

Stitching Sewcial

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Joanne Banko Quick Tip

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Opinion by Paid Consultant



This quick tip is designed to get you thinking about selecting and stitching beautiful buttonholes. A good start is to go ahead and stitch yourself a buttonhole sampler. Begin with two layers of a firm woven fabric and add interfacing or stabilizer between the layers. Choose a good quality, smooth sewing thread and thread top and bobbin with the same thread. Consider sewing buttonholes using the same thread you use for embroidery. I've been doing this for many years! On most occasions I actually prefer embroidery thread, as it mimics the sheen and smooth quality of pure silk thread. I also love the fact that **Brother Polyester Embroidery Thread** comes in so many colors. In the example below, standard polyester sewing thread was used on

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the left and embroidery thread was used on the right. **See Figure #1.**

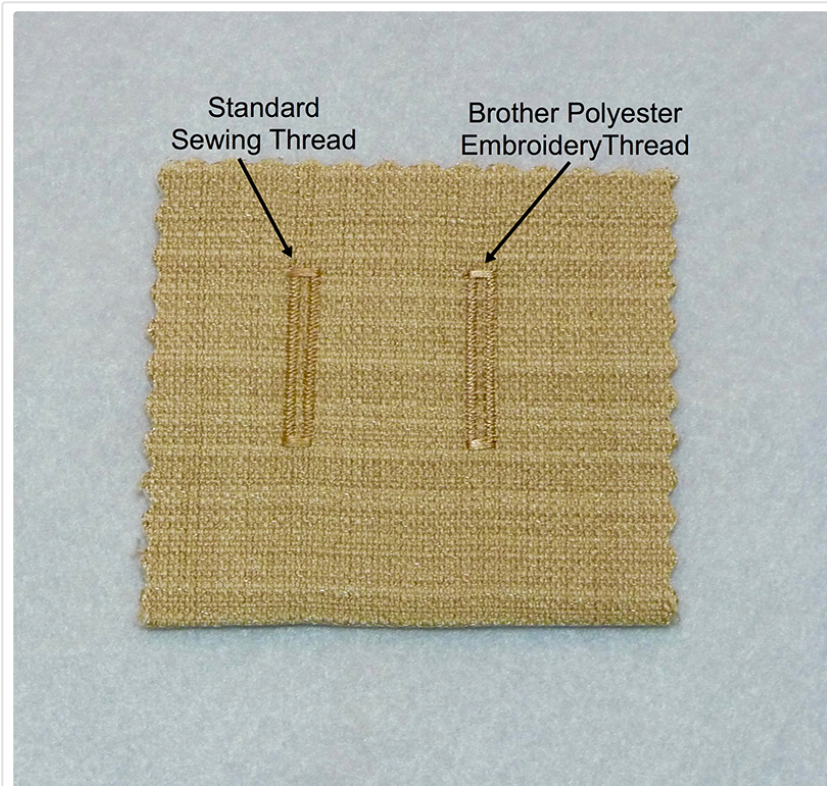


Figure #1

To stitch your sampler, begin at the beginning of the buttonhole menu and continue until you have stitched out each and every style.

Note: Buttonholes shown here are from utility stitch menu No.4 on the **Brother Luminaire Machine**. **See Figure #2.**

