

## Using Ink/Stitch

You can find Inkscape at [inkscape.org](https://inkscape.org). Ink/Stitch is an extension which will allow you to create embroidery files in Inkscape.

### Ink/Stitch and Inkscape Resources

[Inkscape Home Page/Download](#)

[Install Ink/Stitch](#)

[Stitch Library - Ink/Stitch](#)

[Font Library - Ink/Stitch](#)

The Ink/Stitch website also contains a lot of information and tutorials.

### Getting Started

The first step is to create an Inkscape file with the correct dimensions for one of the embroidery hoops – **10cm x 10cm** for the large hoop and \_\_ for the small hoop. You can do this by going to **Document Properties** and changing the width and height of your file.

You can now create a vector design using Inkscape’s tools.

You can also import or copy and paste any **.SVG** file into Inkscape.

### Embroidery Designs

Make sure all objects which are meant to be the same color are grouped together by selecting them all, right-clicking and selecting **Group**. Make sure you don’t have any duplicate objects stacked on top of each other – Ink/Stitch recognizes individual objects and will layer them on top of each other.

For non-text designs, navigate to **Extensions > Ink/Stitch > Params**. Ink/Stitch requires the objects in your file to be formatted as a path, so if something doesn’t show up in the Ink/Stitch Preview, select it and navigate to **Path > Object to Path**. Press the “play” button to preview the default stitch settings. Make sure it includes the whole design and divides up the colors the way you want it to (if applicable).

### Custom Text

The sewing machine has several basic pre-programmed font options which are convenient for simple designs. However, Ink/Stitch has a lot more options, and will allow you to integrate your text into a non-text design.

If your design contains text, don't just type it in with Inkscape's text feature. For better results, go to **Extensions > Ink/Stitch > Lettering > Lettering**. Select your font and enter in your text. Check the size and scaling recommendations displayed, many of the Ink/Stitch fonts are large and can't be scaled down beyond a certain amount. Select **Color Sort > On** if you use a multicolor font. When you're done, press **Apply & Quit** and your text will now appear in your main Inkscape design file.

Inkscape may ask you to "Add a Preset" before you apply changes to your text. Don't worry about this, just make a preset in the preset box and name it something relevant.

When you are happy with the parameters, press **Apply and Quit**. When you finish your design, navigate to **File > Save A Copy**. Save your file in the **.pes** format.