Frequently Asked Questions

PFAFF® *creative stylist*™ MN 110

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Setup / Operation

Does my PFAFF® *creative stylist*™ MN 110 embroidery machine need any special maintenance?

Your PFAFF® *creative stylist*™ MN 110 embroidery machine is easy to care for but it does need regular lubrication to the rotary hook, level arms, and machine head. The rotary hook should be lubricated with two to three drops of standard sewing machine oil every four hours when in constant use, or prior to turning on the machine. The four level arms should be lubricated with sewing machine oil every week of continuous use. The machine head rail should be lubricated every week, and the black metal bar on the machine head should be lubricated with white lithium grease every five months. See your owners manual for more instructions.

Error: Main Axis not at 100 degrees

The machine needs to be at 100 degrees for normal operations. A main axis error is the machine's way of letting you know that the sensor is not aligned. To resolve this, select the 100 degree icon on your control panel. If a "No needle" error is displayed, then the needle is not being detected over the working area. To correct this, turn off the machine. Then, locate the degree wheel knob in the back of your machine and manually align it to 100 degrees. Turn the machine back on, and the machine will automatically find a needle position. After everything has finished loading, press the 100 degree icon on the panel once more. If there are no more error messages displayed, the machine is functional.

Note: On rare occasions, this process may need to be repeated before the sensors reset. Simply go through the procedure until the needle position is recognized.

Design Loading and Editing

What embroidery files does my *creative stylist*™ MN 110 embroidery machine read?

The *creative stylist*™ MN 110 embroidery machine reads .VP3 and .DST embroidery files.

Any special consideration for formatting embroidery files?

The *creative stylist*™ MN 110 embroidery machine will load designs with the center point aligned in the center of the hoop. In order for a design to load properly centered, ensure that it has been saved (exported) with a center alignment. Otherwise the design will need to be manually adjusted in the hoop area.

I want to stitch an appliqué. How do I make the *creative stylist*™ MN 110 embroidery machine recognize the thread stops?

You can stitch appliqué files but they must be exported and loaded as a .DST file. The .DST format will show each appliqué step as a separate color. Select the needle color you wish to use for each step, and also add the frame forward feature to the selected needle colors. This will cause the machine to stop and move the frame forward automatically after stitching the color designated for placing appliqué fabric, trimming, etc.

Why won't my design load?

Make sure that the embroidery status is set to unlocked. The *creative stylist*™ MN 110 embroidery machine will display a message about changing the embroidery status when exiting stitch out mode.

The *creative stylist*™ MN 110 embroidery machine is set to unlocked status, but I can't load my design from my USB drive. Why?

You need to first transfer your design to the machine. Select the file from the list shown for your USB drive, then touch the Transfer (send to machine) button. This will save the design to machine memory, where it will be located at the bottom of the design page(s). Select the design from the machine memory files to load it into the *creative stylist*™ MN 110 embroidery machine.

What is an X or Y limit error?

You will receive one of these errors if your design is too large for the hoop that you have set or if your design is outside of the preset margin for the hoop. When this happen the outline of the hoop on screen will be red. To fix this error, you should select a larger hoop and/or move the design so that it is within the hoop boundaries. The outline of the hoop on screen will change back to black when the design is completely in the stitchable area of the hoop.

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Preparation for Stitching

How do I know which size hoop to use?

The size of the hoop depends on the size of the embroidery you want to use. The best hoop to use is the smallest hoop that the design will fit. You can also place the hoop on top of the printout from your embroidery software to get an idea of the hoop size you should use for that particular design. The scale of the design must be 100% when printing to do this accurately. You can also check the hoop outline on screen. The outline should be a thin black line but if the hoop outline is red, the design is not entirely in the hoop or the hoop is too small.

Does it matter what color thread I put on each needle?

It doesn't matter what color thread is placed on each needle, however, you may want to place the most commonly used colors to the right or across the back (if the back of your machine is not easily reached) since those are most likely the colors that will stay on your machine all the time (i.e. black & white). If you sometimes use metallic threads, consider dedicating one needle to metallics to simplify tension settings.

How do I know if my embroidery is safe for my hoop?

Always perform a design trace before embroidering! Touch the Trace Design icon. The *creative stylist*™ MN 110 embroidery machine will automatically move to needle 1 and trace the design stitch area. When the head has moved to needle 1, the *creative stylist*™ MN 110 embroidery machine will ask if you want to change the embroidery status to locked (stitch out mode). Use the trace function to determine that your design will fit within the hoop and that it is correctly positioned. If the traced area was safely within the area of the hoop, press the Start/Stop button to begin.

I adjusted the position of my design but it keeps moving back to the previous position when I try to stitch it out. Why?

When you adjust your design (to place the center in a particular location, for example), you must then re-trace to set the design in the new location. This can be done by simply touching the "center" trace icon. Always perform a full trace in the new location prior to stitching to confirm that the design will fit in the hoop.

