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SERIES



JUST EMBROIDER IT!

# **Sending Designs to the Embroidery Machine**

Transferring Designs ♦ Embroidery Designs ♦ A Word About Formats  
Accessing Designs from a USB Stick ♦ Using Software to Transfer Designs

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made to create **BERNINA**

# Transferring Designs

Most embroidery machines come with preprogrammed designs - easy to access and ready to stitch. When you want to purchase and use other designs, they must be loaded or imported into the embroidery machine.

The following sections contain information that will be helpful in transferring designs to the machine:

- Embroidery Designs
- A Word About Formats
- Accessing Designs From a USB Stick
- Using Software to Transfer Designs



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## Embroidery Designs

Designs and design collections can be purchased as several types of media: digital downloaded files, USB media, or CDs. All BERNINA Exclusive Design Collections are available in USB media and have an average of 35 multi-format designs.

**Digital Downloaded Designs:** When downloading an individual design or design collection from the internet, it may be available in the specific format that your machine uses (see Format section [on page 4](#)), but if the ART format is an option, choose that format and use software to convert the design to the proper format. A design in ART format will give you the best results when doing simple editing in any version of embroidery software, and is *highly* recommended if you are doing more complicated editing in BERNINA Embroidery Software. Refer to the details on [Using Software to Transfer Designs](#).

**USB Collections:** Design collections in a USB version are very convenient if your machine is able to read directly from a USB stick. Simply insert the stick into the machine and access the designs. There is no need to use a computer or software to access the designs. However, there are important files on the USB stick that can only be opened in a computer: the thread chart, centerpoint sheets (paper templates), etc. See [page 4](#) for details on Accessing Designs from a USB stick.

**CD Collections:** Design collections on CD media can easily be transferred directly to your machine or to USB media in a few simple steps via a computer and BERNINA Embroidery Software, BERNINA Toolbox or the free ARTLink 8 software. A CD drive or external CD drive is required with your computer to access information on the CD. Refer to the details on [Using Software to Transfer Designs](#).



*TIP: Always create a backup copy of all design files from a CD or USB stick and save on your computer.*

# Design Formats

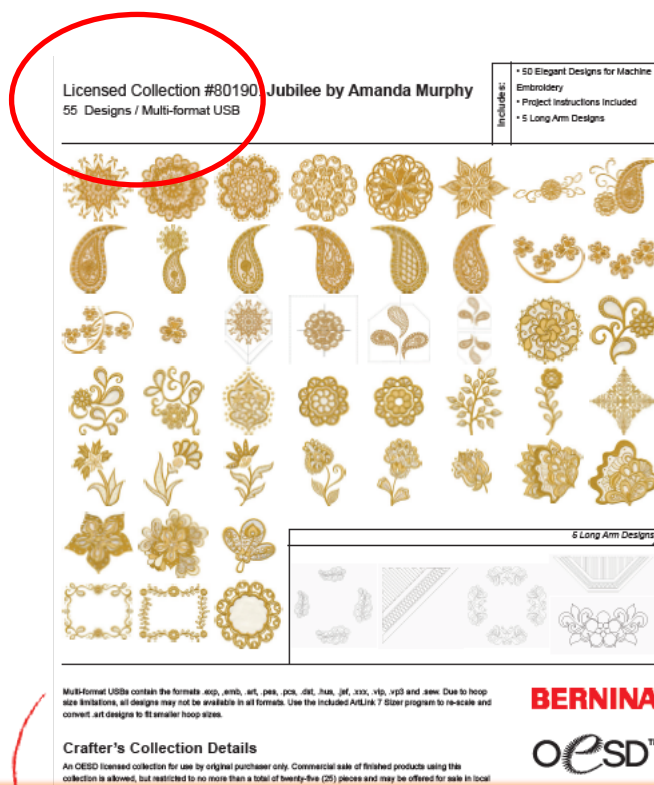
***Most CD and USB collections are multi-formatted, and this is usually indicated on the package. This means the designs can be used by different brands and models of home embroidery machines.***

In order for your embroidery machine to read a design and stitch it out, that design must be in the readable format specific to your machine. If the design is not in the correct format, the design will not appear on the machine screen and cannot be accessed. Many embroidery machines will read more than one format, but there is usually a preferred format which is dependent on the machine brand.

