Joy in holly

6 inch (15 cm) hoop, 4.9 × 4.9 in (12.4 × 12.4 cm)



Colors by number: page 2.
Fabric: navy cotton or linen.

What you need

A 6 inch (15 cm) hoop.

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

An embroidery needle, size 9.

10 colors of floss (page 2): one skein of each color (an estimate from the drawing's lines and shapes).

A white pencil, and small scissors.

Onto the fabric

Fabric that lets light through: page 3 on a bright light, the fabric over it; trace with a white pencil.

Other fabric: print page 3 on a sticky wash-away sheet, stick it on, stitch through it and rinse it away.

Or white or yellow carbon paper, colored side down, page 3 on top; trace with a ballpoint and go over a faint line with a white pencil.

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
   Boughs
2. **Satin stitch**, 2 strands
   Holly leaves, peaks, diamonds, star, words
3. **Chain stitch**, 2 strands
   Ring
4. **Stem stitch**, 2 strands
   Band lines
5. **Straight stitch**, 1 strand
   Berry highlights
6. **Split stitch**
   1 strand: leaf veins
   2 strands: edges of the words
7. **Padded satin stitch**, 2 strands
   Berries
8. **French knot**
   2 strands, two wraps
   Knots

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

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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 3865 Winter White	**5**	DMC 772 Very Light Yellow Green	**9**	DMC 321 Red
2	DMC 3364 Pine Green	**6**	DMC 3363 Medium Pine Green	**10**	DMC 3753 Ultra Very Light Antique Bl...
3	DMC 502 Blue Green	**7**	DMC 350 Medium Coral		
4	DMC 503 Medium Blue Green	**8**	DMC 498 Dark Red		

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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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