Longhorn skull, moon and cactus flowers

Sized for a 6 inch hoop (15 cm). The stitched design is about 4.3 × 4.4 in (10.9 × 11.2 cm).



Which color goes where: by number on page 2.
Fabric: navy cotton or linen.

Stitch in this order

Filled parts from the back of the picture forward, then lines and knots.

1. **Padded satin stitch**, 2 strands
   Moon, moth body
2. **Long and short stitch**, 1 strand
   Cactus pads, fruit, horns, skull, moth wings
3. **Satin stitch**, 2 strands
   Cactus buds, cactus flowers, teeth, wing eyes
4. **Split stitch**, 1 strand
   Moon edge, pad edges, petal edges, horn edges, horn rings, teeth, hollow edges, outline, bone seams, cracks, wing edges, wing bands
5. **Stem stitch**, 1 to 2 strands
   Dry grasses
6. **Straight stitch**, strands by part on page 2
   Grass heads, spines, stamens, moth feelers, stars
7. **French knot**
   strands by part on page 2, two wraps
   Spine cushions, anthers

In a 6 inch hoop the French knots 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.

Floss

- **1 DMC 3822 Light Straw**
  Moon and moth body (lighter), stars and anthers
- **2 DMC 783 Medium Topaz**
  Moon edge, stamens and wing bands, moon and moth body (darker)
- **3 DMC 3046 Medium Yellow Beige**
  Dry grasses (darker), grass heads and spine cushions
- **4 DMC 3808 Ultra Very Dark Turquoise**
  Cactus pads and fruit (dark), pad edges
- **5 DMC 3810 Dark Turquoise** Cactus pads and fruit (middle)
- **6 DMC 822 Light Beige Gray**
  Skull, horns and teeth (light), spines, dry grasses (lighter)
- **7 DMC 3811 Very Light Turquoise**
  Cactus pads and fruit (light), moth wings (middle)
- **8 DMC 718 Plum**
  Cactus flowers and cactus buds (middle), wing eyes
- **9 DMC 915 Dark Plum**
  Petal edges, cactus flowers and cactus buds (dark)
- **10 DMC 3608 Very Light Plum**
  Cactus flowers and cactus buds (light)
- **11 DMC 3740 Dark Antique Violet**
  Hollow edges and wing edges, bone seams (darker), skull (darkest) and 2 more parts
- **12 DMC 3041 Medium Antique Violet**
  Horn edges, outline and cracks, skull, horns and teeth (dark), bone seams (lighter)
- **13 DMC 3042 Light Antique Violet**
  Skull and horns (middle dark), horn rings, moth wings (dark)
- **14 DMC 3743 Very Light Antique Violet**
  Skull and horns (middle light), teeth (middle)
- **15 DMC 712 Cream** Skull and horns (lightest)
- **16 DMC 3865 Winter White** Moth wings (light)

Three ways onto dark fabric

1. **Light shines through it**
   Lay page 3 on a bright light box, tape the fabric over it and trace the lines with a white marking pencil or pen.
2. **No light shines through**
   Print page 3 on a sticky wash-away sheet, smooth it onto fabric that can be washed, stitch through both and rinse it away.
3. **White or yellow carbon paper**
   Lay it colored side down on the fabric with page 3 on top, tape the layers and trace firmly with a ballpoint pen. Go over a faint line with a white pencil.

Page 3 is the pattern at actual size (page 4 is its mirror, for an iron-on pen on a light fabric). Print it at 100% with scaling turned off. Then put the fabric in the hoop: inner ring under, drawing up, tight as a drum.

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6 inch hoop

How to read it

Floss is six strands. Cut 18 inches (45 cm), pull out the number given one at a time, and lay them together.

Inside a filled shape start with two or three tiny stitches, which the filling covers. Start a line with a small knot on the back. End each thread by running the needle under the backs of a few stitches.

Each small ring is one French knot. A fine broken line inside a shape is where two shades meet: trace it, do not stitch it.

A number on the picture is a color of the list of floss on page 1. The fine lines on the colors show which way the stitches lie.

Every stitch in pictures: flossfield.com/embroidery/stitches. The first time: flossfield.com/embroidery/guides/how-to-start.



