Row of little birdhouses border

Sized for a 6 inch hoop (15 cm). The stitched design is about 4.8 × 1.9 in (12.2 × 4.8 cm).



Which color goes where: by number on page 2.
Fabric: dark teal cotton or linen.

Three ways onto dark fabric

1. **Light shines through it**
   Lay page 3 on a bright light box, tape the fabric over it and trace the lines with a white marking pencil or pen.
2. **No light shines through**
   Print page 3 on a sticky wash-away sheet, smooth it onto fabric that can be washed, stitch through both and rinse it away.
3. **White or yellow carbon paper**
   Lay it colored side down on the fabric with page 3 on top, tape the layers and trace firmly with a ballpoint pen. Go over a faint line with a white pencil.

Page 3 is the pattern at actual size (page 4 is its mirror, for an iron-on pen on a light fabric). Print it 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 733 Medium Olive Green**
  Posts, ground line, grass, gourd stalk and seed head stems
- **2 DMC 3820 Dark Straw**
  Tower roof, clapboards, upright boards and chimney, birds (dark) and 2 more parts
- **3 DMC 712 Cream**
  Border line, wall outlines, floor boards and hole rings and 4 more parts
- **4 DMC 310 Black**
  Entrance holes, bird wings and bird eyes
- **5 DMC 351 Coral**
  A-frame roof, bungalow roof and brick courses, birds (darkest), beaks (darker)
- **6 DMC 964 Light Seagreen**
  Gourd rings, boomerang roof and slanting boards, birds (light)

Stitch in this order

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

1. **Satin stitch**, 2 strands
   Posts, entrance holes, a-frame roof, gourd stalk, tower roof, boomerang roof, chimney, bungalow roof, beaks, birds, bird wings
2. **Chain stitch**, strands by part on page 2
   Clapboards, gourd rings, upright boards, ground line
3. **Stem stitch**, strands by part on page 2
   Floor boards, gourd outline, wall outlines, seed head stems
4. **Split stitch**, 2 strands
   Hole rings
5. **Running stitch**, strands by part on page 2
   Brick courses, slanting boards, border line
6. **Straight stitch**, strands by part on page 2
   Grass, starburst seed heads, bird legs
7. **French knot**, 2 strands, two wraps
   Seed head centers, bird eyes

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Row of little birdhouses border

6 inch hoop

How to read it

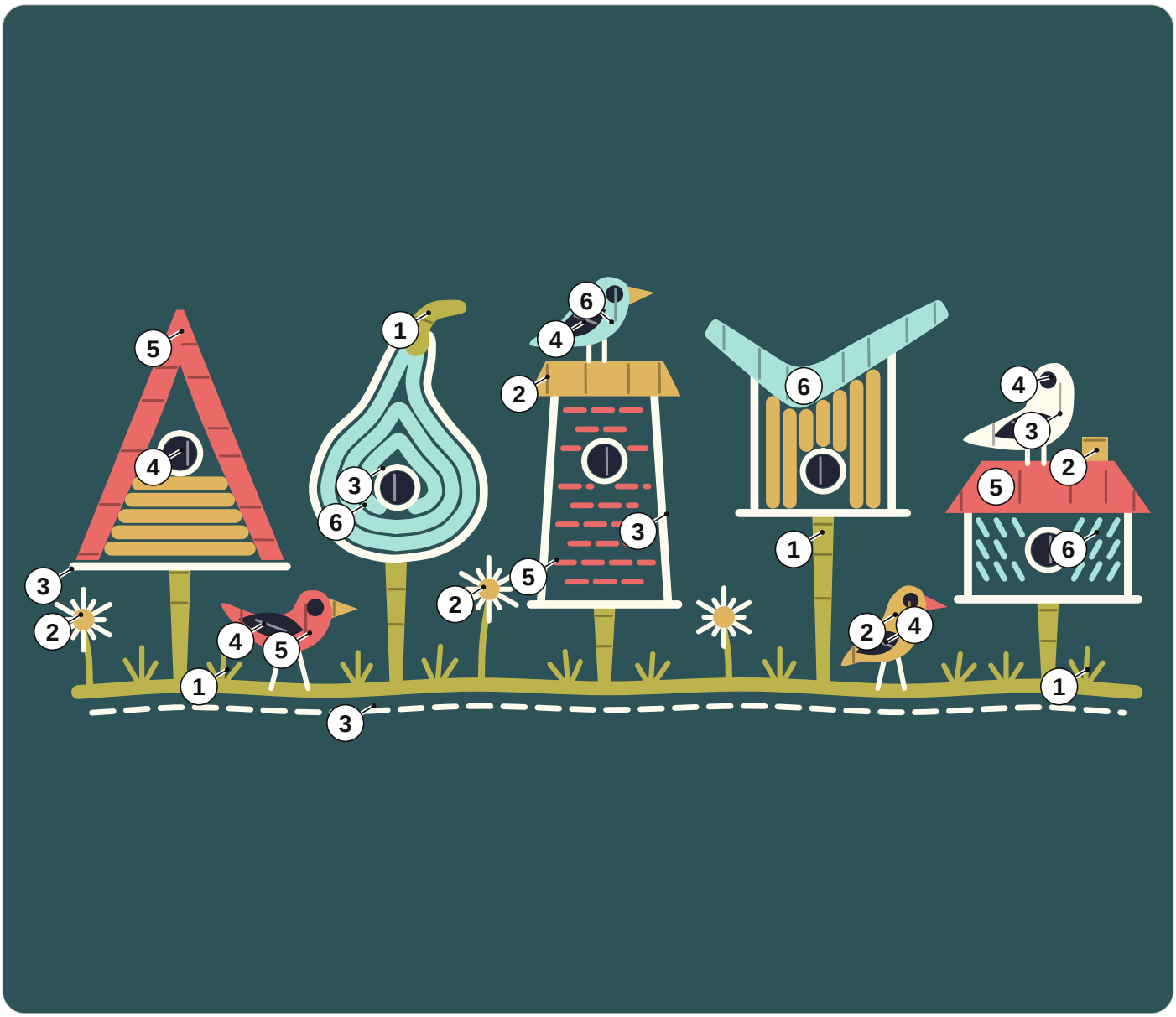
Floss is six strands. Cut 18 inches (45 cm), pull out the number given one at a time, and lay them together.

