Southern magnolia at dusk

6 inch (15 cm) hoop, 4.3 × 4.4 in (10.9 × 11.2 cm)



Colors by number: page 2.
Fabric: indigo 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: 11 colors of floss (page 2), 2 skeins of DMC 3865; one of each other color (an estimate from the drawing's lines and shapes), an embroidery needle size 9, a 6 inch (15 cm) hoop, a 9 inch (23 cm) square of indigo cotton or linen, a white pencil.

Stitch in this order

Where a stitch page says otherwise, follow this list.

1. **Straight stitch**
   2 strands: leaf ladders
   1 strand: lightning bug wings (color 5)
2. **Stem stitch**, 1 strand
   Lightning bug wings (color 5)
3. **Trellis stitch**, 1 strand
   Leaf trellis
4. **Satin stitch**, 2 strands
   Leaves (colors 1 and 3), branch end, bud scales, lightning bug wing covers, lightning bug body, lightning bug light
5. **Long and short stitch**, 1 strand
   Leaf backs, leaves (color 3), branch, bud petals, petals, turned rims
6. **Stem stitch**, 2 strands
   Leaf edges, leaf veins
7. **Split stitch**
   2 strands: cut eyelets
   1 strand: edges of the branch end, bud petal edges, edges of the bud scales, petal edges
8. **Straight stitch**
   2 strands: lines of the stamens
   1 strand: lightning bug rays
9. **Running stitch**, 3 strands
   Trails of light
10. **Back stitch**, 1 strand
    Branch rings, lightning bug feelers
11. **Padded satin stitch**, 2 strands
    Cone
12. **French knot**, 2 strands, two wraps
    Knots of the cone, knots of the stamens, knots of the lightning bug body

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 161 Gray Blue	**5**	DMC 3747 Very Light Blue Violet	**9**	DMC 762 Very Light Pearl Gray
2	DMC 160 Medium Gray Blue	**6**	DMC 842 Very Light Beige Brown	**10**	DMC 783 Medium Topaz
3	DMC 159 Light Gray Blue	**7**	DMC 841 Light Beige Brown	**11**	DMC 3822 Light Straw
4	DMC 3865 Winter White	**8**	DMC 840 Medium Beige Brown		

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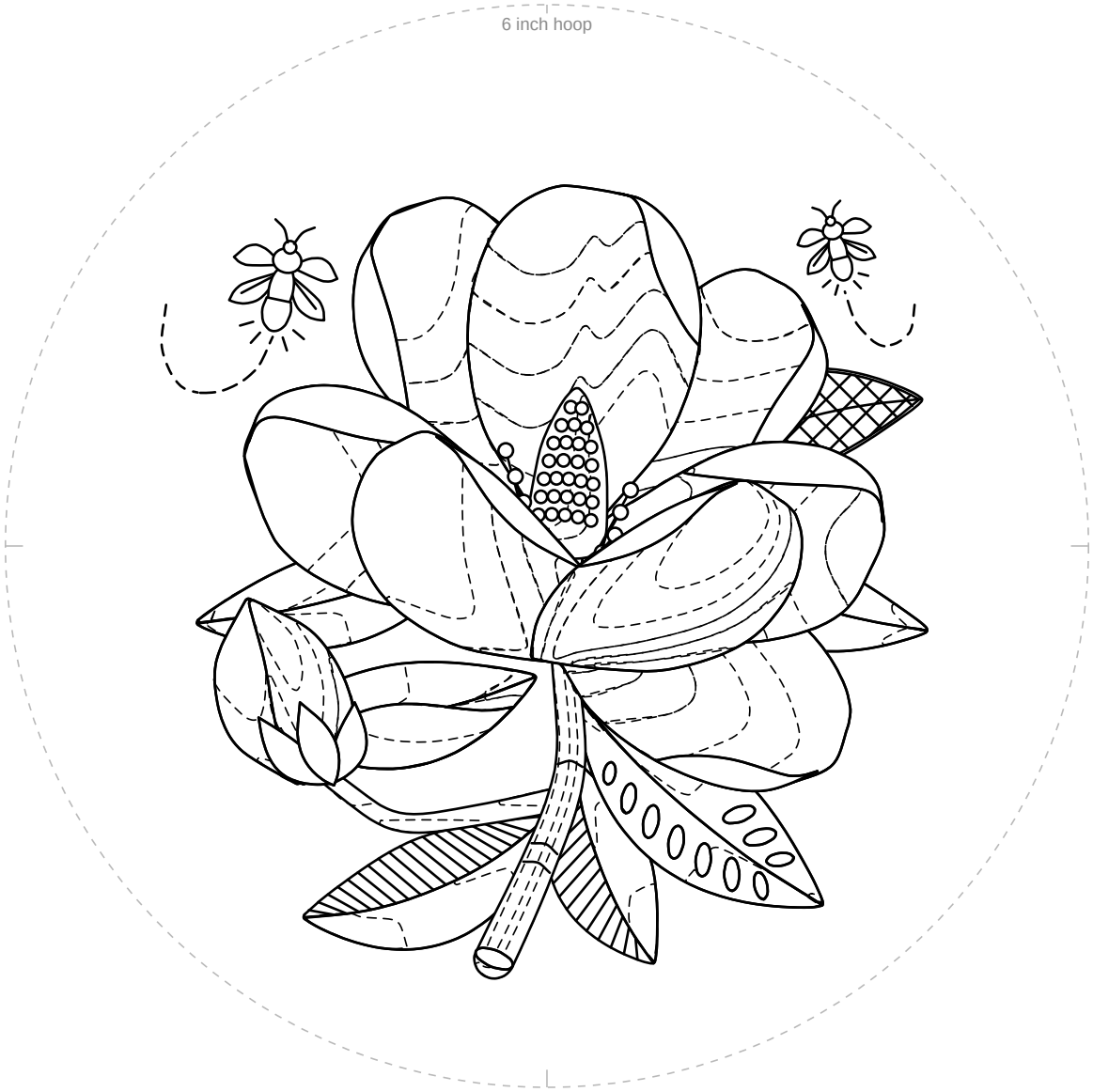
6 inch hoop

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 running 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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