

It's Sew Easy Series 1700

Show#1712-2 Stacking Decorative Stitches

Presented by: Joanne Banko

www.letsgo sew.com

Let's stay in touch! I'd love to help you make the most of ***your*** sewing machine!

[CLICK HERE](#) to add your name to the letsgo sew.com email list and receive timely tips, sewing news, free tutorials, and special updates. You'll be the first to know about new blog posts and special preview posts for the online version of It's Sew Easy TV.



Blending, combining, and stacking decorative stitches adds interest to any project. See how easy it is to make use of the beautiful decorative stitches built in to your machine!
Are you ready? Let's go sew!

Materials and supplies featured in this show:

- Featured machine is the [Brother XV8550D Dream Machine2](#)

Note: Many machines have decorative stitch capabilities that allow for effects similar to the ones shown here. I suggest you read through the instructions and then check your machine manual for similar features and functions.

- Embroidery thread and bobbin thread for decorative stitching:

Option #1 – Wind a bobbin with the same thread you are using in the needle. This is important if your stitching will show on both right and wrong sides of fabric. It's also a good idea when using open style decorative stitches.

Option#2 – Use a white bobbin designed for machine embroidery. This works well for satin style stitches as the top thread pulls slightly to the wrong side, making the top thread predominant.

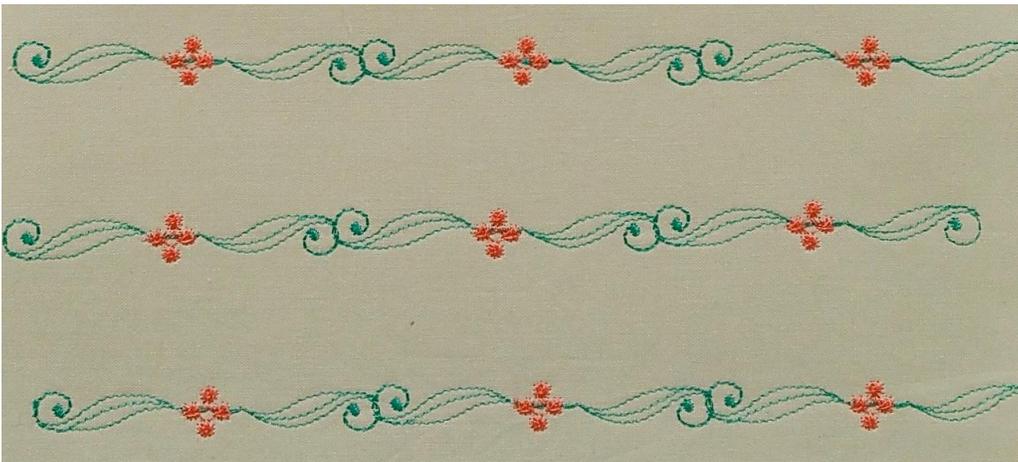
Tips for creating “stacked” decorative stitches on the sewing side of the machine:

Unless your fabric is very firm you will need stabilizer when adding decorative stitching. Tear-away is often a good option but be aware that even after removal you will have a small amount left on the wrong side. Liquid stabilizer is another option. This works well when you want the stabilizer to be completely removable. You'll find a free tip sheet on liquid stabilizers [HERE](#).

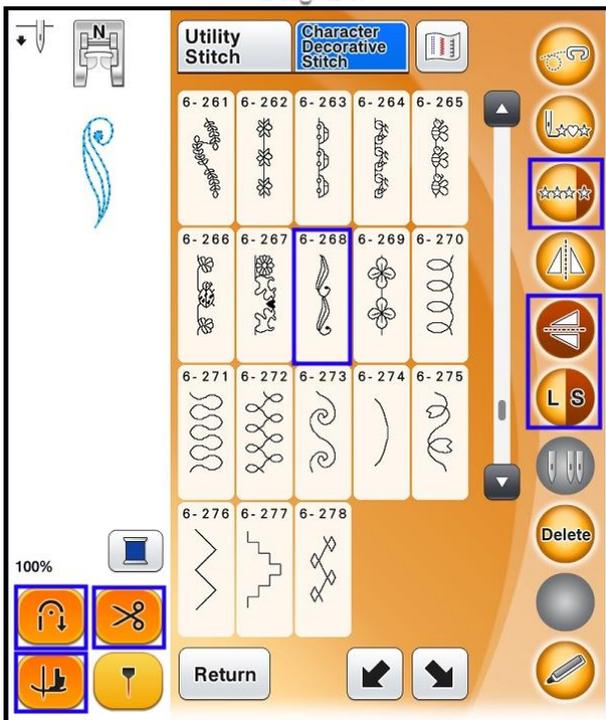
Select a presser foot designed for sewing decorative stitches. The featured foot in this show is the “N” foot. This foot has a groove on the underside, so it easily flows over bulky stitches. This large, stable foot is essential for stitches that have side-ways motion. A clear view foot is another option and it works well for stitches that fit the width of the throat plate opening.

