



Brought to you by Joanne Banko

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Greeting Card Tutorial



GREETINGS! Custom crafted cards are so much fun to make. Use your embroidery machine to stitch a monogram, motif, or your own personalized sentiments with built in lettering, built-in designs, or embroidery software that coordinates with your machine. You'll have this embroidered and in the mail in less than the time it takes to shop for a store bought card and a custom made card like this will mean so much more to the recipient!!!

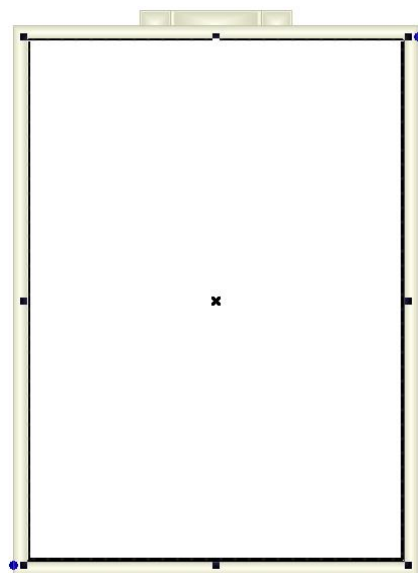
1. Assemble your craft supplies. You will need a blank card, stiff felt, and thin flat glue dots, (the kind used for scrapbooking).

You'll find these cards in craft stores. The stiff felt can be found there too. I buy it in sheets 12" X 18". It is thin, stiff, easy to work with, and embroiders beautifully! Be sure to get the kind without adhesive on the back.

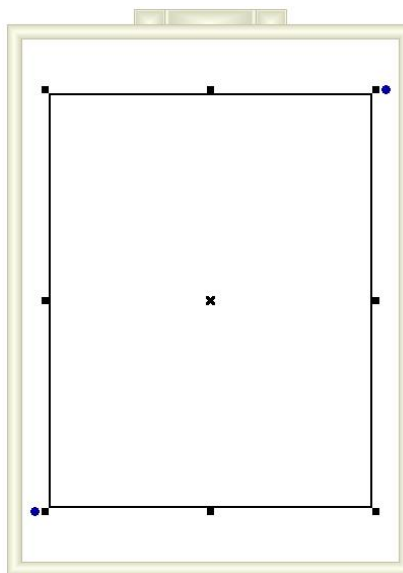


2. Assemble your embroidery supplies: Embroidery thread, low tack tape, 5" X 7" hoop, free A7 or A2 basting outline .pes file download from www.letsdosew.com, tear-away stabilizer to fit 5" X 7" hoop, and design of your choice to fit selected card size.

Baste_A7Card.pes (5.08" wide X 7.04" high)

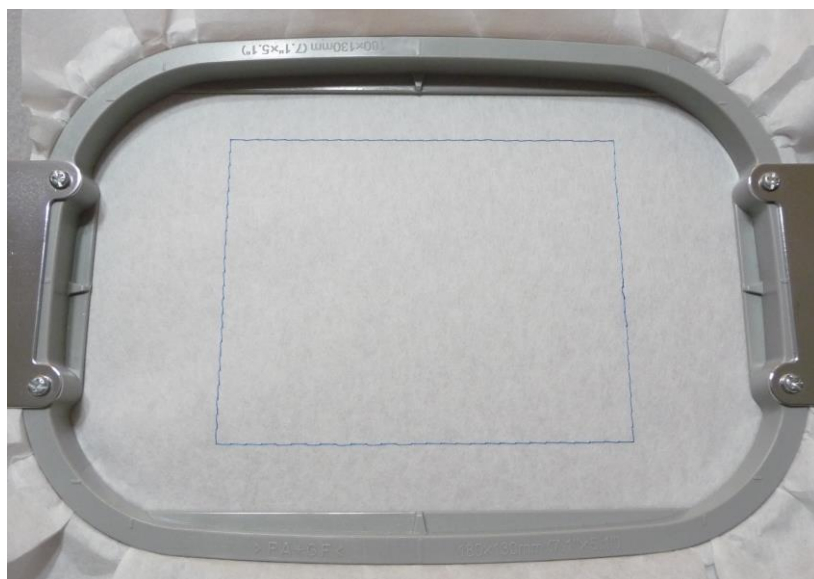


Baste A2Card.pes (4.33" wide X 5.57" high)

