

## Projects > Pack Pal Tutorial

Children love hanging keychains from their backpacks. You will love making them on The Dream Machine, Quattro or Duetta.

### Materials and Supplies

- Embroidery design - Elsa of *Frozen* fame, available at iBroidery.com, will be used for this tutorial
- Felt - 2 pieces each larger than the design. For best results, use one piece of stiff felt and another of regular soft craft felt.
- Tear-away stabilizer - 2 pieces to fit the frame size required by the design. Do not cut stabilizer until design is ready to be embroidered.
- Embroidery threads
- Ribbon - 20" for hanging loop
- Spray adhesive or tape
- Glue stick

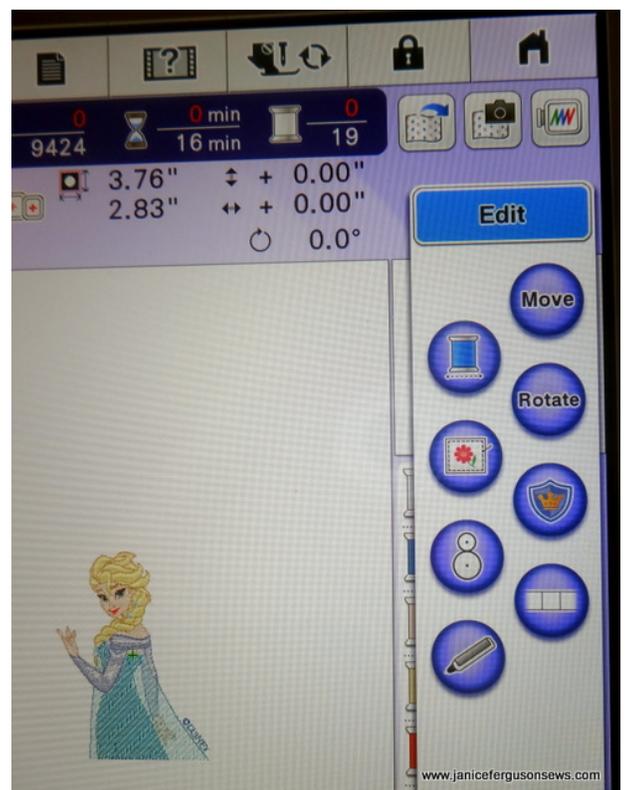
**NOTE:** All screen shots are taken from *The Dream Machine*. *Quattro* and *Duetta* screens may differ.



### Preparation:

1. Select design. Note that the size of this design is 2.83" by 3.86". Although it seems like it will fit in the 4" x 4" frame, you haven't added the satin stitch outline yet which will make the design larger than a 4" x 4" frame. *This is why the stabilizer should not yet be cut.*
2. Select "Set," then "Embroidery" and finally, "Edit." This screen will appear.
3. Select the icon which is shaped like a shield. It is the icon below ROTATE.
4. See the applique' satin stitch outline appear after making that selection with the stylus.

**NOTE:** That the size of the design now exceeds the size limit for the 4x4 frame. Thankfully, you haven't yet hooped up your stabilizer! Using the measurements provided on the screen, please select a hoop large enough to accommodate the design.



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5. The stitch count and number of colors has also increased.
6. Tap the Edit button at the top of the menu and this menu will disappear. Now the design is ready for embroidery.

### Embroidery:

1. Hoop tear-away stabilizer in a frame that will accommodate the design. Next cut a piece of stiff felt that nearly fills the frame. Secure it to the stabilizer with spray adhesive or tape along the edges. *Keep tape outside embroidery area.*
2. Embroider design through all colors including the first straight stitch outline. *See the outline in the upper right hand corner of this screen.*



**Note:** For the straight stitch outline, use thread which is the same color as the felt. This insures that these stitches will not show if satin stitches do not cover them.



3. Remove embroidery from hoop. Cut just outside the outline stitches.
4. Remove the stabilizer that lies between the embroidery and the outline stitch. *If is left in place, it may peek out later through the satin stitch outline.*



*Image has been darkened to make outline stitches more visible.*

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### Applique:

**Note:** The owner's manual gives instructions for a clean edge completely covered with the satin stitches. This technique is appropriate for very important keychains like gifts for British royal babes Charlotte or George. For keychains with a less glamorous destiny, the following technique is quicker, easier and renders satisfactory results. (It is exactly like the manual technique until step 11.)

1. Hoop 2<sup>nd</sup> piece of stabilizer and adhere soft felt in same manner as with first hooping. Embroider straight stitch outline on felt in color matching felt.

**Note:** The Owner's Manual directs you to cut away the felt outside the straight stitch outline. The satin stitch outline then covers both felt edges. Depending on the density of the felt, the outlines may not match perfectly. This may result in edges left enclosed by the satin stitch.

2. Apply glue stick adhesive to back of embroidery. Secure ribbon with glue stick. Apply glue between embroidery and ribbon, between two layers of ribbon, and to top of stacked ribbon. Trim the tail threads like those on the left at Elsa's elbow and at the base of the dress or be sure they are glued to the inside of the design. If not, they may extend beyond the satin stitching.
3. Remove frame from machine and place on a firm surface. Stack embroidery on soft felt, which is STILL IN THE FRAME, matching the outlines as carefully as possible. Finger press in place.
4. Reinsert frame in embroidery machine.
5. Back up one color stop to repeat the straight stitch outline. This secures the embroidery to the backing felt. Do not skip this very important step.
6. Embroider the final satin stitch. Using thread which is the same color as the felt gives best results.



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7. Remove stabilizer from back of soft felt.
8. Trim away excess felt close to the satin stitching. If the stitches are cut accidentally, application of a fray block product will prevent raveling.

### Notes & Tips:

1. Select ribbon before choosing embroidery threads. Because there is a greater selection of thread colors than ribbon it is easier to match thread to ribbon.
2. Use felt or another non-fraying material for keychains. The stiff felt works best on the top because it resists the pull of the embroidery stitches better than does the soft felt. Stiff felt may be used for both top and bottom, but it is not necessary.
3. Use bobbin thread to match the satin stitch thread. Aside from white and black bobbin fill, regular matching embroidery thread works.
4. Cut the ribbon generously. Backpack straps are various sizes. The ribbon loop must allow room for the embroidery to fit through after the loop is wrapped over the strap.

