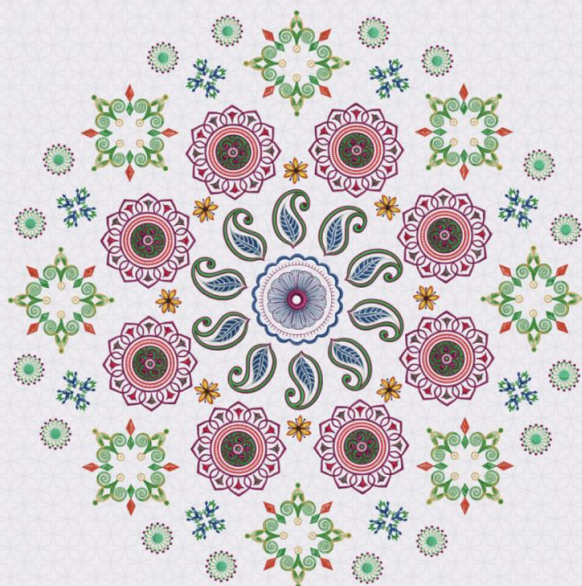


Digitizer V5.5



USER GUIDE
CROSS STITCH

COPYRIGHT

Copyright © 1998-2018. Wilcom Pty Ltd, Wilcom International Pty Ltd. All Rights reserved.

All title and copyrights in and to Digitizer Embroidery Software (including but not limited to any images, animations, text and applications incorporated into the Digitizer Embroidery Software), the accompanying printed materials, and any copies of Digitizer Embroidery Software are owned by licensor or its suppliers. The SOFTWARE PRODUCT is protected by copyright laws and international treaty provisions. Therefore, you must treat Digitizer Embroidery Software like any other copyrighted material. You may not copy the printed materials accompanying Digitizer Embroidery Software.

Portions of the imaging technology of Digitizer Embroidery Software are copyrighted by AccuSoft Corporation.

Limited warranty

Except with respect to the REDISTRIBUTABLES, which are provided 'as is' without warranty of any kind, Janome Sewing Machine Co., Ltd. (hereinafter referred to as 'jsmc') warrants that the Software Media and accompanying documentation are free from defects in materials and workmanship, and that Digitizer Embroidery Software will perform substantially in accordance with the accompanying written materials for a period of ninety (90) days from the date of receipt. Some states and jurisdictions do not allow limitations on duration of an implied warranty, so the above limitation may not apply to you. To the extent allowed by applicable law, implied warranties on the Digitizer Embroidery Software are limited to ninety (90) days.

Limitation of liability

jsmc's liability under the warranty shall be limited to the cost of the Software Media and Documentation. Under no circumstances shall jsmc be liable for any consequential, incidental, or indirect damages (including, without limitation, damages for loss of business profit, business interruption, loss of business information, or any other pecuniary loss) arising out of the use or inability to use the Digitizer Embroidery Software. In no event will jsmc be similarly liable to any other party.

Note

The screen illustrations in this publication are intended to be representations, not exact duplicates of the screen layouts generated by the software. Similarly, design samples are representative of processes and procedures only. They may or may not be packaged with your particular version of the software.

Customer remedies

jsmc's and its suppliers' entire liability and your exclusive remedy shall be, at jsmc's option, either (a) return of the price paid, or (b) repair or replacement of the Digitizer Embroidery Software that does not meet jsmc's Limited Warranty and that is returned to jsmc with a proof of purchase within the warranty period.

Any replacement Digitizer Embroidery Software will be warranted for the remainder of the original warranty period or thirty (30) days, whichever is longer.

CONTENTS

Introduction	1
Cross stitch types	1
Cross stitch fills	1
Cross stitch borders	4
Cross stitch variations	5
Work environment	8
Design information	8
Thread palette.....	8
Backgrounds.....	9
Grids.....	9
Design settings	11
View stitches	11
Set design size	11
Set stitch density.....	12
Fills & outlines.....	14
Select line stitch type.....	14
Select fill stitch type.....	14
Setting cross stitch orientation	15
Digitize cross stitching	17
Digitize single stitch or line	17
Digitize circles	17
Digitize open and closed shapes	18
Flood-fill color blocks	19
File handling.....	20
Save cross stitch designs	20
Combine cross stitch with embroidery.....	20
Open designs in Cross Stitch	21
Edit cross stitches	22
Select stitches	22
Lock stitches.....	23
Manipulate stitch blocks.....	23
Copy, cut & paste stitch blocks	25
Erase fills & lines	25
Special editing	27
Clone stitch fills.....	27

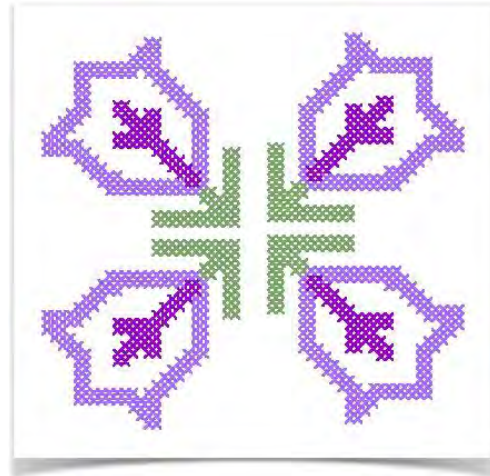
Create combination stitches	27
Add borders to selected areas	28
Thread colors	30
Change thread colors.....	30
Search for threads.....	30
Edit thread colors.....	31
Backdrops	32
Insert images.....	32
View or hide backdrops	32
Scale & reshape images	32
Auto-digitize cross stitch	34
Digitize with Auto Stitch Image.....	34
Digitize with Click-to-Stitch	36
Digitize cross stitch lettering	37

INTRODUCTION

Cross stitching is a popular technique for filling large areas with low stitch counts. It can also be used for outlines and borders. It is suitable for homeware, tablecloths, children's clothes and folk designs. Cross stitch is also sometimes combined with appliqué.

Unlike machine embroidery where designs are enhanced with different stitch types, angles, and effects, in cross stitch you can only add dimension to the design with shades of colors. For this reason, most cross stitch designs use many more colors than machine embroidery.

Explore the topics listed on the right for more information about the cross stitch application.

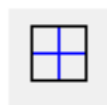


Cross stitch types

Cross stitches are created on a matrix of squares or 'pixels'. Any part of the square can be stitched, from the edges to the diagonals. The full range is listed here.



Full Cross



Upright Cross



Three-Quarter Cross



Double Cross



Half Cross



Elongated Horizontal Cross



Quarter Cross



Elongated Horizontal Cross



Mini Cross



Single Line



French knot

Cross stitch fills

When using cross stitch as a fill you can select from any of the cross stitch fill types.

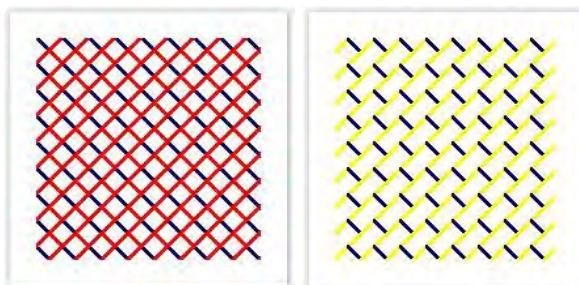
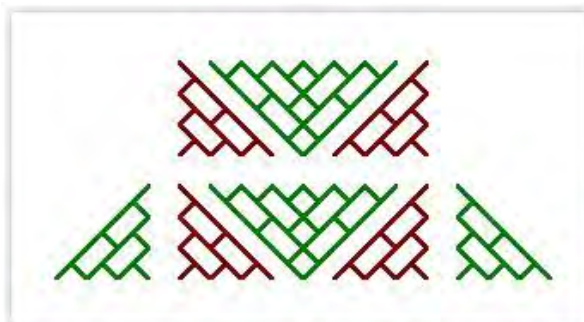
Full cross stitch

Full cross stitches are made up of two equal-length stitches that cross at the center to form an X. The overall effect depends on which stitch within the X lies beneath or on top. You can also mix and match for special effects.

Three-quarter cross stitch

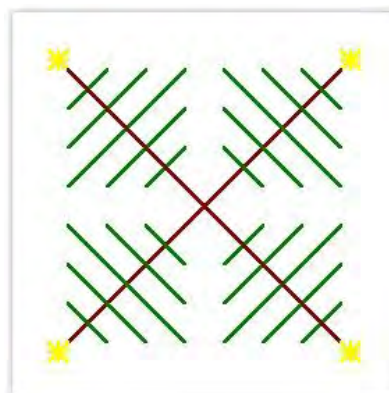
A three-quarter stitch is most often created by stitching a quarter stitch followed by a half stitch. A different effect is achieved by stitching the half stitch first and anchoring it with the quarter stitch. The long arm of the three-quarter stitch can go either / or \ directions.

Frequently a quarter stitch and a three-quarter stitch of different colors share a single square. Mix and match their positions to give different effects.



