



<u>Project</u> : Baby Bib Appliqué	<u>Difficulty</u> : EASY
<u>Highlights</u> : Creating Objects from Vector art, Paste Special command	
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Project Summary

We were asked to quickly create a design for baby bibs, of a rabbit holding and a heart, along with some lettering.

Challenge

The customer didn't want to pay for the full digitizing charges nor for an embroidery job with a high stitch count. The first challenge then was to find an existing stock design to avoid full digitizing charges. And the second challenge was to create a heart as an appliqué, to avoid the higher stitch count that a heart full of pattern stitches would cause. The appliqué process can be used for a number of items including tote bags, backpacks, garments, or anything to which you wish to add a dimension of fabric.

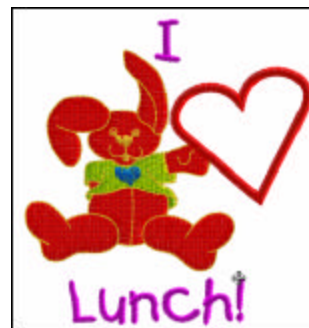
BEFORE

use the heart for "I love lunch"
& line up to the center please!

make it a
cute
rabbit!

heart
here!

AFTER



Solution

We should be able to create the heart with the vector shapes built into Design Maxx Pro and then use the Object Manager to create our appliqué for the heart.

SIERRA SAYS... Design Maxx Pro incorporates the creation of vector art, and its subsequent conversion into stitches on the same screen, which should make this job easier than having to switch between graphic and embroidery programs just to accomplish that task. Also, watch for the tip on the "Paste in Place" command!

Creating the Appliqué

There are many ways to create an appliqué; however, in this exercise we will incorporate vector-based images with the Path Tool.

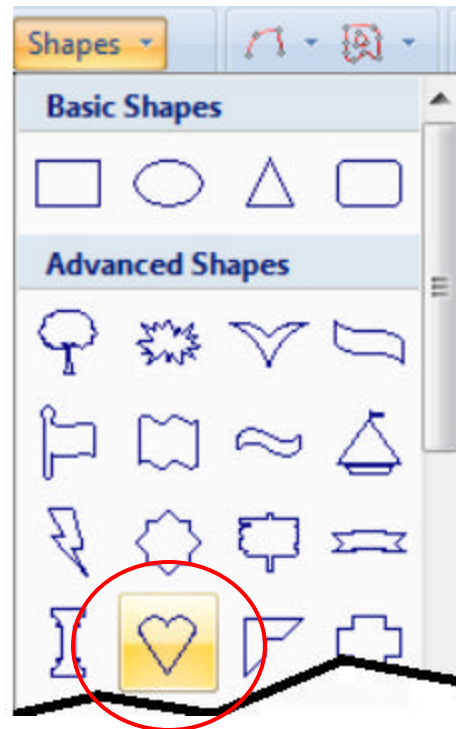
Step 1: Create the Heart from Vector Art

First we are going to create a file to use as a template to cut the fabric for our project.

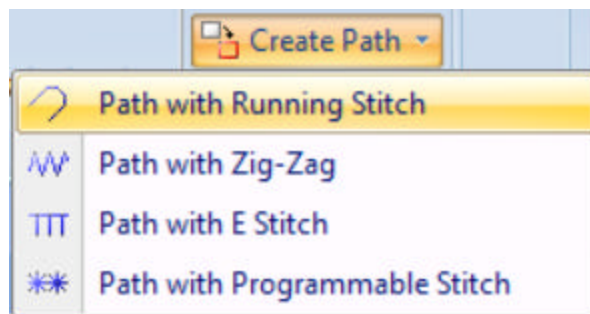
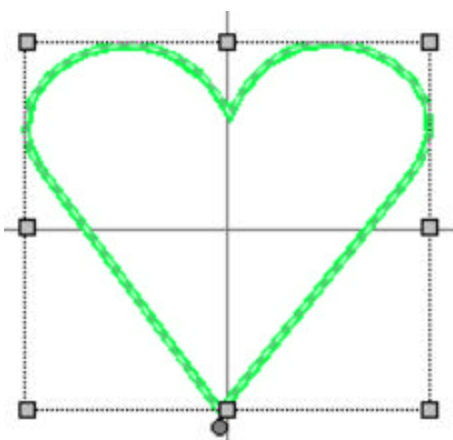
On the Home tab, click the Shapes icon and select the Heart from the Advanced Shapes section. (see picture on the right)

Create a heart about 1" to 1½" tall.

