UNDERSTAND YOUR SETTINGS

Beautiful lettering starts with the right settings.

Native BX fonts are designed to be adjusted. The defaults are a starting point, not a setting to use for every size and every fabric.

Your native BX font can generate new stitches as you resize and adjust it in Embrilliance. That flexibility lets you tailor the lettering to your project. Simply changing the size does not guarantee that the original settings will suit the new stitch-out.

The Bay Lake starting settings

Setting	Default
Density	4.5
Compensation (Comp)	0
Edge run underlay	On
Satin underlay	On
Nearest connecting point	On

These defaults generally work well at the default 1-inch size on well-stabilized cotton. Smaller lettering, larger lettering, and different fabrics may need different settings.

Resize. Adjust. Test-stitch. Fine-tune.

TINY LETTERING • AROUND 1/4 INCH

Small letters need room for their stitches.

If underlay peeks out around tiny letters, start by reducing the underlay bulk and adjusting the satin coverage. These are my suggested starting adjustments for tiny fonts such as Simple Round.

1. Select your lettering.

Click your text in Embrilliance. In the Properties panel on the right, open the Stitch tab.

2. Keep Density at 4.5.

For this tiny-lettering test, leave the density at the default. Adding more stitches is not the first adjustment to make.

3. Turn off satin underlay.

Leave edge run on and turn satin underlay off. Removing the extra underlay can reduce bulk beneath very small satin columns.

4. Increase Comp slightly.

A small increase in pull compensation makes the satin columns a little wider and can help cover the edge run. Make a small change, then test; too much can close the openings in tiny letters.

5. Stabilize and test.

Use a suitable stabilizer, such as medium cutaway when appropriate for the project. Hoop the fabric and stabilizer securely together, without stretching the fabric. Test on a scrap of the same fabric before stitching the finished item.

Tiny-font starting checklist

Density: 4.5 | Edge run: On | Satin underlay: Off
Comp: Increase slightly, then test

At 1/4 inch, results also depend on the letter shapes, thread, needle, fabric, and machine. Some fonts and combinations will need a larger size for clean, readable lettering.

LARGER LETTERING • IMPROVE COVERAGE

Seeing fabric between the satin stitches?

If larger lettering looks too open, try a modest density adjustment. My suggested next test is 4.0, with the stabilizer and compensation suited to your fabric.

1. Select your text and open Stitch.

Click your lettering, then open the Stitch tab in the Properties panel.

2. Try Density 4.0.

Change Density from 4.5 to 4.0. A lower density number places the stitches closer together for fuller coverage.

3. Check Comp and support.

If the satin columns need a little more width, increase Comp slightly. Use adequate stabilization; medium cutaway can be a useful choice when appropriate for the fabric and project.

4. Consider a topper when needed.

If stitches are sinking into a textured or lofty surface, try a clear water-soluble topper. A topper supports the surface stitches; it does not replace the stabilizer underneath.

5. Test before adding more stitches.

Stitch a sample on the same fabric. Check coverage, softness, letter openings, and puckering before making another adjustment.

4.0 is a trial setting, not a universal rule.

It is a useful next step for fuller coverage, but going lower adds still more stitches and may create bulk, stiffness, or thread problems. If coverage is still poor, reassess stabilization and compensation before increasing density further.

The goal: settings that suit your size, fabric, and project - with a test stitch to confirm the result.