Opossum on a branch

Sized for a 6 inch hoop (15 cm). The stitched design is about 4.5 × 4.2 in (11.4 × 10.7 cm).



Which color goes where: by number on page 2.
Fabric: pale blue 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**, 1 strand
   Twig, persimmon leaf, far legs, branch, underfur, coat, haunch, foreleg, ears, face
2. **Fishbone stitch**, 2 strands
   Leaves
3. **Satin stitch**, 2 strands
   Tail, cut end, far feet, feet, nose, eyes
4. **Stem stitch**, strands by part on page 2
   Leaves, leaf stalk, leaf veins
5. **Split stitch**, strands by part on page 2
   Leaf veins, ear rims, mouth
6. **Outline stitch**, 1 strand
   Tail edge
7. **Back stitch**, 1 strand
   Cut end
8. **Straight stitch**, strands by part on page 2
   Nostrils, nose light, eye lights, whiskers
9. **French knot**, 2 strands, two wraps
   Moss

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.

Floss

- **1 DMC 840 Medium Beige Brown**
  Branch and twig (middle), cut end (darker)
- **2 DMC 3031 Very Dark Mocha Brown**
  Branch and twig (dark), leaf stalk and nostrils
- **3 DMC 841 Light Beige Brown**
  Branch and twig (light), cut end (lighter)
- **4 DMC 3012 Medium Khaki Green** Moss and leaves (middle)
- **5 DMC 3362 Dark Pine Green** Leaves and moss (dark)
- **6 DMC 471 Very Light Avocado Green** Moss and leaves (light)
- **7 DMC 742 Light Tangerine** Persimmon leaf (lighter)
- **8 DMC 922 Light Copper** Persimmon leaf (darker)
- **9 DMC 920 Medium Copper** Leaf veins
- **10 DMC 225 Ultra Very Light Shell Pink**
  Tail (light), feet and nose light
- **11 DMC 223 Light Shell Pink** Tail (dark), tail edge
- **12 DMC 224 Very Light Shell Pink**
  Far feet, tail (middle), nose (lighter)
- **13 DMC 3799 Very Dark Pewter Gray**
  Coat, foreleg and haunch (darkest), far legs and ears (lighter)
- **14 DMC 310 Black** Ears and far legs (darker), eyes
- **15 DMC 3866 Ultra Very Light Mocha**
  Underfur (lighter), coat, haunch and foreleg (lightest), face (light)
- **16 DMC 648 Light Beaver Gray**
  Coat, haunch and foreleg (light), face (dark), underfur (darker)
- **17 DMC 645 Very Dark Beaver Gray**
  Coat, haunch and foreleg (dark), whiskers and mouth
- **18 DMC 646 Dark Beaver Gray**
  Coat, haunch and foreleg (middle), face (darkest), ear rims
- **19 DMC BLANC White** Face (lightest), eye lights
- **20 DMC 3712 Medium Salmon** Nose (darker)

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.

