Honey bee from above

6 inch (15 cm) hoop, 4.5 × 4.4 in (11.4 × 11.2 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.

Embroidery needles, size 9, and size 5 for 4 strands.

18 colors of floss (page 2): one skein of each 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. **Satin stitch**
   2 strands, colors 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10
   Legs, pollen baskets, abdomen, abdomen bands, wing roots



2. **Trellis stitch**
   1 strand, colors 11, 12
   Hind wing lace, forewing lace



3. **Long and short stitch**
   1 strand, colors 1, 3, 4, 6, 15, 16, 17
   Hair bands, head



4. **Padded satin stitch**
   2 strands, color 18
   Eyes



5. **Straight stitch**
   colors 1, 2, 3, 7, 12, 13
   2 strands: knees
   1 strand: leg hairs, feet, hind wing edging, forewing edging, eye highlights, brow hairs



6. **Back stitch**, color 3
   4 strands: antennae
   2 or 4 strands: feet

7. **Split stitch**, colors 12, 13, 14
   2 strands: hind wing veins, hind wing edges, forewing veins, forewing edges
   1 strand: forewing fan

8. **Stem stitch**, colors 3, 14
   3 strands: antennae
   2 strands: hind wing edges, forewing edges

9. **French knot**
   two wraps, colors 8, 9, 10, 12
   2 strands: pollen baskets
   1 strand: hind wing lace, forewing lace, crown eyes



10. **Turkey work**
    2 strands, colors 1, 2, 5, 16, 17
    Thorax



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

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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 436 Tan	**7**	DMC 780 Ultra Very Dark Topaz	**13**	DMC 414 Dark Steel Gray
2	DMC 434 Light Brown	**8**	DMC 782 Dark Topaz	**14**	DMC 317 Pewter Gray
3	DMC 3371 Black Brown	**9**	DMC 783 Medium Topaz	**15**	DMC 739 Ultra Very Light Tan
4	DMC 801 Dark Coffee Brown	**10**	DMC 3820 Dark Straw	**16**	DMC 437 Light Tan
5	DMC 433 Medium Brown	**11**	DMC 318 Light Steel Gray	**17**	DMC 738 Very Light Tan
6	DMC 898 Very Dark Coffee Brown	**12**	DMC 3325 Light Baby Blue	**18**	DMC 310 Black

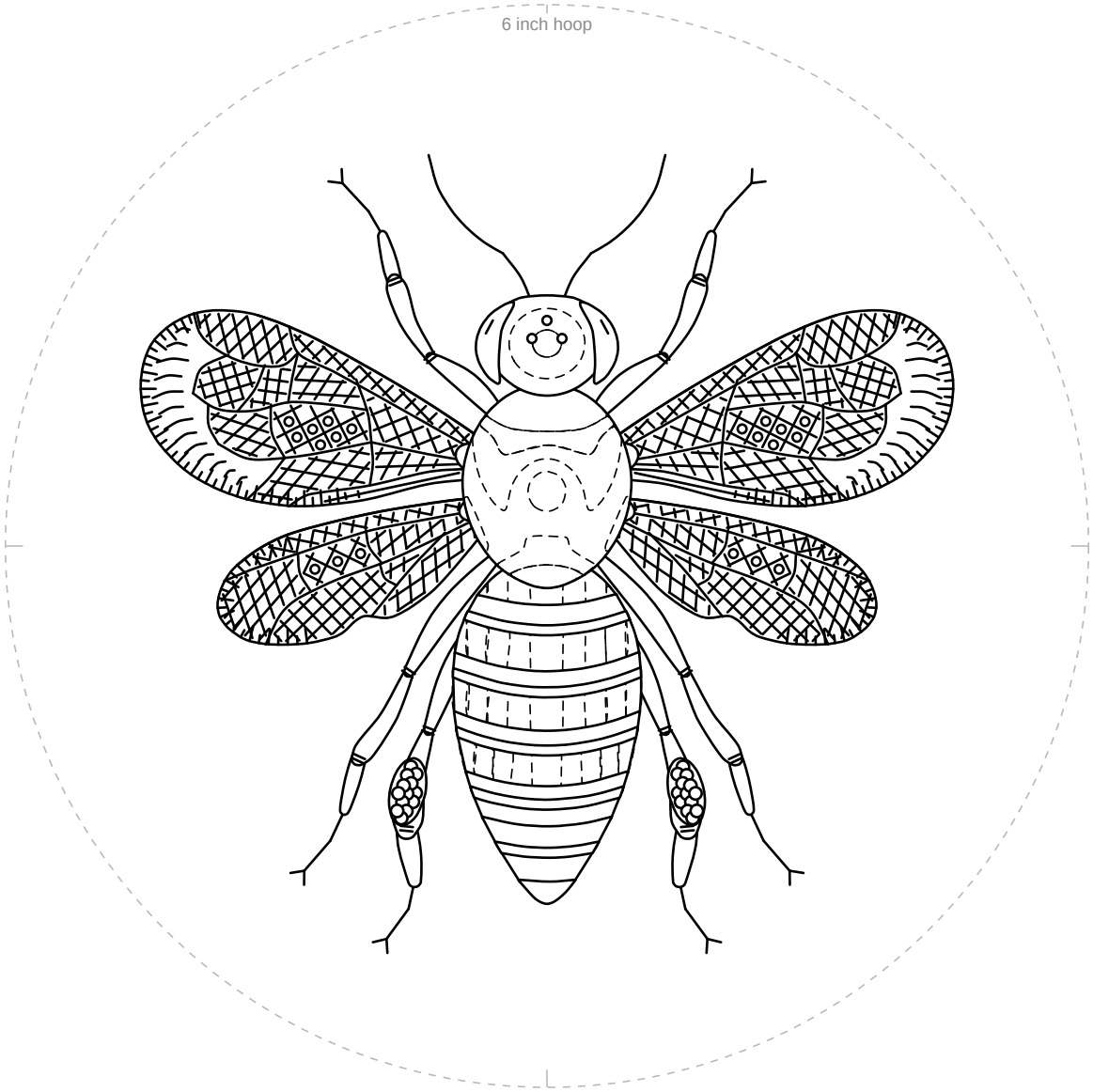
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6 inch hoop

