Feather snowflake

6 inch (15 cm) hoop, 4.2 × 4.7 in (10.7 × 11.9 cm)



Colors by number: page 2.
Fabric: charcoal cotton or linen.

What you need

A 6 inch (15 cm) hoop.

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

An embroidery needle, size 9.

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

A white pencil, and small scissors.

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.

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
   Down plumes, side feathers, feather down, owl feathers, smoky bars



2. **Split stitch**, 1 strand, colors 1, 3
   Lines of the down plumes

3. **Stem stitch**, colors 2, 3, 4
   1 strand: plume quills, side quills
   2 strands: quills

4. **French knot**
   2 strands, two wraps, color 5
   Frost beads



5. **Turkey work**
   2 strands, colors 1, 3, 4, 6
   Hub of down



Take out lines that still show, press face down, finish the hoop or sew a pillow.

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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 318 Light Steel Gray
2 DMC 414 Dark Steel Gray
3 DMC 415 Pearl Gray
4 DMC 762 Very Light Pearl Gray
5 DMC 3753 Ultra Very Light Antique Bl...
6 DMC BLANC White
7 DMC 645 Very Dark Beaver Gray
8 DMC 646 Dark Beaver Gray

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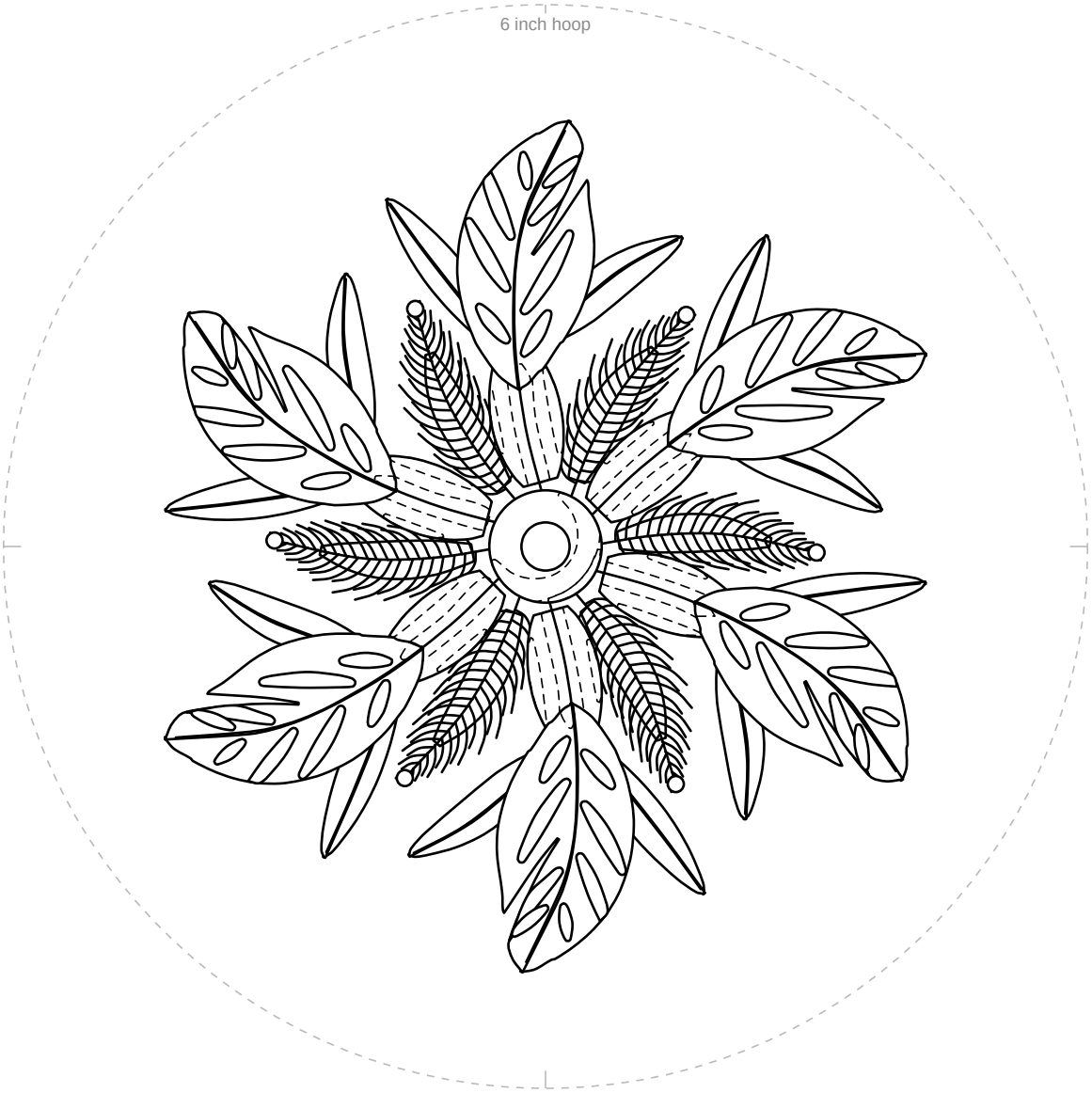
6 inch hoop

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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