

**BERNINA**  
5 Series

# Garden Apron

Created by Kay Hickman

Spring is just around the corner, a time for gardening and adding a bit of creativity to landscape. Whether gardening is a joy or a chore, you can add a little zip to your outdoor duties by creating a gardening apron made special with bright fabrics, laminates and custom embroidery from the new BERNINA Exclusive Embroidery Collection, Lilified.

Using the BERNINA 580 E as your indoor creative partner, customize this project with appliqué by embroidery machine and quick binding techniques!



## Supplies

### Machine & Accessories

- BERNINA 580 Sewing & Embroidery Machine
- BERNINA Large Oval Hoop
- Teardrop Embroidery Foot #26
- Zigzag Foot with Non-Stick Sole #52/#52C/#52D
- Open Embroidery Foot with Non-Stick Sole #56
- Binder Attachment #88 (38mm) and Foot #95C

### Embroidery Design Collection

- BERNINA Exclusive Embroidery Collection - Lilified #82003. Designs used in this project: 82003-07 "G" / 82003-34 Flower Appliqué.

### Fabric & Notions

All fabrics are from the Lilified Fabric Collection by Benartex and are laminated with Therm-o-web HeatnBond® Iron-on Vinyl.

- 14" x 24" orange print - apron (5970-32)
- 5 ½" x 24 ½" green print - upper pocket (5971-44)
- 7 ½" x 24 ½" orange print - lower pocket (5966-33)
- 7" x 8" fabric for appliqué design background
- Therm-o-web HeatnBond® Iron-on Vinyl (Cut one vinyl piece for each of the above fabric pieces including appliqué design background piece.)

- ½ yard of green print (5966-44) to make 5 yards of bias strips - cut a scant 1 ½" wide
- OESD Stabil-Stick Tear Away Stabilizer
- Organ Titanium Embroidery Needles—Size 75
- Microtex Needles - Size 75 for construction
- Blue painter's tape
- Tailor's Curve
- Best Press Spray Starch Alternative
- Seam Sealant

### Threads

- Isacord Threads for embroidery
- Embroidery Bobbin thread
- Metrosene thread for construction

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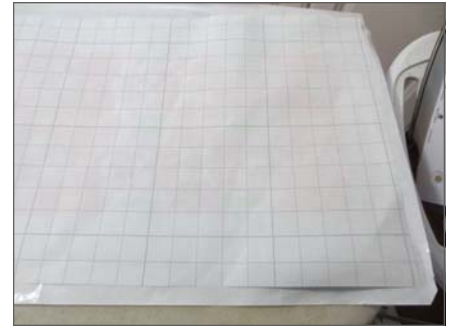
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## Apply Laminate to Apron & Appliqué Fabrics

- Cut Apron fabric pieces and embroidery appliqué piece according to the measurements on page 1 under Supplies.
- Apply HeatnBond® Iron-on Vinyl to the right side of all fabric pieces (except for binding) following manufacturer's guidelines.

## Tips for Working with Laminated Fabric

- Use clips instead of pins. Pins will leave permanent visible holes in the fabric.
- Use a presser foot with a non-stick sole for best results when stitching. *Zigzag Foot with Non-Stick Sole #52C and Open Embroidery Foot with Non-Stick Sole #56 are used in this project.*
- Options for marking laminated fabrics include:
  - ◊ Mark on the wrong (un-laminated) side of the laminated fabric.
  - ◊ Place painter's tape in area to be marked and mark on the tape.
  - ◊ Fold the fabric and *lightly* crease mark.
  - ◊ Use a Frixion marking pen, but use light strokes and not a lot of pressure. (This pen's marks can be removed with heat. Place a non-stick pressing sheet over the laminated fabric before using the iron set on a low setting to remove the marks.)



## Prepare Bias Strips for Edge Finishing

- For best results, press fabric with Best Press Spray Starch Alternative *before* cutting.
- Cut bias strips a scant 1 ½" wide for use with the 38mm binder. Seam the short ends together with a diagonal seam to make one long continuous piece totally about 5 yards of bias strips.



## Set-up the Embroidery Designs

- Insert the USB stick containing the designs for the Lillifed Collection into the machine. Note: if you purchased the designs on a CD, use either ArtLink Embroidery Software (provided on the CD), or BERNINA Embroidery Software to save the design to the USB stick for the 580 machine.



- Touch the Home icon and select Embroidery Mode.



- Select the USB icon and find the "G" design (#82003-07) you saved to the USB stick. The "G" will appear on the editing screen on the machine.



- Touch the Edit icon.



- Select the Rotate icon. Touch the Rotate motif in 90 steps until the G is lying with the top to the left and the side of the G along the bottom of the screen.



- Select the Back icon.






























