

Van Go Designs' Patch Tutorial



To begin: Hoop your cut away stabilizer. Tear away stabilizer is not recommended because the density of patches weakens this stabilizer. Multiple layers of tear away does not help.

Choose a felt color: White, gray and black are good base colors if you don't want to buy many different colors. White is good under light colors, gray under medium, and black is good under dark colors.

Let's begin.

Stitch steps 1, 2, and 3 will always be for the same purpose on all VGD patches.

A. Stitch step 1 is placement. It is stitched to show you the area to cover with your felt or patch material.



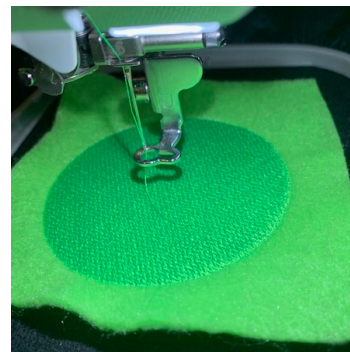
*Place an oversized felt piece over the placement stitch. We recommend a color similar to the color you plan to use as the base layer for stitch step 3. You can tape the felt down outside the stitch area, but make sure the felt doesn't shift or bunch.



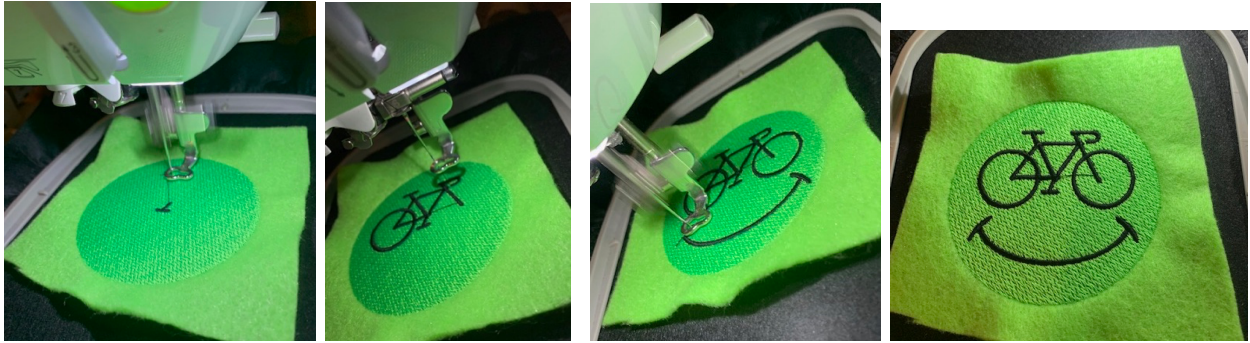
B. Stitch step 2 is done on your felt to tack down the felt so in preparation for the base stitches.



C. Stitch step 3 is the base layer and will take the greatest amount of time. Base layers are done in 2 passes, a bottom layer pass and then a more filled layer pass.



D. Stitch all other design steps in the patch.



The final 2 stitch steps of any of VGD patches will always be for the same purpose.

Second to the last stitch step: this is a stitch that goes around the patch shape that protects the base stitches so you can trim your felt edges and not accidentally clip the base stitches.



Keeping your patch in the hoop!! Take the whole hoop off your machine being careful not to move the embroidery arm!

Carefully trim the felt as close to the line of stitching as you can. Duckbill or curved tipped scissors are very helpful for this step.

*See pic at bottom of this tutorial for scissor options.



Last stitch step: this is the final satin outline on the patch. This is done after you trim the felt away.



Once the final stitch step is done, you can remove the patch from the hoop. Trim the bulk of the stabilizer away.



Then you can trim closer to the patch with scissors of your choice. Hold scissors vertically to the patch and hold the patch flat.



DO NOT trim too close or you risk cutting the satin stitches and that stinks. If you accidentally cut too close, you can glue the stitches down to save the patch. Just go slow when cutting. The rest of the stabilizer will get burned off with either a lighter or a wood burner tool.

CAUTION: both the burner and lighter can still ruin your patch. When using a lighter, it's a quick pass. Do not linger in any one area or you will melt your threads and cause burn marks. A lighter with adjustable flame is best.

Same with the wood burner. I've ruined patches lingering in one spot too long. It's quick smooth runs along the edges.



Scissor options: three of these are curved and the rainbow pair is duckbill. These are my favorites.



Red handles: Karen Buckley 4" curve tipped serrated from Amazon (Just got these. They're amazing but come with a learning curve to use them. I'd also like to get the 6" pair.)

Rainbow: duckbill from Amazon (they only lasted about a year before growing dull, but initially were very good.)

White flower: singer curve tipped from JAF (work well, but not very durable. For the price, I'm happy to have them sometimes because of the long thin tips.)

Silver: nail clipper scissors from Target (Don't know these! lol They're strong and sharp.)

Good luck!

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