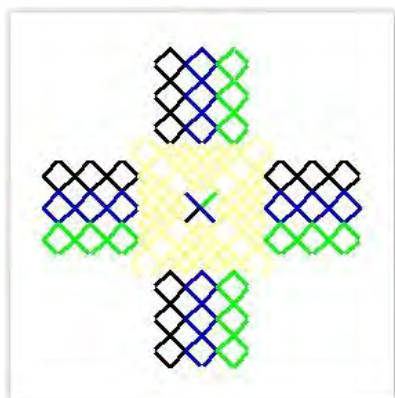
Half cross stitch

A half stitch is simply a diagonal stitch that looks like / or like \. Half stitches are usually used for shadows and background shading. The stitch can start from any corner. Sometimes two half stitches of different colors are used to make one full cross stitch. Half stitches can go in either direction depending on the effect you want to achieve. For example, half stitches used to represent feathers would slant in the direction of the feathers themselves.



Quarter cross stitch

Quarter stitches are used to stitch more intricate patterns.



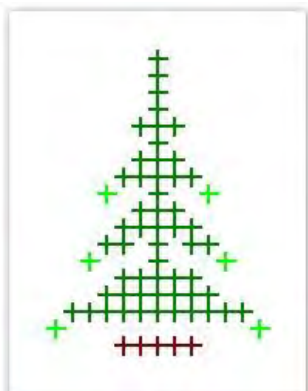
Mini cross stitch

Mini cross stitches are two equal-length stitches that cross at the center to form an X but they only fill quarter of the square. Use mini cross stitch for details such as eyes or for a denser look in parts of your design.



Upright cross stitch

Upright cross stitches are comprised of a vertical and horizontal stitch. The stitches can be worked diagonally across the canvas, or in a horizontal or vertical line.



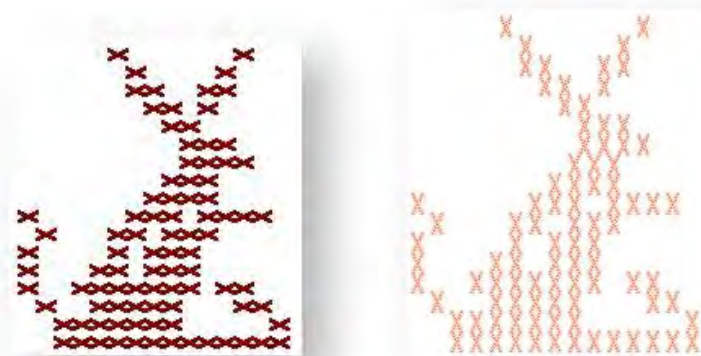
Double cross stitch

Double cross stitch is comprised of two full cross stitches stitched at 45° to each other. A double cross stitch resembles a star. It is generally used in a scattered fashion or worked into a row to form a decorative border. Typically the top thread of the bottom cross is the stitch which lies at 135° to the horizontal, while the top thread of the overlapping cross is the horizontal stitch.



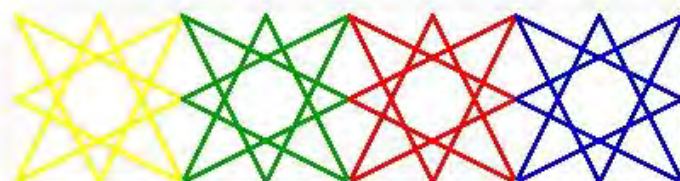
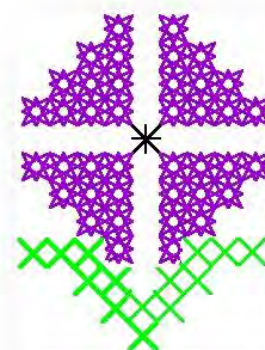
Elongated cross stitch

Elongated cross stitch consists of two equal-length stitches that cross to form an X. There are two types - elongated horizontal and elongated vertical cross stitch. Elongated horizontal cross stitches are only half the height of normal cross stitch while elongated vertical cross stitches are only half the width of normal cross stitch.



French knots

French knots were originally a hand-stitch used to create a raised look for embellishment. They were traditionally used in 'whitework' with very exclusive cotton and fine silk threads. French knots can be used in combination with other cross-stitch types. Use them for eyes, door knobs, dots for flower pistils, or in place of beads used in hand-work designs – e.g. ornaments on a Christmas tree or to dot letters such as 'i'. Use them as an outline border. Try them with colorful metallic or variegated threads. French knots are better sewn in larger grids.

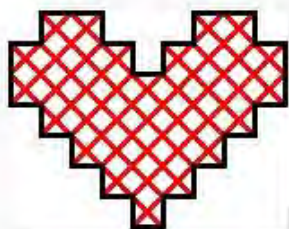


Cross stitch borders

Cross stitch can be used as an embroidery outline. You can also combine cross stitching with other stitch types to achieve special effects. You can make outlines with Single Line or Full Cross stitches or a combination of both for a denser border. A Single Line outline is treated by the software as a border while a Full Cross outline is treated as a fill. This is important if you need to delete a border because a single line can be deleted as a single object while a full cross stitch border cannot.

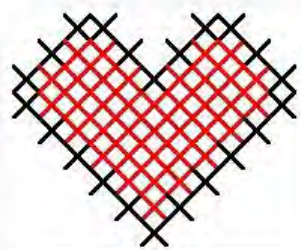
Single line border

Single line stitches are only used to create borders or add details. The single line can be placed on any side of the square. Click on the side you want to place the line. You can place a single line border on one side or all four sides of the square. The single line border can be placed in a square which already has a cross stitch in it.



Full cross border

Full crosses can also be used as a decorative outline stitch. If you use full cross as a border it will be the same cross stitch type as selected in the fill stitch type list. You can change this by changing the fill stitch type.

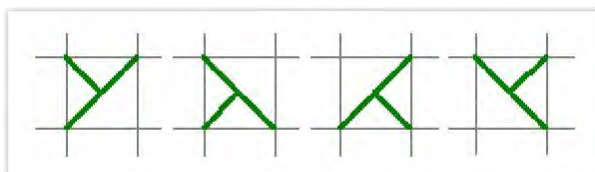


Cross stitch variations

The orientation of fractional cross stitches can be varied to create different patterning effects. You do this directly pixel-by-pixel, or by setting a fill stitch orientation. You can also combine fractional cross stitches in a variety of ways.

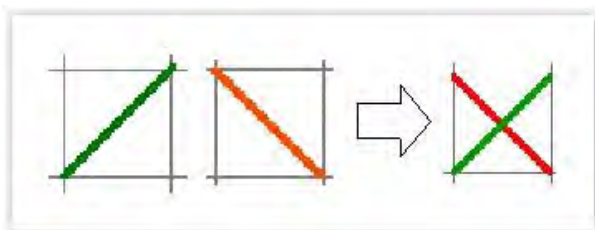
Three-quarter cross stitches

Quarter and three-quarter cross stitches can be used to create rounded edges.



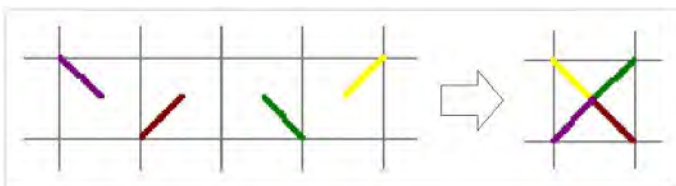
Half cross stitches

Half cross stitches can be used to give objects an 'airy' look. You can also use half cross stitches to make a full cross stitch with two colors.



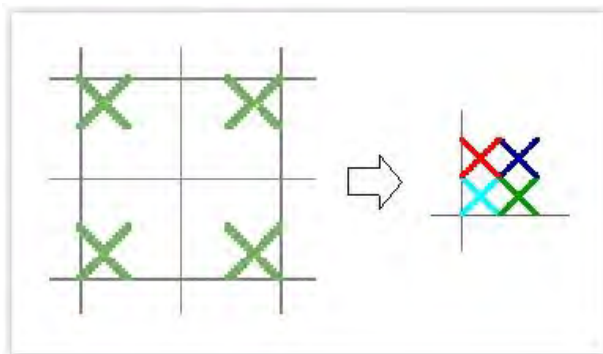
Quarter cross stitches

Quarter and three-quarter cross stitch can be used to smooth rounded edges. You can also use quarter cross stitch to make a full cross stitch with up to four colors.



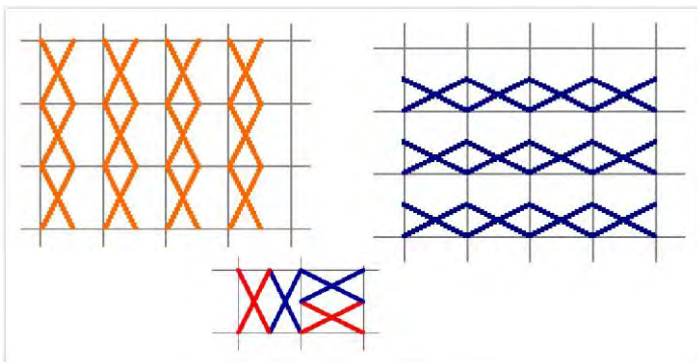
Mini cross stitches

Use mini cross stitch for details such as eyes or for a denser look in parts of your design.



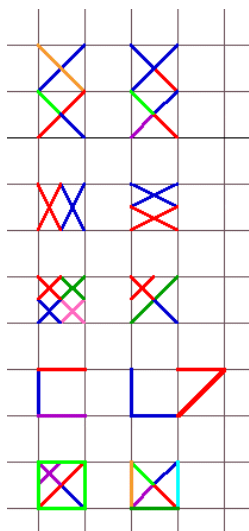
Elongated cross stitches

Vertical and horizontal elongated cross stitches are made up of two equal-length stitches that cross to form an X. They fill either the left, right, top or bottom of the square.



