

# Sweet Illusion Richelieu Heart

By a Wonderful by Shy Generations Owner  
Skill level: Intermediate



We all know that the graphics we choose for creating our embroidery designs are often less than ideal for auto-digitizing. Fortunately, **Generations™** has powerful editing tools available to help deal with some of these minor problems. The graphic provided with this project will give you an opportunity to use some of these editing tools to perfect your design right in the program. Once the files for this project are downloaded and unzipped to your hard drive you are ready to begin the project.

The functions for **Generations™** are performed with **both right and left mouse** clicks, so unless otherwise stated a click of the mouse will refer to a left mouse click. Whenever possible the icon for an action will be used to help you become more familiar with the available toolbars.

Before we get started it would be a good idea to check some of your **View Preferences** just to make it easier to follow the lesson.

## To begin:

- Open your **Generations™** program and click on the **View** on the top Menu bar and then **View Preferences**
- On the **General tab** check for these settings: snap to grid-unchecked, measure unit-mm, and line grid spacing-6.0.
- The other settings are up to you but the defaults should work fine for this project.
- Make sure under the **Hoop/Original Point tab** that **Auto-Center** is checked along with a hoop size appropriate for your machine.



*The following directions are for an embroidered heart for a T-Shirt neckline. This is merely a suggestion. Because of its size, this type of design lends itself to many applications. Once you get the technique mastered feel free to use the design for table runners, potpourri sachets, pillowcases or even greeting cards. I'm sure you get the picture. Your imagination is your only limitation.*

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## Inserting the Graphic



1. **Insert** Richelieu Heart graphic using the **Insert Image** icon  from the **Create Toolbar** on the right; it should read as a scanned image; click **OK**
2. On the next screen set the **Threshold** setting to 100 and click **Apply**
3. When processing is complete click **Continue**
4. On the resize screen make sure that **Maintain Aspect Ratio** is checked; Resize as desired. Depending on your hoop size, you may want to set the larger number to less than 100 mm; now click OK and **Generate** 

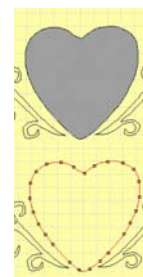


5. On the **View Toolbar** click on the **Hide/View Image** icon  so you can see your grid




## Adjusting the Heart Shape

1. Select the heart shape from the graphic with a **right click** so that it is highlighted with flashing blue marquee lines.
2. On the **View Toolbar** click the **Outline View** icon.  Your heart will now be filled with a cross-hatched shading.
3. On the View Toolbar, click on the **Edit Mode** icon  or Select Outline from the menu bar and then choose **Edit Outline Mode**. This will place a red outline and small nodes around the heart area.
4. Use the **editing nodes** with a **click and drag motion** to reshape the heart to your preference
5. For detailed directions for **node editing** see **page 185** in your manual.
6. When you have finished reshaping your heart, **Generate** to create the new stitches for the area.



## Creating the Outlines for the Heart

1. With the heart selected with blue flashing marquee lines, go to **Outline View** 

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2. From the **Outline** menu choose **Create Outline from Area Edges**

3. In this box select a **Run Outline** with a **0.4 offset** and click **OK**




4. Change the **color to red** from the color chip on the **Quick Bar** and then **Generate**  to create new stitches




5. Select the solid heart again with a **right click**

6. In **Stitch View** (or the normal view), Select **Stitch** from the **top menu** and then **Create Outline from Area Edges** from the drop down menu.

7. Make this outline a **Satin Border**; Offset-0, Width-1 & click **OK**


8. Click on the **Stitch Settings** icon  or tap the **Space Bar** to bring up the **Line Properties**. **Remove** the check next to **Use Underlay** on the **Basic Tab**. Change the **color** to blue using the **color chip** and the color palette.

9. On the **Satin tab** change the **density** to **1.5**; click **OK** and **Generate**  the new stitches.

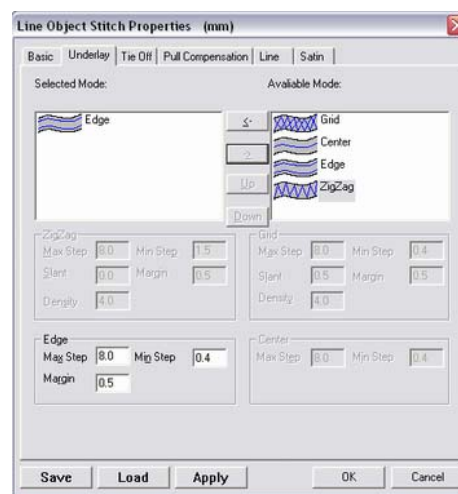
10. Select the solid heart again with a **right click** so that it is surrounded by the blue flashing marquee lines.

11. Create an Outline from the Area Edges using one of the techniques mentioned above.

12. Make this outline a **Satin Border**; Offset-0, **Width-3** and Generate again 

13. Click on the Properties icon  or tap the Space bar again and on the **Underlay tab** change the **underlay type** to **Edge**.

