Picnic ants carrying a feast

Sized for a 6 inch hoop (15 cm). The stitched design is about 4.7 × 1.6 in (11.9 × 4.1 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 321 Red**
  Gingham lines, gingham checks, strawberry, jam, cherries and tomato
- **2 DMC 745 Light Pale Yellow**
  Sponge, bread, eyes and seeds
- **3 DMC 3733 Dusty Rose**
  Frosting, ham and cherry shine
- **4 DMC 435 Very Light Brown**
  Crust, cake edge and crumb
- **5 DMC 3346 Hunter Green**
  Leaves, lettuce and stems
- **6 DMC 3799 Very Dark Pewter Gray**
  Ants, legs, antennae and jaws
- **7 DMC 318 Light Steel Gray**
  Shine

Stitch in this order

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

1. **Satin stitch**, 2 strands
   Gingham checks, bread, ham, tomato, lettuce, ants, sponge, jam, frosting, cherries, leaves, strawberry, crumb



2. **Running stitch**, 2 strands
   Gingham lines

3. **Stem stitch**
   strands by part on page 2
   Crust, cake edge, stems

4. **Back stitch**
   strands by part on page 2
   Antennae, legs, shine

5. **Straight stitch**, 2 strands
   Jaws, cherry shine, seeds



6. **French knot**
   2 strands, two wraps
   Eyes



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.

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6 inch hoop

How to read it

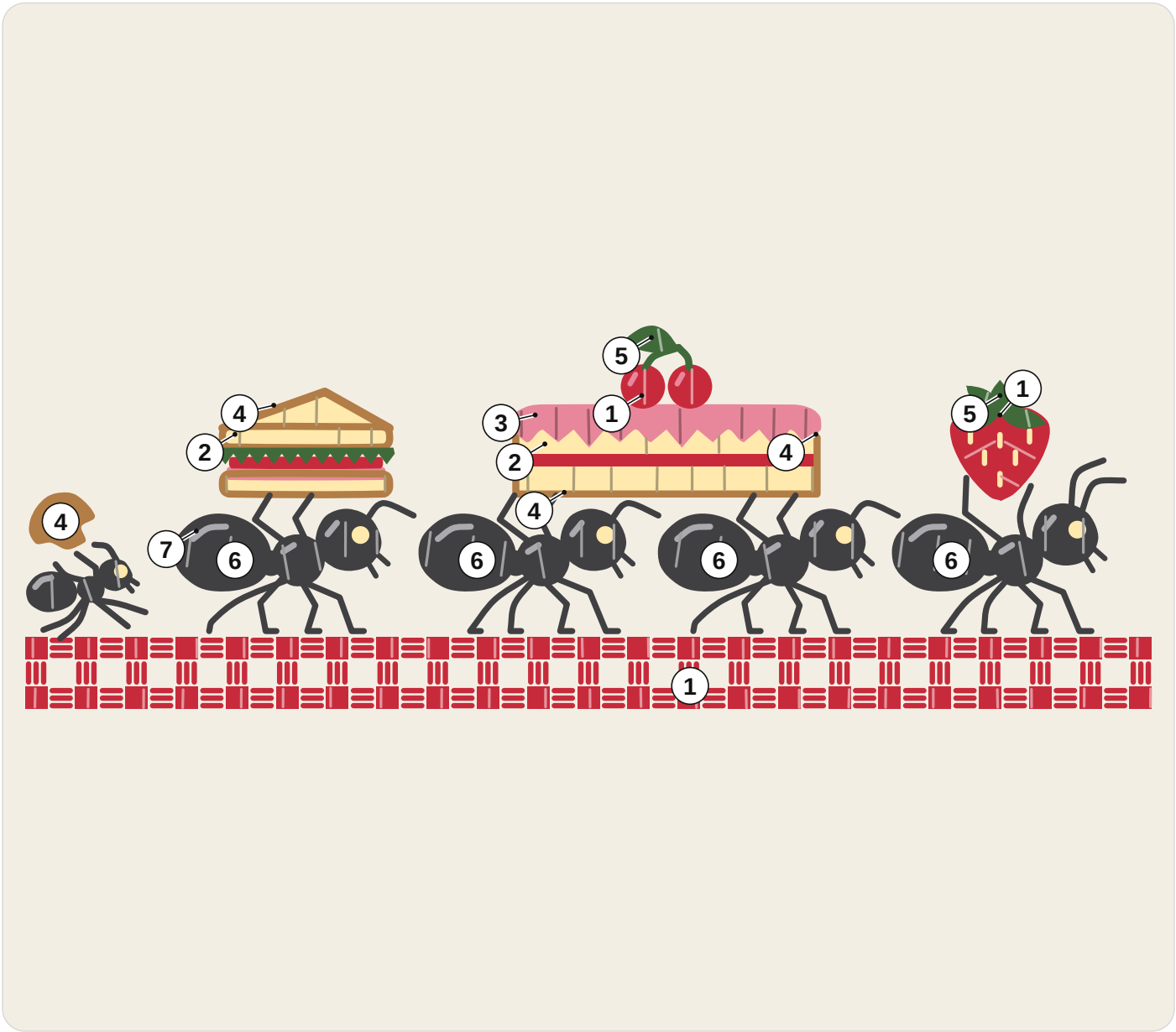
Floss is six strands. Cut 18 inches (45 cm), pull out the number given one at a time, and lay them together.

