How Do I Prepare my Design for Embroidery?
✨ *Spokane Print Partner* ✨

Embroidery has unique design requirements because artwork is recreated with thread instead of ink. To make sure your design *digitizes* cleanly and stitches clearly on the final product, it's important to prepare your file with embroidery limitations in mind. This guide walks you through size rules, color use, line requirements, and best practices to help you create embroidery-ready artwork that stitches reliably.

NOTE: The embroidery preview of the mockup shown may look slightly different from the final result. Stitching, thread thickness, and texture can affect how details appear once embroidered.

- Use high-resolution files (at least 1200 × 675 px or 300 DPI).

- Choose clear, bold fonts with sufficient spacing between letters.

- Ordering a sample to verify the embroidery quality **prior to committing to a bulk quantity.**

When the first order for that product is placed, the file enters the digitization queue. Future orders with the exact same design, product, and size skip this step and go straight into production. Digitization takes **up to 36 hours**, which is added on top of the standard **2–7 business days** production time, depending on the Print Provider.

Size Requirements:

To make sure your design elements and text are clearly visible once stitched, follow these size rules:

- **Minimum Text Height:** 0.25" (≈6.35 mm)

- **Minimum Line Thickness:** 0.05" (≈1.27 mm)

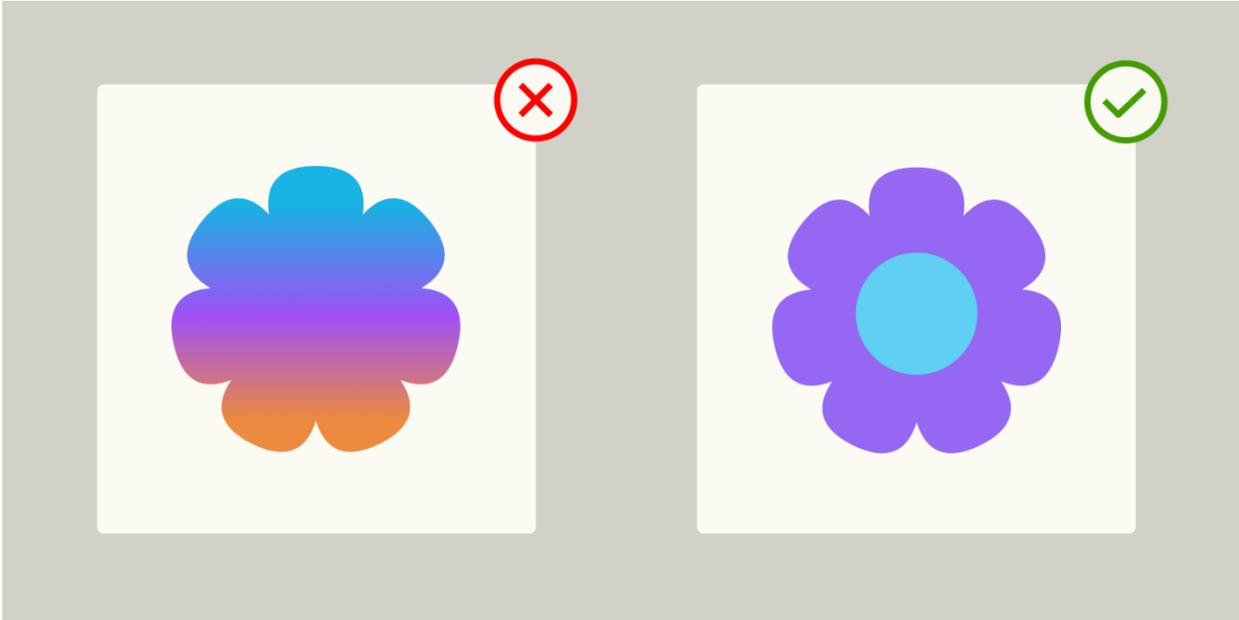- **Shape Thickness Range:** 0.05"–0.5" (≈1.27–12.7 mm)

Smaller text, thin outlines, or fine details may be automatically enlarged or simplified during digitization to ensure proper stitching.