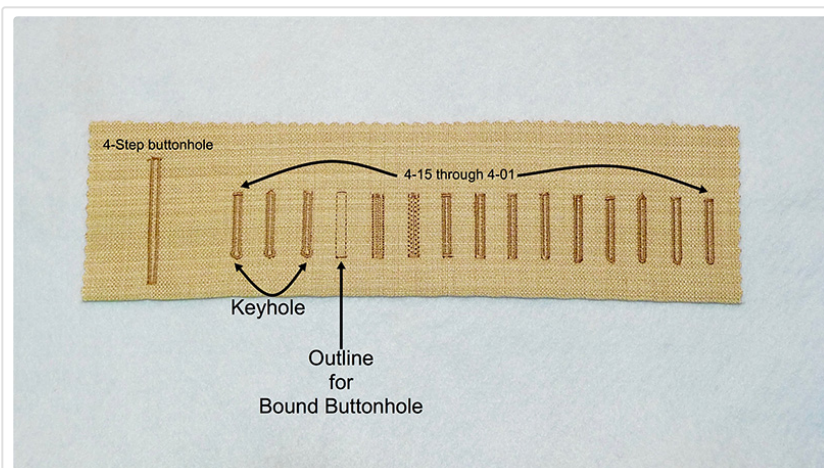


Figure #2

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Free Design of the month

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Your sampler will help you determine if a style will look good on your project. There are some common practices when it comes to buttonholes but you're the designer, so choose the buttonhole that suits your taste! Most of the rectangular or rounded end buttonholes can be used interchangeably. Keyhole buttonholes are designed for use with buttons that have an attached shank. Buttonhole 4-12 is for making a bound buttonhole. Watch for a future tutorial for that particular style! The last buttonhole on the far left is used when your button circumference is too large for the opening on the one-step "automatic" buttonhole foot. This selection allows for a manual buttonhole made by drawing the length of the buttonhole on the fabric and following four separate steps to stitch the right and left legs and the top and bottom bartacks.

Looking for more specific on each buttonhole built-in to your machine? Various Brother machine models have on screen help for you to access. Below you'll see how I found more buttonhole information for my all-time favorite round end buttonhole on the **Brother Luminaire**. See **Figure #3a, #3b, and #3c**.

