
Heirloom Pillow



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Materials and Supplies

- Brother ULT Embroidery Machine
 - 12" x 18" 18-count ecru Aida
 - 1- 12" x 18" crisp tear away stabilizer
 - 2- 5" x 12" ecru cotton fabric* for front sides
 - 2- 11" x 8 1/2" ecru cotton fabric* for back
 - 2" x width of fabric, ecru cotton fabric* for puffing
 - 2- 3" x width of fabric, ecru cotton fabric* for ruffle
 - [Ruffler \(SA143\)](#)
 - [Blind stitch foot \(SA133\)](#)
 - Washable pen or chalk
 - Temporary adhesive spray
 - Starch
 - "J" & "Q" feet
 - 6" x 10" hoop
 - 1 1/3 yd. 3mm wide white ribbon
 - 4" of 3/4" wide Velcro or similar
 - Custom designs for center cross stitch and side flowers
 - [Brother Memory Card # 41 \(SA341\)](#)
 - Brother Embroidery threads, beige (843), seacrest (542), salmon pink (079), yellow (205)
 - 60 wt. cotton sewing thread for assembly
 - 1 - 12" x 18" heavyweight wash away stabilizer
 - Pillow form (about 10" square, can be resized from larger pillow form)
 - 4" Steam-A-Seam 2, 1/2" wide (optional)
 - Tapestry needle for ribbon (optional)
 - * *suggested fabric is lightweight broadcloth similar in color to the Aida fabric*
- [Custom PES Files](#)

Level of Difficulty

Intermediate

Embroidering the designs

- Step 1** Load cross-stitch design into the ULT. If you plan to use a different letter than in the sample, see instructions below.
- Step 2** Hoop Aida cloth with tear way stabilizer. Embroider and change threads as indicated on screen. Clip long jump stitches as the work progresses. Remove from hoop, press.
- Step 3** Starch and press two 5" x 12" outer sections.
- Step 4** Using wash away or chalk pen, mark the 5" x 12" side pieces. Mark line for first pin tuck 3 1/2" from lower horizontal edge. Mark another line 2 1/4" from lower horizontal edge for the second tuck. Mark line for small flowers 1 1/4" from lower horizontal edge.
- Step 5** Hoop with heavyweight wash away stabilizer; mark center lines with wash away pen (from top to bottom and side to side). Using temporary spray, attach the two prepared side pieces, matching long sides to vertical marking on stabilizer. Attach so the 1 1/4" lines are both closest to the vertical marking. Load vertical flower file. Using the arrows and trial button, line up the design with the center marks for the 1 1/4" line on one piece of fabric, embroider. Move the flower design to the other 1 1/4" and embroider the other row. Unhoop and trim stabilizer close to embroidery. Set aside.

NOTE: Press all fabrics before you work on a section. Heirloom fabrics are easier to work with when starched. The puffing sections just need to be pressed.

