

Are you new to machine embroidery? Here is a simple project to use the sewing and embroidery features of your machine. First we will sew a machine cover using fabric strips with a sew and flip method. Then, let's get familiar with changing the machine from sewing to embroidery to add a design to the front. These instructions will work for most Baby

Supplies

The amount of fabric needed will depend on the size of your machine cover. The amounts listed will work for the Baby Lock Vesta shown in the video. See side bar to determine the size of your cover.

- (2) 19" by 29" of cotton quilting fabric the size of your machine cover. One piece will be completely covered and will not show. The other piece will serve as the lining for the completed machine cover.
- (8) 2 ½" by Width of Fabric strips (these can be purchased pre-cut in a "jelly roll" or cut your own) For this project, cut the strips in half for a total of 16 strips that measure 2 ½" by about 20"
- Floriani Medium Tearaway stabilizer 19" by 10" for large Vesta hoop
- Sewing Thread and Sewing Thread wound on bobbin
- Embroidery Thread and Embroidery Bobbin
Thread in the colors needed for the design
- Optional: (4) 10" pieces of ribbon for side ties

To create a custom machine cover, measure the width of the machine and the distance from the table in the front and the table in the back over the top of the machine. This cover without side panels is ideal for covering a machine with attached embroidery unit.

Instructions

Create the Machine Cover Using the Sew & Flip Method

Set up the machine for sewing with all purpose thread in the needle and bobbin .Using one of the 19” by 29” fabric pieces as a base, lay one 2 ½” fabric strip right side up on the base. Check to make sure that it is perpendicular to the long edge. This strip can be pinned or basted to the base fabric. Lay a second strip right side down on the first strip with the long edges even. Using a straight stitch with a stitch length of 2.5 mm and all purpose thread sew along the long edge through all three layers. If the strip is longer than the base fabric, trim the end that overhangs the edge. Flip the strip up and press the seam open. Continue sewing strips to the base fabric until it is completely covered.



Set Up for Machine Embroidery

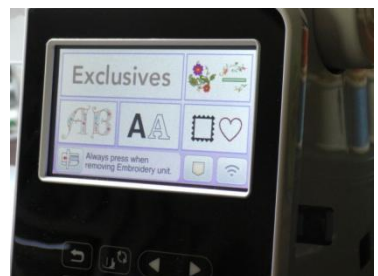
Before attaching the embroidery arm, turn the machine off. Remove the accessory tray and attach the embroidery foot. Secure the foot with a screwdriver. Remove the bobbin with all purpose thread and insert a bobbin wound with embroidery bobbin thread.



Slide the embroidery arm onto the machine and turn the machine on. The arm will click into place. A message will appear warning that the arm will move while calibrating the machine. Touch “Ok” to calibrate the arm. If the arm is ever obstructed while creating an embroidery and moved out of position, remove the hoop, turn the machine off and then on for the machine to re-calibrate to the correct position.



Select the design. Designs can be found built into the machine, transferred to the machine with a USB media or wirelessly through a computer app or software. Touch set to select a design



and place it on the Embroidery Edit screen. Designs can be moved with the touch of a finger or modified in this screen using the icons. To combine designs, select the “Add” icon to select any additional designs. To modify individual designs, select them by touching them or using the

“Select” key to toggle through the choices. A selected design will have a red box. Select “Edit End” when the design is ready to embroider.

Hoop the Fabric with Stabilizer

All fabric needs some support during machine embroidery. The type of stabilizer used to support the fabric depends on a variety of factors including but not limited to: the type of fabric, how the stabilizer will or will not be removed and the size of the design. For this project use a tearaway stabilizer that is 2” larger all around than the hoop. Lay the completed stitch & flip piece on top of the stabilizer right side down. Align the inner frame ring positioning marks with the strip seams to keep it straight. Keep the bulk of the fabric to the left of the attachment bracket on the hoop whenever possible. Hoop the fabric and stabilizer in the frame by pressing the inner ring into the outer ring. The screw on the outer ring may need to be loosened to accommodate the fabric. The inner and outer ring edges should align and should lie flat. Tighten the screw so the two rings are held firmly together. Do not over tighten the screw and damage the hoop. Insert the hoop onto the embroidery arm while supporting the arm bracket with your hand. Lower the arm bracket lever to secure the hoop in place.



Position the Embroidery and Stitch

Use the arrow keys to move the design into position within the hoop. The icons at the bottom of the screen are used to move the frame to aid in positioning or put the design into the memory of the machine. After selecting an icon, choose an action to center the needle on part of the design, trace around the design or select different media to save the design. The entire design can be rotated to match the direction that the fabric was hooped. If the design red selection boxes are NOT overlapping, the colors can be sorted using the icon with thread spools. All the same colors will stitch in order for the multiple designs and reduce changing thread colors. Not all colors can be sorted when they need to stitch in a certain order. When the embroidery is correctly placed select “Embroidery”.



On the Embroidery screen the colors of the embroidery are shown in order of stitching. Find the first color and thread the machine with embroidery thread. To begin stitching, lower the presser foot by touching the button on the front of the machine. The Start/Stop button just above the needle area will turn green. Touch the Start/Stop button to begin embroidery. The machine will automatically stop when the stitching for that color is complete and show the next color. Thread the machine with the new color and lower the presser foot. Touch the Start/Stop button to stitch the next color. To access different parts or stitches in a design, touch the icon with a needle and +/- . If a thread should break while stitching, the machine will automatically stop stitching. Use the +/- key to go back a few stitches where the thread broke.



Finish Sewing the Machine Cover

Remove the completed embroidery from the hoop. Remove the stabilizer from the back of the embroidery by gently pulling it away. Any stabilizer under the embroidery or small pieces in between the parts of the design can remain in place. Press the finished outer cover. Lay the fabric lining on the outer cover with right sides together and edges even. Add ribbon ties if desired at this time in the seam of the cover. Change the machine back to sewing by turning off the machine and removing the embroidery arm. Grasp the end of the embroidery arm, press the lever underneath and pull the arm away from the machine. Thread the machine with all purpose thread and replace the sewing ankle and foot. Select a straight stitch. Sew around the cover and leave an opening to turn the cover to the right side. Trim the seam allowance in the corners. Turn the cover and push the corners out. Sew the opening closed or top-stitch around the edge of the machine cover.