





Let's Make Lace! Learn How to trim lingerie, loungewear, and sleepwear with lavish lace.

The taupe colored slip featured in this episode represents lingerie from the 40's. Styling for women in the 1940's became more fitted and showed off feminine curves. Glamour was in! Lingerie and loungewear items were soft and silky, often embellished with lace appliqués. If you compare many styles of 1940's nightwear and lingerie I think you will agree that they are just as "stylish" today as they were back then. One thing that has changed is the ability to decorate these items with feminine details and heirloom accents. Embellishments that mimic vintage lace appliqués are now easily and quickly created using machine embroidery techniques. Just like in the forties, women love wearing pretty pajamas, loungewear, and lingerie. Whether you choose to sew your own custom crafted garments or embellish ready-to-wear items, you can easily embellish lingerie and loungewear with machine made lavish lace trims.

The focus of this segment is on creating luxurious lace trim using the embroidery machine. All you need is your embroidery machine and a few simple supplies to create the lace appliqués featured on my forties style slip, satin and lace pajama top, and readymade knit camisole. It is easy to make one or more lace appliqués. Simply embroider the lace appliqué on a base of netting and stabilizer, trim to size, wash and dry lace, and then attach to your desired garment. Are you ready? Let's make lace!

Materials and Supplies:

- Embroidery machine Start with a new embroidery needle and a clean machine. I used the <u>Brother Quattro®3</u>, Model NV6750D with the built in **Appliqué Creator** feature, and the ability to add additional embroidery designs via computer connection or USB media. Additional Brother Model Machines include this feature. Consult your local authorized Brother dealer for details.
- Optional Software <u>Brother PE Design Version 10</u>. With this software program you can create lace just like I did using the Appliqué Creator built in to the Model NV6750D machine. It only takes a few minutes to create similar lace using this program and then transfer the design file for use on a wide variety of Brother Model machines. See resources for details.



- Bridal netting, commonly called tulle. This netting comes in many colors and is often coordinated to match special occasion
 fabric such as the synthetic crepe back satin I used for the slip and pajamas. Choose netting that closely matches your
 garment fabric for a lace appliqué that appears to "float" on top of your garment. For each lace appliqué cut two pieces
 approximately twice the size of your chosen hoop. I used the <u>Brother SA448 6-inch square hoop</u>.
- Fibrous wash away stabilizer. I used <u>SA541</u> Brother Pacesetter® Lightweight Water Soluble Stabilizer.
- Embroidery thread I used Brother Embroidery Thread color No.323 for my featured 40's style slip.
- Curved tip Sewing Scissors such as Havel's item No.30140 or item No.60040. Use these to cut out your finished lace pieces.



General information about machine embroidered lace:

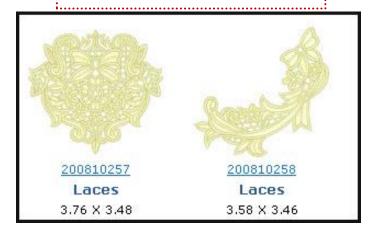
There are many designs available for this method of lace making. Some lace designs already feature a finished satin edge and do not need an additional satin edging like you see in my featured examples. However, adding this *satin edging* allows for making a larger piece of lace with a beautiful even satin edging, and also allows for grouping multiple lace designs as seen on the ready-to-wear camisole in this episode. If desired, combine multiple designs in the Edit mode of the machine prior to selecting the **Appliqué Creator** icon. For single designs be sure to select a design that fits within your available hoop sizes.

Note: The term "freestanding" lace is often used to describe a piece of lace that is stitched using <u>only</u> water soluble stabilizer as the base. However, it can also be used to describe a piece of lace that is stitched separately onto a piece of netting with a finished satin edge. In this case the finished lace piece stands on its own and can be attached to a garment or separate piece of fabric.

See below for examples of various Brother lace designs featured in this show:

Many Brother Lace designs with *finished* satin edges are available from ibroidery.com

(See below for examples of this style of lace)



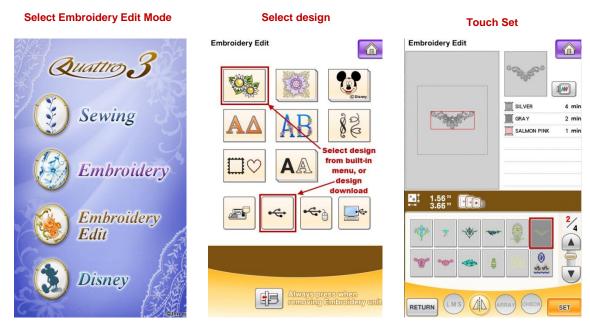
These Brother Lace designs, (Blue lace1 and Blue lace2) featured on the forties style slip are currently available as a Free design download from Brothersews.com.

