Leo zodiac sign

6 inch (15 cm) hoop, 4.7 × 4.7 in (11.9 × 11.9 cm)



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

What you need

A 6 inch (15 cm) hoop.

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

An embroidery needle, size 9.

18 colors of floss (page 2): 2 skeins of DMC 792; one of each other 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. **Long and short stitch**
   1 strand, colors 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17
   Dusk sky, far hills, near hills, golden ridge, tail, tail tuft, far paw, body, haunch, hind paw, shoulder, front paw, mane, mane locks, ear (color 14), face, muzzle, near grass
2. **Satin stitch**, 2 strands, colors 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 15
   Cloud bands, ear (color 8), nose, eye
3. **Split stitch**, 1 strand, color 8
   Fur edges
4. **Straight stitch**, colors 9, 10, 11, 16, 18
   1 strand: eye highlight, whiskers, Regulus
   2 strands: grass, seed grass (colors 10 and 11)
5. **Back stitch**, 1 strand, color 11
   Star lines
6. **Stem stitch**, colors 2, 8, 9, 15
   1 strand: paw toes, brow, seed grass (color 9)
   2 strands: mouth, edges of the eye
   3 strands: rim
7. **French knot**, 2 strands, two wraps, color 18
   Stars

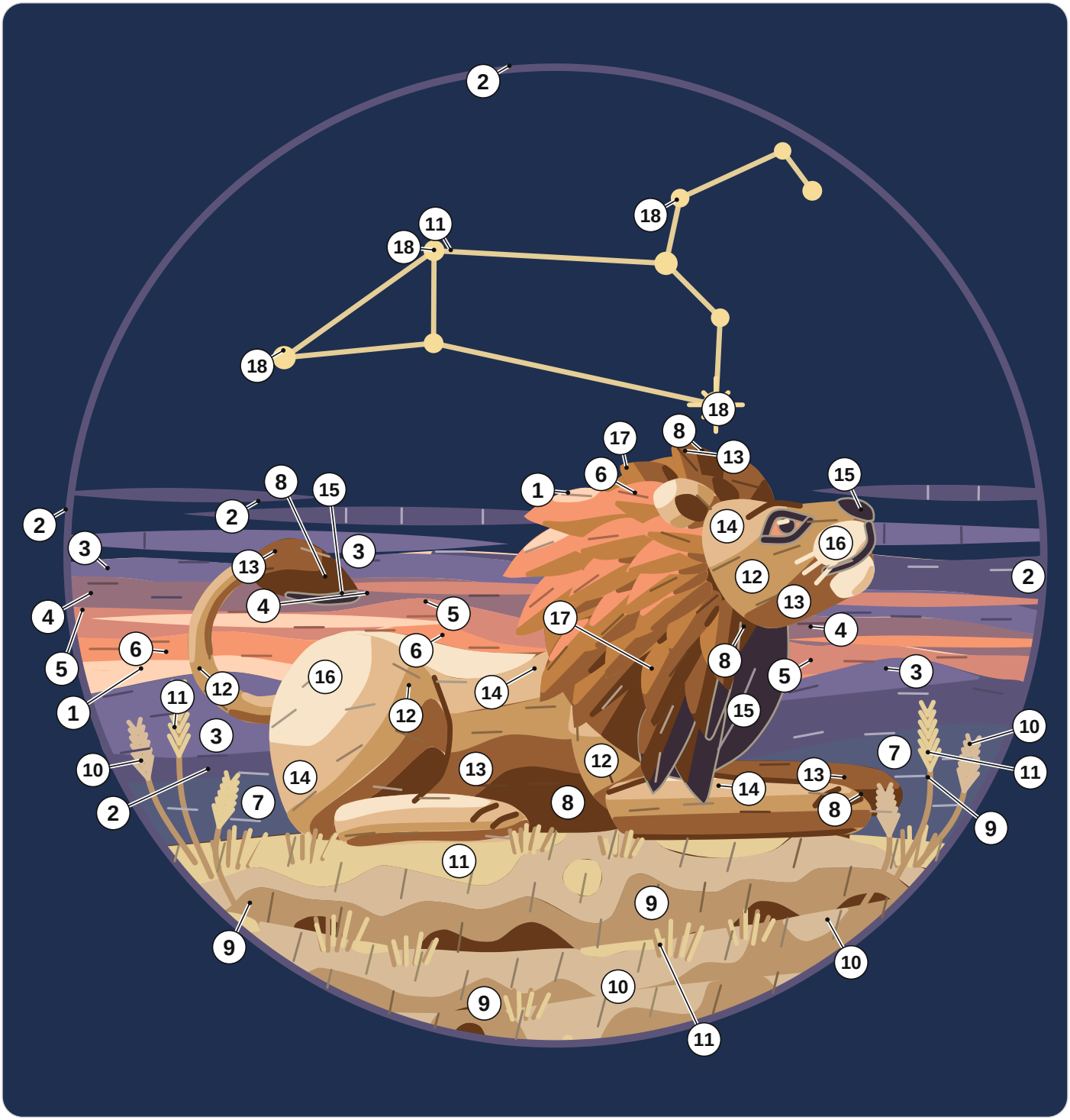
Take out lines that still show, press face down, finish the hoop or sew a pillow.