- Select the Move Motif icon. Touch the "G" on the screen and drag it to the lower part of the hoop.



- Touch the Back icon twice and touch the Selection folder.



-  • Touch the Add Motif icon and select #82003-34 Flower Appliqué design from the USB stick.
-  • Touch the Edit icon.
-  • Touch the Rotate Motif icon.
-  • Turn the Stitch Width Knob until the value on the screen reads -40.
-  • Touch the flower on the screen and move it to the upper part of the screen.
-  • Touch the Back icon two times.
-  • Touch the Selection folder icon.
-  • Select the Add Motif icon.
-  • Select the Embroidery Computer icon.
-  • Select the Alphabet icon.
-  • Select Alphabet #5 (Chateau).
-  • Select the lower case icon.
-  • Type “arden” and touch the green check mark.
-  • Select the Edit icon.
-  • Select the Rotate Motif icon.
-  • Touch the Rotate Motif in 90° steps 3 times.
-  • Select the Back icon.
-  • Select the Rescale Motif Proportionally icon.
-  • Turn the Stitch Width knob to the left until the value on the screen reads 75.
-  • Touch the letters on the screen and drag it into the position as shown.
-  • Select the Back icon twice. Then select the Selection folder.
-  • Select the Add Motif icon and select Alphabet #5 (Chateau).
-  • Touch the “T” in the upper case.
-  • Select the lower case icon and type “herapy”.
-  • Touch the green check mark to confirm.
-  • Select the Edit icon.
-  • Touch the Rotate Motif in 90 steps 3 times.
-  • Select the Back icon.
-  • Select the Rescale Motif Proportionally icon. Turn the Stitch Width knob to the left until the value on the screen reads 61.
-  • Touch the word Therapy on the screen and move it into position as shown on the right.
-  • Touch the back icon.
-  • The lettering / design combination is now ready to stitch.

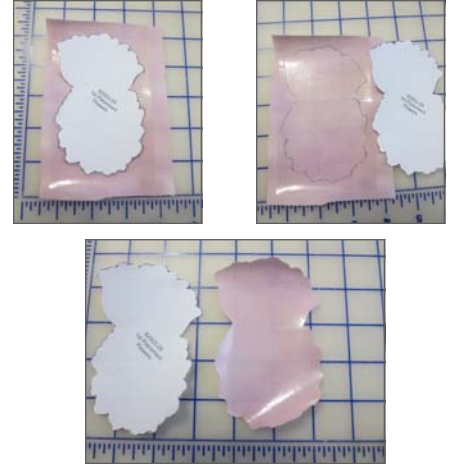




## Prepare the Appliqué for the Embroidery

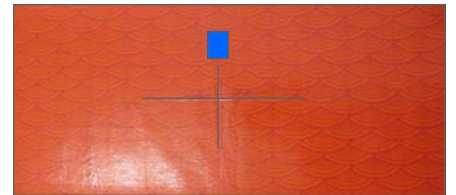
The following directions are for using traditional pattern method to cut out the appliqué pieces with scissors. The collection also includes bonus CutWork files to use with the CutWork Tool. Instructions for using the CutWork Tool and the files are included with the collection.

- Print the appliqué pattern piece from the PDF that accompanies the design collection. *Specific printing directions are on the appliqué pattern PDF.*
- Cut out the appliqué pattern piece and place it on the top of the laminated fabric. Trace around the pattern. (*Caution: do not use a temporary adhesive spray to adhere the pattern piece to the top of the laminated fabric.*)
- Cut out the pattern piece(s) and set aside.



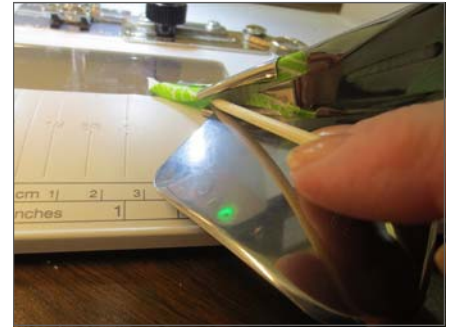
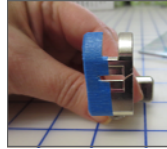
## Embroider the Lower Pocket