Do's and Don'ts for Embroidery Designs:

To achieve clean, durable embroidery results, keep these design principles in mind. They'll help you avoid common digitization issues and ensure your designs are approved quickly. The examples below show how small adjustments can make a big difference.
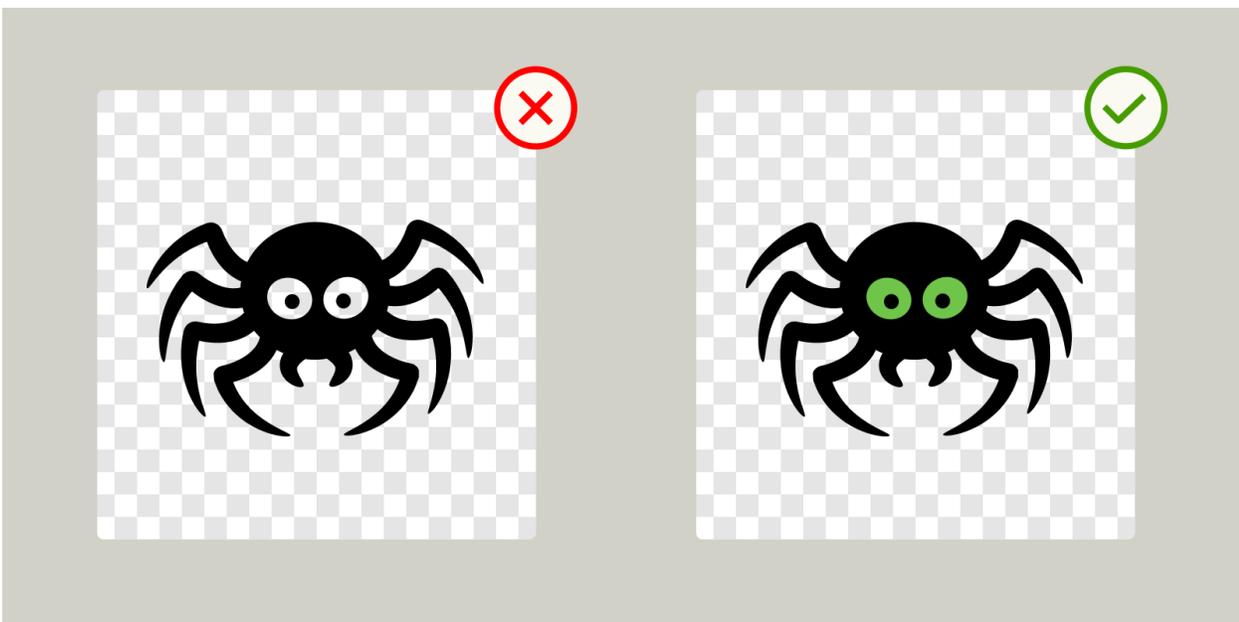
Color Use:

- **Do:** Use solid, contrasting colors. You can include up to **6 thread colors per design.**

