White rocking horse in ribbon and pearls

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



Colors by number: page 2.
Fabric: dark teal cotton or linen.

What you need

A 6 inch (15 cm) hoop.

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

Embroidery needles, size 9, and size 3 for 4 or 5 strands.

17 colors of floss (page 2): 2 skeins of DMC BLANC; one of each other 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. **Stem stitch**, 3 strands
   Ring, garland stems
2. **Long and short stitch**, 1 strand
   Far rocker, far legs, rocker, tail, body, head, mane, forelock, saddle cloth, saddle, ribbon bow (color 14)
3. **Fishbone stitch**, 2 strands
   Leaves
4. **Satin stitch**, 2 strands
   Slats, hooves, ears, eye, nostril, neck ribbon, girth, cloth border, bridle, ribbon tails, ribbon bow (colors 10 and 13), rosebuds, green cup, rose petals, rose centers
5. **Buttonhole stitch**, 2 strands
   Lace edge
6. **Stem stitch**
   2 strands: rocker line, rose spirals
   5 strands: rocker scrolls
   3 strands: rein
7. **Split stitch**
   1 strand: coat edges, saddle edge, bow edges, petal edges
   2 strands: eyelash, mouth
8. **Straight stitch**
   2 strands: ear hollow, bow folds
   3 strands: eye highlight
9. **French knot**, two wraps
   3 strands: pearls, cloth pearls
   2 strands: small pearls, rocker pearls, bridle pearls

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

In a 6 inch hoop the French knots are drawn smaller than about 2 mm (a little over 1/16 in). Use one strand of floss for them there, or choose a larger 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 BLANC White	7	DMC 712 Cream	13	DMC 3685 Very Dark Mauve
2	DMC 739 Ultra Very Light Tan	8	DMC 840 Medium Beige Brown	14	DMC 818 Baby Pink
3	DMC 931 Medium Antique Blue	9	DMC 3753 Ultra Very Light Antique Bl...	15	DMC 3363 Medium Pine Green
4	DMC 3752 Very Light Antique Blue	10	DMC 3688 Medium Mauve	16	DMC 523 Light Fern Green
5	DMC 930 Dark Antique Blue	11	DMC 3371 Black Brown	17	DMC 524 Very Light Fern Green
6	DMC 3687 Mauve	12	DMC 3689 Light Mauve		

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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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