Easy virus particle in pistil stitch

Sized for a 6 inch hoop (15 cm). The stitched design is about 4.7 × 4.6 in (11.9 × 11.7 cm).



Which color goes where: by number on page 2.
Fabric: teal cotton or linen.

Three ways onto dark fabric

1. **Light shines through it**
   Lay page 3 on a bright light box, tape the fabric over it and trace the lines with a white marking pencil or pen.
2. **No light shines through**
   Print page 3 on a sticky wash-away sheet, smooth it onto fabric that can be washed, stitch through both and rinse it away.
3. **White or yellow carbon paper**
   Lay it colored side down on the fabric with page 3 on top, tape the layers and trace firmly with a ballpoint pen. Go over a faint line with a white pencil.

Page 3 is the pattern at actual size (page 4 is its mirror, for an iron-on pen on a light fabric). Print it at 100% with scaling turned off. Then put the fabric in the hoop: inner ring under, drawing up, tight as a drum.

Floss

- **1 DMC 3822 Light Straw**
  Spikes, spike stalks and rungs (lighter)
- **2 DMC 3852 Very Dark Straw**
  Spikes and spike stalks (darker)
- **3 DMC 352 Light Coral**
  Wall blocks and wall cords (light), rungs (darker)
- **4 DMC 350 Medium Coral**
  Wall blocks and wall cords (middle)
- **5 DMC 816 Garnet**
  Wall blocks and wall cords (dark)
- **6 DMC 3810 Dark Turquoise**
  Inside rows
- **7 DMC 955 Light Nile Green**
  Helix strands

Stitch in this order

Filled parts from the back of the picture forward, then lines.

1. **Satin stitch**, 2 strands
   Spike stalks, wall blocks
2. **Pistil stitch**, 6 strands
   Spikes
3. **Whipped back stitch**, 6 strands
   Wall cords
4. **Stem stitch**, 3 strands
   Inside rows
5. **Straight stitch**, 6 strands
   Rungs
6. **Chain stitch**, 6 strands
   Helix strands

What you need

Easy. A 6 inch (15 cm) hoop, and a 9 inch (23 cm) square of plain cotton or linen, in teal. Embroidery needle: size 7 for 2 or 3 strands, size 3 for 4 to 6 (a lower number is a thicker needle). Skeins: one of each color is enough. An estimate for the 6 inch hoop, from the length of each line and the area of each filled shape, with a fifth added for tails.

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6 inch hoop

How to read it

Floss is six strands. Cut 18 inches (45 cm), pull out the number given one at a time, and lay them together.

Inside a filled shape start with two or three tiny stitches, which the filling covers. Start a line with a small knot on the back. End each thread by running the needle under the backs of a few stitches.

Each small ring is one pistil stitch.

A number on the picture is a color of the list of floss on page 1. The fine lines on the colors show which way the stitches lie.

Every stitch in pictures: flossfield.com/embroidery/stitches. The first time: flossfield.com/embroidery/guides/how-to-start.



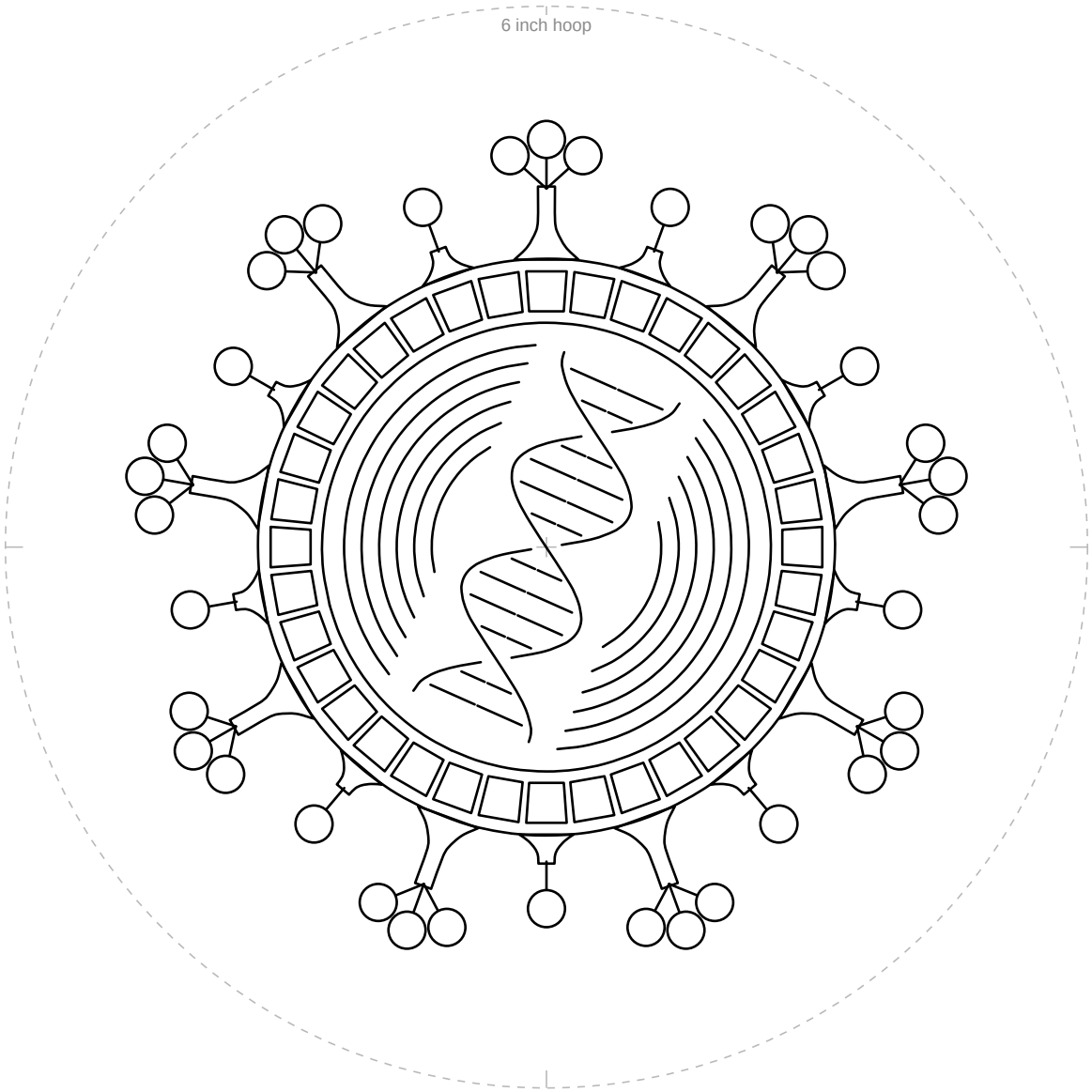
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6 inch hoop

