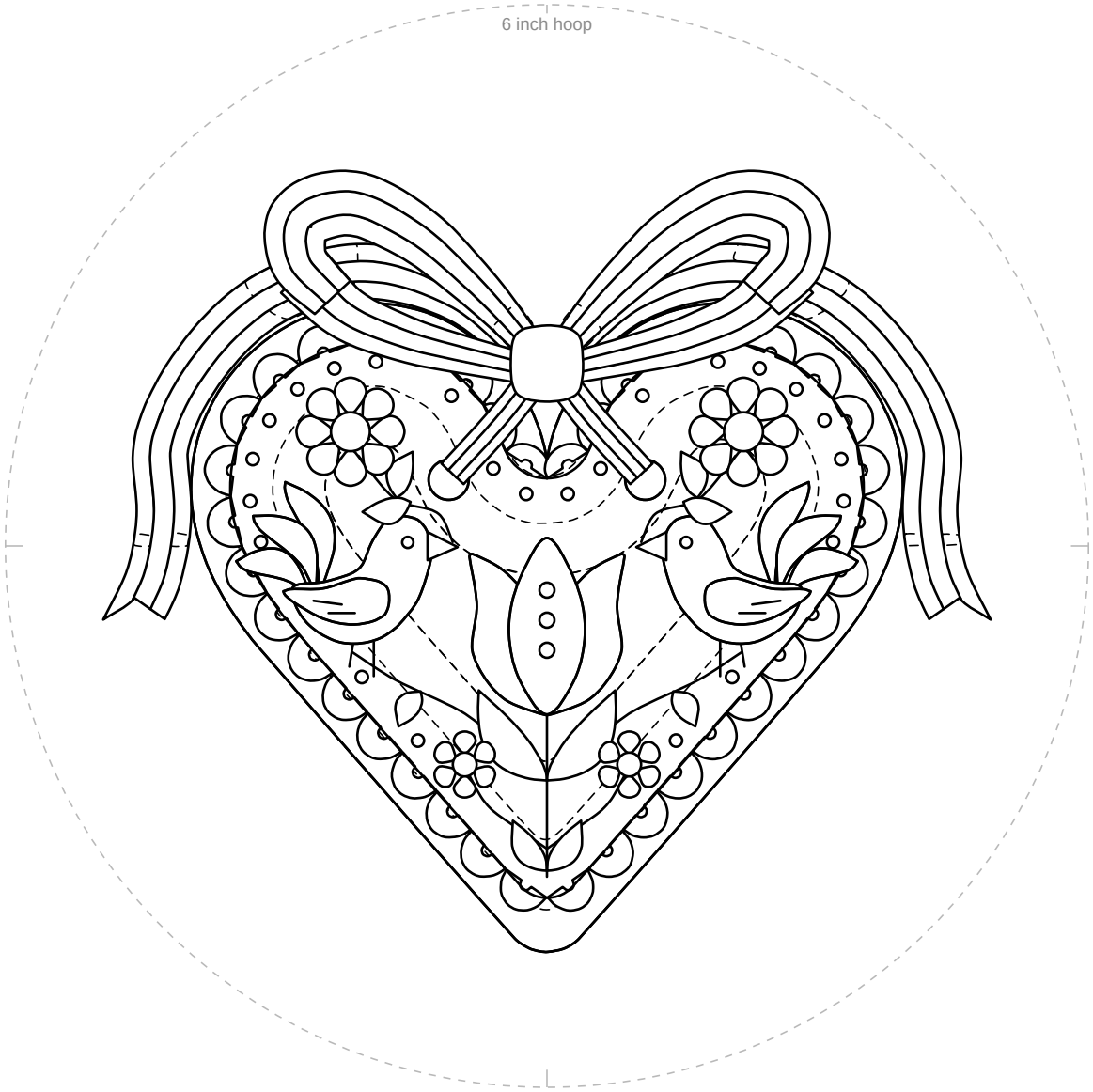
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6 inch hoop

