

EPC_{WIN} FIRST STEPS

Workbook for Training



INSTALLATION GUIDE
Video Tutorial

DEAR CUSTOMERS,

Congratulations on purchasing one of the best studio systems in the embroidery industry. EPCwin is based on more than 20 years of experience of the Embroidery Software Partners ZSK and GiS. User-friendliness was a significant factor in the development of EPCwin. You will be optimally guided and supported during embroidery design and drawing, punching and editing. This manual is intended to make it easier for you to get to know the software and provide optimum support.

After installing EPCwin and activating your options by entering a password, the software is ready for use. If you have any questions or problems with the installation, please feel free to watch our video tutorial. Simply scan the QR-Code and you will be redirected to our tutorial.

Please note that the functions presented here are only one part of the software's possibilities. If you still get stuck, the software offers contextual help. If you press the **[F1]** key in any situation, you will be taken to the corresponding page in the help manual. Where necessary, cross-references take you to further informations. The content of the EPCwin help manual is primarily concerned with working with the programme. It is not intended to impart any special knowledge of embroidery.

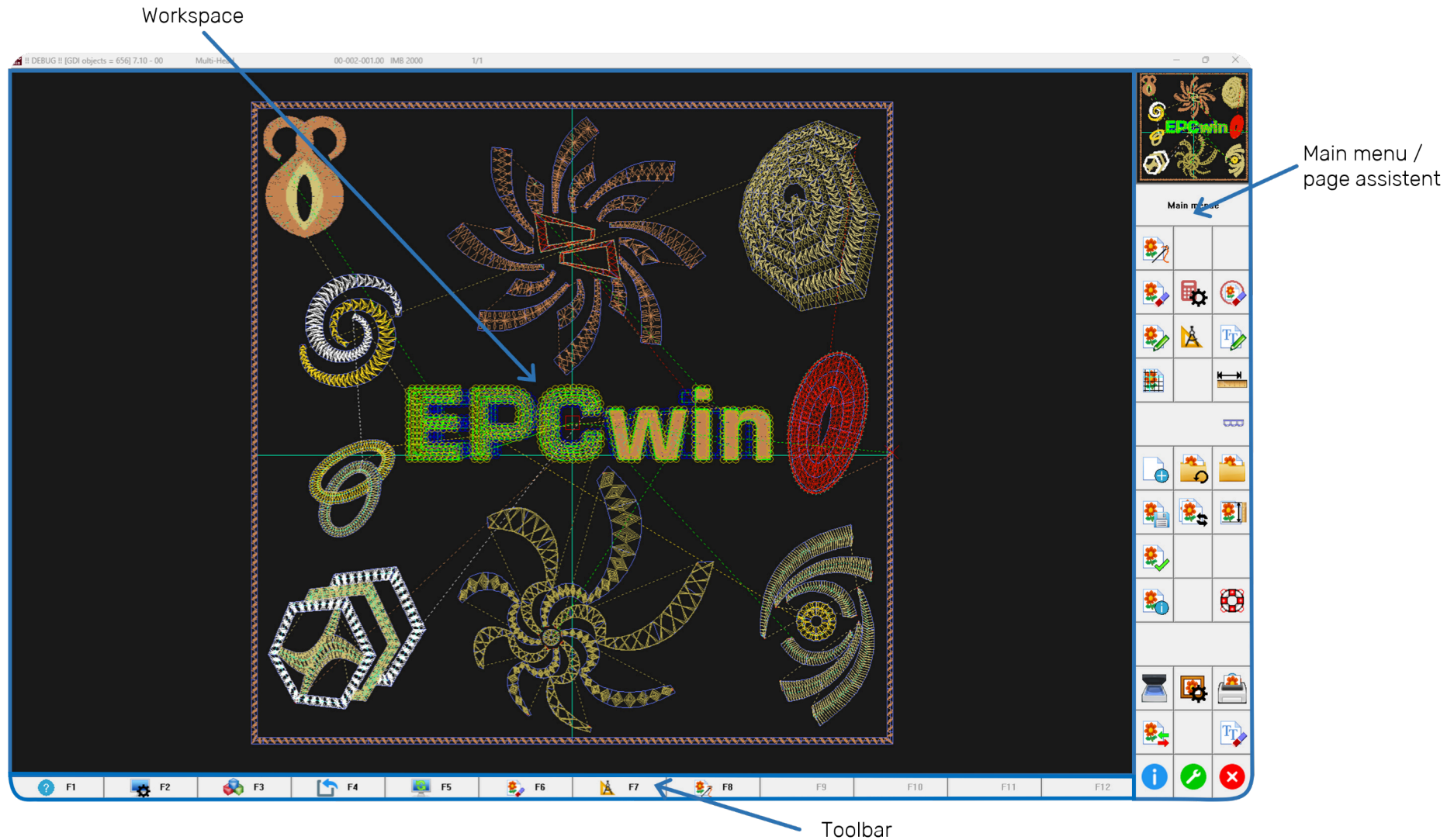
Please note that our workbook cannot replace any of our training by our training staff.

