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Thread painting is a technique that you can use to enhance a quilt or create an unique whole cloth art quilt. I have found that the BERNINA Stitch Regulator makes it easy to free-motion thread paint with both a straight stitch and a zig zag stitch.In this post, I will show how I thread painted a small art quilt.Materials for Thread Painting Depending on your artistic skill set, you may want to draw or paint your background subject on a piece of cotton muslin. Because of my photographic experience, I chose to start with a photo image of mine that I printed on fabric. Using your own photo images resolves copyright issues that you might have if you use someone elses photo.Flowers are one of my favorite subjects and in this instance, I chose to use a photo I took of an iris. The flowers often have intriguing names. The name of the iris I chose for this project was called In the Loop and it seemed like a fitting title for this stitched project.I printed the image of the iris 10 x 15 on a sheet of 13 x 19 EQ Printables Fabric. I could have used an 11 x 17 EQ Printables Fabric sheet, but I only had the slightly larger sheets on hand. The materials used in this post are available from BREWER. The threads I used are ISACORD 40. In addition to printing the image of In the Loop on the fabric sheet, I also printed a smaller image of it on an 8.5 x 11 sheet of paper. I used the ISACORD Thread chart to create a thread map of the colors I wanted to stitch with for the project.I selected an Ever Sewn Quilters Resource 80/20 Cotton-Poly Blended Batting because I liked the texture of it.I chose a light lavender commercial cotton fabric from our stash and ironed the wrinkles out of it using a Panasonic 360 Freestyle Cordless Steam Iron.Because I used the larger 13 x 19 sheet of EQ Printables, I trimmed the printed sheet so that it had a half-inch border on each side.I used 505 Spray Adhesive, I always spray the smaller piece of fabric together. Then, I sprayed one side of the Ever Sewn batting and laid it on top of the backing fabric. Then I sprayed the back of my EQ Fabric Sheet and laid it on top of the batting. By doing it this way, I didnt have any excess adhesive on the surface of my quilt sandwich.The spray adhesive is only temporary and the fabric can move around. On a small piece like this one I did not feel the need to pin the layers together before stitching them. But I did want to secure my layers before I start any heavy stitching.My sewing machineis a BERNINA770 Quilters Edition. It comes with the BERNINA Stitch Regulator (BSR) as a standard accessory. Using the straight stitch mode, a 0mm stitch plate and dropping the feed dogs, I sewed some securing lines on my quilt sandwich using BSR mode 1.Using ISACORD 0010 Silky White I stitched simple lines, working from the center of the image outward. As a note, I filled my bobbin with the same thread I used on top.I stitched stabilizing lines around the key areas of my image where appropriate, using the Silky White thread.Once I stabilized my quilt sandwich I could begin thread painting portions of my art quilt.Because I wanted the option of using a free-motion zig zag stitch as well as a straight stitch, I changed to the 9mm stitch plate. When changing stitch plates, it is a good opportunity to add oil to the reservoir on the B 770 QE. The BERNINA sewing computers use more lubricant than my other machines. I would rather keep the reservoir full of oil even if it only needs a few drops. I will often lubricate when I change thread colors as well.With the 9mm stitch plate in place, I had the option of using the BSR with a zig zag stitch. It is important to note that the set stitch length will not be maintained when using the zig zag stitch. However, the BSR makes it a delight to free-motion thread paint with the zig zag stitch.Changing thread to ISACORD 0230 Easter Dress, I used the zig zag stitch to free-motion stitch the yellow edges of the Iris petals.It is just a touch of an icon to be able to switch stitches from zig zag to straight and back again with the B 770 QE. I changed my thread color to ISACORD 0145 Skylight, touched the BSR 1 straight stitch icon and began filling in a shaded area.At this point I had thread painted a few areas. Please note, since this was not an embroidery project and I was not filling the entire image with thread. I choose what areas I wanted to thread paint and what areas I want to let the fabric image show through.One area that I wanted to heavily paint with thread was the purple edge of one of the petals. I switched to ISACORD 2704 Purple Passion. Now, this purple edge of the petal starts out small and increases in size. It was easy to adjust the width of my zig zag stitch from narrow to wide as I stitched.The beard of this iris has a dark red background and has brighter edges. I switched back to the BSR 1 straight stitch mode and laid down lines of ISACORD 1305 Fox Fire thread. The next color of thread was ISACORD 1306 Devil Red. Even though they are close in color you get a very nice effect by stitching first with the darker color and then coming in between those stitches with the brighter red thread.Once I had thread painted the areas of the iris image that I wanted to cover with thread, it was time to look at the