Topiary tree in a pot

6 inch (15 cm) hoop, 2 × 3.7 in (5.1 × 9.4 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.

An embroidery needle, size 9.

17 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**, 3 strands
   Sprig

2. **Satin stitch**, 2 strands
   Ground shadow, pot, pot mouth, earth, ivy leaves, ladybug head



3. **Long and short stitch**
   1 strand: stem
   2 strands: box ball



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



5. **Stem stitch**
   2 strands: pot line, ivy vine
   3 strands: pot rim edge

6. **Straight stitch**
   3 strands: lines of the box leaves
   1 strand: ladybug legs, ladybug feelers



7. **Back stitch**, 1 strand
   Ladybug back

8. **Lazy daisy stitch**, 3 strands
   Loops of the box leaves



9. **Padded satin stitch**, 2 strands
   Pot rim, ladybug wings



10. **French knot**, two wraps
    2 strands: knots of the earth, box flowers, flower centers
    1 strand: ladybug spots



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 642 Dark Beige Gray	**7**	DMC 435 Very Light Brown	**13**	DMC BLANC White
2	DMC 3776 Light Mahogany	**8**	DMC 936 Very Dark Avocado Green	**14**	DMC 743 Medium Yellow
3	DMC 801 Dark Coffee Brown	**9**	DMC 934 Black Avocado Green	**15**	DMC 500 Very Dark Blue Green
4	DMC 920 Medium Copper	**10**	DMC 469 Avocado Green	**16**	DMC 502 Blue Green
5	DMC 402 Very Light Mahogany	**11**	DMC 471 Very Light Avocado Green	**17**	DMC 321 Red
6	DMC 3371 Black Brown	**12**	DMC 472 Ultra Light Avocado Green		

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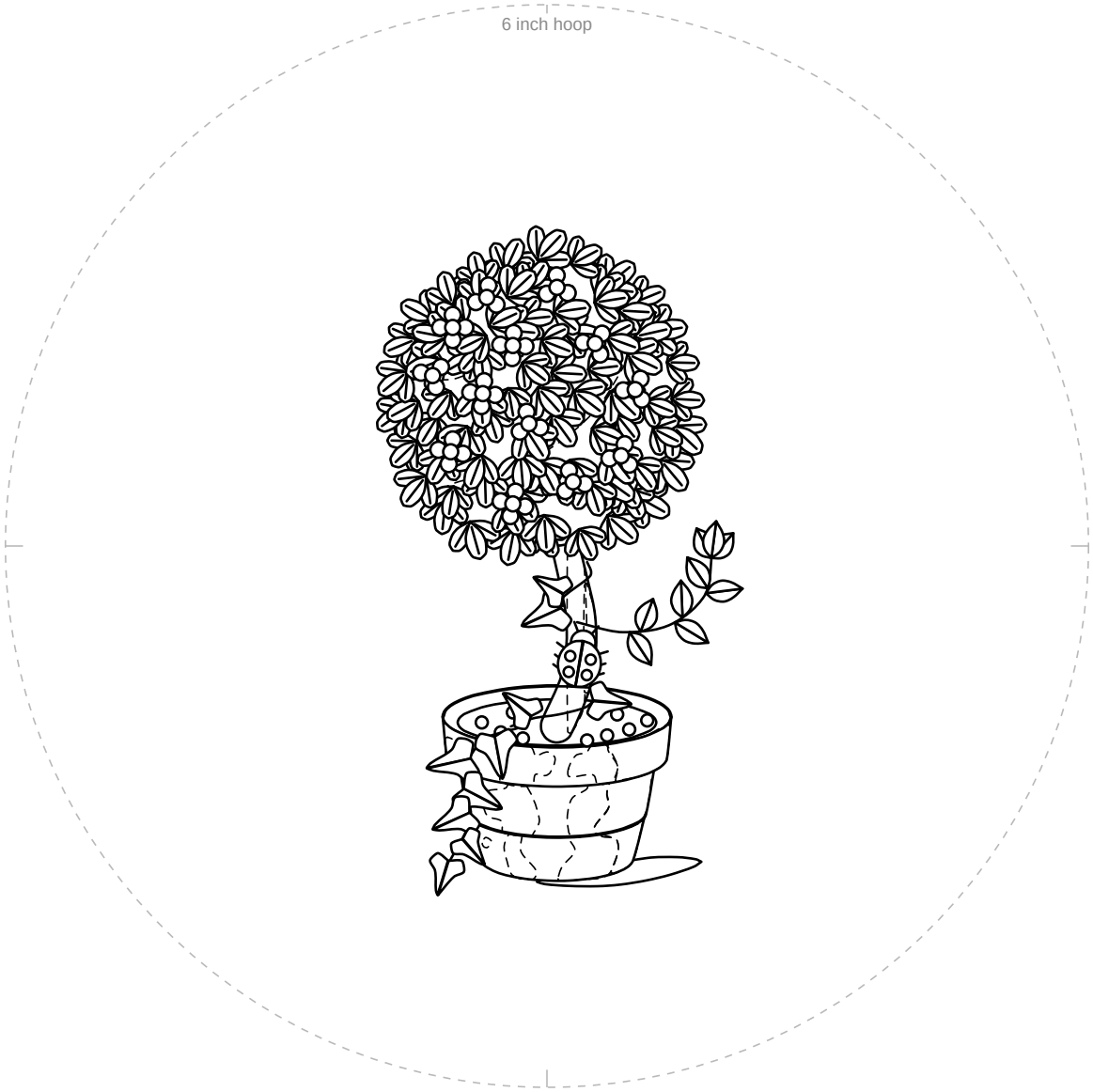
6 inch hoop

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 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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