

StitchView Demonstration

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The Contents lists Help topics available for **StitchView**. Use the scroll bar to see entries not currently visible in the Help window. Some features described in this file are not supported by the Demonstration version of StitchView. To order the full version of StitchView, send a check or money order for \$15.00 (Florida residents please add 6% sales tax) plus \$2.50 for shipping and handling to:

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To learn how to use Help, press F1 or choose Using Help from the Help menu

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Small Print

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Introduction

StitchView displays and prints designs stored in Pfaff Creative Designer stitch files. **StitchView** displays both standard nine millimeter (.PCD) designs and "maxi" (.PCQ) designs.

StitchViews features include:

Displaying stitch files using [Normal](#), [Full](#), or [Actual Size](#) view modes.

Printing stitch files using [None](#), [Normal](#), [Full](#), [Actual Size](#), or [Programming Sheet](#) styles.

Saving a design in a binary or text stitch file.

Creating a text file from a design in the format used to exchange designs using online services like Prodigy.

Importing designs from text files such as those downloaded from Prodigy.

Copying a design to and importing designs from the Windows [Clipboard](#).

System Requirements

To use **StitchView** you need the following:

- a) An IBM PC or compatible computer
- b) Microsoft Windows 3.1 or a compatible operating system
- c) At least 2 megabytes of memory
- d) At least 2 megabytes of free disk space

Using StitchView

To use **StitchView** you must be familiar with using Windows. See the Windows Users Guide if you need help with basic Windows concepts such as moving and resizing windows.

To run **StitchView**, double-click the **StitchView** icon. The *Main* window will be displayed

The *Main* window includes the pull-down menus, the design display area, and buttons for opening (loading) a stitch file, printing the displayed design, and exiting the program.

See also: [Viewing Stitch Files](#)
[Changing the View Mode](#)
[Changing the Display Options](#)
[Printing Designs](#)
[Saving Designs](#)
[Importing Designs](#)
[Copying Stitch File Images to Other Programs](#)
[Copying and Pasting Designs](#)

Getting Help

Help is available at any time when **StitchView** is running. Press the **F1** key or select **Contents** from the **Help** menu.

Pressing **F1** displays the help topic based on what you are currently doing in **StitchView**.

Viewing Stitch Files

To view the design in a stitch file, click on the **Open** button at the bottom of the *Main* window or Select **Open** from the **File** menu or press Control-O (hold down the **O** key and press the letter O key). The *Open Stitch File* window will be displayed.

Select a PCD or PCQ file to display then press the **Return** key or click the **OK** button. The selected files design will be displayed in the *Main* window.

The **Preview** checkbox (under the **Cancel** button) is used to turn the preview of the selected design on or off. When the box is checked, a small image of the currently selected design is drawn in the preview area. As you select different files, the preview image is updated. If the preview option is too slow on your computer, turn it off by clicking the **Preview** checkbox.

See also: [Changing the View Mode](#)

Changing the View Mode

A design may be viewed in [Normal](#), [Full](#), or [Actual Size](#) mode. To change the mode, select the desired mode from the **View** menu.

See also: [Normal Mode](#)
[Full Mode](#)
[Actual Size Mode](#)

Normal Mode

The **Normal Mode** displays the design using the full height of the display area. If the design is too wide to fit in the display area, a scroll bar is displayed below the window. The scroll bar can be used to move the design left and right within the display area.

See also: [Full Mode](#)
[Actual Size Mode](#)

Full Mode

The **Full Mode** shrinks the design, if necessary, so that it is fully displayed in the display area. If the design is too wide to fit in the display area, the height of the design is reduced until the full width of the design is visible.

See also: [Normal Mode](#)
[Actual Size Mode](#)

Actual Size Mode

The **Actual Size Mode** attempts to display the design at the actual size that will be stitched.

Because of differences among monitors and display drivers, the size of the displayed design may not be exactly the same as the actual stitch size.

