



Why Quilters want an Embroidery Machine

Like many quilters when I bought my first new sewing machine two years ago, I didn't see a reason to purchase an embroidery machine. I was a quilter and wanted to be able to do piecing and quilting, and thought embroidery would be something I would never use. After playing on the embroidery machines at the store for a year, looking at embroidery designs and scanning many magazines I started to see the real advantage of having an Embroidery machine.

- 1) **Quilt labels are a breeze!** A generic quilt label can be saved to the machine and as the projects get finished just change the name and date your done! If it is a special quilt a unique label can be created right on the screen without having software for the computer,
- 2) **Appliqué is now a Piece of Cake!** There are many appliqué designs out there for the embroidery machine. With today's technology it is simple to load the design into your machine, press the start button, and your off. The machine will let you know where the fabric needs to be laid, and does a perfect satin stitch edge every time. Making appliqué much easier.
- 3) **The Embroidery Unit Quilts!** Many of the quilting designs like the feather wreaths and Celtic cross, just to name a few, are being turned into embroidery designs. Layer and baste the quilt, align the block in the hoop, select the perfect design and the machine is ready to go. Giving you perfect computerized quilting and even spaced stitches every time.

These are just some of the great reasons as a quilter to have an embroidery machine. It can be overwhelming when you start looking at embroidery machines to know what features are important to have. Here are five key features you want to look for:

- 1) **Precise Positioning** - Makes aligning the embroidery design in the hoop easy. Select a point on the design and then find the corresponding point in the hoop and it is ready to go. Perfect positioning every time.
- 2) **Combining Designs on the Machine** - On many of today's machines multiple designs can be combined on the machine screen without the need of additional software.
- 3) **Shaping Capability** - Determine if the machine can do letter or stitch shaping. Additional software may be needed. This feature is very nice when making quilt labels or monogramming towels.
- 4) **What hoops come with it and what additional hoops can you get?** - Ask what hoop sizes come with the machine their sizes. Also ask what hoops are available for purchase, as some of the hoops will allow you to embroider up to a 13 1/2" square design without having to re-hoop!
- 5) **How do you transfer designs?** - Find out how easy it is to transfer designs from the computer to the machine. With today's technology designs should be able to be transferred with a USB stick. Some machines may require the purchase of additional communication software for transferring designs

These are just some of the outstanding features available on today's embroidery machines. The Quilting and Embroidery world is exploding with new technology and ideas, allowing us endless possibilities for creativity! Stop in the store soon and see some of the fun things we've created by combining quilting techniques with embroidery designs.

Happy Quilting!

SCOTT

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