FREE EMBROIDERY TUTORIAL + PATTERN

Blanket Stitch Embroidery

How to blanket stitch an edge, corners and wheels, plus a linen napkin with a flower corner

SKILL LEVEL	PROJECT	DESIGN
Beginner	**Napkin, 15 in**	**Edge + 3 wheel flowers**
FLOSS	**STITCHES**	**TIME**
DMC 3768, 3712, 3363	**Blanket, backstitch, lazy daisy**	**About 3–4 hours**

Materials

• DMC stranded cotton: 3768, 3712, 3363 (1 skein each)
• Linen 17 × 17 in (43 cm), hemmed to 15 in; size 7 embroidery needle; water-soluble pen; a small hoop for the corner

Key

leg the upright part of a blanket stitch
wheel blanket stitch worked round a circle
3 strands separate 3 of the 6

Edge: 83 stitches per side, 0.18 in (4.6 mm) apart and 0.15 in (4 mm) tall.

Blanket stitch

1	Come up at the edge.	
2	Go down a leg's height in, one stitch along; leave a loop.	
3	Come up at the edge inside the loop and pull gently.	**(1 st)**
Corner	Work the last stitch of a side into the corner on the diagonal, then carry on along the next side.	

The napkin

Hem	Press a double 0.5 in (1.3 cm) hem and sew it, or use a ready-made napkin.	
Edge	DMC 3768: blanket stitch all round, 83 per side.	**(332 sts)**
Flowers	DMC 3712: a blanket stitch wheel in each traced circle.	**(44 spokes)**
Stems + leaves	DMC 3363: backstitch the stems, 2 lazy daisy leaves on each.	
Finish	Rinse out the pen, press face down on a towel.	

How to Do Blanket Stitch

3 strands · legs 4 mm tall · stitches 4.6 mm apart

1 · Anchor



Come up at the edge (hide the knot in the hem).

2 · Down above



Go down 4 mm in from the edge, a stitch width along. Don't pull it tight.

3 · Up inside the loop



Come up at the edge, inside the loop, and pull gently: the thread lies along the edge.

4 · Repeat



Same height, same spacing. The legs stand up, the thread runs along the edge.

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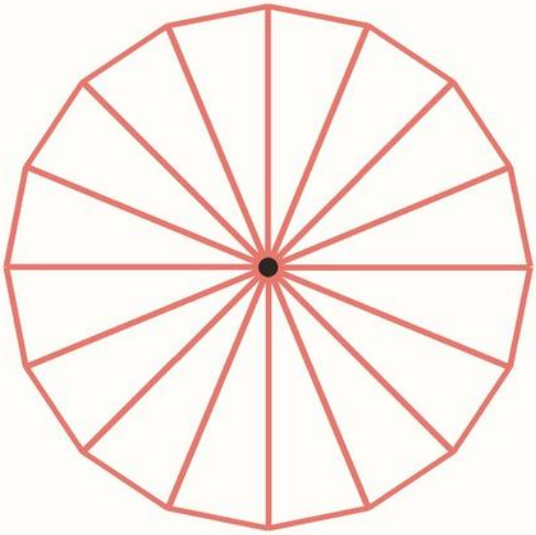
Blanket Stitch Wheel

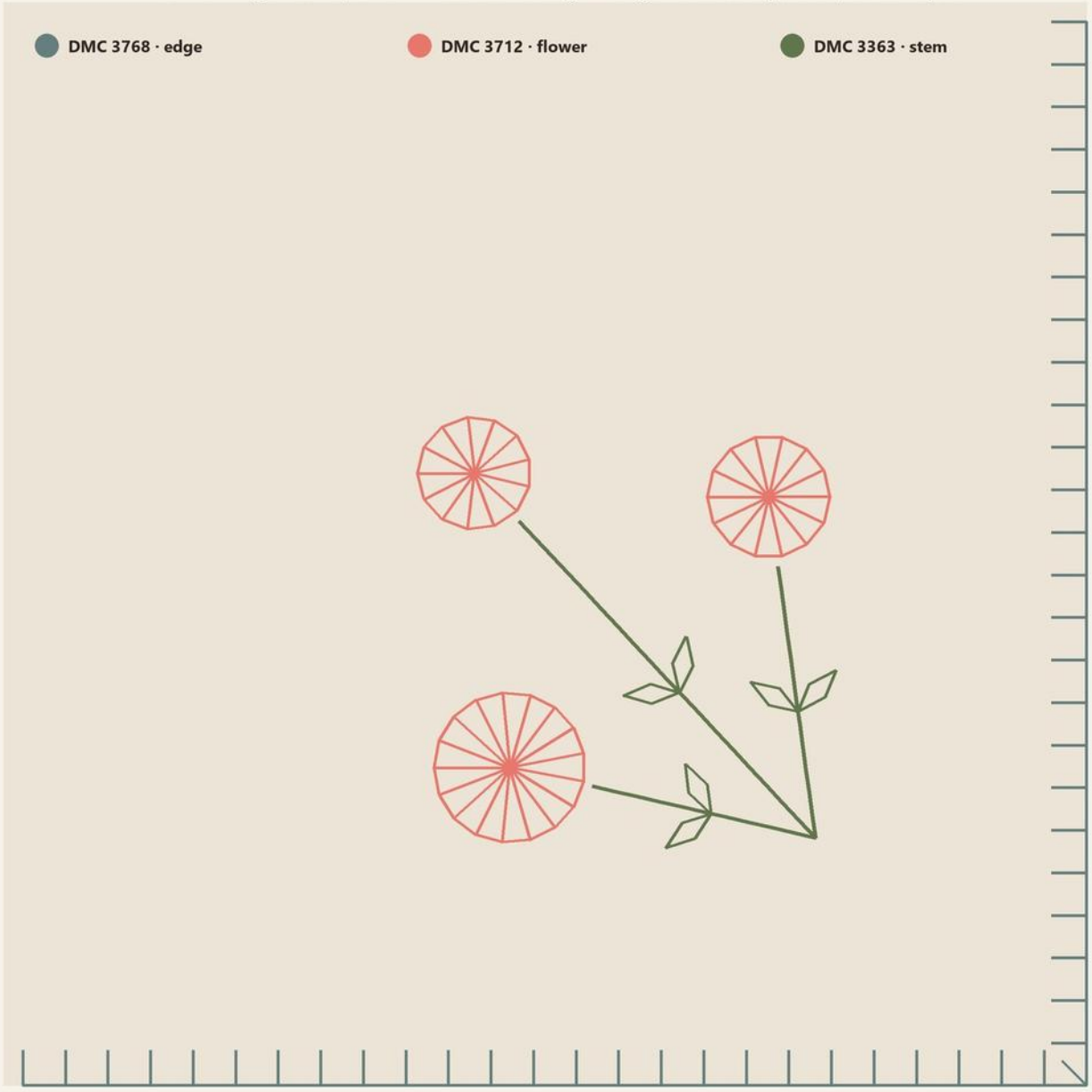
Blanket stitch worked in a circle: the legs all go into the centre, the loops make the rim



