

Just EMBROIDER It!

Sending Designs to the Embroidery Machine



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Transferring Designs

Most embroidery machines come with preprogrammed designs - easy to access and ready to stitch. When using other designs, they must be 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
- Older Models



Embroidery Designs

Designs and design collections can be purchased as several types of media: downloaded files, USB sticks, or CDs. All BERNINA Exclusive Design Collections are available on CDs, and some may also be available on a USB memory stick. Look for the CD icon or the USB icon on the front of the package that indicates the version.

CD Collections: Design collections in a CD format can easily be transferred directly to your machine or to a USB memory stick in a few, simple steps via a computer and BERNINA Embroidery Software – EditorPlus, Designer Plus, or the free ArtLink software. One advantage of a CD collection is that it is usually less expensive than the USB version of the same collection. See page 5 for details on Using Software to Transfer Designs.

USB Collections: Design collections in a USB version are 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's 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.

Downloaded Designs: When a design or design collection is downloaded from the Internet, it may be in the specific format (see Format section on page 4) that your machine uses, but it is a better idea to select the ART format and use software to convert the design to the proper format. See page 5 for details on Using Software to Transfer Designs. A design in ART format will give you the best results when doing simple editing in any version of the software, and is *highly* recommended if you are doing more complicated editing in BERNINA EditorPlus or DesignerPlus.



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

A Word About Formats

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

In order for your embroidery machine to read a design and stitch it out, that design must be the proper format specific to that machine. If the design you are attempting to use on the machine is not the correct format, the design will not show on the screen and cannot be accessed.

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, saved 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.

Current BERNINA embroidery machines accept 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

The bernette Deco 340 and Chicago 7 machines accept the .exp format, but also require designs to be placed in an Embf5 folder as part of the design transfer.

In addition to .exp+, the now retired BERNINA artista 200 and 730 machine models accept the .art (version 4) format.



Multi-format
CD

Design Format	Machine Model
.EXP+ <i>Includes 3 files: .exp, .bmp, .inf</i>	BERNINA 8 Series, 7 Series, 5 Series BERNINA artista 630, 640, 730 BERNINA artista 160 - 185, 200
.EXP <i>Place designs in an Embf5 folder as part of the design transfer.</i>	bernette Deco 340 bernette Chicago 7
.ART4 <i>The .art file must be formatted as version 4.</i>	BERNINA 200, 730

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 will not appear when the design is opened in a BERNINA machine. 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—DesignerPlus, EditorPlus or the free ArtLink software available on bernina.com

Accessing Designs from a USB Stick - Embroidery Design Collections

A design collection that is purchased in the USB format is one of the easiest and most convenient ways to import designs into the machine if your machine has USB capabilities.

Note: The steps and folders shown are from a BERNINA Design Collection. When using design collections from other sources, the names of the folders will vary, but the process is the same.

Place the BERNINA Design Collection USB stick into the USB port on your machine. While in embroidery mode, access the design folders and select the USB icon. You will be able to see several folders.

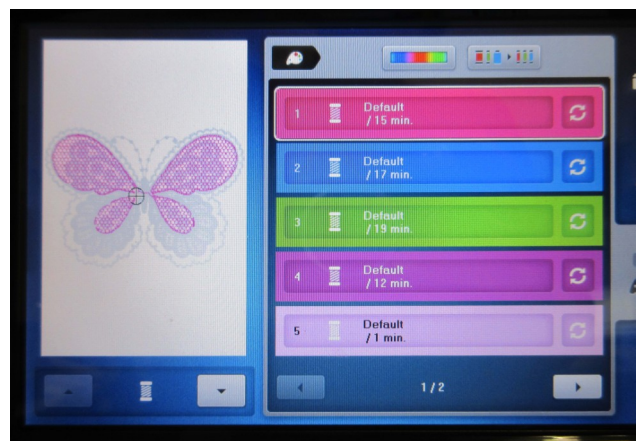
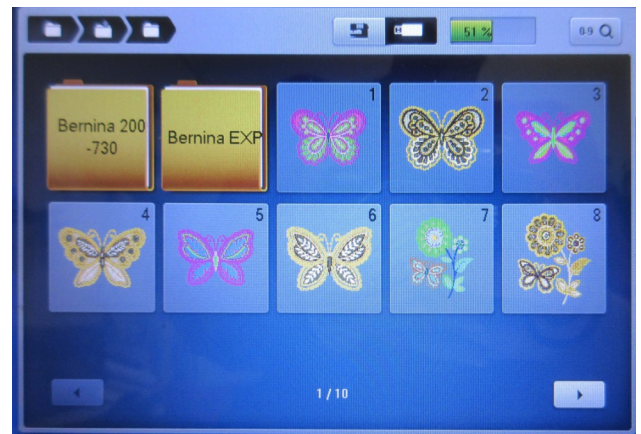
Some of these folders (AutoPlay, Printables, and Programs) are visible simply as folders on the machine and they will appear empty if you select them. These folders contain the thread charts, centerpoint sheets and other valuable information; the contents of these folders can only be accessed on a computer.

