

How to apply the correct hooping technique

1.

Hooping properly is an important step in the embroidery process. The smaller the hoop the easier it is to stabilise the fabric. Select a hoop slightly larger than the design and big enough for the needle not to hit the frame. Specialist hoop styles are available for awkward items.

2.

Choose the correct backing, the goal is to stabilise the fabric to avoid problems such as distortion. The backing piece should be large enough to extend over the sides of the hoop.

3.

Take your hoop apart and place the lower hoop on a flat surface. Place the backing on top followed by the item to be embroidered. Place the upper hoop over the fabric and push it down into place. Do not stretch the fabric as this could cause puckering. Treat each fabric according to its characteristics. For example, knits should not be overstretched, thick fabric may need to be clamped.

4.

When your garment is hooped correctly you will be able to run your fingers over the fabric without it moving or rippling. If your garment is too loose, take it out of the hoop and repeat the process. Never pull the fabric as this can cause design position problems.

5.

On velvet the hoop can leave a mark so cover the inner ring with tape or backing or don't hoop at all. Delicate fabrics, satin, lycra, and thin nylon can be difficult to hoop as they tend to slip and the hoop can leave a ring mark. The solution is to lay the fabric on top of the hooped backing which should be either a stick on peel away or a standard backing secured in place with a temporary adhesive spray.

6.

When using a stick on peel away backing such as **051SV57W** hoop with the backing side down, score the protective sheet and peel away, then place the fabric on top.

7.

For backing that is not sticky, hoop up the backing and use a temporary adhesive spray such as **MSA1100** or **AD505** to ensure the fabric stays in place whilst embroidering.

Learn More:

Punch Book - Digitising for Embroidery design by Bonnie Nielsen

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