Always take time to test stitches and stitch combinations on remnants of fabric before sewing on your actual project.

Below is an example of creating combined stitches with two colors. Follow the steps shown here to re-create this combination.

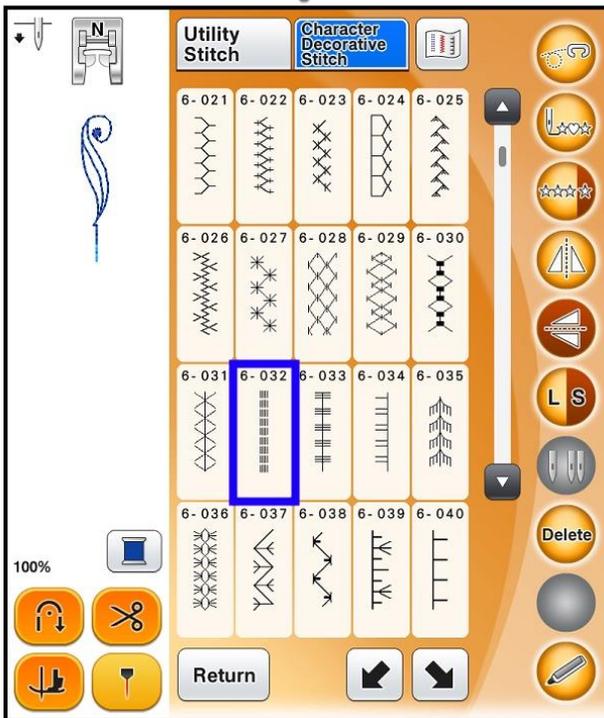


Step #1



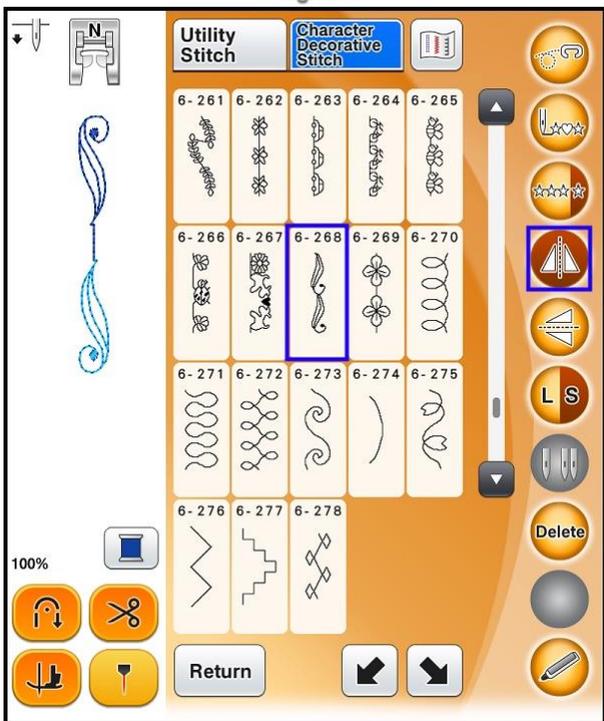
Select stitch 6-268, size small. Choose the single pattern option. Use horizontal flip option to turn the stitch. Activate tie off, pivot function, and auto cut features.