Select the *Designs* folder. Individual design folders should be visible at this point.

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.*)

In addition to the folders, there may also be individual designs on the screen. If they are not of the primary format for the machine, these 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. 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.




Using Software to Transfer Designs - BERNINA Embroidery Software

To transfer embroidery designs from your computer to your embroidery machine, use BERNINA Embroidery Software for quick and fuss-free transfers.

Use BERNINA EditorPlus or DesignerPlus Software for this task, or download the free ArtLink 7 Software from bernina.com (see links to right). ArtLink Software 7 is easy to use, has simple editing features, and also has the ability to print design templates and to send designs to BERNINA machines in the correct format.

Open ArtLink 7 or other BERNINA Software 7 program. *Note: The screen captures and icons shown are from the free software - ArtLink 7. These icons will be the same if you are using EditorPlus 7 or DesignerPlus 7. If using an earlier version of the software, the steps are similar, but the icons and the screens for sending the design to the machine will 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.

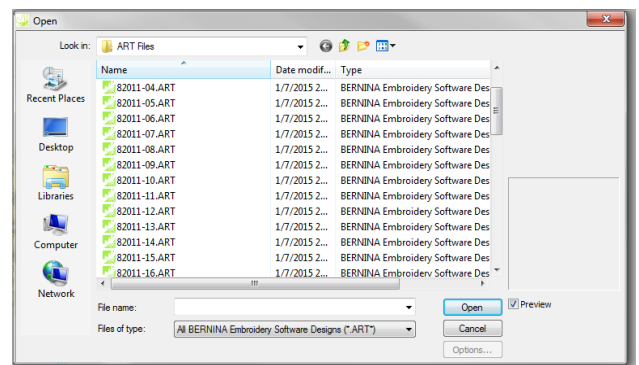
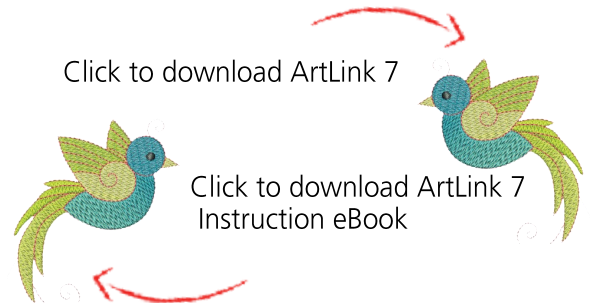
Note: The .art files may be grouped in a folder with other formats or they may be in a separate ART folder. Selecting "All BERNINA Embroidery Software Designs (.ART*)" using the drop-down arrow in the Files of Type will narrow the choices and you will see only the ART files. If nothing appears, it means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

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 stitch, select the *Write to Card/ Machine* icon at the top of the screen.

The **Device Selection Screen** will open, offering three USB Transfer options and three Direct Connect options.



To transfer designs to a USB stick, select the device best suited for your machine. Refer to the chart on page 3 to find the correct button to choose.



Transfer via USB Stick
EXP+ or ART

Insert a BERNINA USB stick* into the computer and select the exp icon or the ART icon depending on your machine model.

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 will appear. This means that the USB stick is ready to be safely ejected, removed and inserted into the embroidery machine's USB port.



Transfer via USB Stick
Deco or Chicago 7

Insert a USB stick into the computer and select the Deco icon.

When the *Enter Drive Letter and Path* window opens, verify that the correct USB location is shown. If not, use the *Browse for Folder* icon and select the proper drive. Click OK; the drive letter will be followed by the letters *EmbF5*. The software automatically creates this *EmbF5* folder on the USB stick since it is necessary for the Deco to read the design files. A message appears that the design has been successfully added to the folder.

