Skeleton couple dancing the tango

Sized for a 6 inch hoop (15 cm). The stitched design is about 4.5 × 4.3 in (11.4 × 10.9 cm).



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

Stitch in this order

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

1. **Satin stitch**, 2 strands
   Moon, his shoes, cuffs, waistband, spines, ribs, arm bones, eye holes, noses, hat band, hat brim, rose hearts, her shoes, skirt ruffle, and 4 more
2. **Long and short stitch**, 1 strand
   Skulls, roses, bodice, hair
3. **Fishbone stitch**, 2 strands
   Leaves
4. **Split stitch**, strands by part on page 2
   Leg bones, shoe lines, collar bones, arm bones, teeth, cheek lines, brow lines, bodice seams, hair lines
5. **Chain stitch**, 3 strands
   Trousers, hat, skirt
6. **Straight stitch**, strands by part on page 2
   Teeth, lashes
7. **Stem stitch**, strands by part on page 2
   Rose stem, hat edge, rose hearts, ruffle edge, slit edge, flounce edge

Floss

- **1 DMC 3820 Dark Straw** Moon and comb
- **2 DMC 842 Very Light Beige Brown**
  Arm bones, leg bones, collar bones, ribs and hands (darker), skulls (dark)
- **3 DMC 3865 Winter White**
  Arm bones, ribs, leg bones, hands and collar bones (lighter), skulls (light), spines
- **4 DMC 926 Medium Gray Green**
  Hat brim, his shoes and trousers (light)
- **5 DMC 924 Very Dark Gray Green**
  Trousers, his shoes and hat brim (dark), shoe lines
- **6 DMC 3768 Dark Gray Green**
  Trousers, hat brim and his shoes (middle), hat and hat edge
- **7 DMC 498 Dark Red**
  Skirt and roses (dark), skirt ruffle and cuffs, her shoes (darker) and 4 more parts
- **8 DMC 739 Ultra Very Light Tan** Skulls (middle)
- **9 DMC 310 Black** Eye holes, teeth, noses and lashes
- **10 DMC 840 Medium Beige Brown**
  Cheek lines and brow lines
- **11 DMC 523 Light Fern Green**
  Leaves and rose stem
- **12 DMC 666 Bright Red**
  Skirt and hat band (light), her shoes and bodice (lighter) and 4 more parts
- **13 DMC 815 Medium Garnet**
  Skirt and roses (darkest), rose hearts and hat band (dark), bodice seams
- **14 DMC 3705 Dark Melon**
  Skirt (lightest), ruffle edge and flounce edge, rose hearts (light) and 2 more parts
- **15 DMC 3835 Medium Grape** Hair (lighter)
- **16 DMC 3834 Dark Grape** Hair (darker), hair lines

Stitches, continued

8. **Bullion knot**, 3 strands
   Hands

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.

For your own stitching, gifts and handmade pieces you sell. Do not resell or share this PDF or copies of it.

Skeleton couple dancing the tango

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.

Inside a filled shape start with two or three tiny stitches, which the filling covers. Start a line with a small knot on the back. End each thread by running the needle under the backs of a few stitches.

A fine broken line inside a shape is where two shades meet: trace it, do not stitch it.

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 3820 Dark Straw	**7**	DMC 498 Dark Red	**13**	DMC 815 Medium Garnet
2	DMC 842 Very Light Beige Brown	**8**	DMC 739 Ultra Very Light Tan	**14**	DMC 3705 Dark Melon
3	DMC 3865 Winter White	**9**	DMC 310 Black	**15**	DMC 3835 Medium Grape
4	DMC 926 Medium Gray Green	**10**	DMC 840 Medium Beige Brown	**16**	DMC 3834 Dark Grape
5	DMC 924 Very Dark Gray Green	**11**	DMC 523 Light Fern Green		
6	DMC 3768 Dark Gray Green	**12**	DMC 666 Bright Red		

How many strands

Split stitch. 2 strands: leg bones, collar bones, arm bones, teeth; 1 strand: shoe lines, cheek lines, brow lines, bodice seams, hair lines.
Straight stitch. 2 strands: lashes; 1 strand: teeth.
Stem stitch. 4 strands: rose stem; 2 strands: hat edge, rose hearts, ruffle edge, slit edge; 1 strand: flounce edge.

For your own stitching, gifts and handmade pieces you sell. Do not resell or share this PDF or copies of it.

Skeleton couple dancing the tango

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

Check square: 1 inch (25.4 mm) on each side.
If it measures anything else, print again at 100% with scaling off.

For your own stitching, gifts and handmade pieces you sell. Do not resell or share this PDF or copies of it.

Skeleton couple dancing the tango

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

Check square: 1 inch (25.4 mm) on each side.
If it measures anything else, print again at 100% with scaling off.

For your own stitching, gifts and handmade pieces you sell. Do not resell or share this PDF or copies of it.