exclusive!

Heirloom Sewing

Quilter Program

Easy Thread Case

Tail Feather Pillows

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did you know?

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Retro Birds Collection 21001
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Needle Notes

June! It's finally summer, and things are starting to heat up! It's no wonder sheer cotton and linen garments are so popular here in the south! Whether you want to create filmy summer-weight blouses or elaborately-stitched Christening gowns, you'll want to follow along as Ed Roux kicks off a series of heirloom sewing lessons on our WeAllSew.com blog and this issue of *Through the Needle ONLINE*.

Summer is an excellent time to start thinking about your next quilt (or two or three!). For years I planned my quilts with colored pencils and graph paper, but it's so much easier and faster to do them on my computer! I can change blocks, adjust sizes, add and subtract borders and sashing, play with embroidery, and even calculate yardage! Diana Carroll guides us through the process of creating three different quilt styles using the Quilter program in BERNINA Embroidery Software 6.

How familiar are you with the decorative stitches on your sewing machine? Julie Veck's Thread Case features the new BERNINA 350 sewing machine, but any sewing machine with decorative stitches can be used as well. When you've finished playing with thread, get out some narrow cord and use Cording Foot #22 or #23 for some couched embellishments following our Tips & Tricks.

For an elegant home décor accent, stitch Linda Wenturine's "Tail Feather" Pillows. Where are the birds? They're part of the new BERNINA Exclusive "Retro Bird" embroidery collection, which features exotic birds composed of individual elements that can be recombined into other shapes, such as the fantasy flowers on these pillows.

What have you been sewing? We'd love to see what are readers are making! Download back issues of *Through the Needle ONLINE* at www.ThroughTheNeedle.com, and visit our blog at www.WeAllSew.com. Happy Sewing!

Jo Leichte
Editor

we all *sew*

Trendy Mail Organizer

Does your desk eat your mail? Does is disappear into oblivion?

The solution is simple. This trendy In/Out mail organizer will keep your mail handy until you're ready to open it… or mail it out.

Dress is up with your favorite fabric, add a touch of embroidery and you have a creative answer to everyday clutter.

Project by Ashley Johnston

Visit WeAllSew.com for more project instructions and sewing tips!
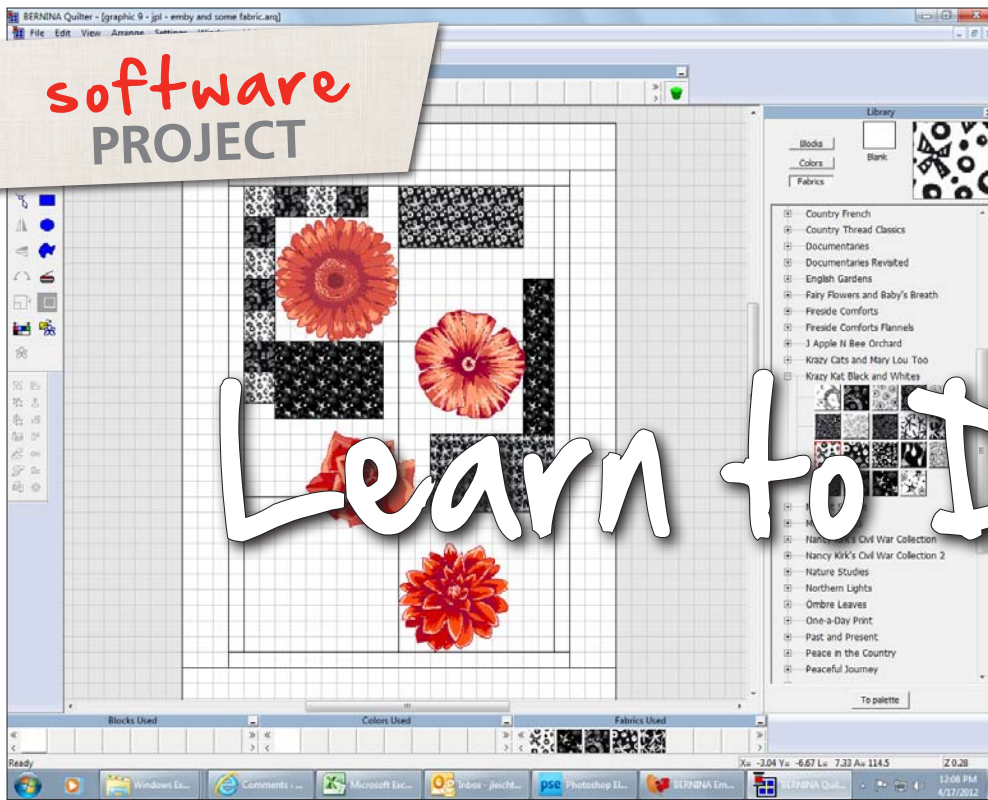
Learn to Design

with BERNINA Quilter Software

by DIANA CARROLL
New Zealand

It's easier than you may think to design a quilt. With the Quilter program included in BERNINA Embroidery Software 6 you have the tools to design an infinite number of quilts combining embroidery, blocks, fabrics, and colors. The software is easy to use and will calculate the fabric requirements for you, too!

Let's begin by designing a simple quilt with blocks, sashing, and a border. Then we'll move on to a quilt with the blocks set on point, and finally to an original design that combines embroidery with patchwork and borders.

Version 6 Icons Used in This Lesson
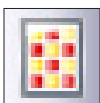
Quilter	Eyedropper
Quilt Layout	Embroidery Window
Library	Send to Back
Paintbrush	

Create a Sampler Quilt

Open your BERNINA Embroidery Software 6 and right click on the Quilter icon.

Right click on the Grid icon; set the Horizontal and Vertical Grid Spacing at 1.00 inches.

Tip: Many of the icons in Quilter will already be familiar to you from Embroidery Canvas.
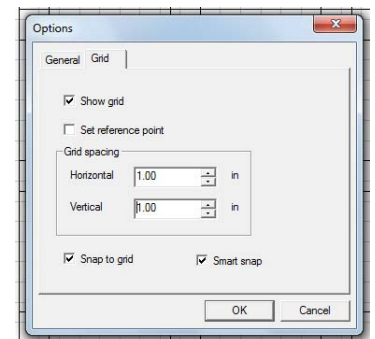
Under the Select tool, left click on the Quilt Layout icon to open the Quilt Layout window.

- Format: Select Rectangular from the drop-down list.
- Blocks:
  - Select 3 blocks across and 4 blocks down
  - Select 12.00 inches for the block width and height
- Sashes
  - Select 3.00 inches for width
  - Choose Sash Squares from the Style drop down menu
  - Tick the Sash border box
- Borders:
  - Select Add
  - Select 1 from the Selected menu
  - Select Horizontal for Style
  - Set the Width at 4.00 inches

The finished size of your quilt is shown in the lower right corner of the Quilt Layout box.

Click OK to create your quilt.

Now that your quilt layout is planned, click OK to return to the design window.

