Shepherd watching his sheep

6 inch (15 cm) hoop, 4.7 × 4.3 in (11.9 × 10.9 cm)



Colors by number: page 2.
Fabric: pale blue cotton or linen.

What you need

A 6 inch (15 cm) hoop.

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

Embroidery needles, size 9, and size 5 for 4 strands.

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

A water-soluble pen, and small scissors.

Onto the fabric

Fabric you can see through: page 3 taped to a sunny window, the fabric over it; trace.

Other fabric: dressmaker's carbon paper, colored side down, page 3 on top; trace with a ballpoint.

Iron-on pen: go over page 4, the mirrored page, and press it ink side down as the pen's packet says. The lines stay.

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. **Back stitch**, 2 strands
   Fleece outline
2. **Stem stitch**
   2 strands: near hill (color 4), ground, far sleeve, flower stems
   3 strands: tunic, tunic hem, headcloth
3. **Outline stitch**
   2 strands: far hill, near hill (color 7), tunic folds
   1 strand: sleeve folds
4. **Fishbone stitch**, 2 strands
   Cypresses
5. **Long and short stitch**, 1 strand
   Mantle, face, beard
6. **Satin stitch**, 2 strands
   Star, town windows, town roofs, sheep faces, sheep ears, sheep legs, legs and feet, belt, crook, hands, headband, flower leaves, flowers
7. **Straight stitch**
   1 strand: star rays
   3 strands: small stars, hooves, eye (color 4)
   2 strands: sheep eyes, mouth, headband twist
8. **Back stitch**
   2 strands: town, sandals (color 11)
   1 strand: sheep outline, foot outline, belt edge, crook edge, hand outline, face outline, eye (color 4)
9. **Stem stitch**
   4 strands: sandals (color 11), belt ends
   3 strands: mantle edge, near sleeve, sleeve trim
   2 strands: brow, grass
10. **Outline stitch**, 1 strand
    Headcloth folds
11. **French knot**, 2 strands, two wraps
    Fleece, flower centers

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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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 3822 Light Straw	7	DMC 930 Dark Antique Blue	13	DMC 3830 Terra Cotta
2	DMC 783 Medium Topaz	8	DMC 932 Light Antique Blue	14	DMC 433 Medium Brown
3	DMC 3865 Winter White	9	DMC 840 Medium Beige Brown	15	DMC 407 Dark Desert Sand
4	DMC 939 Very Dark Navy Blue	10	DMC 3064 Desert Sand	16	DMC 3371 Black Brown
5	DMC 3778 Light Terra Cotta	11	DMC 801 Dark Coffee Brown	17	DMC 502 Blue Green
6	DMC 501 Dark Blue Green	12	DMC 355 Dark Terra Cotta		

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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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6 inch hoop

For an iron-on pen only. Go over the lines, press ink side down.



1 in
25.4 mm

Not 1 inch (25.4 mm)? Print again at 100%.

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