1	DMC 3822 Light Straw	**7**	DMC 3811 Very Light Turquoise	**13**	DMC 3042 Light Antique Violet
2	DMC 783 Medium Topaz	**8**	DMC 718 Plum	**14**	DMC 3743 Very Light Antique Violet
3	DMC 3046 Medium Yellow Beige	**9**	DMC 915 Dark Plum	**15**	DMC 712 Cream
4	DMC 3808 Ultra Very Dark Turquoise	**10**	DMC 3608 Very Light Plum	**16**	DMC 3865 Winter White
5	DMC 3810 Dark Turquoise	**11**	DMC 3740 Dark Antique Violet		
6	DMC 822 Light Beige Gray	**12**	DMC 3041 Medium Antique Violet		

How many strands

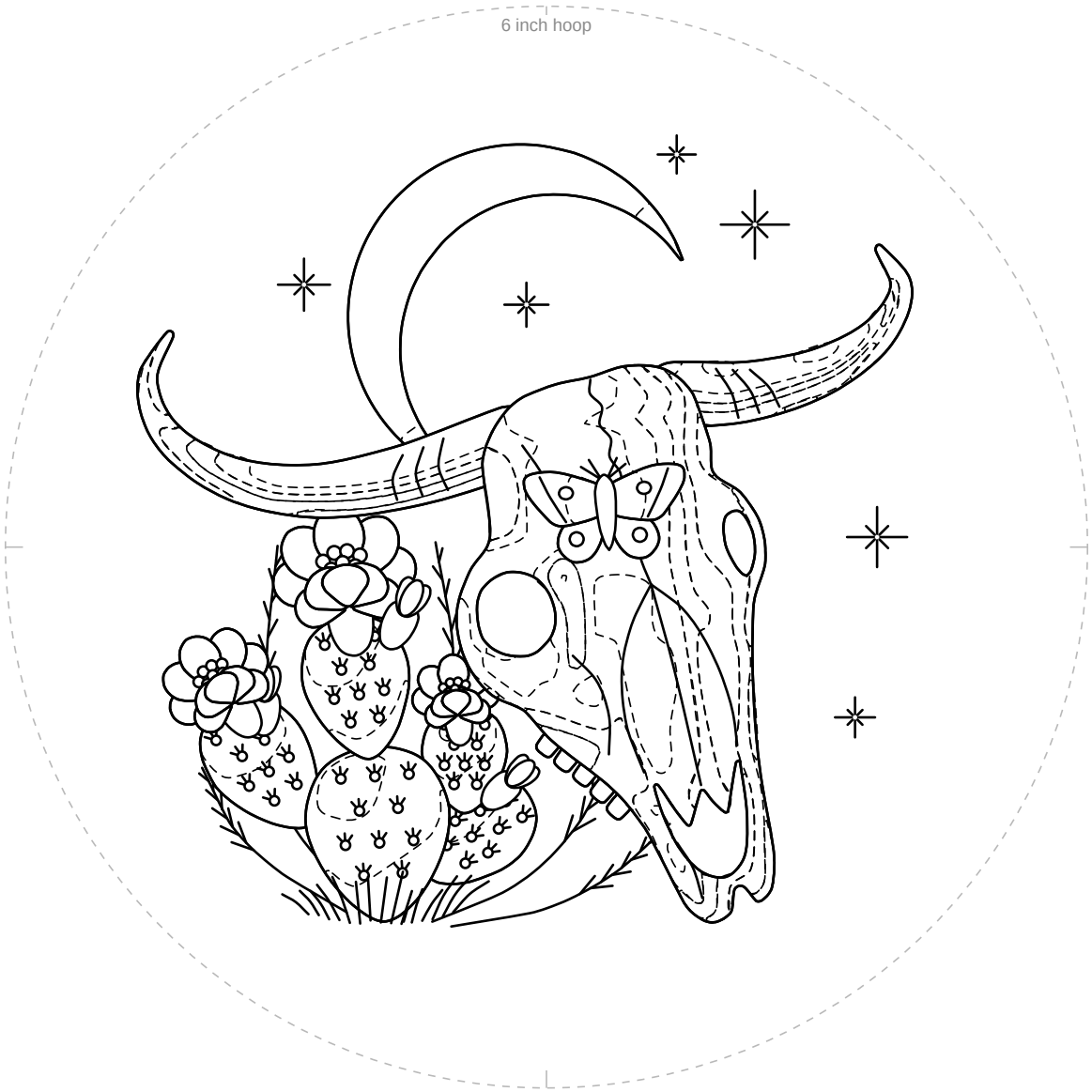
Straight stitch. 2 strands: grass heads, stars; 1 strand: spines, stamens, moth feelers.
French knot. 2 strands: anthers; 1 strand: spine cushions.

