Mater Dolorosa, Our Lady of Sorrows icon

6 inch (15 cm) hoop, 3.2 × 4.4 in (8.1 × 11.2 cm)



Colors by number: page 2.

Stitch in this order

Where a stitch page says otherwise, follow this list.

1. **Couching**, 3 strands
   Halo
2. **Split stitch**
   2 strands: mantle, lining
   1 strand: veil, neck, face, eyelids
3. **Satin stitch**
   1 strand: lips, tear
   2 strands: flowers, frame band
4. **Stem stitch**, 2 strands
   Halo rim edges, lashes, brows
5. **Split stitch**
   1 strand: mantle folds, face line, eyelid creases, mouth line, tear edge, veil edge, veil folds
   2 strands: nose, mantle outline
6. **Couching**
   4 strands: gold hem
   6 strands: frame cord
7. **Lazy daisy stitch**, 2 strands
   Flower leaves
8. **Padded satin stitch**, 2 strands
   Halo rim
9. **French knot**, 2 strands, two wraps
   Flower centers

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

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.

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: 21 colors of floss (page 2), 2 skeins of DMC 3821 and 2 of DMC 797; one of each other color (an estimate from the drawing's lines and shapes), embroidery needles size 9, and size 3 for 4 to 6 strands, a 6 inch (15 cm) hoop, a 9 inch (23 cm) square of white or light cotton or linen, a water-soluble pen.

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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 3821 Straw	8	DMC 29 Eggplant	15	DMC 3064 Desert Sand
2	DMC 780 Ultra Very Dark Topaz	9	DMC 154 Very Dark Grape	16	DMC 945 Tawny
3	DMC 3852 Very Dark Straw	10	DMC 822 Light Beige Gray	17	DMC 951 Light Tawny
4	DMC 797 Royal Blue	11	DMC 3865 Winter White	18	DMC 898 Very Dark Coffee Brown
5	DMC 823 Dark Navy Blue	12	DMC 842 Very Light Beige Brown	19	DMC 3778 Light Terra Cotta
6	DMC 798 Dark Delft Blue	13	DMC 3856 Ultra Very Light Mahogany	20	DMC 932 Light Antique Blue
7	DMC 334 Medium Baby Blue	14	DMC 3772 Very Dark Desert Sand	21	DMC 3052 Medium 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; 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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