Taj Mahal from the front

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



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

What you need

A 6 inch (15 cm) hoop.

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

An embroidery needle, size 9.

15 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. **Straight stitch**
   3 strands: lines of the finial, roof kiosk posts
   2 strands: cypress feet



2. **Stem stitch**, 3 strands
   Jasmine stems

3. **Long and short stitch**
   1 strand
   Great dome, arch recess, cypresses



4. **Fishbone stitch**, 2 strands
   Jasmine leaves



5. **Satin stitch**, 2 strands
   Minarets, minaret balconies, minaret kiosks, drum, lotus cap, finial, roof kiosks, corner walls, walls, wall course, corner spires, great arch frame, great arch panel, roof line, plinth, reflection, pool curb, hedge, jasmine buds, bud cups, jasmine petals



6. **Chain stitch**, 2 strands
   Drum band



7. **Split stitch**
   1 strand: minaret shade
   2 strands: arch edges

8. **Straight stitch**
   2 strands: minaret kiosk posts, minaret spires, roof kiosk spires
   1 strand: jasmine throats



9. **Padded satin stitch**, 2 strands
   Minaret kiosks, roof kiosks



10. **French knot**
    2 strands, two wraps
    Knots of the corner spires, jasmine centers



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

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Taj Mahal from the front

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 3865 Winter White	6	DMC 414 Dark Steel Gray	11	DMC 3752 Very Light Antique Blue
2	DMC 318 Light Steel Gray	7	DMC 3822 Light Straw	12	DMC 3768 Dark Gray Green
3	DMC 762 Very Light Pearl Gray	8	DMC 931 Medium Antique Blue	13	DMC 927 Light Gray Green
4	DMC 712 Cream	9	DMC 930 Dark Antique Blue	14	DMC 926 Medium Gray Green
5	DMC 415 Pearl Gray	10	DMC 932 Light Antique Blue	15	DMC 3033 Very Light Mocha Brown

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Taj Mahal from the front

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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