background. Again, since this is not an embroidery project, I do not feel the need to fill the background with solid thread. Instead, I preferred to free-motion the background with the appropriate thread color to creating patterns of interest. On the lighter areas, I used ISACORD 0832 Sisal, 1154 Penny and 1055 Bark.Once I had completely stitched all the areas of my art quilt you will note that where the stitching was denser, the fabric out of square. My quilt sandwich was no longer a nice rectangle.This is where the border around my image came in handy. It allowed me room to trim it as straight as possible.Once I had done this, I looked at machine stitching a binding to the top of the art quilt. The binding was folded over to the back and pinned. It was whip stitched to the back of the quilt by hand.Because it is easy to check the stitch count on the B 770 QE, I found out that I used over 30,000 stitches to create my art quilt. In the Loop.0%(10% found this document useful (1 vote)2K viewsThis instruction manual provides safety instructions and directions for setting up and using an overlock sewing machine. Key steps include threading the looper and needles, adjusting thread EMPISAL COMPLETE FREE ARM OVER LOCKER Like any other electrical device, a overlock machine can cause serious, even life-threatening injuries.To avoid this, and in order to work safely: efore initial use of your overlock machine, read these operating instructions thoroughly. Keep the operating instructions in a suitable place near the machine. When passing the appliance on to others, always enclose the operating instructions. Always disconnect the power supply when leaving the machine unattended. This will prevent the risk of accidents if the machine is switched on accidentally. First pull the power plug before changing the bulb or performing maintenance work on the machine. This will prevent possibly life-threatening electric shocks. Do not remove the plug from the socket by pulling on the cable. Always grip the plug and not the cable when pulling out the power plug. In case of any visible damage on the machine, the foot switch or the power cable. Have the damage repaired by Customer Service before using the overlock machine again. Never let children or elderly persons handle the machine unsupervised because they may not properly appreciate the possible dangers. Keep electrical appliances outside the reach of children. Never use the machine when the ventilation apertures are blocked. Keep the ventilation apertures of the machine and the foot switch free from fluff, dust and waste material. This machine is not intended for use by persons (including children) with reduced physical, sensory or mental capabilities, or lack of experience and knowledge, unless they have been given supervision or instruction concerning use of the appliance by a person responsible for their safety. Children should be supervised to ensure that they do not play with the machine Warning against injuries and material damages: According to legislation, you as the user of an electrical appliance are responsible for preventing possible accidents through safety-conscious behaviour: Keep your work space tidy. An untidy workplace Provide adequate lightingwhen working! Do not wear loose clothing or jewellery,as these can be caught in the moving parts. You should also wear a hair net if you have long hair. Avoid abnormal posture. Remain steady and in a well-balanced position at all times. Pay attention to what you are doing. Always take a rational approach to your work. Never work with the overlock machine if you are unable to concentrate or if you are feeling unwell! If accidents occur as a result of handling the machine with insufficient care, or failure to follow the safety instructions in this manual, then the manufacturer cannot accept liability. If the supply cord that fixed with foot controller is damaged, it must be replaced by the manufacturer or its service agent or a similar qualified person in order to avoid a hazard. Please use for your overlock machine the ZHEJIANG FOUNDER presser foot, type KD-2902. Power rating: 220 - 230V ~, 50Hz Current rating: 1.0A Protection Class : II THANK YOU FOR CHOOSING OUR OVERLOCK MACHINE This overlock machine can stitch dependable seams on all kinds of fabric, both light and heavy, including cotton, wool, rayon, tricot, jersey, and knits. You do not need a special table for this portable machine. We suggest that you read this instruction manual carefully before you start to operate the machine. 1. Keep your eyes on the needles when operating the overlock machine. Do not touch the handwheel, the cutter or the needles when the machine is running. 2. Turn off the power switch, and pull out the plug from electric socket in the following cases: When you have finished your sewing. When you leave the serger temporarily. When replacing the parts. When cleaning and adjusting the machine. 1. Wipe dust and oil off the machine to avoid any stains on the sewing materials. 