



add-on

AutoPunch[®]

Enhances the software
with the capability of auto-digitizing!

--futura[™]
User's Manual

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Inside Autopunch

Autopunch is designed to **automatically digitize** an embroidery design from **clean artwork**. Autopunch has a **Wizard** that walks you through a step-by-step process for creating an **automatic** embroidery design. In this segment, each step and process will be defined.

Open Wizard



You must launch the Software (see section called "How to Open FUTURA) to use the Autopunch wizard.

Step	Action	Result
>1	Select Autopunch... from the Create drop-down menu.	Autopunch Wizard/ Introduction page will open.
>2	Click Next .	

>1: Open Image

This is the step to choose the image, or artwork to be used with **Autopunch**. It is important to use a clean image for this process. A vector type Image (.WMF) like "**clipart**" works best. If the image was **scanned**, it is a **Bitmap** type (millions of pixels) image – either **.bmp** or **.jpg**, and must have a reasonably "high resolution". **150-300 DPI** is good. The software will **reduce the colors** so that it is feasible to stitch the art in embroidery.



Sometimes it is better to include background and delete segments after stitching.

Step	Action	Result
>1	Choose Select from the Open Image box.	The Open Image dialogue box will open.
>2	Choose Image (of your choice) from the folder where images are stored.	
>3	Click Next .	

>2: Crop Image

In the 2nd step the Wizard is supplying the option to **Crop** (cut) the **Image**. Though it is not necessary to crop, there may be some areas that are not desired in the embroidery design.

Step	Action	Result
>1	Click on square on the frame around image.	
>2	Drag square to Crop .	
>3	Click Next .	

>3: Set Dimensions

The 3rd step is your chance to change the **Dimensions** (size) of the image.

Step	Action	Result
>1	Set unit (of measurement) size.	
>2	Click Width (or Height) box.	
>3	Type new value .	Both dimensions will change at once.
>4	Click Next .	



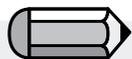
It is possible to **change the Unit** (of measurement) from **CM** to **MM** or **Inches** in the **"Units"** box.

>4: Color Selection

In this step the software is prepared to reduce the number of colors in the image. The Wizard is **very** self-explanatory. Remember when, in referring to a "Bitmap" type of image, we said it has "millions of pixels"? How many threads/colors do you want to change?

Step	Action	Result
>1	Check Reduce Colors Automatically in the Color set suggestion box.	

Continues >



1. It is possible to “Pan” the image in the small screen on the right-hand side of the **dialogue** box. Simply **right-click** and **drag** the image.

2. It is also possible to **delete** segments that you do not want to be digitized. Simply highlight the color in the Suggested Colors box, and select **Remove**.

Step	Action	Result
>2	Click Suggest .	The Wizard will look at the image and suggest some colors.
	or	
>1	Check Reduce Colors to and Type in number of desired (thread) colors .	
>2	Click Suggest .	The Wizard will look at the image and suggest (the amount entered) colors.
>3	Click Next .	

>5: Classify Blocks

This 5th step is designed to offer some control over the way that the software “automatically” handles different segments of the image. Since nearly all embroidery shapes are either **columns or filled shapes**, this feature poses the question “At what width do you want columns, and at what width fills?”



The default value is stating:
 “All widths in the image that is 6mm or less – generate **Satin columns**.
 For all widths **above** 6mm, generate **Fills**”.

Step	Action	Result
>1	Move slide bar until desired width is displayed.	Design will be “digitized” using specified values.
>2	Click Next .	A “Simplifying Image” progress bar will be displayed.

>6: Customize Stitch Blocks

At this juncture, the software has broken the image into simple blocks given the amount of colors specified in Step>4. Now, you have the ability to **remove, change color sequence** and **change fill method** of any block(s).

Delete unwanted Block

Step	Action	Result
>1	Click Block to be removed from the Image Preview .	The block will be highlighted.
>2	Click Remove button in center column.	The block will be deleted.

Change Stitching Sequence

Step	Action	Result
>1	Click Block to be moved from the Image Preview .	The block will be highlighted.
>2	Click Move Up or Move Down button in center column.	The block will moved one step for each Click.

Change Fill Type

Step	Action	Result
>1	Click Block to be changed from the Image Preview .	The block will be highlighted.
>2	Click Satin or Complex Fill button in center column.	The block fill method will be changed.
>3	Click Next .	

Select Stitch Background

Step	Action	Result
>1	Check Stitch Background if color is vital to design.	
>2	Click Move Up or Move Down button in center column.	The block will moved one step for each Click.
>3	Click Next .	

>7: Select Fabric

In this final step a **Fabric** can be selected so that the **Embroidery Settings** will be adjusted. Also, there is an opportunity in this step to decide how to connect blocks.

Select Fabric

Step	Action	Result
>1	Click Fabric box.	A list of Fabrics will open.
>2	Click your choice upon which the embroidery design will be stitched.	The Embroidery Settings will be adjusted.

Connection Policy

Step	Action	Result
>1	Check use a Running Stitch box.	All Blocks will be connected with a Running Stitch.
	or	
>2	Check use a Jump Stitch box.	All Blocks will be connected with a Jump Stitch.

Continues >

Step	Action	Result
>3	Click Finish .	The image will be processed showing progress bars until complete.

Voila! Now, you have an embroidery design that was created with a minimum of labor, and a maximum of control.

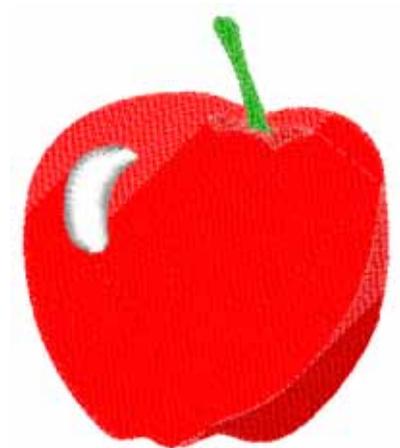


Image 1
Finished Autopunch result.

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