Lyre in laurel wreath

6 inch (15 cm) hoop, 4.5 × 4.5 in (11.4 × 11.4 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 3 for 4 or 5 strands.

20 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. **Fishbone stitch**, 2 strands
   Laurel leaves
2. **Long and short stitch**, 1 strand
   Laurel leaves (colors 4, 8 and 13), shell, arm leaves, scroll leaves, soundbox, wren tail, wren, wren wing
3. **Satin stitch**, 2 strands
   Laurel leaves, arms, soundbox rim, rosette ring, rosette ground, rosette, crossbar, bridge, wren bill
4. **Trellis stitch**, 2 strands
   Trellis leaves
5. **Chain stitch**, 2 strands
   Lines of the laurel leaves
6. **Stem stitch**
   1 strand: leaf edges, shell edges, arm edges, rosette edge, crossbar edge
   2 strands: leaf veins
   5 strands: laurel branches
   3 strands: soundbox edges
7. **Trellis stitch**, 1 strand
   Soundbox trellis
8. **Couching**, 2 strands
   Strings
9. **Straight stitch**, 1 strand
   Wren bars, wren brow, wren feet
10. **Padded satin stitch**, 2 strands
    Shell heart, scroll eyes, rosette center, crossbar ends
11. **French knot**, two wraps
    2 strands: leaf knots, scroll knots, tuning knots
    1 strand: bridge knots, wren eye

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

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.

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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 221 Very Dark Shell Pink	8	DMC 355 Dark Terra Cotta	15	DMC 435 Very Light Brown
2	DMC 3778 Light Terra Cotta	9	DMC 3822 Light Straw	16	DMC 433 Medium Brown
3	DMC 3820 Dark Straw	10	DMC 932 Light Antique Blue	17	DMC 437 Light Tan
4	DMC 782 Dark Topaz	11	DMC 931 Medium Antique Blue	18	DMC 801 Dark Coffee Brown
5	DMC 780 Ultra Very Dark Topaz	12	DMC 930 Dark Antique Blue	19	DMC 3371 Black Brown
6	DMC 934 Black Avocado Green	13	DMC 3362 Dark Pine Green	20	DMC 712 Cream
7	DMC 3363 Medium Pine Green	14	DMC 3364 Pine Green		

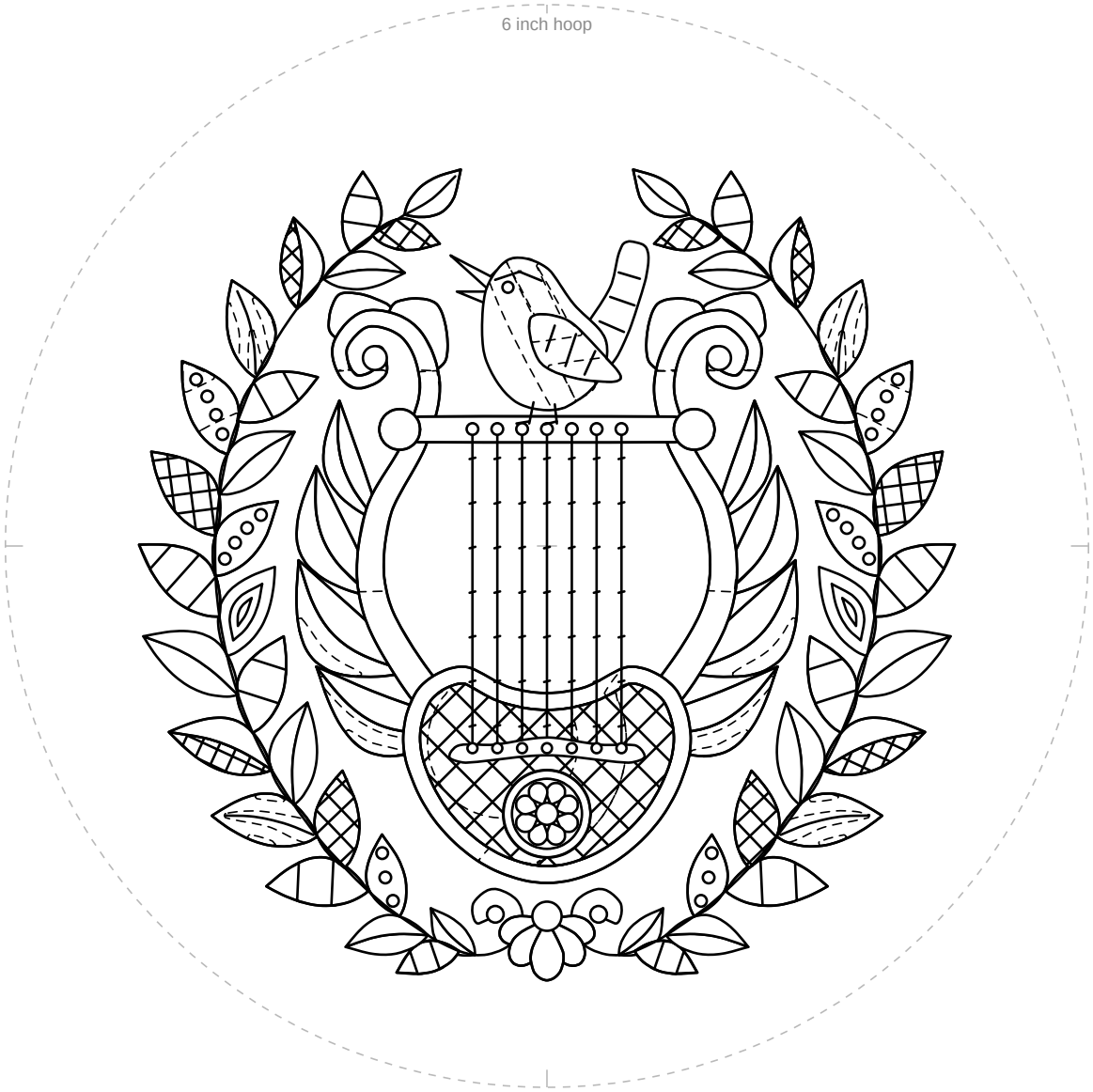
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6 inch hoop

