Small baby Jesus in the manger

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



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

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.

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.

Buy: 7 colors of floss (page 2), one skein of each color (an estimate from the drawing's lines and shapes), embroidery needles size 9, and size 3 for 4 to 6 strands, a 6 inch (15 cm) hoop, a 9 inch (23 cm) square of dark green cotton or linen, a white pencil.

Stitch in this order

Where a stitch page says otherwise, follow this list.

1. **Stem stitch**
   4 strands: straw bed
   3 strands: wrapping edge

2. **Split stitch**
   5 strands: face
   3 strands: lines of the wren

3. **Satin stitch**, 2 strands
   Manger rails, hair, wren tail, wren, wren wing, wren bill, manger legs, front rail, star



4. **Split stitch**, 1 strand
   Edges of the wren tail

5. **Straight stitch**
   1 strand: nose
   2 strands: lines of the wren wing



6. **Stem stitch**
   3 strands: straw, lines of the straw over the rim
   2 strands: wrapping folds, edges of the hair, wren brow, board lines
   1 strand: edges of the wren wing
   6 strands: manger boards

7. **Back stitch**
   4 strands: closed eyes
   3 strands: mouth
   2 strands: wren eye, edges of the manger legs

8. **Chain stitch**
   6 strands: wrapping
   4 strands: ring
   3 strands: scallops



9. **Lazy daisy stitch**
   3 strands: straw heads
   2 strands: loops of the straw over the rim



10. **French knot**, two wraps
    3 strands: red beads
    2 strands: cream beads



Take out lines that still show, press face down, finish the hoop.

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



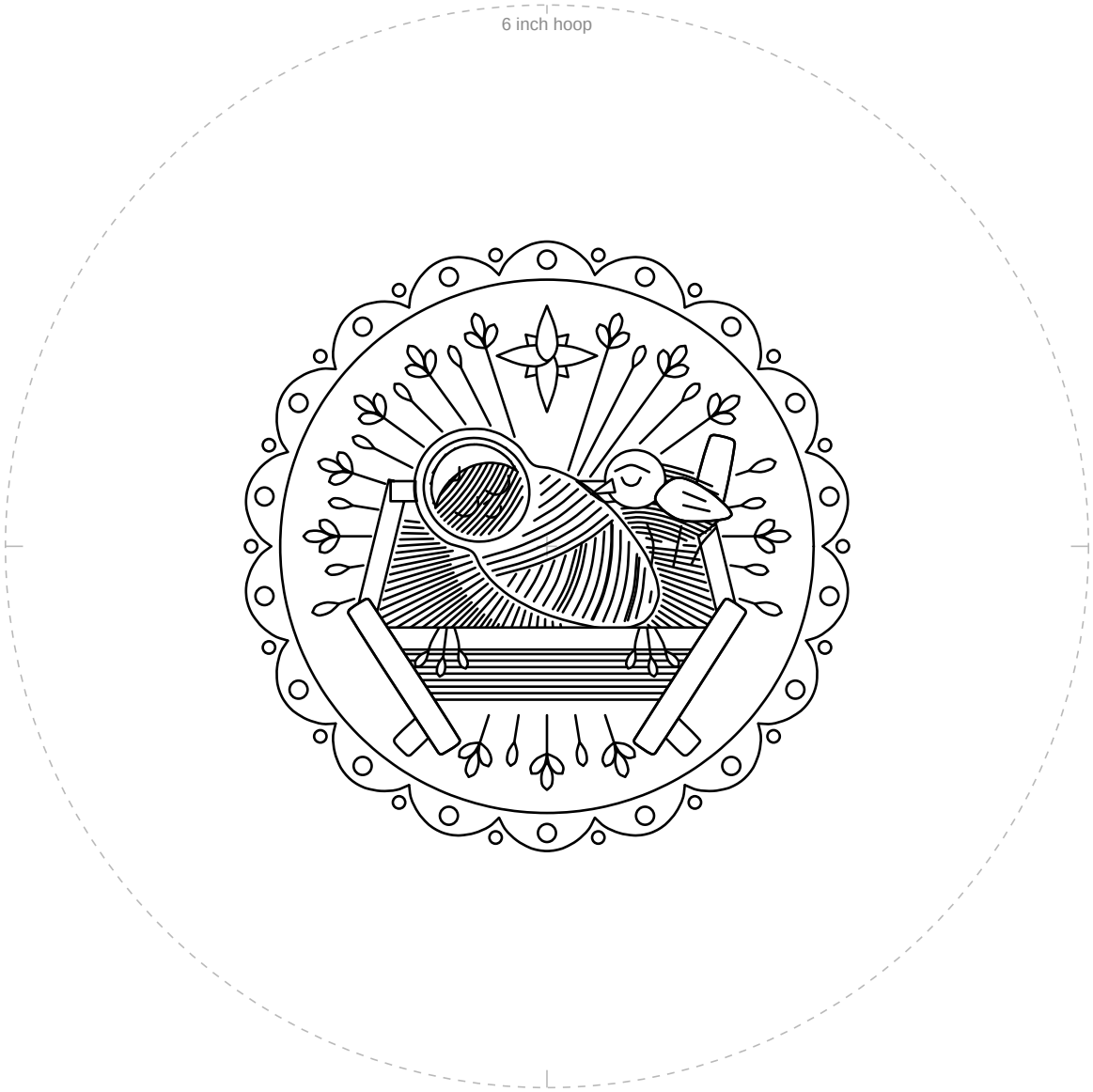
1 DMC 3820 Dark Straw
2 DMC 434 Light Brown
3 DMC 437 Light Tan
4 DMC 712 Cream
5 DMC 3064 Desert Sand
6 DMC 3371 Black Brown
7 DMC 347 Very Dark Salmon

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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 loop is one lazy daisy, begun at its point.



1 in
25.4 mm

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

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