



# Zip It Up - in the hoop

This class will investigate customizing and digitizing a simple in the hoop zipper change purse with a snap tab attaching loop. Every in the hoop project is made up of running stitches, so it seems like they would be super easy to digitize - like click poof done simple. WELL.... They aren't difficult, but there are lots of planning that is involved - inside out and backwards planning! We will walk through this process with a goal of helping you learn to personalize a purchased design AND how to digitize your own in the hoop project - including those with a zipper and a snap tab.

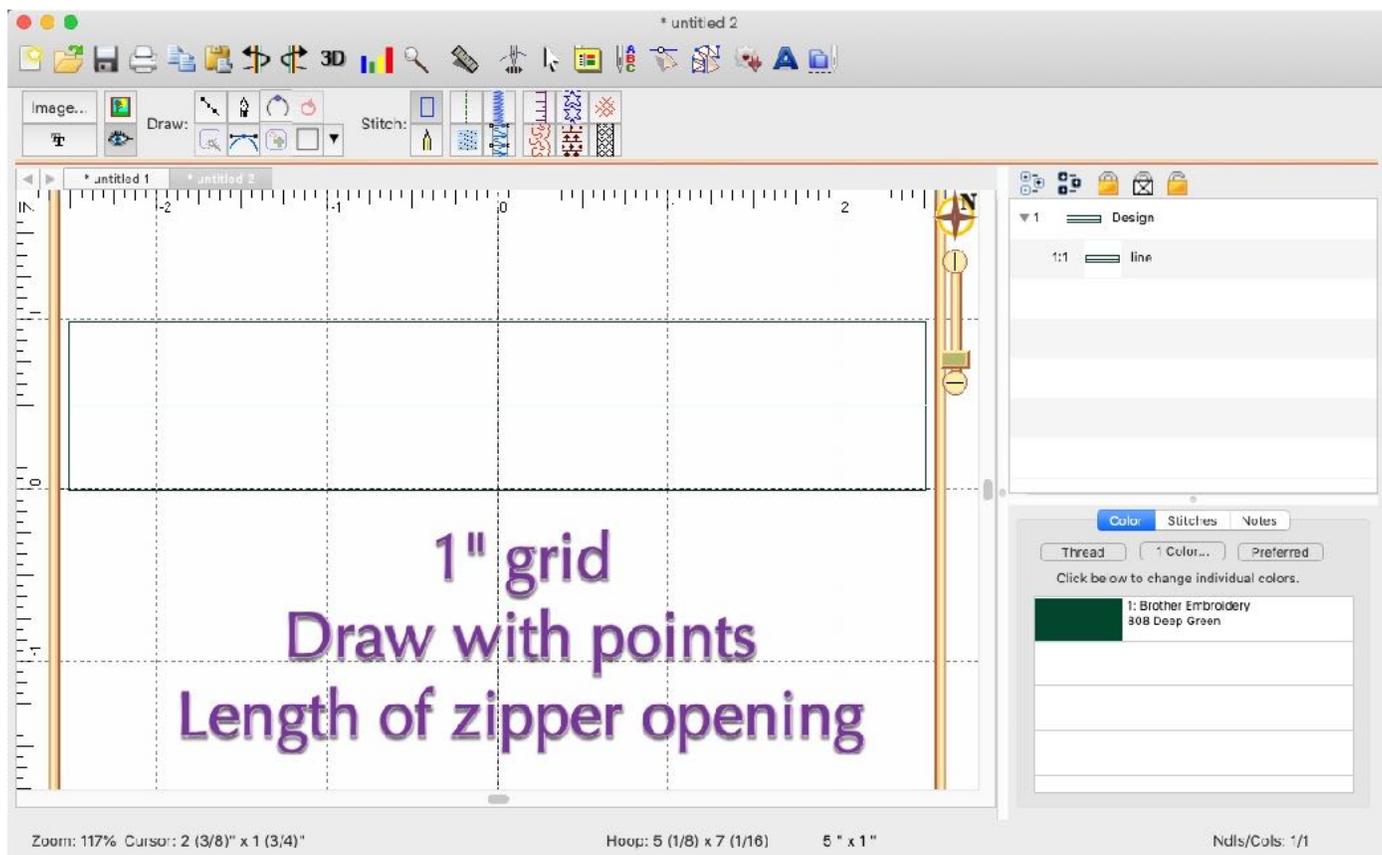
## What is your plan?

