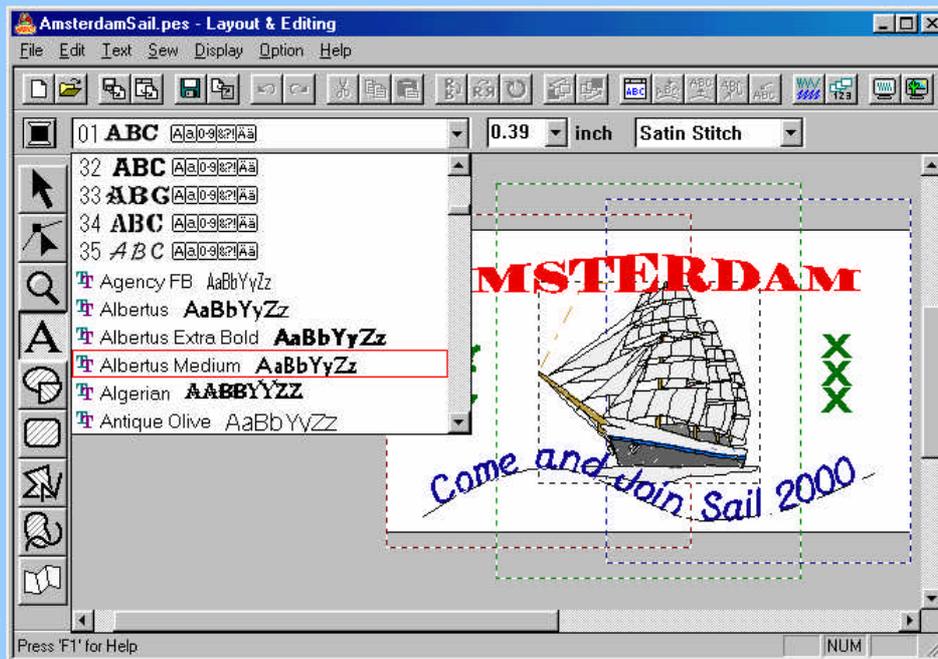


PE-DESIGN III

CD-BOOK



*Addendum to update the Multimedia Step-by-Step Guide
for PE-Design®, DecoWizard® and Paletté® to V3.0
by
Loes van der Heijden*

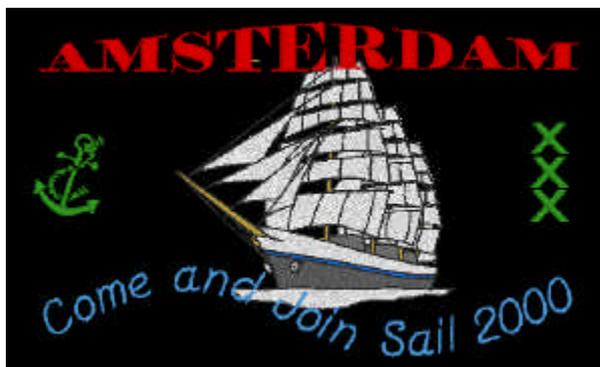
Version 3.0

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Addendum to PE-Design II CD Book

All about the Version 3 software

INTRODUCTION



Welcome to this addendum to my PE-Design II CD-Book. Here you will learn all about the new features of the version 3.0 PE-Design® / DecoWizard® / Paletté® software, to keep your CD-Book up-to-date!

The most outstanding new features are the ability to use every True Type Font installed on your computer for your lettering-designs and the possibility to export to *.hus, *.pcs, *.dst and *.exp-format. But also those other tiny little things are worth mentioning here: to be able to use the arrow keys of your keyboard to move selected parts of a design, which gives you more control. And using your Tab-key in Layout & Editing is a turbo-way of checking the sewing order or reaching parts of a design covered by other parts! Or how about absolute control over resizing and rotating objects by typing in numerical values, or the Realistic Preview, that can even be changed to your own preferences, or....

Well, I know you don't want a list of the new features; you want to use them. So, let's start!

