

Lesson: Editing Text Shapes



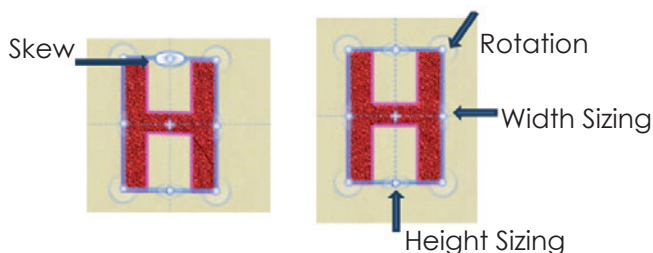
The software gives you the ability to edit and change the text so you can completely customize any font. You can work with the entire text grouped together or break apart the letters and customize each letter. Height, width, angle and changing the shape of a letter are just some of the options we will be working with.

1. Open Creative DRAWings > Create new > Next > New graphic > Hoop size SQ200 x 200 (or appropriate hoop size for your machine) > Next > Embroidery Smooth – Cotton 2 > Finish

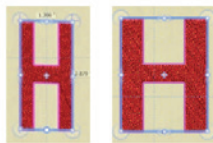
2. Select **Text**  > Font – Consolas > Font size – 3.50" > Check **Bold** box

3. Move cursor to center of hoop and left click once to set starting point (a flashing line appears) > Type – **H** >

4. Select **Rectangle selection**.  This sets the design. Change the fill color to red > **Thread palette** > Click on lower right hand corner of color. There are now several sizing handles that have appeared on the letter. They are: height and width sizing, rotation and skewing



5. Left click on the **Height sizing** handle on the bottom. Drag down to change size. Left click on the **Width sizing** and make the letter wider.



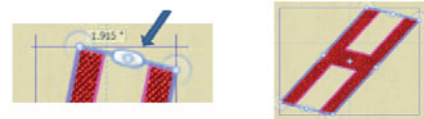
Note: If you drag from the bottom it will make the change on the bottom half of the design. If you drag from the top, the change is made on the upper half. Example: On "h" you can make the top half longer without changing the rest of the design.

6. Left click and drag on the **Rotation** handle and move to see the rotation. You can rotate to the right or left.



7. Move cursor to top of design and position over the middle and a new symbol appears. This lets you skew

the design. Left click and drag to change the shape. Notice how the center point stays the same but you can move the object to the left or right.



Another tool to change lettering with is the **Edit Shape Nodes**. This allows you to change the shape of individual letters by moving parts and pieces of the letter.

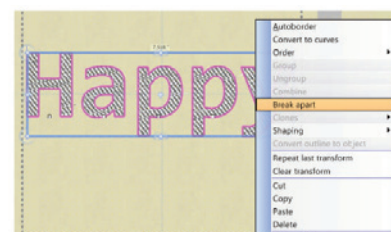
1. File > New > New graphic > Hoop size – same as before > Next > Cotton 2 > Finish

2. Select text  > Font – Consolas > Font size 3.50" > Bold

3. Position cursor on left hand side of hoop, half the way down and left click once. A flashing line appears. Type **Happy**


4. Select **Rectangle selection** tool  to set design.

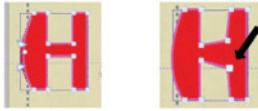
5. Click on the design and move to center of hoop. Click on the sizing handles on the corner of the design and resize to fit into your selected hoop size. Change the fill color to red. **Thread palette** > click on lower right hand corner of color




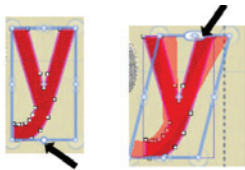
6. Move cursor over to design area and right click. Choose **Break apart**. We have now separated the letters so we can work with each one individually.

7. Click off the design to deselect it. Click on the "H" only.



8. Click on **Edit shape nodes**  > Move cursor to left side of H > Left click on a node and drag to change design. Click on one of the squares in the center of the H > Left click and drag to move stitches.



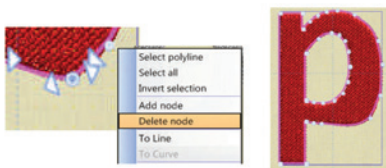
9. Click on the "y" to select it. Select **Rectangular selection** tool  > Left click on the handle at the bottom of the design and drag down to enlarge



10. Move cursor up to top handle > It now turns into a directional handle so you can skew the design to the left or right > Left click handle and drag to the right.

11. Click on the "p" > Select **Edit shape nodes**  > Enlarge working area so you can see and select the nodes better. 

12. Left click on any of the nodes and drag the stitches to a new position. Sometimes it may be necessary to delete and/or add nodes to customize the design. Deleting a node may help make the curve smoother. Notice the uneven curve on the letter. To delete a node left click on the node you want to delete > Triangles now appear showing the selection > Right click > Delete node > The design is now smoother.



Sometimes you may need to add a node in order to customize the design. Double left click on the place where you want to add the node > Right click > Add node. Once you have chosen this option you can continue to add nodes by left clicking on the place you want to place the node.

12. Continue working with the letters changing the shape of the letters by selecting nodes and moving them. Don't forget you can also rotate the letters and/or skew them.