Your ZSK Digitizing Academy

Table of Contents 3

User interface	4	Automatic programme 14	22
Important Options	5	Automatic programme 15	23
Keyboard assignments	6	Notes	24
Switch between the options	8	Automatic programme 34	25
Let's start	9	Parameters	26
Import	10	Editor	28
Create design directories	11	Editor	28
Drawing	12	Modify special functions	29
Types of points	13	Notes	30
Notes	14	Save	31
True Type monogram design	15	Export	32
Punching	16	Your golden rules	33
Stitch type overview	18	Wire/Fibre/Tube Placement (W-Head)	34
Automatic programme 20	19	Chenille Embroidery (K-Head)	36
Automatic programme 1	20		
Notes	21		

4 User Interface



Important Options 5



Punching



Editor



Drawing



Parameter settings



Global editing



True Type monogram design



Measuring



New design



Last edited



Design management



Save design



Select active design



Change dimensioning system



Edit design head



Close design



Exit program



Utilities



Default settings



Passwords

6 Key Assignments

EPCwin is mainly operated via the keyboard. This allows users - with a little practice - a fast and efficient workflow.

To help you get started, here is an overview of the possible key assignments as well as the most important shortcuts.

The computer mouse

A right mouse click has the same function as the Enter key. With the left mouse button, objects can be selected as usual. If the mouse wheel is pressed, previously selected objects are dropped back in their original position.

Toolbar

The options in the toolbar can only be activated via the respective function keys [F1] to [F12] on the keyboard. Alternatively, they can also be selected on the numeric pad of the keyboard.

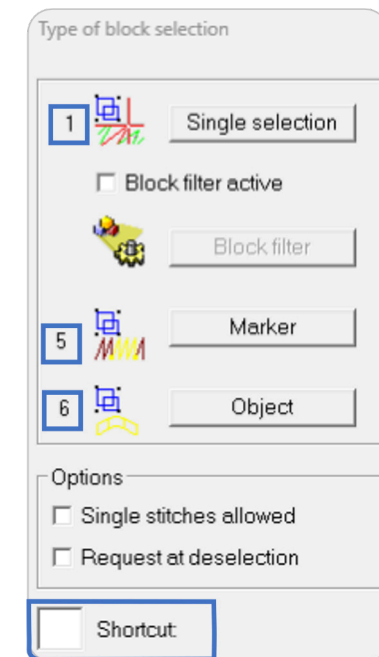
Please note that depending on the active option, the function keys may be assigned differently!

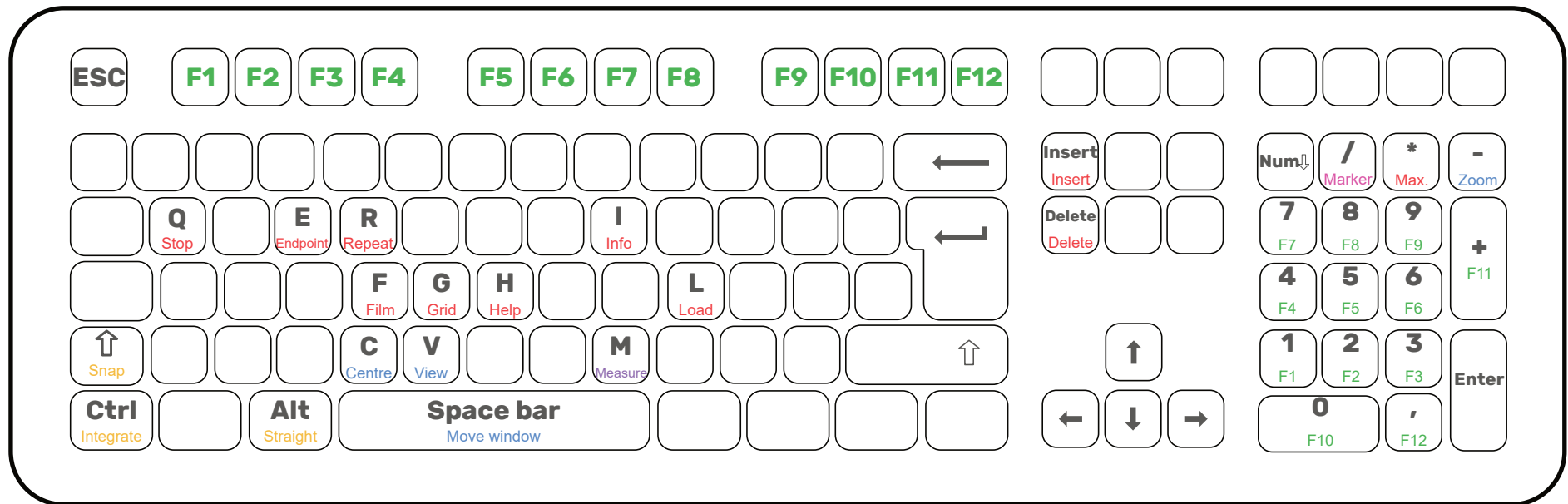
The quick dial

To enable a quicker selection of an option in dialogues, there is a quick dial field. It is activated immediately each time a dialogue is opened. The number or combination of numbers in front of the button must be entered to use it. A separate confirmation is not necessary.

