

# Hail to the Chef

Now that we're in the midst of the warm summer months that seem to fly past so quickly, it is time for all of you backyard master chefs to get out the "que" and stoke the coals (or turn on the gas if you must).

To make sure that you are decked out in the finest apparel, we are going to create an apron that will make your neighbors green with envy.

## Supplies:

- **One** piece tear-away backing
- **Sufficient thread** for the project
- **One** package bias tape (color to compliment fabric)

## Setup:

1. Start Wilcom DecoStudio e1.

2. Select New and then Garment.

3. In the next dialog box we will set the fabric. This will allow the application to predetermine the proper parameters for the design. Select Pure cotton from the fabric drop-down list and then select a color. We used black. Note: this is only for visual representation and does not have any bearing on the final design. Click on the Next arrow. ➡

4. In the machine format dialog, select the appropriate machine. If you do not see your machine listed, simply select Tajima and click the Next button ➡

5. Select New Embroidery

6. The next step is to bring in the image that we are going to use. DecoStudio© is capable of importing previously generated stitch files so that they can be repurposed. What we will do is open a stitch file.



From the Insert menu, select Embroidery file then DOS Disk.

7. Browse to the Designs folder. Typically this will be on the root level of the drive that you installed DecoStudio©. Locate the image "Flaming Grills.emb."

- **1/2** yards fabric (suitable for an outdoor apron)
- **Two** "D" rings
- Wilcom© DecoStudio© e1- a CorelDRAW© product


8. Select the image and click Open.



9. In the bottom right corner of DecoStudio©, you have the ability to resize the design. When this design was imported, it is 2.54 x 1.59. We want to size it to 5.00 x 3.93. To do this, type the values into the width (w) and height (h) boxes.

W:	2.54	in
H:	1.99	in

10. Next we will want to delete the piece of text "Flaming Grills." To do this, select the text with the pick tool and press the Delete key on the keyboard.

11. On the Universal toolbar, next to Design Mode, select "Graphics." This will bring us over to the CorelDRAW side of DecoStudio©. Here we will be adding our text and fitting it to a path.

12. Select the ellipse tool  then click and drag to create an ellipse around the entire image. Adjust the ellipse until you get the desired shape and size.

13. Select the text tool  and click next to the ellipse (outside of it). Type in "Hail to the Chef". Select the text, and on the property bar, change the font size to 48 points. Next use Tag as Wilcom Lettering  to convert vector lettering to native Wilcom embroidery lettering and set the font to Hobo.

Note: When the text object is tagged for conversion to a Wilcom embroidery alphabet, a red dotted outline is added to the text object.

14. The next step is to fit the text to a path. In this case, we will use the ellipse as our path. With the line of text selected, from the menu bar, select Text | Fit Text to Path. Point to the ellipse until the outline of the text appears. Slowly move the mouse pointer until the text is centered



Written By: Roger Wambolt

Roger is a member of the Field Services Team and has been with Corel for the past thirteen years. He specializes in graphics applications and focuses on the print, sublimation, signmaking, engraving and embroidery industries.



on the top of the ellipse. When the text is centered, there will be a red horizontal bar that will indicate this. Click to place the text.

15. Select the text with the pick tool and then select the appropriate color from the color palette on the right. We chose red, as the apron we are making is black.

16. Once you are satisfied with the positioning of the text in relation to the flames, click on the Convert button to see the results. **Convert**

17. Text can also be created on the Embroidery side within DecoStudio©. To do this, click on the text tool **A** and then click the document and type B.B.Q. King. and press the Enter key. As we are dealing with black text on a black background in this design, you will not see the text until you press the Enter key

18. To change the font attributes, right click on the text and select properties. This will open the Object Properties window. From here, expand the drop-downs and select Hobo in the Select Alphabet drop-down and set the size to .48". Position the text below the design.

Note: Font measurement is based on the distance from the top of the ascender to the baseline. Using this rule, 48point = .48 of an inch.

19. Once this is done, save the file out as a stitch file that's suitable for your embroidery machine.

20. Cut a piece of the fabric that is large enough to hoop into a 12x12 hoop. Be sure to use suitable backing. Once hooped, stitch out the design.

Note: Selecting File | Print Preview will create a stitch-out sheet that will provide valuable details about the design, including recommended backing.

### The Apron:

21. On a piece of paper that measures 24"x36", (kraft paper or butchers paper works well for this) draw a 3"x3" grid that is 12 rows by 6 columns and transfer the pattern on to it. Pin the pattern cut-out to the fabric and cut this out

22. Once the fabric is cut out, stitch the bias tape around the perimeter of the fabric. We used red thread to add a bit of pizzazz to the project

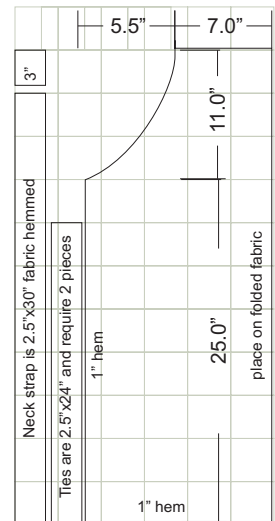
23. To make the neck straps and ties, cut 2.5" wide strips in the lengths indicated. Fold each one in half lengthwise and stitch on one end and down the side. Turn right side out using the handle of a wooden spoon or something equivalent (this is the painful part). Press flat.

24. For the neck strap, using the 3.0" piece slip the tie through 2 5/8" D-Rings and stitch the tie close to D-Rings. Stitch the other end to top right of apron. Stitch the 30" piece to top left of apron.

25. Stitch the two 24" ties on at the top of the straight side.

26. Cut the embroidered piece out to 6"x8" with the design centered. Hem 1/4" on all sides. Sew this on the front of the apron as a pocket.

Light up the grill, put on the apron and you are ready to sizzle!



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