Step #2

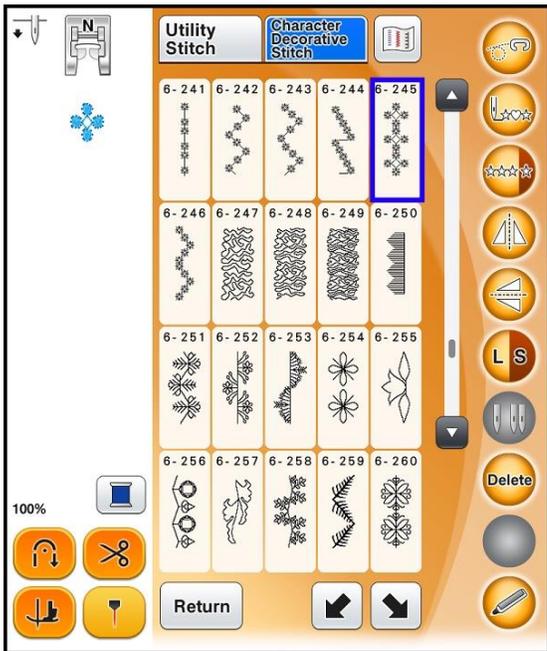


Next, select stitch 6-032 four times to create space for decorative stitch in second color.

Step #3



Select stitch 6-268. Choose the single pattern option. Deselect the horizontal flip option and mirror image the stitch to create stitch sequence shown here. Stitch this combination in the first thread color. **Tip:** Change to option for stitching a row if you want to stitch more than one segment of combined patterns.



Delete pattern and change to second thread color. Select stitch 6-245, using size small with single pattern option.

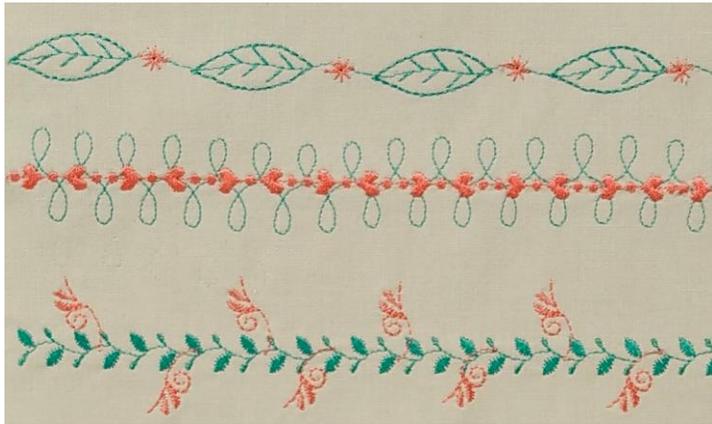


Select the option to “hover” over the fabric before stitching to help position individual stitches. This is called Needle Position Stitch Placement in the set mode.

With this setting the feed dogs go down, allowing for the fabric to be easily moved. In addition, the needle goes down partially, pointing to the spot where it will initially pierce the fabric.

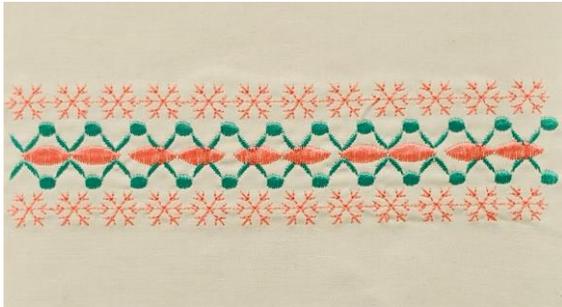


Turn on the camera feature to line up stitch so it forms between the motifs and covers the spacer stitches. Next, lower presser foot, and then lower needle with the needle up/down button. The foot and needle “hover” so you can slide fabric around until the second decorative stitch is aligned perfectly in the open space. When you’re satisfied with the position simply begin to stitch.



Other options for stacking stitches include the following:

- Add various single pattern elements after stitching rows with space in between.
- Stitch a row light, open style stitches, and then stitch a solid, satin style stitch on top.
- Stitch a row of leaves and then add single pattern flowers at an angle, accenting the leaves.

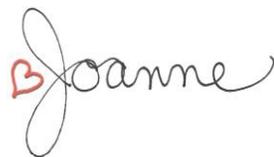


Try these ideas with your own stacked stitch combinations. I hope you enjoy experimenting with this technique on the sewing side of the machine! Interested in machine embroidered decorative stitches? You'll find a tutorial for combining decorative stitches in embroidery mode on letsgosew.com, included with **Bonus Materials for It's Sew Easy TV series 1700.**

Questions? Comments?

- I invite you to visit me at my Sewing and Embroidery website www.letsgosew.com. You'll find online lessons, videos, and free downloads, plus lots of sewing and embroidery information and inspiration!
- You can sign-up for letsgosew.com news [HERE](#).
- Find me on [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#)

Happy Sewing!

Joanne