The Shortcuts

The shortcuts are necessary to operate the software successfully. In some cases there are also combinations possible.





Shift	
Ctrl	
Alt	
Alt + Shift	

C	
V	
Space bar	
- (*)	

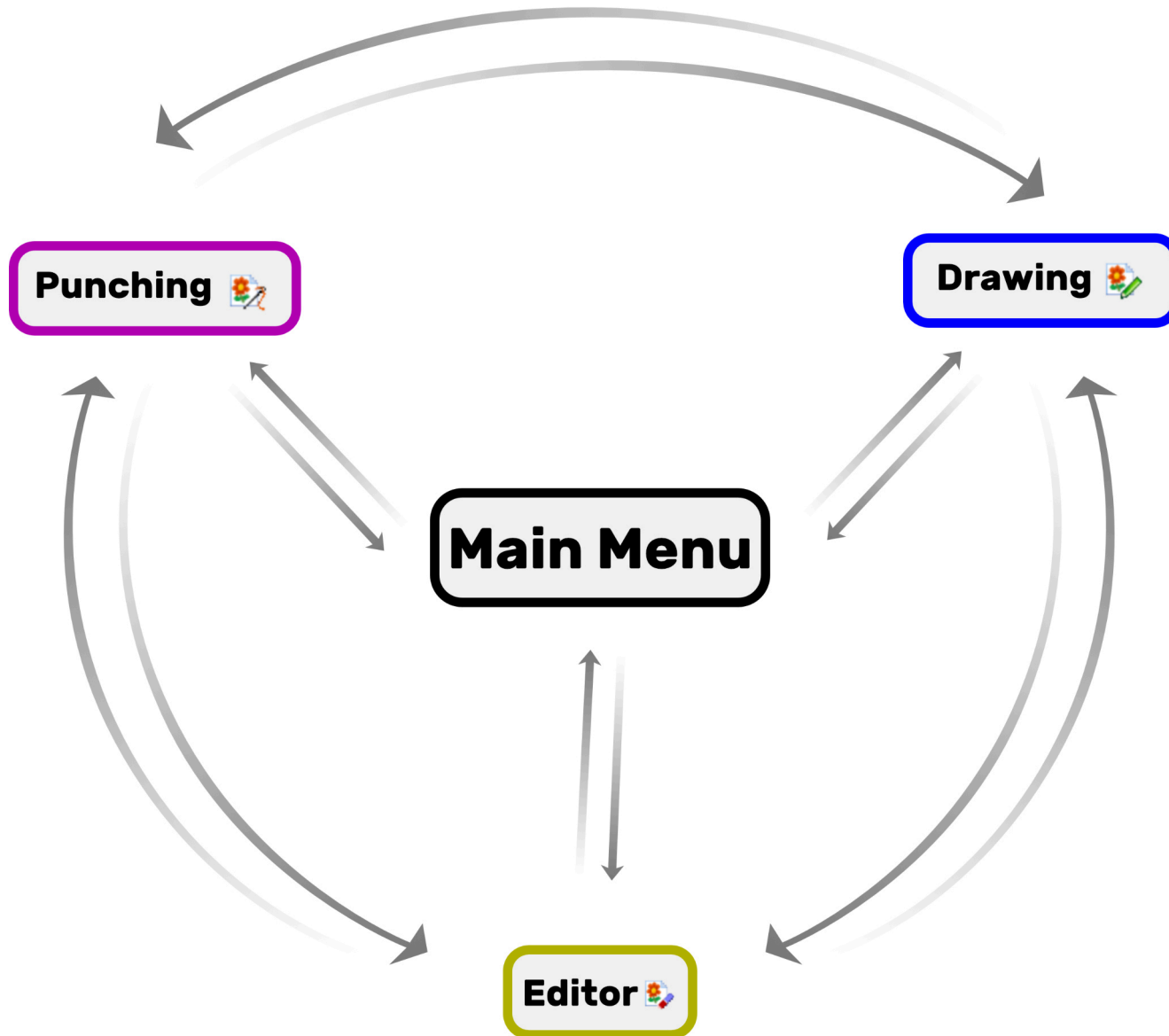
/ (*)	
-------	--

M	
---	--

Q	
E	
R	
F	
G	
H	
L	
* (*)	

(*) These keys are located on the number pad of the keyboard. To use them, NumLock must be switched on.

8 Switch between Options



A good planning of the design contributes to an optimal embroidery result. Therefore, it is useful to clarify some basic questions first:

- ▷ How large is the design or how large should it be?
- ▷ On which embroidery ground will I embroider?
- ▷ Which hoop do I need?
- ▷ How large is the embroidery field of the machine? Will the design fit in it?
- ▷ What stitches will be used?
- ▷ What is the most effective embroidery sequence?
- ▷ Where should the design start? Where should it end?
- ▷ How many colours should my pattern have?
- ▷ How many needles does the machine have?
- ▷ What thread will be used for embroidery?
- ▷ Is a stabilizer necessary?
- ▷ ...