Combination stitches

Quarter, half and three-quarter cross stitches can be combined to make crosses comprised of multiple colors. You can also combine mini crosses, elongated vertical or horizontal crosses and outline stitches.



Combination of 1/4, 1/2 and 3/4 crosses

Combination of elongated vertical or horizontal crosses

Combination of fractional and mini crosses

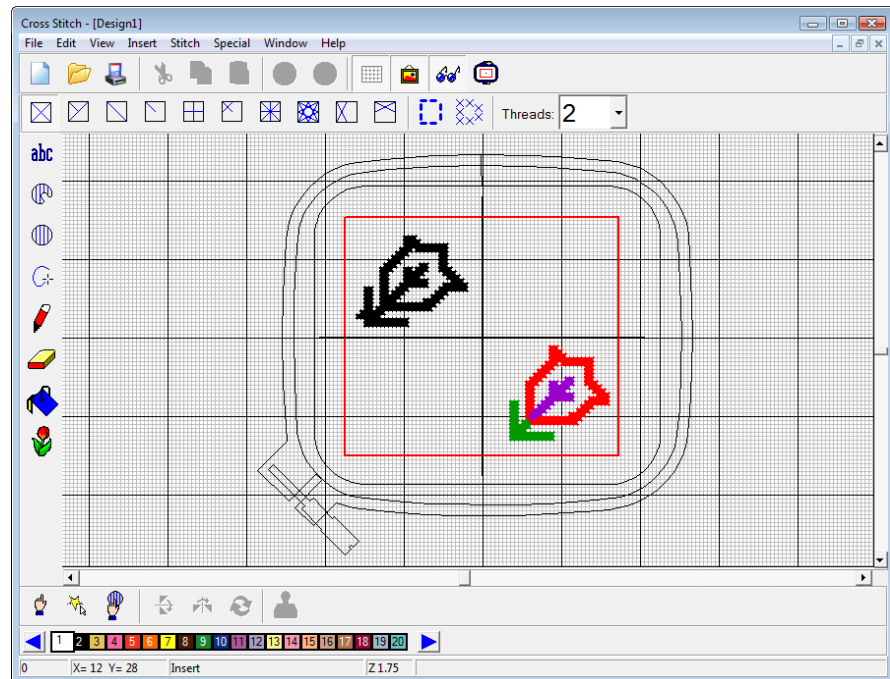
Combination of colored outlines

Combination of outlines and crosses

WORK ENVIRONMENT

Cross stitch design involves a different digitizing technique to ordinary embroidery design. For this reason, the Cross Stitch application has its own design window which you open from within Embroidery Software.

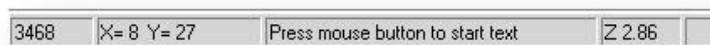
Title bar
Menu bar
Standard toolbar
Cross Stitch toolbar
Input toolbar



Edit toolbar
Color palette
Status bar

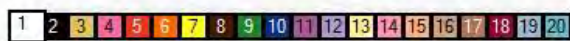
Design information

The Cross Stitch Status Bar provides design information such as approximate stitch count, pointer coordinates, prompts, as well as zoom factor.



Thread palette

You can drag the Thread Palette and place it anywhere in the design window.



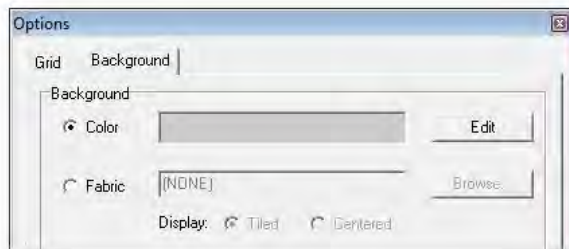
Backgrounds



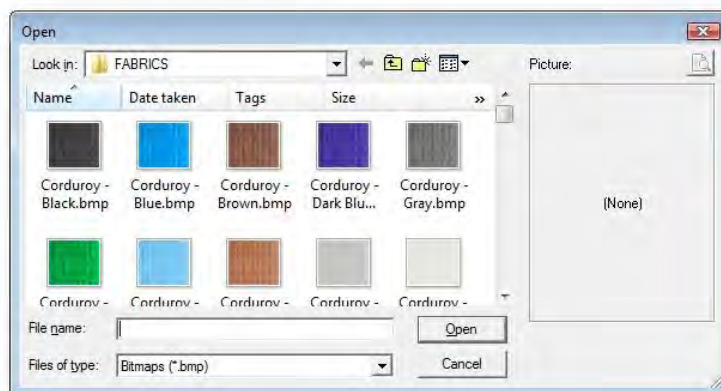
Click Standard > Hoop to show or hide the hoop. Right-click to open the Hoop dialog.

In Cross Stitch you can change the background color of the design window to match the color of your fabric. Or you can select a background fabric for more realistic previews and presentations. To change backgrounds...

- Select Special > Options and click the Background tab.



- Select a color or fabric to use.
 - To select a background color, click Edit. Select a color from the Color dialog and click OK
 - To select a fabric texture, click Browse. Select a fabric swatch from the Fabrics folder of your installation.



- Choose whether to center or tile the fabric bitmap in the design window. If the bitmap is large enough to fill the entire window, select Center. Otherwise, Tile.

Grids

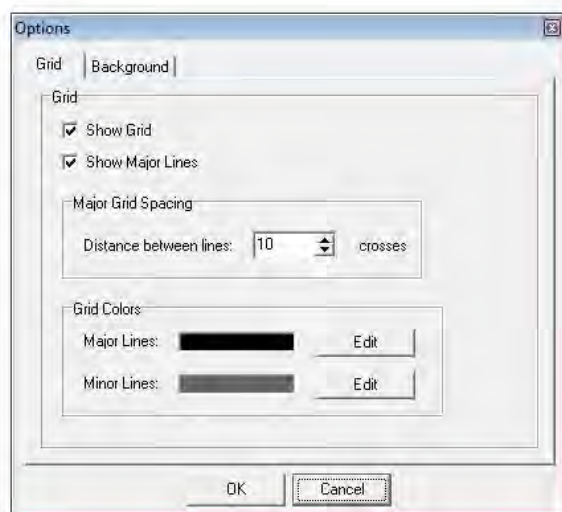


Click Standard > Grid to show or hide the grid. Select Options (Special menu) to change grid settings.

Use the Options > Grid tab to:

- Show or hide the grid

- Display major lines (when grid is on)
- Set grid spacing - enter the number of crosses to fit between the major grid lines.
- Change the color of major and minor lines.



DESIGN SETTINGS

In Cross Stitch, design size is controlled by 'fabric count'. The more stitches per inch, for example, the smaller and more compact the resulting design. You can also adjust the density of individual cross stitches by stitching them once, twice or three times.

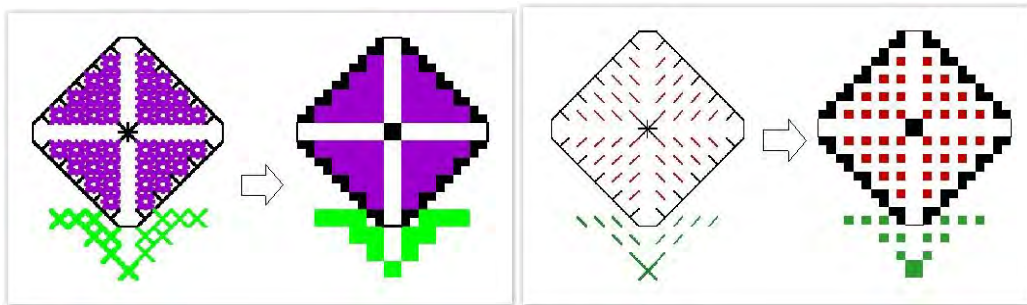
A common problem with cross stitch designs is that they 'pull', especially with smaller, closely packed stitches. Cross stitch designs tend to pull in a uniform way with gaps usually forming in straight lines. Sometimes holes appear giving the impression of missing stitches.

View stitches



Click Standard > Crosses to show stitches as colored tiles or cross stitches.

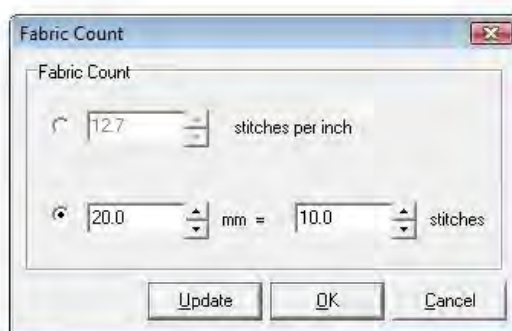
- Click the Crosses icon. Any digitized areas are shown as crosses (or lines for line borders).
- Click again to show stitches as colored tiles.



Set design size

You set cross stitch design size by adjusting the 'fabric count'. This actually changes the scale of your finished design. The more stitches per inch, for example, the smaller and more compact the resulting design. To set the design size...