Print this document and follow the step-by-step exercises in the next chapters to learn all about the new version 3 features in the best possible way to learn anything: by using it! If you are a beginner in this software, don't let the amount of text in the following chapters scare you off! In the chapters I am explaining the how, why, when and where of the various options. Once you have read all of the text, you will understand the features and then using them is a breeze!

Enjoy!
April 2000, Loes van der Heijden
<http://www.artistitch.com>

Addendum to PE-Design II CD Book

All about the Version 3 software

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The screen captures displayed are used with the permission of the owner of the screen captures out of the PE-Design software: Brother Industries, Ltd. Japan.

Addendum to PE-Design II CD Book

Chapter 1 – True Type Fonts

CHAPTER 1 - True Type Fonts

Layout & Editing has now access to two types of fonts: the 35 fonts that come with the software, plus every True Type Font (TTF) that is installed on your computer. There is a difference between those 2 types:

1. The first 35 fonts, installed with the PE-Design software, contain stitch information and were manually digitized for you, character by character, practically stitch by stitch, where the stitch angle of most fonts will follow the shape of the letter.
2. The True Type Fonts are Windows fonts, that are installed on your computer, outside the embroidery program. Windows itself has a number of fonts, and installing a word processor or graphics program, or even a printer, will also add True Type Fonts to your computer system.

These True Type Fonts do not contain stitch information, but the Version 3 software is capable of generating stitch information from these installed fonts.

The incredible thing is that the stitch direction runs along with the shape of the letters, without any digitizer telling the computer how to set the stitch angle – amazing!

Well, knowing the difference: 35 fonts digitized by professionals, character by character, setting the stitch direction in an optimal angle, or hundreds of fonts digitized by your computer “on the fly”, will make you understand that not every TTF you have on your computer will be suitable to convert into stitches. So, always, always sew a sample of your text designs first!

Exercise 1 – Digitizing a text with a transform effect for the Jumbo-Hoop

For this exercise I am assuming that you are familiar with digitizing text in the previous version of the software. After all, this is an addendum to my CD-Book and I do hope that you all read that, followed the exercises and watched the movies ☺

So we'll move on to make a text with a transform effect for the Jumbo-hoop, to be sewn in 2 parts.

Step 1 - Setting up the work area

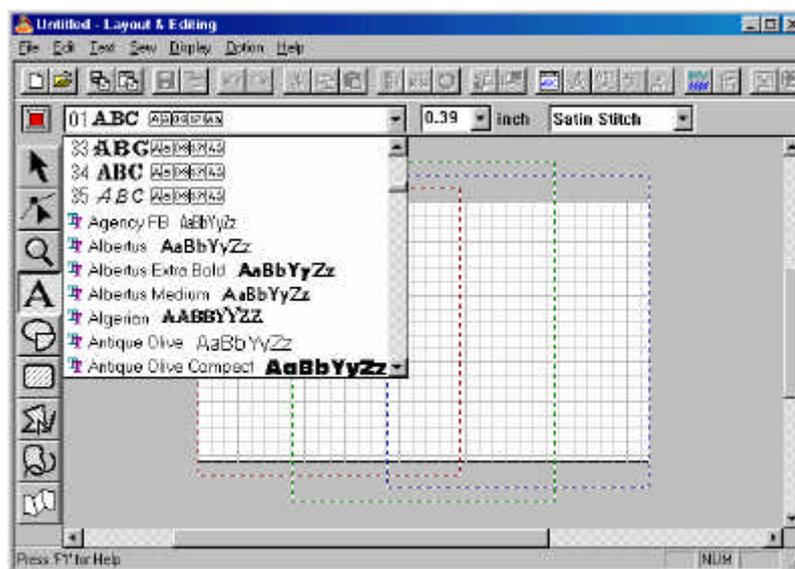
Start Layout & Editing and choose Option – Design Page Property. Select the jumbo-hoop (marked with *) suitable for your machine, in landscape orientation.

