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Style Tip: Turn plain into pretty with designer style decorative stitching on a ready-made blouse!

Presented by: Joanne Banko on [It's Sew Easy TV](#)



The decorative stitches built into modern machines are a virtual goldmine of embellishment opportunities! Upscale a basic blouse using decorative stitches to embellish areas such as the blouse front, cuffs, and collar. Choose contrasting colors or opt for a tone on tone look. In no time at all you'll have an upscale garment you can be proud to wear. Add color coordinated lace and trims for even more pizzazz.

You will find a similar blouse project with instructions on the brothersews website. Click on the link below to download the free PDF file featuring a linen blouse embellished with decorative stitches:

www.brother-usa.com [Linen Blouse](#)

Materials and Supplies featured in this episode:

- [Brother XV8500D Sewing and Embroidery Machine](#)
- [Brother Embroidery Thread and Bobbin Thread](#)
- [SAEMB7511](#) Embroidery needles for sewing machine
- Presser foot suitable for decorative stitching. I used foot "N."
- Removable Stabilizers such as:
 - [SA5810](#) Brother Medium Weight Tear-Away Stabilizer
 - [SA541](#) Brother Light Weight Water Soluble Stabilizer
 - Liquid fabric stiffener such as Terial Magic Fabric Spray

General tips:

- This project features added decorative stitching on a ready-made blouse. Areas where the garment has interfacing are ideal for decorative stitching. However, you may need to add stabilizer for more support during the stitching process. I prefer stabilizers that are removable when finished so the blouse has no residue showing on either side of the fabric.
- Practice your decorative stitches on fabric that is very similar to your blouse. Purchase a small amount of similar fabric yardage if necessary.

- Add interfacing to your sample fabric to mimic the areas you want to embellish on your ready-made blouse.
- Use removable markers or simply use the edge of your presser foot as a guide when stitching.
- Wind a bobbin with matching decorative thread so the stitch looks good on both the right and wrong side.
- Add lace and trims as desired but be sure the trimming is compatible with laundering instructions for your garment. It is best to pre-wash all trims before stitching.

Additional Resources:

- Visit the Brother web site at www.brother-usa.com for Free embroidery designs, project instructions, tutorials, and more!
- Visit your local [Brother sewing machine dealer](#) for Brother Machines, Brother software programs, and special machine accessories.
- Please visit me at my Sewing and Embroidery website, www.letsdosew.com for more tips, techniques, and downloads. Sign up for updated sewing ideas and inspiration, project ideas, and more when you visit www.letsdosew.com.
- Find me on Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/letsdosew/>

I invite you to click on the link below for my Free tip sheet on using liquid stabilizers:
[Free Tip Sheet Liquid Stabilizers](#)

Happy Sewing!