Old Chinese six-petaled flower motifs

Sized for a 6 inch hoop (15 cm). The stitched design is about 4.4 × 4.5 in (11.2 × 11.4 cm).



Which color goes where: by number on page 2.

Three ways to transfer the pattern

1. **Fabric you can see through**
   Tape page 3 to a sunny window or lay it on a light box, tape the fabric over it and trace the lines with a sharp pencil or a water-soluble pen.
2. **Fabric you cannot see through**
   Lay dressmaker's carbon paper colored side down on the fabric with page 3 on top, tape the layers and trace the lines firmly with a ballpoint pen.
3. **Iron-on: the lines stay**
   Go over the lines of page 4, the mirrored page, with an iron-on transfer pen, lay it ink side down on the fabric and press with a dry iron, as the pen's packet says.

Pages 3 and 4 are the pattern at actual size. Print them at 100% with scaling turned off. Then put the fabric in the hoop: inner ring under, drawing up, tight as a drum.

Floss

- **1 DMC 522 Fern Green**
  Leaves, sepals and stems (lighter)
- **2 DMC 3325 Light Baby Blue**
  Petals and butterfly wings (light)
- **3 DMC 322 Dark Baby Blue**
  Petals and butterfly wings (middle)
- **4 DMC 336 Navy Blue**
  Petals and butterfly wings (dark), butterfly body and antennae
- **5 DMC 676 Light Old Gold**
  Flower hearts, antenna tips and butterfly head
- **6 DMC 3051 Dark Green Gray**
  Stems and sepals (darker), twig

Stitch in this order

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

1. **Satin stitch**, 2 strands
   Leaves, petals, stems, sepals, twig, butterfly wings, butterfly body



2. **Stem stitch**, 1 strand
   Antennae

3. **French knot**
   2 strands, two wraps
   Flower hearts, antenna tips, butterfly head



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.

What you need

Intermediate. A 6 inch (15 cm) hoop, and a 9 inch (23 cm) square of plain cotton or linen, white or another light color. Embroidery needle: size 9 for 1 strand, size 7 for 2 (a lower number is a thicker needle). Skeins: one of each color is enough. An estimate for the 6 inch hoop, from the length of each line and the area of each filled shape, with a fifth added for tails.

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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.



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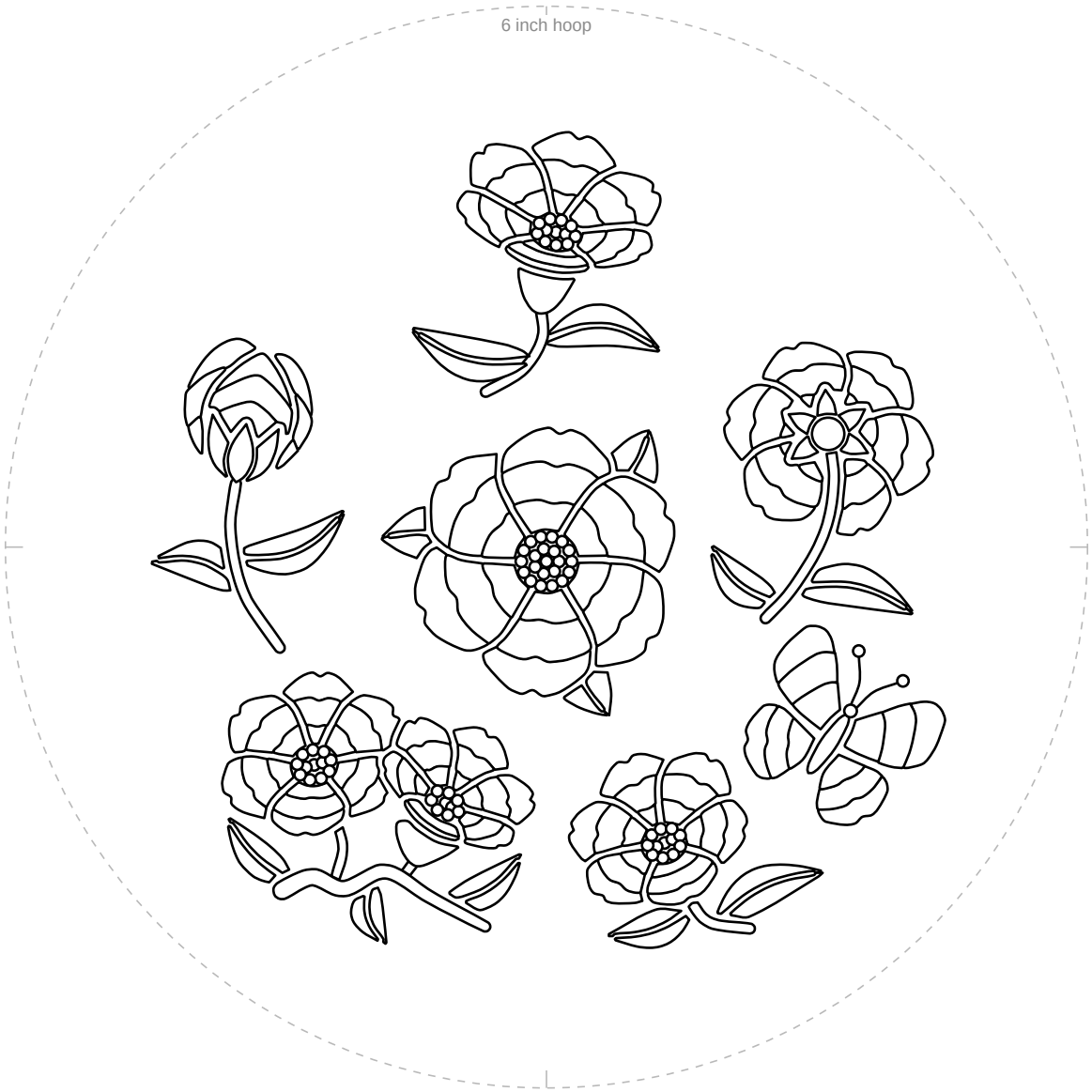
Old Chinese six-petaled flower motifs