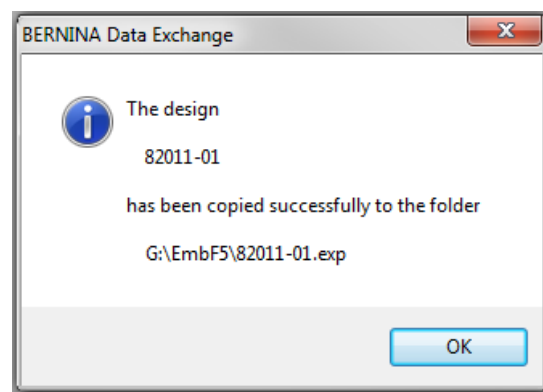
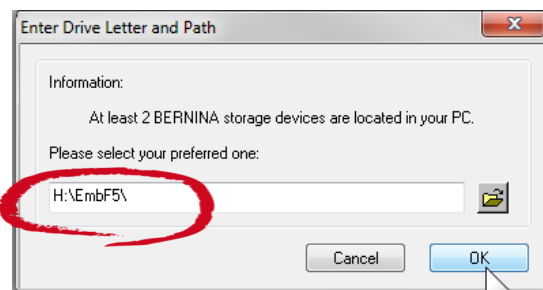
Note: For the bernette Chicago 7: Before sending the design to the machine, make sure that the design name does not contain a dash (-) or the machine will not be able to read the file. The name of the design may ONLY contain: upper and lower case letters, numbers, & _ . and is limited to 17 characters. Select File > Save As and rename the design following these guidelines.



.EXP+
All current
BERNINA models

.EXP
bernette Deco 340
& Chicago 7

.ART4
artista 200/730



BERNINA USB Stick



The BERNINA-branded 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.

As another option, designs can be sent directly from the computer to the machine and saved directly in the *My Designs* folder via a connecting cable.



Direct Connection - Computer to Machine's My Design Folder

Connect the computer to the machine via the USB connecting cable.

Select the *Folder/Machine* icon.

To save the design directly to the *My Designs* folder: Select the machine icon at the top of the screen. Double click the *My Designs* folder.

In the screen that opens, any designs that you currently have saved in that folder will be visible on the left side of the screen.

Select *Download the Selected Design to the Embroidery System* (the arrow) and the design will be saved in the machine's *My Designs* folder. You will receive a message that says the design has been successfully downloaded to the Embroidery Machine.



Direct Connection - Computer to Machine's Stitch-out Screen

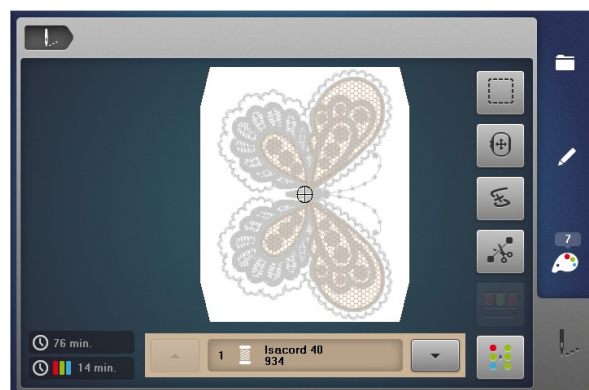
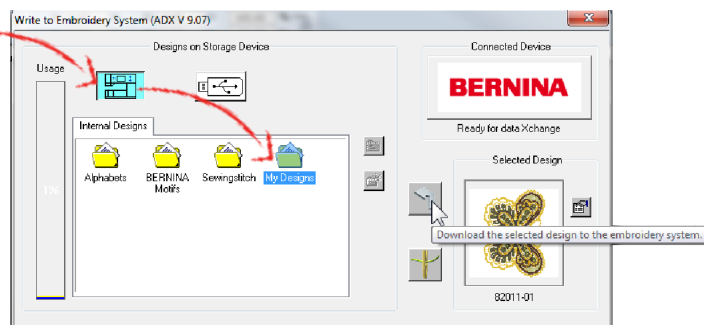
Designs can be sent directly to the embroidery machine's stitching screen and then stitched out.

Connect the computer to the machine via the USB connecting cable.

Select the Direct Connect Stitch-out Screen.

Direct Connect
Stitch-out Screen

Direct Connect
My Designs Folder



For older machine models, designs can be sent directly from the computer to the machine via a connecting cable.



Serial Port Direct Connection - Computer to Machine

For artista 165 -185 machines (or to a Reader/Writer Box for the 165 -185), connect the serial port cable to the computer and the machine. *Note: Many newer computers may not have a serial port and will need a USB to Serial adaptor.*

Connect the computer to the machine via the serial port connecting cable. Select the *serial cable* icon.

