

11  
ISSUE

YOUR CREATIVE  
COMPANION

Through *the*  
**NEEDLE**

ONLINE

[www.throughtheneedle.com](http://www.throughtheneedle.com)

*exclusive!*

# Garden Couture



Pillowcase Dress



Add Punch to Your Fabrics



My BERNINA 830 Quilt

# Table of Contents

## Empire Waist Pillowcase Dress

- 4 Would you believe you can make this sweet sundress in an afternoon? Start with a ready-made hemstitched pillowcase, add an apron, some elastic, and a bit of embroidery – that's all there is to it!

## Garden Couture

- 7 Designs from BERNINA's Exclusive "Sepia Petals" embroidery collection embellish a printed dress form to make a classy addition to your sewing room.

## Cardigan Cut-Up: Part 2

- 10 Three more upcycled thrift store sweater projects from Jennifer Gigas' "Style Fashion for Cents" appearance on *The Balancing Act*.

## My BERNINA 830 Quilt

- 12 To explore the embroidery features of the BERNINA 830, Maryann Kotowski embroidered blocks and created borders using designs and stitches included on this amazing sewing and embroidery system. The on-screen embroidery tools made it easy to combine and customize designs right on the screen – no software needed!

## Circular Embroidery Attachment #83

- 15 Perfectly round circles of decorative stitches are easy to sew using this simple accessory.

## Add Punch to your Projects!

- 16 Paula Scaffidi, a.k.a. Fiberella, shares techniques for creating unique "Wash 'n Wear" needlepunch fabrics with the new Needle Punch Tool for Rotary Hook Machines #45.

## The Last Word

- 22 Valuable coupons, a list of quick links, and a sneak peek inside the next issue of *Through the Needle ONLINE*.



Sepia Petals Collection 21002  
© OESD 2012

## Errata

We accidentally omitted the name of the pattern used for the "Picnic in the Park" casserole cover in Issue 10. The pattern is Kwik Sew, Potluck Companions 104.



Managing Editor / Creative Director  
**Jo Leichte**

Contributing Editor  
**Barbara Weiland Talbert**

Graphic Artist  
**Lisa Klingbeil**

Contributing Authors  
**Susan Beck**  
**Jennifer Gigas**  
**Kay Hickman**  
**Jo Leichte**

*Through the Needle Online* is published six times a year by BERNINA of America, Inc. for machine stitchers and embroiderers of all types and all skill levels.

This publication may be shared and reproduced in its original format, with the stipulation that credit be given to *Through the Needle Online*.

3702 Prairie Lake Court, Aurora, IL 60504  
berninausa.com  
throughtheneedle.com

©BERNINA of America, Inc., 2012

# Needle Notes

April means springtime, at least here in North Carolina, and spring is the season for new adventures in sewing! We hope you'll enjoy reading about and experimenting with the accessories, machines, and designs featured in this issue of *Through the Needle ONLINE*. We'd love to see your projects and technique swatches!

Have you seen BERNINA's new Needle Punch Tool for Rotary Hook Machines? This exciting tool is now available for 8 Series and artista models, in addition to the original tool for CB hook machines. Paula Scaffidi, a.k.a. Fiberella, shares some of her techniques for creating beautiful and unique needle-punched fabric swatches. Add them to your sewing projects for some extra spice!

BERNINA's new exclusive embroidery collection #21001, Sepia Petals, is full of monochrome floral designs and ornaments with an antique look. Dawn Schneider shares instructions for her wall-hanging, which features an elegant dress form constructed from a variety of flowers and swirls.

Rebecca Kemp Brent's sweet Empire Waist Pillowcase Dress is a cinch to make from a hem-stitched pillowcase. My "Bold & Beautiful" version features embroidery designs and fabric in a pretty aqua and brown colorway.

Everyone is in love with the BERNINA 830! Maryann Kotowski created a stunning black and white quilt while exploring the BERNINA 830's amazing embroidery features and beautiful designs by Louisa Meyer and Susanne Müller.

Visit [www.ThroughTheNeedle.com](http://www.ThroughTheNeedle.com) for back issues of *Through the Needle ONLINE*, and visit the BERNINA USA blog, [www.WeAllSew.com](http://www.WeAllSew.com), for more sewing and up-cycling inspiration. What have you been stitching this winter? Send your photos to me at [jo@berninausa.com](mailto:jo@berninausa.com). Happy sewing!

*Jo Leichte*  
Jo Leichte  
Editor



**we all** SEW

## Shower Cap with Optional Ribbon Rosette

It's no secret that you love to sing in the shower ... and now you can do it in fabulous style. A bit of rip stop nylon and polyester chiffon will set the stage for an over-the-top, yet practical accessory. You can sing your heart out secure in the knowledge that your hair will emerge impeccable!

*Project by Stacy Schlyer*

Visit [WeAllSew.com](http://WeAllSew.com) for more project instructions and sewing tips!

# Empire Waist Pillowcase Dress

by JO LEICHTE

Jo Leichte's interpretation of an AllAboutBlanks.com classic by Rebecca Kemp Brent

*Would you believe you can make this sweet sundress in an afternoon? Start with a ready-made hemstitched pillowcase, add an apron, some elastic, and a bit of embroidery – that's all there is to it!*

*This loose-fitting sundress can be adapted to fit children's sizes 2-6X. This may also be appropriate as a top for girls with chest and hip measurements up to 34".*

## Supplies

- OESD "Bold & Beautiful" Embroidery Collection #80001
- One standard 20" x 30" hemstitched pillowcase from AllAboutBlanks.com
- 1½ yards of 1"-wide ribbon
- 2-3 yards of ¼"-wide elastic
- Benartex "Bold & Beautiful" fabrics:
  - One fat quarter for apron
  - One fat quarter for binding
- Coordinating floss or narrow ribbon
- Rotary cutter, mat, and ruler
- Measuring tape
- Water-soluble fabric marker
- Cardboard (for pattern template)
- Edgestitch foot (BERNINA Edgestitch Foot #10)
- Bias Binder (BERNINA Bias Binder Attachment #88 with Foot #95)



## Construction

1. Use the rotary cutter and ruler to trim the selvage from the "apron" fat quarter. Turn under  $\frac{1}{4}$ " to the wrong side along each short edge; press. Turn under an additional  $\frac{1}{2}$ " and press. Attach the edgestitch foot to the machine and adjust the needle/guide position to stitch close to the inner folds. Stitch, hemming the apron sides. Repeat for the long edge that will be the lower edge of the apron.