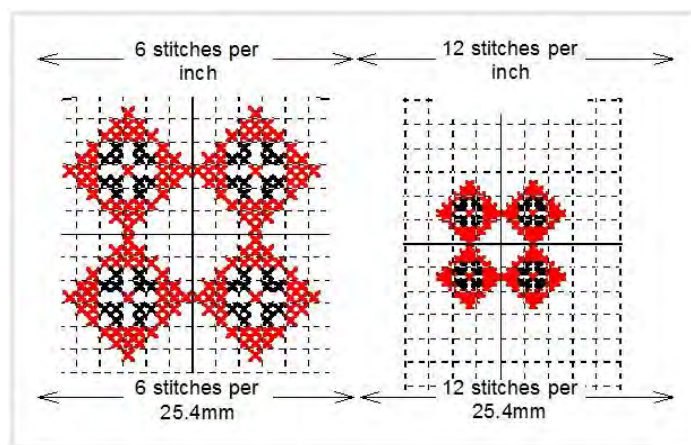
- Select Special > Fabric Count.



- Select the fabric count option - inches or millimeters:
 - Number of stitches per inch: the fewer stitches per inch, the bigger the resulting design.
 - Number of millimeters per number of stitches: because a cross stitch is bigger than a millimeter, you can adjust the mm and stitch settings in relation to each other. The higher the mm value, or smaller the stitch value, the bigger the design.

By clicking Update, you get an immediate conversion of any values you have entered. For example, change the stitches per inch value, click Update, and the corresponding stitches per mm value will be updated. You will see the result onscreen when a hoop is on.

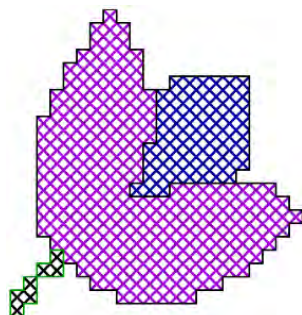
- Click OK.



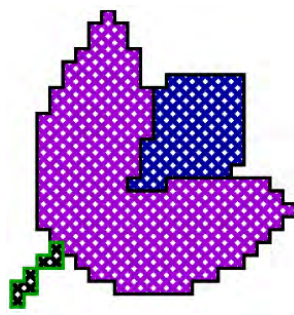
Set stitch density

Threads: Use the Cross Stitch > Threads list to set stitch density.

You can adjust the density of a cross stitch by stitching it once, twice or three times. The number of 'crossovers' correspond to the values 2, 4 and 6 in the Threads list. You can change these values at any time. To set the stitch density, select a value from the Threads droplist. The value '2' corresponds to a single stitch, '4' is double, while '6' is triple. This is represented on screen by line thickness.



Thread count



Thread count 6

Notes:

- If you make a design smaller to fit inside the hoop, stitches may be stacked on top of each other and pull the fabric. You can avoid this problem by reducing the number of crossovers to single (2 threads) for both fills and outlines. You can also use a thinner weight thread.
- If you create a design where every square has a stitch, remember to baste and stabilize the fabric.
- When you move your mouse over the stitch, a tooltip will tell you the type and color of stitch used.

FILLS & OUTLINES

Cross Stitch provides the full range of cross stitch types which you can use to create outlines and fills of any color. You can also control the orientation of fractional cross stitches to create different patterning effects.

Select line stitch type



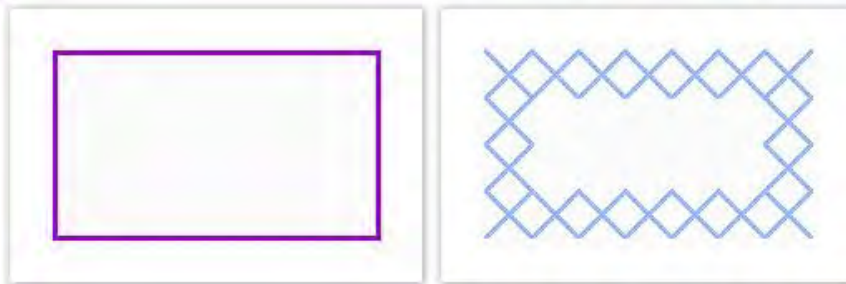
Select Cross Stitch > Single Line for a single line.



Select Cross Stitch > Full Cross for lines of crosses.

There are two types of line stitch, Single Line and Full Cross, available from the Cross Stitch toolbar. Select a cross stitch type before clicking the Full Cross icon.

- To select a line stitch type, select a color from the color palette.
- Select Single Line or Full Cross from the Cross Stitch toolbar. New stitches will be digitized as single lines or crosses. If you are using Full Cross, the currently selected cross stitch type applies.



Depending on the stitch type you select, you can set the direction of the stitch.

Select fill stitch type



Select Cross Stitch > Full for full crosses.



Select Cross Stitch > 3/4 for three quarter crosses.







Select Cross Stitch > 1/2 for half crosses.



Select Cross Stitch > 1/4 for quarter crosses.



Select Cross Stitch > Upright Cross for upright crosses.

-  Select Cross Stitch > Double Cross for double crosses.
-  Select Cross Stitch > French Knot for French knots
-  Select Cross Stitch > Elongated Vertical Cross for vertical crosses.
-  Select Cross Stitch > Elongated Horizontal Cross for horizontal crosses.

Fill stitches are all cross stitches. Choose from among the following types – Full Cross, Three-quarter Cross, Half Cross, Quarter Cross, Mini Cross, Upright Cross, Double Cross, Elongated Vertical Cross, and Elongated Horizontal Cross. Fractional cross stitches – $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{1}{2}$, or $\frac{3}{4}$ – can be combined to make crosses comprised of multiple colors. You can also combine mini crosses, elongated vertical or horizontal crosses and outline stitches. To select a fill stitch...

- Select a color from the color palette.
- Select a cross stitch type from the Cross Stitch toolbar. Selected and new stitches will be digitized as that stitch type.

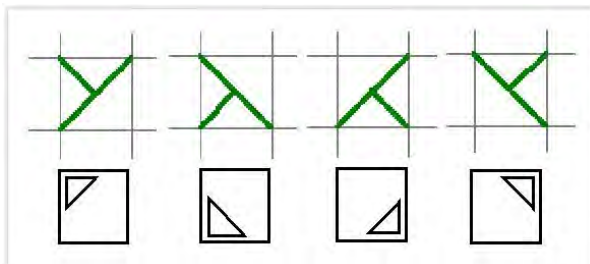


Depending on the stitch type you select, you can specify the stitch orientation.

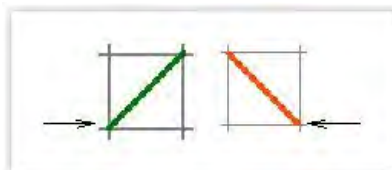
Setting cross stitch orientation

You can control the orientation of fractional cross stitches to create different patterning effects. When digitizing individual stitches, you do this directly pixel-by-pixel.

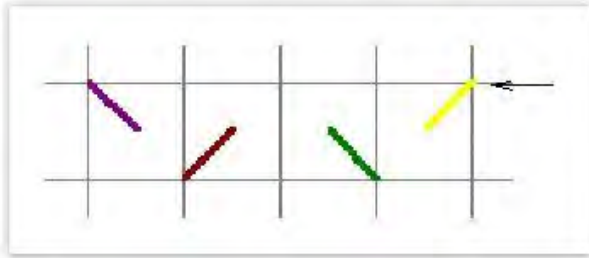
- To create three-quarter cross stitches, click the corner where you want the quarter stitch to be.



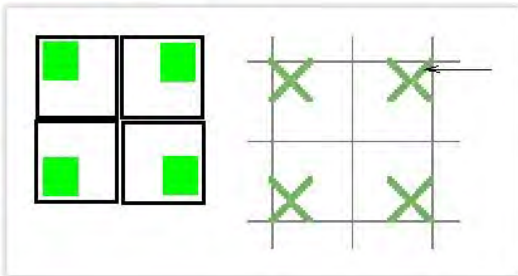
- To create half cross stitches, click the corner where you want your stitch to star.



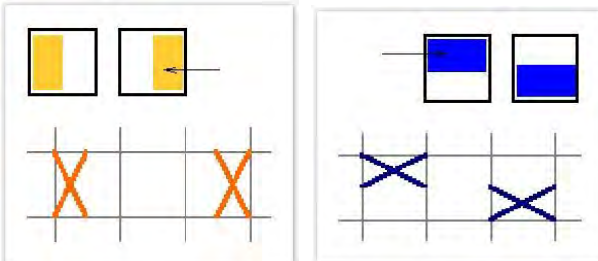
- To create quarter cross stitches, click the corner where you want your stitch to start.



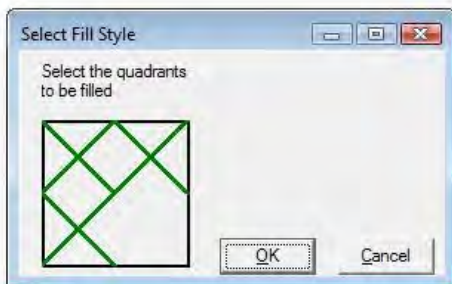
- To create mini cross stitches, click the corner where you want to place the stitch.



- To create vertical elongated cross stitches, click the side where you want to place the stitch.



- When digitizing a fill, you do so via the Select Fill Style dialog. The method is the same. Click the quadrant to be filled.



