Pink axolotl among water weeds

6 inch (15 cm) hoop, 4.5 × 4.4 in (11.4 × 11.2 cm)



Colors by number: page 2.
Fabric: dark teal cotton or linen.

Stitch in this order

Where a stitch page says otherwise, follow this list.

1. **Stem stitch**, 2 strands
   Lines of the far weeds, lines of the near weeds

2. **Long and short stitch**, 1 strand
   Ribbon weeds, stones, mossy stone, tail fin, legs, body, gills, head



3. **Satin stitch**, 2 strands
   Far weeds, toes, gill stalks, eye rims, eyes, bubble highlights, near weeds



4. **Split stitch**
   1 strand: fin edges, lines of the bubble highlights
   2 strands: bubbles

5. **Stem stitch**, 2 strands
   Smile

6. **Straight stitch**
   1 strand: gill hairs, nostrils
   2 strands: lines of the bubble highlights



7. **French knot**
   2 strands, two wraps
   Moss, eye highlights



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

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.

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.

Onto the fabric

Fabric that lets light through: page 3 on a bright light, the fabric over it; trace with a white pencil.

Other fabric: print page 3 on a sticky wash-away sheet, stick it on, stitch through it and rinse it away.

Or white or yellow carbon paper, colored side down, page 3 on top; trace with a ballpoint and go over a faint line with a white pencil.

Then hoop it, inner ring under, tight as a drum.

Buy: 19 colors of floss (page 2), one skein of each color (an estimate from the drawing's lines and shapes), an embroidery needle size 9, a 6 inch (15 cm) hoop, a 9 inch (23 cm) square of dark teal cotton or linen, a white pencil.

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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 520 Dark Fern Green	8	DMC 224 Very Light Shell Pink	15	DMC 350 Medium Coral
2	DMC 3052 Medium Green Gray	9	DMC 778 Very Light Antique Mauve	16	DMC 352 Light Coral
3	DMC 3022 Medium Brown Gray	10	DMC 819 Light Baby Pink	17	DMC 353 Peach
4	DMC 3023 Light Brown Gray	11	DMC 3722 Medium Shell Pink	18	DMC 3371 Black Brown
5	DMC 3787 Dark Brown Gray	12	DMC 225 Ultra Very Light Shell Pink	19	DMC 926 Medium Gray Green
6	DMC 3364 Pine Green	13	DMC 3865 Winter White		
7	DMC 3726 Dark Antique Mauve	14	DMC 351 Coral		

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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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