Live simply in laurel

6 inch (15 cm) hoop, 4.4 × 4.3 in (11.2 × 10.9 cm)



Colors by number: page 2.

What you need

A 6 inch (15 cm) hoop.

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

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

15 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**
   3 strands: clapboards, laurel stems
   2 strands: berry stalks

2. **Long and short stitch**
   2 strands
   Mound



3. **Satin stitch**, 2 strands
   Corner boards, lit window, window and door frames, dark windows, door, stone step, path, chimney, chimney cap, roof, crow body, crow beak, crow wing, berries, inner leaves, letters



4. **Fishbone stitch**, 2 strands
   Outer leaves



5. **Stem stitch**, 4 strands
   Smoke

6. **Straight stitch**
   3 strands: crow legs
   2 strands: crow feet
   1 strand: berry highlights



7. **Split stitch**, 2 strands
   Inner leaf edges

8. **Back stitch**
   2 strands: window bars
   1 strand: crow feathers, edges of the letters

9. **French knot**, two wraps
   2 strands: door knob
   1 strand: crow eye, berry ends



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

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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 3363 Medium Pine Green	**6**	DMC 783 Medium Topaz	**11**	DMC 3051 Dark Green Gray
2	DMC 3362 Dark Pine Green	**7**	DMC 739 Ultra Very Light Tan	**12**	DMC 3052 Medium Green Gray
3	DMC 934 Black Avocado Green	**8**	DMC 647 Medium Beaver Gray	**13**	DMC 347 Very Dark Salmon
4	DMC 3777 Very Dark Terra Cotta	**9**	DMC 422 Light Hazelnut Brown	**14**	DMC 920 Medium Copper
5	DMC 310 Black	**10**	DMC 317 Pewter Gray	**15**	DMC 3053 Green Gray

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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.



1 in
25.4 mm

Not 1 inch (25.4 mm)? Print again at 100%.

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