Our first Christmas

6 inch (15 cm) hoop, 4.9 × 4.6 in (12.4 × 11.7 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.

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

23 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
   Berry twigs

2. **Long and short stitch**, 1 strand
   Holly leaves, bough, snow, tail, body, wing feathers, small wing feathers, shoulder, head, mask, crest



3. **Satin stitch**
   2 strands: bill, eye
   1 strand: words



4. **Straight stitch**, 2 strands
   Berry highlights, eye highlights



5. **Stem stitch**
   2 strands: leaf ribs, feet
   4 strands: legs

6. **Split stitch**, 1 strand
   Leaf edges, snow edges, feather edges

7. **Padded satin stitch**, 2 strands
   Berries, shared berry



8. **French knot**, 1 strand, two wraps
   Berry eyes



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

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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 3371 Black Brown	**9**	DMC 3346 Hunter Green	**17**	DMC 350 Medium Coral
2	DMC 321 Red	**10**	DMC 3347 Medium Yellow Green	**18**	DMC 720 Dark Orange Spice
3	DMC 498 Dark Red	**11**	DMC 3348 Light Yellow Green	**19**	DMC 721 Medium Orange Spice
4	DMC 666 Bright Red	**12**	DMC 433 Medium Brown	**20**	DMC 3777 Very Dark Terra Cotta
5	DMC 3865 Winter White	**13**	DMC 435 Very Light Brown	**21**	DMC 3830 Terra Cotta
6	DMC 310 Black	**14**	DMC 3756 Ultra Very Light Baby Blue	**22**	DMC 437 Light Tan
7	DMC 890 Ultra Dark Pistachio Green	**15**	DMC 932 Light Antique Blue	**23**	DMC 738 Very Light Tan
8	DMC 895 Very Dark Hunter Green	**16**	DMC 814 Dark Garnet		

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Our first Christmas

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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Our first Christmas

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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