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

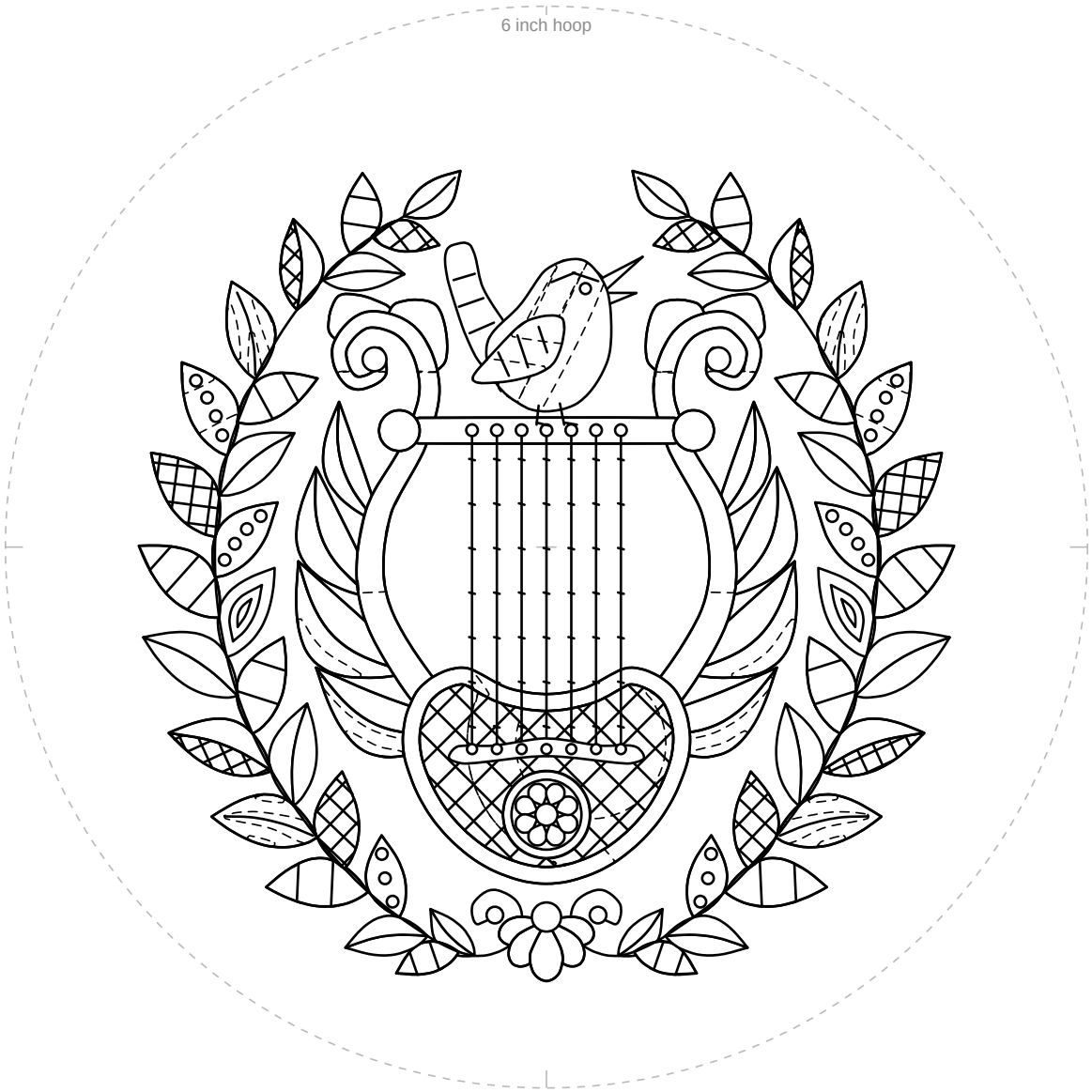
Not 1 inch (25.4 mm)? Print again at 100%.

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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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