Little ninjas hiding in the herb pots

6 inch (15 cm) hoop, 4.4 × 3.5 in (11.2 × 8.9 cm)



Colors by number: page 2.

What you need

A 6 inch (15 cm) hoop.

A 9 inch (23 cm) square of white or light cotton or linen.

Embroidery needles, size 9, and size 5 for 4 strands.

11 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.

The back is seen: no knots. Start with tiny stitches; end around the backs of four or five stitches.

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: stems, chives, lines of the shelf lace, lines of the cord, towel
   3 strands: lines of the mug
   1 strand: sage stems

2. **Satin stitch**, 2 strands
   Ninja hoods, faces, headbands, eyes, terracotta pot, hands, throwing star, chive jar, kettle checks, kettle handle, kettle lid, kettle spout, parsley, mug, mug heart, shelf, sage leaves, cord, ninja suit, sash, towel rail, towel checks



3. **Fishbone stitch**, 2 strands
   Basil leaves



4. **Straight stitch**
   1 strand: eye highlights, parsley veins
   3 strands: brows
   2 strands: chive flowers
   4 strands: cuffs



5. **Stem stitch**
   2 strands: lines of the terracotta pot, edges of the chive jar, collar, towel stripes
   3 strands: kettle

6. **Back stitch**
   1 strand: edges of the throwing star
   2 strands: edges of the shelf

7. **Lazy daisy stitch**, 2 strands
   Pot pattern, jar pattern, loops of the shelf lace



8. **French knot**, 1 strand, two wraps
   Knots of the throwing star



Take out lines that still show, press face down, finish the 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 3345 Dark Hunter Green	**5**	DMC 3830 Terra Cotta	**9**	DMC 334 Medium Baby Blue
2	DMC 471 Very Light Avocado Green	**6**	DMC 3325 Light Baby Blue	**10**	DMC 436 Tan
3	DMC 336 Navy Blue	**7**	DMC 318 Light Steel Gray	**11**	DMC 522 Fern Green
4	DMC 945 Tawny	**8**	DMC 340 Medium Blue Violet		

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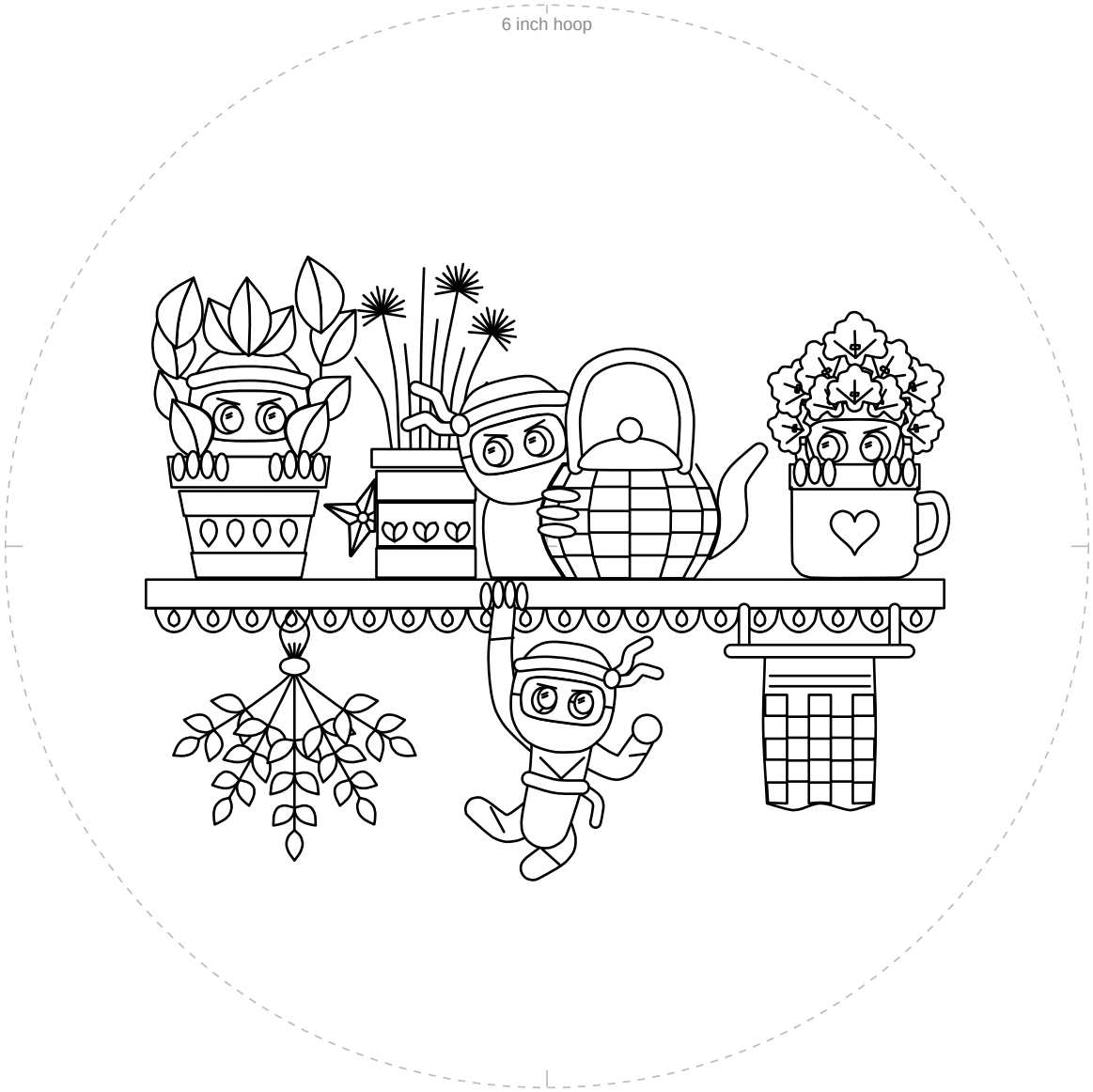
6 inch hoop

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.



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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