- **Don't:** Use gradients, color blends, or subtle shading—these can't be stitched accurately.
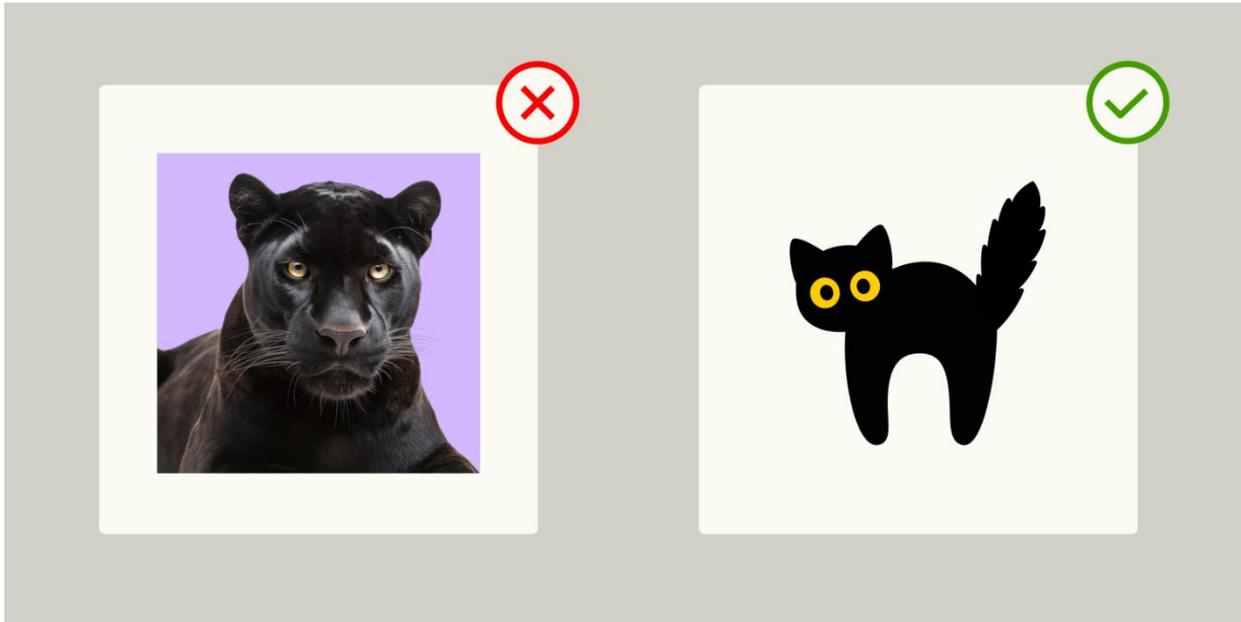

Negative Space:

- **Do:** Keep clear separations between elements.

- **Don't:** Rely on tiny gaps or thin empty spaces to define details. These areas may fill in or merge during stitching.

Images:

- **Do:** Use simple shapes and bold outlines.

- **Don't:** Use photographs, complex illustrations, or thin repeating patterns—they don't translate well to thread.
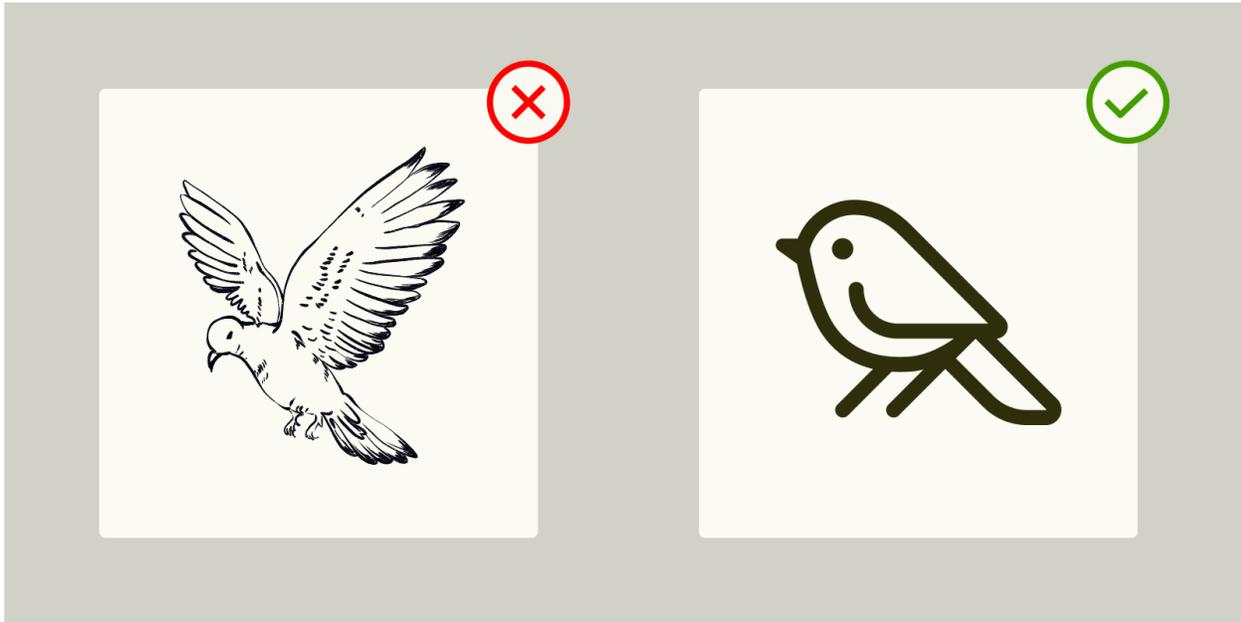

Text:

- **Do:** Use fonts that are at least **0.25" (≈6 mm)** tall and have medium-to-thick strokes.