See also: [Normal Mode](#)
[Full Mode](#)

Changing the Display Options

Several display options are available under the **Options** menu. Using the **Options** menu you may turn on or off the display of [statistics](#), the [grid](#), use of [double-width lines](#), highlighting of the [initial point](#) or [last point](#), highlighting of [all points](#), and other settings ([Preferences](#)).

See also: [Statistics](#)
[View Grid](#)
[Double-Width Lines](#)
[Show Initial Point](#)
[Show Last Point](#)
[Show Points](#)
[Preferences](#)

Statistics

Selecting the **Statistics** option of the **Options** menu turns on or off the statistics which are displayed to the right of the design. The statistics include the design type, size, and number of points.

The design size is displayed in millimeters (mm) or inches (in). Use the **Preferences** option of the **Options** menu to change the units to millimeters or inches.

See also: [View Grid](#)
[Double-Width Lines](#)
[Show Initial Point](#)
[Show Last Point](#)
[Show Points](#)
[Preferences](#)

View Grid

Selecting the **View Grid** option of the **Options** menu turns on or off the grid which is displayed behind the design. The grid is drawn every two stitch units for PCD files and every eight stitch units for PCQ files. A stitch unit is equal to 1/6 millimeter when stitched by the sewing machine.

See also: [Statistics](#)
[Double-Width Lines](#)
[Show Initial Point](#)
[Show Last Point](#)
[Show Points](#)
[Preferences](#)

Double-Width Lines

Selecting the **Double-Width Lines** option of the **Options** menu turns double-width (bold) lines on and off. When the **Double Width Lines** option is on, bold lines are used to draw the design.

Some designs are easier to see when the size of the displayed lines is changed.

See also: [Statistics](#)
[View Grid](#)
[Show Initial Point](#)
[Show Last Point](#)
[Show Points](#)
[Preferences](#)

Show Initial Point

Selecting the **Show Initial Point** option of the **Options** menu turns highlighting of the initial (starting) point of the design on and off. When the **Show Initial Point** option is on, the initial point of the design is highlighted with a colored square (the color of the square is set by using the **Preferences** option of the **Options** menu).

See also: [Statistics](#)
[View Grid](#)
[Show Last Point](#)
[Double-Width Lines](#)
[Show Points](#)
[Preferences](#)

Show Last Point

Selecting the **Show Last Point** option of the **Options** menu turns highlighting of the initial (ending) point of the design on and off. When the **Show Last Point** option is on, the last point of the design is highlighted with a colored square (the color of the square is set by using the **Preferences** option of the **Options** menu).

See also: [Statistics](#)
[View Grid](#)
[Show Initial Point](#)
[Double-Width Lines](#)
[Show Points](#)
[Preferences](#)

Show Points

Selecting the **Show Points** option of the **Options** menu turns highlighting of the points on and off. When the **Show Points** option is on, the points of the design are highlighted with colored squares (the color of the squares is set by using the **Preferences** option of the **Options** menu).

See also: [Statistics](#)
[View Grid](#)
[Double-Width Lines](#)
[Show Initial Point](#)
[Preferences](#)

Preferences

Selecting the **Preferences** option of the **Options** menu displays a form allowing you to change various options. You can set the display colors of the background, lines, and points. You can set the location and size of the **Main Window** buttons. You can set the length of the lines in text files produced by the **Save As** option of the **Main** menu. You can also set the units for the Statistics display.

See also: [Statistics](#)
[View Grid](#)
[Double-Width Lines](#)
[Show Initial Point](#)
[Show Last Point](#)
[Show Points](#)
[Save As](#)

Printing Designs

The displayed design may be printed by selecting the **Print** option from the **File** menu or by clicking on the **Print** button. The *Print Stitch* window is displayed. This window allows you to select the style of the printout. Use the **Picture Style** buttons to select the picture style and the check boxes to select other print options.

The preview displayed in the upper-left corner of the *Print Stitch* window displays a rough image of the layout of the printout that will be produced. It is updated each time you change the picture style or a print option.