Click the A-button in the Tool box to start digitizing a text-object. Click the spool in the Sewing Attributes bar and select a color.

Click the little arrow next to the Font-list and choose one of the True Type Fonts on your computer – you will find these by scrolling down the Font-list. Select a font by clicking it's name.

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Chapter 1 – True Type Fonts



Step 2 – Type the first half of the text

Click in the design page area; the Edit text box pops up. Remember: you want this text to be real big, bigger than your machine can sew in one part – that means that your machine needs two separate design-parts, so first thing to do is to digitize the text in two parts. In this example the text is “Amsterdam”. Type the first half of the text: AMSTE, click OK. In the status bar (lower part of your screen) you will see the stitch generation process – the True Type Font is being transformed into stitches at this moment.

Step 3 – Type the second half of the text

Click in the design page area, next to the first part of the text and type the second half of the text in the Edit Text box. Note: the first half was 5 characters, and the second half is only 4. Normally this is no problem, but when applying two combined text transform effects it is better to have two objects of the same size. Therefore, press the spacebar 3 times, to make up for the extra character, and type RDAM. Click OK.

Step 4 – Move, line-up and resize the two parts



To do this, use some of the other new features in Version 3: Activate the Selection tool and select one of the objects. Use the arrow keys of your keyboard to move the object and align it to the other part.

With both objects selected together, choose Edit > Numerical Setting > Size. Click the radio button in front of the inch or mm size and type the desired value in the box at the right (make sure that a check mark is placed in the aspect-box to resize the objects proportionally). Click Preview to see if the size you entered fits the

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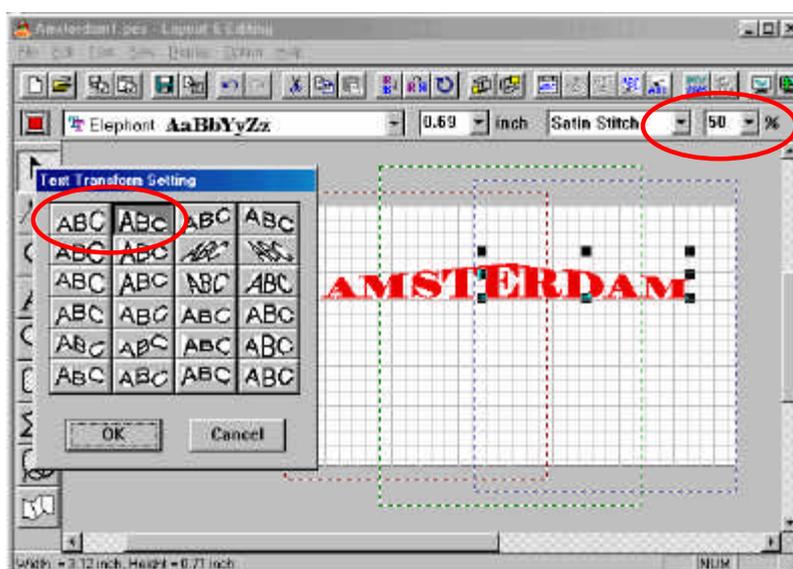
Chapter 1 – True Type Fonts

design page, adjust if necessary and click OK.

Step 5 – Apply a Text Transform effect

Select the first object and click the Transform Effect button in the General Toolbar. You will notice that many of the transform effects come in pairs – each effect has a mirror image, which is perfect for our goal: we can combine 2 effects for the 2 parts of the text, which will make it look like one text, one effect!

Choose an effect and click OK. Select the second half, click the Transform Text button again, choose the mirror effect and click OK.



Don't forget that neat little percentage box in the Sewing Attributes bar: type in a value and press Enter to fine-tune the transform effect.

Step 6 – Align the text objects

If necessary move the objects to align them precisely: either by dragging with the mouse, or by using the arrow keys as you did in step 4, or via a third method (new in version 3): Select both objects together and choose **Edit > Align > Top, Middle or Bottom** to place both objects on the same line. In this case don't use the other options of alignment Left, Center or Right, because that would move the objects on top of each other. If you did, you will be happy with the new Undo button in the General Toolbar.

