Journal cover, moth and keyhole

6 inch (15 cm) hoop, 2.8 × 4.2 in (7.1 × 10.7 cm)



Colors by number: page 2.
Fabric: mustard yellow cotton or linen.

What you need

A 6 inch (15 cm) hoop.

A 9 inch (23 cm) square of mustard yellow cotton or linen.

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

5 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**
   1 strand: hindwing veins
   2 strands: hindwings, antennae

2. **Couching**, 3 strands
   Cord



3. **Satin stitch**, 2 strands
   Corner pieces, crescents, forewing panels, wing borders, collar, key, key collar



4. **Stem stitch**
   3 strands: spine line
   1 strand: spine lines, crescent edges

5. **Couching**
   4 strands: cover edge
   2 strands: wing veins, keyhole edge, lock plate edge
   3 strands: forewing edges



6. **Fly stitch**, 1 strand
   Antenna feathers



7. **Straight stitch**, 1 strand
   Body rings



8. **Padded satin stitch**, 2 strands
   Raised spine bands, lock plate body



9. **French knot**
   2 strands, two wraps
   Corner rivets, moth eyes, key rivet



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

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A number is a color of the list. Fine lines show which way the stitches lie: do not stitch them.



1 DMC 310 Black
2 DMC 3823 Ultra Pale Yellow
3 DMC 413 Dark Pewter Gray
4 DMC 318 Light Steel Gray
5 DMC 869 Very Dark Hazelnut Brown

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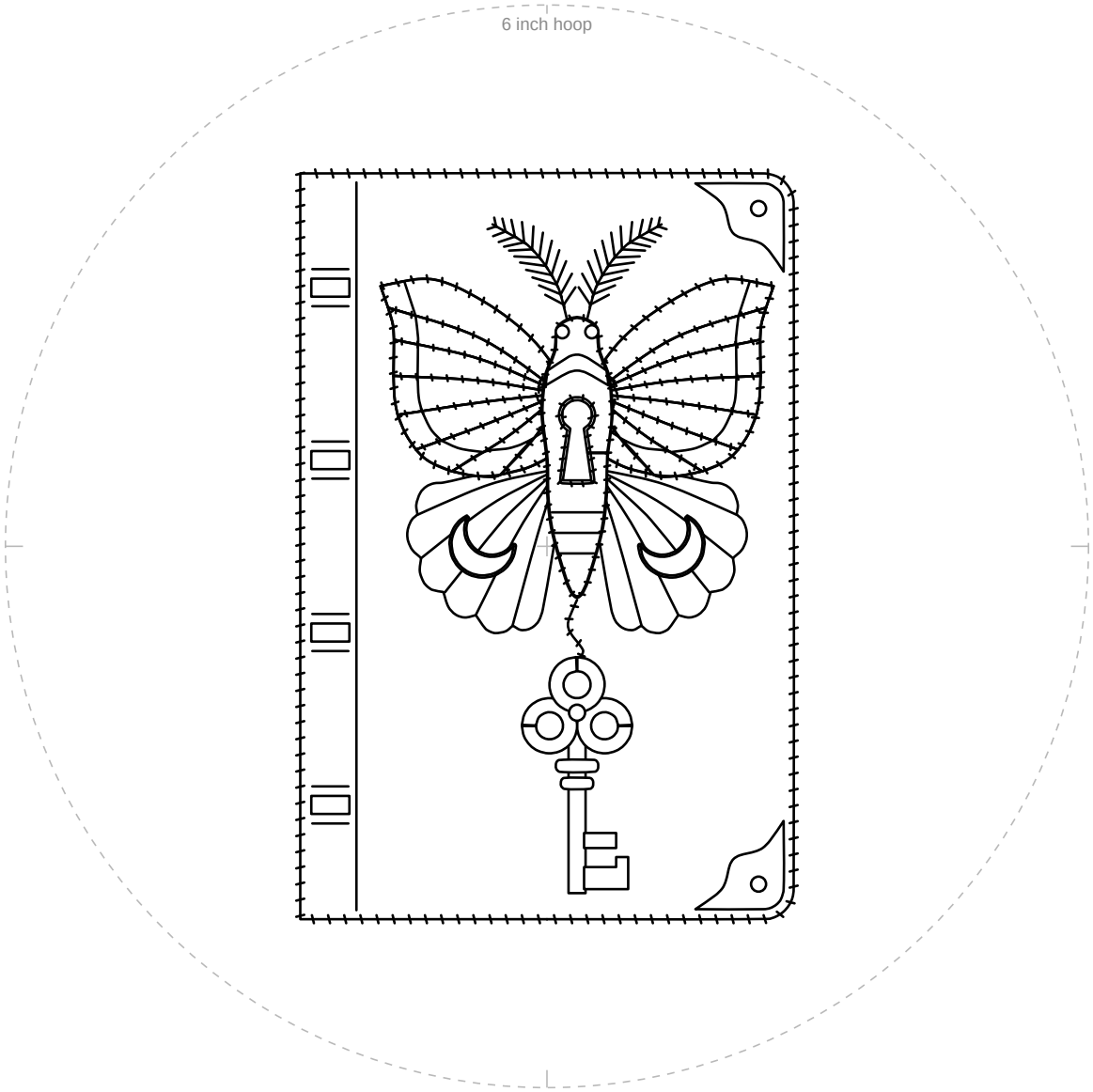
6 inch hoop

