Smocked pillow with garden flowers

6 inch (15 cm) hoop, 3.9 × 3.9 in (9.9 × 9.9 cm)



Colors by number: page 2.

What you need

A 6 inch (15 cm) hoop.

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

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

11 colors of floss (page 2): 2 skeins of DMC 792; one of each other 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. **Long and short stitch**
   1 strand, colors 1, 2, 5, 8
   Pillow edge, puffed diamonds, rose petals



2. **Fishbone stitch**
   2 strands, colors 6, 7
   Leaves



3. **Satin stitch**
   2 strands, colors 1, 2, 3, 6, 11
   Tassels, tassel heads, piping, cut stems, daisies, bow tails, bow, bow knot



4. **Woven wheel stitch**
   4 strands, colors 1, 2, 3
   Roses

5. **Stem stitch**, colors 4, 6
   2 strands: smocking trellis
   3 strands: stems

6. **Straight stitch**, colors 4, 5
   4 strands: tassel bands
   1 strand: gathers



7. **Split stitch**, 1 strand, color 1
   Petal edges

8. **French knot**
   2 strands, two wraps, colors 1, 2, 8, 9, 10
   Smocking knots, flower spires, golden buttons, daisy 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 3687 Mauve	5	DMC 792 Dark Cornflower Blue	9	DMC 3820 Dark Straw
2	DMC 3688 Medium Mauve	6	DMC 988 Medium Forest Green	10	DMC 743 Medium Yellow
3	DMC 3685 Very Dark Mauve	7	DMC 986 Very Dark Forest Green	11	DMC BLANC White
4	DMC 712 Cream	8	DMC 3689 Light Mauve		

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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.



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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