

Projects > Pink Flamingo Polka Dot Bag Tag

Our FREE Brother design this month is a pink flamingo. This design is sure to make you think of warm tropical breezes even if you are just heading to the local park. Learn how to use your Brother built in frame patterns to create a free-standing circular flamingo patch. You can use patches to accent a variety of accessories and home décor. We will show you how to make the patch into a two sided bag tag. Tie the tag to your luggage, golf bag, sport bag, or our featured tote. One side shows the flamingo, the other has a bright monogram. Sure, it is just a circle but pair it with a pink flamingo and you can call it a polka dot!

Materials and Supplies

- [Brother Sewing and Embroidery machine](#)
- [Brother Embroidery Hoop](#), 4-inch by 4-inch.
- [Brother Embroidery Thread](#)
- [Brother Bobbin Thread for Embroidery](#)
- [SA541](#) Pacesetter® Lightweight Water Soluble Stabilizer
- [SA190](#) Brother Non Stick Roller foot
- Small Curved tip scissors such as those found in the Brother [SASCISSKIT](#) Scissor Kit, plus craft or paper cutting scissors.
- Brother FREE Flamingo Design
- To purchase the featured designs please visit www.ibroidery.com
- Size 11 embroidery needle for embroidery.
- Size 14 machine needle and sewing thread for machine sewing.

Fabric and Notion Requirements for Bag Tag:

- White or light colored cotton, two pieces measuring 5-inches square.
- Lightweight fusible interfacing, two pieces measuring 5-inches square.
- Satin or Grosgrain ribbon, one piece measuring 3/8-inch wide by 18-inches long.
- Fusible webbing product for fusing fabric tags together.
- Iron on vinyl laminate such as Therm-O-Web Iron-On Vinyl, two pieces measuring 4-inches square for laminating bag tag. Important Note: Please read the manufacturer's cautions and instructions for using this vinyl product.

Instructions for Creating Circular Patches

1. Hoop two layers of the water soluble stabilizer in the 4-inch hoop. Wind a bobbin and thread top and bobbin with embroidery thread in the color you have chosen for your outline. In our example we used orange.
2. Select the triple stitch circular frame from your Brother Built-in Frame patterns.



See our Brother Foot of the Month Project for the Pinwheel Patchwork Tote Instructions.

Designed exclusively for you from the
Brother Education Department

brother.
at your side

Projects > Pink Flamingo Polka Dot Bag Tag



3. Re-size the circle to equal approximately 9cm or 3.53-inches. *See **Figure #1**.

NOTE: Various Brother model machines may produce a different measurement when you re-size the circle. The recommended size is approximate. Select a size as close as possible to the one used in our example. It is important that you do not make the circle much smaller than this measurement as you need room for the flamingo to fit within the circle.

4. Place one square of the light colored fabric on top of the water soluble, placing it in the approximate center of the hoop. *See **Figure #2a and #2b**. You can use small pieces of low tack tape at the top and bottom edge to temporarily keep the fabric from shifting.
5. Stitch the circle. Carefully remove the hoop from the machine, leaving the fabric in place. Take care that you handle the hoop only by the outer edges to avoid distorting the fabric in the hoop. Place the hoop on a flat surface. Next, cut the square in several places, cutting up to the stitched circle through the fabric layer only. Cut several slits up to the circle, forming small wedges of fabric that are easy to lift with your fingertips. Carefully lift the cut fabric and trim up to the stitched circle, trimming away all of the fabric outside the stitched circle.