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Opossum on a branch

6 inch hoop

How to read it

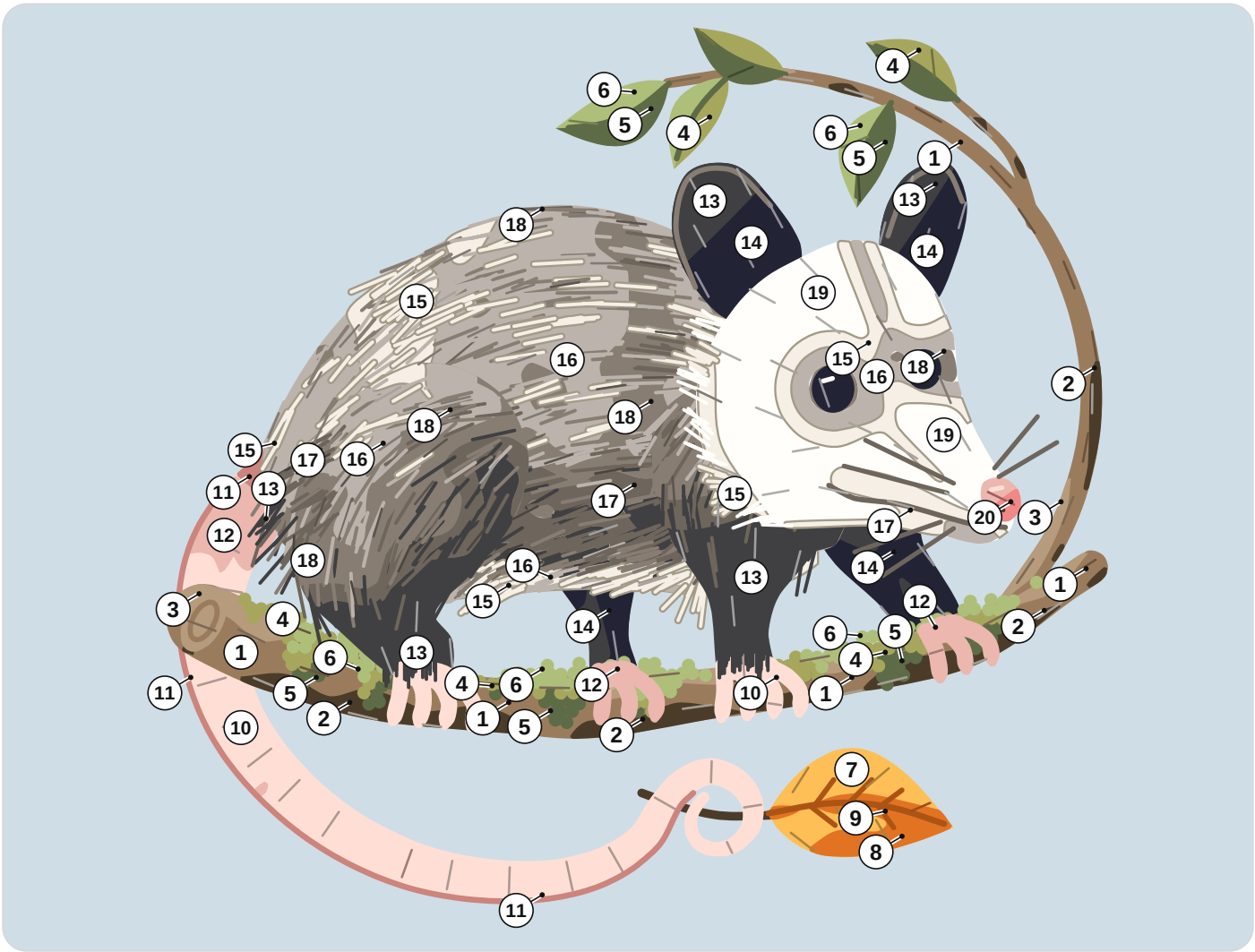
Floss is six strands. Cut 18 inches (45 cm), pull out the number given one at a time, and lay them together.

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 840 Medium Beige Brown	8	DMC 922 Light Copper	15	DMC 3866 Ultra Very Light Mocha
2	DMC 3031 Very Dark Mocha Brown	9	DMC 920 Medium Copper	16	DMC 648 Light Beaver Gray
3	DMC 841 Light Beige Brown	10	DMC 225 Ultra Very Light Shell Pink	17	DMC 645 Very Dark Beaver Gray
4	DMC 3012 Medium Khaki Green	11	DMC 223 Light Shell Pink	18	DMC 646 Dark Beaver Gray
5	DMC 3362 Dark Pine Green	12	DMC 224 Very Light Shell Pink	19	DMC BLANC White
6	DMC 471 Very Light Avocado Green	13	DMC 3799 Very Dark Pewter Gray	20	DMC 3712 Medium Salmon
7	DMC 742 Light Tangerine	14	DMC 310 Black		