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and extend across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

10 Import

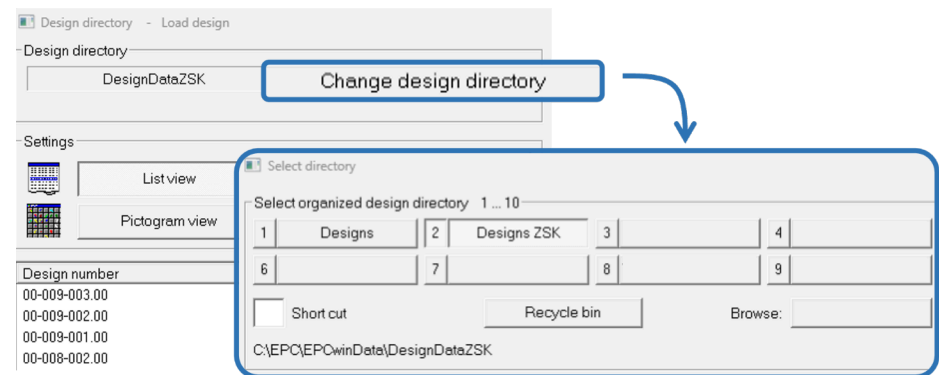
In EPCwin, the administration of files and designs takes place in the design directory. During installation you will receive the two standard design directories "Designs" and "DesignDataZSK". We recommend that you create your own directories and structure your designs accordingly. Your current design directory is visible in the upper left area of the dialogue. The software saves the last directory and will automatically load it the next time you open the design directory.

In addition to the organisation of the directories, important functions such as import, export and copy/move can be found in the lower area of the design administration.

The following file formats can be imported:

- ▷ _____
- ▷ _____
- ▷ _____
- ▷ _____
- ▷ _____

Please note in which sample directory you are currently located. We recommend that you import a file directly into the desired target directory. To change the directory, click on "Change sample directories".



EPCwin has its own data structure within the design directories. Please do not change this structure.

Create Design Directories 11

To create a new design directory, follow the steps below. If you want to include an existing directory, just follow the first three steps and then select "[Import existing directory](#)" to select the path of the directory.

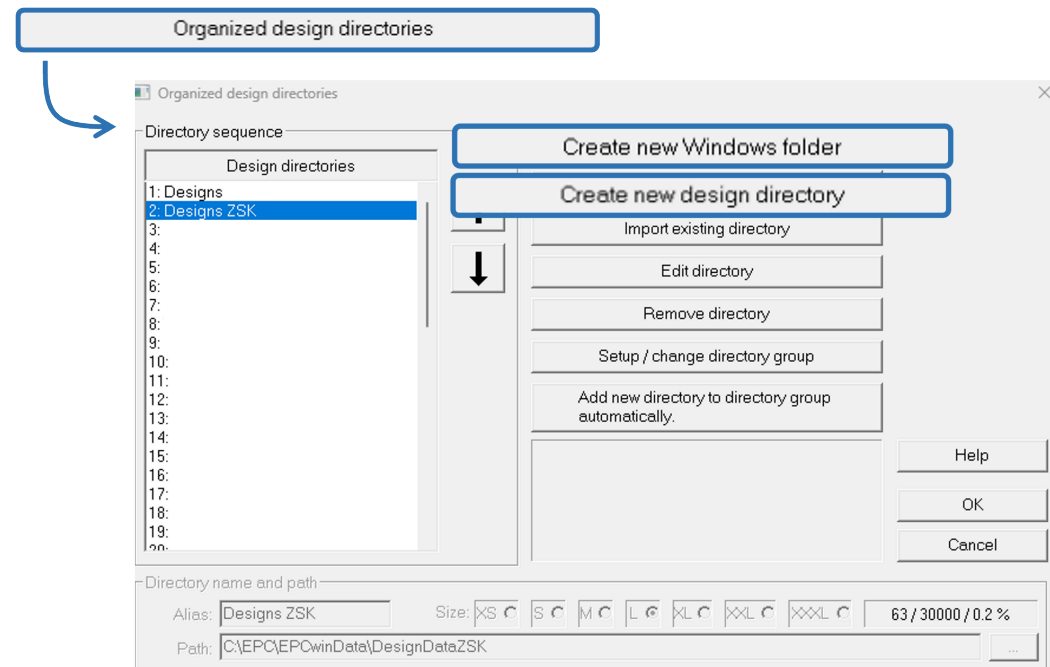
- 1 _____

- 2 _____

- 3 _____

- 4 _____

- 5 _____



12

EPCwin also offers the option of creating your own drawings to use as reference lines when punching. In addition to different types of lines (angular, curved, straight), common geometric shapes [F7] such as circles or rectangles can be drawn.



Types of Points 13

Within the software, different types of points are generated (partly automatically). There are several types of points that can be identified by different shapes and colours. The point type can be used, for example, to separate manual stitches from automatically generated stitches.





















