Christmas bauble with a star

6 inch (15 cm) hoop, 3.5 × 4.9 in (8.9 × 12.4 cm)



Colors by number: page 2.
Fabric: wine red cotton or linen.

What you need

A 6 inch (15 cm) hoop.

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

Embroidery needles, size 9, and size 3 for 4 to 6 strands.

15 colors of floss (page 2): 2 skeins of DMC 814 and 2 of DMC 780; one of each other 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. **Couching**, 6 strands
   Gold cord
2. **Long and short stitch**
   2 strands: velvet ball, acanthus leaves, palmettes, medallion field, crown points
   1 strand: tassels, pearl drop
3. **Satin stitch**, 2 strands
   Scrolls, tassel bands, finial leaves
4. **Split stitch**, 1 strand
   Leaf edges, scroll edges, pearl edge
5. **Straight stitch**
   2 strands: gold rays, frame edge (color 9)
   1 strand: tassel folds, crown ridges
6. **Stem stitch**, 2 strands
   Leaf veins, frame edge (color 9), star edge, crown edge
7. **Back stitch**, 1 strand
   Star ridges
8. **Couching**, 6 strands
   Frame cord, ball rim
9. **Padded satin stitch**, 2 strands
   Scroll eyes, scalloped frame, star, tassel heads, cord knot, crown band, crown jewels, finial cup
10. **French knot**, 2 strands, two wraps
    Frame beads, knots of the crown jewels, crown beads

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

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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 814 Dark Garnet	**6**	DMC 3820 Dark Straw	**11**	DMC 712 Cream
2	DMC 498 Dark Red	**7**	DMC 783 Medium Topaz	**12**	DMC 3041 Medium Antique Violet
3	DMC 304 Medium Red	**8**	DMC 3822 Light Straw	**13**	DMC 3042 Light Antique Violet
4	DMC 321 Red	**9**	DMC 780 Ultra Very Dark Topaz	**14**	DMC 3743 Very Light Antique Violet
5	DMC 3801 Very Dark Melon	**10**	DMC 902 Very Dark Garnet	**15**	DMC BLANC White

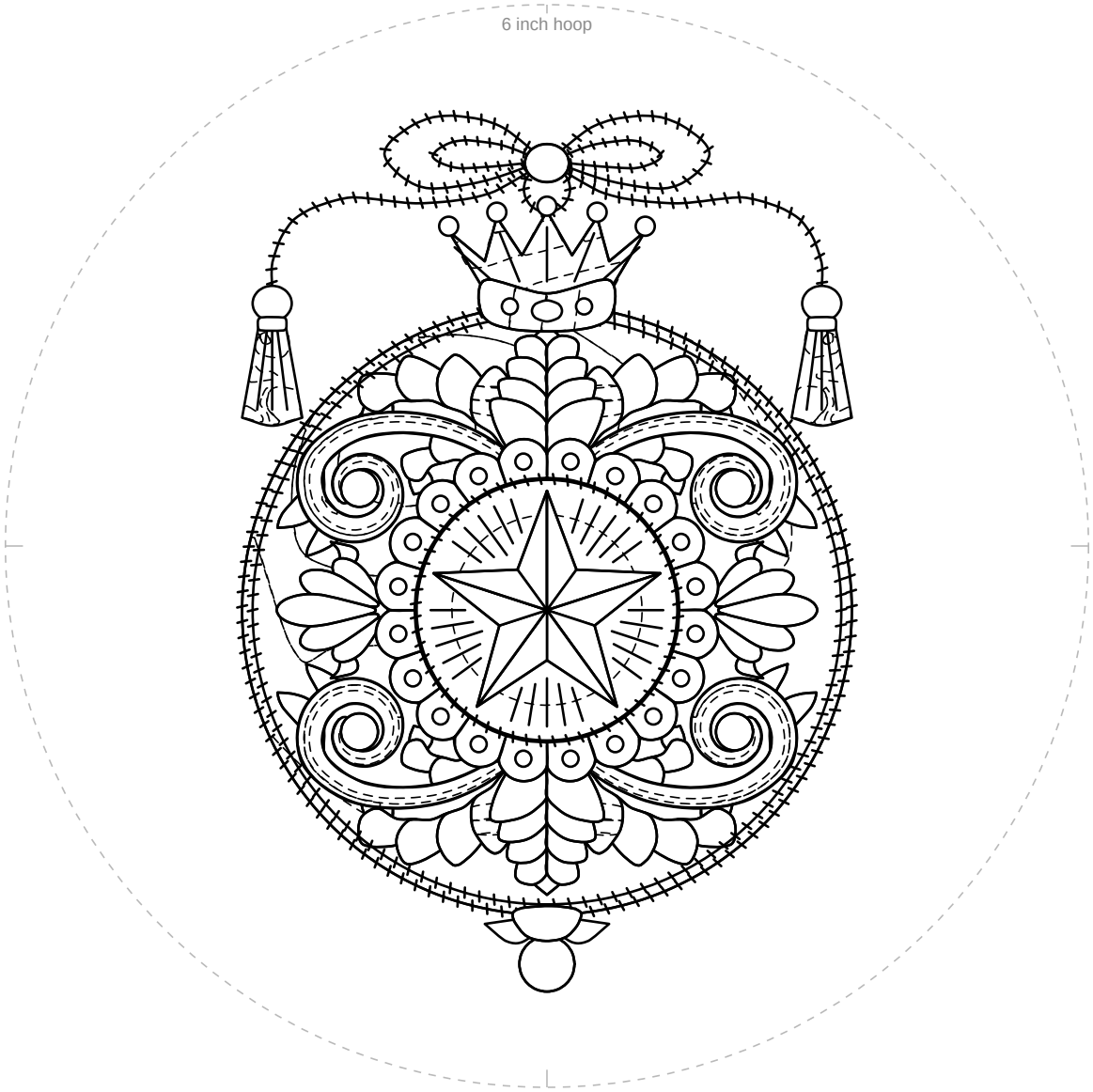
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6 inch hoop

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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