Shiba dog in a samurai helmet

6 inch (15 cm) hoop, 4.1 × 4.5 in (10.4 × 11.4 cm)



Colors by number: page 2.
Fabric: sage green cotton or linen.

What you need

A 6 inch (15 cm) hoop.

A 9 inch (23 cm) square of sage green 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 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. **Satin stitch**
   2 strands, colors 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 15, 18, 19, 21
   Neck guard, lacing, cord, tongue, eye rims, eyes, eye color, eye highlights, flap flowers, tassels, butterfly, butterfly body



2. **Long and short stitch**
   1 strand, colors 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 17
   Chest, ears, face, muzzle, brow spots



3. **Whipped back stitch**
   2 strands, colors 3, 4, 16
   Gold rims

4. **Stem stitch**, 2 strands, color 19
   Mouth

5. **Straight stitch**
   1 strand, colors 4, 18, 20
   Lines of the tongue, nose highlight, lines of the tassels



6. **Split stitch**
   1 strand, colors 18, 19, 20
   Edges of the cord, butterfly edge, edges of the butterfly body

7. **Padded satin stitch**
   2 strands, colors 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 16, 18, 19, 21
   Helmet bowl, helmet knob, nose, visor, turned back flaps, horns, crest, tassels, cord



8. **French knot**
   two wraps, colors 5, 9, 15, 20
   1 strand: whisker dots, knots of the eye highlights
   2 strands: knots of the flap flowers, butterfly dots



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 939 Very Dark Navy Blue	8	DMC 400 Dark Mahogany	15	DMC 3865 Winter White
2	DMC 336 Navy Blue	9	DMC 975 Dark Golden Brown	16	DMC 780 Ultra Very Dark Topaz
3	DMC 783 Medium Topaz	10	DMC 976 Medium Golden Brown	17	DMC 841 Light Beige Brown
4	DMC 3822 Light Straw	11	DMC 977 Light Golden Brown	18	DMC 349 Dark Coral
5	DMC 351 Coral	12	DMC 712 Cream	19	DMC 3371 Black Brown
6	DMC 312 Very Dark Baby Blue	13	DMC 842 Very Light Beige Brown	20	DMC 415 Pearl Gray
7	DMC 3826 Golden Brown	14	DMC 739 Ultra Very Light Tan	21	DMC 353 Peach

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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 dashed line is whipped back stitch; a finer one 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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