14. Click on **Edge** in the **Available Mode** box and use the **left arrow** button to move it to **Selected Mode**. Use the right arrow button to move any other types to the Available box.





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15. Select the solid **heart** shape with a right click and press **Ctrl+Delete** to delete the solid heart from the design.


16. Open the **Stitch Sequence Viewer**  from the **View Toolbar** and with a left click select the first red outline that was created. Move the **in and out** points, with a click and drag motion, to the bottom tip of the heart outline & Generate 



17. Repeat this step on each outline created making sure to Generate  after each one

*You may be asking, "Why couldn't the appliqué feature be used to make these outlines?" Because we're going to sew the Richelieu bars in between the color stops, it is necessary to create the color stops separately, even though this design will be sewn in all one color.*


### Creating the Lattice Bars

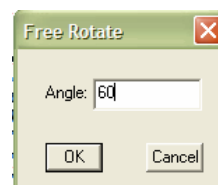
1. On the **Stitch Sequence Viewer**, click on the **Visible/ Invisible** icon , in the top left corner, for the **last two Satin outlines created**. You want only the first red, Run outline visible

2. From the **Create Toolbar** choose the **Create Free Hand Line** tool 

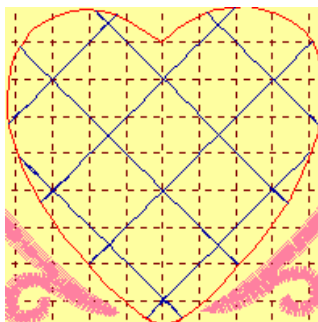
3. Directions for this tool can be found on **page 143** of your manual

4. With **3D View** turned **off**, insert **4 lines** at a **60-degree** angle across the heart. Make sure to tap the **Enter** key after each line is set. Use the grid as a guide to place the lines. *If you make a mistake, press the backspace key on the keyboard to remove the point and re-enter it.*

*TIP: You can use the free rotate tool located at on the align toolbar.* 



5. Now insert **4 lines** at a **150-degree** angle to cross the others; don't forget the **Enter** key



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6. From the **Stitch Sequence bar** Select all **8 lines** that you just entered by **clicking** on the **first one** and while **holding the Shift key** click on the **last line**

7. With all the lines selected switch to **Outline View** 

8. From the **Outline menu** choose **Create Area from Line**

9. In the pop-up box enter an **area width of 0.9**; click OK and **Generate**  to create the new stitches

10. Now select the **original lines** from the **Stitch Sequence Viewer** and use the keys **Ctrl+Delete** to remove them from the design.

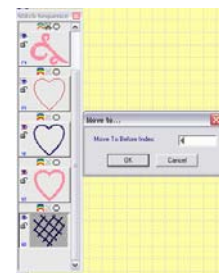
11. Select all **8 new bars** and switch to **Outline View** 


12. From the **Outline menu** choose **Merge** and then **Generate**  to create the new stitches




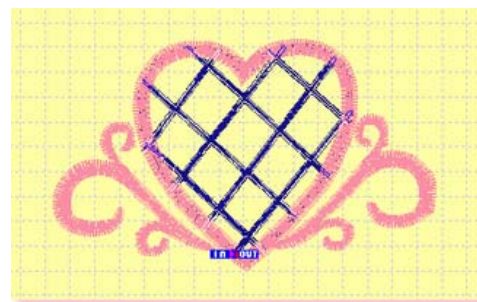
13. From the **Stitch Sequence Viewer** select your **lattice** with a **right** click


14. In the **pop up box** choose **Move to...** and in the **Move to Before Index** box enter the number of the frame after the blue Satin outline. *We want the lattice to sew after the first Satin outline but before the last wide Satin border.*



15. If your lattice is not the same color as the outline above it you can click on the small rainbow icon  under the frame for the outline on the **Stitch Sequence bar**. This will remove the color stop and the lattice will change to the same color.

16. Select your **lattice** from the **Stitch Sequence Viewer** and move the **in and out** points to one of the legs near the bottom tip of the heart and **Generate** 







17. Now you can uncheck the **Visible /Invisible** icons  on the **Stitch Sequence Viewer** from the two Satin outlines

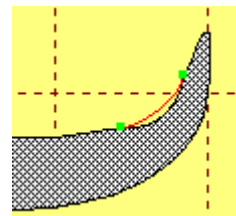
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## Adjusting the Scroll Shape