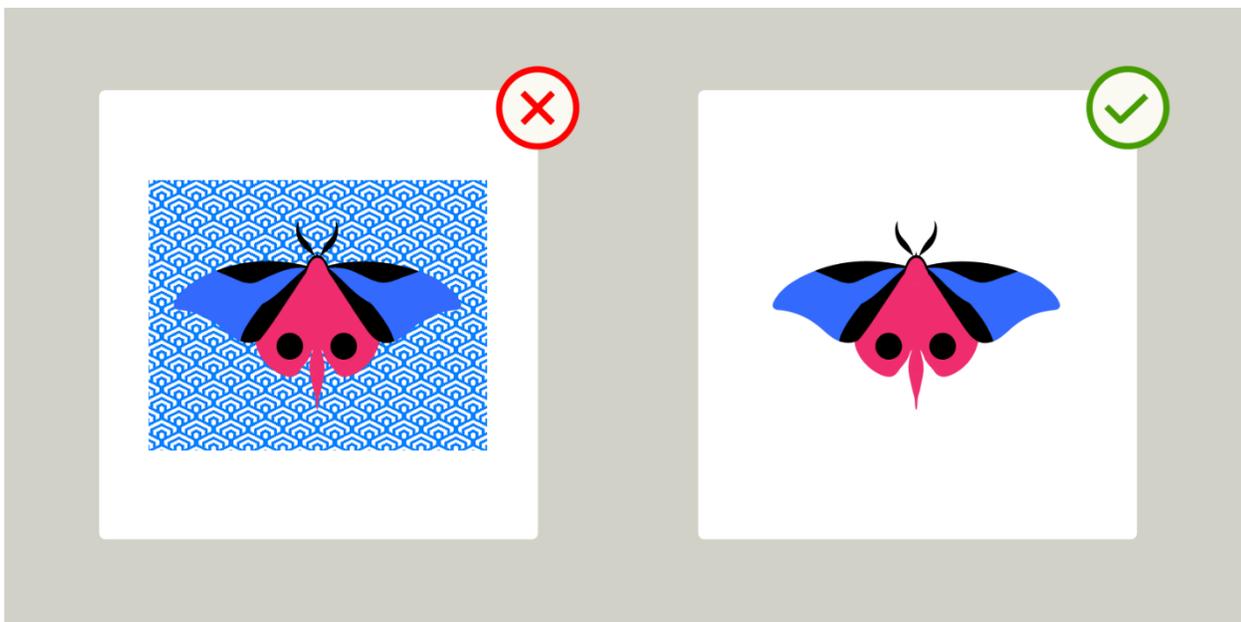- **Don't:** Use very thin or small fonts—fine serifs and scripts may lose clarity once stitched.

Line Thickness:

- **Do:** Keep all lines at least **0.05" (≈1.3 mm)** thick.

