Mermaid on a golden seahorse

Sized for a 6 inch hoop (15 cm). The stitched design is about 4.7 × 4.7 in (11.9 × 11.9 cm).



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

Stitch in this order

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

1. **Long and short stitch**
   strands by part on page 2
   Water, skin, seahorse body, seahorse head, tail fin, her tail, hair, curls, reef bed
2. **Fishbone stitch**, 2 strands
   Seahorse crest, seagrass bodice, kelp blades
3. **Satin stitch**, 2 strands
   Seahorse eye, skin, seagrass bodice, waist frill, starfish, branch coral
4. **Stem stitch**, strands by part on page 2
   Seahorse edge, seahorse ridges, cheek, snout band, seahorse eye, tail fin rays, tail scales, seagrass tie, eye, kelp stems, sea fan, hoop line
5. **Split stitch**, 1 strand
   Seahorse rings, seahorse edge, skin edge, tail edge, waist frill edge
6. **Straight stitch**, strands by part on page 2
   Fingers, brow, lips
7. **Back stitch**, 1 strand
   Bubbles
8. **French knot**
   strands by part on page 2, two wraps
   Seahorse knobs, seahorse eye, starfish, sea fan, coral tips, brain coral, bubbles

Floss

- **1 DMC 3765 Very Dark Peacock Blue** Water (dark)
- **2 DMC 3808 Ultra Very Dark Turquoise** Water (darkest), hoop line
- **3 DMC 597 Turquoise** Water (middle)
- **4 DMC 3766 Light Peacock Blue** Water (light)
- **5 DMC 747 Very Light Sky Blue** Water (lightest), bubbles
- **6 DMC 632 Ultra Very Dark Desert Sand** Skin (dark)
- **7 DMC 780 Ultra Very Dark Topaz**
  Seahorse body (darkest), seahorse rings, seahorse edge (lighter) and 5 more parts
- **8 DMC 782 Dark Topaz**
  Seahorse body and seahorse head (dark), seahorse knobs and seahorse crest (darker)
- **9 DMC 3820 Dark Straw**
  Seahorse body and seahorse head (middle), brain coral (lightest)
- **10 DMC 3822 Light Straw**
  Seahorse body and seahorse head (light), seahorse crest (lighter), seagrass tie
- **11 DMC 3823 Ultra Pale Yellow**
  Seahorse body and tail fin (lightest), tail fin rays and 7 more parts
- **12 DMC 801 Dark Coffee Brown**
  Skin edge and fingers, seahorse edge (darker), seahorse eye (middle)
- **13 DMC 3371 Black Brown** Curls, hair, brow and eye, seahorse eye (dark)
- **14 DMC 3772 Very Dark Desert Sand** Skin (middle)
- **15 DMC 351 Coral** Her tail and tail fin (dark), branch coral
- **16 DMC 347 Very Dark Salmon**
  Tail scales, tail edge and lips, her tail and tail fin (darkest)
- **17 DMC 352 Light Coral** Her tail and tail fin (light), starfish (darker)
- **18 DMC 3064 Desert Sand** Skin (light)
- **19 DMC 3362 Dark Pine Green**
  Kelp blades (middle), seagrass bodice (darker), kelp stems
- **20 DMC 3364 Pine Green**
  Kelp blades (light), waist frill, seagrass bodice (lighter)
- **21 DMC 934 Black Avocado Green** Waist frill edge, kelp blades (dark)
- **22 DMC 3836 Light Grape**
  Reef bed (lighter), sea fan (darker), brain coral (light)
- **23 DMC 3834 Dark Grape** Reef bed (darker), brain coral (darkest)

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 3765 Very Dark Peacock Blue	9	DMC 3820 Dark Straw	17	DMC 352 Light Coral
2	DMC 3808 Ultra Very Dark Turquoise	10	DMC 3822 Light Straw	18	DMC 3064 Desert Sand
3	DMC 597 Turquoise	11	DMC 3823 Ultra Pale Yellow	19	DMC 3362 Dark Pine Green
4	DMC 3766 Light Peacock Blue	12	DMC 801 Dark Coffee Brown	20	DMC 3364 Pine Green
5	DMC 747 Very Light Sky Blue	13	DMC 3371 Black Brown	21	DMC 934 Black Avocado Green
6	DMC 632 Ultra Very Dark Desert Sand	14	DMC 3772 Very Dark Desert Sand	22	DMC 3836 Light Grape
7	DMC 780 Ultra Very Dark Topaz	15	DMC 351 Coral	23	DMC 3834 Dark Grape
8	DMC 782 Dark Topaz	16	DMC 347 Very Dark Salmon		

How many strands

Long and short stitch. 2 strands: water, reef bed; 1 strand: skin, seahorse body, seahorse head, tail fin, her tail, hair, curls.
Stem stitch. 3 strands: kelp stems, hoop line; 2 or 3 strands: sea fan; 2 strands: cheek, seagrass tie; 1 strand: seahorse edge, seahorse ridges, snout band, seahorse eye, tail fin rays, tail scales, eye.
Straight stitch. 2 strands: lips; 1 strand: fingers, brow.
French knot. 2 strands: seahorse knobs, starfish, sea fan, coral tips, brain coral, bubbles; 1 strand: seahorse eye.

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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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