Under the Layout button you will find the Library icon, which looks like a book. If this is not already selected, left click on it to open the Library.

There are three parts to the Library: Blocks, Colors, and Fabrics. Click on the Block button to open the Block Library.

Click on the "+" signs next to the block heading to reveal the block designs.

Left click on a block of your choice, then click on one of the empty squares of your quilt grid. Continue adding blocks in this manner until all the block spaces are filled. (Quilt blocks shown are from the Classic Blocks and Applique > Dresden Plates folders.)

Click on the Fabric button to open the Fabric Library. For the block selection, click on a "+" sign to reveal the fabric choices.
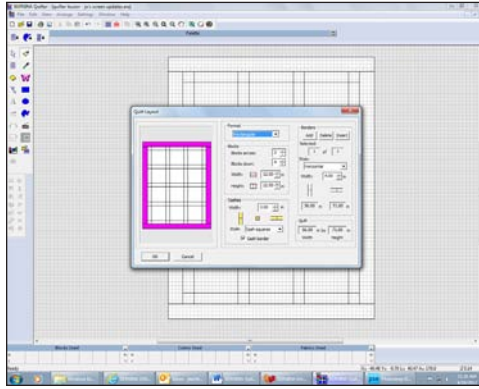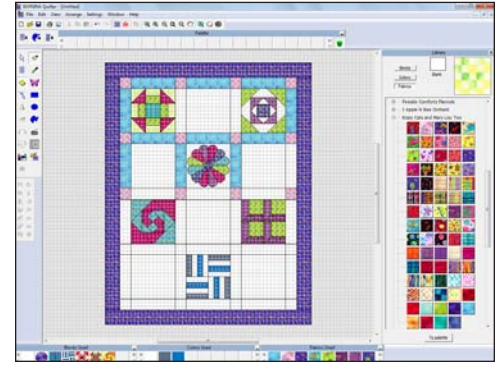
Click on one of the fabrics and then click on a shape in one of your blocks to apply the chosen color to it. While the tool is still open and that fabric shows in the square at the upper right side of the Library, click on all the shapes in each block that you want to fill with that fabric.

To change to a new fabric, click on your next fabric choice and continue filling shapes as desired.

Tip: If you mis-color a segment and need to re-fill it, use the Eyedropper tool to select the correct fabric from another part of your quilt, then use the Paintbrush tool to place the fabric as desired.
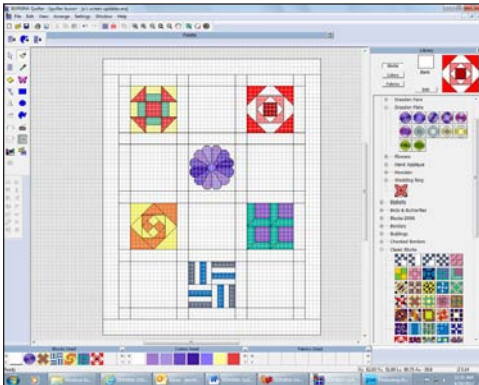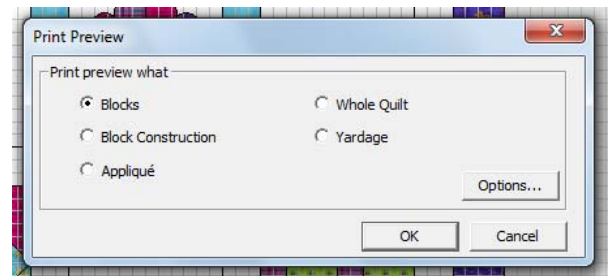
After filling all of the shapes in each block with the desired fabrics, follow the same steps to add fabric to the sashing strips and squares and to the borders.

You've just designed your first quilt using the Quilter program! Save your quilt as **Sampler**.

Select File > Print Preview and check the various buttons to see the finished quilt and how much of each fabric is needed.

Create a Kaleidoscope Quilt

Now that you know the basics, let's go back to the beginning and design a kaleidoscope quilt. It's easier than it looks!

Select File > New Quilt.

Click on the Quilt Layout tool.

• Format: Select On Point from the drop-down list
• Blocks:
  - Select 5 blocks across and 6 blocks down
  - Select 10.00 inches for the block width and height
• Sashes
  - Select None
• Borders:
  - Select Add
  - Select 1 from the Selected menu
  - Select Mitered for Style
 - Set the Width at 4.00 inches

Click OK to create your quilt.

From the Block Library, select the Kaleidoscope block from the Eight-Point Stars folder and fill all the squares of the quilt.

Select colors from the Color Library and fill in the blocks as you did for the sampler quilt.

Tip: Explore patterns within patterns and get a look at how the finished quilt will appear. Experiment with placing different block patterns side by side – a new pattern may emerge!

Add colors to the setting triangles along the outer edges and corners of the blocks and to the border.

Save as **Kaleidoscope**.
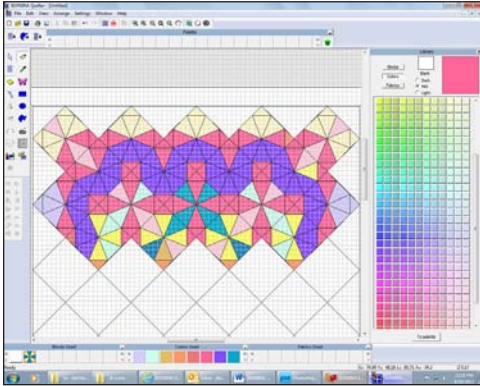
## Create a Unique Quilt Design

You've just learned how to design a quilt with a straight set and one set on point. However, with both quilts your choices were constrained by the design parameters in Quilt Layout and by the set of blocks in the library. The two examples above show how you can design quilts in Quilter and see how the finished pieces will look. With the next part of this lesson, youll learn how to design your own quilt or wall hanging that includes embroidered blocks and pieced blocks in a unique setting arrangement with multiple borders.

Select File > New Quilt.

Click on the Quilt Layout tool.

- Format: Rectangular
- Blocks:
  - Select 2 blocks across and 3 blocks down
  - Select 10.00 inches for the width and height
- Sashes
  - Select None
- Borders:
  - Select Add two times
  - Click on the first border to select it
    - ✴ Select the border corner join of your choice
    - ✴ Set the Width for this border at 1.00 inch
  - Click on the second border to select it
    - ✴ Select the border corner join of your choice
    - ✴ Set the outer border Width at 3.00 inches

Click OK to create your quilt.
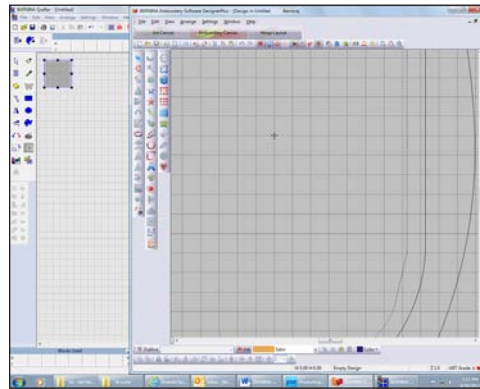
Click on the Embroidery Window icon (butterfly). An embroidery screen will open over the top of your quilt screen, and a small grayed-out square will appear in the upper left corner of your quilt design screen.