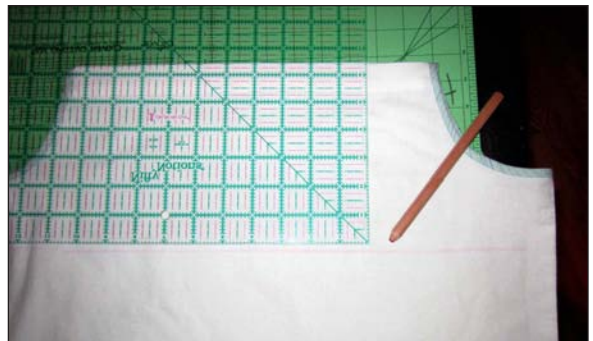
2. Using a rotary cutter and ruler to ensure a straight edge, cut away the seam at the short end of the pillowcase. If desired, remove additional fabric to change the dress/top length, preserving the decorative end.
3. Measure the child from shoulder to shoulder across the upper back. Subtract this measurement from 20" and divide the result by 2. Example: For a shoulder-to-shoulder measurement of 12":  $20" - 12" = 8"$ ;  $8" \div 2 = 4"$
4. Measure the child from the shoulder bone straight down to the underarm. Add 2" to this measurement.

*Note: This allows for the hem/casing plus  $\frac{3}{4}$ " below the arm pit. Adjust the armhole depth as desired before cutting.*

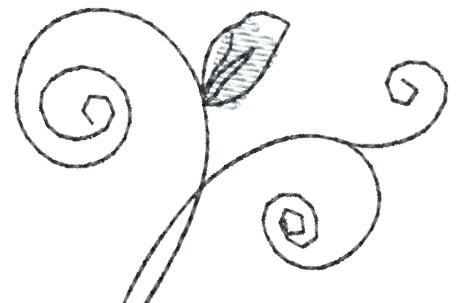
5. Make a rectangular cardboard template using the ending measurement from Step 3 for the width and the ending measurement from Step 4 for the height. Sketch an armhole curve, straightening the last 1"-2" at each end of the curve. Cut along the drawn line to make the armhole template.
6. Place the armhole template on the pillowcase, matching the straight edges at the top and side. Trace the curved edge onto the pillowcase; cut along the line. Flip the template and repeat on the other side of the pillowcase to make the second armhole.



7. Attach Bias Binder #88 and Foot #95/95C to the sewing machine. The sample was bound using the smallest binder, 28 mm. Cut bias strips of the appropriate width (etched on the binder) from the coordinating fat quarter, joining them to form a strip about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  yards long. Bind the armhole edges following the instructions included with the binder.
8. To make casings at the upper edges of the dress, turn under  $\frac{1}{4}$ " along each cut edge; press. Turn under another 1" and press. Attach the edgestitch foot to the machine and adjust the needle/guide position to stitch close to the inner folds. Stitch, creating the front and back casings.
9. Measure  $6\frac{1}{2}$ " from the finished upper edges of the dress and mark a line for the apron placement around the pillowcase on the front and back panels.



10. Place the hemmed apron panel on the front of the dress with the hemmed edge just above the pillowcase hemstitching. Transfer the marked line from the pillowcase to the apron. Trim the apron fabric  $\frac{3}{8}$ " above the marked line.
11. Pin the apron to the pillowcase front, matching the lines, and baste the layers together  $\frac{1}{4}$ " below the raw edge of the apron.



12. Cut a 50"-long piece of ribbon and fold it in half; mark the center with a pin. Position the lower edge of the ribbon along the line drawn on the apron and pillowcase, matching the centers. Pin the ribbon in place, covering the apron raw edges. Continue pinning around to the pillowcase back, stopping ½" away from each side of the center back.



13. Using the edgestitch foot, edgestitch the upper and lower edges of the ribbon to the pillowcase front and back, leaving a gap at the center back and creating an opening for the elastic.



14. Embroider "Bold & Beautiful" designs #8000-13 and #8000-22 on the center of the bodice, following the embroidered applique instructions included with the design collection.



15. Cut a length of elastic to fit comfortably around the wearer at the high waist, just below the underarms. Thread the elastic through the casing created by the ribbon, using the openings on the back side for access. Overlap the elastic ends ½" and stitch securely.



16. Cut a length of elastic for the upper casing; the sample elastic was cut 22" long. Thread the elastic through the front and back upper casings, overlap the ends, and stitch them together securely. Pull the elastic through the casing so the join is hidden inside.

*Tip: Start with a longer elastic length, have the child try on the dress, and adjust the elastic for a comfortable but secure fit.*

17. Thread embroidery floss or narrow ribbon through the hemstitching along the pillowcase border.



*Note: For those who own the BERNINA CutWork Accessory, cut out the flower shape for this project quickly and easily! The Bold & Beautiful collection includes CutWork ready files.*



**Rebecca Kemp Brent**

Rebecca Kemp Brent's work as a writer, editor, educator, and designer has appeared in dozens of books and magazines, online, and on TV.

Visit her web site at:

[www.rkbrent.com](http://www.rkbrent.com)

[www.allaboutblanks.com](http://www.allaboutblanks.com)

# Garden Couture

by DAWN SCHNEIDER

Designs from BERNINA's Exclusive "Sepia Petals" embroidery collection embellish an appliquéd dress form to make a classy addition to your sewing room.



Finished size:  
Approximately 14½" x 25"

## Supplies

- BERNINA Designer Plus Embroidery Software 6
- BERNINA Exclusive Embroidery Collection "Sepia Petals" #82001
- ½ yard of tone-on-tone white cotton (or one fat quarter of white tone-on-tone cotton and one fat quarter of a different fabric for backing)
- ⅛ yard of border fabric, cut into 2" x width-of-fabric strips
- 18" x 29" piece of bamboo or cotton batting
- 1 Printed Treasures Sew-On Inkjet Printable Fabric Sheet
- OESD Stabil-Stick Tear-Away stabilizer
- 8" x 12" piece of organza
- 75/11 Organ Titanium Embroidery needle
- Jumbo Hoop for the Bernina 830\*
- SewLine marking pencil
- Two spools of Isacord embroidery thread, one dark and one medium light
- Bottom Line bobbin fill to match your fabric
- Instant Antique Spray (optional)

\*This project may be stitched on any embroidery machine using any hoop size, but will require splitting and multi-hooping.

## BERNINA Embroidery Software 6 Icons



Load Picture



Mirror Image  
Horizontal



Convert Vectors  
to Embroidery



Mirror Image  
Vertical



Group



Convert Selected  
Embroidery to Art  
Vectors



Ungroup

## Create the Dress Form

Before beginning the project, download the dress form graphic from [www.throughtheneedle.com](http://www.throughtheneedle.com), Issue 11. Save it to your desktop so you can easily locate it during the creating process.

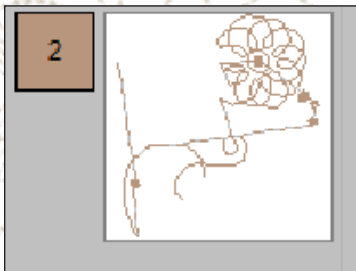
Open BERNINA Designer Plus V6. Select the *Art Canvas* tab. Select *Load Picture*; locate the graphic on your desktop, select *Import* and press *Enter* to finish the importing process. (If your cursor icon is still a right angle, press enter to finish importing the graphic.) Once the graphic is on your screen with black handles around it, select the *Convert Vectors to Embroidery* icon. This will convert the graphic into stitches and take you to the *Embroidery Canvas* tab.

