Secret Santa

6 inch (15 cm) hoop, 4.4 × 4.6 in (11.2 × 11.7 cm)



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

What you need

A 6 inch (15 cm) hoop.

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

An embroidery needle, size 9.

21 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. **Long and short stitch**
   1 strand, colors 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20
   Hat, face, whiskers, eyebrows, parcel, moustache, nose, robin back, robin belly, robin breast



2. **Satin stitch**
   2 strands, colors 1, 2, 4, 6, 8, 11, 13, 14, 15, 16, 18, 21
   Holly leaves, cheeks, eye whites, irises, pupils, lid stripes, fingers, finger nails, robin tail, letters



3. **Fishbone stitch**
   2 strands, colors 16, 17
   Robin wing



4. **Stem stitch**, colors 3, 5, 16
   1 strand: holly veins
   2 strands: eyelids, lid edge

5. **Split stitch**, 1 strand, color 17
   Smile lines, finger lines

6. **Straight stitch**, colors 3, 8, 16
   1 strand: eye highlights
   2 strands: robin beak, robin legs, berry highlights



7. **Padded satin stitch**
   2 strands, colors 4, 6, 7
   Berries



8. **Turkey work**
   2 strands, colors 8, 9, 10
   Hat fur, cuff fur



9. **French knot**
   2 strands, two wraps, color 16
   Robin eye



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

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A number is a color of the list. Fine lines show which way the stitches lie: do not stitch them.



1	DMC 3347 Medium Yellow Green	8	DMC BLANC White	15	DMC 931 Medium Antique Blue
2	DMC 3345 Dark Hunter Green	9	DMC 3752 Very Light Antique Blue	16	DMC 3371 Black Brown
3	DMC 738 Very Light Tan	10	DMC 3756 Ultra Very Light Baby Blue	17	DMC 632 Ultra Very Dark Desert Sand
4	DMC 321 Red	11	DMC 407 Dark Desert Sand	18	DMC 739 Ultra Very Light Tan
5	DMC 815 Medium Garnet	12	DMC 3772 Very Dark Desert Sand	19	DMC 437 Light Tan
6	DMC 498 Dark Red	13	DMC 3773 Medium Desert Sand	20	DMC 921 Copper
7	DMC 350 Medium Coral	14	DMC 3778 Light Terra Cotta	21	DMC 890 Ultra Dark Pistachio Green

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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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