2. Test sew by using the same sewing materials you intend to sew. 3. Read this instruction manual thoroughly before replacing the cutters and the needles. Follow the instructions for correct replacements and adjustments. Lets play with thread!Once you have a quilt top made its time to do the finishing parts.SUPER exciting.Thread talk. The last word in quilting.Let us talk about the picking of the thread.We have a really great opportunity to push our design or to reinforce what we have already created. When picking some thread we have a few options here:1) We can choose to match our fabric with the thread2) We can choose to contrast our fabric3) We can use a thread that will show up or hide in the whole quilt (usually black or white).If we choose to match our thread to the fabric then we will be creating a pattern using the quilting, but the thread will be invisible, so the whole pattern will be created by the depth of the distance between the sewn parts and the parts between the stitch lines. This is used to show the textures of the quilting and most often is used in tandem with high loft batting.If we choose to contrast the thread to our fabric that is often done to show the stitching as lines. This way is used to make the thread pop and make lines that can be seen far away to show the intention of the quilter. The batting for this option is often thinner so the threads dont get buried in the depth of the indentation created by the quilting.Another way we can choose our thread is making a choice for the whole project so that we dont have to change threads while working and so it is an element that continues across the whole of the top. I most often use black or white for this so it can speak differently to the fabrics under it as they change.The second part to this whole thing is the same as the first.The bobbin!The thread color in the bobbin is important if you want to create a drawing on the back of the quilt, too.I like to match the thread on the top with that on the back except in the case where the back fabric is different than the front and it will be lost.Now that you have seen a few things that I do, I encourage you to do a few different things yourself.And let us know how it goes!Happy Sewing! There are so many different types of threads to use with your sewing machine! Not only is there a multitude of thread types, but threads come on all different kinds of spools, and can be wound on the spool in different ways.Learn the basics about thread spools and how to best use each type with your sewing machine. Well cover when to use the horizontal or vertical spool pins on your sewing machine (BERNINA 5 Series, 7 Series, and some other models), and how to use a thread stand.Before we look at best ways to mount thread spools on your sewing machine, lets look at how threads are wrapped on a spool. Generally you will find thread wrapped either in a cross-wound style, or in a stacked style.Cross-Wound Thread SpoolsCross-wound thread will create an X looking pattern on the spool. Here are several examples of cross-wound spools from left to right, Gutermann Sew-All thread, Aurifil 50 wt cotton thread, Mettler 50 wt silk finish cotton thread, and Isacord 40 wt embroidery polyester thread. Notice the different types of spools, some have one larger end, and some are the same on both ends. There are even cross-wound cones of thread you can use, which are too big to mount on your sewing machine (and well look at these later).Stacked Thread SpoolsStacked thread is wound around a spool so it stacks up, one row of thread on top of another. It creates lines parallel to the ends of the spool. These examples include from left to right, Coats & Clark heavy quilting thread, Coats & Clark Dual Duty thread, Madeira rayon embroidery thread, and Coats & Clark Heavy Duty thread. Thread spools that are stacked are generally symmetrical on both ends.How to Mount Cross-Wound ThreadsLets look at mounting four different types of cross-wound spools of thread on a sewing machine. As a general rule, cross-wound threads work best when feeding-off one end of the spool. Use either a horizontal spool pin on your sewing machine, a free-standing thread stand compatible with cross-wound spools, or the addition of a sewing machine mounted thread stand.You will need a foam pad and spool cap to mount cross-wound thread on your vertical spool pin.Start by mounting the foam pad on the spool pin, foam side facing the thread spool. The foam pad is there to keep the thread from getting caught behind the thread spool while you are sewing.If you thread spool has one large end and one small end, always mount the larger end to the back of the spool pin.Use a spool cap that best fits over the end of the thread spool. The thread cap should hold the spool securely in place with no space between the thread cap and spool. This cross-wound spool is now securely mounted.You can also use a free-standing thread stand.I use a basic thread stand from Superior Threads (ask your local BERNINA store if they carry this stand). This thread stand has options to mount both cross-wound spools, stacked spools, small spools, and large cones. (And no, the cute kitty sticker does not come on the thread stand. I added it myself!)To use the Superior Threads stand with this cross-wound Aurifil spool, the spool pin is mounted on the bottom. The spool sits right on the spool pin, and gravity does the rest. The thread end goes through the guides on the stand, and you are ready to thread the machine.The proper placement of the thread stand is near the end of your machine. You can place it close to the right side, or