

OPEN THREAD BAR WORKSHOP

Have you ever wanted to experiment with different threads before buying them? Well, now you can! This is an “open thread bar” workshop - you bring your machine and I'll bring the threads.

Learn how to choose the correct needle, and to overcome your fear of the tension dial. Learn how thread choice can alter the look of your stitches. We'll discuss the properties of the different threads available today so that you can make an informed decision when choosing thread.

At the end of the day you will have a new perspective on threads and your own samplers as reference.

Please bring:

- sewing machine - (the one with the decorative stitches!) in good working order,
- pedal, cord, manual, knee lift if you have it
- PLEASE BE FAMILIAR WITH YOUR MACHINE
- open toe applique or whatever feet you use for decorative stitches
- free motion foot if you would like to sample threads for free motion quilting
- a few extra bobbins
- thread stand/cone holder if you have one
- basic sewing kit (scissors, ripper, screwdriver etc.)
- Ott-Lite if necessary
- black Sharpie for notations on fabric

NB: When choosing your fabric please use 100% cotton for best results. Solids will enable you to really see the stitches and any problems. If you don't have solids or muslin available use tone-on-tone or any other fairly plain fabric.

- make twelve (12) 8 1/2" x 11" quilt sandwiches for the samplers. This will give you a page for each thread. I like to divide the quilt top “page” in half horizontally with solid light fabric at top (to write notes on), and a darker fabric at bottom because the fabric colour will alter the appearance of the thread. A quick way to make these is to cut 6" strips of light and dark fabrics , sew together along the length, then cut into 8 1/2" segments.

Fabric for the back of your quilt sandwich should also be as plain as possible.

- use 100% cotton batting or an 80/20 blend. Basting will not be required, just a quick press with the iron will make the layers stick together.
- Optional: one (1) 8 1/2" x 11" plain light fabric with 6 applique hearts fused on the front. Have a light, tear-away stabilizer on the back. (When decorative stitching your work needs to be stabilized for best stitch results.)

Your 8 1/2" x 11" pages can be placed in page protectors later and put into a binder so that you have a handy reference for future threadwork.

A kit fee of \$5 is payable at the class. I will provide you with:

- Titanium coated Topstitch 90/14 needle
- prewound bobbin – either L style or Class 15
- Handy Net if required to tame any slippery threads
- handouts on material covered, and on needles, plus a special 30 page handout from Cindy Needham
- all threads for stitching your samplers (at least 12 different types)

If you have any questions or concerns please contact me!

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