- **Don't:** Use extremely fine lines or distressed textures. These can disappear or look uneven once embroidered.
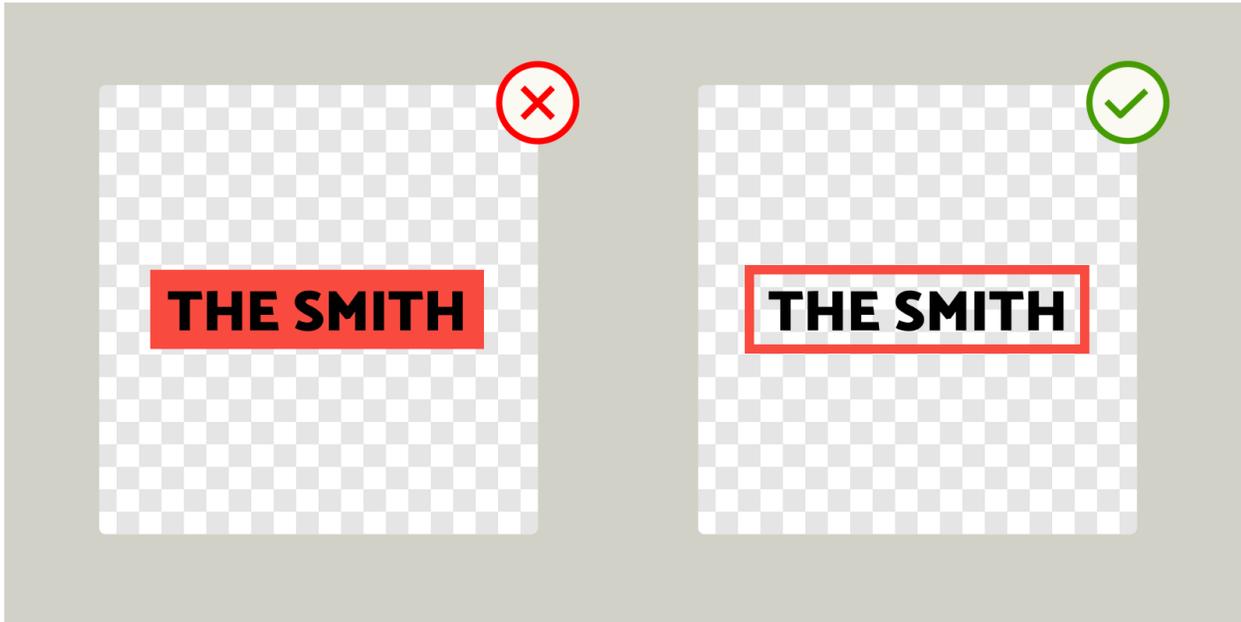

Details:

- **Do:** Simplify your artwork and remove background images with small decorative elements.

- **Don't:** Include intricate details that won't translate in thread.

Backgrounds:

- **Do:** Upload your design with a transparent background.

- **Don't:** Use solid, photographic, or patterned backgrounds—they can interfere with the stitching area.

Simplifying shapes, increasing line thickness, and removing backgrounds help preserve the main idea of your artwork while making it embroidery-ready.

Available Embroidery Thread Colors:

To ensure accurate embroidery results, we offer a fixed embroidery thread color palette. Using only these colors helps your design meet embroidery limitations and ensures the product mockup closely matches the finished item.

Below, you'll find the available embroidery thread colors and their corresponding color codes.

We offer **15 embroidery thread colors** for embroidery products.

White **#FFFFFF** **1801**	**Black** **#000000** **1800**	**Grey** **#96A1A8** **1718**	**Navy** **#333366** **1966**	**Aqua/Teal** **#3399FF** **1695**
Purple **#6B5294** **1832**	**Maroon** **#660000** **1784**	**Red** **#CC3333** **1839**	**Flamingo** **#CC3366** **1910**	**Orange** **#E25C27** **1987**
Gold **#FFCC00** **1951**	**Old Gold** **#A67843** **1672**	**Kiwi Green** **#7BA35A** **1848**	**Kelly Green** **#01784E** **1751**	**Royal** **#005397** **1842**

NOTE: Keep in mind that due to embroidery limitations, **only up to six colors** can be used per design.

How are Embroidery Thread Colors Selected?

The way embroidery thread colors are applied depends on whether you're using an uploaded design or text embroidery.

Uploaded Embroidery Designs:

When you upload an embroidery design file, thread colors are assigned automatically.

We map the colors in your design to the closest available embroidery thread colors from the palette. This ensures the design is compatible with embroidery production and stays within technical limitations.

If the uploaded design includes colors outside the embroidery palette or more than six colors, they'll be adjusted automatically.

Color Accuracy:

Embroidery uses physical thread rather than ink. Because of this, slight differences between your original design, the product mockup, and the finished product may occur.

✨ **Thank you for choosing Spokane Print Partner!** ✨
We look forward to serving you and bringing your designs to life.