The three letter extension at the end of the design name denotes the format. For instance, design number 82011- 01.pes and 82011-01.exp are the same design, but in different formats, for use on two different machines. To determine the particular format of your machine, refer to the table below or consult your owner's manual.

The preferred format for current BERNINA embroidery machines is the .exp+ format. This extended .exp+ format consists of three files for each design:

- .exp is the embroidery design itself
- .bmp is the thumbnail image of the design
- .inf is the thread color information



Multi-format USBs contain the formats .exp, .emb, .art, .pes, .pcs, .dst, .hus, .jef, .xxx, .vip, .vp3 and .sew. Due to hoop size limitations, all designs may not be available in all formats. Use the included ArtLink 7 Sizer program to re-scale and convert .art designs to fit smaller hoop sizes.

Design Format	Machine Model
<b>.EXP+</b> <i>Includes 3 files:  .exp, .bmp, .inf</i>	BERNINA 8 Series, 7 Series, 5 Series bernette 70, 79

## More about .EXP+ Format

BERNINA, OESD and select independent embroidery design companies offer the extended .exp+ format as part of their multi-format embroidery collections.

If using a design from another source that does not offer this format, the .exp file can be used, but the color information may not appear when the design is opened in a BERNINA machine. When using these designs, reference the thread colors listed on the thread chart rather than the color bars on the machine.

.ART files can be easily converted to the .exp+ format using BERNINA Embroidery Software—Designer Plus, Tool Box or the free ARTLink software (available on [bernina.com](http://bernina.com)).



# Loading Designs from a USB Stick to the BERNINA Machine

*If you have purchased a design collection on USB media or transferred designs from your embroidery software or computer to a USB stick, it is very easy to import or load designs to the embroidery machine. (Check to make sure your machine does have USB capabilities.)*

Place the USB stick into the USB port on your machine while in Embroidery mode. To access the design collection folders from the USB Stick, select the USB icon. You will be able to see folders and/or designs. (If the designs saved to the USB stick are not in a readable format by your machine, they will not be visible.)

If you purchased the USB stick as a collection, some of these folders (Projects, Sell Sheets and Thread Chart, etc.) are visible simply as folders on the machine, and they will appear empty if you select them. These folders contain the thread charts, center point sheets and other valuable information; the contents of these folders can only be accessed on the computer.

Select the design folder (80190 designs in example). Individual design folders may be visible after selecting the folder.

Select the folder containing the format your machine uses. (If you select a folder and the screen appears blank, that means that those designs are not the right format for your machine and you should try another folder.)

If a design format is not the primary format for the machine, the designs may look different because the color information may be lost and the colors shown will be random.

Instead of showing the Isacord color numbers in the color bar, the word "Default" will appear and the colors shown may be inaccurate. However, this does not affect the embroidery machine's ability to stitch the design as it will stitch any design that is visible on the screen.

To stitch the designs with the intended colors, reference the thread colors listed on the thread chart. Some embroidery machines have the option to make changes to the thread brand and color of thread to alter the color display and give a more realistic visual of the design in the chosen thread colors. The changes can be made by selecting and reallocating each color or by changing the colors using a color wheel.




# Transferring Designs with BERNINA Embroidery Software

*To transfer embroidery designs from your computer to your embroidery machine, use BERNINA Embroidery Software or ARTlink 8.1 for quick and easy results.*

Use BERNINA Embroidery Software 8.1 for this task, or download the free ARTLink 8 Software from [bernina.com](http://bernina.com) (see link to right). ARTLink 8 Software is easy to use, has simple editing features, and also has the ability to print design templates.

Open ARTLink 8 or BERNINA Embroidery Software 8.1 program. The icons and screens will be the same if you are using ARTLink 8.