In the embroidery screen, select File > Insert Design. Select a design (I used OESD's "Flowers… Plus!" embroidery collection) to put into your quilt; click Open. The design will appear on the embroidery screen, and also in the small embroidery square in your quilt design window.

Tip: I find it easier to enlarge designs to the appropriate size on the embroidery screen, so I can see the size in relation to the size of my hoops. Designs can be also be enlarged in the quilt design screen; just remember to take the size of your hoops into consideration.

Select File > Save and Return. The embroidery screen will close.
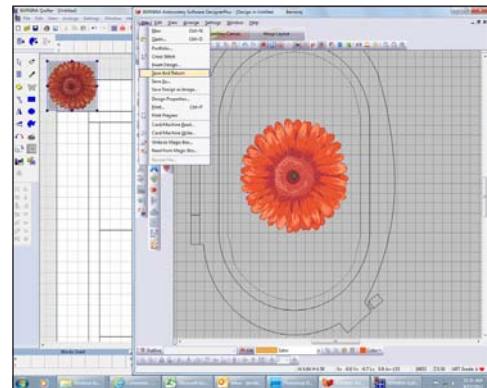
Click on the small gray embroidery square – the one that shows the embroidery design you selected – and drag it onto your quilt. Position it wherever you want it to be.

Continue in this manner, inserting as many designs as desired. If you choose a design and decide not to use it, just click Undo. If you've already brought it into the quilt design screen, click it to highlight it and then press Delete on the computer keyboard.

Tip: Don't over-fill the quilt; I tend to use the same number of designs — or fewer — as there are blocks in my quilt.

Move the embroidery designs around until you have them in a pleasing arrangement.

Tip: To keep from accidentally selecting and moving your embroidery designs, select Edit > Lock Embroidery. Embroidery designs cannot be selected, added, or deleted when locked. To make changes later, select Edit and deselect Lock Embroidery. Applique shapes can be locked in the same manner, using Edit > Lock Applique.

The next step is to fill in the gaps. Open the Library to pick a fabric or a color. With your fabric/color selected and showing in the selection square, use the Rectangular Applique tool to click and drag a square or rectangle to fill an area of your quilt; left click to set the shape.

Tip: To make it easier to precisely place points, select View > Grid and select Snap to Grid. You may also want to set the grid smaller, perhaps to one-inch squares.

Tip: If the fabric covers the embroidery, select the shape and click on the Send to Back icon located at the lower left corner or go to Arrange > Send to Back.

Continue in this manner until all the spaces in the quilt are covered.

Tip: Remember that spaces can be changed in shape and size by clicking on the Selection tool, clicking on the shape to the changed, and grabbing and moving the black "handles."
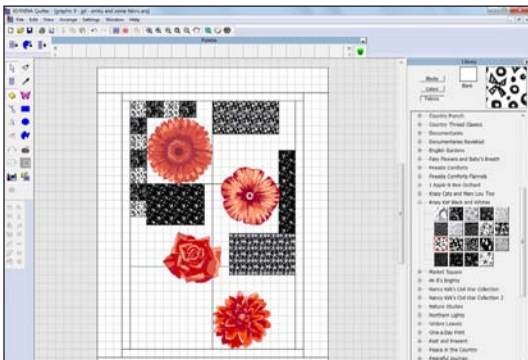
Next, make some of the big fabric rectangles into smaller patchwork blocks. Select the Rectangular Applique tool to draw squares, or use the Draw Applique tool to create triangles and other shapes. (When using the Draw Applique tool, left click to define the shape you want to create; each click will be a point or corner.) Press Enter on the computer keyboard to create the shape, then press Enter again to change it to the fabric or color you have selected.

Tip: Instead of drawing a series of shapes — triangles for Flying Geese, for example — draw one shape, then Copy and Paste and reposition the copies as desired.

Continue in this manner, filling the spaces with squares and triangles to create checkerboard blocks, flying geese, etc.

When the blocks have been arranged to your satisfaction, add fabric or color to the borders.

Go to File > Print Preview to see the whole quilt, block sizes, and how much of each fabric is required for your design.

You have completed your first original quilt design using the artista Quilter program! Have fun as you continue to use the tools in this program to design your own quilts.

Diana Carroll

I learned to sew at school at age 11 or 12 but didn't do patchwork and quilting until the first of my three children was born. I joined the local quilt guild, and from that guild a small weekly quilting group was formed. Twenty one years later the "Thursday Girls," numbering 8-10, still meet every Thursday and get together for quilting weekends three times a year. I had a career in Early Childhood Development, and then ten years ago went to work for BERNINA New Zealand as a Sales and Training Consultant. My husband and I now run Kapiti Coast Bernina, a BERNINA store we bought two and a half years ago, where we also sell quilting supplies.

heirloom SEWING

A Study in Heirloom Techniques

by ED ROUX

For many years, my "bucket list" has included stitching a christening gown employing an extensive variety of heirloom sewing techniques. Carol Ahles and Mary Lou Nall were two of the first sewing experts who showed me how to use a variety of presser feet to successfully create heirloom samples. When I felt I had comfortably mastered some of the basic heirloom techniques, I turned to Martha Pullen and her vast repertoire of excellent books and videos to refine and expand my mastery of heirloom sewing.

Along the way, with continuing years of experience with BERNINA feet and accessories, I was able to develop new techniques and "refresh" some old techniques to simplify heirloom techniques for quicker, more precise results. I am fortunate to be able to choose from my collection of superbly designed and crafted BERNINA tools, which I employ as "partners" to make my sewing projects satisfying and rewarding adventures. I view my BERNINA sewing systems, along with all the presser feet, accessories and software, as my partners in my sewing room.

In this article, and a series of blog posts at BERNINA's WeAllSew.com blog, I'll guide you through many of the techniques I used for my christening gown project to re-familiarize you with heirloom techniques you may have learned in the past, and to provide you with techniques that may be new to you.

I chose the BERNINA 830 Limited Edition sewing machine as my main partner in this project. However, these techniques can be adapted to be used on any BERNINA sewing machine with similar results. Their consistently precise stitching ensures success for all my sewing projects.

This christening gown, "Christina," is my original design. Embroidery designs are from the Martha Pullen Company, Inc.

Supplies

As with all projects, do your best to ensure that you have an adequate supply of materials to complete your project. However, if you are like me, you'll find that you're always purchasing extra materials to accommodate your evolving creativity. I take this license to allow my sewing projects to evolve, achieving the best final product and personal satisfaction.

