My first Christmas

6 inch (15 cm) hoop, 4.9 × 4.9 in (12.4 × 12.4 cm)



Colors by number: page 2.
Fabric: dark teal cotton or linen.

What you need

A 6 inch (15 cm) hoop.

A 9 inch (23 cm) square of dark teal cotton or linen.

An embroidery needle, size 9.

17 colors of floss (page 2): one skein of each color (an estimate from the drawing's lines and shapes).

A white pencil, and small scissors.

Onto the fabric

Fabric that lets light through: page 3 on a bright light, the fabric over it; trace with a white pencil.

Other fabric: print page 3 on a sticky wash-away sheet, stick it on, stitch through it and rinse it away.

Or white or yellow carbon paper, colored side down, page 3 on top; trace with a ballpoint and go over a faint line with a white pencil.

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. **Stem stitch**, 3 strands
   Holly stems

2. **Long and short stitch**, 1 strand
   Far legs, tail, coat, hind leg, front leg, ears, head, muzzle, saddle cloth, saddle flap, mane, forelock, rocker



3. **Satin stitch**, 2 strands
   Far rocker, rocker rails, hooves, eye, girth, saddle, stirrup, collar, holly on the collar, holly leaves, letters



4. **Split stitch**, 1 strand
   Lids, mouth, edges of the head

5. **Chain stitch**, 2 strands
   Saddle cloth edge



6. **Stem stitch**
   2 strands: saddle seam, rocker line
   3 strands: stirrup strap, bridle, reins
   1 strand: collar edge

7. **Straight stitch**
   2 strands: lines of the ears, nostril
   1 strand: eye highlight, berry highlights



8. **Padded satin stitch**, 2 strands
   Bridle rosette, rocker knobs, berries



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

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A number is a color of the list. Fine lines show which way the stitches lie: do not stitch them.



1	DMC 815 Medium Garnet	7	DMC 738 Very Light Tan	13	DMC 321 Red
2	DMC 3820 Dark Straw	8	DMC 435 Very Light Brown	14	DMC 433 Medium Brown
3	DMC 647 Medium Beaver Gray	9	DMC 436 Tan	15	DMC 3822 Light Straw
4	DMC 645 Very Dark Beaver Gray	10	DMC 746 Off White	16	DMC 895 Very Dark Hunter Green
5	DMC 648 Light Beaver Gray	11	DMC 3866 Ultra Very Light Mocha	17	DMC 471 Very Light Avocado Green
6	DMC 3371 Black Brown	12	DMC 666 Bright Red		

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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 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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