I believe in family

6 inch (15 cm) hoop, 4.6 × 4.5 in (11.7 × 11.4 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.

An embroidery needle, size 9.

24 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**, 3 strands
   Legs

2. **Fishbone stitch**, 2 strands
   Leaves



3. **Long and short stitch**, 1 strand
   Twigs, bough, nest, cream nestling, gold nestling, gray nestling, rust nestling, tail, belly, breast, back, head, throat, wing feathers, small wing feathers, shoulder, blossom petals, buds



4. **Satin stitch**, 2 strands
   Eyes, owlet bill, nestling bills, open mouths, bill, sepals, words



5. **Stem stitch**, 2 strands
   Straws, feet

6. **Split stitch**, 1 strand
   Feather edges, petal edges

7. **Straight stitch**
   2 strands: eye highlights
   1 strand: stamens



8. **Bullion knot**, 3 strands
   Caterpillar



9. **French knot**, two wraps
   2 strands: moss
   1 strand: stamen tips, knots of the words



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

In a 6 inch hoop the 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.

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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 3031 Very Dark Mocha Brown	9	DMC 3820 Dark Straw	17	DMC 402 Very Light Mahogany
2	DMC 840 Medium Beige Brown	10	DMC 3822 Light Straw	18	DMC 931 Medium Antique Blue
3	DMC 3364 Pine Green	11	DMC 921 Copper	19	DMC 3752 Very Light Antique Blue
4	DMC 3363 Medium Pine Green	12	DMC 224 Very Light Shell Pink	20	DMC 3856 Ultra Very Light Mahogany
5	DMC 3362 Dark Pine Green	13	DMC 3722 Medium Shell Pink	21	DMC 3750 Very Dark Antique Blue
6	DMC 842 Very Light Beige Brown	14	DMC 414 Dark Steel Gray	22	DMC 930 Dark Antique Blue
7	DMC 3045 Dark Yellow Beige	15	DMC 415 Pearl Gray	23	DMC 225 Ultra Very Light Shell Pink
8	DMC 712 Cream	16	DMC 919 Red Copper	24	DMC 154 Very Dark Grape

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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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