Holiday cardinal ornament

6 inch (15 cm) hoop, 2.8 × 3.3 in (7.1 × 8.4 cm)



Colors by number: page 2.
Fabric: dark green cotton or linen.

Stitch in this order

Where a stitch page says otherwise, follow this list.

1. **Buttonhole stitch**, 2 strands
   Outer ring



2. **Satin stitch**, 2 strands
   Cap, tails, bodies, wings, wing hearts, bills, holly leaves, berries, hearts



3. **Chain stitch**, 2 strands
   Chain bands, loop



4. **Split stitch**, 2 strands
   Tail lines, wing edges, mask edges

5. **Straight stitch**, 1 strand
   Bill lines



6. **Stem stitch**, 2 strands
   Legs

7. **French knot**
   2 strands, two wraps
   Gold knots, eyes



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

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.

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: 5 colors of floss (page 2), one skein of each color (an estimate from the drawing's lines and shapes), an embroidery needle size 9, a 6 inch (15 cm) hoop, a 9 inch (23 cm) square of dark green cotton or linen, a white pencil.

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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 712 Cream
2 DMC 3820 Dark Straw
3 DMC 666 Bright Red
4 DMC 498 Dark Red
5 DMC 524 Very Light Fern 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.



1 in
25.4 mm

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

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