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6 inch hoop

Print at 100% and check the square below with a ruler. Fold the fabric in four: the folds meet the four ticks of the ring.



1 in
25.4 mm

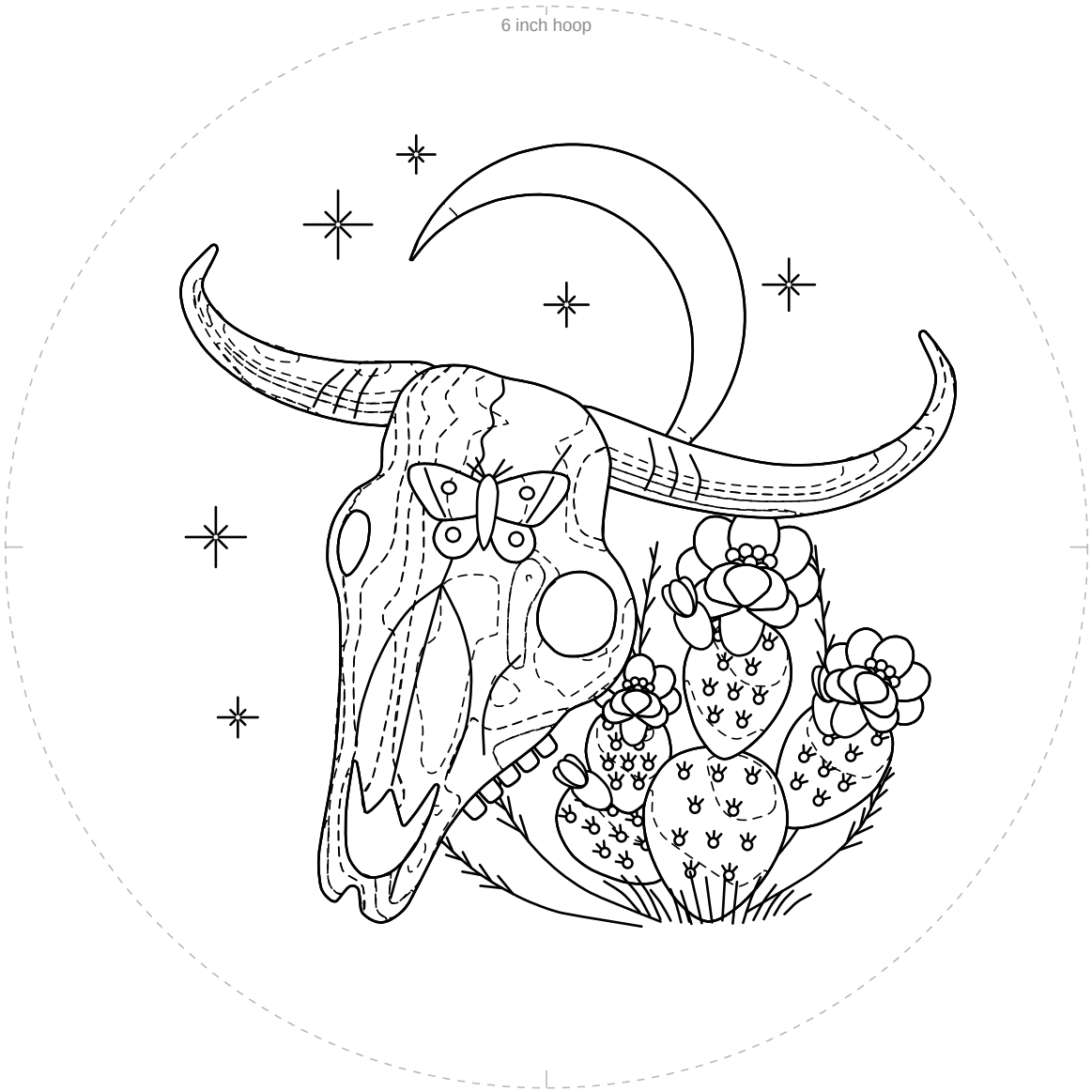
Check square: 1 inch (25.4 mm) on each side.
If it measures anything else, print again at 100% with scaling off.

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6 inch hoop

Mirrored. Trace this page with an iron-on transfer pen or pencil, then press it ink side down on the fabric.



1 in
25.4 mm

Check square: 1 inch (25.4 mm) on each side.
If it measures anything else, print again at 100% with scaling off.

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