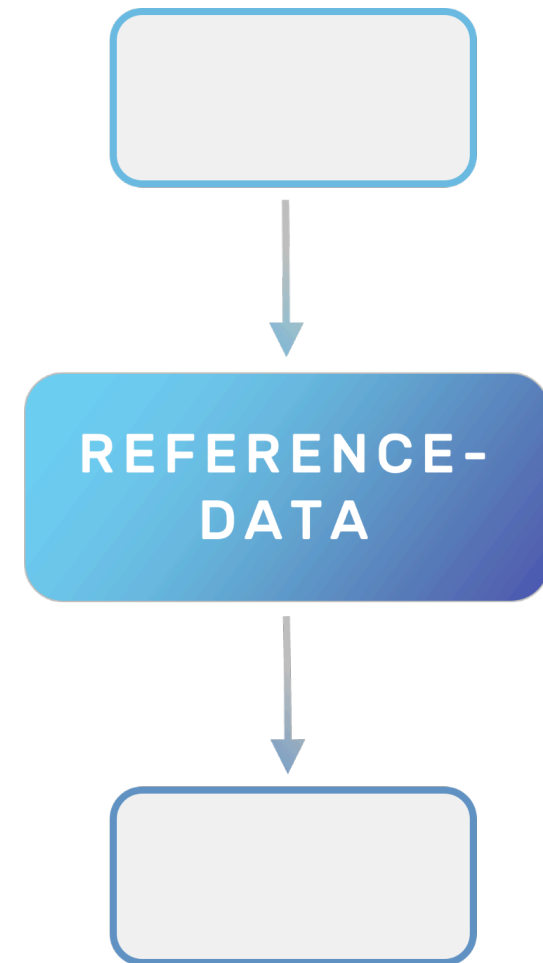
The colours of the point types and other system colours can be changed at any time in the "[System colour settings](#)". You will find them in the basic settings under the tab "[Display](#)".



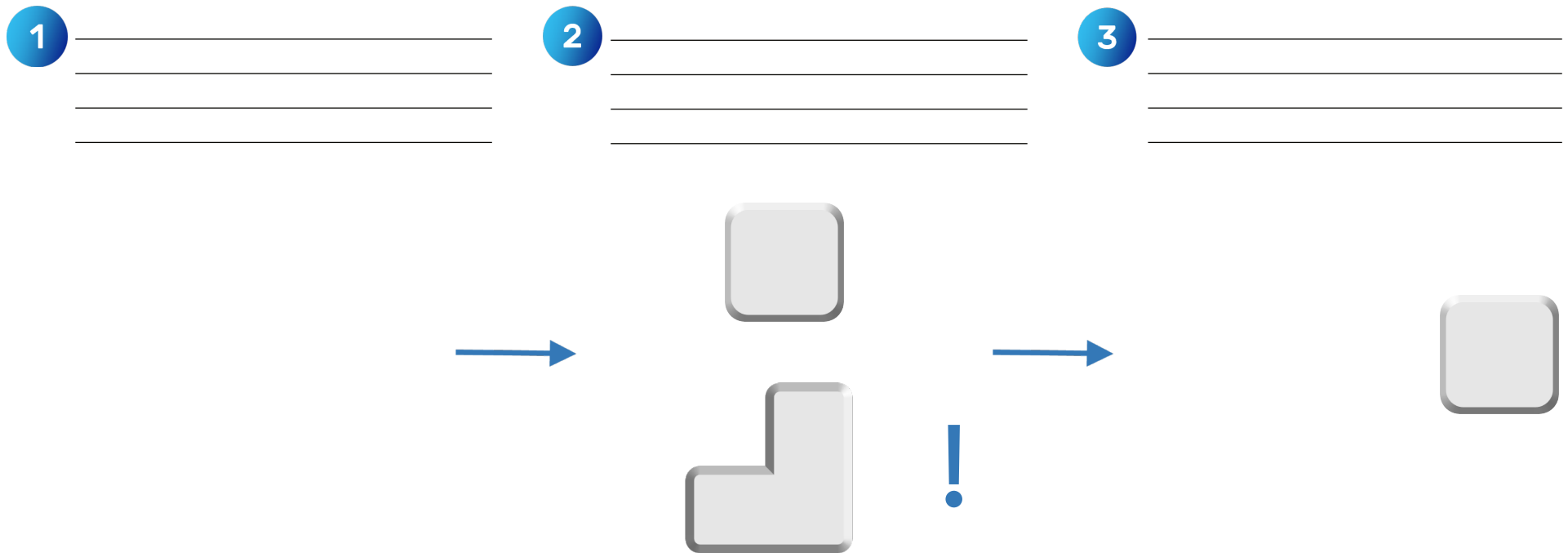
Please remember that a manual point or stitch as well as a corner point always means a needle punch into the textile.

14

In EPCwin, the data created is referred to as "reference data". Once the planning or preparations, such as importing from a template image, have been completed, they can be created in the software.

[illegible]

The punching process can occur repeatedly within a pattern. Therefore, it is first roughly divided into the following three steps:



The length of the manual stitches for backtacking a seam should be $\geq 0.5 \text{ mm} \leq 0.7 \text{ mm}$. To keep to the dimensions, the "length limitation" is particularly helpful.