HINT: To form the shape globally, hold down the **CTRL** key while dragging.



While the heart is still selected, click Create Path and select Path with Running Stitch from the drop down menu. (see below)

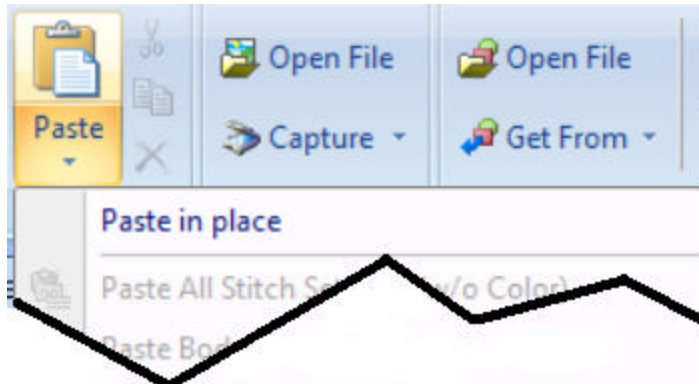


De-select the shape and generate the stitches. Center the image and then export as a stitch file for the heart template for the appliqué fabric. **DO NOT CLOSE THIS FILE**, as it will be used to create the remainder of the heart appliqué (more on this later).

Step 2: The Remainder of the Appliqué

In the top portion of the Object Manager, select the Path with Running Stitch.

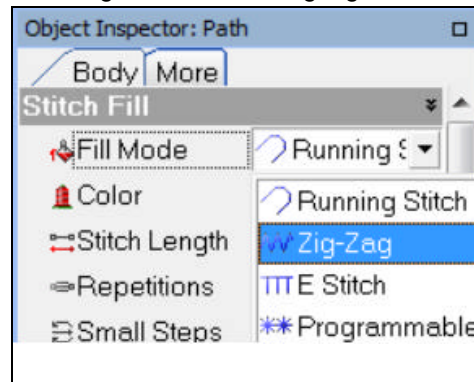
Then perform a Copy command, followed by a Paste in Place function to duplicate the heart.



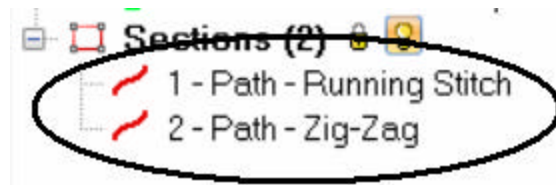
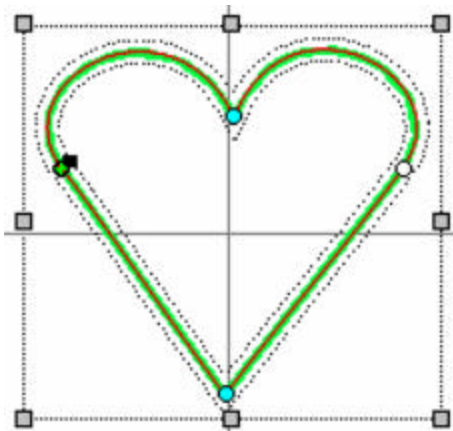
TIP: when you have to duplicate not only an object but also the placement on the screen where that object was originally copied from, use the **Paste in Place** command (while a regular Paste command will place copied objects on the screen as well, it will NOT duplicate its original location).

Next, change the Running Stitch fill to a Zigzag.

Change density and underlay settings for the type of material this will sew on.