How many strands

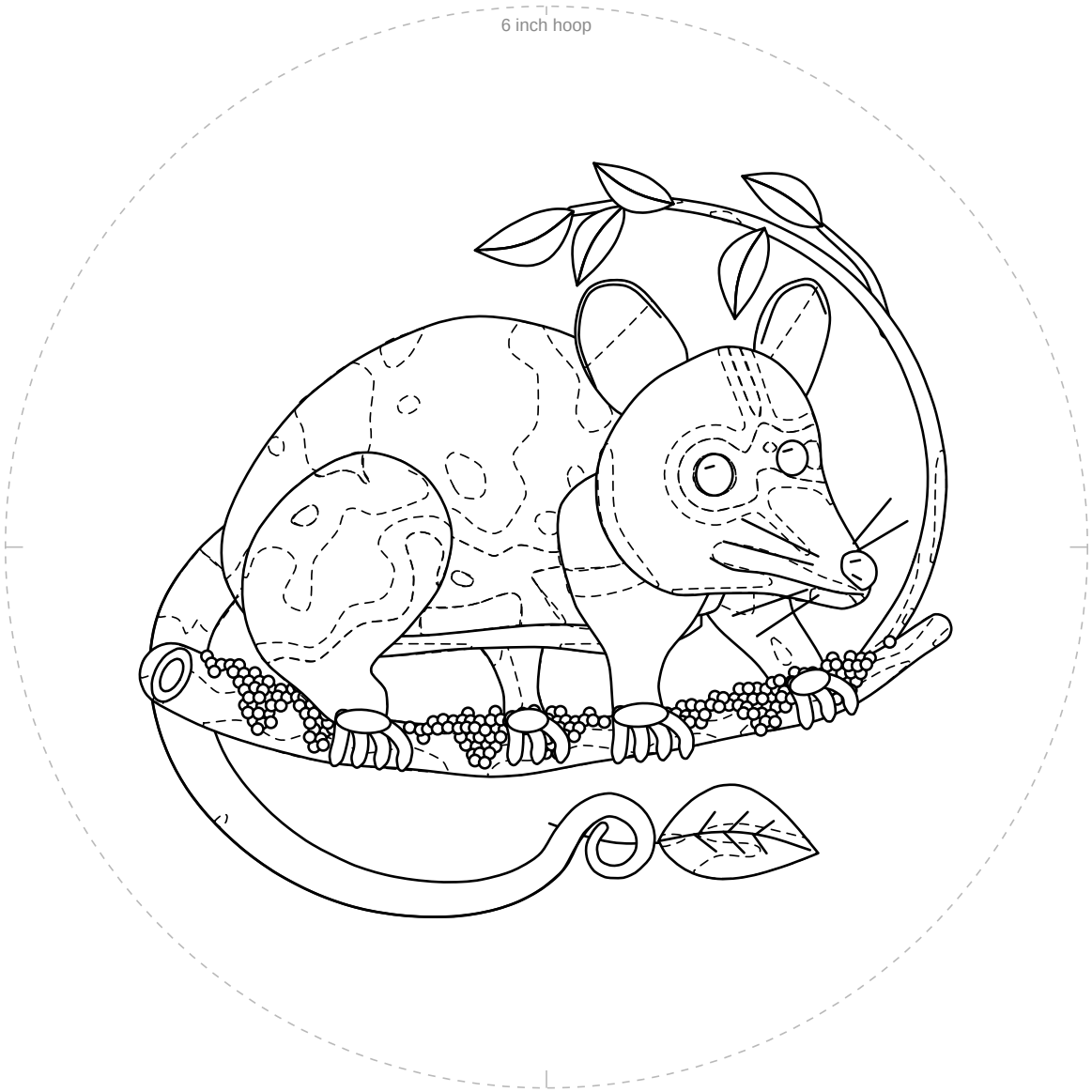
Stem stitch. 4 strands: leaf stalk; 2 strands: leaf veins; 1 strand: leaves.
Split stitch. 2 strands: mouth; 1 strand: leaf veins, ear rims.
Straight stitch. 3 strands: eye lights; 2 strands: nostrils; 1 strand: nose light, whiskers.

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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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Opossum on a branch

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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