Print at 100% and check the square below with a ruler. Fold the fabric in four: the folds meet the four ticks of the ring.



1 in
25.4 mm

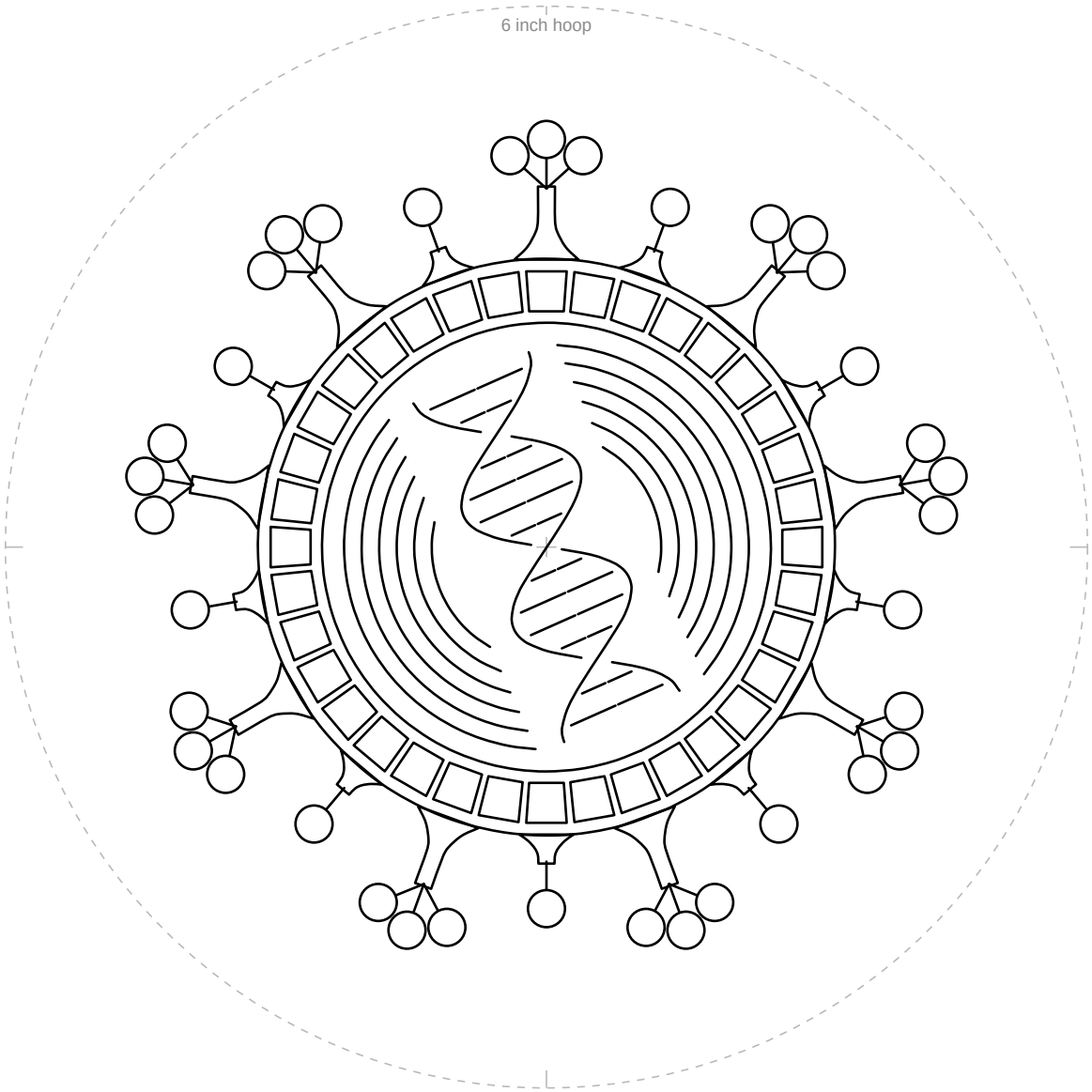
Check square: 1 inch (25.4 mm) on each side.
If it measures anything else, print again at 100% with scaling off.

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Easy virus particle in pistil stitch

6 inch hoop

Mirrored. Trace this page with an iron-on transfer pen or pencil, then press it ink side down on the fabric.



1 in
25.4 mm

Check square: 1 inch (25.4 mm) on each side.
If it measures anything else, print again at 100% with scaling off.

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