Step 7 – Check if each part fits it's own design area

As this design has to be sewn in two parts, with different hoop-positions, make sure that the left part of the text fits in the area with the red dotted line and the right part in the area with the blue dotted line!

Addendum to PE-Design II CD Book

Chapter 1 – True Type Fonts

Deselect everything by clicking outside the design area and take a look at the Design Properties (menu Option > Design Property). You will see that the design will be sewn in two parts. Save your design.

In the image below you will find some examples of transform-effect combinations for the two text objects:



I guess you know now where I have been this weekend! ☺

About sharing designs using True Type Fonts

First, to understand this part better, close your design and open it again. When you open it, look at the Status bar at the bottom of your screen: you will see the text “True Type Font in Progress” with the blue progress bar. This means that every time you open a design with a TTF in it, the program converts the True Type Font again into stitches. Consequence of this is that, if you want to share a design using a specific font with someone else, that same font has to be present on the other computer where you want to open the design!

If you don't need to edit the text on the other computer, you can use another new feature in version 3 and Export the design to another format, e.g. *.hus, or *.pcs, or *.dst. In this example you will also have to delete the extra spaces that made the second part of the text as large as the first part (via Text > Edit Text Letters). Exporting is done by choosing File > Export and selecting a file-format and naming the file. Now the text is converted into a regular embroidery design and doesn't need the TTF anymore.

Addendum to PE-Design II CD Book

Chapter 1 – True Type Fonts

Know that by exporting/converting the text-objects into a regular embroidery design, you will lose the ability to edit the text, change transform effects, set it to path etc.

Note on exporting large designs for the Jumbo-Hoop

you will have to export large designs for the Jumbo hoop as two separate parts, because once you export the design, the parts are grouped together and cannot be sent to your machine to sew in two parts. (Cut one part with the scissors button – and choose File > Export, choose a file-format like *.hus and name the file Part 1, click Save, paste the part back, cut the other part and choose File > Export, name it part 2, click Save. Paste it back again and save the original in pes-format).

If you do want to edit the text and be able to use the Jumbo hoop templates on the other computer, you may want to install the used font on that other computer. Here's how to do that:

Installing new fonts

The True Type Fonts in your computer can be accessed via the Windows Start button > Settings > Control Panel > Fonts. This will take you to the folder with all fonts installed on your computer. There you can select a font, copy it via Edit > Copy. Then create a new folder on a diskette and paste the copied font there.

To install a new font: go to the Fonts-folder (Windows Start-button > Settings > Control Panel > Fonts) and choose File > Install new font. Locate the drive and folder which contains the font you want to install, select the font and click Install.

Note: many fonts are copyrighted and may not freely be copied, shared or sold!!

True Type Fonts and the Internet

With this new True Type Font feature in the software a whole new world has opened for all of us, the world of the Font-Hunt!! Do a search on the internet on the keyword "Fonts" and numerous websites with thousands of Fonts will be found. This will keep you off the streets for a while ☺

One of my favorite Font-websites is Ellinor's Font Garden; a site with lots and lots of downloadable true type fonts, where a sample of every font is given as a cute saying or quotation (a couple of hundred quotes on her site, perfect for gifts, aprons, bath towels etc.) The address of this site is <http://www.fontgarden.com> Due to it's great popularity, this site is currently moving to another server, but with a couple of weeks this wealth of inspiration will be up and running again.

A tiny little warning: don't install each and every font you see: fonts take up memory space of your computer and installing hundreds of fonts will slow down your computer for sure!