If using an earlier version of the software, the steps are similar, but the icons and the screens may be different.

 Select the *Open* icon at the top of the screen or select *File > Open*.

Navigate to the location where you have saved the chosen designs. If you wish to access a CD or USB directly, navigate to the appropriate drive on your computer.

Locate the folder that contains the ART files.

Select the desired design and click OK. The design will appear on the screen. Edit the design as desired.

*Note: If you edit the design (rotate, size, skew, etc.), select File > Save As and rename the file so that you don't accidentally overwrite the original file.*

When you are ready to transfer the design to stitch, select the *Write to Card/Machine* icon at the top of the screen.

The Device Selection Screen will open.

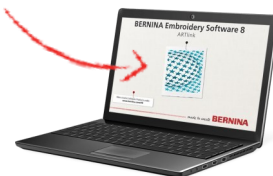
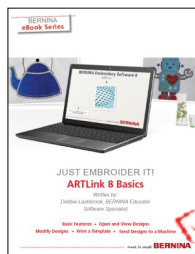
Insert a BERNINA USB stick into the computer and select the exp icon.



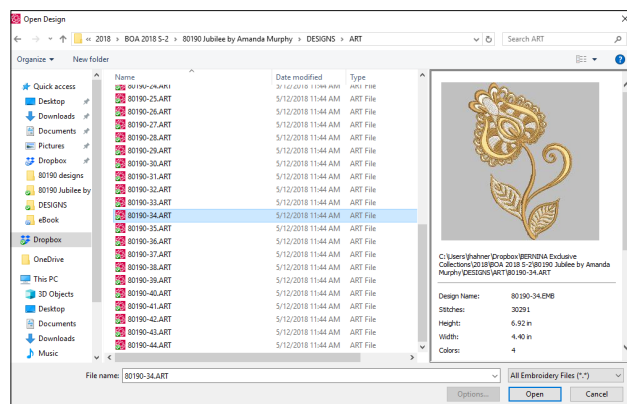
When the *Enter Drive Letter and Path* window opens, verify that the correct USB location is shown. If not, click on the *Browse for Folder* icon and find and select the proper drive in the list that opens. Click OK.

A message confirming that the design was successfully sent to the machine (USB) will appear. This means that the USB stick is ready to be safely ejected, removed and inserted into the embroidery machine's USB port.

Click to download the free ARTLink 8 Software



Click to download Just Embroider It ARTlink 8 Basics eBook



*Note: If the .art files are grouped in a folder with other formats, use the drop-down arrow in the Files of Type and select "All BERNINA Embroidery Software Designs (\*.ART\*)". This will narrow the choices and you will see only the ART files. If nothing appears, it means that the design is not saved as an ART file in that particular location, so search another*

## .EXP+

All current BERNINA models



The **BERNINA USB Stick** has been tested to work with all BERNINA embroidery machines that are able to read from a USB stick. Many other USB sticks may work, but there is no guarantee that any specific stick will work. A message will appear stating that the drive is not a storage device if your particular USB stick is not compatible after you select OK.

# Transferring Designs with BERNINA Embroidery Software, continued

*Alternatively, you can save the design using File > Export Machine File. This is the method you would use to transfer a design in a format other than EXP +.*

With the chosen design open on the screen of ARTLink 8 or BERNINA Embroidery Software 8.1, select File > Export Machine File.

If you wish to save the design on your computer, navigate to the location where you would like to save the design. The original default location for BERNINA Embroidery Software 8.1 will be the My Embroidery>My Machine Files. This location is on the computer. NOTE: If you have previously exported a design to different location, the software will open to that location.

To export to a USB, insert the USB into the computer. Select the drive where the USB is located.

In the drop-down menu under Files of Type, select the desired format. You can choose the EXP + format here also if you are using a current BERNINA machine. If saving to another make of machine, select the format that your machine will be able to read.

Touch Save to save the design to the USB Stick in the desired format.

