

410DJ: Thread Calligraphy

Nancy Kazlauckas

www.threadcalligraphy.com

You can learn from the person who developed the thread calligraphy technique! Nancy will teach you how to set up your workspace, prepare your fabric and begin to do your own writing in thread. This thread calligraphy technique can be done using calligraphy or your own handwriting or simple printing, so don't feel that you have to do calligraphy! This technique is simple to do yet yields elegant results! During the class you will learn three different styles of lettering as well as how to arch your letters.

Supply List:

Regular Sewing Machine (In Good Working Order) With These Features:

- Zigzag Stitch (with adjustable width option)
- Drop Feed Dog
- Free Motion Foot

Materials

- Masking Tape (Nancy will have available for use)
- *Sharpie Marker or Washable Marker (Rose Art or Crayola)
- *Water Soluble Stabilizer
(Dissolve 4X from Superior Threads, Badgemaster from OESD or Solvy Extremely Stable from Sulky)
- *Hydro-Stick Tear-away Stabilizer
- *Freezer Paper
- Ruler (12" wooden or plastic ruler is OK)

- Fabric: 6 fabric strips approximately 6-8" wide and 12" long (any solid or mottled fabric is OK)
Students are also to bring similar size pieces of fleece, flannel, t-shirt and terry cloth
OR garments such as a t-shirt, sweatshirt and a small towel to letter on
- Pins
- Bobbin Thread
- Thread (Rayon, Cotton, Metallic - thread color to contrast the color of fabric strips)
- Needles: Metallica or topstitching (new one - so it is nice and sharp)

Optional Items:

- Quilting Gloves ("Gripper" kind of gloves)
- Zip-lock bag - quart or gallon size

Each student is required to purchase or already own one of the books:

Calligraphy with thread (\$19.95 + tax) or

Thread Calligraphy (\$19.95 + tax)

*Nancy will have a stabilizer package available for purchase that includes:

Marker, Freezer Paper, Water Soluble Stabilizer and Hydro-Stick Tear Away Stabilizer

Other supplies (including the books) will also be available in the classroom to purchase.



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Each student needs to do some preparation with his/her sewing machine before attending the Thread Calligraphy class.

I suggest you actually do each of these steps so when you attend class you are ready to go! The goal is to eliminate any unnecessary frustration with your machine during class time.

Check your manual for directions on how to do any of the following if you don't know how to do something!

1. Drop (or cover) your feed dogs
2. Put on your free-motion foot (also called a mending foot)
3. Set your machine to do a medium width zigzag stitch (you are in control of the stitch length when the feed dogs are dropped so stitch length can be set at zero.
4. Put in a new metallic or topstitching needle
5. Put thread on top (cotton or polyester) and a full bobbin in (use bobbin thread in bobbin if you can)
6. Use a double layer of a scrap piece of cotton fabric (quilting quality) and try a free motion zigzag stitch so the stitches are close together. The final product should look like a satin stitch.
7. Look at the tension for upper and lower stitches and adjust the upper tension if needed (refer to directions in your sewing machine owners manual.
8. Repeat step 6 and 7 until you are satisfied with your thread and tension choices.

Now your machine is all set for the thread calligraphy class! Class will be taught by:

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