The primary materials used for this christening gown are

- Fabrics: Swiss Nelona, Swiss Batiste, Organza
- Trims: French lace, Swiss batiste insertions and beading, tatting, satin ribbon, Czechoslovakian glass beads
- Threads: Madiera 50 weight cotton Tanne, Madiera 40 weight rayon, DMC cotton perle, gimp cording

In addition to presser feet and accessories, sharp, new needles are critical to the success of any sewing technique. Needles are probably the least expensive component of your sewing project, yet they play a major role. With that in mind, I change them frequently, keeping a 2"-thick binder stocked with all types and sizes of needles so I always have the correct needle for my project at hand.

For the christening gown I used:
• Microtex Sharp needles, size 70/10
• Wing needles, size 120/19
• Twin (Double) needles, size 1.6/70

While I used a variety of presser feet and accessories in this project that have traditionally been used for heirloom sewing, sometimes I simplified techniques, opting for alternate accessories, to help streamline techniques or improve precision. One such classic accessory that I find invaluable is the curiously underutilized Cut 'N Sew Attachment #80 and its companion, Foot #90. I used the Cut 'N Sew Attachment for all the techniques that required attaching entredeux, entredeux beading, and fancy entredeux to flat and gathered batiste, organza, laces, and Swiss batiste trim. This attachment reduced a normally three-step procedure — (1) straight stitch, (2) manually trim, and (3) roll whip — to one admirably quick process. It unquestioningly deserves my "Best Supporting Role Award" as a complement to any BERNINA sewing system.

entredeux

French for "between two," a decorative strip of embroidered holes that also adds strength to the seam between lace and fabric, fabric and fabric, etc.

Entredeux Varieties: (1) baby entredeux, (2) fancy entredeux, (3) standard entredeux, (4) entredeux beading, (5) Swiss insertion with entredeux edging, (6, 7) Swiss beading with entredeux edging

Traditional Two-Step Lace-to-Entredeux Technique

*The edges of the lace are placed edge to edge and zigzagged together.*

Step One

Trim the fabric from one side of the entredeux.

Step Two

Set the sewing machine for a zigzag with a width of 3.0 mm, a length of 0.9 mm, and the needle in the center position. Attach Edgestitch Foot #10 to the machine.

Position the lace strip under one side of the foot, with the header against the center blade of the foot. Place the entredeux under the other side of the foot, with the trimmed edge against the blade.

Note: If using baby entredeux, reduce the stitch length to 0.7 mm.
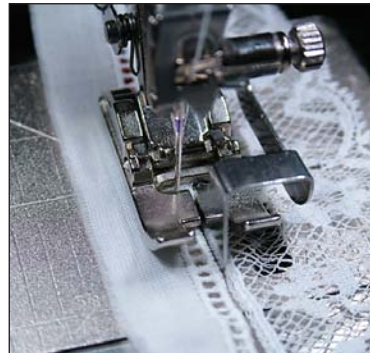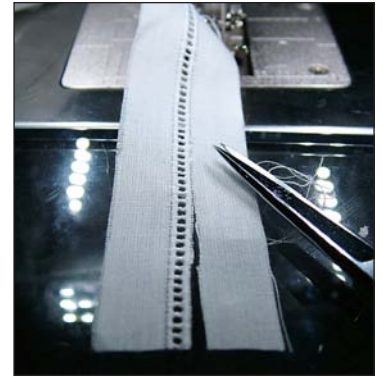
Feed the entredeux and lace against either side of the #10 Foot center blade with a light touch so that the needle swings in and out of the entredeux holes as it zigzags the two edges together. Stitch.

Finished attached lace to entredeux

If using a BERNINA system with 9 mm stitch capabilities, replace the 9 mm stitch plate with a 5.5 mm stitch plate. The 5.5 mm stitch plate provides better support for fine fabrics and trims and works together with 5.5 mm presser feet to form the intricate stitching used in heirloom sewing.

Traditional Three-Step Fabric-to-Entredeux Technique

The fabric and entredeux are stitched together, the seam allowances trimmed, and the raw edges rolled and whipped together.

Do not trim the fabric from the entredeux.

Step One

Set the sewing machine for a zigzag with a width of 3.0 mm, length of 0.9 mm, and the needle in the center position. Attach Edgestitch Foot #10 to the machine.

Place the fabric and entredeux right sides together.

Position them under the presser foot with the entredeux on top and the right edge of the entredeux beading against the blade in the center of the foot. Stitch a straight line along the right edge of the entredeux.

Step Two

Trim seam allowances to approximately $\frac{1}{8}$".

Step 3

Set the sewing machine for a zigzag with a width of 3.0 mm, length of 0.9 mm, and the needle four "clicks" to the right. Attach Buttonhole Foot #3 to the machine.

Position the seamed edge of the entredeux and fabric under the presser foot so the needle will fall into the entredeux holes on the left swing of the zigzag. Stitch. A rolled edge will be formed within the groove in the sole of the foot.

To use the same technique for joining gathered fabric to entredeux, gather the fabric and pin the entredeux and fabric together before stitching.

Finished attached entredeux

## Cut 'N Sew One-Step Lace-to-Entredeux Technique

The entredeux and fabric edges are joined, trimmed, and finished in one step!

Do not trim the seam allowance from the entredeux.

Set the sewing machine for a zigzag with a width of 3.0 mm, a length of 0.9 mm, and the needle four "clicks" to the right. Attach Cut 'N Sew Attachment #80 and Foot #90 to the machine.
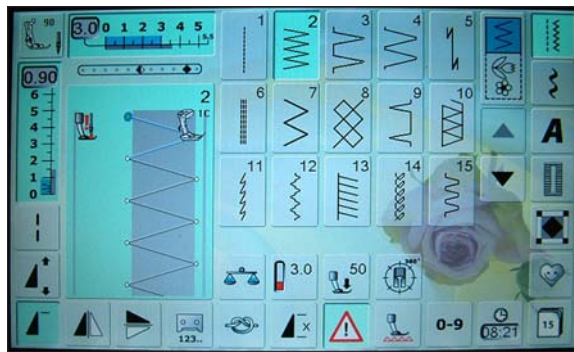
Place the lace and entredeux right sides together. Holding the beginning of both pieces in one hand, cut a ½"-long slit $\frac{1}{8}$" away from the left side of the entredeux beading.
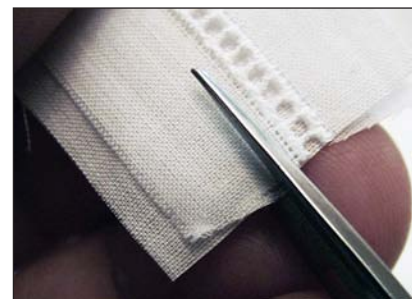
To start the process of attaching and trimming the entredeux and fabric, feed the ½"-long slit between the upper and lower knives of the Cut 'N Sew Attachment.

Stitch, feeding the entredeux and fabric so there is a consistent $\frac{1}{8}$"-wide margin of fabric between the right edge of the entredeux and the upper knife of the Cut 'N Sew Attachment. If you follow this critical step, the Cut 'N Sew Attachment will expertly trim the fabric edges before the entredeux and fabric are joined, and a rolled edge will form in the groove of the presser foot sole. As you gain confidence in this one-step technique, you may find that you can skillfully complete this one step at full stitching speed.

