

# **Changing Color Order Using Sew First/Sew Last**

for PE Design/Palette Ver 4

**by Carolyn Keber**

## Changing Color Order using Sew First/Sew Last.

This Step by step guide is for Version 4. Previous versions use a slightly different method.

You will need to use the Stitch to Block command to alter the sewing order of any designs that have not been created by yourself in Layout and Editing. e.g downloaded or designs from pre-programmed cards.

- Open your design or designs that you wish to use, onto your page in Layout and Editing.
- Go to Edit and choose Select all
- Then go to Sew and choose Stitch to Block

Leave the settings for Stitch to Block as they appear unless you wish to choose your own setting.

- Click OK.
- Make sure your design is still Selected. If it is not go to Edit then Select All.
- Now move to Edit and choose Ungroup.

Just so you can see how it works first...

- go to Option on the Menu Bar.
- Move to Design property on the and write down your current colour order. (see attached file Sewfirst/sewlast.pes)

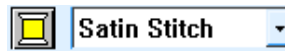
1.Red,  
2.yellow  
3.Orange  
4.Dark Brown.

Now you will change the sewing order.

- De-select the design by clicking outside the Design page Area.
- Click on the Select tool.

You now want to change the yellow to Sew Last.

- Click on the yellow to select it. (Make sure yellow is showing as the Spool colour)



- Now click Sew Last.

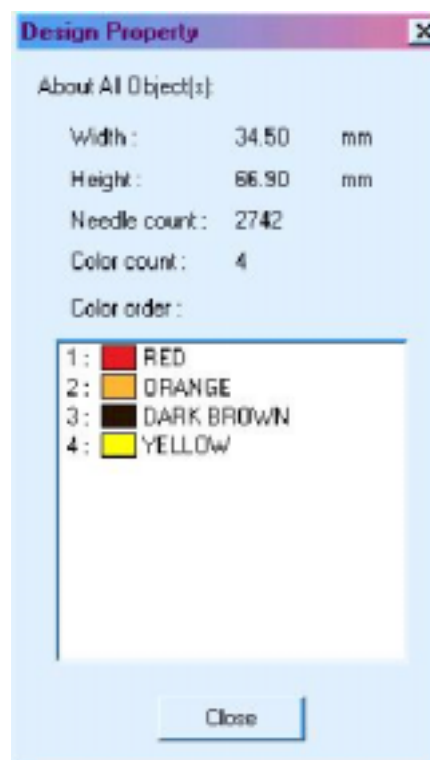


You will notice that when you do this (Sew last) that the last two buttons now are greyed out. This is because you are at the end of the sewing order and if you wish to change it further you would need to use the first two buttons, Sew first or Sew previous. In other words when the yellow is at the end you can only ask it to go back (Previous) or Sew first.


Those are the only options left otherwise you would be teetering on a cliff edge (you're at the end, baby, now you can only go back or start again! (VBG)

- De-select all the objects (click outside the page)
- Now check your Option/ Design Property.


You will see your yellow is now sewing last as in the picture below.

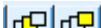


Okay, you should have managed this exercise so let's try something different. We'll move one of the colours two places further on to sew.

- Click Undo  until you are back to where you started before you moved anything so that you are still in the original sewing order. This just saves having to start again solely for the purpose of this lesson.
- Check to make sure that you are still Un-grouped.

Now let's make the Red (No.1) sew next to Dark Brown. We will make it sew in the third place.

- Click on Red. (check the spool colour is showing red as before) 

You will see that only Sew Next and Sew Last are currently available. 

- Click Sew Next twice.


This will make your colour move two places.

- De-select the design by clicking outside the Design page area ... check your Option/Design Property and you will see I am telling the truth!!!

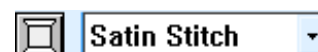
Now for one more tricky thing.....


- Return to beginning again by clicking Edit/Undo as before.
- Check you are still Ungrouped.

Now you wish to move the Red and Yellow to the end to sew last.....well, yellow sew last and red to sew second to last.

- Click on the red to select it. (Check spool colour) 
- Hold down the Shift key on your keyboard.
- Click on a yellow part of the design.

The spool colour will change to white.



- Now click Sew Last. 
- De-select design.
- Now check your Option/Design Property



Clever, huh!

Remember to Group when you are finished...always the bit I forget! And Save as a new File name, of course!

If you sew this design out in the order we have changed it for this lesson, it would be a mess. This lesson is solely for the purpose to show how to change the sewing order. I would not recommend sewing it out.

You can change more than one file at a time. For example I have seen a lot of people discussing the small free flag-ribbon design and changing the sewing order so they can sew several designs at once without repeating the colours. This can be done in L&E as well but you do need to apply Stitch to Block to any design that has not been created by yourself in Layout and Editing.

A word of warning for you about Stitch to Block. When applied, STB will change all your jump stitches to running stitches and you may end up with quite a few lines to unpick. You have to toss up whether it is worth the effort to do this or not.

My personal preference for changing sewing order is to use another program. My favourite is Embird. You can change the sewing order easily in Embird without as many hassles as STB. However that is just my personal opinion. It may not be yours.

Good luck. I hope you understood that okay.

Carolyn



## About the Author



**Carolyn Keber**

Carolyn has been involved with sewing since 11 years of age. After selling her successful Sportswear manufacturing business in 1995 she took up her love of hobby sewing again and discovered the joy of machine embroidery.

As technology improved and machine embroidery became computerized Carolyn embraced this new hobby, but was frustrated by the lack of instruction available. She solved this problem by teaching herself the programs and now teaches others who require her help. She gets a great amount of pleasure out of helping others learn such a wonderful hobby.

Carolyn lives in Auckland, New Zealand with Philip, her husband of 32 years, one of her three children Jenny, (the computer whiz) her two dogs and the cat.

Carolyn is the author of Step by Step tutorials to PE Design/Palette Now with videos on CD, available from  
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