# Seal balancing a star

6 inch (15 cm) hoop, 3.4 × 4.3 in (8.6 × 10.9 cm)



Colors by number: page 2.
Fabric: wine red cotton or linen.

## What you need

A 6 inch (15 cm) hoop.

A 9 inch (23 cm) square of wine red cotton or linen.

An embroidery needle, size 9.

16 colors of floss (page 2): one skein of each color (an estimate from the drawing's lines and shapes).

A white pencil, and small scissors.

## 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.

## 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. **Satin stitch**
   2 strands, colors 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 13, 14, 16
   Tub panels, tub top, tub foot, tub rim, tub stars, spots, nose, eye, star, little stars



2. **Long and short stitch**
   1 strand, colors 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12
   Front flippers, hind flippers, coat



3. **Stem stitch**, colors 3, 7, 8, 14, 15
   2 strands: tub seams, flipper lines, mouth
   1 strand: brow, whiskers



4. **Straight stitch**
   2 strands, colors 15, 16
   Eye highlight, star light



5. **French knot**
   2 strands, two wraps, color 5
   Star dust



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.



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# Seal balancing a star

**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 3809 Very Dark Turquoise | 7 | DMC 3750 Very Dark Antique Blue | 13 | DMC 939 Very Dark Navy Blue |
| 2 | DMC 712 Cream | 8 | DMC 930 Dark Antique Blue | 14 | DMC 310 Black |
| 3 | DMC 782 Dark Topaz | 9 | DMC 931 Medium Antique Blue | 15 | DMC BLANC White |
| 4 | DMC 3808 Ultra Very Dark Turquoise | 10 | DMC 932 Light Antique Blue | 16 | DMC 3822 Light Straw |
| 5 | DMC 3820 Dark Straw | 11 | DMC 3752 Very Light Antique Blue | | |
| 6 | DMC 347 Very Dark Salmon | 12 | DMC 3753 Ultra Very Light Antique Bl... | | |



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# Seal balancing a star

**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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