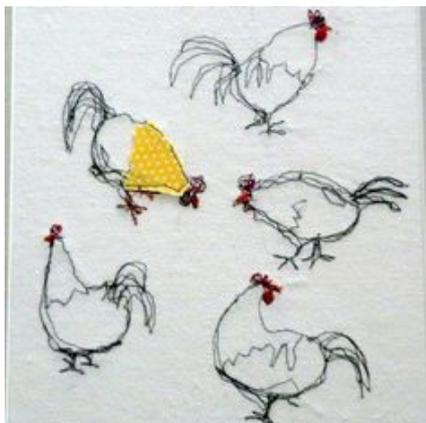


Thread sketching AKA doodling or cartooning

Requirements for BQ contemporary group workshop – 8 May 2021

Here's some ideas of what we are aiming for. So your first mission, should you accept it of course, is to start getting ideas. Pinterest is great and search for 'thread sketching'. Once you find an image you like in Pinterest, select it and look below for *more like this*. Then go down that rabbit hole again and again till you find something you like even more. To save an image and be able to bring it with you, right click on an image, copy it, open up a Word document and paste it. Then print it and then remember to bring it with you. You are likely to get more than one thread sketch done as they should take about 30-45 minutes each to do, so gather together a few images.



Requirements

- Sewing machine and instruction book for you (not us) to work out how to change your tension in case you need to.
- Quilting / darning foot, preferably open toed.
- Size 80 or 90 embroidery or quilting machine sewing needles (note plural). Bigger eye / size is best.
- Any thread – Guterman black polyester normal sewing thread will be fine but if you want thicker bring it. Our recommendation is a solid colour. Bring a few colours if you want to, say, do green stems and red flowers. Thicker threads require bigger needles. Also consider your bobbin thread. Bottom line or equivalent will be good but otherwise, just bring more of what you are using on the top.
- Power board and cord (a long cord is really important for where we are going).

- Image and probably something to get the image onto your fabric – maybe a light box, a photocopy of the image and possibly a blue fabric pen for washing away or a very lead soft pencil. Otherwise you can go completely freehand and have the image beside you while you sew. So a drawing implement of some type.
- Base fabric – A4 size will be way big enough as you can always make it smaller. Bring more than one piece. The base fabric can be anything and for this workshop and learning we recommend lighter is better. Calico or just plain fabric will work.
- Colour / ornamental fabric for creating bits of interest. They don't need to be big bits. You could think about lace or ribbon and embroidery threads – or water colour pencils or something like Inktense for colouring.
- Some fusible stuff. Anything will work for this, and it would be a good idea to have the fusing on the back of your fabric before you come to the Hihett workshop. This means you won't need to bring an iron. We will have an iron just in case, but it's better if you do your own fusing before. Bring a range of small scraps and be willing to swap / share a bit, as someone else will be sure to have exactly what you need and that you didn't bring!
- Really important – something to stabilise your base fabric. This is not the same as fusible stuff covered above. Stabilisers can be a wide range of things, so experiment. It could be fairly firm dressmaking interfacing (it won't be removed) or tear away / wash away stabiliser or thicker, stand-alone stabiliser. A thick fabric will work, like drill / duck but you need to make sure the two layers stay together. This could be by basting them together, noting again, that like interfacing it will not be removed. Photocopier paper or slightly heavier paper will work if you have nothing else. At Spotlight, you can buy Legacy L809 (stiff fusible), Legacy L-40 (mid-weight stabiliser not fusible), or Legacy L-70 Sew-n-shape (very stiff for making fabric bowls and non fusible). They are stored behind the counter at Mentone.
You need to balance stability of your top layer with workability, as in getting the needle in and out easily. The heavier or firmer the stabiliser the more your machine has to work, but you will have fewer puckers in your top fabric, as long as the layers stay together. Not puckering is our challenge with this whole activity. This is a good situation for using spray on basting if the stabiliser is non-fusible.
- Sharp pair of scissors for cutting itsy bitsy pieces of fabric, pins, applique glue if you have it and your normal sewing box stuff.
- Paper and pencil just in case.
- Maybe quilting gloves if you have them, but don't worry if you don't.
- And finally a willingness to give it a go. Some of your stuff will work and others won't so this is a day of trying out, having fun and no tears. We are here to enjoy and if there is a bit of falling over or tripping up, so be it. Even if one flower or one leaf or even one chicken is great then that's a win!
- Nearly forgot: your own cup and tea / coffee / milk, morning tea and lunch, in other words BYO everything going into your mouth!

Now get going with your images and ideas.

Couldn't resist – how cute is this one.

Tricia Deasy
15 April 2021