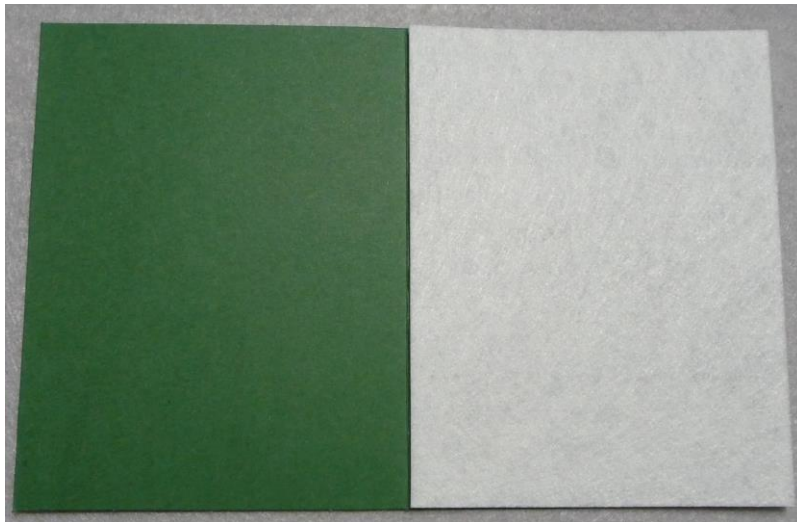
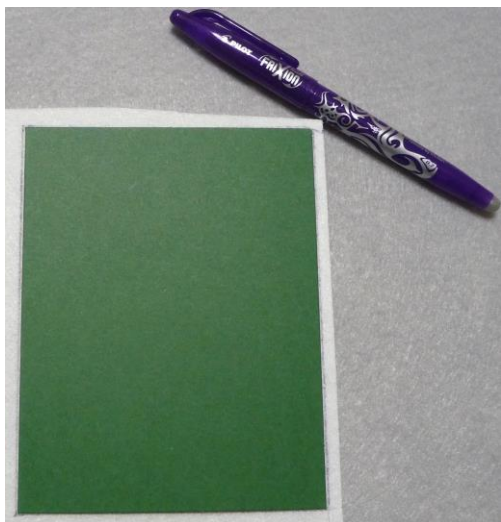


3. Assemble your sewing supplies: disappearing marking pen, sewing thread to attach felt to card, clear view presser foot.
4. Hoop tear-away. Embroider the basting file that fits your card size using any color thread.

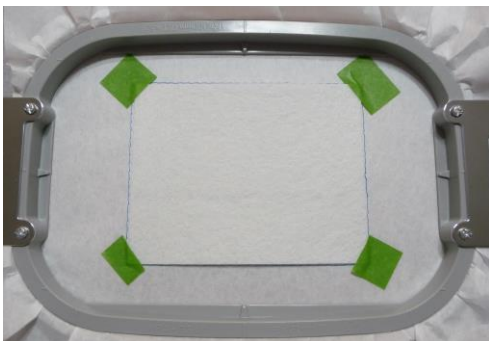
Note: The 5" X 7" hoop shown used in this example has a horizontal layout, typical of the Brother tubular (free arm) embroidery machines.



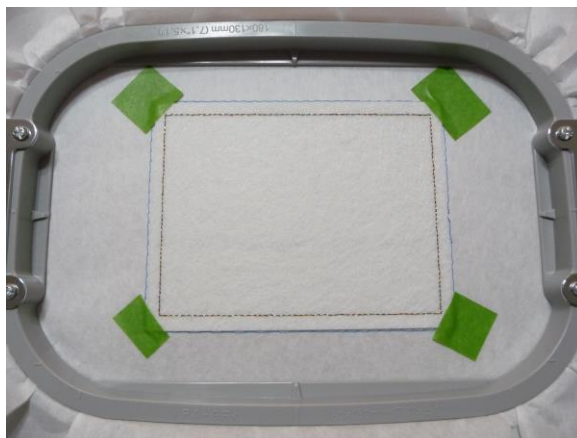
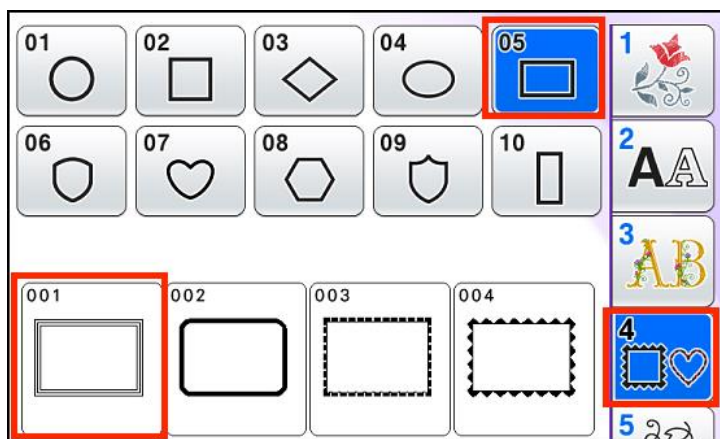
5. Cut a piece of stiff felt to equal size of your card front. You can measure and mark on the felt or use your card as a template.



6. Tape corners of felt within the basting frame.



7. Create a design to stitch on the felt, making sure your completed design will fit the felt piece. (Please see note at the end of these instructions with more information about the split letter monogram featured here). **Tip:** This is optional but with the Brother built-in frames you can easily add a frame to accent your design. I added a simple rectangular frame and sized it approximately ¼-inch smaller than the dimensions of my felt.



8. Embroider your design on the felt layered with tear away. Note: 5" X 7" hoop is shown in an upright position. Most 5" X 7" hoops have a vertical layout with the design stitching upright.