Joining lace to entredeux.

View from the back of the machine

Joining gathered fabric to entredeux.

For additional heirloom sewing techniques, visit www.WeAllSew.com. In the next issue of *Through the Needle ONLINE* I'll go over some tips and tricks for embroidering heirloom-stitched garments.

Joining fabric (Swiss insertion) to entredeux.

Completed join (right side).

Completed join (wrong side).

Ed Roux

Ed Roux began teaching himself sewing at age 10 after being intrigued with how flat pieces of fabric evolved into 3-dimensional garments. Ed first learned about the BERNINA brand in his early 20's when a co-worker recommended that he buy a BERNINA if he was interested in doing "serious" sewing. That recommendation stayed on the forefront of his mind until he was able to purchase his first BERNINA, an artista 180E. He now has four BERNINA sewing machines, plus BERNINA Embroidery Software 6, that he utilizes as extensions of his analytical and artistic skills. In that regard, Ed strives to ensure his next project is always more challenging than his last.

Ed currently works for a major aerospace company as an Information Technology Project Manager. Ed has a Computer Science Bachelor's degree and an MBA from Pepperdine University along with business and technical certificates from the University of Oxford, University of Antwerp, Carnegie Mellon and the University of California. He is also a certified Project Manager Professional (PMP). Ed has taken advanced pattern making and gown draping from LA Trade Tech. He has a son in his late 20s.

embroidery PROJECT

Tail Feathers Pillows

Supplies

- OESD Retro Birds embroidery collection #21001
- BERNINA Embroidery Software 6 or Artlink 6 (optional)
- 1⅓ yards textured black silk (⅔ yard for each pillow)
- 3 yards of HTC Armo Weft or Sof-Knit fusible black interfacing
- Two 22"-long invisible zippers
- Fiberfill (for fan pillow)
- OESD Ultra Clean & Tear stabilizer
- 505 Temporary Adhesive Spray
- Isacord thread colors #0108, 2160, 0150, 2153, 0105, 0345
- Black construction thread
- Embroidery needles, size 75/11
- Universal needles, size 80/12
- Target stickers
- Erasable fabric marker
- Hand-sewing needle
- Additional supplies for square pillow:
  - Dritz Pillow Corner Template
  - Jewel button
  - 18" square pillow form
- Additional supplies for fan pillow:
  - Nifty Notions "Cut for the Cure" 22.5° Wedge Ruler
  - ¾ yard braided cord with lip
  - Matching tassel
  - Sharp craft knife
- Reverse Pattern Foot #1/1C/1D
- Bulky Overlock Foot #12/12C
- Invisible Zipper Foot #35

by LINDA WENTURINE

These two pillows were created by combining design elements from the BERNINA Exclusive "Retro Birds" #21001 embroidery collection. Tail feathers were arranged to form a large flower wreath and also combined with a leaf motif to form a whimsical flower stem. Stitched on textured black silk with hues of pink and gray, they remind me of Paris in the springtime. A jeweled button and simple tassel add just the right finishing touches.

Prepare the Fabric

Fuse the interfacing to the wrong side of the silk piece following the manufacturer's directions.

Square Pillow

- Cut one 24" square for the pillow front
- Cut one 18" square for the pillow back
- On the pillow right side of the pillow front, draw an 18" square in the middle.

Tip: Use the 18" fabric square that was cut for the pillow back as a guide for marking the pillow front.

Fan Pillow

- Cut four 11" x 16" rectangles for the pillow front
- Cut one 18" square for the pillow back

Print the Embroidery Templates

Open the Retro Birds design collection in BERNINA Embroidery Software 6. Modify the designs as directed below and print the following templates:

Square Pillow

- #21001-05 – Print one template
- #21001-05 – Reduce to 55% and Mirror Image Left/ Right; print one template
- #21001-05 – Reduce to 70%; print five templates (for wreath)

Tip: If using BERNINA Embroidery Software 6, open design #21001-05, reduce to 70%, rotate 20°, and click on the Wreath tool (set at 5).
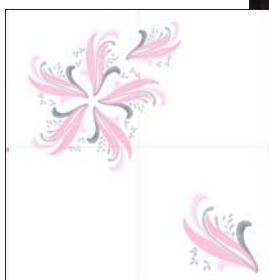
Fan Pillow

- #21001-19 – Reduce to 70%; print one template
- #21001-09 – (Flower A) Reduce to 70%, rotate 95°, mirror image left/right, and reduce width to 80%; print one template
- #21001-04 – (Flower B) Reduce to 70%, rotate 45°, mirror image left/right; print one template

Stitch the Embroidery

Square Pillow

Arrange the templates as shown.

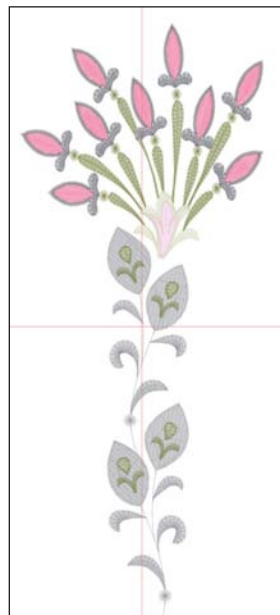Mark the center of each design with a target sticker or erasable marking pen.

Hoop the fabric and align the hoop so the needle is at the center of the design. Remove the target sticker and embroider the design.
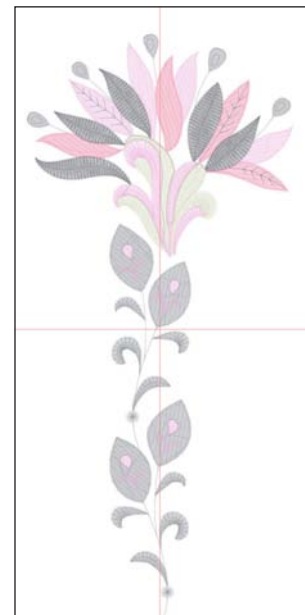
Repeat until all designs are stitched.

Fan Pillow

Use the templates to lay out the designs as shown, or combine, scale, and rotate the designs on your embroidery machine screen.

Motif A

Motif B

Mark the center of each design with a target sticker or erasable marker.

Hoop the fabric and align the hoop so the needle is in the center of the target sticker. Remove the sticker and embroider the design. Stitch two Motif A and two Motif B designs.

Construct the Pillows

Square Pillow

Trim the pillow front to 18" square, centering the embroidery.

Place the pillow back and front right sides together.

Following the instructions included with the Dritz Pillow Corner Template, cut around each corner through both layers. This will help fill the corners of the pillow cover so they don't stick out.

Following the instructions included with the Invisible Zipper Foot #35, insert the invisible zipper along one edge of the pillow-cover front.

Finish the seams at the each end of the zipper using Bulky Overlock Foot #12/12C.

Open the zipper partway and place the pillow-cover front and back right sides together. Using Reverse Motion Foot #1/1C/1C with a $3/8$"-wide seam allowance, stitch the remaining three edges together.

