Medieval Islamic star and arabesque

Sized for a 6 inch hoop (15 cm). The stitched design is about 4.9 × 4.9 in (12.4 × 12.4 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. **Satin stitch**, 2 strands
   Gold ribbon, ivory ribbon, lotus leaves, lower split leaves, split leaves, rosette petals, point leaves, point buds, bay leaves, bindings, rope border



2. **Padded satin stitch**, 2 strands
   Lotus buds, bindings, rosette heart, bay buds



3. **Stem stitch**
   strands by part on page 2
   Arabesque stems, lotus stems, rosette ring, ring lines

4. **French knot**
   strands by part on page 2, two wraps
   Ribbon knots, finial knots



Floss

- **1 DMC 3820 Dark Straw**
  Gold ribbon, ring lines and arabesque stems, rope border (middle) and 3 more parts
- **2 DMC 739 Ultra Very Light Tan**
  Ivory ribbon
- **3 DMC 3809 Very Dark Turquoise**
  Ribbon knots
- **4 DMC 598 Light Turquoise**
  Bay leaves and point leaves (lighter), finial knots
- **5 DMC 597 Turquoise**
  Bay leaves and point leaves (darker), lotus leaves, rope border (dark)
- **6 DMC 350 Medium Coral**
  Lotus buds, bay buds and bindings (darker)
- **7 DMC 3341 Apricot**
  Rosette petals, lotus buds and bay buds (lighter)
- **8 DMC 738 Very Light Tan**
  Lower split leaves
- **9 DMC 712 Cream**
  Split leaves, rope border (light)
- **10 DMC 3822 Light Straw**
  Point buds, bindings (lighter)

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 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 3820 Dark Straw
2 DMC 739 Ultra Very Light Tan
3 DMC 3809 Very Dark Turquoise
4 DMC 598 Light Turquoise
5 DMC 597 Turquoise
6 DMC 350 Medium Coral
7 DMC 3341 Apricot
8 DMC 738 Very Light Tan
9 DMC 712 Cream
10 DMC 3822 Light Straw

How many strands

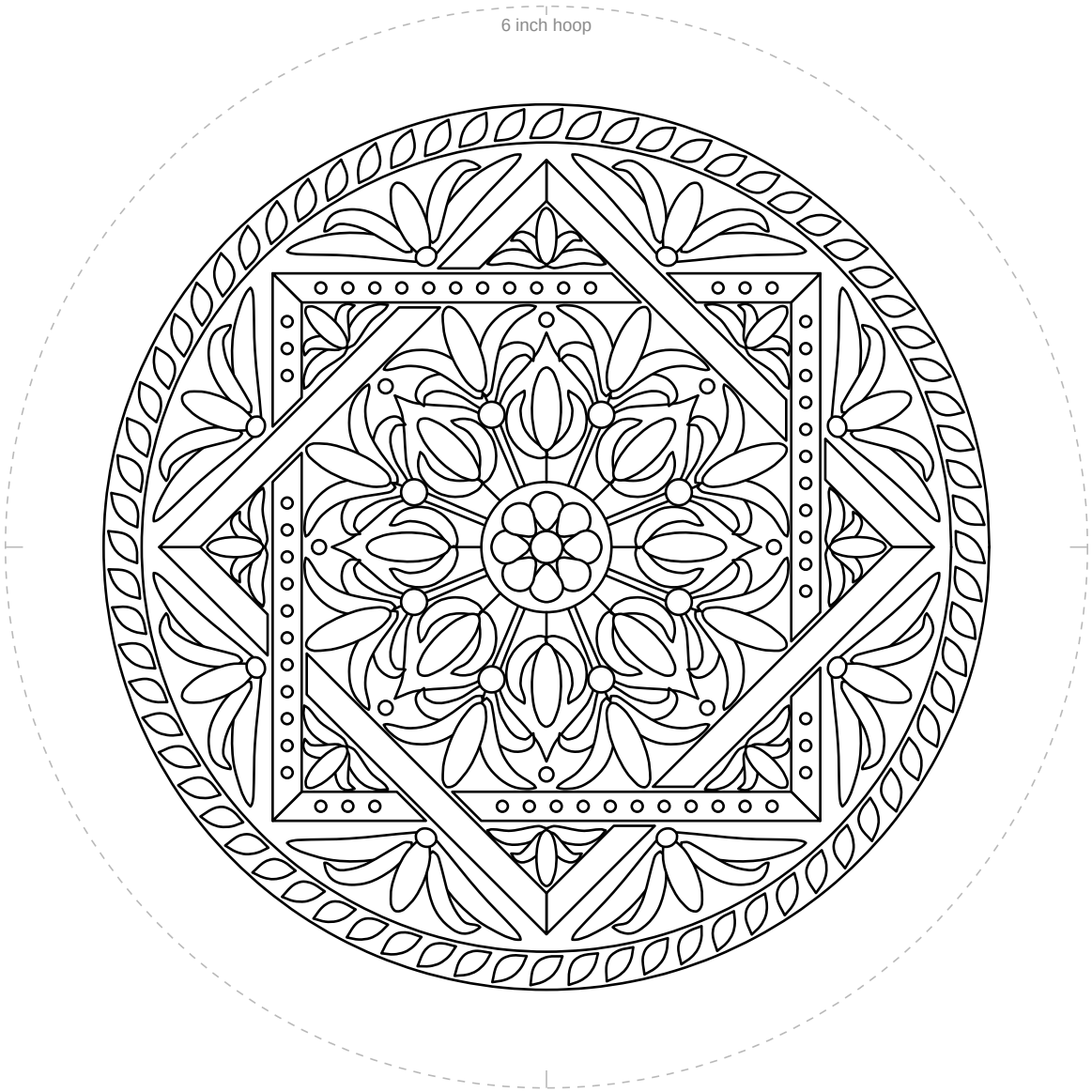
Stem stitch. 3 strands: arabesque stems, ring lines; 2 strands: lotus stems, rosette ring.
French knot. 2 strands: finial knots; 1 strand: ribbon knots.