16 Stitch type Overview

	Appearance?	When?	Which programme?
Running			
Satin stitch			
Fill stitch			



This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.



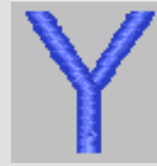
Contouring (F_)

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and extend across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

Notes

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.



Structured Satin (15) ²¹

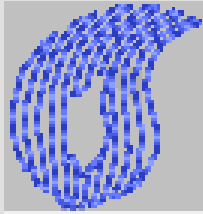
An "articulated filling" is used for punching the letters. The automatic programme is focused towards punching letters, i.e. the selection of the (inner-) contours for an object contains functions which are necessary therefore.

1

2

3

Comfort Fill (14)



A closed contour is necessary for the area filling. For this purpose, an existing design line can be selected or drawn directly in the programme. It is enough if the start and end point of the line are close to each other because EPCwin automatically closes the contour.

1

2

3

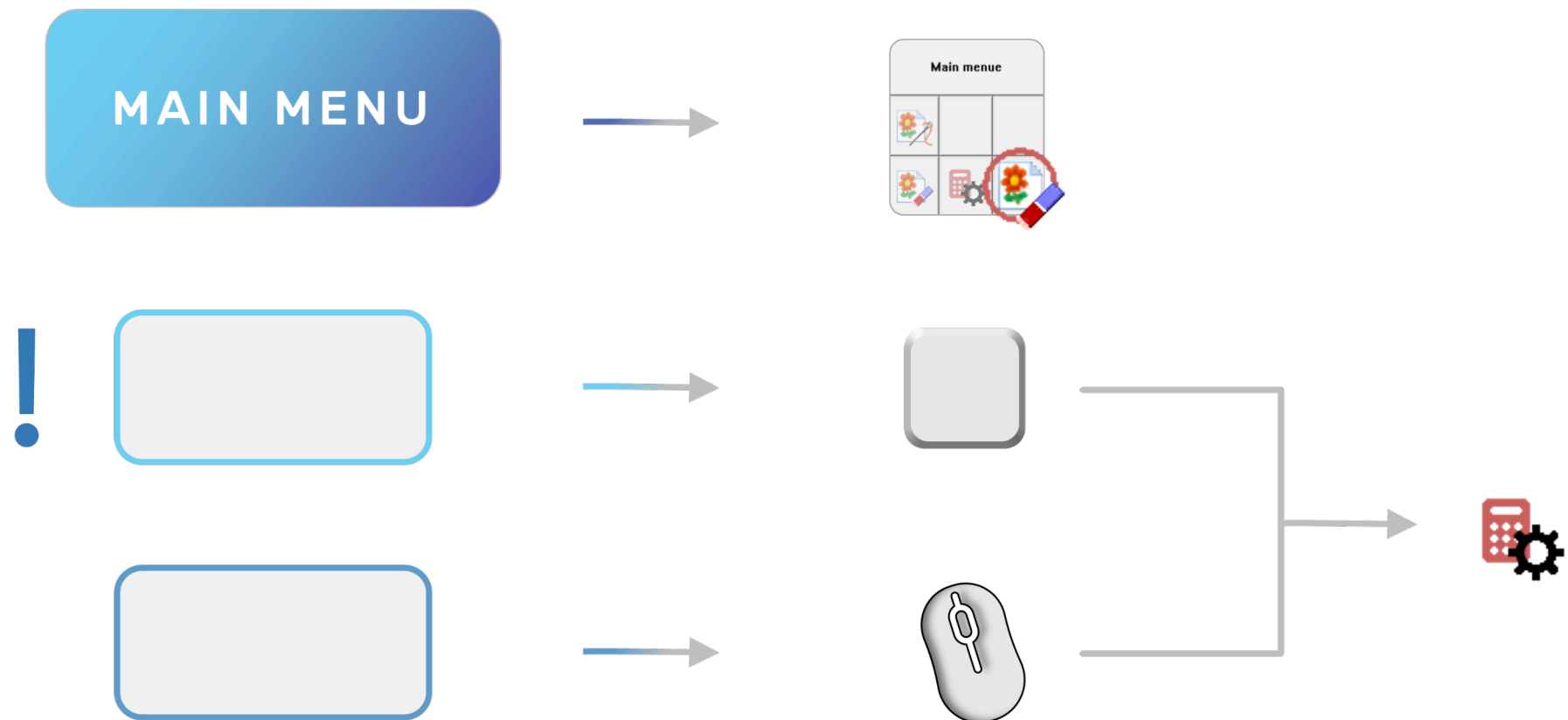
4

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

24 Parameters

All automatic digitizing programmes have an individual parameter set.

It is best to set the parameters directly after using the automatic programme. There are several ways to get into a parameter set:



[illegible][illegible][illegible][illegible]

Editor

In the (main) editor all stitches and special functions of a design are displayed in the "stitch list". Walking through the design step by step with the arrow keys can be helpful, especially at the beginning, to understand the embroidery sequence but also to recognise and prevent mistakes.