Turn the pillow cover right side out through the zipper opening.

Hand-stitch a jeweled button in the center of the embroidered wreath.

Insert the pillow form and close the zipper.

Fan Pillow

Center the wedge ruler over each motif with the 2½" line touching the base of the stem. Trim along all edges of the ruler.

Using Reverse Motion Foot #1/1C/1C with a $3/8$"-wide seam allowance, sew the wedges together along their long edges to form a fan. Press the seam allowances open.

With right sides together, place the fan on the 18" square for the back, smooth into place, and pin. Trim the square to match the fan shape and then trim both layers so the upper edge of the fan is a smooth curves.
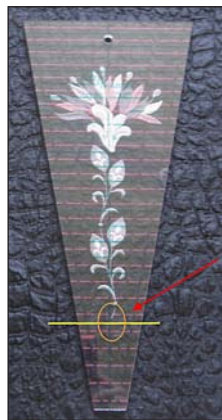
Sew the braided trim to the right side of the pillow front, aligning the lip of the cord with the edge of the fabric. Stitch close to the trim using Bulky Overlock Foot #12/12C.

Following the instructions included with Invisible Zipper Foot #35, insert the invisible zipper along one straight side of the pillow cover.

Stitch the remaining straight edges together with a $3/8$"-wide seam allowance. Open the zipper partway and stitch the curved edges together with a $3/8$"-wide seam allowance. Do not sew the small fan base seam yet and do not turn the pillow cover right side out yet.

Place the tassel inside the pillow cover, and slip the hanging cord out through the unstitched base of the fan. Stitch the seam, securing the tassel in place.

Turn the pillow cover right side out.

Using a sharp craft knife, lightly score along the center of the flower buds to create "velvet" stitching. Rub the stitches with your finger to spread the threads.
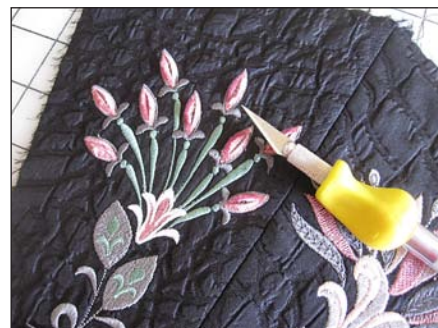
Stuff the pillow with fiberfill and close the zipper.
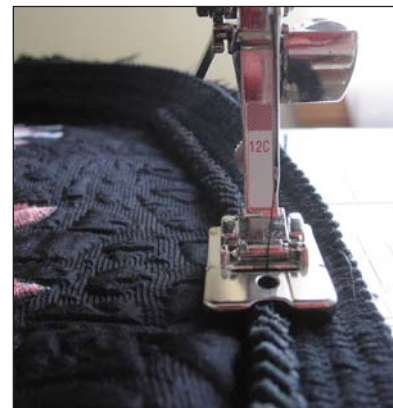
Upcycled Dress Scarf

by TIMMESA EADS

I made this cute scarf out of a silk dupioni dress that I bought at the consignment store for $5! All with the help of a gathering foot and my serger.

It's so simple! Cut the dress into 6½"-wide strips, then serge them together, end-to-end, to make a really long strip about 120" in length. You can use a regular overlock stitch, but a rolled edge looks nice from both sides. If the edges are a bit uneven, don't worry – you'll trim them in the next step.

Roll hem all four sides of the strip. To secure the thread ends, dab a bit of seam-sealant on the corners, let it dry, and then clip off the thread tails.

Put a gathering foot (I used BERNINA Gathering Foot #16) on your sewing machine and set the stitch length to 5mm. Stitch right down the center of the strip to gather it, then go over the stitching with a regular straight stitch and foot so the gathers will hold. Done!

Timmesa Shrader Eads

Timmesa Shrader Eads received her first BERNINA as a gift from her parents, Don and Sue Shrader, when she was 8 years old. That trusty 801 sewing machine still sits next to her artista 640E. Proud to follow in their footsteps, she works with them to run Creative Sewing Machines in Mt. Airy, NC.

Timmesa teaches "Sew Easy to be Green" Seminars, with sustainable living in mind, and plans a "Sew Fit" series for fall to keep everyone sewing and healthy. In addition to teaching and working with customers, she is the shop's BERNINA-certified technician.

Timmesa is a mother of three and along with her husband is very active in the local community. She helped establish the Rosy Cheeks 5K Run/Walk for children's toys, raised $2900 for Autism Speaks (in part by raffling one of her quilts), and ran the New York City Marathon in November 2010 as an Autism Speaks-sponsored athlete.

www.creativesewing.com

basic SEWING

BERNINA 350
Thread Case

by JULIE VECK

BERNINA National Sewing Promoter, New Zealand

Supplies

- BERNINA 350 Sewing Machine
- One 12″ x 22″ rectangle of black denim (outside)
- One 12″ x 22″ rectangle of tear-away stabilizer
- One 12″ x 22″ rectangle of red Benartex cotton batik fabric (or your favorite color)
- One 12″ x 22″ rectangle of fusible interfacing
- 4 yards (141″) of ¾″-wide webbing
- 2 yards (70″) 2½″-wide straight binding strips
- Black thread
- Red thread (or thread to match your lining fabric)
- Three 12″-long black zippers
- Sew-in label (optional)
- Three 5″ x 12″ rectangles of clear vinyl
- Chalk marker
- Quilter's ruler
- Size 80/12 Universal needles
- Hand-sewing needle (optional)
- BERNINA 350 Sewing Machine
- Zipper Foot #4
- Embroidery Foot #6 *or* Open Embroidery Foot #20/20C/20D *or* Clear Embroidery Foot #34
- Walking Foot #50 with Center Guide

Play with the decorative stitches on the BERNINA 350 as you create this super-handy thread case. Use it to organize your thread collection, then simply roll it up for storage or to carry to classes and sewing retreats.

Cross-Hatching

Thread the sewing machine with red thread in the needle and bobbin.

Using the chalk marker and quilter's ruler, mark a line 3″ in from both long edges of the denim rectangle. Draw a diagonal line from one line to the other between the two lines.
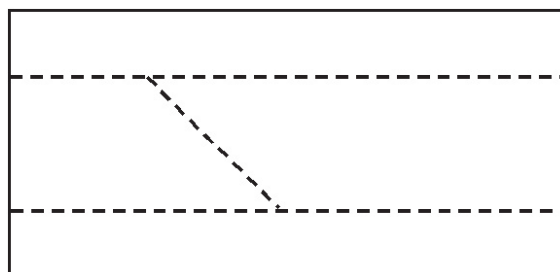
Place the rectangle of tear-away stabilizer under the denim rectangle.

Select stitch #81 (the feather stitch). Stitch along the marked diagonal line. Stitch a second diagonal line, stitching across the denim while aligning the walking foot guide with the stitched line. Continue stitching diagonal lines until the entire center section is covered.

