Life is sweet

6 inch (15 cm) hoop, 4.3 × 4.3 in (10.9 × 10.9 cm)



Colors by number: page 2.

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.

The back is seen: no knots. Start with tiny stitches; end around the backs of four or five stitches.

Every stitch in pictures: flossfield.com/embroidery/stitches.

New to this: flossfield.com/embroidery/guides/how-to-start.

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.

Buy: 18 colors of floss (page 2), one skein of each color (an estimate from the drawing's lines and shapes), an embroidery needle size 9, a 6 inch (15 cm) hoop, a 9 inch (23 cm) square of white or light cotton or linen, a water-soluble pen.

Stitch in this order

Where a stitch page says otherwise, follow this list.

1. **Stem stitch**, 3 strands
   Clover stems
2. **Back stitch**, 2 strands
   Bee legs
3. **Long and short stitch**
   2 strands: honey
   1 strand: honey top, dipper handle, honey on the dipper, spilled honey, bee body, bee fur
4. **Satin stitch**, 2 strands
   Clover leaves (color 2), jar shadow, light on the jar, glass lip, dipper core, dipper rings, light on the honey, letters, bee wings, bee stripes, bee head
5. **Fishbone stitch**, 2 strands
   Clover leaves (colors 1 and 2)
6. **Stem stitch**
   1 strand: honey rim, wing edges (color 12)
   3 strands: glass
   2 strands: label edge, honey edge (color 8)
7. **Back stitch**
   1 strand: label border
   2 strands: lines of the bee feelers
8. **Split stitch**, 1 strand
   Honey edge (color 8)
9. **Straight stitch**, 1 strand
   Wing edges (color 12)
10. **Lazy daisy stitch**, 2 strands
    Clover blossoms
11. **French knot**, two wraps
    2 strands: forget-me-nots
    1 strand: forget-me-not centers, bee eye, knots of the bee feelers

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

In a 6 inch hoop the shortest lazy daisy loops 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 3345 Dark Hunter Green	7	DMC 972 Deep Canary	13	DMC 898 Very Dark Coffee Brown
2	DMC 3347 Medium Yellow Green	8	DMC 975 Dark Golden Brown	14	DMC 3823 Ultra Pale Yellow
3	DMC 3687 Mauve	9	DMC 782 Dark Topaz	15	DMC 437 Light Tan
4	DMC 3688 Medium Mauve	10	DMC 783 Medium Topaz	16	DMC 433 Medium Brown
5	DMC 3689 Light Mauve	11	DMC 726 Light Topaz	17	DMC 435 Very Light Brown
6	DMC 3752 Very Light Antique Blue	12	DMC 931 Medium Antique Blue	18	DMC 738 Very Light Tan

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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 loop is one lazy daisy, begun at its point; 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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