Click on the **Printer Setup** button to select a different printer or to change the setup of the printer. The options available will depend on your printer and driver. Some printers will offer the choice of portrait or landscape output. **StitchView** expects the printer to be set for portrait mode except when printing a Programming Sheet.

Because the width of a programming sheet is almost the same width as a standard page, some printers will not be able to print the cut-line around the Programming Sheet in portrait mode. Therefore, you may wish to switch your printer to landscape mode before printing a Programming Sheet.

See also: [Picture Styles](#)
[Print Options](#)

Picture Styles

StitchView will print the design using one of five picture styles [None](#), [Normal](#), [Full](#), [Actual Size](#), or [Programming Sheet](#).

See also: [Picture Style - None](#)
[Picture Style - Normal](#)
[Picture Style - Full](#)
[Picture Style - Actual Size](#)
[Picture Style - Programming Sheet](#)

None

No picture is printed when the **None** option is selected.

See also: [Picture Style - Normal](#)
[Picture Style - Full](#)
[Picture Style - Actual Size](#)
[Picture Style - Programming Sheet](#)

Normal

When the **Normal** option is selected, the design is printed about three inches high at the top of the page. If the design is too wide to fit on the page, the right edge of the design is cut off.

See also: [Picture Style - None](#)
[Picture Style - Full](#)
[Picture Style - Actual Size](#)
[Picture Style - Programming Sheet](#)

Full

When the **Full** option is selected, the designs height is reduced, if necessary, to fit the entire width of the design on the page.

See also: [Picture Style - None](#)
[Picture Style - Normal](#)
[Picture Style - Actual Size](#)
[Picture Style - Programming Sheet](#)

Actual Size

When the **Actual Size** option is selected, the design is printed approximately the same size that it will be stitched. The size printed may vary from the actual stitch size because of differences in printers and printer drivers.

See also: [Picture Style - None](#)
[Picture Style - Normal](#)
[Picture Style - Full](#)
[Picture Style - Programming Sheet](#)

Programming Sheet

The **Programming Sheet** option is only available for nine millimeter (.PCD) designs. When the **Programming Sheet** option is selected, the design is printed to closely match the size of a Pfaff Creative Designer Programming Sheet.

Some printers will print the Programming Sheet more accurately in landscape mode. Click the **Printer Setup** button and select the landscape option if it is available.

Because some printers are unable to print to the edge of the page, the Programming Sheet is printed in the center of the page and is surrounded by a dotted cut-line. The cut-line indicates where to cut or fold the paper to match the size of a Programming Sheet.

See also: [Picture Style - None](#)
[Picture Style - Normal](#)
[Picture Style - Full](#)
[Picture Style - Actual Size](#)

Print Options

In addition to selecting a picture style, the *Print Stitch* window allows you to select several other print options. The print options which are available vary depending on the selected picture format. For example, the **Show Grid** option is not available when the picture style is set to **Actual** since the grid would be too small.

See also: [Show Grid](#)
[Show Initial Point](#)
[Show Last Point](#)
[Show Points](#)
[Show Border](#)
[Gray Background](#)
[Show Filename](#)
[List Points](#)
[Line Width](#)

Show Grid

When the **Show Grid** option is on, a grid is drawn behind the design. The grid is drawn every two stitch units for PCD files and every eight stitch units for PCQ files. A stitch unit is equal to 1/6 millimeter when stitched by the sewing machine.

See also: [Show Initial Point](#)
[Show Last Point](#)
[Show Points](#)
[Show Border](#)
[Gray Background](#)
[Show Filename](#)
[List Points](#)
[Line Width](#)

Show Initial Point

When the **Show Initial Point** option is on, the initial point of the design is highlighted by drawing a filled square around the point.