## Add the First Two Designs

Select *File > Insert Design*; select design #21002-04 from the Sepia Petals collection and click *Open*.

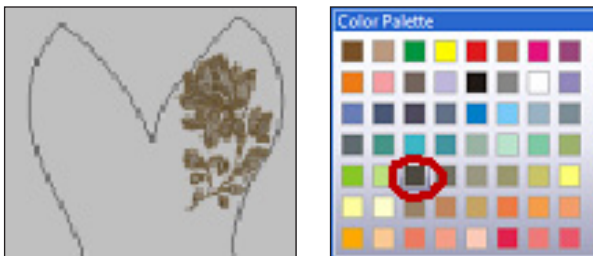
Select the *Ungroup* tool, which will break the design into its component parts and allow you to move and delete individual parts.

In *Color Film* (far right on your screen), select color chip #2 and press *Delete* on your keyboard. Select the remaining color chip (#1) and select the *Group* icon (or press CTRL+G on the keyboard) to group the remaining parts of the design.



Right click on your design to open *Object Properties*. Select the *General* tab and change the width to 36.066 mm and height to 58.926 mm (1.42" x 2.32"). Select *Okay* to close the *Object Properties* dialog box.

Select the *Mirror Image Horizontal* icon. Click and drag the mirror-imaged design to the upper right of the dress form. Keep in mind that the majority of the design should fit within the outline of the dress form. Once the design is in position, change the color by selecting C35 from the *Color Palette*.



Select *File > Insert Design*; select design #21002-15 from the Sepia Petals collection and click *Open*.

Change the color of the design to C35. Click and drag the design to the lower left of the dress. If needed, rotate the design slightly to align the tail with the dress outline.

Your dress form design is now ready to process for printing. Before proceeding, select *File > Save As* and name this file **Dress Form Printing**.

## Prepare the Dress Form Appliqué

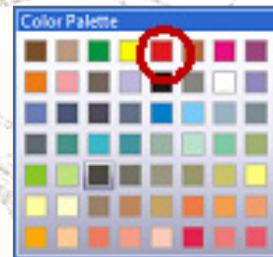
Once you have saved your creation, select *Edit > Select All*. Select the *Convert Selected Embroidery to Art Vectors* icon. This will convert your design into artwork and take you back to the *Art Canvas* tab.

These designs are now graphics and no longer stitches. Select *File > Print*. Insert a Printed Treasures Sew-On Fabric sheet into your printer and print the design. After printing, remove the paper backing from the Printed Treasures fabric and carefully cut along the outline of the dress form – be sure to stay close to the line or right on it when cutting as this piece will be appliquéd to your fabric.

## Digitize the Remaining Design Elements

Still in *Art Canvas*, with the previous creation still open, select the *Load Picture* icon and select the dress form graphic from your desktop again. Remember to press *Enter* to finish the importing process and center the graphic on your screen.

Select *Convert Vectors to Embroidery*. In *Embroidery Canvas*, with the dress form still selected, select *Edit > Copy* and then *Edit > Paste*. With the copy of the dress form on your screen (trust that it is there!), open the *Color Palette* and change the color to C5.



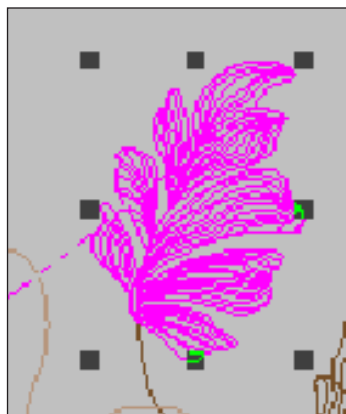
*Tip: You can verify that you have two dress forms on your screen by looking at your Color Film boxes. One dress will be in black outlined and the other in red. If you only have a red or a black dress form, not both, repeat the copy and paste section again.*

Right click on the red dress form to open *Object Properties* and select the *Outline Stitch* tab. Select *Stemstitch* from the drop down menu. In the dialog box, change the line thickness to 3.0 mm. This will create a bolder line around the dress form. Press *Okay* to close the dialog box.

Select *File > Insert Design*; select design #21002-01 from the Sepia Petals collection and click *Open*.



With the design selected, click on the *Ungroup* icon. Click and drag a bounding box around the leaf to select it. Press *Delete* to remove it from the design. Select the line that connected the leaf to the remaining design and press *Delete*. Select the remaining design by holding down the CTRL key, clicking on chips 1 (brown) and 2 (tan) in *Color Film* and selecting the *Group* icon.



Select the *Mirror Image Vertical* and *Mirror Image Horizontal* icons. Open *Object Properties* and select the *General* tab. Set *Rotate By* to -15 degrees. Press *Enter* to close the *Object Properties* box. Click and drag the design into position as shown.

Select *File > Insert Design*; select design #21002-02 from the *Sepia Petals* collection and click *Open*.



With the design on your screen, select the *Mirror Horizontal* icon. Select *Object Properties > General Tab*. Set *Rotate By* to -20 degrees. Press *Okay* to close the dialog box. Click and drag the design into place, extending the stems past the dress form outline.

*If creating the bonus project—a multi-hooped dress form with stand—stop here and continue with the instructions for the larger project (available at [www.throughtheneedle.com](http://www.throughtheneedle.com)).*

### Embroider the Dress Form Embellishments

Cut the fabric in half into two pieces, each approximately 18" x 22".

Remove the paper topping and apply Stabil-Stick Tear-Away to the back of one piece. Using the SewLine marking pencil, mark the center of your fabric with horizontal and vertical lines. Using the plastic hoop template as a guide for aligning the center points, hoop the fabric/stabilizer piece.

Stitch the first color, which is the placement line for the printed graphics on the dress form. Place the Printed Treasures printout within the outline, and layer the sheer organza on top.

Stitch the second color, which is the stemstitch around the dress form. Once this is stitched, use small blunt-tip scissors to trim the sheer fabric close to the stitching.

Stitch the remainder of the design.

When the design has finished stitching, remove the fabric from the hoop and trim it to 12" x 21".

### Complete the Wall Hanging

Stitch the 2"-wide border strips around the embroidered panel. Layer the batting between the backing and the embroidered and bordered front. Finish your wall hanging using your favorite binding method. Add a little Instant Antique spray to emphasize the classic feel of the *Sepia Petal* designs.



### bonus project!

Create a larger wall-hanging by adding a beautiful stand! Visit [www.throughtheneedle.com](http://www.throughtheneedle.com) to download instructions for digitizing, printing, and embroidering this multi-hooped design.