to the back. Use the thread guide near the horizontal spool pin on the machine to start threading through the machine.Now lets look at how to mount two other styles of cross-wound spools to your horizontal spool pin.This cross-wound Gutermann spool of thread does have two ends that look the same, but look closer. One end has a starred, spiky end meant to catch and hold the loose thread end when not in use. This spiky end can catch and pull the thread when feeding off this end, so make sure to place this end to the back of the spool pin against the foam pad.This larger spool also need the larger sized spool cap. Now the spool is mounted properly and can feed smoothly off of the spool pin.This spool of Mettler is the same on both ends, and theres nothing stopping the thread from feeding smoothly off either side of the spool. In this case, place the spool on the spool pin so the thread is feeding over the top of the spool. Use an appropriate spool cap, and youre ready to finish threading and start sewing.Another option for your BERNINA is to use the Multiple-spool holder that can mount on the back of the machine. The Multiple-spool holder is compatible with a wide range of sewing machines. The holder can be used with cross-wound spools of all sorts, and is large enough to use with cones of thread. And there are extensions you can purchase to add more room for spools! Just check with your local BERNINA store staff to ask about purchasing the Multiple-spool holder for your model BERNINA What if the spool or cone is too large to mount directly on your machine? Heres where either the Multiple-spool holder or free-standing thread stand come in handy.The Superior Threads stand comes with a special adapter for use with cones. Insert the adapter over the spool pin to mount a cross-wound cone.Place the thread stand near your machine, start threading with the thread guide on top of the machine near the horizontal spool pin, and you are ready to start sewing!How to Mount Stacked ThreadsLets look at mounting stacked thread spools on a sewing machine. As a general rule, stacked thread works best when feeding off the side of the spool, spinning freely as the thread unwinds. Use a vertical spool pin on your sewing machine, a free-standing thread stand compatible with stacked spools, or the addition of a sewing machine mounted thread stand.Use your built-in vertical spool pin to mount a stacked thread spool on your machine.Add a foam pad to the base of the spool pin to help keep the thread from coming off and wrapping on the pin underneath the thread spool.Place the spool on top of the spool pin, and make sure that the spool can move freely when pulling thread from the spool. Sometimes a sticky label may cause the spool to occasionally catch on the pin while sewing. There is no need to add a spool cap to the pin, gravity will hold the spool of thread on the foam pad while you sew.You can also use a thread stand if it is compatible with stacked spools. The Superior Threads stand allows you to move the spool pin from the vertical to a horizontal position, allowing the thread spool to spin as the thread winds off the spool. In this case, a spool cap is used just to keep the spool from spinning off the end of the horizontal spool pin. Place at the end of your machine and begin the threading process through the machine with the top thread guide near the horizontal spool pin. And now youre ready to start sewing! Do you know which type of thread spool pin on your sewing machine to use with different spools of thread?Most spools of thread are wound one of two ways, cross-wound or stacked. The thread will come off of each type of spool differently. These tips can help if your sewing machine has both vertical and horizontal spool pins.The red and blue spools on the left in the picture above are cross-wound spools. The thread has been wound on the spool in a criss-cross way, resulting in a pattern of Xs on the spool. The green and gold spools on the right in the picture above are stacked. The thread has been wound on the spool to stack one row above the other, resulting in a pattern of straight lines on the spool.Cross-wound spools work best on a horizontal spool pin to allow the thread to evenly feed off of the spool. The thread should come off the top of the spool. Use the spool along with a foam pad and spool cap to help keep the thread from wrapping around the pin.Stacked spools work best on a vertical spool pin to allow the thread to evenly feed off of the spool. Use the spool along with a foam pad to help keep the thread from wrapping around the pin.Watch this quick video to see how! THREAD, DONT DREADDo you dread to thread? Overlockers or sergers of all kinds have a reputation of being impossible to thread, but overcoming this dread of threading is key to your successful experience with this machine. The new BERNINA L 450 and BERNINA L 460 Overlockers were designed with ease of use in mind. There are many added features that make this machine simple and understandable. So lets break the myth once and for all!Threading PathBERNINA overlocker machines all have a color coded threading path. You will notice a colored dot at every point where each thread should go. Following the threading order is important to successful threading. Begin with the upper looper (blue), then