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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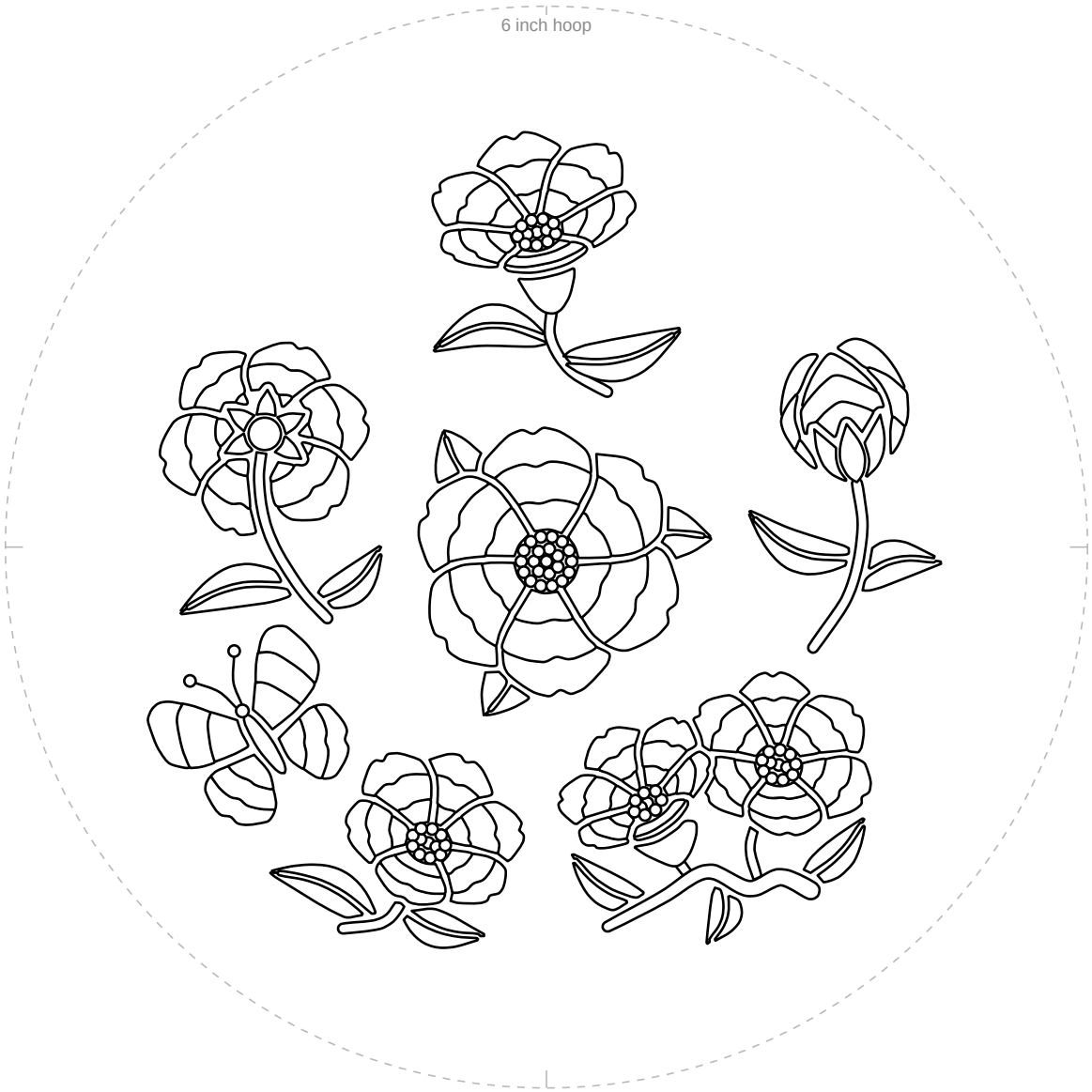
6 inch hoop

Mirrored. Trace this page with an iron-on transfer pen or pencil, then press it ink side down on the fabric.



1 in
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