

# Tutorials > Tips and Techniques – BES3 Swim Set

Machine embroidery is a popular way to embellish ready-made items and stitch something special and unique! You can use the Brother BES3® Lettering and Customization software to create distinctive embroidery designs then personalize a towel and decorate a pair of swim shorts for your favorite swim team champ. In this tutorial you'll learn about special fabric recipes and see how to add lettering, accent motifs, and appliqué designs with this versatile embroidery software from Brother.

## Materials and Supplies

- [Brother Embroidery Machine](#)
- [Brother BES3® Lettering and Customization Software](#)
- [Brother Embroidery and Bobbin Thread](#)
- [Brother Bobbin Thread](#)
- [Brother Stabilizers](#)
- Pre-purchased Large White Towel with low nap.
- Pre-purchased Swim Shorts
- Washable fabric remnants for appliqués.
- Washable ribbons for trimming towel.



Figure #1a

## Instructions for Creating the Lettering and Appliqué Design

1. Open the BES3 software and select New Project.
2. Name your new project and choose TOWEL from the recipe list. Be sure to scroll down and read all of the valuable information included with the towel recipe. \*See **Figure #1a** and **Figure #1b**.
3. To create a design sized for a large towel, begin by clicking on the drop down arrow below the Hoop icon. Click Select Hoop. \*See **Figure #2**. Select the 180X 130mm hoop. Rotate hoop 90 degrees for a horizontal layout.

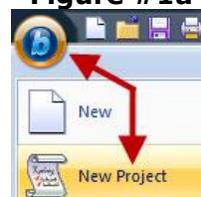


Figure #1b

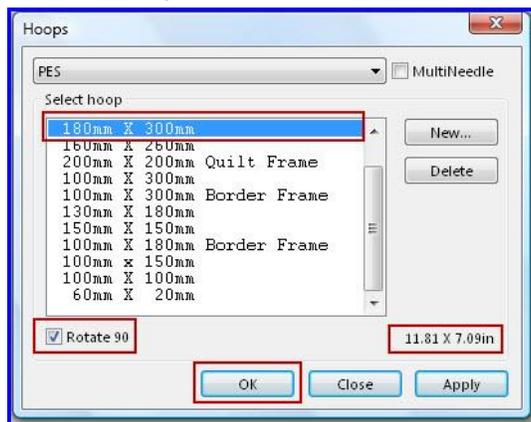
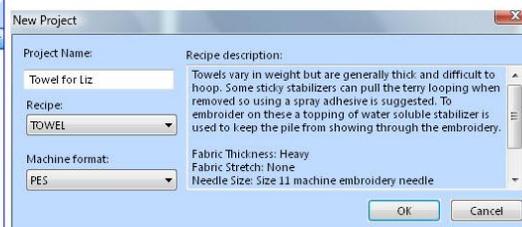
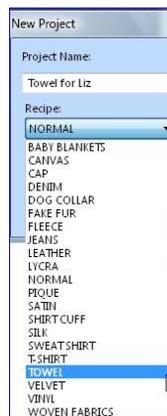


Figure #2



- Choose a thread color from the Color Palette.

Click on the Normal text  icon from the Home tab and then click once inside the hoop. Click on the drop down arrow to access the menu of font styles. \*See **Figure #3**.

- Type the name into the text box. Click Apply to generate the letters inside the hoop. Click in a blank space to de-select the first line of lettering. Now click below the first line to add the second. Repeat the steps for typing the text in the text box and click Apply to generate the additional lettering. Note the font and settings we used. \*See **Figure #4**.

**Figure #3**



- Slide the cursor until you see a hand and then click and drag to move the text into place. You can move either line of selected text by selecting the lettering and then clicking and dragging with the hand. \*See **Figure #5**.

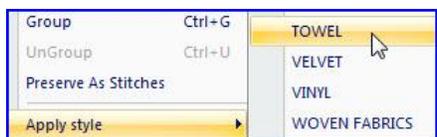
- In this step we will adjust the entire group of text. Follow the steps below:
  - Click on the drop down arrow below Select and click Select All.



- To maximize the size for this hoop access the Hoop icon from the Home tab, then click on the drop down arrow and click Fit Hoop.

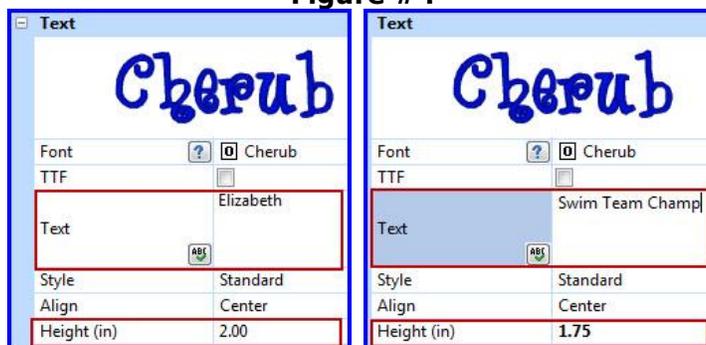


- To create stitches more suitable for lettering on a towel click Select>Select All. Right click on the selected group. Slide the cursor to highlight Apply style and slide over to click on TOWEL. You may not readily notice the change on screen but stitches have been added and automatically modified by the software.



- Select the group and slide the cursor until you see the hand, then click and drag to move text near the bottom of the hoop. Add the flower accent design. \*See **Figure #6**.

**Figure #4**



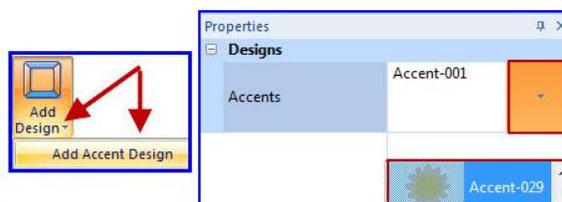
**Figure #5**

**Note:** If the lettering is selected while in Edit mode you can also modify individual letters. Read the manual included with the software and you will find that there are many ways to customize your text.