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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

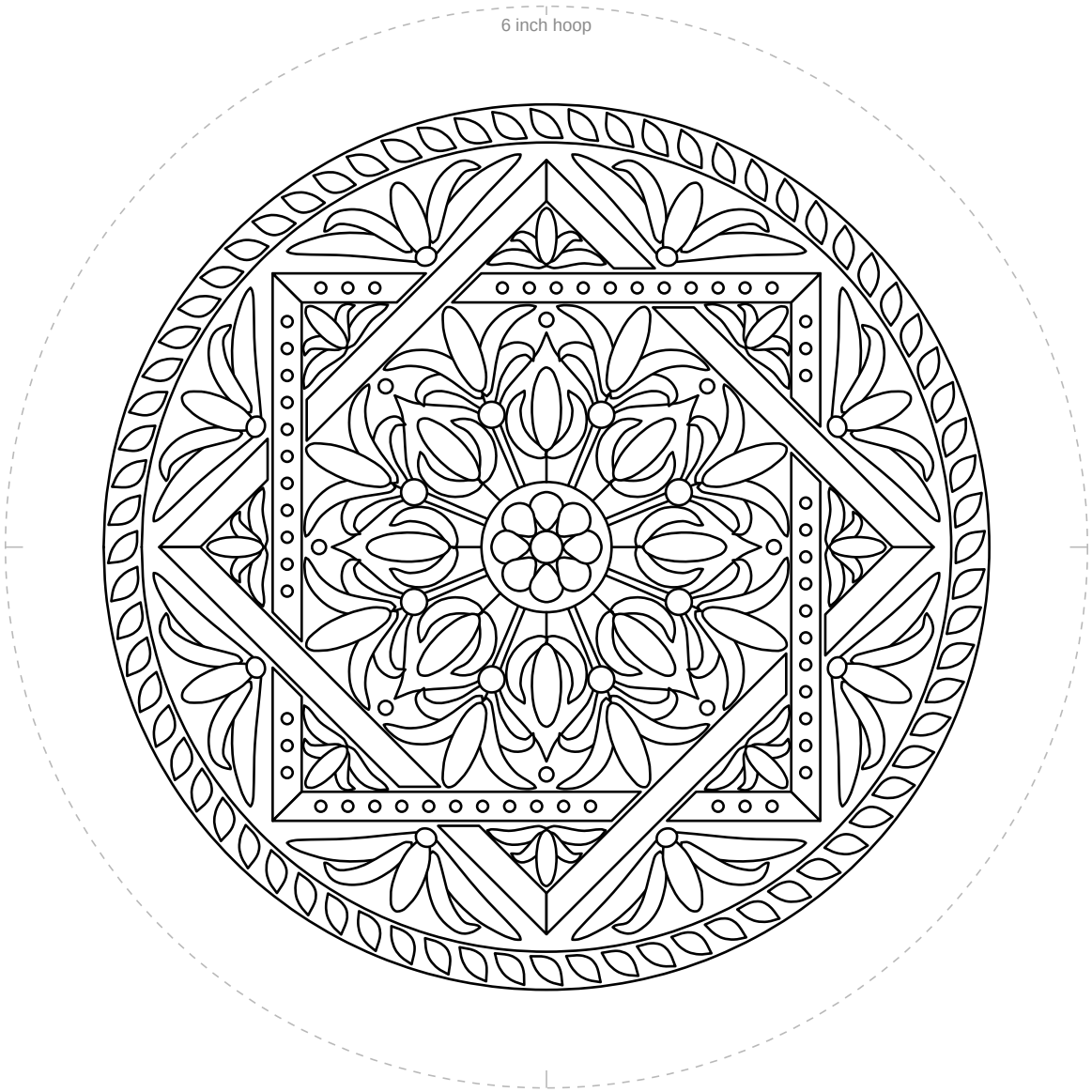
Check square: 1 inch (25.4 mm) on each side.
If it measures anything else, print again at 100% with scaling off.

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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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