

Anatomical Skull with Burgundy Wildflowers, Five Bats and Four Spiderwebs

Corrected Hand Embroidery DMC Master Guide

ADVANCED

8" / 20 cm HOOP

16-COLOR DMC

ARTWORK PREVIEW



DESIGN ARCHITECTURE

Fabric: warm ivory linen or linen-cotton evenweave with enough body for dense skull shading, layered burgundy and violet florals, satin bats, web lines and scattered star accents.

Needles: crewel #9-10 for 1-strand skull contours, teeth, stems, spiderwebs and stars; #7-8 for 2-strand flower petals, leaves and bats; #7 for clustered knots and flower centers.

Strands: 1 for skull linework, teeth, web spokes, stems, star points and fine bat edges; 2 for skull shading, flowers, foliage and most bat fills; 2-3 for French-knot centers and raised gold dots.

Motifs: central anatomical skull, burgundy poppies and daisies, violet bellflowers, teal-sage foliage, five flying bats, four corner spiderwebs, gold stars and small warm metallic-like dot accents.

CORE STITCH DIRECTORY

Long-and-short / satin: skull planes, poppy and daisy petals, bellflowers, bats and broad leaf shapes

Split / backstitch / stem: skull contours, teeth, floral stems, bat edges, web spokes and star outlines

Fishbone / straight / French knot: leaf clusters, web rings, star rays, flower centers and scattered gold dots

CORRECTED DMC PALETTE

DMC	COLOR / SWATCH	ELEMENT	PRIMARY	SECONDARY	STR.
310	Black	Deep eye sockets, nasal cavity, lower bat, darkest flower folds and separators	Backstitch / Satin	Long-short	1-2
3799	Pewter Gray - Very Dark	Skull contour reinforcement, jaw shadow, teeth divisions and deepest bone shading	Split / Backstitch	Long-short	1-2
3865	Winter White	Skull highlights, teeth and the palest web strands	Satin / Long-short	Split	1-2
Ecru	Ecru	Warm bone midtones, spiderwebs and soft neutral transitions	Long-short / Backstitch	Straight stitch	1-2
3803	Mauve - Dark	Burgundy poppies, lower moth-like bat and deep floral petals	Long-short / Satin	Split	1-2
902	Garnet - Very Dark	Deepest burgundy petal folds, small flowers and shadowed bat accents	Long-short / Satin	Backstitch	1-2
3834	Grape - Dark	Purple daisies, upper bat and dark violet bellflower shadows	Satin / Long-short	Split	1-2
3042	Antique Violet - Light	Light violet bellflowers, purple bat highlights and petal transitions	Satin / Long-short	Straight stitch	1-2
924	Deep teal Green - Very Dark	Deep teal foliage, leaf veins and cool shadowed stems	Fishbone / Stem	Split	1-2
926	Gray Green - Medium	Primary sage foliage, pale leaf fills and cool floral support	Fishbone / Satin	Stem	1-2
3768	Gray Green - Dark	Mid-tone teal leaves, thistle-like heads and foliage depth	Fishbone / Long-short	Stem	1-2
3011	Khaki Green - Dark	Muted olive stems, buds and warm supporting leaves	Stem / Fishbone	Straight stitch	1-2
729	Old Gold - Medium	Large stars, flower centers, raised dots and warm highlights	French knot / Straight	Satin	1-2
3820	Straw - Dark	Small stars, pale gold dots and star-edge highlights	Straight stitch / French knot	Satin	1-2
3782	Mocha Brown - Light	Spiderweb warmth, subtle neutral stems and soft bone transitions	Backstitch / Stem	Long-short	1
3861	Cocoa - Light	Muted mauve-brown star accents, flower shadows and warm detail notes	Straight stitch / Satin	Backstitch	1-2

STITCHING SEQUENCE

#	PHASE	ARTWORK-SPECIFIC EXECUTION
1	Transfer and structural framework	Transfer the skull centerline, sockets, nasal cavity, jaw and teeth first. Mark the main poppies, daisies, bellflowers, leaf masses, five bats, four corner spiderwebs and the larger gold stars before adding tiny dots and secondary sprigs.
2	Main focal element	Build the skull with 3865, Ecru, 3799 and 310. Follow forehead, cheekbone and jaw planes with controlled directional shading, deepen sockets and nasal cavity gradually, and keep the teeth crisp with fine one-strand separators.
3	Secondary large element	Work the burgundy and violet floral mass around the skull: shade poppies from garnet to mauve, radiate daisy petals around gold centers, form the hanging bellflowers, then add buds and the upper flower cluster without obscuring the skull silhouette.
4	Foliage / supporting motifs	Develop the teal-sage and olive foliage around the flowers using stem and fishbone stitches. Follow each leaf midrib, keep negative space between stems, and preserve a loose wreath effect rather than filling the entire background.
5	Small decorative details	Fill all five bats with smooth satin or short long-and-short stitches, then construct the four spiderwebs from spokes outward. Add gold stars, tiny warm dots and small burgundy starlets last so the background remains light and airy.
6	Final accents, dimensional details, cleanup, and blocking	Refine skull fissures and teeth, petal folds, bellflower tips, leaf veins, web intersections, bat wing divisions and star points. Remove transfer marks and block gently. Confirm skull first, flowers second, and bats/webs/stars as the framing layer.

MOTIF THREAD-DIRECTION & STRAND MAP

MOTIF	DMC FAMILY	STR.	DIRECTION
Skull	3865 / Ecru / 3799 / 310	1-2	Follow bone planes; keep sockets, nasal cavity, jaw and teeth sharply separated
Burgundy poppies	3803 / 902 / 3861	1-2	Fan stitches from petal bases toward edges; deepen folds near centers and overlaps
Violet flowers + bells	3834 / 3042 / 729	1-2	Radiate daisies from centers; follow bellflower length from calyx to scalloped edge
Foliage + stems	924 / 926 / 3768 / 3011	1-2	Stem first, then fishbone leaves along each midrib and outward branch direction
Five bats	310 / 3803 / 3834 / 3042	1-2	Fill from body outward across wing membranes; keep wing divisions defined with 1 strand
Spiderwebs + stars	Ecru / 3782 / 729 / 3820	1-2	Stitch web spokes first, connect rings in arcs, then radiate star points and knot dots

MASTER TENSION & COLOR-MATCH GUIDELINES

- Keep skull linework firm but not tight; the black and pewter contours should define bone structure without puckering the ivory ground or making the face appear harsh.
- Use slightly relaxed tension for poppy, daisy and bellflower fills so the petals remain soft and dimensional. Keep dark burgundy folds compact rather than heavy.
- Maintain even, light tension in the four spiderwebs. Long web spokes should lie flat and straight, while connecting arcs remain delicate enough to preserve open background space.
- Match the burgundy, violet, teal-sage and old-gold accents under one working light. Keep bats dark and crisp, but let stars and gold dots support rather than compete with the skull and florals.

FINAL QC LINE

Keep the anatomical skull as the dominant focal motif, the burgundy-and-violet wildflowers as the secondary hierarchy, and the five bats, four corner webs, foliage, stars and gold dots as the airy framing layer.