Great Bear constellation, Ursa Major

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

15 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**
   1 strand, colors 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13
   Hill, far legs, tail, far ear, coat, near ear, inner ear



2. **Satin stitch**
   2 strands, colors 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 12, 14
   Far firs, near firs, moon, claws, nose, eye ring, eye, dipper stars



3. **Couching**, 4 strands, colors 1, 2
   Outer ring



4. **Split stitch**, colors 1, 9
   2 strands: inner ring, mouth
   1 strand: toes

5. **Straight stitch**, colors 1, 2, 15
   1 strand: degree ticks, lights, far stars
   2 strands: lines of the dipper stars



6. **Back stitch**, 1 strand, color 3
   Star lines

7. **French knot**
   2 strands, two wraps, colors 3, 15
   Degree knots, star hearts, small stars



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

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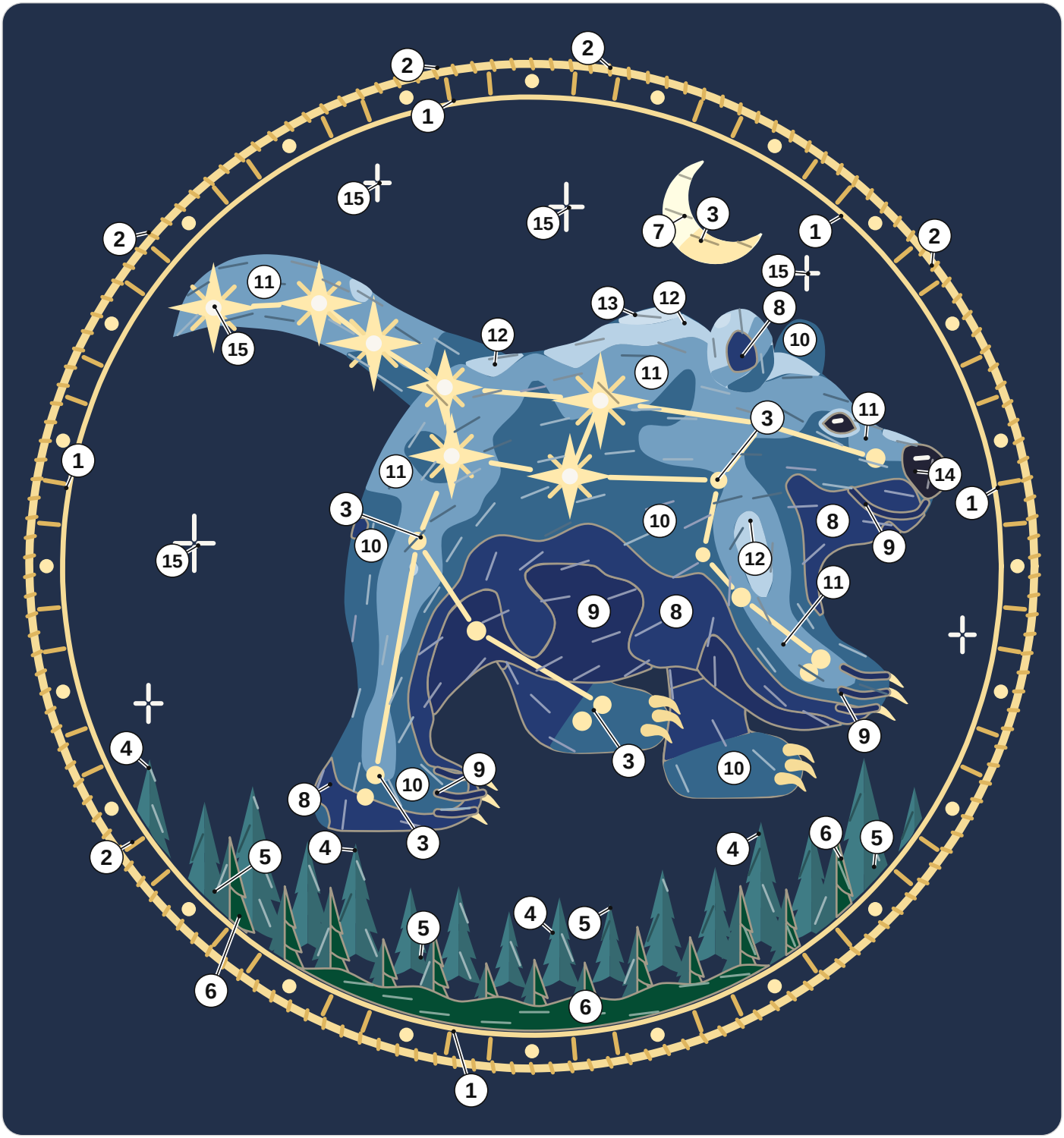
6 inch hoop

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	6	DMC 500 Very Dark Blue Green	11	DMC 334 Medium Baby Blue
2	DMC 3820 Dark Straw	7	DMC 3823 Ultra Pale Yellow	12	DMC 3325 Light Baby Blue
3	DMC 745 Light Pale Yellow	8	DMC 336 Navy Blue	13	DMC 3841 Pale Baby Blue
4	DMC 3809 Very Dark Turquoise	9	DMC 823 Dark Navy Blue	14	DMC 310 Black
5	DMC 3808 Ultra Very Dark Turquoise	10	DMC 312 Very Dark Baby Blue	15	DMC 3865 Winter White

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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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