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9mm maxi on 2140 new and old software

This is in response to a couple of questions on how to use built in “feed-dog” stitches (9mm, maxi 60mm—whether from the old software formats, new software (stitch artist), or stand-a-alone on the 2140's. PS. Vicky and Frances, let me know if you do not find the answers you are looking for.

In reference to PCD or PCQ, this info is primarily of most interested to those who used the old Pfaff software—PC Designer and the 75xx's. The PCD and PCQ file formats are the old 9mm and 60mm maxi stitches used in the PC-Designer software and then sewn on the 75xx's. If you do not have these files, the 75xx machines, cards and software, there is no need to understand those instructions.

BTW, there is a really good email list that is very helpful for Pfaff owners (especially those with 2140's and/or the new Pfaff Creative software at http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Pfaff_VIP/. You do need to setup an free account with yahoo, most likely you will want to turn off options to allow marketing (junk, spam) e-mail's. Also, some of the personal info they ask for demographics are not required. Just a personal opinion, don't give them anything you don't have to, and don't list your email address in a public directory. Also, don't believe everything you read—from urban legends, virus scares, to software and/or machine problems!!! ☺

HOW TO USE 2140 BUILT IN STITCHES IN THE EMBROIDERY HOOP

Not only can you use your “feed dog” built in stitches, both 9mm and maxi as hoop embroidery, you can also rotate, duplicate, and “customize” them on the screen.

1. Select Main Menu
2. Select Sequence Combination
3. Select Embroidery Combination
4. From the selection menu, select 9mm or MAXI stitches.
5. Select OK. Notes: Touching OK more than once will insert that number of duplicate stitches into the work area.
6. You can then select each segment and use MORE OPTIONS to manipulate.

HOW TO USE STITCH ARTIST FILES IN THE 2140 EMBROIDERY HOOP

Two options, you can either use the 2140 Machine Memory and place in the hoop or you can use export the file and manipulate in the Creative Customizing software program.

Creative Customizing to 2140

1. Open or create the stitch in Stitch Artist (File, Open).
2. Click on the File menu, click to select Export.
3. Choose the file format you wish to save as (VIP, PCS, etc.)
4. Choose the location
5. Name the file.
6. Manipulate in Customizing by using File, Open—looking in the location where you saved the file. You can then copy (duplicate), rotate, move, etc.

7. You can also open an existing embroidery file to merge it with your built in stitches, such as a lacy border of built in stitches around an embroidery design.
8. Save the file and use File assistant to transfer to your 2140 machine memory. Sew as you would any other embroidery file.

File Assist to 2140

1. Open or create the stitch in Stitch Artist (File, Open).
2. Click on the File menu, click to select Save As.
3. The file format you worked with is automatically defaulted to (ex. .9mm or .maxi)
4. Choose the location
5. Name the file.
6. Manipulate in Customizing by using File, Open—looking in the location where you saved the file. You can then copy (duplicate), rotate, move, etc.
7. Send to the 2140 with File Assistant 6.1* (select the 9mmMaxi icon*).
8. To sew, you can either sew as a regular feed-dog stitch or sew in the hoop.
9. Regular stitch: In the Main Menu, touch 9mm Decorative Stitches. In the next screen, you will find a folder called ST-ART (Stitch Artist).
10. In the hoop: Select Main Menu, Select Sequence Combination, Select Embroidery Combination, From the selection menu, select ST-ART (Stitch Artist). Select OK. Note: Touching OK more than once will insert that number of duplicate stitches into the work area. You can then select each segment and use MORE OPTIONS to manipulate.

*Note: If you do not have the 9mm\Maxi button, and if .9mm or .maxi stitches show as a red color in Stitch Artist, you need to update to version 6.1 or later. Download the update from <http://www.pfaffsoftware.com>

Use the same instructions for using 2140 built in stitches in the embroidery hoop but instead of selecting MAXI stitches, select them from the ST-ART folder.

PCD and/or PCQ TO THE 2140 SEWING MACHINE:

Convert PCD and/or PCQ formats to .9mm or .max format for use in the VIP Stitch Artist.

(Requires Pfaff Stitch Artist software—or, this package is included with the Creative Suite).

1. Import them with Stitch Artist (Edit, Stitch Design). They cannot be opened (File, Open) as pcq or .pcd files and VIP Stitch Artist does not save to .pcq or .pcd format.
2. Click on the File menu, click on SAVE AS. This saves them in the applicable .9mm or .maxi format.
3. Send to the 2140 with File Assistant 6.1* (select the 9mmMaxi icon*).
4. To sew, In the Main Menu, touch 9mm Decorative Stitches. In the next screen, you will find a folder called ST-ART (Stitch Artist).
5. *Note: If you do not have the 9mm\Maxi button, and if .9mm or .maxi stitches show as a red color in Stitch Artist, you need to update to version 6.1 or later. Download the update from <http://www.pfaffsoftware.com>

Save them as a VIP or PCS file format

Depending on the software you own, use the Old PC-Designer software or Stitch Artist. Files in these format can be transferred to the 2140 with File Assistant but they are "hoop" embroidery designs (you cannot sew them with the feed dogs).