Addendum to PE-Design II CD Book

Chapter 2 – Two text objects to path

CHAPTER 2 - Two Text Objects to Path

This chapter will teach you how to create a large text design, set on a path, for the jumbo-hoop. This text is, like in the first exercise, also larger than the embroidery area of your machine and has to be sewn in two parts. So, first thing to do is to let your computer know this text consists of two parts by... yep, digitizing it as two separate text objects. At the end of this chapter you will find an exercise to use the vertical text-alignment, also new in this version 3 of the software.

Exercise 2 – Fit two text objects to Path

Step 1 – Digitize the text objects

Click the A-button in the Tool Box, select a color and font of your choice (I used font no. 35) and click in the design page.

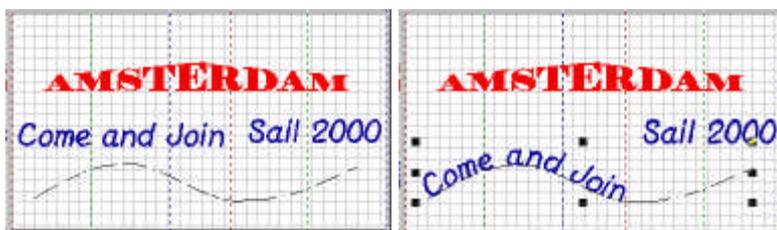
In this example the text is “Come and Join Sail 2000”. Type the first half of the text “Come and Join”, click OK. Click in the design page next to the first half, type “Sail 2000” and click OK.

Step 2 – Digitize the path

Activate the Curve tool, select Open Path, and turn both Line Sew and Region Sew buttons "off". Draw the path for the text with a few clicks.

Step 3 – Fit the first text to path

Select the first text object, hold down shift and select the path, click the button Fit Text to Path, choose the left alignment in the box “Horizontal Alignment” (ABC←) and click OK.



Step 4 – Copy the path for the second text object

Deselect the text by clicking outside the design page and select the path only. Copy the path by clicking the Copy-button in the general Toolbar and paste it by clicking the Paste  button. An exact copy is placed precisely on top of the original.

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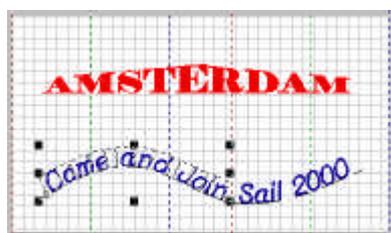
Chapter 2 –Two text objects to path

While this pasted copy is still selected, hold down shift and select the second text-object, click the Fit Text to Path button, choose the align right option in the “Horizontal Alignment” box (—>ABC) and click OK. If you are having difficulties in selecting the path only: take advantage of another new feature in Version 3: use your Tab-key to toggle through the various objects, and look in the Sewing Attributes Bar: as soon as you see “Open Path” and no line and fill colors, the path is selected!

Step 5 – Move the text objects to their proper positions

Deselect by clicking outside the design page.

Select one of the text-objects only (without the path) and drag it to its proper position.



When you select the text object and hold down your left mouse button, you will see little boxes around each letter. As you move the mouse (still with mouse button down) these boxes move along with it, showing you the new position of the letters.

Make sure that the text-object on the left fits inside it's own sewing area, marked by the red dotted template. The text-object on the right has to fit inside the green dotted area.

Exercise 3 – Vertical text alignment



Step 1 – digitize a text

Click the A-button in the Toolbox, select a color and a font for the text and click in the design page. For this example type XXX and click OK. (I used font no. 7).

Step 2 – select the text and change the direction

Select the object and click the Text Attribute Set button in the General Toolbar. Choose the second option in the box “Direction” and click Apply. The text is placed in a vertical direction now, and these three XXX happen to be part of the logo of the City of Amsterdam ☺

Save your design!!