I loaded my design but it is off-center, even though the center of the design is marked on the screen. Why?

There are a couple of different possibilities here. First, re-select the hoop. Be sure to confirm hoop selection in Design Set before going back to the main screen. Re-selecting the hoop will usually re-center the design.

If reselecting the hoop does not solve the problem, the second possibility is that the design was used off-center the last time it was stitched. Look at the screen; you should see two "+" markings. One is bold and located in the center of the design, the other is light and located in the center of the hoop. Move the design so that its centering mark is positioned directly onto the hoop centering mark to realign the design.

Frequently Asked Questions

Stitching

Why are my stitches looping?

Looping stitches can be the result of incorrect threading. Loops on the top of the embroidery generally mean loose bobbin tension. Loops on the bottom of the embroidery (birds' nests) generally mean loose needle thread tension. Make sure the needle and bobbin threads are threaded correctly. If the machine is threaded correctly, check the thread tensions and the bobbin case. Also, be sure to check the needle. An old or loose needle can cause looping, skipped stitches, and other embroidery problems.

Why is my thread breaking?

- The needle can be worn out if you've been using it for a long period of time or on thick or synthetic materials.

- Your machine may be threaded incorrectly. Check the thread path to make sure all threads are correctly positioned.

- Thread might be damaged or old. Prolonged exposure to air, light and heat can make your thread brittle. To prevent breaks, store thread in a dark, cool place.

- Hooping of the fabric and stabilizer may not be tight enough.

- The tension might be too loose or too tight.

I'm getting a T-break (thread break) error but my thread isn't broken.

1. Check all the thread paths to make sure they are correct. Incorrect threading can cause a T-break error message. Check the upper tensions to ensure the upper tension disc has not been knocked out of alignment.

2. Perform a manual trim by touching the scissors button.

3. Check the bobbin to make sure it has thread and is threaded correctly.

4. Remove any lint or dirt buildup in the bobbin case.

5. Make sure the thread trimmer knife is fully retracted.

Stitching Continued

How do I move to a particular stitch point?

Float mode is used to move forward or backward in a design prior to stitching, or during stitch-out, such as when there is thread breakage. This feature can only be accessed during locked embroidery status (stitchout mode). There are three different speeds for float mode, accessible by touching the float mode icon.

- F. L: floating on low speed will move stitch by stitch

- F. H: floating on high speed will skip multiple stitches at a time

- ADD: manual mode; a particular stitch point can be manually entered.

In float mode, you can move forward or backwards using the plus or minus icons, or else move from color to color.

I hit the wrong buttons and accidentally moved my design rather than float. How do I put the design back in place?

1. Make a note of your exact stitch location.

2. Exit embroidery mode.

3. Go to Design Set

4. Re-select the hoop size and confirm. This will re-center the design.

5. If your design was not centered originally, print a paper template using the complimentary software to use as a guide to place the design back in the correct stitch orientation.

6. Use float mode (use the stitch status icon) to go to the previous stitch location and resume stitching.

How do I quit an embroidery?

Press the Origin icon. The *creative stylist*™ MN 110 embroidery machine will prompt, "Terminate embroidery and return to the origin?". Click OK. The frame will move to a center position and the design will reset.

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Cap Stitching

Why is my cap embroidery so far from the brim of the cap?

Caps need to be hooped so that the base of the brim is against the metal tab at the center top of the cap hoop – not the inner ring of the hoop. The cap securing strap should be set with the teeth firmly in the seam between the brim and the cap.

Why do I have poor stitch registration on my cap?

Usually this occurs from the combination of using a small needle when embroidering over seams and other bulky elements on the cap. The needle bends or deflects when it hits the thicker area, causing the stitches to be placed out of alignment. To fix this:

1. Slow down. High speeds increase needle deflection and reduce stitch quality, especially when stitching areas of varying thicknesses.

2. Use a sharp, heavier needle (size 90/14) to easier penetrate the fabric and reduce deflection.

3. Make sure your cap has been hooped firmly and that all latches are securely fastened to the cap driver. Incomplete hoop attachment and loose hooping can also cause registration issues.

There's a rub mark on my cap brim -how do I fix it?

Some cap brims can rub against the back of the needle bar when stitching, especially if they have a very rigid brim and/or the embroidery is placed close to the brim. Simply place a piece of wide painter's tape on the brim of the cap before stitching to protect it from rubbing.

Miscellaneous

What aftermarket products can be ordered for the machine?

- Multi-Needle Floor Stand #620146596
- INSPIRA™ Multi-Needle Cabinet #620146796
- INSPIRA™ Polyester Thread Collection - 10 spools #620146496
- White Bobbin Thread Pre-Wound Bobbins #140000746
- Black Bobbin Thread Pre-Wound Bobbins #68008984

What size pre-wound bobbins does it take?

Size L