Draw a line perpendicular to the stitched lines. Stitch along this line, then stitch additional lines, creating a cross-hatch design across the rectangle. Continue until the entire center section is stitched as shown.
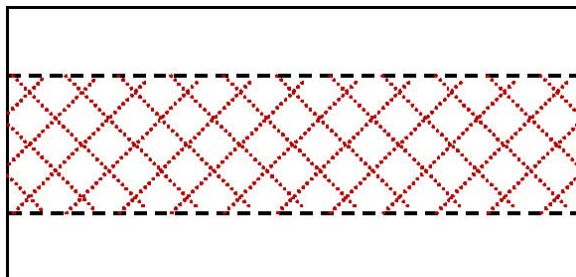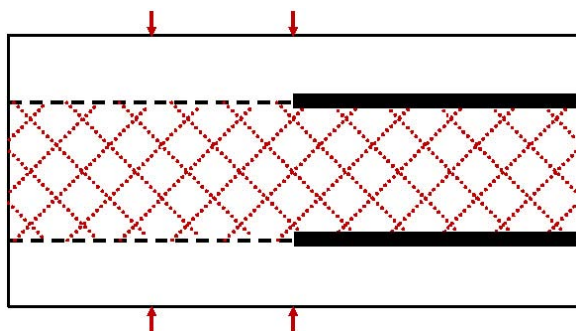

Handle

Cut the webbing into:
- Six 12" lengths
- Two 11" lengths
- One 47" length

Overlap the short ends of the 47" length by 1". Zigzag the ends together to create a ring of webbing that will become the thread case handles. With the join as the first mark, divide the webbing ring into four equal parts and mark with pins or chalk.

Fold the denim in half, short end to short end with wrong sides together, and mark with pins at the fold. Fold one side in half again and mark with pins.

Thread the machine with black thread in the needle and bobbin. Starting at the center mark, pin the 11" lengths of webbing over the edge of the cross-hatch stitching. Attach the Center Guide to Walking Foot #50 and remove the quilting guide. Set the needle position 2-3 steps to one side. Aligning the edge of the webbing with the center guide of the foot, stitch along both edges of the webbing and across the short ends.

Pin the join of the handle on the pinned ¼ mark, and the ½ mark of the handle on the opposing ¼ mark. Pin the rest of the handle into place, overlapping at the center and leaving 1" free along the top edge. Stitch into place, down and across each strip, stopping and starting at the red marks on the diagram.
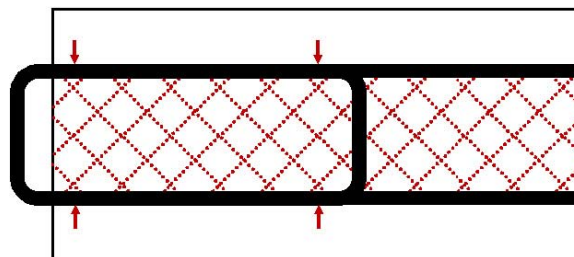
Stitch Recipes

Draw a line ¼" from each long edge; this marks the ¼" seam allowance for assembling the thread case. Draw a center line down each of the unembellished areas beyond the crosshatching, between the webbing and the ¼" seam allowance.

Thread the needle and bobbin with red thread. Stitch the following lines:

Right Side
- Row 1: Stitch along the center chalk line using stitch #38, the satin stitch "football"
- Rows 2 & 3: Beginning at the top (the with the handle), sew lines of stitch #59, the satin stitch "arrowhead," along both sides of the center stitched lines
- Rows 4 & 5: Beginning at the top, sew lines of stitch #6 (the triple straight stitch), along the outer edges of the previous stitching

Left Side:
- Row 1: Stitch along the center chalk line using stitch #62, the ladder stitch
- Rows 2 & 3: Beginning at the top, sew lines of stitch #76, the four-petal flower stitch, along both sides of the center stitched lines
- Row 4: Beginning at the top, sew a line of stitch #44 (the ragged-edge satin stitch) to the right of the previous stitching
- Row 5: Beginning at the bottom, sew lines of stitch #44 to the left of the previous stitching
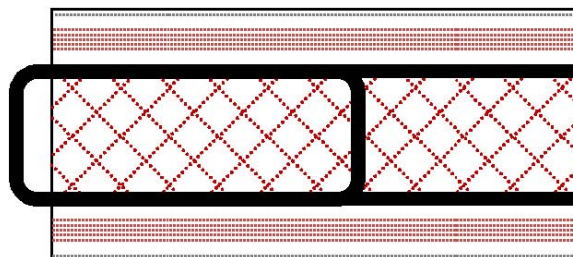
Pockets

Fold one clear vinyl rectangle in half lengthwise and crease the fold with something hard, such as the handle of your scissors. Open the vinyl and center the zipper on this crease.

Attach Zipper Foot #4 to the machine, move the needle all the way to one side, and thread the needle and bobbin with black thread. Stitch along one side of the zipper, with the edge of the foot along the zipper teeth and the needle stitching along the outer edge of the zipper tape. Move the needle position all the way to the other side of the foot and stitch the second side of the zipper in place in the same manner.

Turn the vinyl rectangle upside down and cut away the vinyl between the two lines of stitching to release the zipper.

Repeat for the remaining two pockets.

Attach Walking Foot #50 to the machine and move the needle 2-3 steps from center. Place a 12"-long piece of webbing on top of the vinyl edge, overlapping the edge about ¼". Stitch along the inner edge of the webbing (the outer edge will be stitched when attaching the pocket). Repeat for the remaining pocket edges.

Final Steps

Fuse the interfacing to the wrong side of the cotton lining fabric following the manufacturer's instructions.

Place the lining fabric and stitched denim panel wrong sides together; pin.

With the denim panel on top, stitch all the way around the thread case using a ¼"-wide seam allowance. (You can trim these edges later if needed.)

Fold the thread case in half with the lining facing out; mark the fold at both ends, then draw a line connecting them.

Place one pocket with the zipper over the marked center line. Decide how much "give" you would like in your pocket. I placed spools of thread underneath as a guide. Pin the pocket into place through the webbing. Stitch along the outer edges of the webbing to secure the pocket in place. Be careful not to stitch through the handles!

Repeat for the two remaining pockets, spacing them evenly on each side of the case.

Tip: Keep all the zipper tabs at the same side of the thread case.

Stitch the pocket ends in place along the edges of the case, making gussets by taking a tuck in the vinyl under each end of the zipper. Be sure to open the zipper when stitching at the tab end.

Trim the edges evenly on all sides of the rectangle.

If desired, stitch a label at the handle end of the case.

Fold the binding in half, wrong sides together, press.

Turn under ½" at the starting end of the binding strip. Beginning at the center of one long edge, stitch the binding to the lining side of the thread case using a ¼"-wide seam allowance. Lap the end of the binding under the fold at the beginning.

Fold the binding to the denim side of the thread case and hand-stitch in place along the inner fold.

Tip: Instead of stitching the binding in place by hand, select a decorative stitch (such as feather stitch #81) and sew along the inner edge of the binding from the denim side, with red thread in the needle and bobbin.

