



add-on

**AutoPunch**<sup>®</sup>

Enhances the FUTURA software  
with the capability of auto-digitizing!

*--futura*<sup>™</sup>  
User's Manual

**SINGER**<sup>®</sup>



# 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 FUTURA software (see section called "How to Open FUTURA") to use the Autopunch wizard.*

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

### >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 <b>Select</b> from the <b>Open Image</b> box.	The Open Image dialogue box will open.
>2	Choose <b>Image</b> (of your choice) from the folder where images are stored.	
>3	Click <b>Next</b> .	

### >2: Crop Image

In the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 <b>square</b> on the frame around image.	
>2	Drag <b>square</b> to <b>Crop</b> .	
>3	Click <b>Next</b> .	

### >3: Set Dimensions

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

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



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

### >5: Classify Blocks

This 5<sup>th</sup> 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 <b>slide bar</b> until desired width is displayed.	Design will be “digitized” using specified values.
>2	Click <b>Next</b> .	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 <b>Block</b> to be removed from the <b>Image Preview</b> .	The block will be highlighted.
>2	Click <b>Remove</b> button in center column.	The block will be deleted.

#### *Change Stitching Sequence*

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

#### *Change Fill Type*

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

### Select Stitch Background

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

### >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 <b>Fabric</b> box.	A list of Fabrics will open.
>2	Click <b>your choice</b> upon which the embroidery design will be stitched.	The Embroidery Settings will be adjusted.

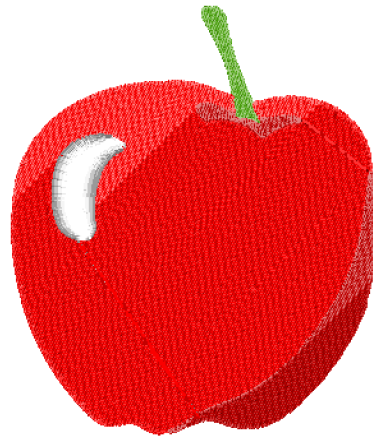
### Connection Policy

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

Continues >

Step	Action	Result
>3	Click <b>Finish</b> .	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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