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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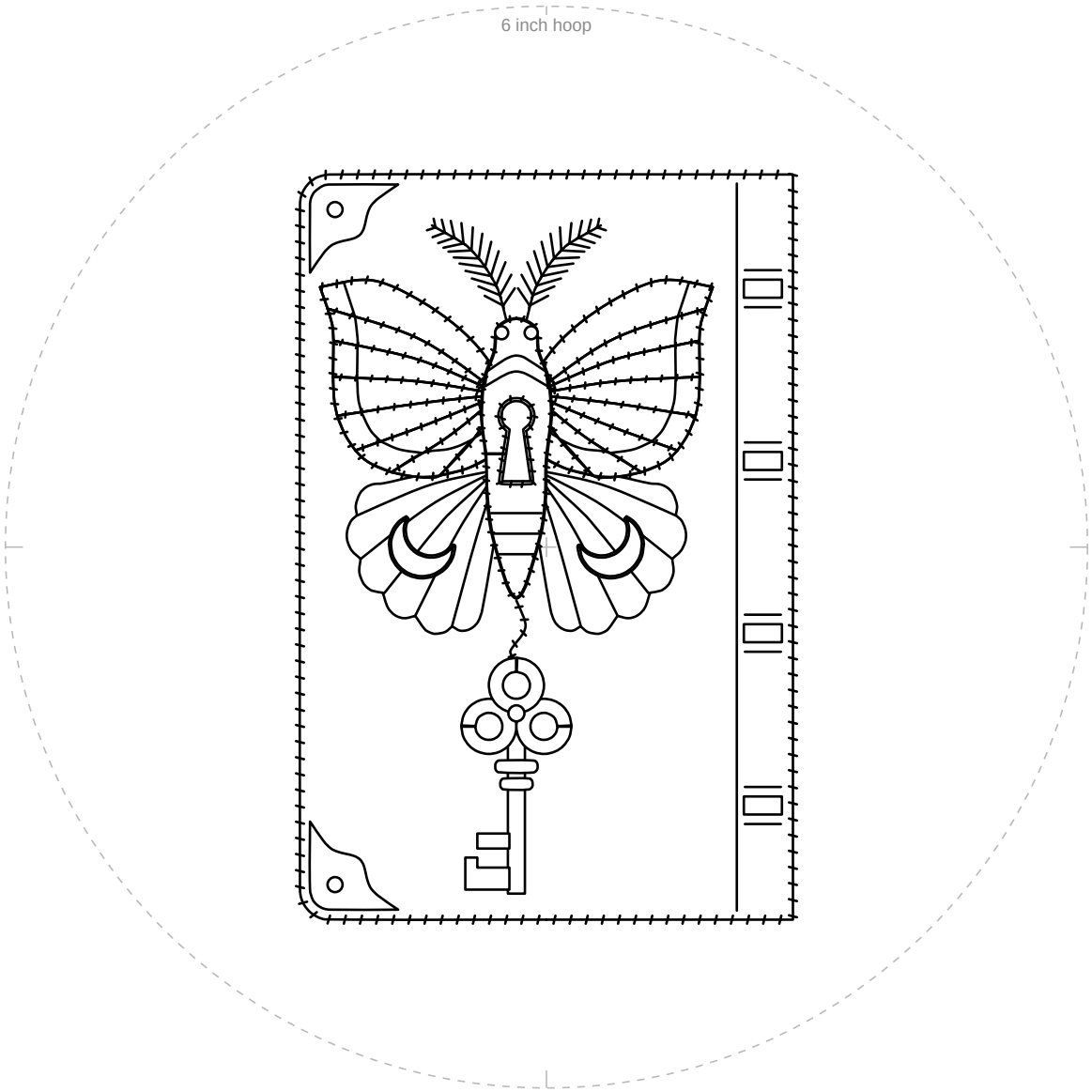
6 inch hoop

For an iron-on pen only. Go over the lines, press ink side down.



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