DIGITIZE CROSS STITCHING

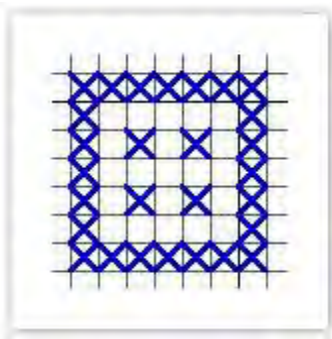
You can digitize a single stitch or line of stitches. Depending on the stitch type you select, you must also set the stitch direction.

Digitize single stitch or line



Use Input > Pencil to draw a single stitch or line of stitches.

- Click the Single Line or Full Cross icon.
- If you are using Full Cross, the currently selected cross stitch type applies.
- Select a color from the color palette.
- Click the Pencil icon.
- Click a square to make a single stitch, or click and drag the pencil to make a line.
- Press <Ctrl> and drag to draw straight vertical lines.



You can also use the Pencil tool to create combinations of partial crosses comprised of multiple colors.

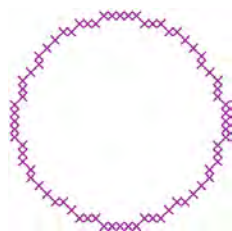
Digitize circles



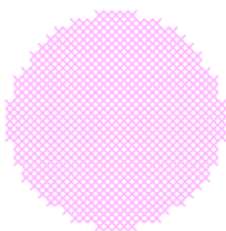
Use Circle (Input toolbar) to draw and digitize ovals or circles.

The Circle tool provides a quick way to digitize filled or unfilled circles. To digitize circles...

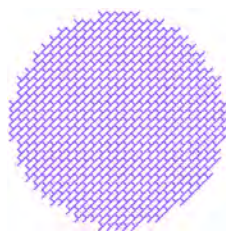
- Click the Circle icon.
- Select a color from the color palette.
- Select an Outline or Fill stitch type.
- Mark the center point then mark a point on the circumference. If you want a perfect circle, press <Enter>. If you want an ellipse, mark a third reference point.
- The circle or oval is filled or outlined according to the stitch type selected.



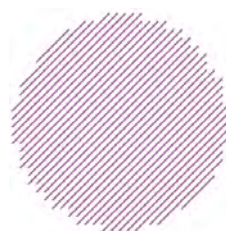
Full cross border



Full cross fill



Three-quarter cross fill



Half cross fill

Digitize open and closed shapes



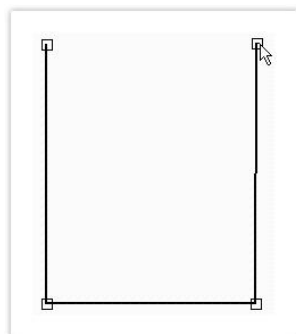
Use Input > Cross Stitch Run to draw and digitize open shapes.



Use Input > Cross Stitch Fill to draw and digitize closed shapes.

You can create outlines or borders using the Cross Stitch Run tool, filled shapes using Cross Stitch Fill. Select an outline stitch for unfilled shapes and a fill stitch for filled shapes. To digitize an open or closed shape...

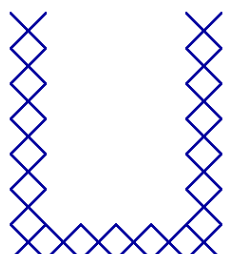
- Click the Cross Stitch Fill or Cross Stitch Run icon.
- Select a color from the color palette.
- Select an Outline or Fill stitch type.
- Mark reference points on your design. Left-click for sharp corners, right-click for round corners.



- Press <Enter>. The shape is filled or outlined depending on the stitch type selected.



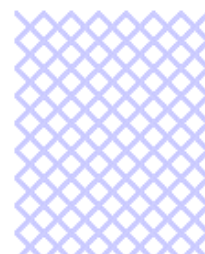
Single-line outline stitch
with Cross Stitch Run



Full cross outline stitch
with Cross Stitch Run



Single-line outline stitch
with Cross Stitch Fill



Full cross fill stitch with
Cross Stitch Fill

Flood-fill color blocks



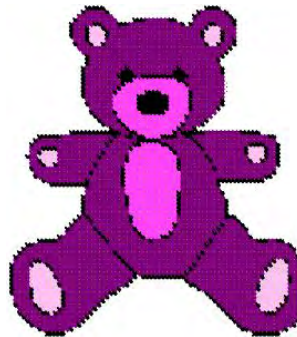
Use Input > Flood Fill to fill a closed shape or color block with stitches.

Fill closed areas with stitches using Flood Fill. You can also use the tool to change the color and stitch type of Full Cross outlines. To flood-fill color block...

- Select a color from the color palette.
- Select a fill stitch type.
- Click the Flood Fill icon.
- Click within a closed area. The shape is flood-filled in the selected stitch type and color.



Digitized using Auto Stitch Image



Colors changed using Flood Fill

Flood Fill will not work within single line outlines. Some shapes with angled sides may not fill correctly. Also, it only works with cross stitches. Flood Fill will not work with bitmap images used as backdrops.

FILE HANDLING

Cross stitch designs have their own EMX file format. This can be read by Embroidery Software. You can also combine EMX with designs in other formats.

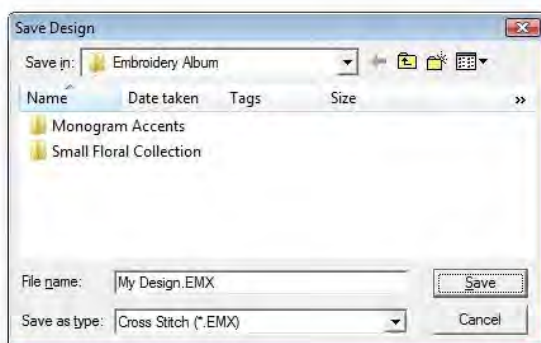
Save cross stitch designs



Use Standard > Save Design to save the current design.

Save your designs early and often. Use the EMX extension for saving cross stitch files.

- Click the Save icon or select File > Save. If this is the first time you have saved the design, the Save Design dialog opens. The file is saved as an EMX file.

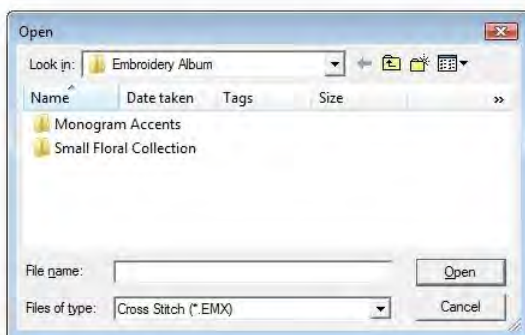


- Type a new name for the design and click Save.

Combine cross stitch with embroidery

To include cross stitch in your EMB designs, you need to save and close any cross stitch designs as EMX then open them in your design software.

- Save your design as EMX.
- Open Embroidery Software.
- Select File > Open.



- Select EMX as the file type and locate the cross stitch file you want to open.
- Click Open.



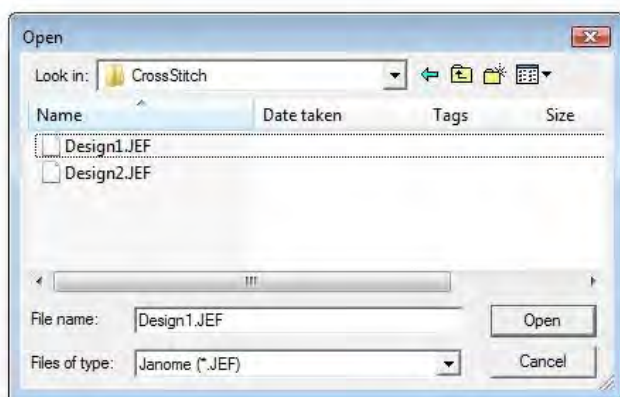
Open designs in Cross Stitch



Use Standard > Open Design to open an existing embroidery design.

Cross Stitch can open EMB files which you can include in your cross stitch designs.

- Click the Open icon. The Open dialog opens.



- Select EMB as the file type and locate the cross stitch file you want to open.
- Click Open.

EDIT CROSS STITCHES

In order to edit an area of a design, you must first select it. Cross Stitch provides a number of ways to select cross stitches. It lets you change the color or stitch type of selected stitch blocks at any time. You can also remove stitches at any time. It also lets you lock cross stitches and/or outlines so that they are not moved or edited by accident. Cross Stitch also lets you perform various transformations on selected blocks of cross stitches. You can move them, rotate them in a clockwise or counter-clockwise direction. You can also mirror blocks of cross stitches either horizontally or vertically.

Select stitches



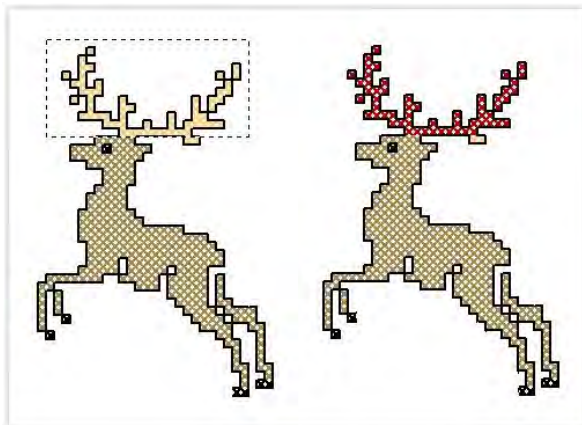
Use Edit > Select to select a single stitch or block of stitches.