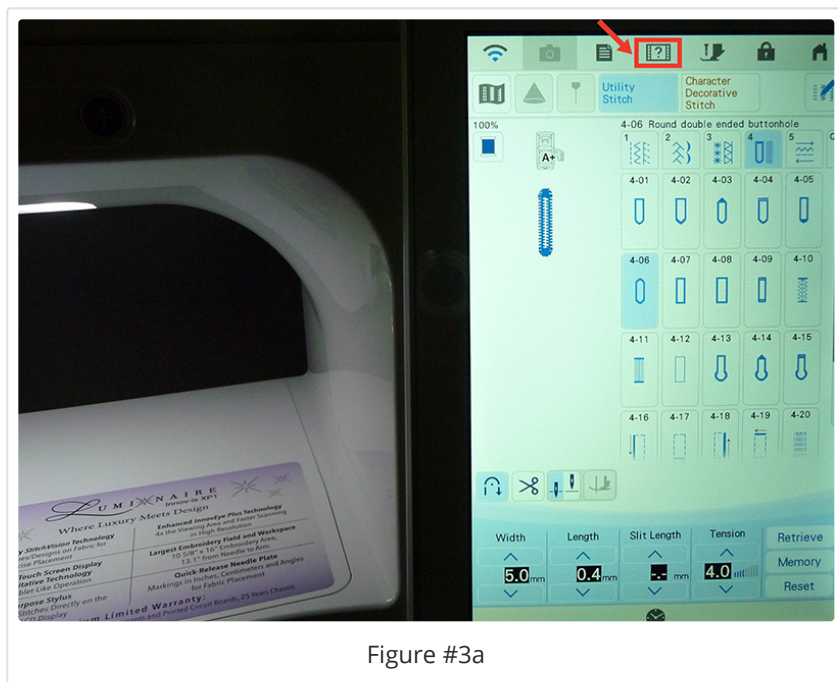


Figure #3a

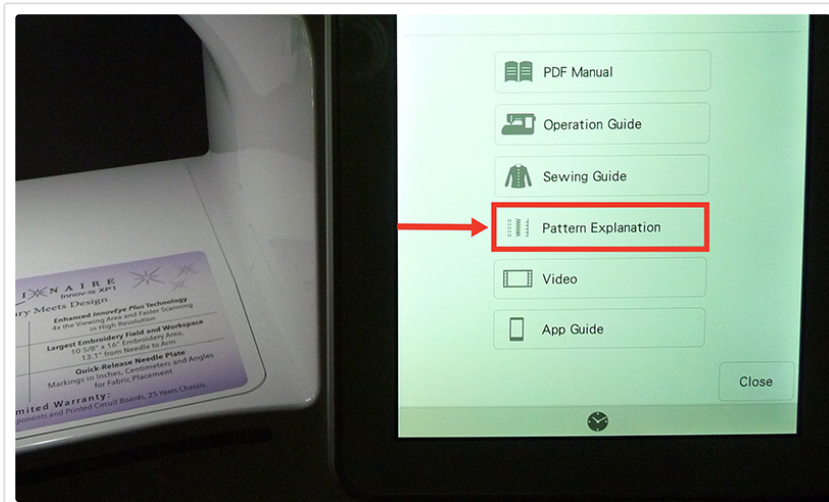


Figure #3b

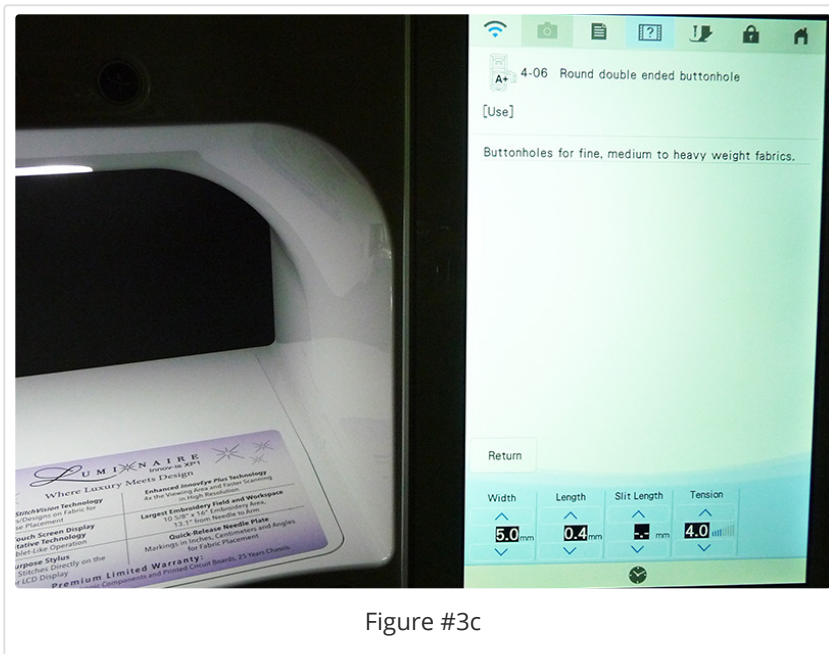


Figure #3c

You can also check your manual for more information and details such as those shown below in **Figure #4**.











Stitch Name	Pattern	Presser Foot	Application	Stitch Width [mm (inch)]		Stitch Length [mm (inch)]		
				Auto	Manual	Auto	Manual	
Buttonhole stitch	48		A	Horizontal buttonholes on thin and mediumweight fabrics	5.0 (3/16)	3.0–5.0 (1/8–3/16)	0.5 (1/32)	0.2–1.0 (1/64–1/16)
	49		A	Horizontal buttonholes on areas that are subject to strain	5.0 (3/16)	3.0–5.0 (1/8–3/16)	0.5 (1/32)	0.2–1.0 (1/64–1/16)
	50		A	Horizontal buttonholes on thick fabrics	5.0 (3/16)	3.0–5.0 (1/8–3/16)	0.5 (1/32)	0.2–1.0 (1/64–1/16)
	51		A	Secured buttonholes for fabrics that have backings	5.0 (3/16)	3.0–5.0 (1/8–3/16)	0.5 (1/32)	0.2–1.0 (1/64–1/16)
	52		A	Buttonholes for stretch or knit fabrics	6.0 (15/54)	3.0–6.0 (1/8–15/64)	1.0 (1/16)	0.5–2.0 (1/32–1/16)
	53		A	Buttonholes for stretch fabrics	6.0 (15/54)	3.0–6.0 (1/8–15/64)	1.5 (1/16)	1.0–3.0 (1/16–1/8)
	54		A	Bound buttonholes	5.0 (3/16)	0.0–6.0 (0–15/64)	2.0 (1/16)	0.2–4.0 (1/64–3/16)
	55		A	Keyhole buttonholes for thick or furry fabrics	7.0 (1/4)	3.0–7.0 (1/8–1/4)	0.5 (1/32)	0.3–1.0 (1/64–1/16)
	56		A	Keyhole buttonholes for mediumweight and thick fabrics	7.0 (1/4)	3.0–7.0 (1/8–1/4)	0.5 (1/32)	0.3–1.0 (1/64–1/16)
	57		A	Horizontal buttonholes for thick or furry fabrics	7.0 (1/4)	3.0–7.0 (1/8–1/4)	0.5 (1/32)	0.3–1.0 (1/64–1/16)

Figure #4

I hope these tips set you on a path to happily stitching your own beautiful buttonholes!



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