- Mark the horizontal and vertical centers of the lower pocket on the wrong side of the fabric.
- Place a piece of blue painter's tape on the fabric's right side at the top of the design's position (pointing toward the long edge).
- Hoop a piece of Stabil-Stick Tear Away by itself in the hoop with the paper side up.
- Position the hoop's plastic template over the inner ring of the hoop and mark the hoop's center horizontal and vertical lines on the back of the hooped stabilizer.
- From the right side, score and remove the paper to reveal the sticky stabilizer. You should be able to see the marks through the stabilizer.
- From the right side, score and remove the paper to reveal the sticky stabilizer. You should be able to see the center horizontal and vertical marks.
- Position the marks on the fabric over those on the hooped stabilizer. Smooth pocket carefully in place. (The excess fabric will be at the top and the bottom of the hoop.)
- Attach the hoop to the machine. Bring the design of your choice onto the editing screen of the machine. Rotate the design if needed so that the top of the design and the position of the painter's tape are correctly situated. Start stitching the design.
- Start the machine. When a placement line stitches, stop the machine and carefully remove the hoop from the machine.
- Spray the **WRONG SIDE** of the appropriate appliqué piece with a **VERY** small amount of temporary adhesive spray. Keep any other laminated pieces from coming in contact with the overspray.
- Position the appliqué over the placement lines stitched in the hoop. Be as precise as possible to ensure accurate stitching.
- Return the hoop to the machine and continue stitching the design.
- After the design has finished stitching, remove the hoop from the machine and the fabric from the hoop.
- Carefully separate the stabilizer adhesive from the back of the fabric. Place the fabric face down on a flat surface and use your fingernails to support the stitches as you gently tear the stabilizer away from the outside edges of the design.



## Bind The Upper & Lower Pocket Top Edges

- Bind the top edge of the embroidered lower pocket panel and top long edge of the upper pocket panel.
- Attach the Binder Attachment #88 (38mm) and Foot #95C to the machine. *NOTE: Test stitch the binder using the #95C foot for binding the vinyl fabric. If the foot does not ride smoothly over the surface of the vinyl, remove the foot and place blue painter's tape on left side of the foot sole. Make sure that the tape is completely removed from the needle slot area. Frequently check the bottom of the sole to make sure that the tape has not become loosened.*
- Swing the front part of the binder toward you and insert the bias strip into the end of the binder.
- Use an awl or a skewer to encourage the binding into the scroll. As the binding comes out of the tip of the binder, the fabric edges will automatically be folded. Finger press the fold.
- Swing the binder back into place and position the binding under the foot. Adjust the needle position on the machine so that the needle will penetrate both folded edges of the binding.
- Place the fabric to be bound between the scrolls. Allow the fabric edge to ride up along the wall of the binder. Check to ensure that the stitching is catching the top and bottom folds of the binding and that the fabric is filling the binding.



## Assemble Upper & Lower Pockets to Apron

- Mark vertical lines on the upper (un-embroidered) pocket as follows:
  - ◊ Vertical center
  - ◊ 7 1/4" in from each short end
  - ◊ Additional lines as desired
- Position the lower cut edge of upper pocket 4 1/2" above the bottom of the apron front.
- Ease in the fullness along the lower cut edge. Use painter's tape if desired to hold pocket in place.
- Align the cut short sides of the pocket with the edge of the apron.
- Edge-stitch the short sides in place using the ZigZag Foot with Non-Stick Sole #52 or #52C.
- Stitch the pocket to the apron along the lower cut edge about 1/4" away from edge.
- Stitch again with a zigzag stitch to cover the raw edge.
- Stitch the vertical lines to create the individual pockets on the upper pocket panel.
- Place the lower embroidered pocket over the apron front aligning the bottoms of both.
- Align the side cut edges with the sides of the apron and edge-stitch in place.
- Align the drawn pocket lines of the lower pocket with the stitched lines of the upper pocket. Tape in place. Stitch the vertical pocket lines of the lower pocket through all thicknesses.
- Ease in the fullness along the lower edge and edge-stitch in place.





## Prepare & Bind the Apron Sides & Bottom

- Round the two lower corners of the apron by placing a rounded object and drawing around the outside. Trim.
- Trim the binding ends even with the top of the apron.
- Add a slight curve to the top of the apron by folding the apron in half with wrong sides together. Mark a dot about ½" below the center front. Use a Tailor's Curve to draw a gradual curve from the outside cut edge to the center mark. Trim the excess fabric.
- Using Binder Attachment #88 with Foot #95C, bind the *sides* and *bottom* of the apron catching all layers. Refer to the Binder instructions on page 4 (*Binder Upper & Lower Top Pocket Edges*) for details on binding.



## Make Ties & Bind the Apron Upper Edge

- Create the ties and bind the upper edge at the same time by inserting the bias fabric into the binder and stitching a 40" length. At that point, place the upper side of the apron between the scrolls of the binder and bind the upper edge of the apron. Continue to stitch just the binding for an additional 40".
- Clip tie ends at a diagonal and apply seam sealant to the cut edges.

Your apron is now ready for gardening fun!

- Look for other companion gardening accessories projects on [bernina.com](http://bernina.com)!



Garden Tool Bag



Garden Kneeling Pad