Your heart will then look like the figure below, and the Object Manager will reflect the changes made to the second Running Stitch heart (after it's been converted into Zigzag stitches, also known as satin stitches)

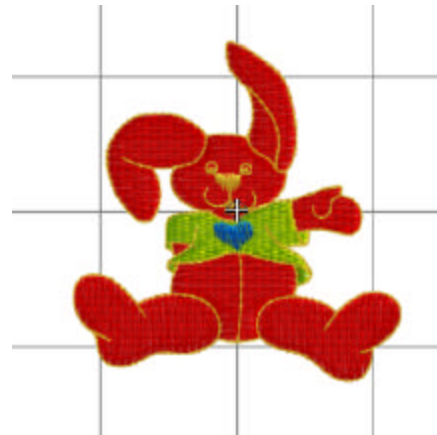
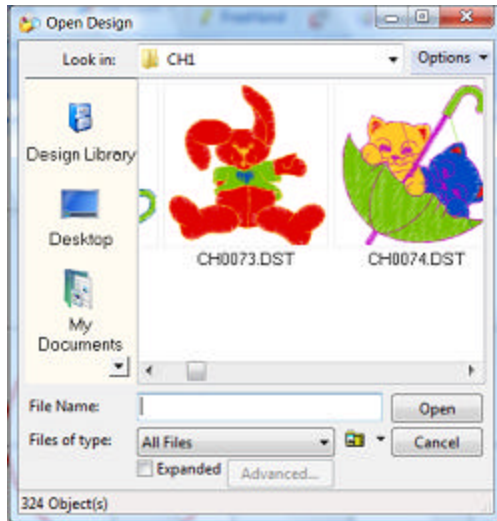


NOTE: you will now have two Stitch Objects and one Vector Object in the Object Manager.

Hint: if you don't have a trim function on your embroidery machine, make the hearts in different colors. If your machine has both appliqué and trim functions, both hearts can be the same color.

Step 3: Add Rabbit and Text

Open the rabbit design to be later merged with the heart (it will open on a separate window).

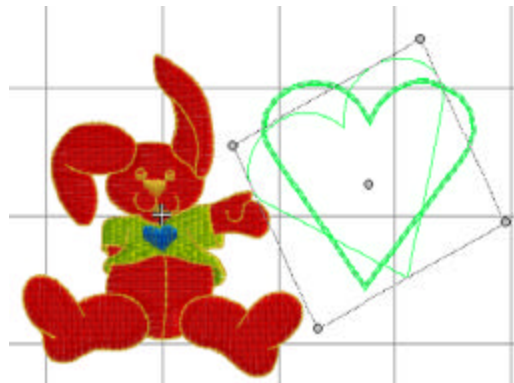


On the heart window, select the whole object then copy it.

On the rabbit window, hit the Select Object icon then paste the heart onto the grid.

While still selected, use the **CTRL** key and any of the corner nodes of the box to angle it.

Move the heart as needed so that it sits on the rabbit's outstretched hand.



Last, generate the stitches then add lettering to the design. Since we used a heart as our appliqué example and the design is for a bib, lettering is added above and below the heart creating a sentiment of fine dining.

Center the design before exporting to ensure the design will be centered in your hoop.

Sewing Technique by Bernadette

Remember we created two files? We are going to use the first file--the heart running stitch file---for the cut line for the fabric.

It is best to prepare the fabric first by backing it with Heat 'n Bond. This will keep the edges of the fabric from fraying when cut, and also add body to the fabric.

Hoop the fabric then stitch the heart. Cut the heart out using the sewn line as your guide.

Next, prepare the bib and sew the design. When the appliqué heart outline is stitched, stop the machine and lightly spray the back of the heart fabric with embroidery spray adhesive. This will ensure the fabric in place. Put the fabric heart on the outline then continue sewing.

Once finished, a very special child will be the proud recipient of your handiwork! Although appliqué techniques can be a bit time consuming, the end results can be very stunning!