### BERNINA Educational Webinars

...a new way to expand your sewing horizons

Have you heard the buzz? BERNINA offers a wide variety of FREE Educational Webinars each month. Join BERNINA's on-line classroom to learn the latest tips and tricks on topics ranging from the BERNINA 8 Series to Embroidery Software to Cutwork and more! Our Just SEW It! Series focuses on projects for new and re-entry sewers. So, no matter what your area of interest, we have a class for you!

Sign up at [www.berninausa.com](http://www.berninausa.com) to receive BERNINA Webinar Announcements via email, and visit our home page for the latest webinar news.

# Cardigan Cut-Up: Part 2



by JENNIFER GIGAS

In the last issue of *Through the Needle ONLINE* Jennifer Gigas transformed two thrift store sweaters into a cute and stylish tunic. Here are three more upcycled garments featured during her “Stylish Fashion for Cents” appearance on *The Balancing Act*.

Cardigan Cut-Up was featured in a recent episode of “The Balancing Act” on Lifetime TV.



## Cropped Button Down



### Supplies

- One cardigan sweater
- Wide ribbon
- Ribbon rose or other embellishment
- Assorted buttons
- Construction weight thread
- Ballpoint needle (size 80)
- Painter's tape
- Edgestitching foot (BERNINA Edgestitch Foot #10)
- Button sew-on foot (BERNINA Button Sew-On Foot #18)

### Step 1

- Try on the sweater and mark your desired cropped length with painter's tape. Cut along the marked line.  
*Tip: Avoid cutting directly across the fullest part of the bust.*

### Step 2

- Pin the wide ribbon in place along the lower edge of the sweater, wrong side of the ribbon to the outside of the sweater, aligning the lower edges. Wrap about 1" of ribbon around the front opening on each side of the sweater.
- Edgestitch along the upper and lower edges of the ribbon to secure it to the sweater and finish the cut edge.

### Step 3

- Remove the buttons and replace them with a variety of coordinating buttons.  
*Tip: If the new buttons are larger than the original ones, stitch new, longer buttonholes over the old ones.*
- Stitch a few buttons to the back of the sweater for visual interest. (optional)

### Step 4

- Attach a ribbon rose or other embellishment to the sweater.  
*Tip: Search thrift stores for embellishments to rescue from other garments.*

## Cardigan Dress

### Supplies

- One cardigan sweater
- One V-neck ribbed pullover sweater
- Wide ribbon or belt
- Assorted buttons
- Construction weight thread
- Ballpoint needle (size 80)
- Painter's tape
- Edgestitching foot (BERNINA Edgestitch Foot #10)

### Step 1

- Try on the cardigan sweater and use painter's tape to mark a line just below your natural waist. Cut along the marked line.
- Cut across the pullover sweater just below the underarm line, keeping as much of the "tube" intact as possible.
- Remove the V-neck ribbing by cutting next to the stitching line; set aside.



### Step 2

- With right sides together, stitch the lower edge of the pullover sweater (the ribbing) to the cut edge of the cardigan sweater. Press the seam allowances toward the cardigan, then topstitch them in place.

### Step 3

- Pin the V-neck ribbing to the "dress" hemline, wrong side of the ribbing to the right side of the dress, aligning the center of the V-neck with the center front of the dress. (Or at the center back.)
- Stitch the edge of the ribbing in place with a narrow zigzag. Stitch again ¼" away. Trim away the "skirt" fabric from behind the opening.

### Step 4

- Add a wide ribbon sash or a belt at the waistline.



## Cardigan Shrug

### Supplies

- One cardigan sweater
- One lightweight pullover at least one size larger than the cardigan
- Assorted buttons
- Narrow ribbon
- Construction weight thread
- Ballpoint needle (size 80)
- Painter's tape
- Edgestitching foot (BERNINA Edgestitch Foot #10)
- Button sew-on foot (BERNINA Button Sew-On Foot #18)

### Step 1

- Cut across the pullover approximately 2" below the underarm seam. Set aside the lower half of the sweater.

### Step 2

- Pull the "shrug" over the buttoned cardigan and pin the lower edge in place.
- Baste the lower edge of the shrug to the cardigan. Pin narrow ribbon over the seam. Edgestitch along the upper and lower edges of the ribbon to secure it to the sweater and cover the raw edge.

### Step 3

- Replace the buttons with a variety of coordinating buttons.
- Arrange decorative buttons on the sweater as desired and stitch them in place.



# My BERNINA Quilt

by MARYANN KOTOWSKI

Finished size: 26½" x 26½"

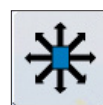
## Supplies

- BERNINA 830 sewing and embroidery machine
- Large Oval Hoop (145 x 250 mm)
- Mega Hoop (150 x 400 mm)
- ½ yard of tone-on-tone eggshell fabric
- ½ yard of solid red fabric
- ½ yard of solid black fabric
- 1 yard of fabric for backing
- Isacord embroidery thread
- OESD black bobbin thread (for embroidery)
- OESD Fusible PolyMesh Cut-Away stabilizer
- OESD LightWeight Tear-Away stabilizer
- Batting (30" x 30")
- Mettler Silk Finish Cotton thread
- Chalk marker
- Quilter's ruler
- Patchwork Foot #37
- Walking Foot #50, and sole with center guide

Embroidery designs from the BERNINA 830 including the Susanne Muller and Louise Meyer collections found in the main menu of the BERNINA 830.

*To explore the embroidery features of the new BERNINA 830, I embroidered blocks and created borders using designs and stitches included on this amazing sewing and embroidery system. The on-screen embroidery tools made it easy to combine and customize designs right on the screen – no software needed! I imported stitches from sewing mode into embroidery mode – Wow! – and used the Endless Embroidery feature, with its automatically generated reference points, to easily rehoop and stitch long strips of fabric for the borders.*

## BERNINA 830 Embroidery Tools



Move Motif



Rescale Motif Proportionally



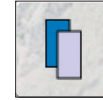
Rotate Motif



Horizontal Mirror Image



Vertical Mirror Image



Duplicate Motif



Save

## Design the Embroidered Blocks

Follow the instructions below for programming each design. As each design layout is completed, save it to the memory of the BERNINA 830 and also to a memory stick. Then embroider each square.

### Block 1

- Louisa Meyer design #42: Resize from 155 x 115 mm to 122 x 89 mm.

### Block 2

- Susanne Muller design #10: Resize from 62 x 107 mm to 50 x 86 mm.
- Duplicate the design and mirror-image (left/right) the second design.
- Move the copy to -275 with the Width Multi-Function Knob and to 0 with the Length Multi-Function Knob.
- Move the original design to +275 (width) and 0 (length).

### Block 3

- Louisa Meyer design #1: No changes – the design is 117 x 117 mm.