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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 3856 Ultra Very Light Mahogany	7	DMC 792 Dark Cornflower Blue	13	DMC 434 Light Brown
2	DMC 333 Very Dark Blue Violet	8	DMC 801 Dark Coffee Brown	14	DMC 437 Light Tan
3	DMC 3746 Dark Blue Violet	9	DMC 3045 Dark Yellow Beige	15	DMC 3371 Black Brown
4	DMC 3041 Medium Antique Violet	10	DMC 3046 Medium Yellow Beige	16	DMC 739 Ultra Very Light Tan
5	DMC 3778 Light Terra Cotta	11	DMC 676 Light Old Gold	17	DMC 976 Medium Golden Brown
6	DMC 722 Light Orange Spice	12	DMC 436 Tan	18	DMC 3822 Light Straw

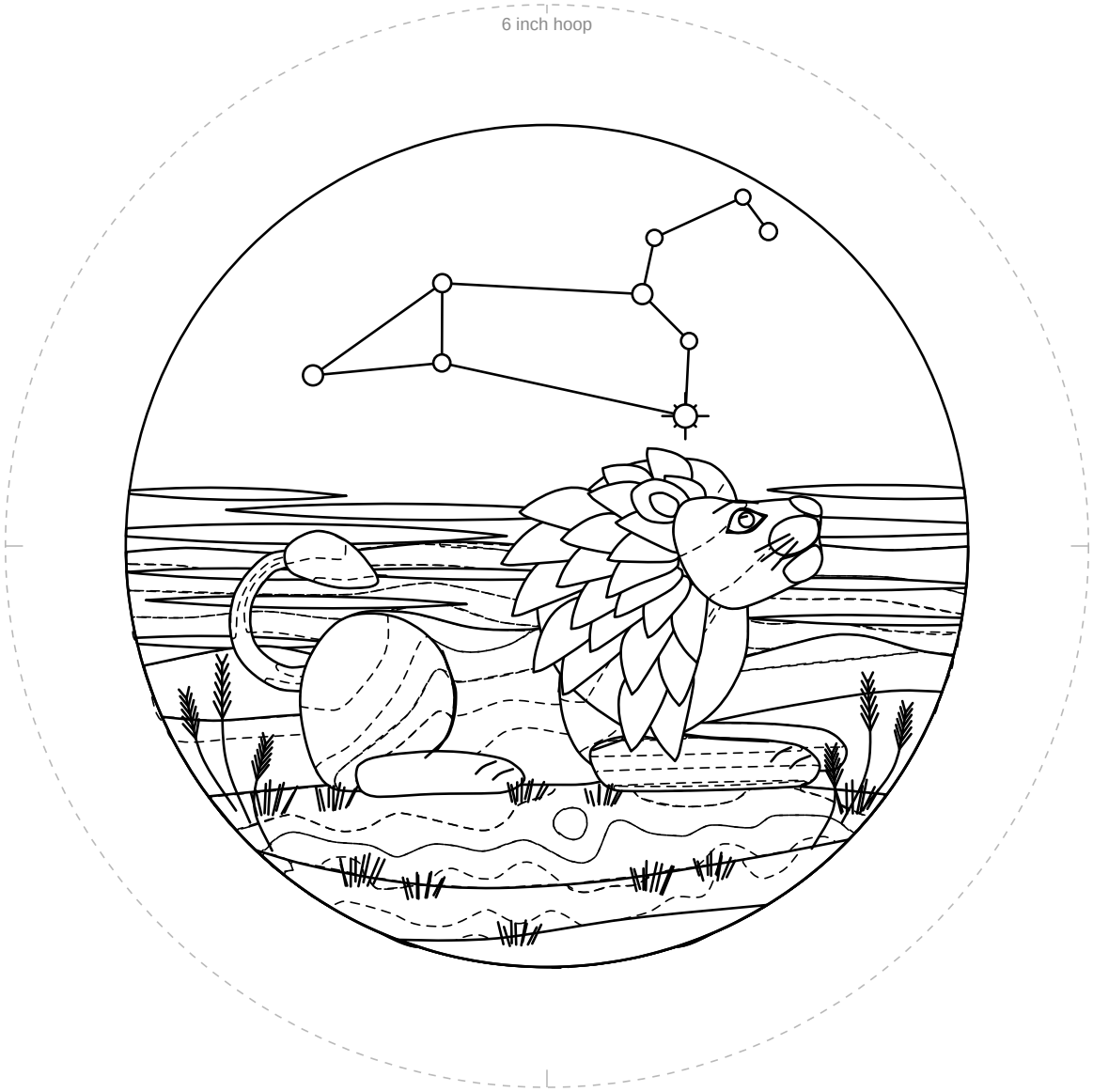
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6 inch hoop

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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