

## Projects > Hostess Apron

This month's Free Brother design is a quilt style corner motif. Use the design to create a frame on this pretty apron. Embroider the design in all four corners of the apron bib and then add a monogram, name, or other lettering in the center. Make this one-size fits all apron without a commercial pattern. It is so easy, and the results are great. Now, go grab some pretty tone-on-tone fabric and get started!

### Materials and Supplies

- [Brother Sewing and Embroidery Machine](#)
- [Brother Embroidery Thread](#), Color No. 323 Light Brown featured in this example.
- [Brother Bobbin Thread](#)
- Brother FREE Quilting design.
- Cream colored tone-on-tone cotton fabric for apron. Cut the following pieces:
  - One piece measuring 42-inches wide X 22-inches long for apron skirt.
  - One piece measuring 12-inches wide X 16-inches long for embroidered bib front.
  - One piece measuring 9 & 1/2-inches wide X 11 & 1/2-inches long for bib lining.
- 7/8-inch wide brown gross grain ribbon, one piece measuring 72 inches long for waistband, and one piece measuring 24-inches long for strap at neckline.
- Thin batting for backing bib front.
- Seam sealant for treating ends of ribbon.
- Sewing notions, including good quality polyester thread for sewing.



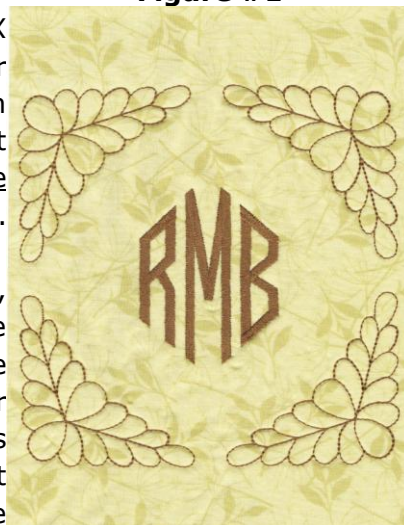
### Instructions For Embroidering

1. Set up machine for embroidery.
2. Select the front bib piece. Mark off a square measuring 8-inches X 8-inches in the center. Place batting against the wrong side. Embroider one motif in each corner of the square, taking care to mirror the design in opposite corners. To make the embroidery more prominent, repeat the stitching for the quilt motif, stitching each motif a total of three times. Add a monogram, name, or other lettering in the center.

\*See **Figure #1**.

NOTE: Depending on your machine's hoop size, and software capability, there are several ways to stitch this design. For machines with Edit Mode capability and a hoop measuring 8-inches X 8-inches or larger, create the square design within the Edit mode, rotating and mirror imaging the four motifs to form a square. Modify the square design slightly to fit hoop sizes that are large, but not square. For owners of Brother's PE Next software, it is possible to form this design using the Mirror Copy tool to create the square frame. You can also add a monogram or name within the software.

**Figure #1**



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3. Set up the machine for ordinary sewing. Trim the embroidered bib front piece to measure 9 & 1/2-inches wide X 11 & 1/2-inches long. Select the matching size piece for bib lining. Place right sides together and sew, using a 1/4-inch seam allowance and leaving the bottom open for turning. Clip corners, turn right side out and press. Finish the bottom raw edge using a serger or overcast stitch on the sewing machine. Mark the center of the bottom edge. Set aside for later use.
4. Select the skirt piece. Finish the bottom raw edge using a serger or overcast stitch on the sewing machine. Fold and press a 2-inch hem along the bottom. Stitch the hem in place.
5. Finish the top raw edge of the skirt using a serger or overcast stitch on the sewing machine. Turn and press under a 1-inch single hem. Next, sew two rows of basting stitches at the top edge, sewing the first row 1/4-inch from the folded edge and the second row 3/4-inch from the folded edge. Pull up the gathers, taking care to begin, and end 2-inches from each side edge. Distribute the gathers evenly, having the top edge of the skirt measure approximately 24-inches wide. Permanently stitch the gathers in place, stitching 1/2-inch from the top edge. Hem the sides of the skirt using a double turned 1/2-inch hem. Mark the center of the gathered skirt.
6. Place the bib front under the gathered skirt, overlapping the bib by one inch, and matching the center points. \*See **Figure #2**.
7. Select the 72-inch piece of ribbon and mark the center point. Place the ribbon on top of the skirt, having the centers match and the ribbon covering the gathered edge. Pin ribbon in place, continuing across the skirt from end to end. \*See **Figure #3**. Top stitch along the ribbon edges, securing the ribbon to the skirt. \*See **Figure #4**. Cut the ends of ribbon ties at an angle and treat with seam sealant to prevent raveling.
8. Attach the 24-inch piece of ribbon for the neckline to the top of the bib, trying on for size and making adjustments for the length if necessary.

**Figure #2**



**Figure #3**



**Figure #4**



Your apron is complete! You are ready to entertain in style!

### Options:

- This apron makes a great personalized gift for bridal showers, Mother's day, seasonal holidays, and more!
- Use a variety of fabric, ribbon, and embroidered color combinations for additional holidays and special occasions.
- Add lace or other trims to embellish the bib or the hemline.