Use Edit > Auto Select to select a single color block or an undigitized area.

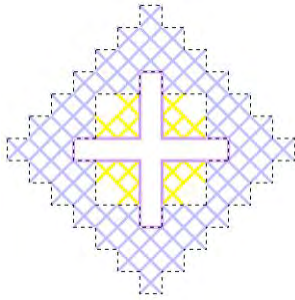
The Select and Polygon Select tools work in a similar way to Embroidery Software. The difference is that in Cross Stitch you work with stitch blocks or areas rather than objects. Auto Select allows you to select a single color block or closed area. Only adjoining stitches of the same color are selected.

- With the Select tool selected, simply drag a bounding box around the area you want.
- With the Polygon Select tool selected, mark reference points around the area and press <Enter>.
- Hold down <Ctrl> to select multiple areas.

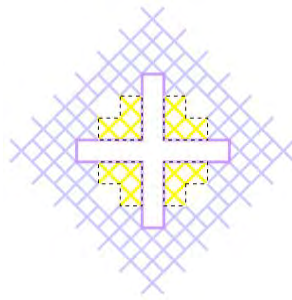


To select cross stitches with Auto Select...

- Click the Auto Select icon.
- Click a block of stitches. Only adjoining stitches of that color are selected.
- Hold down <Ctrl> to select multiple blocks.



Color block selected



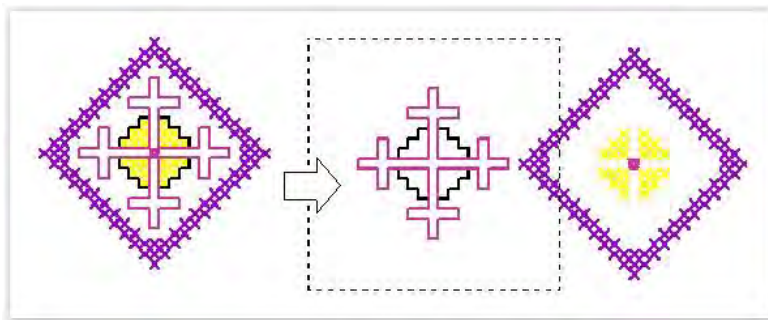
Hold down <Ctrl> to select yellow color blocks

The feature won't work with fractional stitches – i.e. stitches which do not fill all four quadrants of the square.

Lock stitches

You can lock cross stitches and/or outlines so that they are not moved or edited by accident.

- Select Edit > Crosses or Edit > Outlines. When Crosses is ticked in the menu, cross stitches can be moved. Likewise, when Outlines is ticked, outlines can be moved.
- Select an area and click and drag to move stitches.



- Select Crosses or Outlines again to uncheck it and lock all crosses or outlines.

Manipulate stitch blocks



Use Edit > Rotate Selection to rotate selected stitches. Click to rotate clockwise.



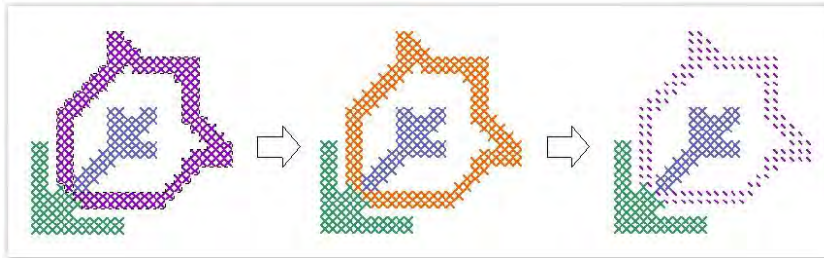
Click Edit > Mirror Selection Horizontally to mirror selected stitches horizontally.



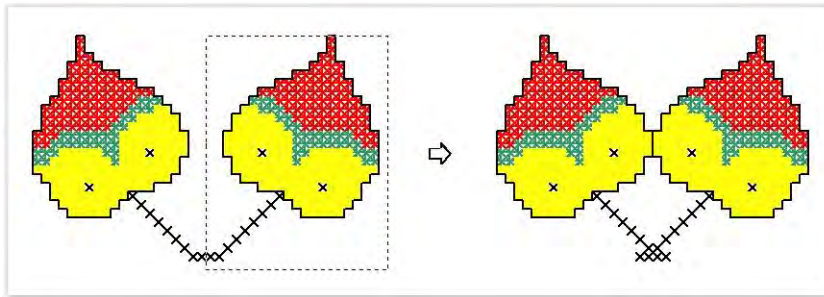
Click Edit > Mirror Selection Vertically to mirror selected stitches vertically.

You can change the color and/or stitch type of selected stitch blocks at any time. To change stitch block settings...

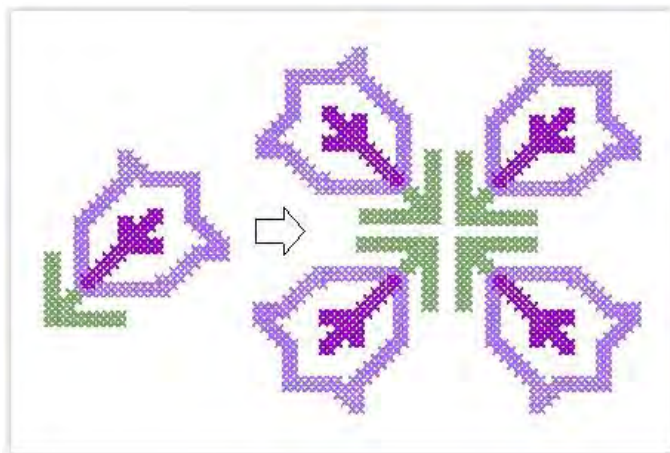
- Use Auto Select to select stitch block/s. Hold down <Ctrl> to select multiple blocks.
- Select a new color from the palette or new stitch type from the Cross Stitch toolbar.



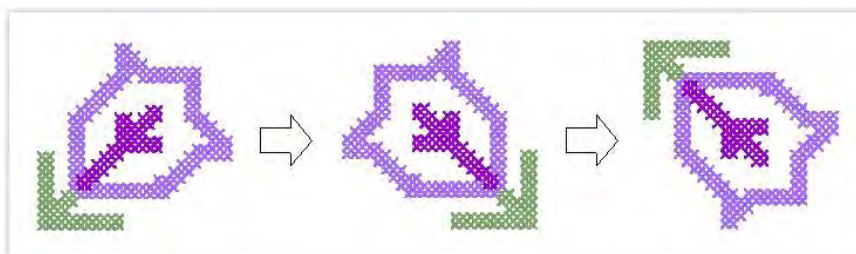
- To move a selection, simply drag & drop to a new location.



- Duplicate and rotate blocks of stitches to make patterns. Simply select the block to rotate and click the Rotate Selection icon.



- Mirror blocks of stitches horizontally or vertically. Simply select the block and click a Mirror Selection icon.



- Press <Esc> to deselect area/s.

Copy, cut & paste stitch blocks



Use Standard > Copy to copy selected stitch blocks to the clipboard.



Use Standard > Cut to cut selected stitch blocks to the clipboard.



Use Standard > Paste to paste copied stitch blocks from the clipboard.

In Cross Stitch you work with stitch blocks or areas rather than design objects. You can copy, cut and paste selected stitch blocks at any time.

- Select the stitch block to copy or cut.
- Click the Copy or Cut icon. The selected area or areas are copied to the clipboard.
- Click the Paste icon. The duplicate area is pasted over top of the selected area.
- Click and drag to move the pasted stitch block.



Duplicate and rotate blocks of stitches to make patterns.

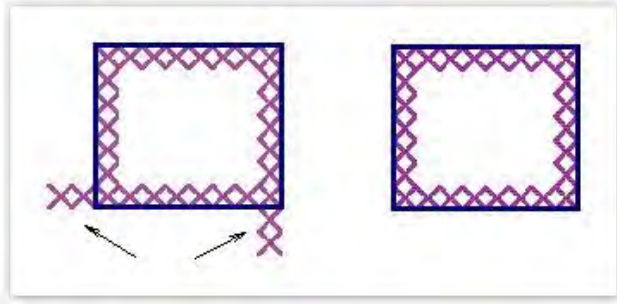
Erase fills & lines



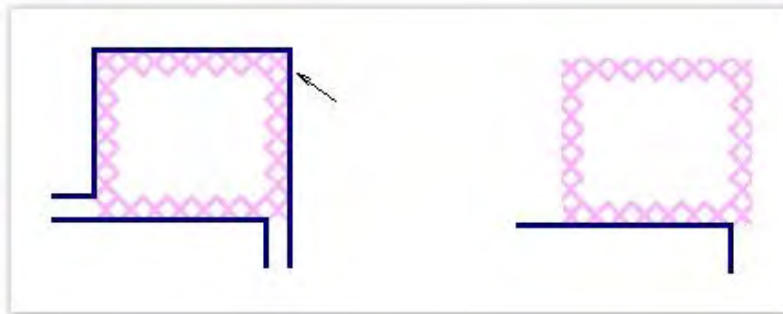
Use Input > Eraser to erase fills and single lines.

Use the Eraser tool to remove stitches. This will remove either fill stitches or single line borders depending on the stitch type selected. Cross-stitched borders are treated as fill stitches.

