Three balloons tied with a bow

6 inch (15 cm) hoop, 4 × 4.8 in (10.2 × 12.2 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 3 for 4 to 6 strands.

6 colors of floss (page 2): one skein of each 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. **Stem stitch**
   4 strands: strings, string ends
   3 strands: sprig stems

2. **Satin stitch**, 2 strands
   Balloon necks, yellow hoops, hearts, coral gores, sprig leaves, sprig buds, sprig flower, bow tails, bow, bow lining, bow knot



3. **Running stitch**, 6 strands
   Running rows

4. **Chain stitch**, 4 strands
   Chain rows



5. **Stem stitch**
   4 strands: balloon edges
   2 strands: lines of the coral vines
   1 strand: bow folds

6. **Split stitch**, 3 strands
   Bow edges

7. **Lazy daisy stitch**, 3 strands
   Loops of the coral vines



8. **French knot**
   2 strands, two wraps
   Flower center



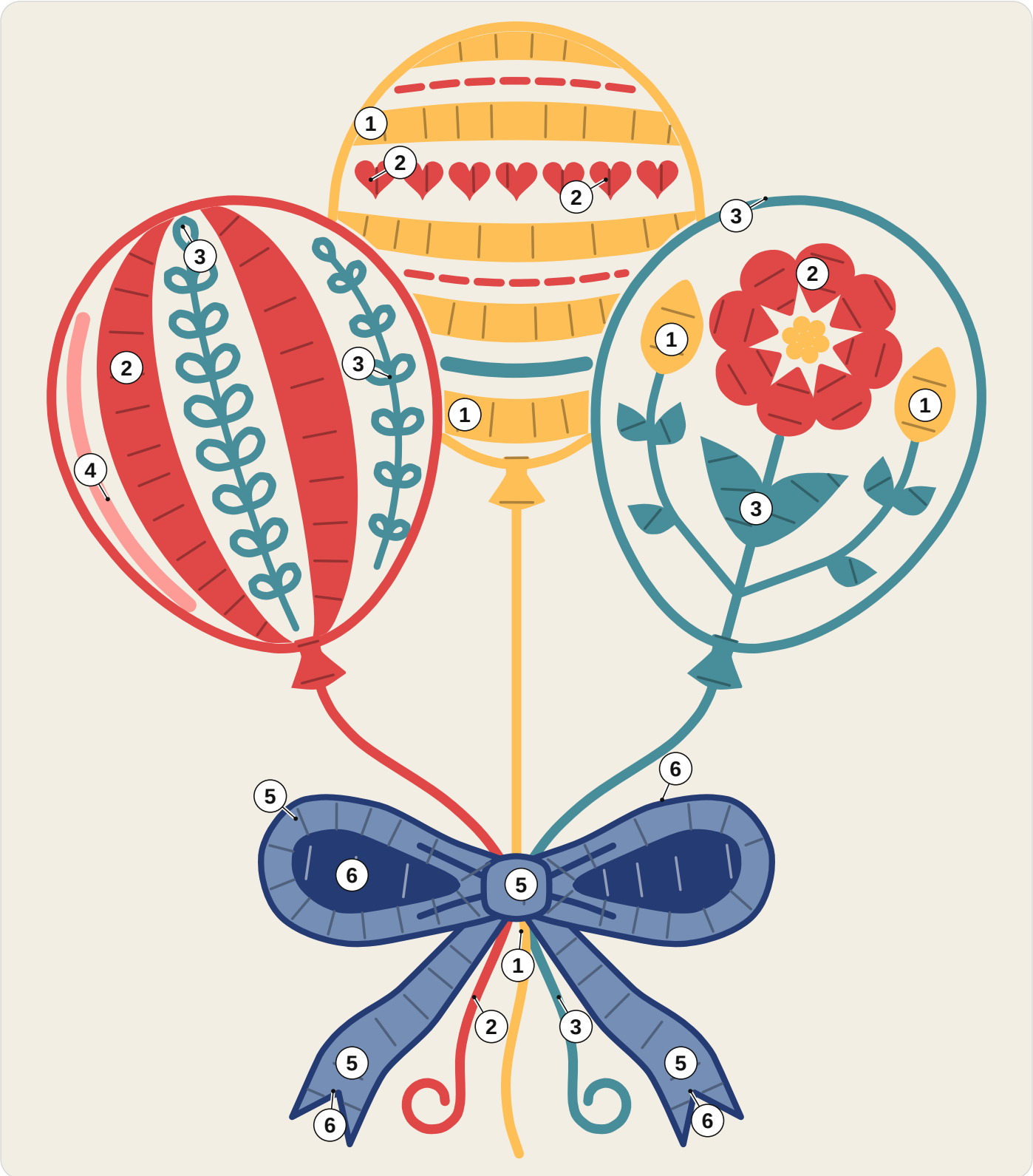
Take out lines that still show, press face down, finish the hoop.