Begin with no knot on the back where it is seen and washed, as on a towel, a napkin or clothes; for a piece in a hoop a small knot is fine. End each thread by whipping it around the backs of four or five stitches, with one small hitch.

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.



1 DMC 321 Red
2 DMC 745 Light Pale Yellow
3 DMC 3733 Dusty Rose
4 DMC 435 Very Light Brown
5 DMC 3346 Hunter Green
6 DMC 3799 Very Dark Pewter Gray
7 DMC 318 Light Steel Gray

How many strands

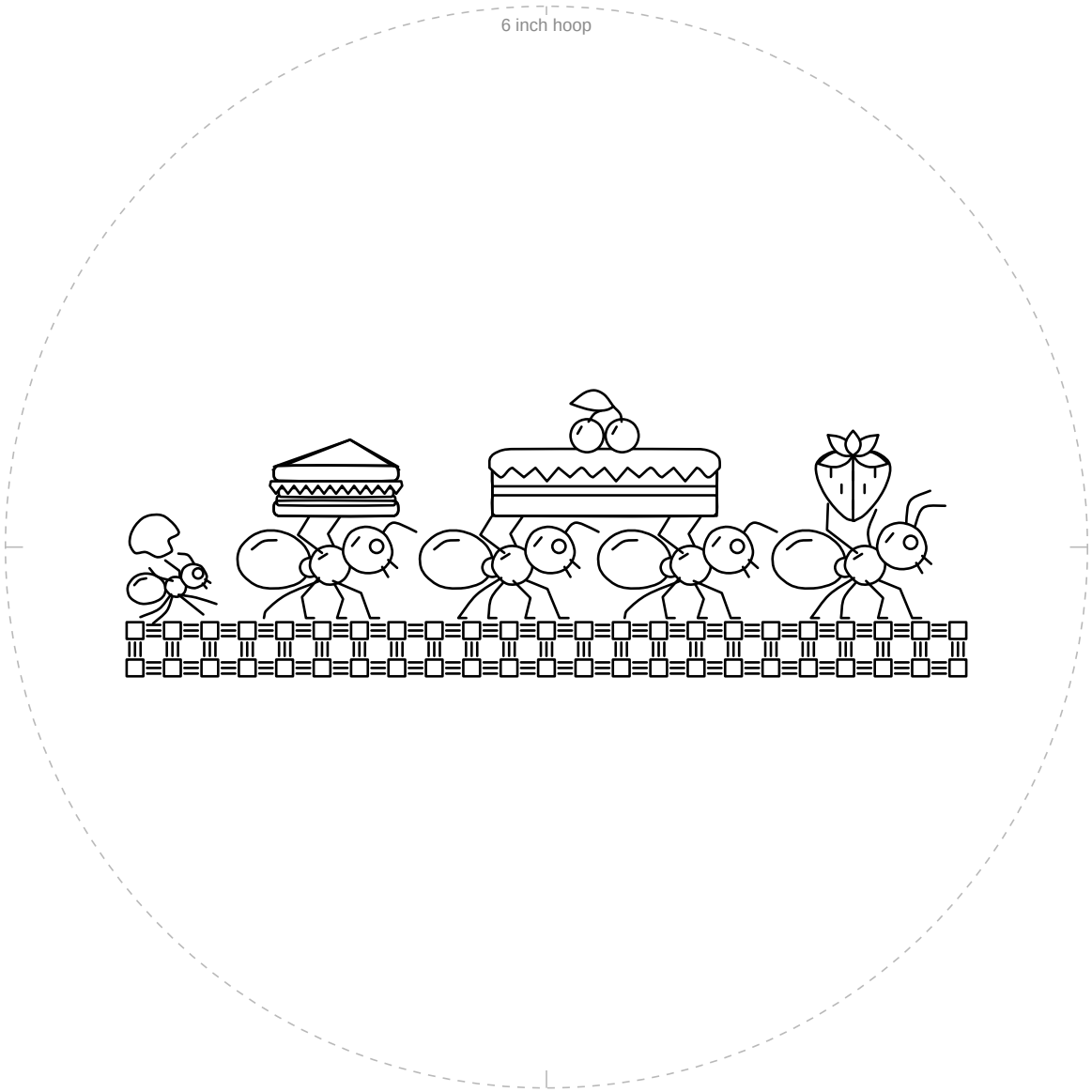
Stem stitch. 2 or 3 strands: crust; 2 strands: cake edge, stems.
Back stitch. 2 or 3 strands: legs; 2 strands: antennae, shine.