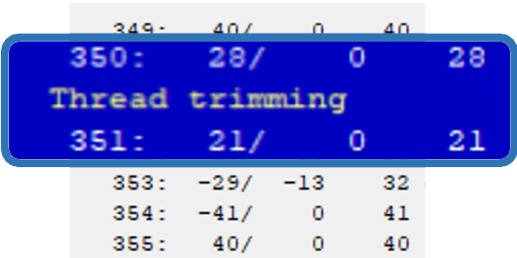
The stitchlist

Where can I read the length of a stitch?

The editor adapts itself in its functions as well as in its name to the selection made. This means that the "Stitch Editor" is activated when a stitch is selected, whereas the "Object Editor" is activated when an object is selected for editing.

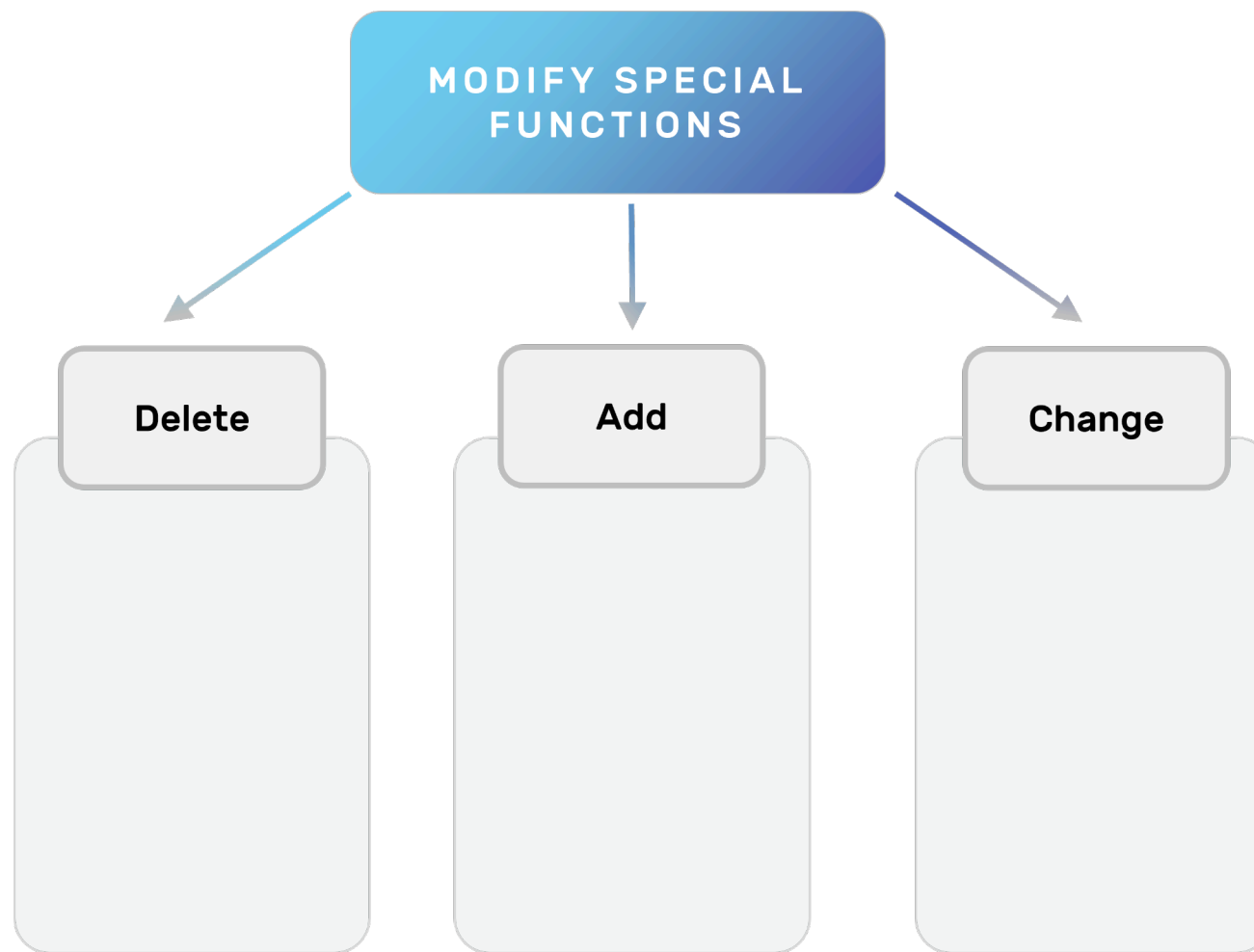
We recommend that you refer to the information given in the page wizard, especially at the beginning.

One of the most common edits is the modification of special functions.