Come up on the rim, go down in the centre, come up on the rim inside the loop. All legs share the centre hole.

Napkin Corner · Stitch Plan

Bottom-right corner, drawn to scale and enlarged · edge: 83 stitches per side, 4.6 mm apart



Blanket Stitch Napkin · Floss

For 1 napkin, 15 in (38 cm) square, hemmed · 3 strands

DMC	Colour	Part	Stitches	Thread (3 strands)
DMC 3768	grey green	blanket stitch edge	332	6.2 yd
DMC 3712	salmon	3 wheel flowers	44	1.1 yd
DMC 3363	pine green	stems + leaves	46	0.7 yd

One skein of each colour does 2 napkins or more. Fabric: medium-weight linen, 17 in (43 cm) square before hemming.

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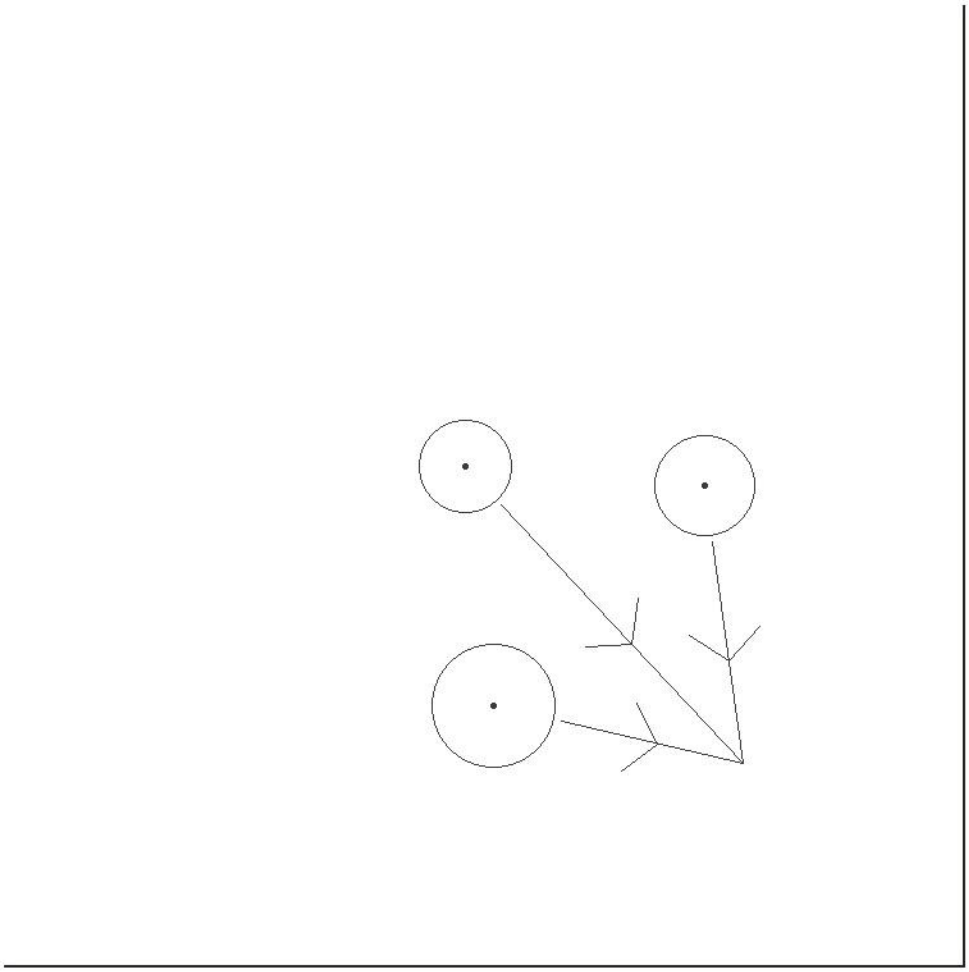
Napkin Corner Motif · print at 100% (actual size)

Line up the two edges of the template with the hemmed edges of the napkin corner and trace the circles, stems and leaves.



napkin edge

circle = flower rim (dot = centre) · lines = stems and lazy daisy leaves · the edge stitches are spaced by eye (see the post)

1 in check bar: measure it after printing