### Block 4

- From the main menu, select design #35, which is 67 x 66 mm.
- Move the design up to +284 using the Length Multi-Function Knob.
- Copy the design and mirror-image it (up/down).
- Move the second design to -284 using the Length Multi-Function Knob. The designs will overlap at the center.

### Block 5

- Louisa Meyer design #45: The design is 93 x 106 mm. Rotate 29°.

### Block 6

- From the main menu, select design #28
- Resize from 58 x 57 mm to 64 x 58 mm.
- Copy the design and mirror-image (up/down) it.
- Move the copy below the original design so they are just barely touching each other. Combine and center them in the hoop.

### Block 7

- Louisa Meyer design #51:
- Resize from 172 x 162 mm to 130 x 122 mm.

### Block 8

- Susanne Muller design #11:
- Resize from 131 x 151 mm to 124 x 142 mm. Rotate 180°.

### Block 9

- From the main menu, select design #17, which is 91 x 89 mm. No changes.

## Embroider the Blocks

Cut nine 7" x 7" squares of tone-on-tone eggshell background fabric.

Fuse Cut-Away stabilizer to the back of each square. This stabilizer will remain in the quilt.

Embroider all squares using the Large Oval Hoop, placing a layer of Tear-Away stabilizer under the hoop. Take care to make sure the center of each embroidery is at the center of its fabric square.

When embroidery is complete, trim all squares to 6½" x 6½", centering the designs.

## Assemble the Quilt Blocks

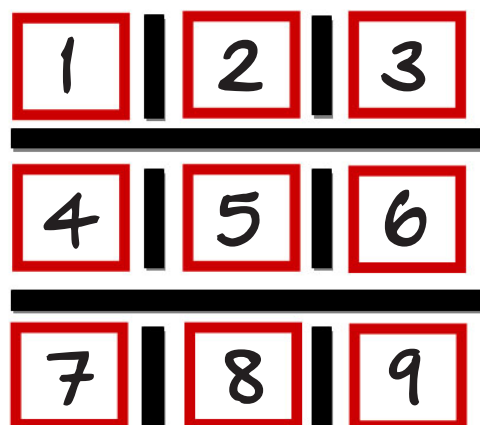
All piecing is done using ¼"-wide seam allowances.

Cut eight 1" x 44" strips of the framing fabric (red). Stitch these around every square.

Cut four 2½" x 44" strips of the sashing fabric (black).

Join the squares in each row (1-2-3, 4-5-6, and 7-8-9) with strips of black. Press seam allowances toward the sashing.

Join the rows with strips of black fabric.



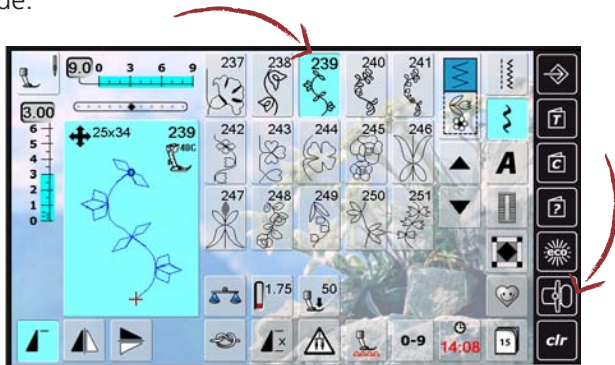
## Create the Border Design

This is a great learning experience for importing decorative stitches into embroidery and using the Endless Embroidery features of the BERNINA 830.

Cut four 2½" x 44" strips of black fabric. Fuse Fusible PolyMesh Cut-Away Stabilizer to the back of each piece. Mark a chalk line down the center of each strip. Use a light application of 505 adhesive to affix a wide strip (wide enough to hoop) of LightWeight Tear-Away to the back of each piece, aligning the centers.

Hoop one border strip, leaving about 2" extending beyond the top of the hoop, and the chalk line aligned with the center of the hoop. The decorative stitching will be embroidered along the chalk line.

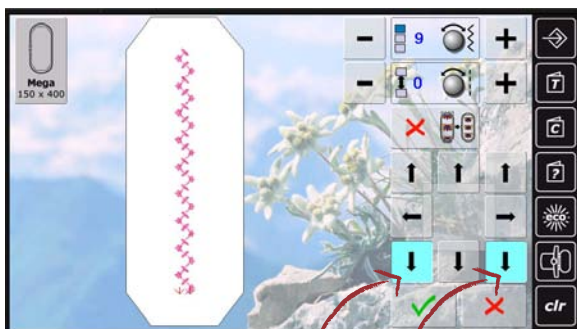
Select a decorative stitch (#201-#239). Click on the embroidery module icon to take it into embroidery mode.



Select the Mega Hoop (or your largest hoop). With the Mega Hoop, fewer hoopings are required to stitch the length of the strip.



Press the Endless Embroidery icon and then press OK.



If the lower right and lower left reference mark arrows are not automatically selected, press them to make them active.

Make sure the center of the embroidery is aligned with the marked center of the black strip; adjust if needed. Embroider the design. The BERNINA 830 will automatically stitch the reference mark arrows at the end; these will help align the next sequence after re-hooping.

Re-hoop, allowing about 1½" of the previous design to be in the hoop field at the top of the hoop, keeping the chalk line centered.

The lower right and left reference arrows should still be selected onscreen. Select the upper right and left reference mark arrows. Align the upper reference mark arrows with the previously stitched arrows that are at the top of the hoop. If necessary, move the design on the screen up, down, left, or right until the arrows connect.

Continue stitching, rehooping as needed to complete the strip. Repeat for the three remaining strips. While the border strips seem unnecessarily long, the extra length gives the ability to control the design flow when mitering the corners.

Stitch borders to the upper and lower edges of the pieced top, mitering the corners using your favorite technique.

### Construct the Quilt

Layer the backing (face down), batting, and pieced top (right side up). Baste the layers together with pins or spray-baste using 505 Temporary Fabric Adhesive.

Stitch-in-the-ditch around each square using Walking Foot #50 with Center Guide.

Free-motion quilt around each embroidered designs.

Bind the quilt using your favorite binding technique.

### MaryAnn Kotowski



I started working for Harvey Federman at Sew Right Sewing Machines, in Bayside, NY, in September, 1999. At that time I thought the monitor was the computer! I would never have thought I could advance to the position I am

at now. With my husband Henry helping me learn the computer, and Harvey's patience and belief in me, I have managed to overcome many of my earlier short-comings. Sewing is my passion. I love teaching and helping others expand their potential. Making this quilt taught me many of the great abilities of the BERNINA 830.

[www.sewright.com](http://www.sewright.com)

# BERNINA Accessory Spotlight:

## Circular Attachment #83

by SUSAN BECK

Sewing machines are made to sew in a straight line. The combination of feeding system, presser foot, and the precision of the machine design determine how straight that line will be. For stitches sewn in a circle, the stitcher's skills are challenged to guide the fabric in a way that produces an exact, smooth curve that meets in a continuous line. This is almost impossible even for the most experienced sewer.



