

## How to use Mylar with Embroidery

Designs that are optimized for embroidery are created with no underlay and with the rows of stitching farther apart than a regular filled design. If you haven't done any mylar designs before, these instructions will help you. For more in-depth information, please check this page:

<http://www.CharmingStation.com/MylarDesigns.asp>

### Supplies

- Fabric** You can choose any garment or fabric that you like for these designs.
- Thread** You can use any thread/colors you like.
- Stabilizer** These designs are light enough to use most any stabilizer; we use no-show poly mesh most often.
- Mylar** We use Blue Opal Iridescent for most of our designs as this allows you to use one piece under the entire design. The colors you see will be the color of the thread you are using. To purchase mylar that is made for embroidery, please visit this website:

<http://www.heirloomsbysharon.com/>

### Tip for sewing on dark fabric

Because mylar designs have less density (the rows of stitching are farther apart to allow the mylar to sparkle through), if you use a dark or printed fabric or garment for the background, that color/print will show through when your design is finished. If you don't want that to happen, you can create a "color blocker" to place on your fabric before you embroider the design.

Use one of these methods:

1. Try White Mylar, available from the link above. We have a sample with photos of how this works here: <http://www.charmingstation.com/WhiteMylar.html>
2. If you have software that will print out a template of the design in its actual size, print out the design and use this as a template to cut out the shape from a medium weight cutaway stabilizer.

Or

3. Hoop a piece of medium cutaway stabilizer and sew out the first color of the design you plan to use. Remove this from the machine and trim just to the inside of the stitching all the way around.

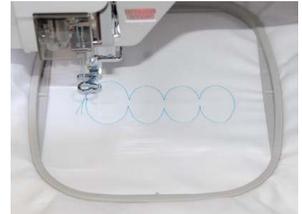
This piece of stabilizer will be your "color blocker" for use in the steps below.

### Embroidery Steps

Please take a minute to read through these steps, even if you have used mylar designs in the past.

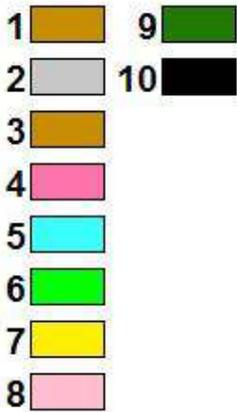
**Note:** The first two colors in each Charming Station design are the outline and tack down stitches for your mylar. To save color changes, you can use the same light colored thread for each of these steps as color #3. Then follow the steps below to avoid having to change colors:

- Hoop your fabric/stabilizer
- The first color will sew out an outline for the mylar. Use the color which appears as color #3 in each design. This eliminates the need to change thread colors for the first three color stops.
- If you are using a dark or printed background, lay your "color blocker" or "Hide It" on the outline you just sewed. If your background is light or white, just skip this step.
- Place a piece of mylar on top of the hoop, making sure that it covers the entire outline sewn in the previous step (and your "color blocker" if you want to use one).
- You can use small pieces of tape to hold this in place if you want - I find that the mylar may bunch up a little if you don't tape it down.
- Sew the second color (use the same color as in step 1). This will tack down the mylar for you and hold it while you sew the filler parts of the design.
- Do **NOT** try to trim at this point. There is a much higher risk of tearing the mylar that will be under the design at this step. For our designs, we suggest you trim after the design is sewn.
- Sew out the remaining colors.
- Remove the hoop from the machine.
- Remove the excess mylar by gently pulling it back toward the stitching. The needle has perforated the mylar for you so it will be very easy to remove. If you have any little pieces sticking out you can remove those with tweezers.



That's it, that's all you have to do to make these fun designs!

## Mylar Easter Bears



- Color #1 Light Brown (same as color #3)  
...Cover this outline with Blue Opal Mylar
- Color #2 Light Brown (even though it says gray) for tack down stitch
- Color #3 Light Brown for the bear
- Color #4 Pink for eggs
- Color #5 Blue for eggs
- Color #6 Green for eggs
- Color #7 Yellow for flowers and bow
- Color #8 Light Pink for cheeks and tongue
- Color #9 green for leaves
- Color #10 Black for outlining and facial features
- ...remove excess mylar by tearing back toward the stitching



To see the entire set of 12 Mylar Easter Bears

<http://www.charmingstation.com/SpecialSets/Specials11/Specials182.html>