

Projects > Embroidered Necklaces

Make a lovely necklace using one of our flower free designs!

Materials and Supplies

- [Brother Sewing/Embroidery Machine](#)
- [Brother Embroidery Thread](#)
- [Flower Embroidery Free Design](#)
(approximately 4.5 to 5.5 cm in size)
- Stiffly starched medium weight linen-like fabric
(1" larger on each side for the hoop you are using)
- Medium Weight Cut-Away Stabilizer
(same size as fabric)
- Thin polyester fleece or thin batting
(enough to make four layers about 3" square each)
- 1 yd twisted cord, rat tail, or covered cording for hanging (see [Cords and Tassels](#) in [Embroidery Techniques](#))
- Drapery weight or metal washer to give weight
- No-fray fabric, such as faux suede or felt for backing
(approximately 3" square for each medallion)
- **Optional:** Beads and trims for medallion, trim, and tassel
- **Optional:** Fabric pens
- **Optional:** Chalk or washable pen



Instructions

1. This project can be sewn with any embroidery machine with at least a 4" x 4" embroidery and frame capability. Machines with Embroidery Edit were used for the samples. Without Embroidery Edit designs would need to be centered and stitched to test for lineup.
2. Select the center design you wish to use. A good size to start with is approximately 4.5 - 5.5 cm across. Dimensions do not have to be exactly the same in all directions, just something that looks good in a circle frame.

Note: All flowers in the example can be found in [Flower Free Designs](#) except the poinsettia, which is design #24 from [Brother Embroidery Card #57](#).

3. Starch and press your linen-like fabric. Try various colors as background and select the coordinating embroidery thread to be used for the frame. Select a thread that blends with the backing material you plan to use.

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4. Place the starched fabric on top of the cutaway stabilizer and hoop the two together.
5. Select *Embroidery Edit* and open the card or disk containing your design. Select the design, push SET and then END.
6. Select the frame pattern for a satin stitched circle, then SET. Try 7.0 cm in proportion to your center design. Enlarge or reduce the size slightly if desired.
7. Press END, when satisfied with the size.

Tip: If you need to adjust the relationship of the center design to the circle, move the center design rather than the circle.

8. Press SEWING and stitch the combined center and frame. If you use a hoop larger than 4" x 4", you can stitch more than one medallion at a time.
9. Remove the embroidered fabric from the hoop and press, embroidery side down. Trim stabilizer close to outer circular frame. Extra stabilizer left outside the frame stitching will make finishing the necklace more difficult. Leave stabilizer within the frame for greater stability in wearing.
10. Trim the fabric, leaving 3/8" to 1/2" outside the frame, depending on how firmly you starched the linen and how much it ravel.
11. Finger press the fabric edges to the back, bending the fabric close to the satin stitch edge. With edges tucked under, lay the medallion on top of your thin polyester fleece or thin batting and cut four circles slightly smaller than the medallion. It is not necessary to be exact, just inside the frame stitching.

Tip: If you do not have access to thin polyester fleece and use thin cotton batting, two layers are all you need for a medallion as it is thicker.

12. Place two layers of the thin fleece on the back of the embroidery and loosely hand sew the turned back edges to the fleece. Keep the satin stitched frame close to the edge of the turned fabric as you will be sewing the backing to this satin stitching to hide the base fabric.

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13. The ends of the hanging cords and tassels (if used) can be hidden at this stage if you sew the ends to this first layer of fleece/batting. Leave enough of the tassel cord loose to not cover the neck with the backing.

Note: See [Cords and Tassels](#) in [Embroidery Techniques](#) for more ideas.

14. If you like the feel of a weighted pendant, hand sew a drapery weight or metal washer (about 1-1/2" across) to the center.
15. Sew the other two pieces of fleece over the weight and to the pendant.
16. Lay the backing fabric face down with the medallion face up on top. Mark the size of the backing by tracing around the unit with caulk or washable pen. Cut the backing material slightly larger than your marking. Pin the backing to the pendant (wrong sides together), first on four sides and then with additional pins to see if trimming is necessary. Adjust as necessary.
17. Start hand stitching at the bottom using the same thread you used to embroider the satin stitch. If you start on one side of the tassel (if used), you will anchor the back to the front while pulling the back closely to the tassel. You may need to trim the backing in places to make a smooth finish.
18. Use matching fabric pens to touch up any spots where the fabric peaks through your hand stitching, or add extra stitches to pull the frame stitching closer to the backing.
19. Add beads to embellish your design. If you plan to add gold beads to the center of the flower, you can add them before you start sewing on the fleece. Other beads such as used on the striped cord pink orchid necklace, can be added after the unit is assembled.

Notes: *If you wish to create a more complex necklace, you can add other frames on top of the satin row. You may need to adjust the size and placement of subsequent frames to align them. When a frame is wider than the satin row, line up the inner edges as the outer edge will be turned back to the satin edge anyway. The orchid pendants used a rose blanket stitch frame on top and the poinsettia used a gold lace scallop on top.*