Thursday under an oak bough

6 inch (15 cm) hoop, 4.5 × 4.2 in (11.4 × 10.7 cm)



Colors by number: page 2.
Fabric: sage green cotton or linen.

What you need

A 6 inch (15 cm) hoop.

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

Embroidery needles, size 9, and size 5 for 4 strands.

15 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.

The back is seen: no knots. Start with tiny stitches; end around the backs of four or five stitches.

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**
   2 strands: twigs
   1 strand: rosehip stems

2. **Fishbone stitch**, 2 strands
   Rose leaves



3. **Long and short stitch**
   1 strand
   Oak leaves, bough, pumpkin, squirrel tail, squirrel arms, squirrel body, squirrel belly, squirrel haunch, squirrel head



4. **Satin stitch**, 2 strands
   Rosehips, acorns, acorn caps, pumpkin stalk, squirrel feet, squirrel ears, squirrel eye, squirrel nose



5. **Back stitch**, 1 strand
   Oak leaf veins (color 2), bark lines, squirrel lines (color 2)

6. **Stem stitch**
   1 strand: oak leaf veins (colors 2 and 6), pumpkin tendril
   2 strands: acorn stalks

7. **Straight stitch**
   1 strand: hip tips, hip highlights, squirrel lines (color 2), ear tufts, squirrel eye highlight, whiskers
   2 strands: squirrel paws



8. **Split stitch**, 1 strand
   Oak leaf edges, bough edges, acorn edges, pumpkin ribs, squirrel lines (color 2)

9. **Whipped back stitch**
   4 strands
   Letters

10. **French knot**, 1 strand, two wraps
    Knots of the acorn caps



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 920 Medium Copper	6	DMC 780 Ultra Very Dark Topaz	11	DMC 154 Very Dark Grape
2	DMC 300 Very Dark Mahogany	7	DMC 3820 Dark Straw	12	DMC 898 Very Dark Coffee Brown
3	DMC 921 Copper	8	DMC 433 Medium Brown	13	DMC 712 Cream
4	DMC 922 Light Copper	9	DMC 935 Dark Avocado Green	14	DMC 3346 Hunter Green
5	DMC 782 Dark Topaz	10	DMC 3834 Dark Grape	15	DMC 402 Very Light Mahogany

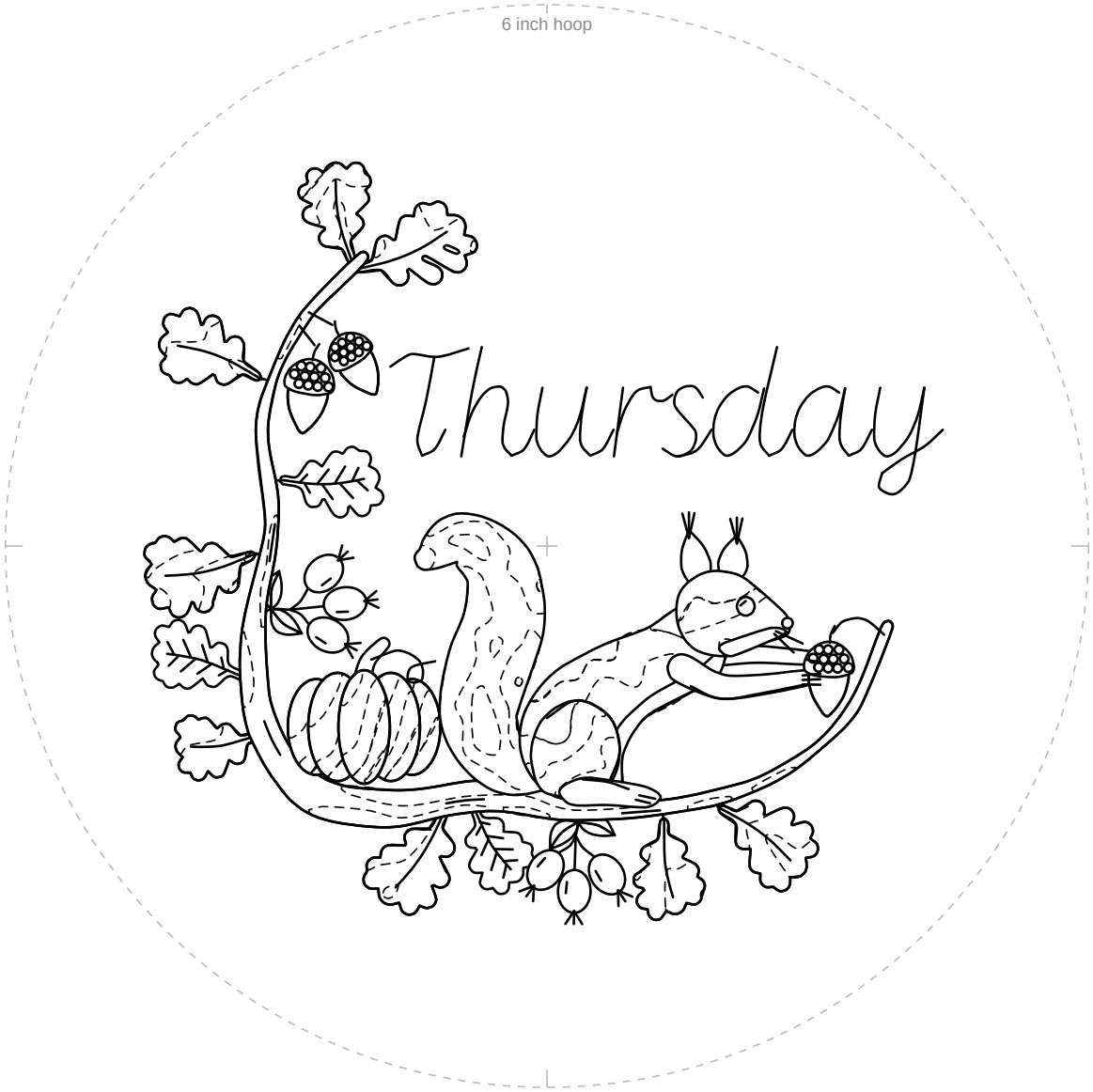
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6 inch hoop

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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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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