

BFC-Creations Yahoo Group

Hooping Tips

USING WONDER TAPE OR SHELF LINER ON THE INNER HOOP

**** This is a link to photos that show how to keep light weight stabilizer such as Vilene and or light or slippery fabrics taut in the hoop while embroidering:

<http://www.k-lace.com/albums/album4/index.htm>

This method shows the use of Wonder Tape and shelf liner on the underside of the inner hoop.

The tape and shelf liner can be left on the hoop and used for all embroidery and all weights of fabric.

This method can solve the problem of final outline stitches not matching up to the design itself whether it is a lace design or a filled design.

As we all know, very stitch intensive designs can cause fabric or stabilizer movement in the hoop which in turn can cause bad registration of designs, so this method will help solve that movement.

Just remember to change to new tape and new liner when the liner starts to look worn down which is not often! ****

**** Shelf liner can also be used as a rectangle that fits the hoop. You would hoop the stabilizer and/or stabilizer and material and also the piece of shelf liner each time you hoop. ****

**** When using shelf liner, remember to put it along the lengths on the underside of the four sides of the inner hoop and cut it off before the corners of the hoop. This will give you even holding power from all 4 directions. This is especially great when hoping water soluble stabilizers for lace or slippery fabrics such as organza and definitely makes a great difference when embroidering a high stitch count design that can pull the fabric inward while embroidering.

The corners are already tight enough to hold the fabric, they do not need the liner/tape on them. ****

**** I have done 14 inch long strips of lace using double sided tape and Vilene in/on/under my hoop it all. ****

HOOP SLIPPING

**** You can use Hoop Ease to help with hoop slippage. ****

**** You can use Vet wrap in place of Hoop Ease. Wrap the hoop with vet wrap. This can be purchased for a couple dollars and will do more than one hoping. This is stick on one end. Do NOT use on the corners of the hoops. This tape is the same we use to hold bandages on. It stretches and sticks to itself. Someone also suggested the clear stretch elastic but you have to glue the ends. I have used both and find them very good, much cheaper, and does the same job. ****

**** The bandage for wrapping the hoop is also called Coban and you can find it in the pharmacy. ****

USING GLUE STICKS

**** I use a glue stick, run a bead of glue stick on the underside of the hoop and put my stabilizer on it. Let it dry (which takes only second or two). I have filled the hoop with stitched lace and never had the stabilizer come loose. When I am finished, I just peel the stabilizer off and rinse and dry. ****

**** Office and art supply stores carry three varieties of glue sticks: 3M Post It glue stick, Removable Restickable glue stick by Scotch, and Avery Removal glue stick. ****

MAGNA HOOP

**** The Magna Hoop assists in hoping hard to hoop or 'unhoopable' items. It firmly secures items in the hoop eliminating the use of the adhesive sprays and stabilizers. Available for several major brand embroidery machines. ****

**** When using the Mega Hoop, ALWAYS hoop fabric and stabilizer – NEVER cheat and only hoop the fabric and slide stabilizer underneath. Push the button for basting.

After it's finished, reload the design. ALWAYS start on 2. And make SURE its CLICKED in. ****

ADHESIVE SPRAY AND CLEANING THE ADHESIVE

**** I use spray adhesive with the stabilizer. After a while the hoop becomes sticky and dirty. I found a product at Lowes called "GOOF OFF". It is a liquid and resembles a lighter fluid container in design. Not only does it clean the adhesive build up on the hoops, but it does a quick job of removing sticker residue, candle wax, oil, grease, lipstick, crayon, and dried latex paint. It also works wonderfully on my iron. ****

**** Another thing to clean sticky residue on hoops is in the beauty stores, Sure Clean. ****

**** The easiest and cheapest way to clean hoops is with rubbing alcohol p just put it in a shallow dish and set your messy hoop in it for half hour or so – rinse with water and you have a clean hoop – no fuss and cheap!' ****

MULTIPLE DESIGNS OR MULTIPLE HOOPINGS

**** If you have a hoop that allows you to attach it to the machine in 2 different positions, you an embroider something then move it up or down to maybe add a name or another small design without rehooping. This allows a 4 x 4 field to have a design with a name above or beneath it or another small design near it. ****

**** To do rehooping – I printed out the section I was embroidering on (with the drawing of the hoop) then cut around the hoop and placed it on the item to be embroidered. When it was in the correct position, I positioned the bottom hoop under the fabric and hooped. ****

**** If you are trying to line up multiple hoopings, you can run through the stitching without thread, so not really stitching, to see if things are lining up where they belong. ****

**** To print out the design in Artista, print to PDF and choose ACTUAL size. This prints out templates to help in lining up designs. ****

STRETCHY FABRIC

**** When hoping stretch fabrics, do not stretch the fabric taut in the hoop. If you do, the design will pucker horribly. Hoop it with a very slight tug so it is flat. ***

TIPS ON TIGHTENING THE HOOP

**** There is a product called the Finger Ezz! Manufacturers do not recommend tightening the hoops with a screwdriver for fear of over tightening. However, sometimes fingers get too tired and/or weak to tighten the screw properly. The Finger Ezz slides over the screws. This allows you to tighten the screws and not overly fatigue your hands/fingers. ****

**** Hoop as normal. Tighten the screw. Pop inside hoop and project out without changing the screw. Rehoop and the tension is distributed evenly around the hoop. ****

**** Pretension your hoop. Then take a block of wood that is a bit longer than the width of your hoop. Use this block to press down with the heels of your hands the last two corners of the inner hoop. My wood is $\frac{3}{4}$ inch thick, 3-1/2 inches wide, and about 10 inches long. Scrap wood from hubby's workshop. I also use a piece of non-slip rubber shelf liner under the outer hoop to keep it from sliding all over the table while hoping. I use a piece of lining about 4 x 6 inches and rest the end of the outer hoop furthest away from me on the lining. ****

STORING HOOPS

**** You can hang your hoops on the wall using 3M hooks which are movable. ****

WARPED HOOPS

**** Help – my hoops have warped. What do I do? - I put it in the oven on a cookie sheet until it got warm and then put a thick book on it. It never got completely flat like it was, but I was able to use it. ****