Addendum to PE-Design II CD Book

Chapter 3 – Using the Tab-key

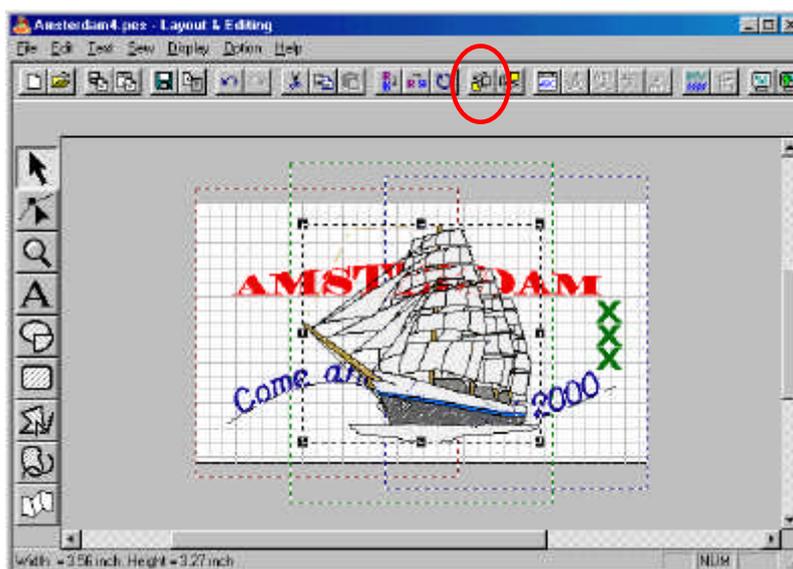
CHAPTER 3 - Using the Tab Key

This chapter will show you how to use the Tab key of your keyboard to quickly select the various objects in the order they were digitized and to change the sewing order or position.

Exercise 4 – Using the Tab Key

Step 1 – Open a design and import another design

Open the design you made in the previous exercises and import another design, via File – Import from File, select the file-format to show “All Files” and select drive and folder where the desired design is located. (In this example I used a design from Embroidery Card no. 12 – Transport). Click Import.



The imported design is placed in the center of the design page, on top of the other objects digitized before.

Step 2 – Set the imported design to sew first

While this design is still selected, set it to sew first by clicking the Sew First button in the General Toolbar (see image above, red oval). I resized this design to 80% (via Edit > Numerical Setting > Size > 80%). This will not change the stitch count, but since this is only a rescaling of 20% the design will sew out fine.

Step 3 – Use the tab key to select and move each object

Sometimes you will notice that design parts are hard to select, because they are covered by other parts. Not with the version 3 anymore: Activate the Select tool and use the tab-key to

Addendum to PE-Design II CD Book

Chapter 3 – Using the Tab-key

toggle through the various digitized parts, in the sewing order. Check the Sewing Attributes bar to see if the selected part is the one you want to change (move, or set to sew first or last, etc.). The text objects AMSTE and RDAM have to move up, to prevent double layers of stitches. So press the Tab key of your keyboard till you see the first text object selected AMSTE (text attribute settings in the Sewing Attributes bar are visible). Use the arrows of your keyboard to move the text to the top of the design page.

Press the tab key again and move the next text object RDAM to the top. Zoom in for better precision.

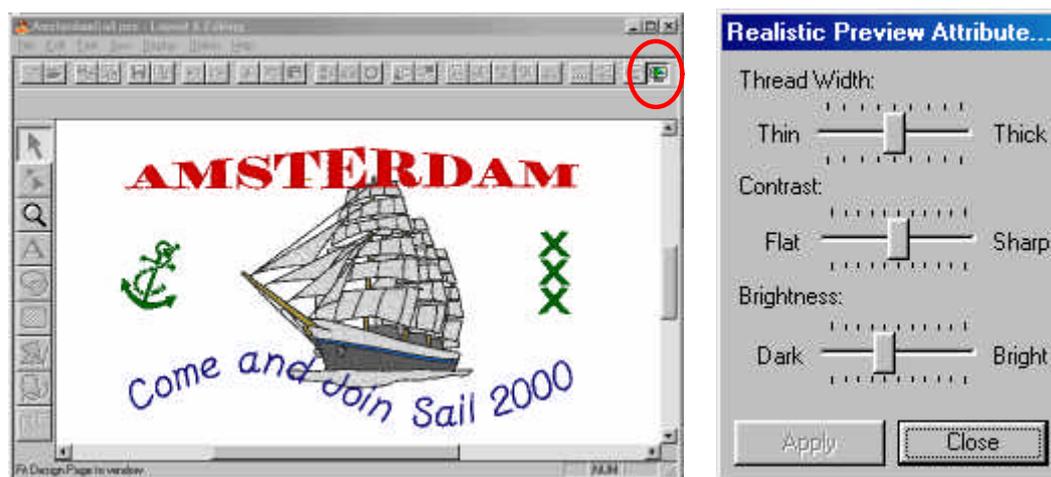
Press the tab key again. This will select the text Come and Join, set to the first path. You will notice that you cannot move this text. To move this text object, you have to select the path, so press the tab key again till the path is selected (Sewing Attributes bar shows only “Open Path”, no line color or stitches). Use the arrow keys to move this object to the bottom of the design page – the text will move, together with the path.