See also: [Show Grid](#)
[Show Last Point](#)
[Show Points](#)
[Show Border](#)
[Gray Background](#)
[Show Filename](#)
[List Points](#)
[Line Width](#)

Show Last Point

When the **Show Last Point** option is on, the last point of the design is highlighted by drawing a filled circle around the point.

See also: [Show Grid](#)
[Show Initial Point](#)
[Show Points](#)
[Show Border](#)
[Gray Background](#)
[Show Filename](#)
[List Points](#)
[Line Width](#)

Show Points

When the **Show Points** option is on, all the points are highlighted by drawing a hollow square around the points.

See also: [Show Grid](#)
[Show Initial Point](#)
[Show Last Point](#)
[Show Border](#)
[Gray Background](#)
[Show Filename](#)
[List Points](#)
[Line Width](#)

Show Border

When the **Show Border** option is on, a border is drawn around the picture.

See also: [Show Grid](#)
[Show Initial Point](#)
[Show Last Point](#)
[Show Points](#)
[Gray Background](#)
[Show Filename](#)
[List Points](#)
[Line Width](#)

Gray Background

When the **Gray Background** option is on, the background of the picture is printed in gray.

See also: [Show Grid](#)
[Show Initial Point](#)
[Show Last Point](#)
[Show Points](#)
[Show Border](#)
[Show Filename](#)
[List Points](#)
[Line Width](#)

Show File Name

When the **Show File Name** option is on, the file name of the design file is printed at the top of the page.

See also: [Show Grid](#)
[Show Initial Point](#)
[Show Points](#)
[Show Border](#)
[Gray Background](#)
[List Points](#)
[Line Width](#)

List Points

When the **List Points** option is on, the points of the design are listed.

See also: [Show Grid](#)
[Show Initial Point](#)
[Show Points](#)
[Show Border](#)
[Gray Background](#)
[Show Filename](#)
[Line Width](#)

Line Width

The **Line Width** setting specifies the width of the printed stitch lines. The width is specified in pixels. The size of a pixel depends on your printer. In general, use a setting of 1 or 2 for thin lines and 5 for thick lines..

See also: [Show Grid](#)
[Show Initial Point](#)
[Show Points](#)
[Show Border](#)
[Gray Background](#)
[Show Filename](#)
[List Points](#)

Copying Stitch File Images to Other Programs

Select the **Copy Picture** option of the **Edit** menu or press **control-C** to copy the image in the display area to the Windows clipboard. Once the image is in the clipboard, it may be pasted into other Windows programs.

Use the Paste option of the other Windows program to retrieve the image.

The image may be pasted into any application which supports the pasting of Windows bitmaps. For example, the image may be pasted into the Windows Paintbrush program.

Copying and Pasting Designs

Copy Text

Select the **Copy Text** option of the **Edit** menu to copy the current design into the Windows clipboard. The design is converted to text containing a list of the design points. The format is the same as the one used to exchange designs in online conferences such as those offered by Prodigy.

Once you have selected Copy Text to copy the design, you can paste the text into any Windows program that supports pasting of text. For example, if you use America Online (AOL), you can paste a design into a message by choosing the Paste option from AOL's Edit menu when you are editing the message.

Paste

Select the **Paste** option of the **Edit** menu to paste a design (or designs) from the clipboard into StitchView. The design(s) in the clipboard must be in the same format used to exchange designs in online conferences as described above. When you select the **Paste** option, the StitchView Import utility is used to read the clipboard text and to import (or save) the designs.

The **Import Design** window will be displayed. **StitchView** searches the clipboard text and displays a preview of the first design it finds. If more than one design was found, a scroll bar is displayed. Use the scroll bar to select a design. Press the **Save As** button to convert the displayed design to a binary or text stitch file (see [Save As](#)). Press the **Paste** button to load the design into **StitchView**. Or press the **Close** button to exit the **Import Design** window.