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

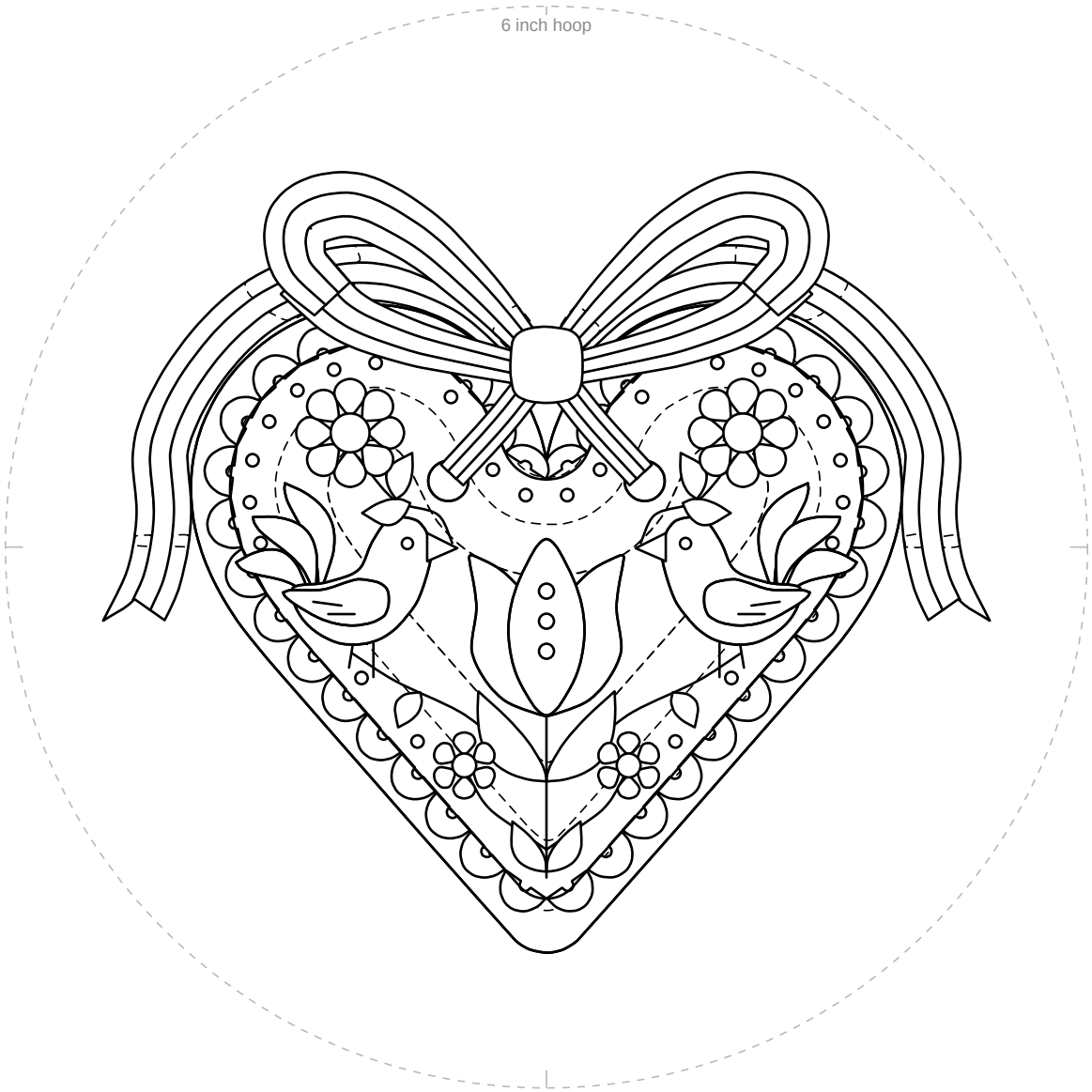
Not 1 inch (25.4 mm)? Print again at 100%.

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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%.

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