Hope in holly

6 inch (15 cm) hoop, 4.6 × 4.3 in (11.7 × 10.9 cm)



Colors by number: page 2.
Fabric: pale blue cotton or linen.

What you need

A 6 inch (15 cm) hoop.

A 9 inch (23 cm) square of pale blue cotton or linen.

An embroidery needle, size 9.

21 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. **Stem stitch**, 2 strands
   Lines of the words

2. **Long and short stitch**, 1 strand
   Twigs, holly leaves, bough, tail, belly, back, neck, breast, wing feathers, small wing feathers, shoulder



3. **Satin stitch**, 2 strands
   Cut end, eye, bill, snow shade, berries, words



4. **Stem stitch**
   1 strand: leaf veins
   3 strands: legs
   2 strands: feet

5. **Split stitch**, 1 strand
   Leaf edges, bark lines, edges of the cut end, feather edges, eye ring, snow edges, snow shadows, edges of the berries

6. **Straight stitch**, 1 strand
   Eye highlight, berry highlights



7. **Padded satin stitch**, 2 strands
   Snow



8. **French knot**, 1 strand, two wraps
   Berry tips



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 841 Light Beige Brown	8	DMC 3021 Very Dark Brown Gray	15	DMC 921 Copper
2	DMC 840 Medium Beige Brown	9	DMC BLANC White	16	DMC 402 Very Light Mahogany
3	DMC 842 Very Light Beige Brown	10	DMC 822 Light Beige Gray	17	DMC 3371 Black Brown
4	DMC 500 Very Dark Blue Green	11	DMC 3752 Very Light Antique Blue	18	DMC 3801 Very Dark Melon
5	DMC 501 Dark Blue Green	12	DMC 932 Light Antique Blue	19	DMC 815 Medium Garnet
6	DMC 502 Blue Green	13	DMC 922 Light Copper	20	DMC 321 Red
7	DMC 504 Very Light Blue Green	14	DMC 919 Red Copper	21	DMC 666 Bright Red

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Hope in holly

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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Hope in holly

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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