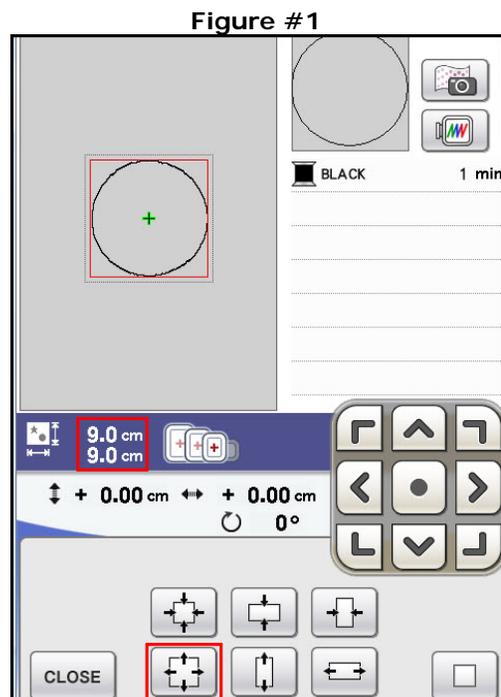


Figure #2a

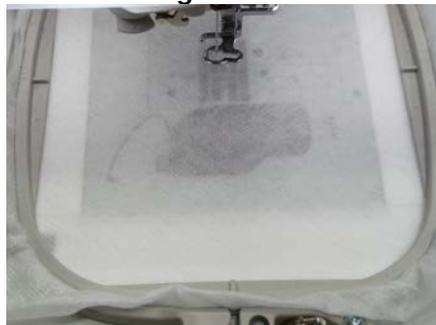


Figure #2b



Projects > Pink Flamingo Polka Dot Bag Tag

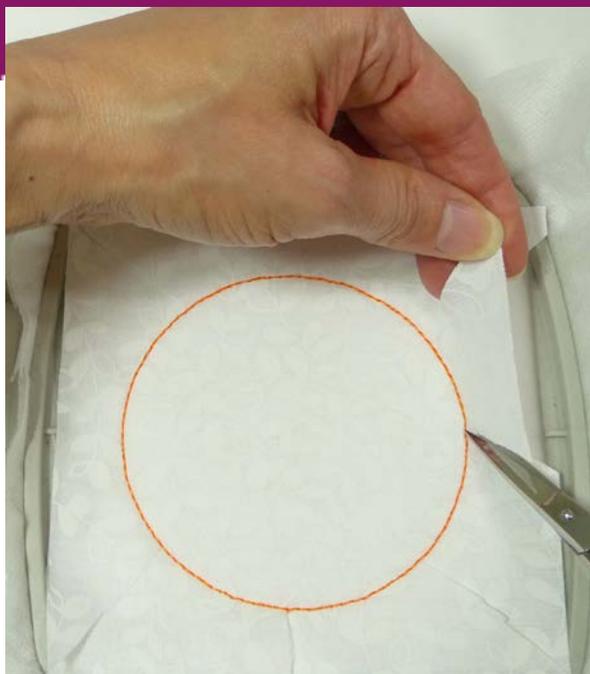


Figure #3

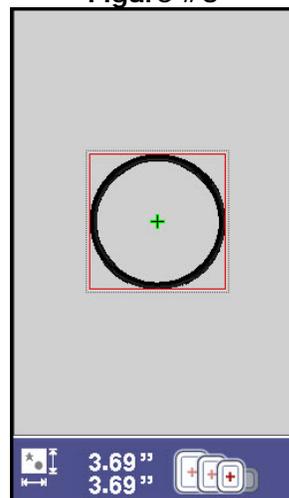


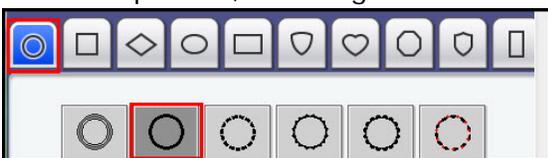
Figure #4a



Figure #4b



6. Place the hoop back on the machine. Select a new circular frame pattern, choosing the satin stitch style.



7. Re-size the circle to equal approximately 9.4 cm or 3.69-inches. Again, the size on your machine may be slightly different. It is important to increase the size of this second circle so that it covers the raw edge of the straight stitched circle. An addition of approximately 4-5mm, or slightly less than 1/4-inch will give you the best results. Match the numbers on your machine as close as possible to the ones used in these directions.*See **Figure #3**.
8. Stitch the second circle. *See **Figure #4a and #4b**.
9. Next, Transfer the flamingo design to the machine. Stitch the design in the center of the finished circle, using ordinary bobbin thread in the bobbin and your chosen thread on top.

Projects > Pink Flamingo Polka Dot Bag Tag



10. When finished, temporarily set the piece aside. Next, repeat steps one through eight to create a second satin stitched circle, using the exact same measurements you used for the first. Use lettering built-in to your machine to design a monogram that fits within the size of this finished circle. Use your trial feature if necessary to trace out the area before stitching.

NOTE: For machines with Edit Mode capability the two circles, and the embroidery design, flamingo or monogram can be created as one unit in the layout screen. Take care to follow the steps presented here for the stitching order of the designs.

Instructions for Creating the Tag.

1. Remove the stabilizer from each piece by trimming carefully close to the edge. You can remove any excess around the outer edge by soaking the piece or by dabbing the edges with a wet cloth or sponge. In either case, make certain the edge is free from stabilizer and any remaining residue and is thoroughly dry before proceeding with the next step.

Tip: At this point your patch is complete. You can use the above method to create a free standing embroidered patch, and then apply the patch by fusing or stitching it to your chosen item. The rest of the instructions show how to take two patches and create a double sided bag tag.

2. Gather all your materials together to finish the tag. Cut a circle from the fusible webbing, having it measure slightly smaller than your finished patches. *See **Figure #6**. Following the manufacturer's directions, fuse the two embroidered circles together. Add the laminate to one side and then the other, again following the manufacturer's directions.

Figure #6



Figure #7



Figure #8

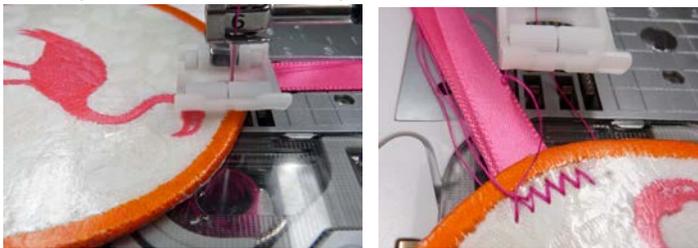


Projects > Pink Flamingo Polka Dot Bag Tag

3. Use craft or paper scissors to trim the excess laminate, trimming close to the satin stitches. *See **Figure #7**. It is possible to carefully melt away the remaining laminate along the edge by covering it with the protective paper and running the iron along the edge. This seals the tag for a neat finish. *See **Figure #8**.

Instructions for Sewing

1. Set up machine for sewing using the Non-Stick roller foot. Fold the ribbon piece in half and attach to one side of the tag with a narrow zig zag stitch. **TIP:** It is helpful to temporarily hold the ribbon in place using a small piece of low tack tape.



You are finished! Tie your tag securely to your bag and enjoy some summer fun! You will want to make more personalized tags using these same techniques.