What is Absolute Embroidery Check? Absolute Embroidery Check’s goal is to check the side, top, and bottom boundaries of the design so they embroider where you want, much the same way that Check hoop works on other Bernina machines. Used alone, it only works on the screen, and does not move the hoop. There is no icon to touch to engage it, like with Check hoop. You can open a design which appears in the hoop in the Edit screen, and touch a design anywhere, and the crosshair moves to that point, but only on screen, even if a hoop is attached. The way it is designed to work is with Virtual Positioning which has an icon that can be activated or de-activated.

What is Virtual Positioning? Virtual Positioning (if activated) moves the hoop when you use Absolute Embroidery Check to select a needle point in the design. With Virtual Positioning activated, use Absolute Embroidery Check by using the stylus touch pen and touching anywhere on the design, and the hoop will move so the needle is positioned at that point. This tells you specifically where that point will sew inside your hoop. You can touch the white space near the top, bottom or side boundary and the hoop moves to that boundary much the same way Check hoop moves to each boundary corner.

What if the design boundary you touched positions the needle on top of a seam line, or on top of another design and you realize you need to reposition the design?

Make sure you have first touched the problem boundary using Virtual Positioning and Absolute Embroidery Check. Now select the Move Motif and either the stitch width or stitch length knob to move the design vertically or horizontally until that boundary is clear of the seam or other design. If you wish to recheck the new placement, then with Virtual Positioning still activated, touch the white space near the design’s boundaries again to see. Make sure you do not touch Motif Center, or the crosshair will only move to Center and Virtual Positioning will not work.

When I open a design in Edit screen, why don’t I see the Virtual Positioning icon?

Assuming you have already attached the embroidery module, the embroidery foot, and lowered the feed dogs, it is because the machine needs a confirmation that the hoop is attached first.

When you first open a design motif on the 830e machine, it opens in the hoop on the Edit screen as shown in the upper right photo. Please note: Virtual Positioning is NOT present on the Edit Screen above.

You must first touch the Green checkmark at the bottom right of the Edit Screen, and an automated confirmation request to confirm the hoop is attached appears.

Touch the Green Checkmark on the confirmation screen to confirm you have indeed attached the hoop. Doing so takes you to the Embroidery menu.

On the lower right in the Embroidery menu, touch the RED “X”, and you are returned to the Edit Screen.

Notice: the Virtual Positioning icon (on the left under the grid) is now present in the Edit screen. If it is gray and not “selected”, then select it and it turns blue.
Virtual Positioning & Absolute Embroidery Check for Bernina 830

Example for understanding: In the decorative pillow featured on the left, all three fabrics were measured, cut, and pieced together in advance, however, only the green and gold fabric on the right side were hooped using the Jumbo hoop. The two separate designs on the right were embroidered with only one hooping. The fabric was hooped, the hoop was attached, and the clear acrylic grid template was placed on top inside the hoop.

The uppermost design was aligned and embroidered first and then the lower design. No Print Preview paper template was needed to get accurate placement.

The top right design was opened in the Edit screen, and the Green Checkmark was touched as if to go to Embroidery mode. An automated screen appeared requesting a confirmation the hoop was attached. The hoop was then attached, and the Green checkmark was touched to confirm.

We were taken to Embroidery mode (not pictured), where we touch the red “X” to return to the Edit Screen.

Virtual Positioning now appears in the Edit menu (pictured right). Notice that I have activated Virtual Positioning and it is blue. Also please notice where the crosshair is positioned in the upper left.

With Virtual Positioning activated, and the design in Edit Screen, the stylus Touch pen was used to touch the white space on the screen (not the design itself) at the lowest boundary point of this design.

Touching Zoom is not required, but if you would like to see up close before touching, Zoom can be activated. Notice the crosshair after touching the white screen near the lowest part of the design – it has moved to the bottom of the design.

This is important: I had already used Move Motif previously as you can see (the Move Motif icon is still blue -activated), when I spaced and aligned the individual columns of stitches to form an overall oval shape. With Move Motif activated, the stitch width and length knobs have also appeared (which are used to move a motif up or down, or left or right). The stitch width and length knobs are not however, part of the Zoom feature so I did not want to confuse you. Also notice I used Retrieve (also blue and activated) to select all of the columns at once, rather than just one column.
Virtual Positioning & Absolute Embroidery Check for Bernina 830

If you chose to use Zoom to see better when you touched the white screen just below the lowermost part of the design, then you can touch Zoom again to return to the Edit screen.

With Virtual Positioning and Move Motif both active and the lowest point of the design selected, use the straight stitch knob and turn it to the right to move the selected design up in the hoop until you physically see the needle positioned about 1 ½ grid spaces above the horizontal seam line. Each turn of the knob will both move the design on the screen of the machine and needle position in the hoop.

The procedure was repeated for the alignment of the left side. The white screen near the outermost boundary of the left side was touched. The crosshair moved to the left side. The zigzag stitch width knob was turned to the left to move the design to within 1 ½ grid spaces of the vertical seam line.

A final check was made by touching the white space near outermost boundary on each side, top and bottom. When each point was selected, the hoop moved to position the needle at the new boundary.

When the upper right design had been aligned and embroidered to fit perfectly on the green fabric, (without re-hooping) the second design was opened, and the same methods used to align it on the gold fabric, with a few differences.

The second design (floral designs with a centered monogram) was aligned to the same two seam lines. The white screen near the outermost left side of the design was touched (not pictured), and the crosshair moved to that position. The stitch width knob was turned to the left to move the hoop and position the needle to within 1 ½ grid spaces away from the vertical seam line.

The white screen near the outermost top of the design was touched and the crosshair moved to that position (pictured above right). The stitch length knob was turned to the left to move the design down and position the needle to within 1 ½ grid squares below the horizontal seam line.

One more important consideration: Keep in mind the first design has been embroidered. The centered monogram needed to be centered directly under the center of the design above it. Touch the middle of the monogram letter, and use the zigzag stitch width knob to assure the monogram letter is centered the same as the design above it.

NOTE: One of the things that would prevent you from having success would be to have the Motif Center selected when doing Absolute Embroidery Check. If you have this selected, the crosshair will only go to the center, and not where you select.

I was directed by Amanda to look at the 07 Endless Embroidery webinar for how to use Virtual Positioning however it did not explain Virtual Positioning or Absolute Embroidery Check. They instead used a different but very similar feature. Since the endless embroidery menu has an Auto feature (when selected) the hoop moves automatically to the last reference point, or you can do it manually using the reference point arrows to line up the current hooping with the last hooping (page 148 of the most recent 830 user manual). Also the new 830 user manual (page 145) has added a small area of information in Absolute Embroidery Check.

I found some information in the My Bernina Embroidery Workbook (Mastery) dated 12/13/10 on page 14. Absolute Check (as it is referred to here) is listed along with Deco, Aurora, and Artista. The page shows a Check hoop icon for each type of machine except the 830. The 830 does not have a Check hoop icon or feature. What is not mentioned here is the Virtual Positioning icon (when activated) is what makes the hoop move when Absolute Embroidery Check is used – otherwise, it only works on screen.

I am continuing to learn from others & teach myself, so if you feel I have left out anything or confused anything please let me know and I will update this.