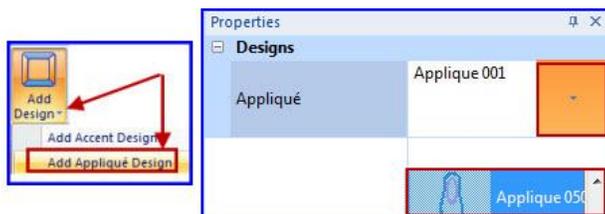
**Figure #6**

From the Home tab click on Add Design and select Add Accent Design. Click to the right of the first accent to access the drop down arrow. Scroll down to select Accent No.029. Click in a blank space near the name to generate the design.



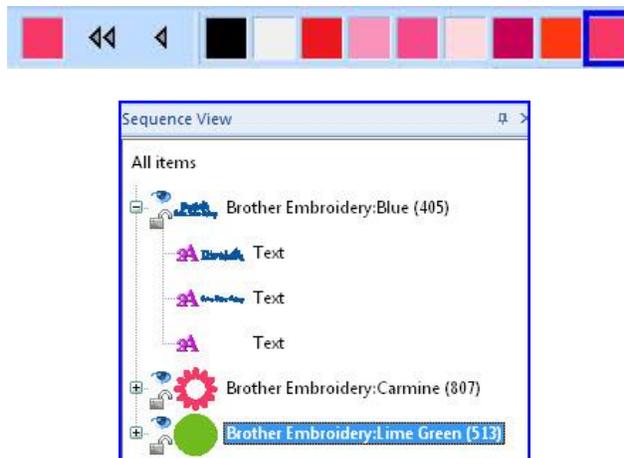
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- To change a thread color, simply click on the individual segment in the Sequence View and then select a new thread color from the Color Palette. \*See **Figure #7**.
- Select the motif and re-size by clicking and dragging on one of the four corner handles. Click and drag motif into position. \*See **Figure #8**.
- Apply the Towel style following the steps outlined previously in Step 7.
- To finish the combination add the appliqué sandal designs. Follow the steps below:
  - From the Home tab click Add Design > Add Appliqué Design. Click on the drop down arrow and scroll to select appliqué No.050.



**Figure #7**

Color Palette

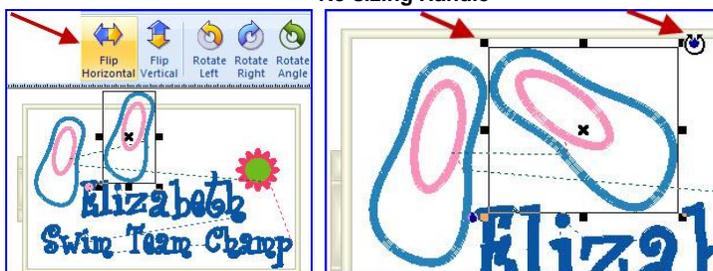


**Figure #8**



**Figure #9**

Re-sizing Handle      Rotation Handle



**Figure #10**



- Click near the name to generate the first appliqué. Select the appliqué design. Re-size it to fit by clicking and dragging on one of the four corner handles and drag into position. Rotate as needed by clicking and dragging on rotation handle. To make the second appliqué right click on the first, and then click Copy. Right click a second time and click Paste. Drag the pasted appliqué away from the first. From the Arrange tab click to flip the design.\*See **Figure #9**.
  - Drag into position and rotate as necessary. You can change colors by selecting the segments in Sequence view. Note that the appliqué includes three color stops. The last color is the finishing stitch and the one that will show most prominently on the fabric.
- Click on Select > Select All. Click on the Arrange tab and click on Center. If necessary you can click Hoop and Fit Hoop to make certain your design fits. See finished combination in **Figure #10**.

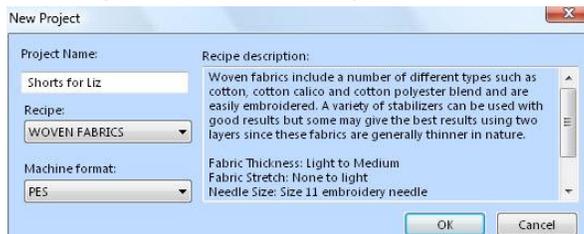
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You are ready to save your design, send it to the machine and stitch it on your towel.

**Note about ribbon trim:** To further embellish the towel we used the sewing machine to stitch rows of ribbons along the band area of the towel. In addition, we stitched narrow ribbon on the appliqué shapes to simulate flip flops. \*See **Figure #11**.

### Instructions for Creating Design for Shorts

1. Use the basic methods described in these instructions to create a combination design with a name and an accent motif. Begin with a New Project and choose a fabric recipe to match your fabric choice. Be sure to read the important information included with the recipe. We used a recipe for woven fabrics.

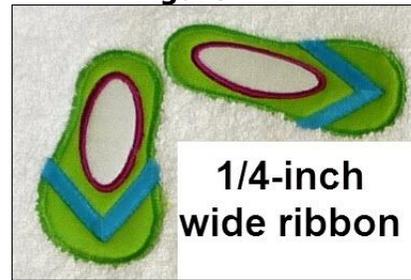


\*See an example of our completed design for a 4-inch hoop in **Figure #12**.

**Tip:** When you are finished creating your designs you will likely want to save them in both the .brf format and the format specific for the machine. When closing a design the software will give you a prompt to save in the .brf format. Read the information box below for more information on this option.



**Figure #11**



**Figure #12**

