Golden axolotl curled round the moon

6 inch (15 cm) hoop, 5 × 5 in (12.7 × 12.7 cm)



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

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.

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.

Buy: 10 colors of floss (page 2), one skein of each color (an estimate from the drawing's lines and shapes), embroidery needles size 9, and size 3 for 4 to 6 strands, a 6 inch (15 cm) hoop, a 9 inch (23 cm) square of black cotton or linen, a white pencil.

Stitch in this order

Where a stitch page says otherwise, follow this list.

1. **Stem stitch**, 1 strand
   Fin edge
2. **Fly stitch**, 2 strands
   Fin
3. **Straight stitch**, 1 strand
   Gill fringe
4. **Satin stitch**, 2 strands
   Craters, legs, toes, body, gills, closed eyes, lily pads, lily petals, stars
5. **Long and short stitch**, 1 strand
   Moon, head
6. **Couching**, 6 strands
   Rim
7. **Stem stitch**
   1 strand: crater rims
   2 strands: moon edge, spine
   3 strands: smile
8. **Straight stitch**, 2 strands
   Nostrils
9. **Split stitch**, 1 strand
   Petal edges
10. **Padded satin stitch**, 2 strands
    Moon
11. **French knot**, 2 strands, two wraps
    Spots, lily centers

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 3822 Light Straw	**5**	DMC 415 Pearl Gray	**9**	DMC 3363 Medium Pine Green
2	DMC 300 Very Dark Mahogany	**6**	DMC 318 Light Steel Gray	**10**	DMC 340 Medium Blue Violet
3	DMC 783 Medium Topaz	**7**	DMC 3078 Very Light Golden Yellow		
4	DMC 762 Very Light Pearl Gray	**8**	DMC 921 Copper		

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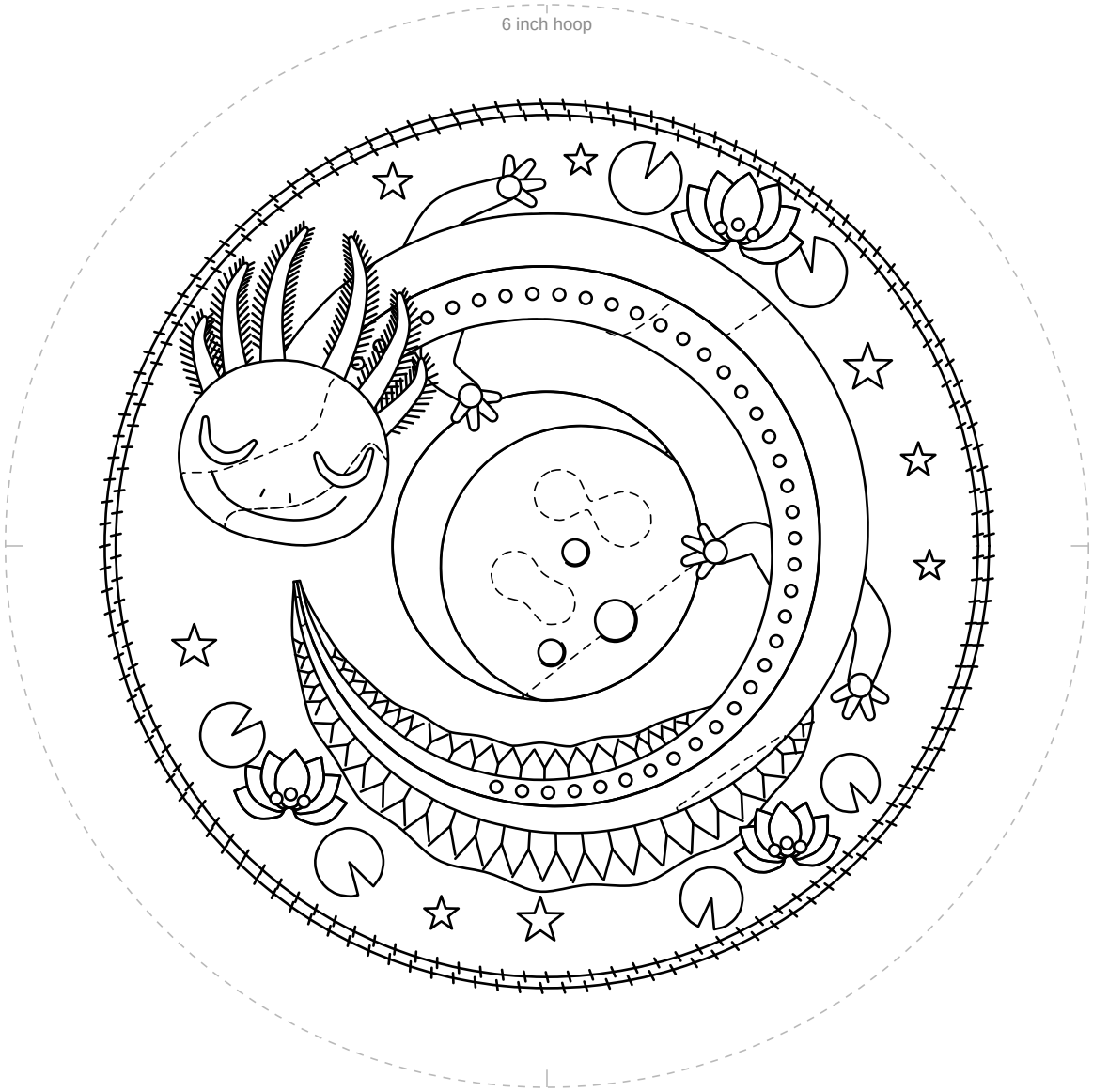
6 inch hoop

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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