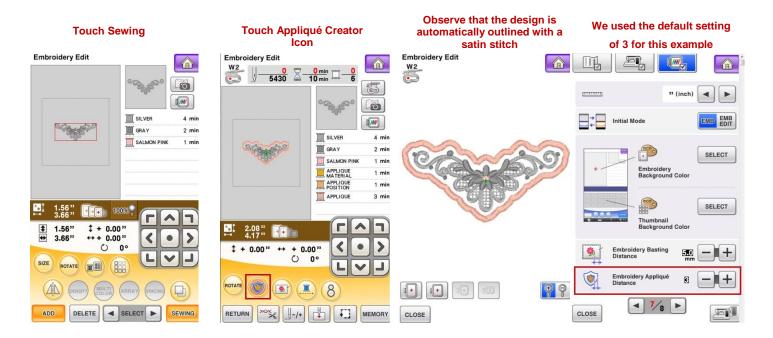


Instructions for creating lace:

- 1. To make the featured lace pieces begin by hooping two layers of tulle with a layer of wash away on top and bottom. Wind a full bobbin to match your top embroidery thread for a one color design. For a neater finish on the back side of the lace it is recommended to turn off the jump cutting feature. Mirror image the design for a right and left as necessary. At the beginning of each color change it is a good idea to bring the bobbin thread to the top. Advance to the first stitch by sending the needle down and up, then tug on the thread to bring the bobbin thread to the top side. Hold thread tails for the first few stitches, stop the machine, and then clip away excess thread tails. Stitch the entire design using one thread color or use multiple colors as desired. You will want to match your top and bobbin thread when stitching the final outline and the satin edging.
- 2. Create each piece of lace one at a time by stitching lace pieces with finished satin edge or by following these steps for creating lace appliqués using the Appliqué Creator function built into the Brother machine. To create the design(s) featured in the program substitute lace designs (Blue lace1 and Blue lace2). See steps below for using the Appliqué Creator function for making the lace appliqués.

Note: For the purpose of these illustrations we used a design from the <u>built-in menu</u> of the machine.





3. The example below shows what my lace appliqué design looks like prior to stitching.



4. Stitch the design and remove from the hoop. Use the curved tip scissors to carefully trim each piece of lace close to the stitching.



Avoid cutting into the satin stitching when trimming. It is better to leave a narrow margin outside the stitching rather than cut too close. Remember, the netting will barely show if you have selected a color that matches close to your base fabric. You can see this on the lace appliqué I applied to the ready-made camisole.



- 5. Wash each lace piece thoroughly in warm water. I like to use a final rinse of ¼ cup of liquid fabric softener in 1 gallon of warm water. Discard waste water outdoors if concerned about excess in septic systems. Pat dry. Place pieces face down on a terry cloth towel and allow to dry. Iron using low heat and a press cloth.
- 6. When finished making lace pieces, position your lace in place and you are ready to attach them to finished garments like the ones featured in this program. I prefer to use fine glass head pins for temporarily securing the appliqué in place. If you are stitching multiple pieces I suggest working from the center outward, stitching one piece in place at a time. You can apply lace appliqués by hand or by machine using a narrow zig zag stitch and matching or clear thread. I prefer to use the matching embroidery thread and a narrow zig zag stitch set for a width and length of approximately 2.5. An open toe appliqué foot makes this task easy. When stitching, stitch so the right hand swing of the zig zag stitch falls *just* outside the satin edging. Please see the example below excerpted from my **Satin and Lace Dreamy Pajama Set.**



Note: Sample garments featured in this segment include pajamas from the <u>Satin and Lace Dreamy Pajama Set</u> written by Joanne Banko and published by <u>Designs in Machine Embroidery</u> magazine. See resources for further details.

Photos reprinted with permission from Designs in Machine Embroidery magazine

You can see my finished appliqués on the forties style slip below. Of course a pretty slip like this does double duty worn as nightgown! You may want to make one for yourself or as a special gift.



Resources:

- For additional free projects, free embroidery designs, tutorials, and much more, please visit Brothersews.com.
- Visit your local <u>Brother sewing machine dealer</u> for Brother Machines, the Brother PE Design Version 10 software program, and special machine accessories, including the thread and stabilizer featured in this segment.
- Please visit me at my website www.letsgosew.com for more sewing and embroidery information. Visit the site to download a Free Fabric tip sheet for sewing with crepe back satin fabric. This tip sheet includes information for the special hem treatment featured on the slip. You will find additional Free Tip sheets for fabrics, machine accessories, and projects at www.letsgosew.com.
- The featured slip pattern is Pattern No.219 from Folkwear Patterns. Please visit http://www.folkwear.com/ for more information. Note: I modified the pattern slightly by adding gathers at the front bust line.



To purchase a back issue of Volume 67 featuring the Satin and Lace Dreamy Pajama Set, visit <u>www.dzgns.com</u>.