Constructing the parts

- Step 1** Tucks: Change machine to sew. Thread with 60 wt. sewing thread. Finger press along the first fold of one 5" x 12" embroidered section. With J foot and stitch 1-29 at 2.5 mm, sew seam approximately 1/4" from fold (guide with right edge of foot on fold). Repeat for second tuck. Repeat for other embroidered panel. Rinse out wash away marker/ stabilizer and lay to dry.
- Step 2** When dry, press tucked side panels and trim to 3" x 11". The sample measured 3/4" from edge of the flowers to the outer edge. When cutting the 11" length, make sure the center flower will line up with the initial on the cross-stitch section. Anchor each tuck at center and between the second and third flower counting from each side. The sample used the button sewing stitch, 3mm wide and the J foot. The folds face the center so a scallop will form in the completed pillow.
- Step 3** Puffing: Cut 2" wide puffing piece in half so each is about 22-23", depending on the width of the fabric. Using the J foot, straight stitch at the left needle position, 4 mm long and loosened tension, sew a gathering stitch along each long side. Tie the threads at one end on each. Gather each piece to about 11" long. Adjust gathers and press lightly.
- Step 4** Ruffle: Sew seam on ruffle, French seam, edge finish or pink. Finish outer edge with a rolled hem, serger or decorative technique. The sample used the following process. (Test before doing it on your final project to see if settings need adjustment with your fabric.) Fold over 1/4" on one long edge and press so seam fold is on top. Set up [blind stitch foot](#) (SA133) with white arm in line with center needle position. Change to zigzag (1-10) at 2.5 mm wide and .8 mm long. Sew a narrow zigzag along the folded-over seam edge. Press and trim seam next to stitching. Change settings to 4.0 mm width and 1.4 mm length. Stitch so bobbin side will end up on the outside top of the ruffle, if you like the effect on your sample.
- Step 5** Use [ruffler foot](#) (SA143) to gather ruffle using setting of 6 stitches per inch and 3.5 length with screw all the way in. Set aside.
- Step 6** Center: Press center section. Thread 12" length of narrow ribbon through Xs on top of the letter. Thread 15" length of ribbon from the left of the bottom row of Xs, leaving most of the ribbon hanging from the center. Repeat for the right side. The tails will be used to tie a bow when complete. Anchor end of the ribbons just outside of the embroidery.
- Step 7** Trim center embroidered panel to have 1/2" seam allowance on short sides and 5/8" on long sides to allow last row of embroidery to show.

Assembling the pillow

- Step 1** With right sides together, sew one edge of the puffing to each side of the center panel with 1/2" seams. Fold seam under puffing, press lightly.
- Step 2** With right sides together, sew the tucked panel to each side, checking that the tucks will be on the outside of the pillow. Square up pillow on padded pressing surface.
- Step 3** On the right side, work a row of feather or faggoting stitch (2-11) in beige (843) to anchor the puffing, if desired. Settings of 4.0 mm wide and 2.5 mm long were used on the sample.
- Step 4** Use two rectangles of the fabric 11" x 8 1/2" for an overlapped back. Turn under 1-inch, then 1-inch again on the long edge of one fabric piece. Do the same on the opposite long edge of the other rectangle.
- Step 5** Pin or use Steam-A-Seam 2 to position and temporarily secure the hook-and-loop tape in the center of the hems. Stitch the hook-and-loop tape to the first folded section. Stitch 7/8-inch from the fold to anchor the second fold to the back. Baste the two sides together to hold in place for pillow construction.
- Step 6** Trim the back of the pillow to match the front, approximately 10 1/2" high x 11" wide.
- Step 7** Pin the ruffle to the pillow front, right sides together and raw edges even. Overlap the ends or trim/seam together and baste in place.
- Step 8** Pin pillow back to pillow front, right sides together, with ruffle sandwiched in between. Stitch a 1/2" seam around all four sides. Trim the corners and turn right side out.
- Step 9** Insert the pillow form. If you don't find an appropriate pillow form, buy the larger size, take out some stuffing and re-seam the cover to make it about 10" square using a serger or the ULT's side cutter or the "G" foot and stitch 1-26. Tie bow on center section and trim ends.

Using other letters from Brother Memory Card 41

- Step 1** Load the cross-stitch design without an initial into Embroidery Edit.
- Step 2** Load the letter of your choice from [Memory Card 41](#) (large size). Rotate the letter 90 degrees forward. Touch the Image icon to see how your design will appear.
- Step 3** Refer to the leaflet, which comes with [Memory Card 41](#) and plan your color changes. To coordinate with the cross-stitch, use beige (843) for the letter and frame, seacrest (542) for leaves, salmon pink (079) for flowers and yellow (205) for flower centers (if your letter has them). Use the thread color palette to change the display, if desired.
- Step 4** Save your combined design to memory in case you need to stop and later finish the design.

Early Irwin

Educational Consultant for Brother International