Press the tab key again till the path of the text Sail 2000 is selected and use the arrow keys to move text and path together to line up with the first path.

Step 4 – The finishing touch

As a last object I used a True Type Font called GE Nautica (a so called dingbat font I found on the Internet) to digitize the anchor. Resized it and done!

That's it, you just finished a nice logo for a major event taking place in Amsterdam in the second half of August. So, if you want to see the most beautiful Tall Ships of the world, Amsterdam is the place to be in August 2000 ☺ (about copyrights and stuff: this is not the official logo of the Sail2000 event – this logo is just my imagination).



The new Realistic Preview in the software is awesome. You can see what the design will look like when it's embroidered. You can even change the Preview settings while you're in this Realistic Preview mode via the menu Display > Realistic Preview Attribute Setting (this option is grayed out when you're in normal design mode).

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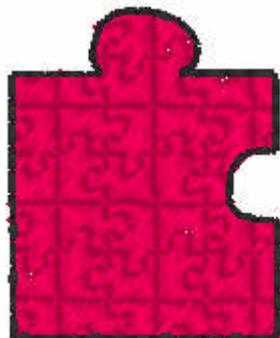
Chapter 3 – Using the Tab-key

And if you want to see how this looks on e.g. a black tote bag, change the color of the design page to black via Option > Design Page Property. You can also have a realistic print (via Print Setup > Stitch Image > Realistic. This will print the design on the chosen background color... handy!!

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Chapter 4 – Programmable Stitch Creator News

CHAPTER 4 - Programmable Stitch Creator



Creating pattern fills with the extra tools in the Tool bar of the Programmable Stitch Creator is a breeze now! You only have to draw a part of the pattern, and then you can select, copy, mirror or flip it. You'll love it.

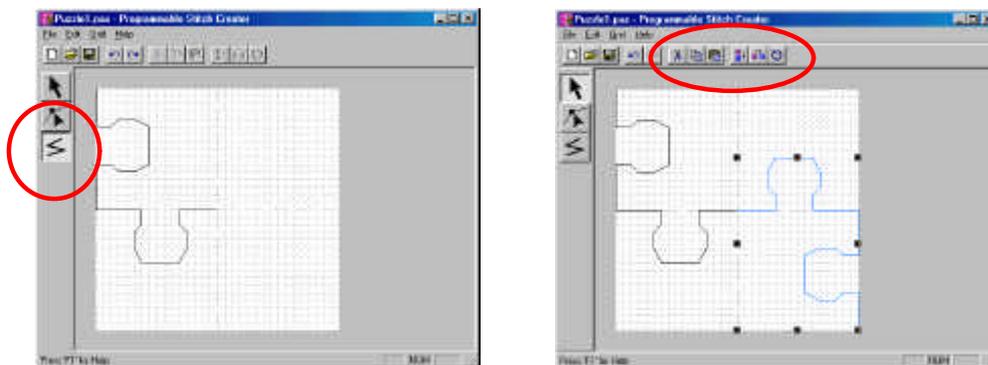
Exercise 5 – Creating a pattern fill

Step 1 – Start the Programmable Stitch Creator

Start the program part Programmable Stitch Creator and set the Grid to “Narrow”.