Note: **StitchView** is not able to display a design if the text of the design is divided in the clipboard text. For example, if the design was spread among several messages and you copied the messages to the clipboard, **StitchView** will probably only display the beginning of the design. Paste the text into an editor such as Window's notepad and use Notepad to remove the message headers and other text that are inside the design in the text. Save the text into a file then use StitchView's Import utility (select the **Import** option of the **File** menu) to import the edited file.

The preview of the design is limited to 1000 points. If the design consists of more than 1000 points, the preview only shows the first 1000 points, but the **Save As** and **Paste** buttons will process all the points in the design.

Exporting Designs

A design may be saved as a binary or text stitch file or as a text file. When the design is displayed, select **Save As** from the **File** menu. The *Save As* window is displayed. Select the type of file to save from the list in the bottom left corner of the window then enter the name of the file to create or select an existing file to replace. Click the **OK** button to save the design in the specified file.

The binary stitch files (**Binary PCD** and **Binary PCQ**) are created using the new stitch file format which was introduced by Pfaffs PC-Designer 3 software. Text stitch files (**Text PCD** and **Text PCQ**) use the classic stitch file format as used by earlier versions of the PC-Designer software.

You can use StitchView to convert PCD (9mm) designs to PCQ (maxi) designs and vice versa. If the design is less than or equal to 9mm in width, you are given the option to save it as a PCD (9mm) text or binary file even if the design was originally loaded as a PCQ (maxi) design. Designs originally loaded as PCD (9mm) designs may be saved as PCQ (maxi) designs.

Text Files are saved in a format which is used to exchange designs in online forums such as the Pfaff conference on Prodigy. To load a text file back into **StitchView** use the **Import** option of the **File** menu.

Importing Designs

StitchView can import designs from text files. **StitchView** looks for designs in the format which is commonly used to exchange designs in online forums such as the Pfaff conference on Prodigy.

StitchView makes it easy to extract designs from the text of messages downloaded from Prodigy and other online services. Capture the messages to a text file then use **StitchViews** import option to import the designs.

To import a design, select the **Import** option of the **File** menu. Select the text file containing the embedded designs.

The **Import Design** window will be displayed. **StitchView** searches the text file and displays a preview of the first design it finds. If more than one design was found, a scroll bar is displayed. Use the scroll bar to select a design from the file. Press the **Save As** button to convert the displayed design to a binary or text stitch file (see [Save As](#)). Press the **Import** button to load the design into **StitchView**. Or press the **Close** button to exit the **Import Design** window.

Note: **StitchView** is not able to display a design if the text of the design is divided in the text file. For example, if the design was spread among several messages, **StitchView** will probably only display the beginning of the design. Edit the file and remove the message headers and other text that is inside the design in the text file. Then import the edited file.

The preview of the design is limited to 1000 points. If the design consists of more than 1000 points, the preview only shows the first 1000 points, but the **Save As** and **Import** buttons will process all the points in the design.

Troubleshooting

Display Problems

The most likely cause of display problems (i.e. broken lines, random spots in the display, or black lines running through the display) is a bad or outdated display driver. If you have any of these problems, please contact the manufacturer of your display card for updated Windows drivers. Corrupted images created by using the **Copy Picture** option of the **Edit** menu are also a symptom of a faulty display driver.

Installation Problems

If the installation program continually prompts you to insert the installation disk and the proper disk is the one in the drive, try selecting "Cancel" to exit the install. Then select "Run" from the Program Manager's "File" manager. Type "SETUP1.EXE" and press **Return** or click the **OK** button. The installation program will restart.

Printing Problems

If you have a problem printing, make sure that the proper printer driver is installed and that the proper printer and printer port are selected. Make sure that the selected printer supports graphics. **StitchView** is unable to print to text-only printers.

See also: [Technical Support](#)

Technical Support

Technical support for **StitchView** is available through U.S. mail and electronic mail.

The mailing address for technical support is:

Roger Smith Software
P.O. Box 3745
Winter Springs, FL 32708

Internet Electronic mail (e-mail) may be addressed to rasmith@aol.com.

Please include a description of the problem and a description of your computer.

