Mahi-mahi in folk bands

6 inch (15 cm) hoop, 4.9 × 4.9 in (12.4 × 12.4 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 5 for 4 strands.

12 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. **Long and short stitch**
   1 strand, colors 1, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12
   Tail, cheek, waves



2. **Satin stitch**
   2 strands, colors 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10
   Back fin, belly fin, throat fin, scales, stripes, flower band, flower petals, diamond band, diamonds, tooth band, teeth, brow, gill plate, eye, side fin, wave crests, sea, sun rays, sun



3. **Stem stitch**, colors 2, 3, 4, 5, 10
   2 strands: fin rays, scale edges, brow edge, eye edge, sun edge
   3 strands: fin edges, mouth
   4 strands: outline

4. **Chain stitch**, colors 1, 4, 10
   2 strands: band rules, sea lines
   3 strands: border



5. **French knot**
   two wraps, colors 1, 6, 10
   2 strands: flower centers, brow knots, freckles, spray
   1 strand: eye highlight



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 3843 Electric Blue	**5**	DMC 350 Medium Coral	**9**	DMC 3846 Light Bright Turquoise
2	DMC 797 Royal Blue	**6**	DMC 972 Deep Canary	**10**	DMC 712 Cream
3	DMC 747 Very Light Sky Blue	**7**	DMC 907 Light Parrot Green	**11**	DMC 725 Medium Light Topaz
4	DMC 823 Dark Navy Blue	**8**	DMC 943 Medium Aquamarine	**12**	DMC 727 Very Light Topaz

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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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Mahi-mahi in folk bands

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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