BERNINA Circular Embroidery Attachment #83 to the rescue! This device anchors the fabric at the center of the circle, producing a perfectly round shape. You can use Circular Embroidery Attachment #83 with almost any technique that can be sewn in a straight line to transform it into a circular design. Try these techniques in the round: decorative stitching, couching, pintucks, writing, gathering, wing needlework, and quilting.

Circles from 1½" to 10½" in diameter can be stitched with BERNINA Circular Embroidery Attachment #83. It attaches to the bed of the machine with a small set screw. The attachment can be fastened to the machine with the arm pointing to the left or the right as needed to accommodate various projects and techniques. The sliding "tack" determines the radius of the circle, which is half the diameter of the circle. Move the tack away from the needle to increase the size of the circle, closer to reduce it. For example, to stitch a 6" circle, place the tack 3" from the needle.

### Tips for using BERNINA Circular Embroidery Attachment #83

- The BERNINA Circular Attachment #83 can be used with almost any stitch, any presser foot, and any technique.
- Set up the machine just as you would for stitching the selected technique in a straight line. Stitch in exactly the same way; the attachment does the work for you.

- Stabilize the fabric for any of the techniques you try. Choices include tear-away stabilizer, cut-away stabilizer, interfacing, batting, or spray starch. The fabric must feed smoothly to make sure the circle is stitched precisely the same all the way around the circle; stabilizing the fabric helps ensure great results.
- If stitching decorative stitches, slide the tack to an odd setting (1st notch, 3rd notch, etc.); the patterns are more likely to fit evenly using an odd setting.
- To match patterns as you complete a circle, engage the Pattern End function when nearing the end. Use Balance (+/-) and/or Stitch Length to adjust the size of the last pattern to fit in the remaining space.



# Add Punch to your Projects!

with Wash 'n Wear Needlepunch Fabric

by PAULA SCAFFIDI

Create your own swatches of custom Needlepunch Fabric using these creative techniques which combine fibers, stitching, and textural effects. Choose intriguing couture or specialty fabrics for your base, which incorporate a variety of colors, patterns, weights, and drapes. Needlepunch effects combine easily and beautifully with stitches, offering a wide range of fresh looks and styles. Your finished swatch is wash-and-dryable, and will add a creative splash to any project!

## Joyful Swatches

Wash 'n Wear Needlepunch Fabric is simple and fun to create to spice up your sewing mix.

Swatches, used as spices, grant license for spirited experimentation! Even if you have a big project in mind, take heart. Just a little bit of punch fabric goes a long way. A single "swatch" is enough to accent a large project, and plenty for a small project (or several). These joyful swatches work for whatever kinds of projects you're passionate about sewing.

It's a short labor of love to create "swatches" large enough to influence an entire project.

## Like Spice... Add to Taste

The more contrast and textural interest added to a swatch, the more pungent the spice. At times you may think you've gone too far. Here's good news: spice is not a meal. You can adjust its use to taste.

### *To Increase or Reduce Swatch Impact*

- Use a larger or smaller amount of swatch in your project
- Increase or decrease the percentage of other project fabrics

### *Getting a "Feel" for Proportion*

- View swatches in context with project fabrics
- Fold and unfold fabrics until the proportion of spice-to-plain feels good
- Plan to:
  - cut your swatch for use as a smaller section
  - cut it into pieces and mix it in or "spread it around" visually
  - use the whole swatch
  - create even more of the same swatch





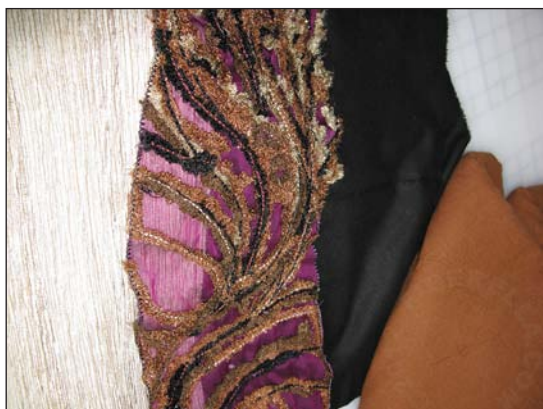
## Fear No Swatch!

Follow my thought process as I create a needlepunched swatch using the techniques that follow:



Viewed on the machine bed: I'm sure I've gone too far!

*TIP: Pause swatch-making mid-stream to view your swatch with other fabrics. This will help you visualize what to add and when to stop.*



I'm visualizing a tri-stripe pillow: white, swatch and black, maybe with rust-colored piping and/or backing. With companion fabric, the swatch mellows some. But I decide it's still too high on my personal "bling-o-meter."



Ah. Now I'm comfortable. It's jazzy for an accent pillow on a plain sofa, even in a fairly large room. Think context! (Fiberella Swatch Recipe: Fountain of Yarn)

**Two Fiberella swatch recipes for rotary punch — punch scrunch and fountain of yarn — follow. For additional swatch recipes visit [www.fiberella.com](http://www.fiberella.com).**

## punch scrunch reversible silk crepe georgette

- ➔ *Floaty textures, lightweight with soft drape*
- ➔ *Suggested Uses: scarves, nightgown yoke, overlay on bedroom pillows, airy trim on linen, denim, etc.*

### Punch Tool Set-Up

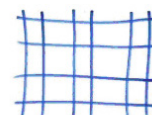
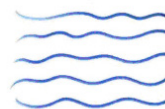
- Rotary Punch Tool #45 and Punch Plate, set up as directed in the manual
- Punch Needles in Clamp: three long-shank needles
- Punch Foot Height: 4mm to start, then 5mm
- Motor Speed: Medium
- Needle: Down

### Supplies

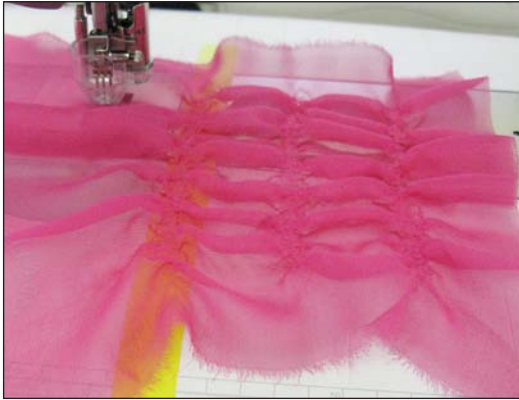
- Base Fabric: silk crepe georgette, cut or torn to twice the width and twice the length of the desired swatch
- Miracle Marker or Chubby Crayon, both by Miracle Chalk
- OESD Aqua Mesh Plus
- Matching or contrasting Isacord thread for needle and bobbin (for reversible fabric)
- Schmetz Embroidery needle, size 75/11
- Clear Embroidery Foot #34C or 34D for open decorative stitches
- Rotary cutter, ruler, and mat, or scissors, thread snips
- Optional: Plain paper, large marker

### Steps

1. Mark a 1" frame around the outside of your base fabric.
2. Plan your design; options include:
  - Diamond, square, rectangular, and "plaid" grids are all lovely in silk.
  - Accurately ruled lines and grids produce crisper designs; use "relaxed" lines and grids for a softer look.



