Christmas bells with a bow and holly

6 inch (15 cm) hoop, 4.7 × 4.4 in (11.9 × 11.2 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 3 for 4 to 6 strands.

22 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**, 3 strands
   Twigs

2. **Couching**, 6 strands
   Hanging cords



3. **Satin stitch**, 2 strands
   Bell rings, bell lip, clapper stem, bell caps



4. **Long and short stitch**, 1 strand
   Holly leaves, berries, ribbon undersides, ribbon tails, bell mouth, clappers, bell wall, turned rings, loop insides, bow loops, bow knot



5. **Stem stitch**, 1 strand
   Holly veins

6. **Split stitch**, 1 strand
   Holly edges, berry edges, ribbon edges, bell edges, ring edges

7. **Padded satin stitch**, 2 strands
   Bell lip



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 898 Very Dark Coffee Brown	9	DMC 503 Medium Blue Green	17	DMC 3829 Very Dark Old Gold
2	DMC 3363 Medium Pine Green	10	DMC 3801 Very Dark Melon	18	DMC 680 Dark Old Gold
3	DMC 3364 Pine Green	11	DMC 815 Medium Garnet	19	DMC 729 Medium Old Gold
4	DMC 500 Very Dark Blue Green	12	DMC 498 Dark Red	20	DMC 676 Light Old Gold
5	DMC 3362 Dark Pine Green	13	DMC 321 Red	21	DMC 780 Ultra Very Dark Topaz
6	DMC 504 Very Light Blue Green	14	DMC 3706 Medium Melon	22	DMC 746 Off White
7	DMC 502 Blue Green	15	DMC 814 Dark Garnet		
8	DMC 501 Dark Blue Green	16	DMC 938 Ultra Dark Coffee Brown		

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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

Not 1 inch (25.4 mm)? Print again at 100%.

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