A message will appear asking you to select the proper COM port. There will usually be 4 COM ports from which to choose. COM Port 4 is the one that is most often assigned, but try the others if your computer does not work with that port.

Select the Needle icon on the computer screen that opens, and the design will appear on the screen of the machine ready to be stitched.



aurora Machine Models

For aurora machine models, open the design of choice in the software. The art or exp+ formats are preferable, but any format that the software will read will work.

Connect the computer to the machine via the USB connecting cable.

Select the Direct Connection - Computer to Machine's Stitching Screen icon. Follow the prompts on the screens that open to send the design for stitching.

Direct Connect
Stitch-out Screen -
aurora models



Serial Port
Direct Connect
artista 165 -185

Using Software to Transfer Designs - bernette Embroidery Software Customizer

The bernette Embroidery Software Customizer can also be used to transfer designs to a USB stick. The software reads and converts many popular machine file formats including ART 70.

There are two options for sending designs to the USB stick through bernette Customizer Software:

- Send a design directly to the USB stick using File > Save As. This will work for machines that have a USB port.
- Save a design as an .art file on your computer and use ArtLink 7 to send the design. This method will ensure that the design is sent to the USB stick in the proper format for your machine. It is the only option for machines that do not have a USB port and the aurora models.

Send a Design Directly to a USB using File > Save As

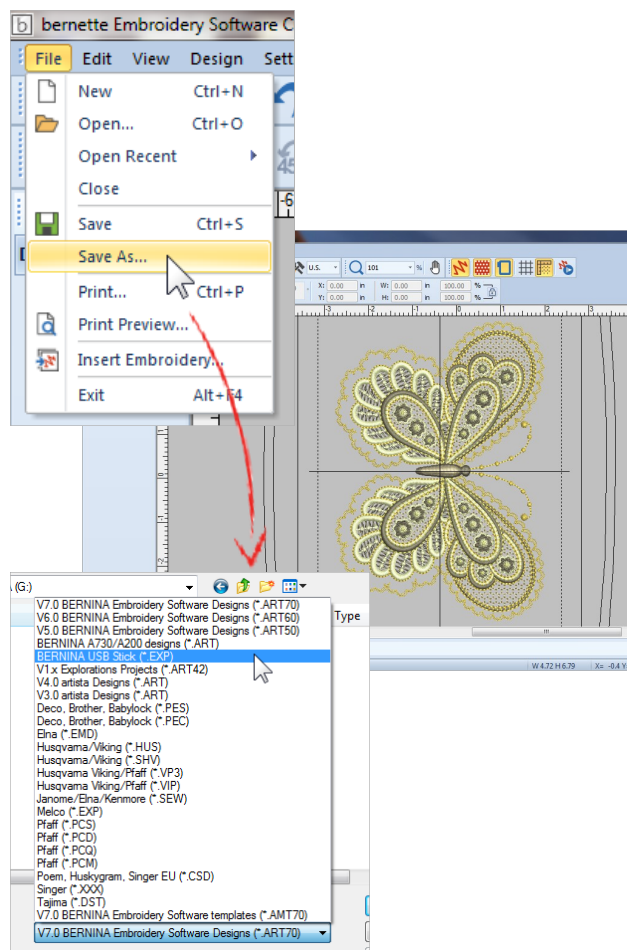
Open the chosen design in the bernette Customizer Software.

Insert a USB stick into the computer.

Select File > Save As and navigate to the USB stick through the Save In field at the top of the screen. *Note for the Deco machine, you will need to create a folder on the USB stick and name it EmbF5. Save the design inside this folder.*

In the Save As type field, click on the drop-down arrow and choose BERNINA USB stick (*EXP).

Click Save. The design is sent to the USB ready to be safely ejected and inserted into the embroider machine.

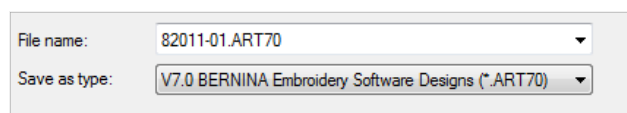


Send a Design to a USB stick using ArtLink Software

Open the chosen design in the bernette Customizer Software and make desired edits.

Select File > Save As and navigate to the folder of your choice on your computer through the Save In field .

In the Save As type field, click on the drop-down arrow and choose V7.0 BERNINA Embroidery Software Designs (*.ART70).



Close the bernette Customizer Software and open the ArtLink 7 Software. Follow the steps on page 5 for using BERNINA Embroidery Software to transfer designs.