

Hoop Sensor Error

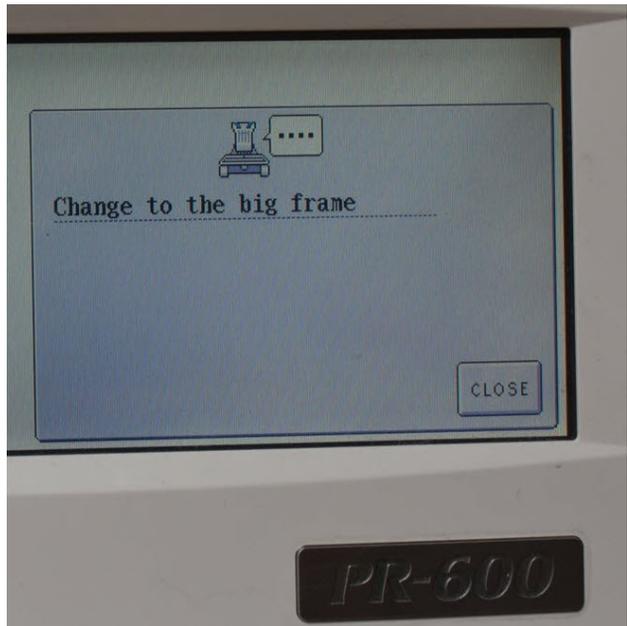
<jensoriginalsembroiderydesigns.yolasite.com>

Posted 4 June 2021

Off and on for several months, my PR600 embroidery machine was failing to recognize the hoops. For a while I'd been able to get it back on track by recalibrating the hoop sizes and/or by removing the arm and then reinstalling it. Then the problem started recurring more frequently, and the machine stopped recognizing anything larger or smaller than the 5x7" hoop.

Then the worst happened: it stopped recognizing any hoop, flashing this message whenever I tried to stitch *anything*, even with the largest hoop installed.

My usual remedies weren't working, and I feared the sensor had failed

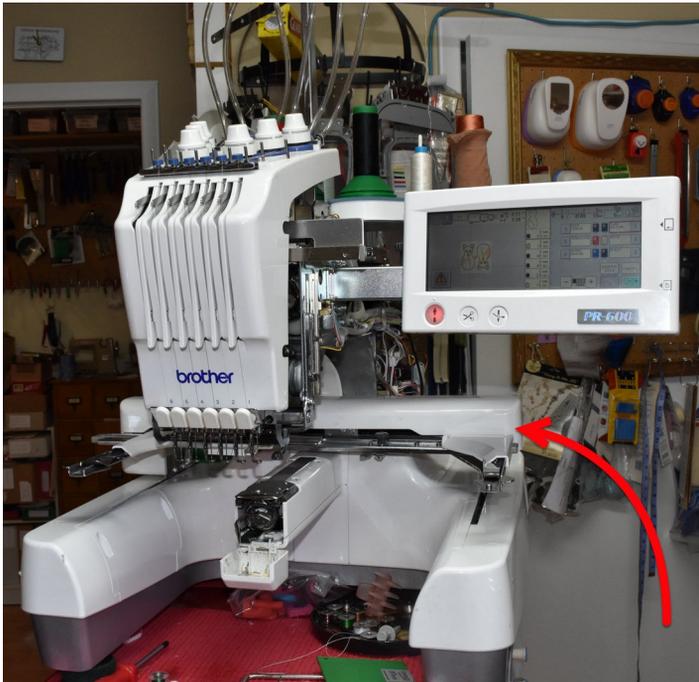


I feared I'd be without my machine for the foreseeable future. Not much liking that.

Nobody locally stocks the parts for this machine, so I was searching for a source where I could buy a new sensor, which I would attempt to install on my own.

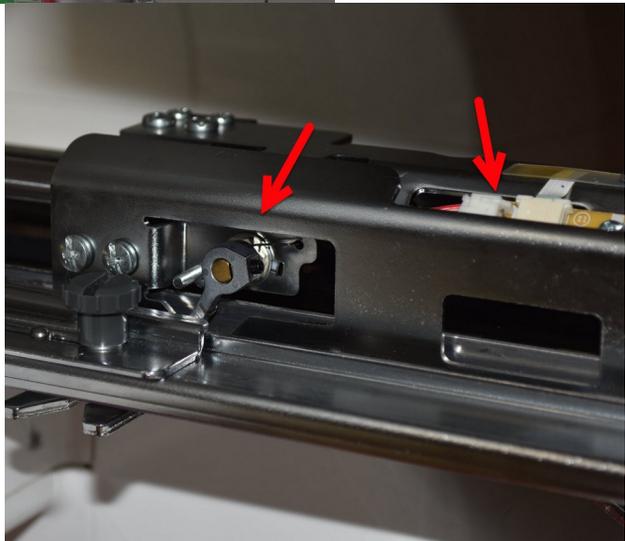


This is the hoop sensor, which looks to be fairly straightforward to install, so I was hoping it was something I could do myself. These cost around \$40 USD, plus whatever you have to pay for shipping if you can't find one locally.



The hoop sensor is located underneath the arm cover and plugs in where I've indicated with the red arrows below.

I had more or less resigned myself to attempting the repair on my own, and was seeking a Canadian source for the part.



I was lucky enough to find *That Sewing Place* in Newmarket, Ontario. They had the part in stock, but the tech there explained that I probably don't need a new sensor, since in his decades of experience they rarely fail.

What's more likely is that this tiny set screw on the sensor mechanism has worked loose due to the vibration of the machine, and just needs to be tightened using an Allen wrench (hex key). The tech said that in his 30 years of working on these machines, this had been the problem in all but one of the cases he'd seen.



My existing set of Allen wrenches was imperial, so I hustled over to *Princess Auto* and grabbed a metric set, rushed back home and duly tightened the set screw and presto! The machine is now recognizing the hoops and sewing along just fine. I was even able to finish up a large project using my largest hoop. Hurrah!



Based on my reading on line, this error message is common on multi-needle Brother and Babylock machines: sometimes you can re-set by removing the arm and reinstalling it, or by recalibrating the hoops, but the problem will persist as the set screw loosens over time with the vibration of the machine.

I searched all over the net and I didn't find this information anywhere else. Jaret, the tech at That Sewing Place, could have kept silent and made the sale of the sensor, but instead he saved me that expense and a lot of aggravation and down time, for which I am immensely grateful.

If I'd taken the machine to the nearest repair shop, I'd have had the expense and bother of dragging it out to the car, driving 6 hours, and paying a service fee of at least \$200, plus the cost of the part, then hauling another 6 hours back home. Thanks to Jaret's generosity, all I ended up spending was the cost of a set of metric Allen wrenches, and best of all, I avoided all that down time.

If you are anywhere near Newmarket, Ontario, please consider patronizing this business. I know I'll be dropping in next time I'm visiting in the area.