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 dashed line is running stitch.

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 733 Medium Olive Green
2 DMC 3820 Dark Straw
3 DMC 712 Cream
4 DMC 310 Black
5 DMC 351 Coral
6 DMC 964 Light Seagreen

How many strands

Chain stitch. 3 strands: ground line; 2 strands: clapboards, gourd rings, upright boards.
Stem stitch. 3 strands: floor boards, gourd outline, wall outlines; 2 strands: seed head stems.
Running stitch. 3 strands: brick courses, slanting boards; 2 strands: border line.
Straight stitch. 3 strands: grass; 2 strands: starburst seed heads, bird legs.

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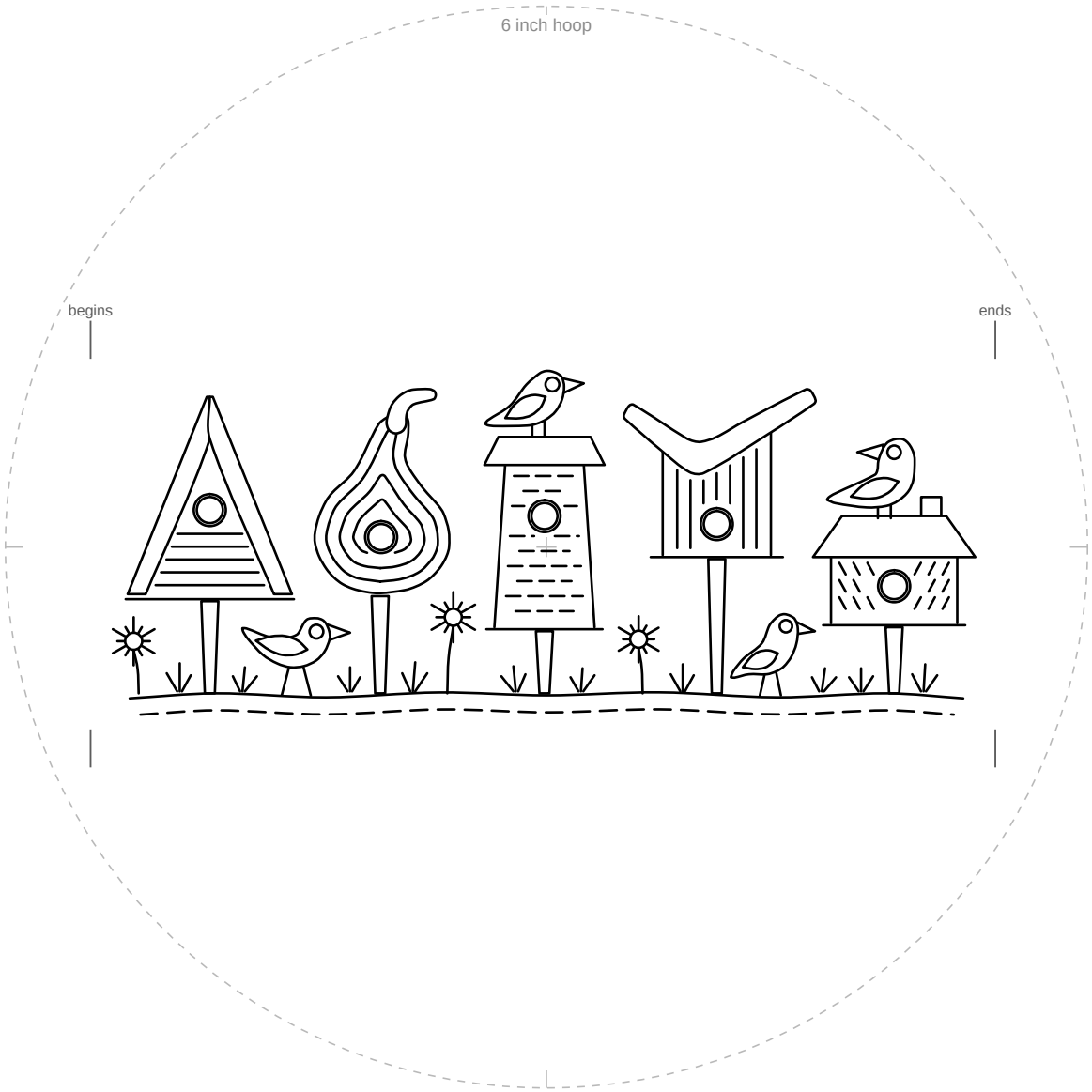
Row of little birdhouses border

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

For a longer border, trace it again with the mark “begins” on the mark “ends”.

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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Row of little birdhouses border

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

For a longer border, trace it again with the mark “begins” on the mark “ends”.

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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