Special functions

Modify Special Functions (F12) ²⁷



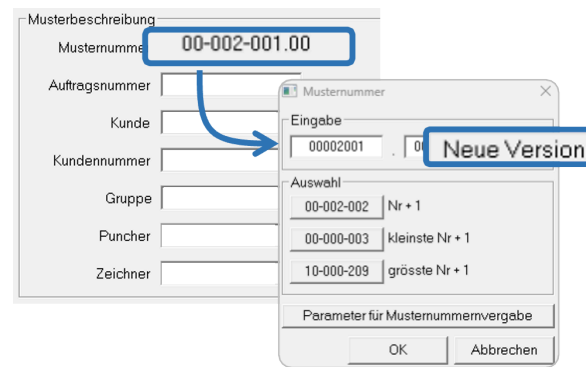
Notes

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and extend across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

When a design is saved, the design header opens. A lot of information about the respective design can be entered here. We recommend filling in the following sections of the design head:

- ▷ _____
- ▷ _____
- ▷ _____
- ▷ _____
- ▷ _____
- ▷ _____
- ▷ _____

To simplify the filling in of the design head, you can use the filling assistant. This supports you in managing customers, keywords or basic materials.



The most important information in the design head is the design number, which is automatically generated by EPCwin. This number can be used to uniquely identify each design.

If the design has to be changed subsequently, e.g. after embroidery attempts, we recommend saving it under a new version number. This should be generated via the "New version" button, as the software automatically uses the last free number.

Please note that the information stored in the design head is only saved for the respective design. In the basic settings, however, the basic information of all design head can also be changed.

What must be paid attention to if the basic information of the design head is to be changed?

Export

The generated stitch data must be exported to an embroidery format. The format depends on the respective embroidery machine. For our ZSK embroidery machines, we recommend using the corresponding transport code *.Z00. This communicates optimally with our machines and contains all the machine commands you have generated for the embroidery process

How is a design exported? What must be observed?

What is the *.zdf format useful for?

Is there a way to name the patterns according to the same scheme?

Your Golden Rules

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

32

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are approximately 20 lines visible. The paper has a slight shadow on the right side, suggesting it's part of a bound notebook. There is no handwriting or other markings on the page.

How to avoid errors of Z-Axis 33

Precondition

Start + endpoint should be set to original

Start sequence

Step 1: First stitch manually- next to the design

Step 2: F12 Fixing stitch on

Step 3: Fixing stitches („knot“ or „star“ shape) to connect thread with material >> **first stitch down!**

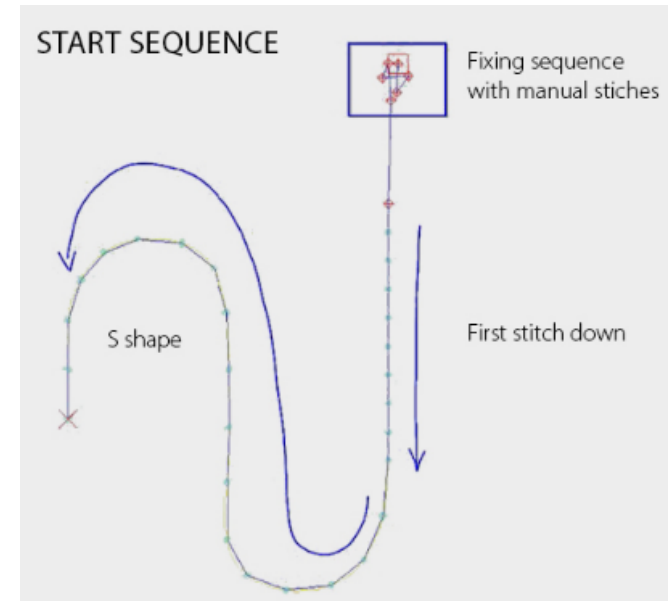
Step 4: Fixing stitch off

Step 5: Next stitch down!

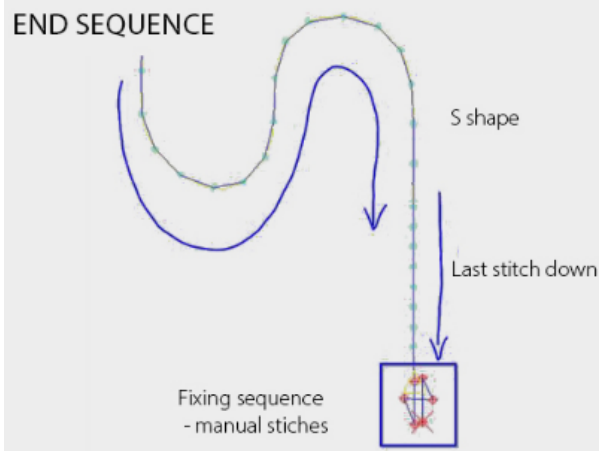
Step 6: Run stitch program down (stitch length app. 1.0mm) >> app. 10 stitches

Step 7: Run stitch program (stitch length app. 2.0 mm) in S shape to avoid pulling out of wire or fiber. This sequence is done next to the design.

Step 8: Then the normal design can start.



END SEQUENCE



End sequence

Step 1: Run stitch program (stitch length app. 2.0 mm) >> **ending downwards!**

Step 2: Run stitch program down (stitch length app. 1.0mm) >> app. 10-15 stitches to hold wire/fiber in the end.

Step 3: F12 Fixing stitch on

Step 4: Fixing stitches („knot“ or „star“ shape) to connect thread with material

Chenille Embroidery (K-Head)

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and extend across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.



 MADE
IN
GERMANY