Parallel lines are fine! Use tape as a guide, in a color you can see through the fabric.



I prefer lines spaced a minimum 1 3/4" apart for visual contrast. You can audition design ideas with a wide marker on paper, and do a quick test in fabric.

3. Mark fabric if desired. Marking options include:
  - Placing fabric over favorite lines/patterns and tracing
  - Placing fabric over cutting mat and marking gentle irregular curves along selected mat lines
  - Marking directly without any tracing

*TIP: A burst of steam instantly erases Miracle Markers or Chubby Crayon. (Who, me? Change my mind?)*



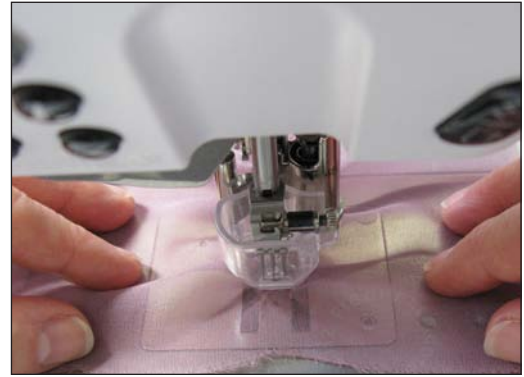
4. On Side A, with foot height = 4mm, wide-punch-path your line design. Work inside the frame and right up to it.

Side A = side up at machine, with marks showing or plain if unmarked

Wide-punch-path = moving fabric straight back, away from you

- a. Use separated fingertips with light pressure adjacent to the foot to move the gathering fabric along.
- b. Keep fabric slowly moving along, gently gliding the gathering fabric back a short distance and stopping.

- c. Reposition your fingertips inside the gathers, alongside the foot, and repeat.



5. On Side B with foot height = 5mm (for more ruching), narrow-path-punch the previous paths  
Side B = reverse side of fabric

Narrow-punch-path = sideways fabric motion; aim for the centerline of all previous paths



The reverse-punched narrow path adds durability and delivers texture to Side A. How? Punch needles have barbs that gather fabric, fiber and thread, delivering it to the surface below.



Georgette responds with delightful tiny loops.

Side A View: Paths already "reverse needlepunched" appear slightly darker, with tiny loops and a bit more gathering. Here only the center line has been reverse needlepunched.



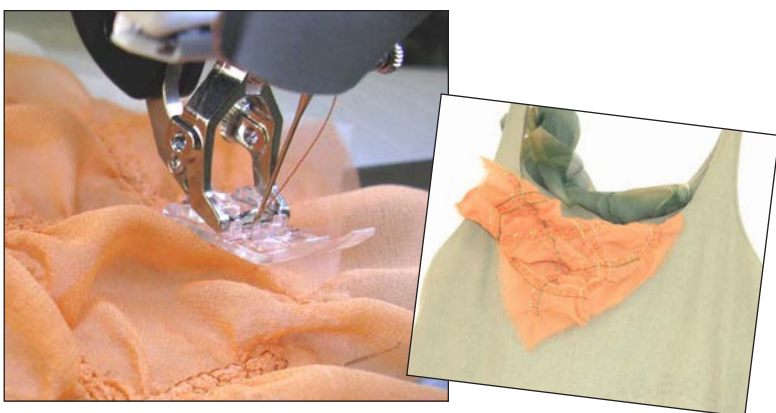
- Cut a swatch-size piece of OESD AquaMesh Plus. Place it paper side up on a flat surface, then remove the paper and place swatch Side B against the adhesive. Smooth it into place. With Side A facing up, sew decorative stitching along all paths for design interest and durability.

### Tips for Modifying Decorative Stitches

- Adjust open decorative stitches 6-9 mm wide to provide durability across the punch width.
- Use slow-medium motor speeds for the best results.
- If more length to repeat is desired, adjust using the Pattern Extend function.
- Explore thread color(s).
- Layer decorative stitches in contrasting colors.
- Enjoy Combi Mode, saving your favorites in Personal Program: Swatch Fun!

Imagine a crepe-wrapped edge finish for a tank top, with cotton crop pants or a simple skirt.

Stitching contrasting colors bridges the crepe to other fabrics in the mix.



- To remove the stabilizer, soak in cool to tepid water, then rinse, squeeze and repeat until it's gone. It's okay to use a soft toothbrush, brushing gently over the stitching as needed. Then wash and dry by machine using delicate apparel settings. If desired, dampen the swatch again to "revive" its new "natural" texture, drying it quickly with a hair dryer.

Your Punch Scrunch swatch is ready to sew into a project and/or edge-finish as desired.

### BERNINA 8 Series

When using the needle punch, always make sure the feed dog is down and Foot #45 is selected. Re-select icons as needed.



## fountain of yarn

### free-flowing lines in silk organza

- *Opaque and translucent, light to medium drape*
- *Suggested Uses: Scarves; translucent collars and cuffs; overlays on pillows; apparel; crazy quilts; semi-sheer sleeves, evening jackets and panels; see-through reverse-appliqué in mid-weight curtains and drapes*



### Punch Tool Set-Up

- Rotary Punch Tool #45 and Punch Plate, set up as directed in manual
- Outer Guide: Included with punch set
- Punch Needles in Clamp: three short-shank needles
- Punch Foot Height: 4 mm for floss, 4-5 mm for thick yarn
- Motor Speed: Medium-high
- Needle: Down for continuous lines, up for short segments

### Supplies

- Base Fabric: Silk organza in desired swatch size plus 2" in length and width
- Toppings
  - YLI Rayon Floss in Original and Shimmer (large spools), cut into 3-5 yard lengths
  - Thick soft yarn (acrylic, nylon, wool, etc.) of a diameter to pass smoothly through the front guide and out the sole

- Needle and bobbin threads
    - 50 weight YLI silk, Isacord, Mettler Polysheen
    - bobbin threads in matching or contrasting colors
    - same weight in needle and bobbin
  - Schmetz Embroidery needle, size 75/11
  - Clear Embroidery Foot #34C or 34D or Reverse Pattern Foot #1C/1D
  - Sideways Motion Foot #40C (optional)
  - OESD AquaMesh (or AquaMesh Plus)
  - Chubby Crayon, large marker
- “Color Dotting” is purposeful unequal thread tension. Use contrasting threads and stitch on both sides for complimentary color balance.