Julie Veck

I was exposed to the sewing industry at a young age through the passion of my Mum. Sewing was a lifestyle while I was growing up, and now I have made BERNINA my life's career. Fifteen years ago I started working for my local BERNINA store; in 2006 BERNINA New Zealand appointed me as a Sewing & Training Consultant; and then in 2009 I became the National Sewing Promoter for New Zealand, teaching BERNINA Sewing Centre owners, staff, teachers, and customers. I am passionate about new technology and enjoy teaching all aspects of sewing, dressmaking, thread artistry, embroidery, and software.

accessory SPOTLIGHT

Cording Feet #22 and #25

by SUSAN BECK

Designed for couching narrow cords side-by-side, BERNINA's Cording Feet #22 and #25 have grooves in the front of the foot for holding cords — such as embroidery floss, perle cotton, or heavy decorative threads — in place as they move through the foot and under the needle.

Foot #22 has three grooves and Foot #25 has five smaller grooves. An extra thread slot at the side makes it easy to place cords in the grooves without having to thread them directly through the opening in front. A black, hinged "door" at the front of the foot swings into place over the cords, holding them in place in the grooves.
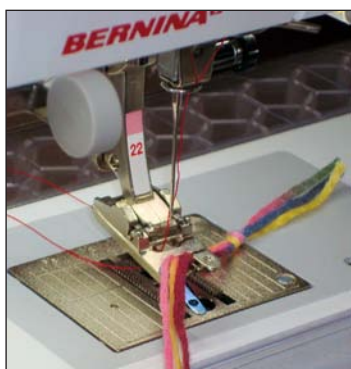
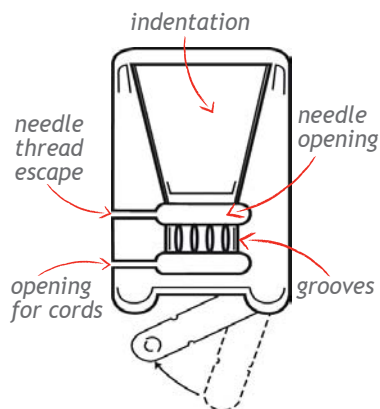*Loading Cording Foot #22 with three strands of embroidery floss.*
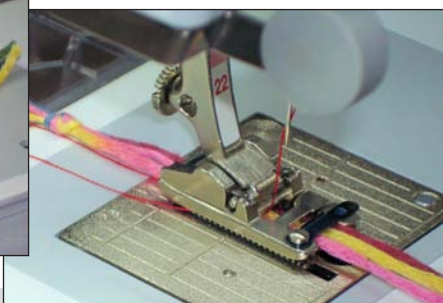
Couching

1. the act or a person or thing that couches.
2. *a method of embroidering in which a thread, often heavy, laid upon the surface of the material, is caught down at intervals by stitches taken with another thread through the material.*
3. work so made.   *Source: Dictionary.com*

Tips & Tricks

- Before loading cords into the foot, tie them together at one end to make them easier to handle.
- Depending on the desired look, use contrasting or matching thread to couch the cords in place.
- To draw attention to the couching thread as well as the couched cords, use a contrasting embroidery thread in the needle.
- To emphasize the couched cords rather than the couching thread, use clear or smoke monofilament in the needle.
- When using thin cords or threads, try combining several together in one groove.
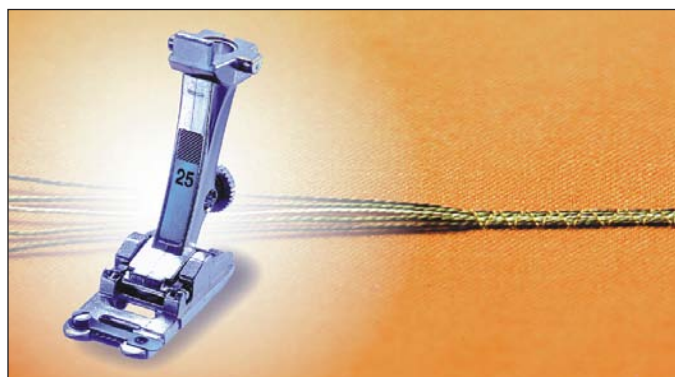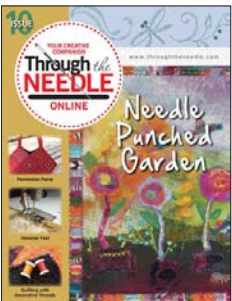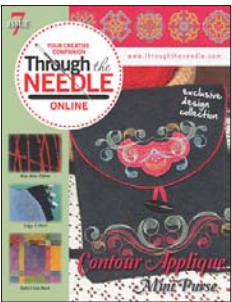- For an open effect, space cords out, leaving an empty groove between them.

Anatomy

The soles of these feet are very similar to those of Open Embroidery Foot #20/20C/20D and Clear Embroidery Foot #39/39C/39D. They each have a wedge-shaped indentation that allows the couched cords to feed easily under the foot as you sew.

indentation
needle thread escape
needle opening
opening for cords
grooves

previous issues

Download Issues 1-12 PLUS bonus files at:

www.throughtheneedle.com

The Last Word

A sneak peek at what's coming in
Through the Needle ONLINE, Issue #13:

CutWork Snowflake Quilt

Cutting and appliquéing all the little pieces for this snow-bound quilt would be a daunting task without the assistance of the BERNINA CutWork Software and Accessory!

June 2012 Special

25% OFF

Bulky Overlock Foot #12/12C

Embellish with ease

Attach 3 mm piping, strung pearls or beads to clothing, craft, or home decorating projects. This foot is also designed to stitch bulky sweater knits and accomodate uneven layers or irregular shapes with ease.

For June 2012 only, get 25% OFF the BERNINA Bulky Overlock Foot #12 and #12C.

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

July 2012 Special

25% OFF

Appliqué Foot #23

Magnifying Glass Set

See your way clearly

The 2mm channel under the front of Clear Appliqué Foot #23 allows precision placement of narrow satin stitching for appliqué and other techniques. Add the Magnifying Glass Set to your BERNINA sewing machine for maximum viewing power and control.

For July 2012 only, get 25% OFF both the BERNINA Appliqué Foot #23 and the BERNINA Magnifying Glass Set. Accessories may be purchased separately or together.

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

Spanish-Hemstitched Shawl

A super-easy project featuring the new BERNINA Spanish Hemstitch Foot/Attachment #47. It takes longer to decide on a color than to stitch the project!

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
- www.berninaUSA.com
- www.WeAllSew.com
- www.benartex.com
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- http://kapitibernina.co.nz
- https://www.facebook.com/pages/Creative-Sewing-Machines-Inc/153529831362924

Until August ...

What have *you* been sewing? We hope this issue of *Through the Needle ONLINE* has inspired you to try something new and make your own adaptations of our projects. We love seeing your creations; send e-mail and photos to jo@berninausa.com.