1. Select one scroll shape beneath the heart with a **right click** and switch to **Outline View**  

2. From the **Outline menu** choose **Adjust with an Arc**
3. **Smooth irregular lines and curves** by placing a point with this tool on either side of the irregular area. Detailed instructions for this tool can be found on page 194 of the manual
4. When **both points are placed** a **blue line** will appear when the cursor is placed over the line
5. When you **click and drag** this curved line into place it turns red
6. Once the curve of the line suits you; **left click** to set the line
7. If you'll be making many adjustments be sure to **Generate**  after two or three changes
8. Adjust the whole scroll shape in this manner until the outline is to your satisfaction
9. **Right click** outside the design to **turn off** the Adjust with an Arc tool
10. In **Outline View**, from the **Outline menu**, choose **Edit Outline Mode**; click and drag the nodes to further adjust the outline if necessary and Generate 
11. With the scroll still selected **move the in & out** points to the bottom tip of the scroll, closest to the heart, with a **click and drag motion** and Generate 
12. Once one scroll is shaped to your liking you can select the other scroll with a **right click** and **delete it using the Ctrl+Delete** keys




## Duplicating the Scroll Shape

1. **Left click** on the scroll (it should have a box with eight little squares surrounding it)

2. **Copy the scroll** using the **Copy** icon  from the **Standard Toolbar**



3. Now **paste** the copy using the Paste icon  from the same toolbar

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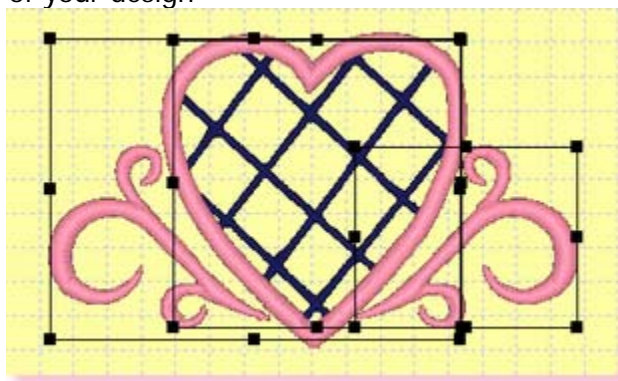
4. On the **Object Toolbar** click on the **Mirror Vertically** icon  to flip the second scroll



5. Use the **left or right arrow key** on your keyboard to move the second scroll into place on the **opposite side of the heart** and Generate 

## Finalizing the Design

1. Click on the **Edit menu** and choose **Select All**; you should see boxes with corner squares around each object of your design



2. On your **Object Toolbar** click on the **Group/Ungroup** icon  & Generate ; this will make your design all one object

3. You may need to rearrange the sewing order from the **Stitch Sequence bar**. You should have only **six frames** in this order:

- red run outline
- blue satin outline
- blue lattice
- pink satin outline
- pink scroll shape
- second pink scroll

4. If you need to move some of these frames **right click** on each **frame** and use the **Move To..., Move to Bottom or Move to Top options** described on page 97 of your manual

5. Make sure to **Generate**  after each change





6. Be sure the design will fit in your frame from the **Status Bar** on the very bottom of the screen

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7. If you need to resize, left click on the design and use the **Resize** icon  from the **Object toolbar** to type in a new size; click OK and Generate  (you do not need to apply stitch processing to this)
8. Make sure to **save your design as a .gen** file using the **Save** icon  on the **Standard Toolbar**
9. If you haven't saved your design already you will be prompted to "**Save Generations File**" in a location of your choice; type in a name and click **OK**
10. Now click on the **Export icon**  on the **Standard Toolbar** and on the **Export design box** click on the appropriate format for your machine.
11. Check the **Designs Location** box for the desired drive and destination & click on **Export**  
*You may want to Export twice; once to your hard drive and again to a floppy if your machine takes one.*

As you can see there are some "problem" graphics that can be handled quite easily right in your **Generations™** program. Of course this project only scratches the surface when it comes to the editing tools in this amazing program. Hopefully, working on this project, you'll gain some experience with the available toolbars as well as become aware of the many editing tools available. Feel free to use this technique on as many projects as you can imagine. You may just surprise yourself!

### Materials Needed To Complete Project

- \* Graphic for Richelieu Heart
- \* 2 pieces water-soluble stabilizer - 8" sq.
- \* 40-weight embroidery thread
- \* Stencil Burner or Seam Sealant
- \* 1 piece polyester organza - 8" square
- \* 1 piece light tear away stabilizer - 8" sq.
- \* T-Shirt or other item to be embroidered
- \* Size 70/10 Universal needle *(suggested size)*

### Hooping and Construction

- On your t-shirt, below the neckline, mark a center point for your design
- Hoop together T-shirt, on top, then organza, and one sheet of water-soluble stabilizer
- After sewing out first heart outline, remove the hooped item from your machine but do not unhoop it
- With small scissors or appliqué shears trim only the T-shirt close to stitching
- Pin or use temporary spray adhesive to attach the second layer of water-soluble stabilizer on top of t-shirt over the design area and return the hooped item to the machine
- Continue stitching the design until the next color stop

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- After the lattice sews out slide the tear away stabilizer under the hoop
- Continue stitching the design to the end
- Unhoop the T-shirt and tear away excess stabilizer
- Trim the organza leaving a ½" edge around the design
- Use the stencil burner or seam sealant around the edges of the organza to keep the edges from fraying
- When the seam sealant is dry melt away any excess stabilizer with a damp cloth

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