



Hello Sewing Friends,

Baby, it's cold outside! Family and friends are super busy gathering together and enjoying the Holidays. Everyone's to-do list is a mile and a half long... so make it easier on yourself this year and personalize an item with embroidery. Here's why embroidery is the perfect choice for gift-giving:

- 1) You can customize almost anything!
- 2) It's fast! Once you set it, you can walk away while the machine works!
- 3) You'll get professional results at home for a fraction of the cost!
- 4) Personalized gifts mean so much more to the receiver!

I'll be starting a quilting section in January's blog. Each month we'll focus on a different technique or quilting style within a project starting with a Concierge Foot Warmer.

EMBROIDERY SECRETS:

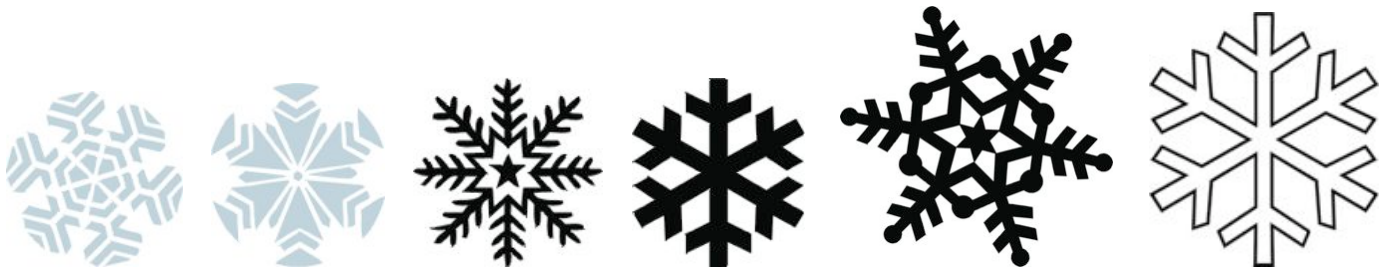
FUTURA embroidery with HyPERFONT is for embroidering any font located on your personal computer. To increase your computer's font menu, go to: <http://downloads.zdnet.co.uk/0,1000000375,39134672s,00.htm>

and download the enormous file of 4,700 fonts for FREE. There are no use limitations so kick it out of the park and let us know about your creativity!

FUTURA EMBROIDERY WITH AUTOPUNCH will enable you to stitch out digital artwork. You will have a library of digital artwork to get you started in your Futura software. Just click Autopunch on the dropdown menu and follow the wizard. When you are ready to expand your digital artwork library, look for clip art CDs or go online to :

<http://office.microsoft.com/en-us/clipart/default.aspx> then type in what you are looking for in the navigation box and click go...they'll be hundreds of pages and images...all for you to enjoy for FREE! The following snowflakes for example were downloaded from the Microsoft site and saved in a clipart folder.





- 1) Use the Autopunch software wizard to stitch out these images onto felt.
- 2) Remove stitched snowflake from the hoop.
- 3) Add a second layer of felt underneath and sew around the snowflake to within an inch of completion.
- 4) While it's still on the machine, stuff a small amount of fiberfill into the 'empty pillow' space created with the stitching.
- 5) Using Pinking shears, clip around the outside of stitching.
- 6) Attach a ribbon or loop to the top end and hang.
- 7) Optional: Add Glamour Gems to give texture, dimension and sparkle to your snowflakes.



[NEW](#)



[ITEMS](#)

MELROSE METALLIC THREAD

It's here in time for the holidays! Melrose introduces the two most popular shades of top quality metallic thread for the 2008 Holiday season. The silver and gold four piece combo pack comes in a 9"Hx1-3/8" diameter transparent tube with removable end caps make thread easily accessible. These brilliant metallic threads in 500 yard double snap spools are easy to work with and will add sparkle and pizzazz to all of your quilting, embroidery and appliqué. Melrose Metallic Thread is made from the highest quality materials manufactured with precision and special attention to detail. Combine the strength and sparkle of Metallic Thread with the high tenacity and subtle sheen of Melrose 40 wt. trilobal Embroidery Thread for interesting and endless possibilities.

- Metalized Poly Film over Nylon Core
- High tenacity
- Less friction
- Vibrant non-fade color
- Gently wash and dry
- Use cool iron
- No bleach



This brilliant thread adds remarkable luster and sparkle to your project.

SEWING METALLIC TIPS

EMBROIDERY—1) Use cut -a -way stabilizer and a metallic needle size 14

2) Set Futura tension to "0"

3) Skip the final thread guide located directly over the needle

MACHINE DECORATIVE STITCHING—

1) Loosen thread tension

2) Choose patterns that aren't too tight (stitches too close together)

3) Increase stitch length

The photo on right was done with Melrose Metallic Thread in Silver combined with Melrose Black Embroidery thread on taffeta. The design was manipulated from SINGERS 3900 design CD --- with the top design rotated and mirror imaged and the bottom design cut and pasted into the Futura's large hoop.



MELROSE EMBROIDERY SCISSOR GIFT PACK

I'm so excited! My exclusive Melrose Embroidery scissor gift set has arrived and will be in stock on November 19th.

This beautifully monogrammed velveteen boxed set contains

- 1) double bent embroidery scissor- to trim embroidery threads in the hoop while protecting your sewn design.
- 2) duck billed appliqué scissor- to accurately trim appliqué and cutwork.
- 3) fine tipped 6" tweezers to grab threads, place stones, thread sergers, etc....
- 4) a razor sharp seam ripper for efficient seam removal.

All four instruments are 'must haves' in any sewers arsenal and are carefully crafted with surgical steel. The sturdy box makes an elegant gift presentation and doubles for stylish and safe storage.



WHEN TO WATCH

December 12th 6am Featuring Brother Machines, 12 pm Featuring Singer Machines

December 13th 5am Featuring Singer machines

December 15th 9am Sew Easy machine

It is my heart's desire that sewing brings you a peaceful and calming creative outlet throughout your holiday season. Continue to sew your dreams and I'll see you next year!

Merry Christmas, *Darlene*