Nautilus shell submarine with tiny rooms

6 inch (15 cm) hoop, 4.9 × 5 in (12.4 × 12.7 cm)



Colors by number: page 2.
Fabric: pale blue cotton or linen.

What you need

A 6 inch (15 cm) hoop.

A 9 inch (23 cm) square of pale blue cotton or linen.

An embroidery needle, size 9.

16 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. **Stem stitch**, 2 strands
   Currents
2. **Fishbone stitch**, 2 strands
   Kelp leaves
3. **Long and short stitch**, 1 strand
   Coil, room walls, glass, cat (color 6)
4. **Satin stitch**, 2 strands
   Kelp, anemones, anemone columns, anemone lips, pebbles, propeller, stern, propeller hub, periscope, periscope glass, hatch, conning tower, tower windows, tower rail, outer shell, shell flames, coil heart, under the floors, floors, chamber walls, bookcase, books, porthole, porthole glass, mattress, pillow, blanket, blanket fold, bunk, stove, stove door, kettle, pot, pot rim, table, gramophone, gramophone horn, cat (color 6), wheel post, bubble frame, fish tails, fish fins, fish
5. **Back stitch**, 2 strands
   Bubbles
6. **Stem stitch**
   1 strand: brass edge, flame shadow, fern (color 3), fish edge
   2 strands: hatch wheel, lines of the ship wheel, bubble edge
   3 strands: shell edge, glass highlight, kettle handle, lines of the gramophone
7. **Fly stitch**, 1 strand
   Fern (color 3)
8. **Split stitch**
   1 strand: cat edge (color 8)
   3 strands: cat collar
9. **Straight stitch**
   2 strands: cat edge (color 8), cat nose
   1 strand: cat whiskers
10. **French knot**, 2 strands, two wraps
    Kettle knob, cat eyes, knots of the ship wheel, rivets, fish eyes

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 3809 Very Dark Turquoise	7	DMC 3822 Light Straw	13	DMC 945 Tawny
2	DMC 3364 Pine Green	8	DMC 3726 Dark Antique Mauve	14	DMC 932 Light Antique Blue
3	DMC 3362 Dark Pine Green	9	DMC 739 Ultra Very Light Tan	15	DMC 524 Very Light Fern Green
4	DMC 919 Red Copper	10	DMC 729 Medium Old Gold	16	DMC 745 Light Pale Yellow
5	DMC 922 Light Copper	11	DMC 830 Dark Golden Olive		
6	DMC 154 Very Dark Grape	12	DMC 598 Light Turquoise		

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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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6 inch hoop

For an iron-on pen only. Go over the lines, press ink side down.



1 in
25.4 mm

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