*Initial mini tests, including sneak peek of Reversible Vermicelli Felt, available at [www.fiberella.com](http://www.fiberella.com).*

1. Imagine linear “islands” surrounded by gentle currents, lapped with splashes of stitch-spray.
  - Create your design
    - a. Draw and audition “island” shapes
    - b. Vary the scale (optional)
    - c. Lay organza over your favorite(s)
    - d. Trace on organza multiple times with Chubby Crayon
  - Or just “wing it”!

*Linear materials must be free-flowing to the needles!*  
Deliver YLI Ribbon Floss to the needles in pre-cut 3-5 yard lengths for optimal consistent flow.

Unmarked? I especially enjoy using the rear foot guide. Here, with YLI Ribbon Floss, it keeps my view wide open.

Marked? Linear materials flow well over the outer guide, down into the front foot guide.



To directly “spool off,” use horizontal spooling.

2. Needlepunch linear materials in desired “islands” and currents.

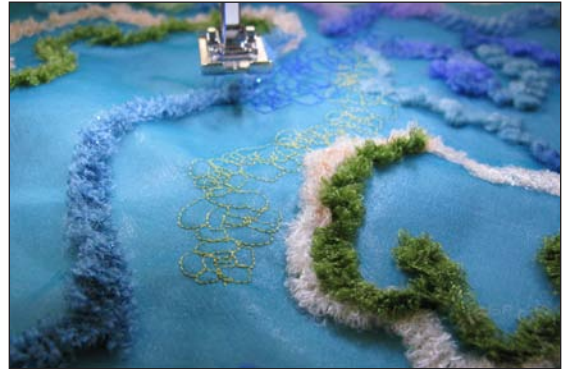
Creative Option: Work both sides of the swatch.

3. Place stabilizer under swatch, then add stitch “sprays” (clusters of simple stitches). These act as watercolor “glaze” (tinting organza color) and add durability.

### TIPS

- More stitch = less drape
- Use reverse while sewing

Creative Option: Switch bobbin thread color to needle, needle thread color to bobbin. Continue stitching.



Optional: Change the “water temperature” with sideways motion stitches.

4. To remove the stabilizer: soak in cool to tepid water, then rinse, squeeze and repeat until it’s gone. It’s okay to use a soft toothbrush, brushing gently over the stitching as needed. Machine wash and dry using care settings for the intended project.
5. Add more stitching if desired or needed.

Go sew with it!



### PAULA SCAFFIDI

Artist... Internationally recognized as an innovative textile artist. Visit Paula’s gallery at [www.fiberella.com](http://www.fiberella.com).

Teacher... When noted creativity coach Paula Scaffidi teaches, one thing is consistent: Art becomes “do-able” for all of her students. Paula says, “Teaching is a finely tuned rhythm,

alternating between developing foundation skills and encouraging creative flight. All students can create unique and personally expressive textile art.”

Adventurer... Paula loves exploring new sewing technologies in her studio work, and freely shares expertise with enthusiasm. A pioneer in machine needle-felting, Paula also enjoys embroidery and digitizing, as well as using her serger and new CutWork tool. Paula’s 3-D vessel-making retreats bring several technologies together for all students, regardless of skill level.

Paula’s free tutorial, Pintuck Landscapes, is featured on the BERNINA of America Sew-lebrity page.

[www.fiberella.com](http://www.fiberella.com)



bonus project!

# Sassy Little Aprons



These adorable mother/daughter (aunt/niece, grandma/granddaughter) aprons feature bright and cheerful fabrics from the Benartex "Floralicious" fabric collection and are embellished with appliquéd embroidery designs from OESD's coordinating "Floralicious" embroidery collection.

Download **FREE** project instructions at:  
[berninaUSA.com](http://berninaUSA.com) > Classes > Embroidery Classes



## RICKY TIMS' *Super* QUILT SEMINARS

Rochester, NY  
 July 12–14, 2012

Atlanta, GA  
 January 24–26, 2013

Ricky Tims with special guests Alex Anderson and Libby Lehman

Registration forms and complete details are at [www.rickytimes.com](http://www.rickytimes.com)

The ultimate learning experience for quilters includes: 2½ days of learning—everyone attends all sessions; exclusive 120-page color syllabus; no supply list—no sewing; fabric shopping; a quilt show featuring works from Ricky, Alex and Libby; and more! Registration fees are based on registration deadlines and group size as indicated on the registration form.

*"Two and a half days of seminar sitting without sewing/hands-on activities? Yes! What an absolutely informative and inspiring experience!"*

Sponsored in part by **BERNINA**+



# The Last Word

A sneak peek at what's coming in *Through the Needle ONLINE*, Issue #12:



## Heirloom Stitches

This stunning Christening gown by Ed Roux features BERNINA Embroidery Software 6 and a wide assortment of BERNINA presser feet and accessories.

## Upcycled Thrift Store Find

What do you get when you cut up a fancy thrift store dress and stitch the pieces back together? Timmesa Eads, Creative Sewing Machines, Mt. Airy, NC made this awesome ruffled scarf!



## April 2012 Special

### 25% OFF

### Going in circles is sew much fun

Sew perfectly round circles in a range of sizes, using decorative stitch patterns, alphabets, or even couching fancy fibers! Circles can be stitched clockwise or counterclockwise.

For April 2012 only, get 25% OFF the BERNINA Circular Embroidery Attachment #83

Offer good April 2012 at participating BERNINA dealers in the United States. Coupon may not be combined with any other offer.



### Circular Embroidery Attachment #83

## Stretch your accessory knowledge!

Create this fun fabric book to showcase stitched techniques using various presser feet and accessories. Download a page at a time and build this mixed-media project as you build your sewing skills. Check back often for new pages!



Click **HERE** to follow along!

## Quick Links

These are the main links featured in this issue; see the articles for links to specific products, projects, and technique information. Please visit our sponsors and contributors for more inspiration, information, and stitching fun!

- [www.throughtheneedle.com](http://www.throughtheneedle.com)
- [www.berninaUSA.com](http://www.berninaUSA.com)
- [www.WeAllSew.com](http://www.WeAllSew.com)
- [www.benartex.com](http://www.benartex.com)
- [www.embroideryonline.com](http://www.embroideryonline.com)
- [www.bernina8series.com/EN/](http://www.bernina8series.com/EN/)
- [www.berninamylabel.com](http://www.berninamylabel.com)
- [www.facebook.com/berninausa](http://www.facebook.com/berninausa)
- [www.rickytimes.com/seminars](http://www.rickytimes.com/seminars)
- [www.fiberella.com](http://www.fiberella.com)
- [www.sewright.com](http://www.sewright.com)
- [www.rkbrent.com](http://www.rkbrent.com)
- [www.allaboutblanks.com](http://www.allaboutblanks.com)

## Until June ...

As always, we hope this issue of *Through the Needle ONLINE* has inspired you to learn something new and make your own adaptations of our projects. We love seeing your creations; send e-mail and photos to [jo@berninausa.com](mailto:jo@berninausa.com).