In order to create ANY in the hoop project YOU have to know what you want to happen at the machine. NO ONE, NO SOFTWARE can determine that for you. If you never stitched an in the hoop design, its rather difficult to digitize one! If you have sewing experience that can help.

Our plan is to create a simple zipper change purse. - zipper is in the middle of one side. The pouch will be unlined. It will have a tab or ribbon loop on one side that will be able to have a keyring loop attached.

Measure your zipper, know your hoop size. Standard zippers are 1" wide.

Stitching in a 5x7 hoop .



## Construct the size with the zipper

- Draw with points
- Set your View to Inches and turn on your Grid
- Holding down the CTRL key when you LEFT click creates LINE or square nodes.
- Holding down the ALT/OPTION key at the same time when you left click creates straight lines

**POWER USER TIP**  
Save your **WORKING** file -  
**CTRL+S & Command+S**  
saves what you are  
working on - you are no  
where near ready to Stitch

You want to create a guide for where the zipper is being placed on your stabilizer - step #1 from your plan is to hoop your stabilizer, place zipper right side up and then stitch the top and bottom to the zipper. So you want to create a stitched guide that shows you where the zipper goes and where the teeth will be.

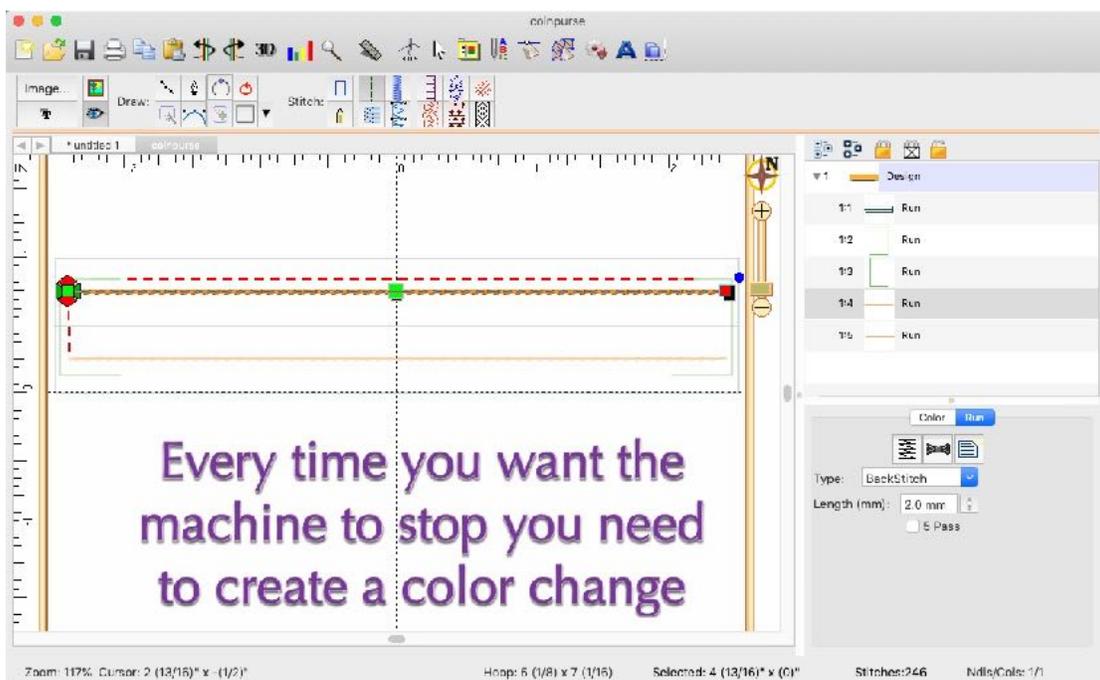
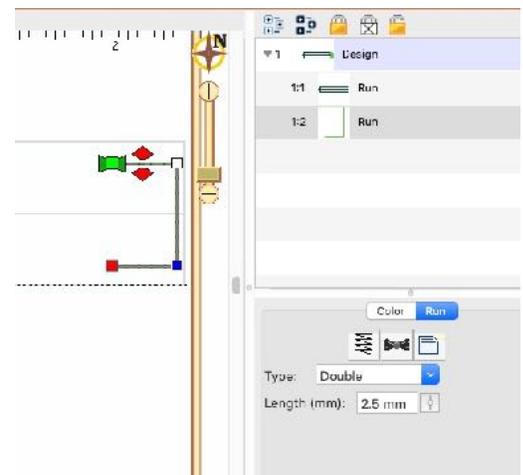
This is simply a placement stitch so it can be single run with a 3mm stitch length.