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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

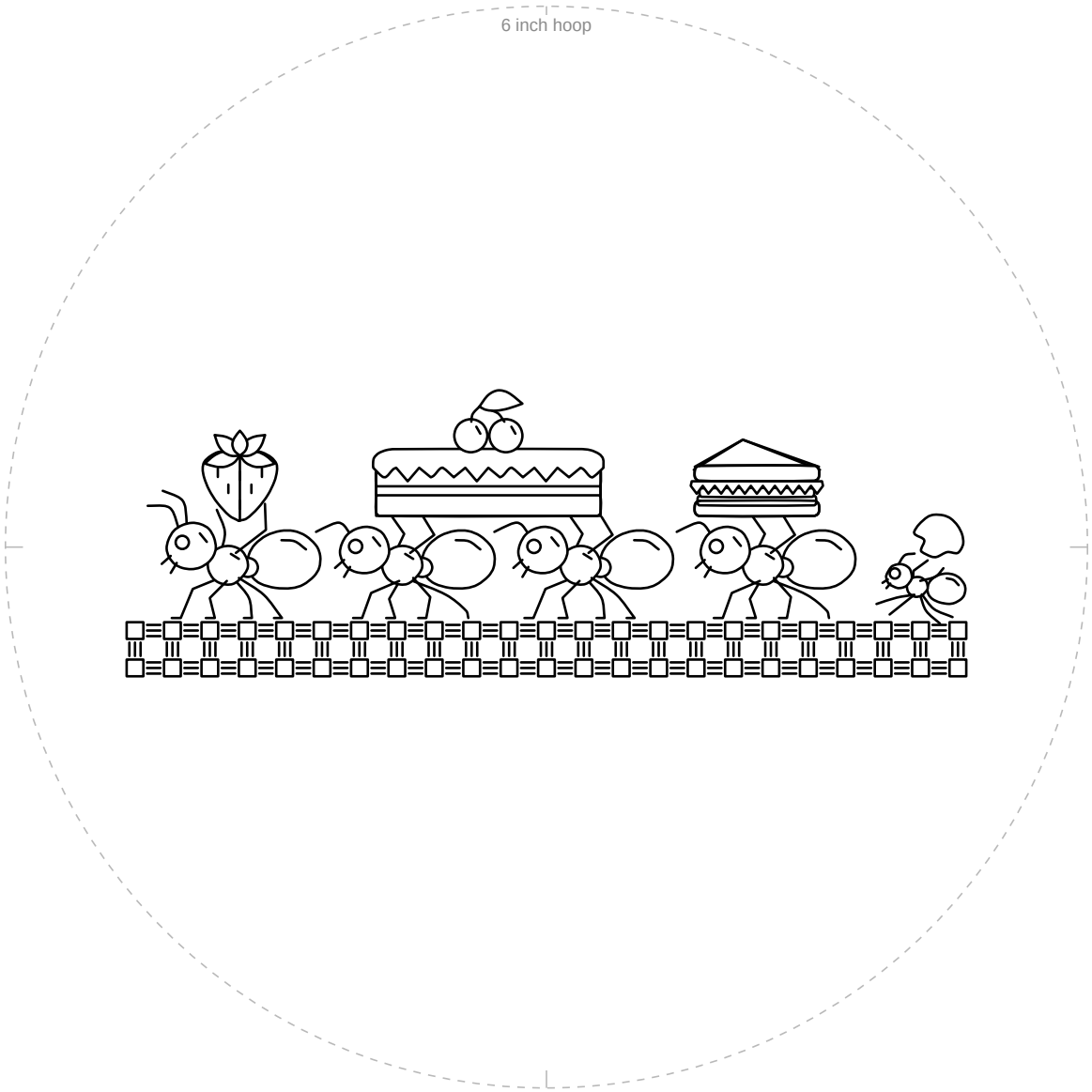
Check square: 1 inch (25.4 mm) on each side.
If it measures anything else, print again at 100% with scaling off.

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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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