In the bleak midwinter, silver laurel

Sized for a 6 inch hoop (15 cm). The stitched design is about 5 × 4.7 in (12.7 × 11.9 cm).



Which color goes where: by number on page 2.
Fabric: dark green cotton or linen.

Three ways onto dark fabric

1. **Light shines through it**
   Lay page 3 on a bright light box, tape the fabric over it and trace the lines with a white marking pencil or pen.
2. **No light shines through**
   Print page 3 on a sticky wash-away sheet, smooth it onto fabric that can be washed, stitch through both and rinse it away.
3. **White or yellow carbon paper**
   Lay it colored side down on the fabric with page 3 on top, tape the layers and trace firmly with a ballpoint pen. Go over a faint line with a white pencil.

Page 3 is the pattern at actual size (page 4 is its mirror, for an iron-on pen on a light fabric). Print it at 100% with scaling turned off. Then put the fabric in the hoop: inner ring under, drawing up, tight as a drum.

Floss

- **1 DMC 522 Fern Green**
  Stems, leaves (shade 1 of 7)
- **2 DMC 168 Very Light Pewter**
  Leaves (shade 5 of 7)
- **3 DMC 3865 Winter White**
  Leaves (shade 7 of 7), words, buds (lighter)
- **4 DMC 762 Very Light Pearl Gray**
  Leaves (shade 6 of 7), buds (darker)
- **5 DMC 318 Light Steel Gray**
  Leaves (shade 2 of 7)
- **6 DMC 523 Light Fern Green**
  Leaves (shade 3 of 7), bud stalks and bud cups
- **7 DMC 524 Very Light Fern Green**
  Leaves (shade 4 of 7)
- **8 DMC 3822 Light Straw**
  Stars and binding

Stitch in this order

Filled parts from the back of the picture forward, then lines.

1. **Padded satin stitch**, 2 strands
   Leaves, buds, binding
2. **Stem stitch**
   strands by part on page 2
   Stems, leaves, bud stalks
3. **Fly stitch**, 1 strand
   Bud cups
4. **Straight stitch**, 2 strands
   Stars
5. **Back stitch**, 4 strands
   Words



What you need

Advanced. A 6 inch (15 cm) hoop, and a 9 inch (23 cm) square of plain cotton or linen, in dark green. Embroidery needle: size 9 for 1 strand, size 7 for 2 or 3, size 5 for 4 (a lower number is a thicker needle). Skeins: one of each color is enough. An estimate for the 6 inch hoop, from the length of each line and the area of each filled shape, with a fifth added for tails.

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6 inch hoop

How to read it

Floss is six strands. Cut 18 inches (45 cm), pull out the number given one at a time, and lay them together.

Inside a filled shape start with two or three tiny stitches, which the filling covers. Start a line with a small knot on the back. End each thread by running the needle under the backs of a few stitches.

A number on the picture is a color of the list of floss on page 1. The fine lines on the colors show which way the stitches lie.

Every stitch in pictures: flossfield.com/embroidery/stitches. The first time: flossfield.com/embroidery/guides/how-to-start.



1 DMC 522 Fern Green
2 DMC 168 Very Light Pewter
3 DMC 3865 Winter White
4 DMC 762 Very Light Pearl Gray
5 DMC 318 Light Steel Gray
6 DMC 523 Light Fern Green
7 DMC 524 Very Light Fern Green
8 DMC 3822 Light Straw

How many strands

Stem stitch. 3 strands: stems; 1 or 2 strands: leaves, bud stalks.

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6 inch hoop

Print at 100% and check the square below with a ruler. Fold the fabric in four: the folds meet the four ticks of the ring.



1 in
25.4 mm

Check square: 1 inch (25.4 mm) on each side.
If it measures anything else, print again at 100% with scaling off.

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6 inch hoop

Mirrored. Trace this page with an iron-on transfer pen or pencil, then press it ink side down on the fabric.



1 in
25.4 mm

Check square: 1 inch (25.4 mm) on each side.
If it measures anything else, print again at 100% with scaling off.

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