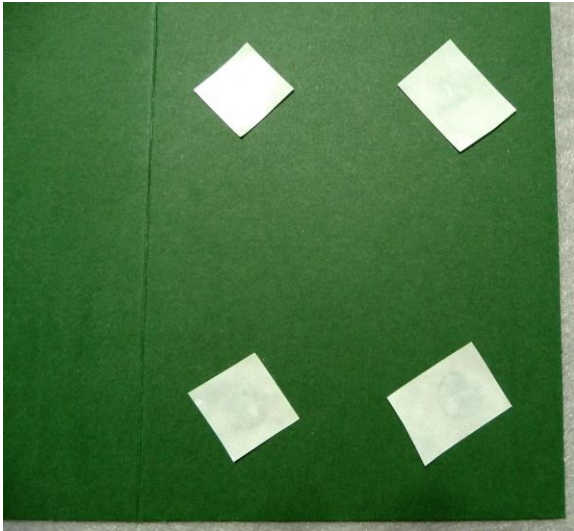
9. Remove embroidered piece from hoop. You can leave most of the tear-away in place. Press lightly if necessary and trim with a rotary cutter and ruler if the edges need to be straightened.



10. Set up machine for sewing with any size 11-14 needle that will not be used on fabric. Replace the standard foot with a clear view foot [Clear View Foot](#)

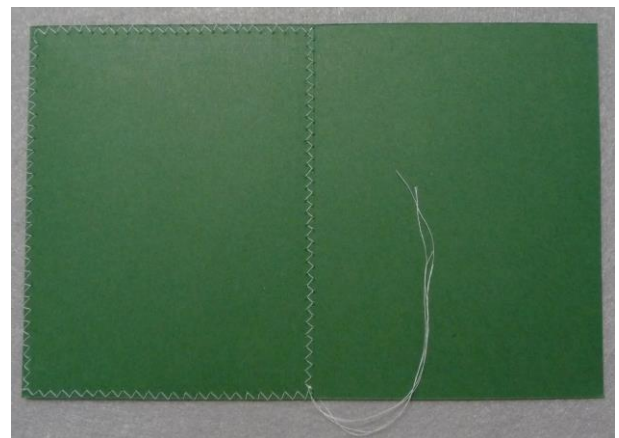


Tip: I keep a used needle inserted into a piece of paper and use it over and over again for stitching cards. Place glue dots on the card front, keeping them away from edges where you will stitch the card.

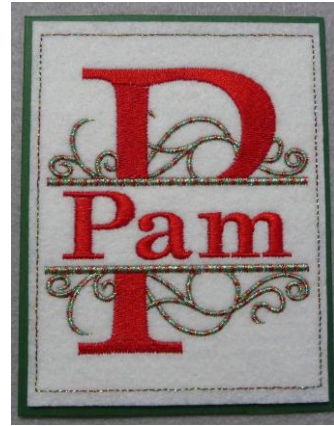
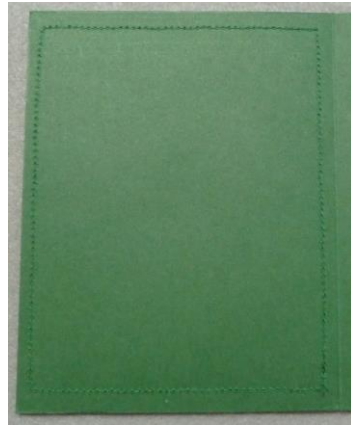
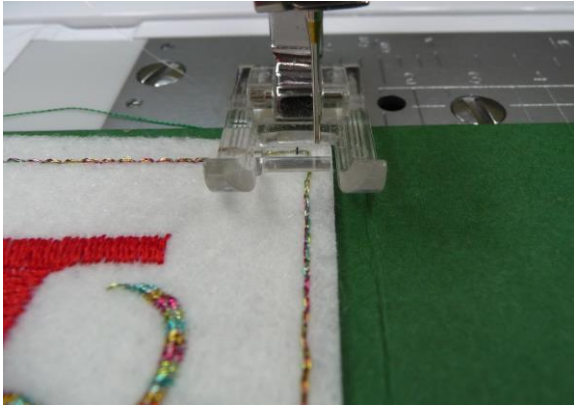


11. Carefully center the felt on the card front and press firmly so felt sticks to dots. Stitch felt to card with felt facing up, using a zigzag, straight stitch, or a decorative stitch such as the featherstitch.

I usually choose a narrow zigzag stitch, stitching all around the outer edges of the felt.



See examples below:



12. You are finished! Write a greeting inside your card or print one on paper and attach inside using more sticky dots. Stitching a card like this doesn't seem to make it too heavy for standard postage. I've mailed many of these using a USA forever stamp.

The split letter font is from one of two alphabets included in the Brother Simply Appliqué software program and the BES4 Dream Edition program. This [multi format software](https://bit.ly/2SVsjFb) has an option of saving the design in many different home formats. Visit the link below for more information on these software options: <https://bit.ly/2SVsjFb>

Options and ideas:

Search for embroidered greeting card collections for designs sized specifically for greeting cards. You'll even find some that are digitized to stitch directly on card stock. However, I prefer to stitch on the stiff felt. Using this method, you can create a card with most any embroidery design you choose. Create a combination layout in embroidery software or using the edit mode of your machine.