- Click the Eraser icon.
- Click Full Cross on the Cross Stitch toolbar.
- Click and drag the cursor across the stitches you want to remove. Only fill stitches are removed. Single line borders remain. You can also erase cross stitches by selecting them and pressing the <Delete> key.



- Click Single Line on the Cross Stitch toolbar.
- Click anywhere on a single line. The line is removed. Cross stitches remain. A single line border is removed in one click.



SPECIAL EDITING

Cross Stitch provides a number of editing techniques which are especially helpful for cross stitch digitizing. You can clone a selection for re-use as a 'rubber stamp' and fill large areas with motifs or special composite stitches. You can combine fractional cross stitches in a variety of ways. You can also add a cross stitch border or a single line border, or both, to areas of a design.

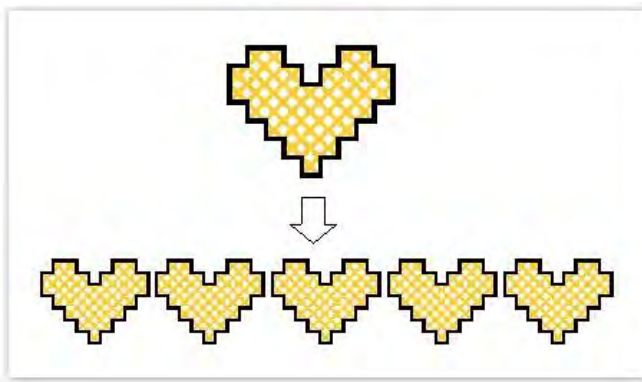
Clone stitch fills



Use Edit > Rubber Stamp to clone a selection for re-use as a 'rubber stamp'.

Clone a selection for re-use as a 'rubber stamp' and fill large areas with motifs or special composite stitches.

- Select the area to be cloned.
- Click the Rubber Stamp icon. The selected area is copied and attached to the pointer.
- Click to place the stamp as many times as you want.



- Press <Esc> or select another icon to turn off Rubber Stamp.

Create combination stitches



Use Input > Pencil to draw a single stitch or line of stitches.



Select Cross Stitch > 3/4 for three quarter crosses.



Select Cross Stitch > 1/2 for half crosses.



Select Cross Stitch > 1/4 for quarter crosses.



Select Cross Stitch > Mini Cross for mini crosses.



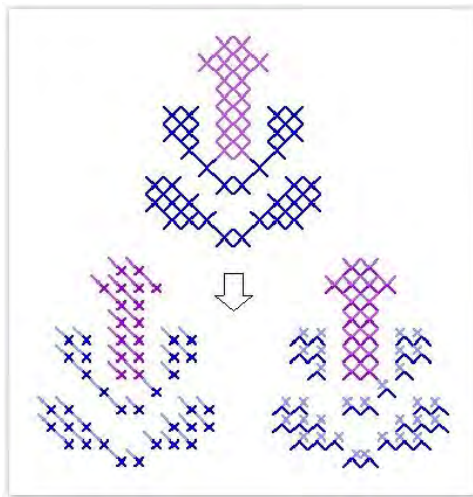
Select Cross Stitch > Elongated Vertical Cross for vertical crosses.



Select Cross Stitch > Elongated Horizontal Cross for horizontal crosses.

Fractional cross stitches – $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{1}{2}$, or $\frac{3}{4}$ – can be combined to make crosses comprised of multiple colors. You can also combine mini crosses, elongated vertical or horizontal crosses and outline stitches.

- Select a suitable stitch type.
- Select a color from the color palette.
- Click the Pencil icon.
- Click where you want the stitch to be inserted.
- Repeat as many times as needed.



Add borders to selected areas



Select Cross Stitch > Single Line for a single line.



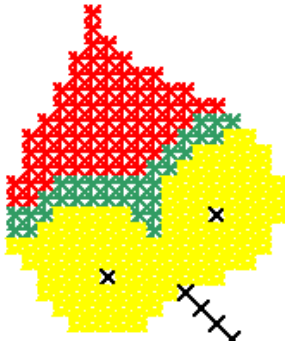
Select Cross Stitch > Full Cross for lines of crosses.



Use Input > Flood Fill to fill a closed shape or color block with stitches.

Add a cross stitch border or a single line border, or both, to selected areas of a design.

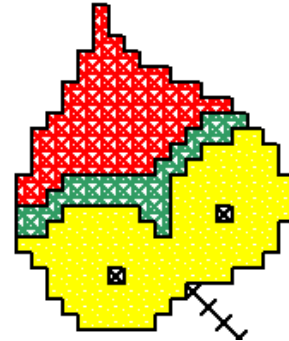
- Select either the Single Line or Full Cross icon.
- Click the Flood Fill icon and click inside an area. A line of outline stitches is added around the edges of the selection.
- Click again in the selection to add another line of crosses inside the first line.



No border



Mini cross stitch border



Single line border

- To combine a cross stitch with a line border, select Full Cross stitch type and Flood Fill, then select Single Line and Flood Fill again.

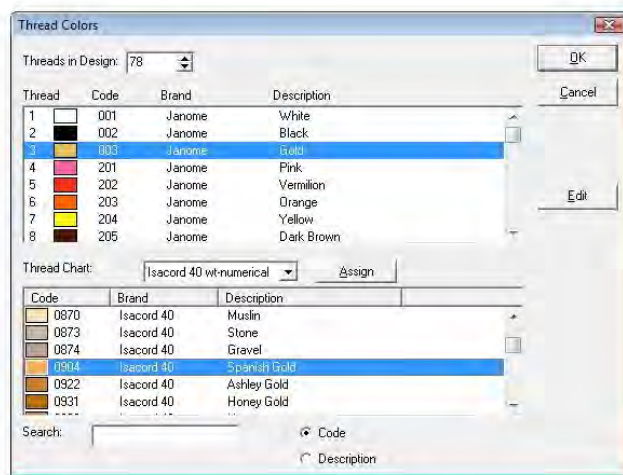
THREAD COLORS

Cross Stitch lets you change thread colors of an existing design. You can also mix your own colors to more closely match the required design colors. Bear in mind that the representations of commercial thread charts are approximate. Computer simulations are not intended to exactly match the identified thread color.

Change thread colors

Cross Stitch lets you re-assign design colors using the design's thread chart. You can choose colors from pre-defined thread charts or mix your own.

- Select Edit > Colorways. The Thread Colors dialog opens.



- Enter the total number of colors you want to use in the Threads in Design field. Color palettes are limited to 128 colors. 36 will fit comfortably at 800 x 600 resolution.
- Select a thread chart from the Thread Chart list.
- In the upper panel, select the thread color to change. To mix your own color, use the Edit button.
- In the lower panel, select the new thread color and click Assign. To find a required color, search using the Search field.

Search for threads

You can search for threads by code or description in the Thread Colors dialog.

- Select Edit > Colorways. The Thread Colors dialog opens.
- Select a thread chart from the Thread Chart list.
- Select either Code or Description to search on. Code is the identification number of a thread color in a brand.

- In the Search field, key in the first few characters of the required code or description. As you type, the cursor will highlight the closest match in the thread chart.
- Scroll through the list to find the exact shade you want. Check your threads and select the color according to whatever shade most closely matches the color in the chart.

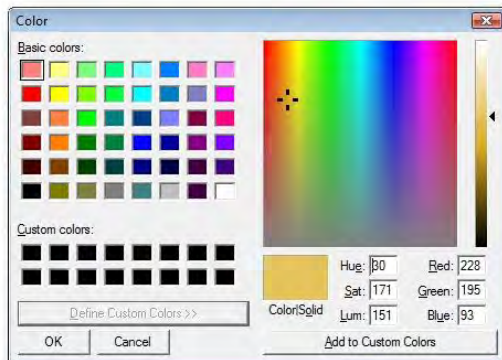
Edit thread colors

You can edit the existing colors in a design without selecting a new color from a thread chart.

- Select Edit > Colorways. The Thread Colors dialog opens.
- In the upper panel, select the thread color to edit.
- Click Edit. The Edit Thread dialog opens.



- Enter code, brand, and description details for the thread color. Code is the identification number of a thread color in a brand.
- Click Mix. The Color dialog opens.



- From the Basic colors table, select a color that closely matches the color you require.
- Click and drag the cross hairs on the color spectrum to get the exact color.
- Drag the slider on the right of the color spectrum to adjust color brightness. The HLS and RGB values appear in the bottom right-hand corner of the Color dialog. Enter these values directly to define exact colors.
- When you have mixed the required color, click Add to Custom Colors.
- Click OK. The new color appears in the Color preview box.
- Click OK. The new color appears in the Threads list.

BACKDROPS

Bitmap images can be inserted, pasted or scanned into Cross Stitch for use as digitizing backdrops. You can digitize backdrop images automatically using Auto Stitch Image. Use solid color bitmaps to make suitable color blocks for cross stitches.

Insert images

You can insert bitmap images of various formats for use as digitizing backdrops.

- Select Insert > Drawing File. The Open dialog opens.



- Select a file type from the Files of Type list - e.g. BMP - and navigate to the file location.
- Select the artwork and click Open.

View or hide backdrops



Click Standard > Picture to show or hide the picture.

You can show or hide a bitmap backdrop temporarily while you digitize.

- Click the Picture icon to show the image.
- Click it again to hide the image.

