

Van Go Designs- Soft key tag tutorial

Materials: waterproof canvas is what we use and it works brilliantly. You can use any hefty weighted fabric like canvas or denim. Experiment and see what you like. We like the waterproof canvas best.

We recommend using a matching bobbin especially for the final two steps as you won't want two colors on the bottom of your key tag. You will want a solid color final stitch outline on bottom.

Cliff notes: quick reference guide

A. Step 1, placement stitch done on stabilizer

B. Place fabric over placement stitch

C. Step 2, tack down the fabric

D. Stitch all design steps

*Switch bobbin for matching color

*Cover the bottom of the key tag

E. Stitch the second to the last stitch step

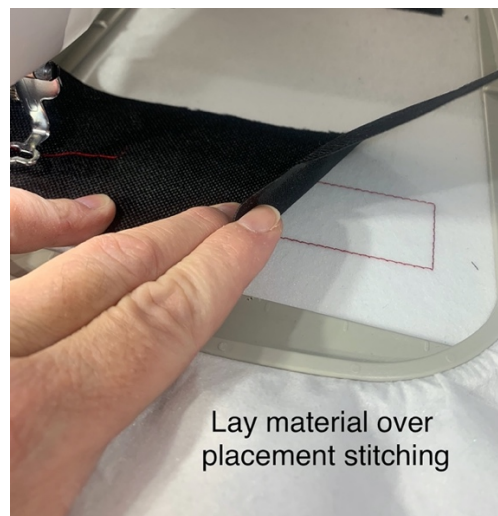
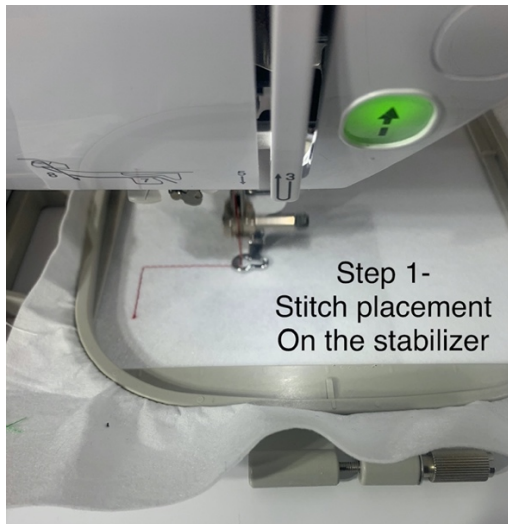
*Trim top fabric to the stitch line and bottom fabric to the stitch line (just like you do with a patch on top, only you're doing both sides.)

*Stitch the final stitch step.

*Remove from hoop, trim close.

*Burn edges to remove excess stabilizer, punch hold for split keyring or ball and

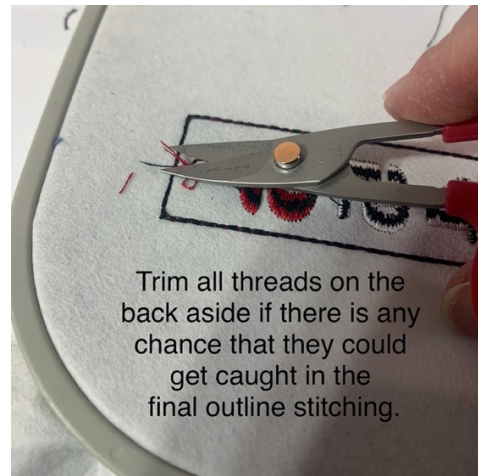
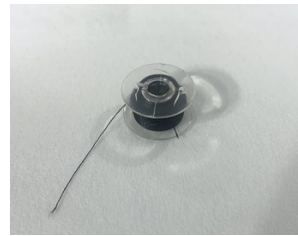
Let's begin by hooping cut away stabilizer.
This helps give the key tag more stability.





Once the design is on the material of the key tag, you will have some prep to do before you do the last two steps.

1. Remove the hoop from your machine. DO NOT UNHOOP the item. You're just taking it off the machine so you can work on the underside of the hoop.
2. Switch your bobbin to match whatever color you plan to use as your top satin stitch. I used black, 40wt, much like when stitching do FSL.
3. Trim all backside threads so they do not get caught in the final satin stitch.





If you are not familiar with waterproof canvas, the rubbery side is the **WRONG** side of this fabric. My index finger is touching the wrong side of the fabric....

You will need to tape the fabric on the underside so it stays in place. See pic below.



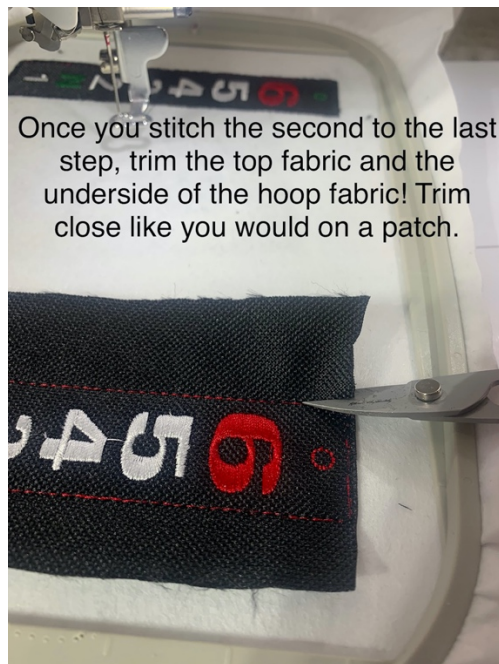
With your matching fabric wrong side down, tape it to the underside of the hoop to cover all of the design stitches with some excess beyond the stitches. Tape it in place well so it doesn't move or shift.

Put your hoop back on your machine.
Stitch the second to the last step.
This step is the tack down for the bottom fabric that is on the underside of your hoop.
This gets the design, top and bottom, ready to be trimmed.



ALMOST DONE!!!

Remove the hoop from your machine again **KEEPING** the design secured **IN** the hoop. Carefully trim the excess fabric on top and bottom of the hoop as close to the stitches as you can.



Oops, forgot to change my thread, but it's ok. It will get covered. Just make sure you change it before the last step.

This is ready for trimming.



DID YOU CHANGE YOUR BOBBIN?!

Final stitch step!!



Done!!



Trim the stabilizer away. Normally I would have used black stabilizer...but for demonstration purposes I used white.

Trim as close as you can but don't snip the satin stitches.



Using a lighter, low flame, with quick motions, to burn away the edges of the stabilizer. You can also use a wood burning tool.



You may have noticed that I skipped the grommet placement on this one. You too can skip it if you want.

It would be right above the 6.

Once it's cut out, use your leather punch to punch the hole for the grommet.

I use 3/16th grommets but use the size of your choosing.

Add your desired hardware.

Shown below: split ring, carabiner and a wire keyring.



Thank you,
Van Go Designs