Step 2 – Draw the first line of the pattern

Activate the Line tool (third in Tool Box on the left) and start drawing the first line, click at the starting point, move to the next point, click, move to the next point, click etc. Double click when the line is finished. You will notice that the line will automatically “stick” to a grid box; with the grid set to Narrow, you can draw finer shapes than with the “Wide” grid.



Step 3 – Select, copy, paste, flip, mirror and move the line

Activate the select tool and select the line. Copy it by clicking the Copy Button in the General Toolbar and paste it with the Paste Button. A copy is placed exactly on top of the original. While this copy is still selected, click the Horizontal Mirror Button in the General Toolbar, then

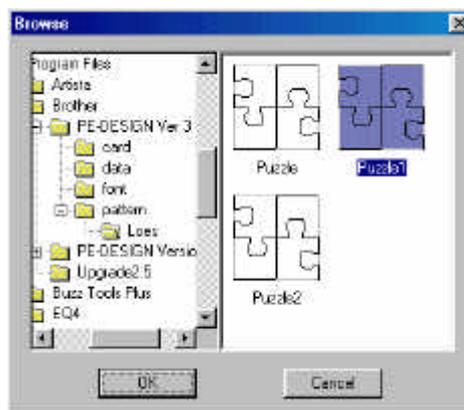
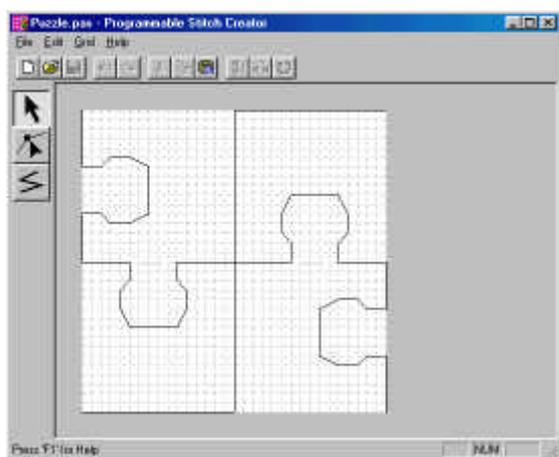
Addendum to PE-Design II CD Book

Chapter 4 – Programmable Stitch Creator News

click the Vertical Mirror Button and move this copy to the lower right corner of the design page by dragging with the mouse (arrow keys don't work here).

Step 4 – Finish the pattern by closing the edges

Activate the Line tool and draw a vertical line in the center of the pattern, plus a line at the edge of the lower left half and a line at the edge of the upper right half of the pattern. These lines are to “close” the pattern and avoid long satin stitches. Save the design under a descriptive name in the folder Pattern. (Consider making a new folder with your name in the folder Pattern, to save your own pattern designs in).



You can use the pattern fills to fill a region in Design Center Stage 4 and in Layout & Editing when digitizing a closed path shape: Select as region fill “Progr.Fill Stitch”, click the Sewing Attribute Set button in the General Toolbar, tab Region Sewing and browse to the fill you want to use. Select it, click OK and “Apply”.

Addendum to PE-Design II CD Book

Chapter 5 – What else is new...

CHAPTER 5 - What else is new?

Drawing in Design Center Stage 2 has been made easier for us with the new version: when using the pen tools - holding down shift, you can draw straight vertical or horizontal lines now.

The same shift key will help you drag selected objects or points in straight horizontal or vertical directions. This works both in Design Center Stage 3 and in Layout & Editing.

I wish you a lot of fun with this great software. And, while you are surfing the Internet, searching for True Type Fonts, take a look at my website to check out the new Loes' Classroom on CD™ series! <http://www.artistitch.com>
Enjoy!

Loes van der Heijden, the Netherlands