

Projects > Holiday Greeting Card

Tis the season! Create a personalized holiday card to accompany a gift or send in the mail. Simply embroider the special frame design, add a greeting, and attach to a blank card. You can place your family's seasonal photo inside the card and write or print a special message.

Materials and Supplies

- [Brother Embroidery machine](#) with 5-inch by 7-inch hoop, plus Edit mode capability for adding lettering to the design.
- Optional: [Brother Embroidery software](#) such as PE Design or BES for adding lettering to design, *prior* to sending it to the machine.
- [SA541](#) Brother Lightweight Water Soluble Stabilizer.
- [SA5929](#) Brother Heavyweight Cut-Away Stabilizer.
- [MTPK14](#) Brother Metallic Embroidery Threads.
- [SA740](#) Brother Polyester Embroidery Threads.
- Permanent Spray Adhesive, suitable for paper.
- 6-inch X 8-inch piece of stiff, white craft felt.
- White bi-fold greeting card, measuring 5 ½ X 8 ½ when folded. These blank cards are designed for use with a printer and are commonly found in office supply stores.



Figure #1



Figure #2



Color #1 Appliqué Material

Instructions

1. Set up machine for embroidery. Transfer the frame design to the machine, opening it in Edit Mode. Change colors as desired, substituting a few of the pre-set colors with metallics for a festive look. The design is rotated to sew lengthwise in the 5-inch by 7-inch hoop. Use built in letters to add the greeting, sizing the words to fit in the center box. As an alternative, open the design in software and add the lettering before you send the design to the machine.

Note: The featured frame design is stitched as an Appliqué, described in the steps below. See Figure #2 through Figure #5 to view steps for stitching this Appliqué style embroidery design.

2. Hoop the cut away stabilizer in the 5-inch by 7-inch hoop. Secure the felt piece to the stabilizer using low tack tape along the edges. See Figure #1. **Tip:** Thread the machine with the color you have chosen for the finished frame.

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Use this color thread for the entire appliqué process. Sew color one, the **Appliqué material** stitch, through the felt and the stabilizer. See Figure #2. Remove the hoop from the machine and remove the felt from the hoop. Cut around the outer edges of the stitched rectangle. Cut close to, but not through the stitches.

Note: Do not cut out the center rectangle for this project. See information below for an alternative project.

3. Hoop the water-soluble stabilizer. Place the hoop on the machine and stitch color two, the **Appliqué position** stitch. See Figure #3. Using the glue stick, lightly apply glue to the entire wrong side of the felt piece. Attach the felt appliqué piece to the stabilizer, matching the placement outline. Smooth felt in place. Allow a period of time for the glue to dry.
4. Place the hoop on the machine and stitch color three, the **Appliqué tack down** stitch. See Figure #4.
5. Stitch the final portion of the Appliqué, color four, **the Appliqué finishing** stitch. See Figure #5.
6. Complete the embroidery design. Remove the water-soluble stabilizer according to the package instructions. Secure the finished piece to the front of the card using spray adhesive.

You can be sure this card will be appreciated and put on display!

*Here is Another Idea:

- Eliminate the lettering.
- When embroidery is finished, carefully cut out the center rectangle stitched in Step 2.
- Crop a photo to measure approximately 3-inches X 4 ½ -inches.
- Tape the photo to the wrong side of the felt piece, taking care to center it under the opening.
- Secure the frame to the card front using spray adhesive.

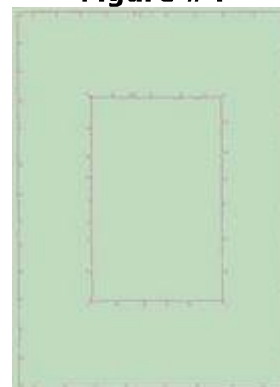
Tip: If you are mailing the card, be sure have it checked for additional postage and ask to have the card hand stamped by the postal clerk.

Figure #3



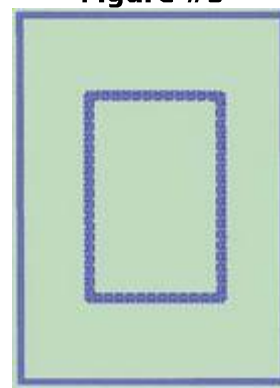
Color #2 Appliqué Position

Figure #4



Color #3 Appliqué Tack Down

Figure #5



Color #4 Finishing Stitch