- In Stitch Artist,
 - Import them with Stitch Artist (Edit, Stitch Design).
 - Click on the File menu, click to select Export.
 - Choose the file format you wish to save as (VIP, PCS, etc.)
 - Choose the location
 - Name the file.
- In PC-Designer,
 - Use File, Open.
 - Change the "Mode" to small or large frame.
 - Click on the File menu, click on SAVE AS
 - Choose the location
 - Name the file.

To sew at the 2140, access from Embroidery\Card menu or Embroidery Combination, then select the machine memory.

You can then open the file in PC-Designer or Customizing, copy, paste and manipulate to create the hoop design, such as a border.

Put the PCD and/or PCQ on a Creative Card

You have used PC-Designer to save the stitch to a Creative (blank programmable) Card for the 7570.

1. Insert the Creative Card into an empty slot on the 2140
2. Turn-off the "drop feed dogs" message in order to sew the stitches. On the 2140 Context menu, select Options for Messages [3-18], then touch lower feed dog to remove the X.
3. From the main menu, touch Data Manager
4. Optional: Select the Create directory icon and name it (ex. Pcd) to keep them separate. [4-38]
5. Touch the applicable card slot Card icon. The files are displayed.
6. If the card has a menu, choose 9mm or maxi.
7. Select the name of the file you want to work with. Note: Your 2140 user guide list the icons on page 1-23, and explains usage starting pg. 4-36. The actual location is listed after the step in brackets.
8. Select the Copy\Renaming\Moving icon.
9. Touch copy from the pop-up menu.
10. The file is moved to the lower half of the screen.
11. Once the file is in the sewing machine memory, you can sew it. See the notes and issues sections.

Notes:

- Once the stitches are on the 2140, you can change the length and width, use the tie on and off features, etc.
- On the 2140 it shows up with the .9mm or .maxi extension.
- Format the card in the 7570 and it works in the 2140. If you format it with the card station it may not be recognized in the 2140, forcing you to format the card (which erases the contents).

- If you have modified stitches on the 7570 and they are in a P memory, you can use the PC-Designer software option "Load" or "Insert" P Memory and then write it to the Creative Card.
- Rather than using the Creative Cards for permanent storage, I would recommend using either File Assistant (the card icon under sewing machine) or the PC-Designer software (Machine menu, load card stitch) to retrieve the files from the blank card and save them to your computer's hard drive and/or disk. The creative card can become corrupted, and may need to be reformatted to continue to use it. When you have to reformat, you will lose any files saved on the card and need to reload. Note: the 2140's have machine memory as temporary storage for your current projects, so you don't really need the creative cards. But if you have one from your 7570's, you can write info to it in file assistant (the card icon under sewing machine), and put in the 2140 slot, selecting the card slot.
- If you approach this card through the main menu---emb/card---you can view the stitches with their numbers on your card. Then when you go to data manager, you know which number to choose to get the stitch you want.

Where to find PCD and PCQ stitches

Old .pcd and .pcq stitches are available for free download on the DeRosia Pfaffie Exchange, the address is: <http://www.sewdesigns.com/derosia/index.html>

- Click on "Designs to Sew", then scroll down towards the bottom of the page and click on "Designs for 9mm and maxi Embroidery". There you will see zipped file links that contain many designs each.
- Just above the "Designs for 9mm and maxi embroidery", there is a section called "Alphabets" that also has letters in the .pcd and .pcq format.

XFER "TO" CREATIVE CARD WITH FILE ASSISTANT:

Note: this is the same process as sending to the sewing machine memory, except you select the card slot.

1. Put the CREATIVE CARD in an available slot of the 2140.
2. Under the sewing machine section, select the card icon.
3. Under the computer section, select files from a computer drive
4. Click on the RIGHT arrow to transfer them to the Card.

XFER "FROM" CREATIVE CARD WITH FILE ASSISTANT:

Note: this is the same process as xfering from the sewing machine memory, except you select the card slot.

1. Put the CREATIVE CARD in an available slot of the 2140.
2. Under the sewing machine section, select the card icon.
3. Under the computer section, select a computer drive and/or folder.
4. Click on the LEFT arrow to transfer them to the Card.

OTHER ISSUES (FROM STITCH ARTIST HELP)

"My stitches are not lined up

Stitch Artist:

The first (+) and last (x) stitch points are not lined up. If you want your stitches to be placed in a straight line, the first and last stitches must be lined up horizontally in the Design Area. The easiest

way to do this is to move them to the same horizontal Grid line. This will also affect stitching out. If the first and last stitch points are not lined up, then each stitch will be offset sideways from the previous one when stitching out. VIP Stitch Artist does not automatically force the first and last stitch points to line up because an offset may be desirable for some designs.

Open in PC Designer and move the first and last stitch points to the same coordinates.