## What's happening next at the machine?

I plan to tape my zipper in the placement lines using medical tape or scraps of sticky wash away stabilizer. I'm going to stitch thru them

I want to attach the fabric to the zipper on each side.

- What does that fabric look like?
- Double fold or stitch & flip and stitch down? I'm going to double fold my fabric, place right next to the zipper teeth and attach with a backstitch - designer's choice!
- What do you want to happen at the ends of the zipper? If you want small folded pieces to cover the ends of the zipper, now is the time to add them so that the edges are covered by the seams.
- Draw with points - set stitch type = Run but this is a construction stitch so you want a double run and shorter stitch length - just like in sewing. Move the start or stop to stagger knots - also can help with back tack stitching. Remember to change your thread color so that the machine will stop. And do one for each side.

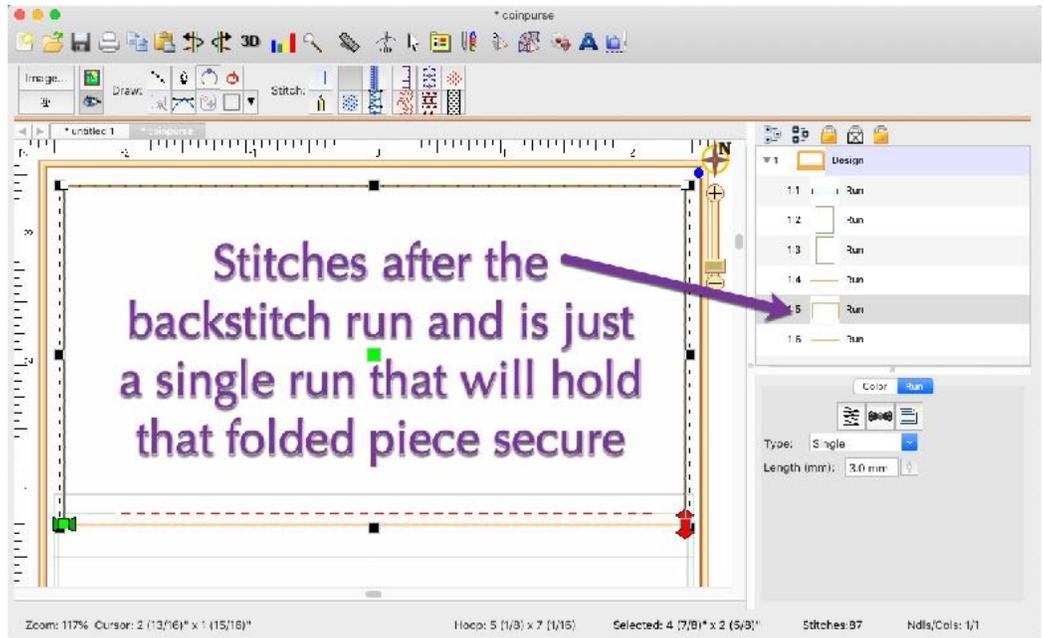


So at machine we have added the end bits for the zipper, now we need to attach the two folded pieces to the zipper - I plan to tape in place and stitch.

Think ahead - that folded fabric might get loose - let me add a single run around the perimeter of each side to attache it to the stabilizer. Same color, separate object - machine will continuously stitch if check where your starts and stops are.

Repeat for both sides.

As you are creating this design. it may be helpful to make notes for you to use during the sitting process. Otherwise you may not have any idea what you are supposed to do



## What's the next step?

Well if we want to add a marking place for our tab, now is the time. If you just want to put it in there and tape in place - nothing more to do. We are ready to put the backing fabric right side down and stitch all the way around (make sure zipper is open).

Do you want to add embroidery? A name or design? Now is the time.

Look at object list - your design is at the end. We need to add the backing fabric so we need to start a new design. **Create > Design > Begin New Design**

Save your working file so that you can come back to it and adjust if you need be.

Now you want to do your test sew to verify that the logic you used to create the in the hoop design makes sense!

Check the sizes of your fabric pieces and add seam allowances all the way around - or digitized to the size you want in the first place

Insert USB and go to **File > Save Stitch File As** and save the stitch file to the usb