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

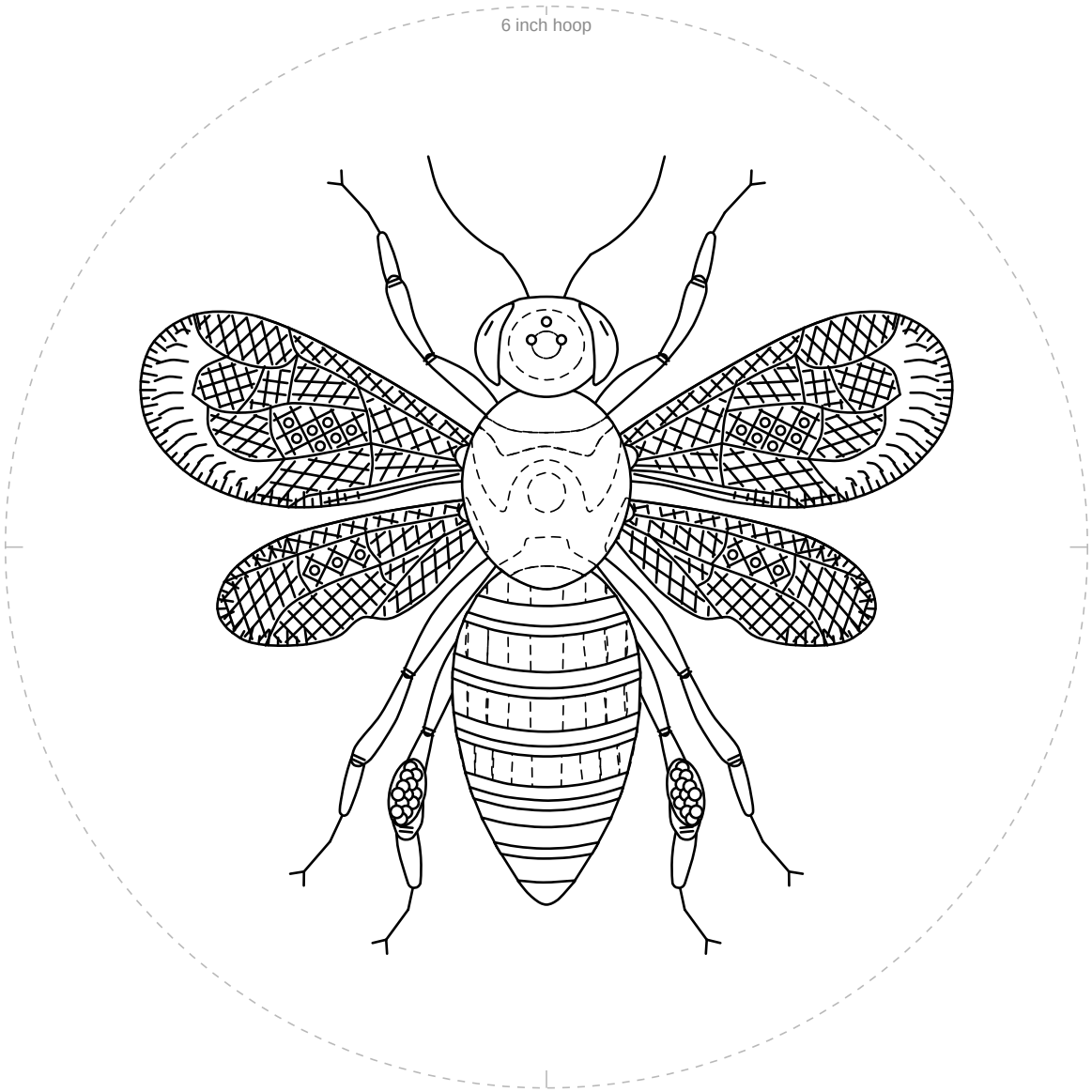
Not 1 inch (25.4 mm)? Print again at 100%.

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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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