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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 742 Light Tangerine	**3**	DMC 3810 Dark Turquoise	**5**	DMC 799 Medium Delft Blue
2	DMC 350 Medium Coral	**4**	DMC 352 Light Coral	**6**	DMC 336 Navy Blue

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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 loop is one lazy daisy, begun at its point; a dashed line is running stitch.



1 in
25.4 mm

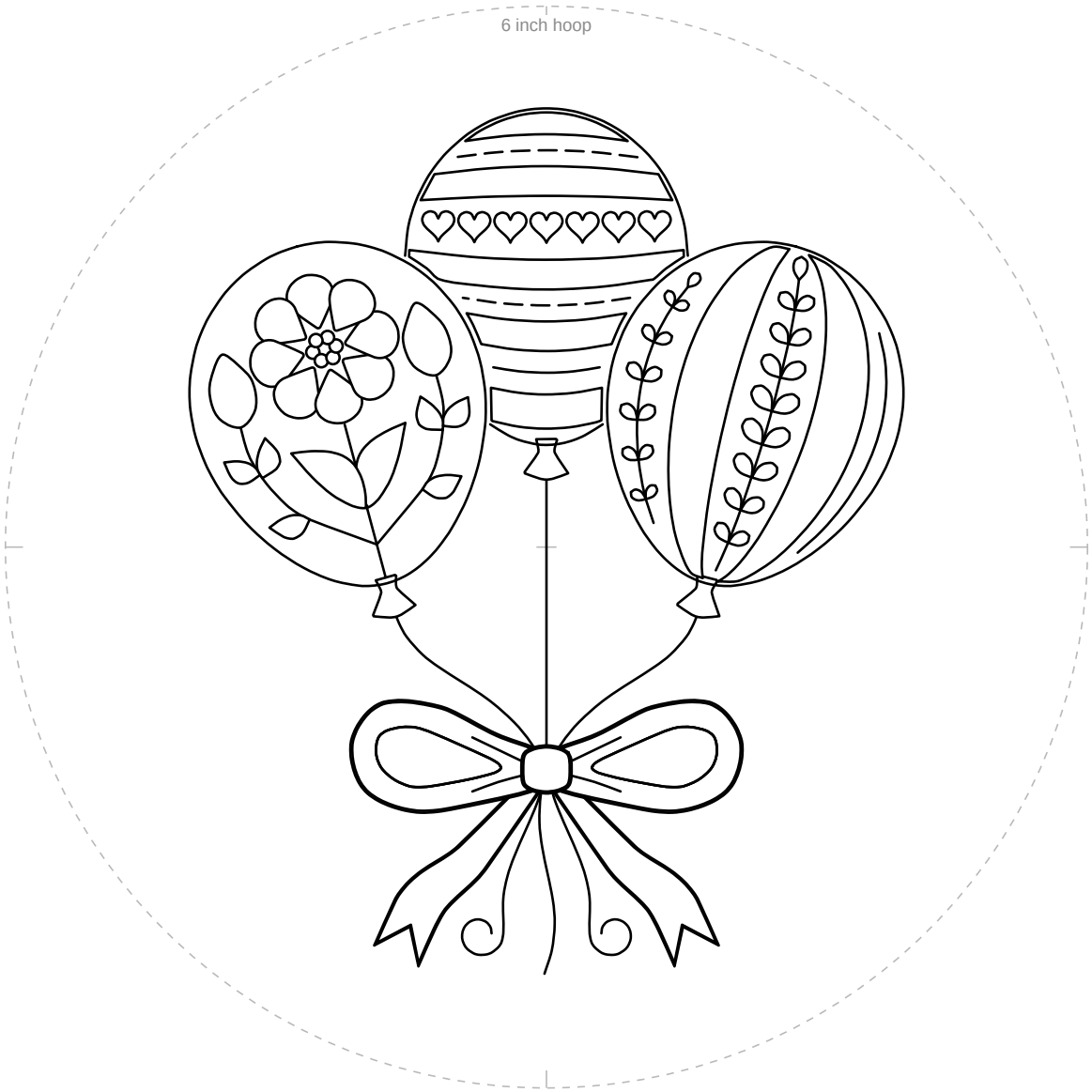
Not 1 inch (25.4 mm)? Print again at 100%.

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Three balloons tied with a bow

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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