Scale & reshape images

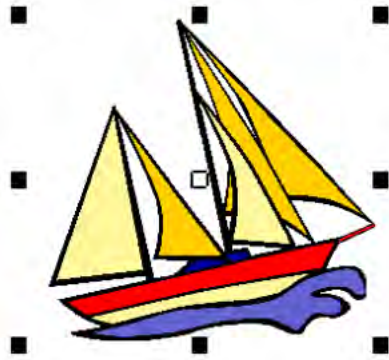


Use Edit > Select to select a single stitch or block of stitches.

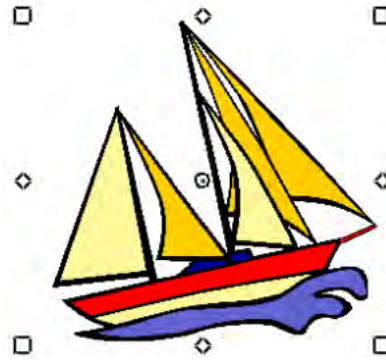
You can scale and reshape images once they are loaded into Cross Stitch. However, if an image needs to be resized or rotated, it is best to do so during scanning. Scaling afterwards may distort the image.

- Insert the image in the normal way.
- Click the Select icon.

- Holding down the <Alt> key, click the image.
- Click and drag resizing handles to scale the image as you would any other object.

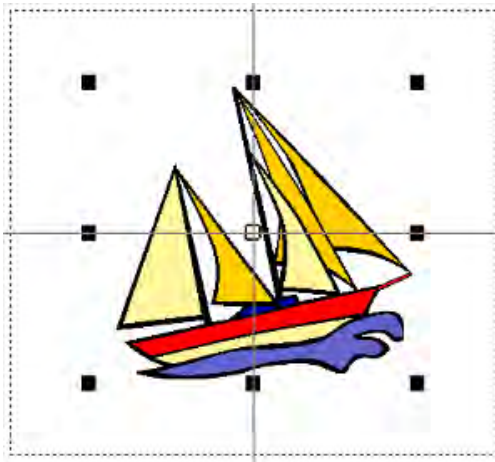


Resizing handles

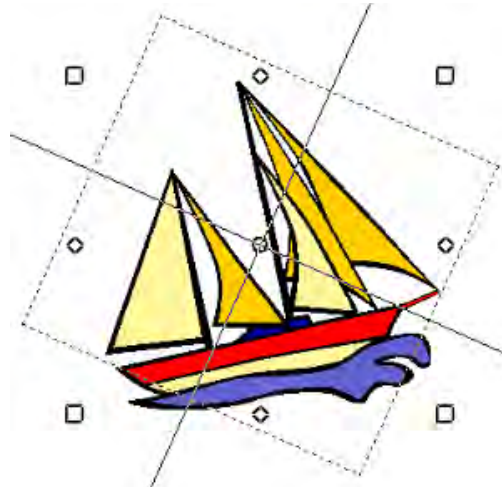


Transformation handles

- Still holding down the <Alt> key, click the image again. Transformation handles appear. Click and drag these to rotate or shear the image.



Resize image



Transform image

AUTO-DIGITIZE CROSS STITCH

Digitize the entire backdrop image automatically using Auto Stitch Image. Alternatively, using Click-to-Stitch, you can create cross stitch fills from colored sections of a picture.

Digitize with Auto Stitch Image



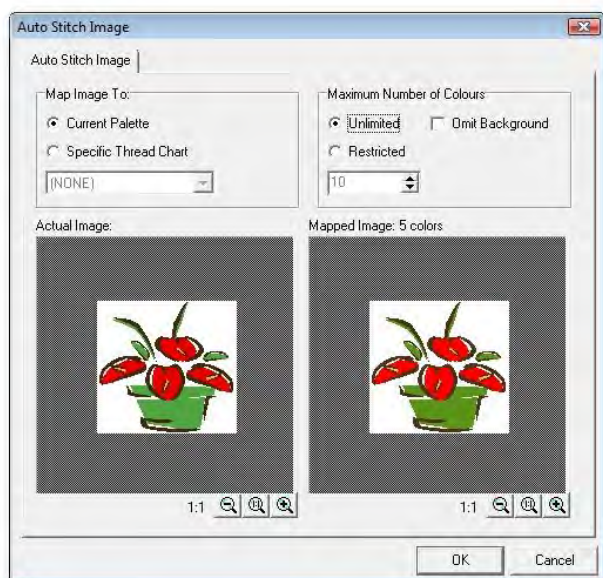
Use Input > Auto Stitch Image to automatically create cross stitch designs from pictures.

Digitize the entire backdrop image automatically using Auto Stitch Image. You can change the stitch type manually later as required.

- Prepare your image in a third party paint program as necessary.
- Insert using Insert > Drawing File.



- Click the Auto Stitch Image icon and click the image. The Auto Stitch Image dialog opens.



- Select to map the picture colors to:

Option	Purpose
Current palette	Only colors in the current palette are used.
Specific thread chart	Only colors in a selected thread chart are used.



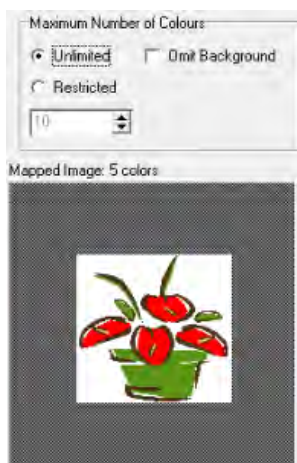
Current palette: default

Selected thread chart:
SakuraSelected thread chart:
Madeira40-shades

- Specify the maximum number of colors to be used:

Option	Purpose
Unlimited	Thread colors will be allocated according to the number of colors in the palette selected in the first dialog.
Restricted	Enter the number of colors you want to use.
Omit background	Select to omit the background color.

The results display in the preview pane.



Unlimited maximum colors selected



Restricted maximum colors selected

- Click OK. The image is digitized. You may need to touch up some areas manually. Auto Stitch Image is disabled if no picture is loaded.



Unlimited maximum colors selected



Three colors selected

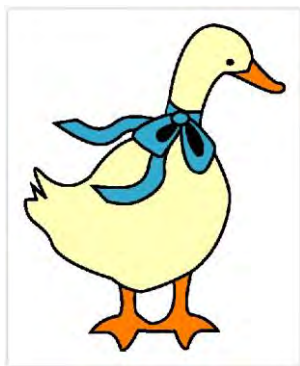
Digitize with Click-to-Stitch



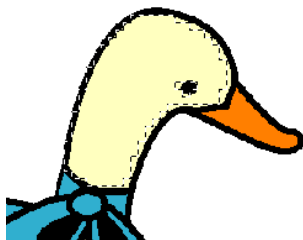
Use Input > Click-to-Stitch to create cross stitches from a colored area of a picture.

Using Click-to-Stitch, you can create cross stitch fills from colored sections of a picture. Click-to-Stitch works with both fill stitches and outlines.

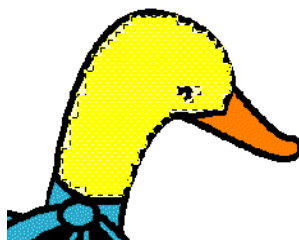
- Prepare your image as necessary. Use a third party paint program to clean up the image.
- Use Insert > Drawing File to load a picture.



- Select Click-to-Stitch.
- Select a cross stitch type and a color from the palette.
- Click a colored block in your picture. All areas of that color are digitized in the selected color. The Click-to-Stitch selects and digitizes all blocks of that color from your picture. You can change the stitch type and color later if you want.



Area selected



Selected area digitized

DIGITIZE CROSS STITCH LETTERING



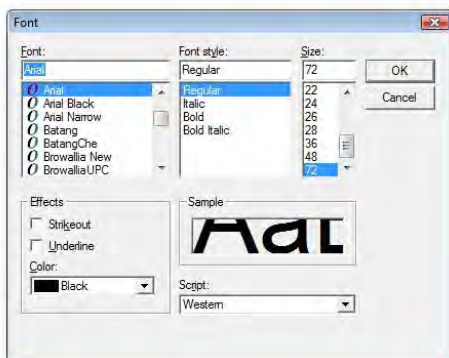
Use Lettering (Input toolbar) to add letters to your design. Right-click Lettering to open the Font dialog.

The Cross Stitch application lets you add lettering to a design by typing it directly in the design window. Use the Font dialog to select font, size and style. You can use any TrueType font installed on your system. Once typed, you cannot edit letters. Each letter is treated as a stitch block.

Generally, larger, bolder block fonts will convert to cross stitches better than fine, serif or script fonts. The font size you choose will depend on the cross stitch size you select. For example, using a 1.8mm cross you may be able to use a font size of, say, 24 points, depending on font characteristics. In all cases, carefully check the density of the cross stitches when you view the text on-screen.



- Right-click Lettering. The Font dialog opens.



- Select a font type, style and size and click OK.



Regular font



Italic font



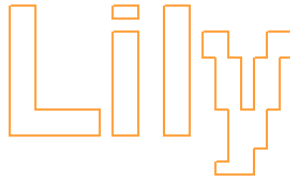
Bold font



- Select a line stitch type - fill or outline.
- Set stitch density as required.
- Click a start point in the design window, type the letters and press <Enter>.



Fill stitches



Outline stitches

- To edit letters, use the Select tool with the <Ctrl> key to select, then change the stitch type or color as required.

For finer detail, try using Mini Cross stitch type.