thread the lower looper (red) and finally thread the needles last (green and yellow).When I was first learning to thread an overlocker, it was difficult to remember which looper was the upper and lower. The upper looper (blue) moves over the stitch plate and the lower looper (red) moves under the stitch plate. A teacher once taught me a riddle (below) that works with the color of our BERNINA machines perfectly. I hope it helps you remember too.Upper (Blue) = sky/heaven Lower (Red) = earth/hellThe inside of the machine is open and easy to access. Behind the looper door, inside the machine, you will find a built-in threading chart. Perfect in case you dont have your user manual handy. Notice the upper and lower looper follow a similar thread path and the thread just snaps into place, no more little corkscrew wires or covered thread guides. Each machine comes with a Quick Reference Card that gives threading tips and all the stitch settings for the sixteen stitches the machine makes.How to Thread an Overlocker / SergerStep 1: Open the machineThere are several helpful threading tools stored in the looper cover door. You can find your tweezers, screw driver and needle/threader holder tool here along with some spare needles and a lint brush.Step 2: Raise the presser footRaising the presser foot releases the tensions disks on all the threads. This will make it easy to thread and also enables you to be able to tie threads together and pull them through the machine with ease.Step 3: Remove the presser foot and lower the knifeAs you are learning to thread the machine, it is helpful to remove the presser foot and lower the knife. This will make the threading path open at the stitch plate. When you put the presser foot back on the machine, be careful not to trap the thread into the clamp of the presser foot. Once you are comfortable with threading, removing the foot and lowering the knife is not necessary.Step 4: Raise the needles to the highest position!The BERNINA L 460 has a feature that stops with the needles in the highest position. You will notice on the inside of the machine there is a needle position window. On the BERNINA L 450 you will need to move the handwheel until the red line matches up with the arrow on the needle position window.Step 5: Pull up the retractable thread stand!It is important to remember to raise the retractable thread stand at the back of the machine. Select your thread and place it on the thread stand and pull the thread into the guide at the top of the thread stand. Use the spool stabilizer, caps and nets for thread as necessary based on thread used. A spool net can be used to help control an unwieldy thread.Step 6: Place thread into pre-tension guide at the top of the machineThe first guide for all the threads is the pre-tension guide at the top of the machine. Simply floss the thread into the guide and it will ensure that the thread will flow off of the spool into the machine perfectly.Step 7: Lay thread into tension discNext you will lay the thread into the tension disk. The presser foot is raised so the disk is open, making it easy to get the thread into the tension disk. If you have ever had a machine that required you to catch the tension disk by pulling thread around the knob connecting with a wire, you will definitely understand how easy this machine is.Step 8: Place thread into all guides marked with color-coded markNow you will follow the thread chart and place the thread into all the guides marked with the color-coded dot. Just like a dot-to-dot.Step 9: Lower Looper Threader LeverThe lower looper has a thread guide that is underneath the stitch plate. To reach this guide there is a helpful lower looper threader lever. Press it down and the guide will move out from under the stitch plate. Place the thread into the guide and pull the lever up or turn the handwheel and the guide will go back into place.Step 10: Use tweezers to thread the loopersTweezers are extremely helpful for threading the looper eye, as well as getting the thread into all the guides.Step 11: Use the needle threader/holder tool to thread the needlesNow you are ready to thread the needles. Depending on your stitch set-up you may use only the left or right needle or both needles for 4-thread overlock. It is important to follow the color-coded thread path for the needle that you have chosen.In the looper door you will find a needle threader/holder tool. This useful tool has one end that will help you hold needle when inserting and removing, and the other end is a threader tool. A small wire (A) will push the thread through the needle. Place the thread (B) across the threader horizontally and slowly move the thread down the shaft of the needle(C) until reaching the eye of the needle (D). At this point gently remove the threader, leaving a loop (E) that you can pull through the needle with the hook on the tool (F). Practice makes perfect with this tool, and use care not to bend the threading wire by exerting too much force.TIP: You must remove the needle if it is NOT threaded. Leaving the needle unthreaded will result in a malformed stitch. There is even a needle storage pad inside the machine.Step 12: Set the machine tension settings for your stitchNow that you have everything threaded, you are ready to set the tension settings for your stitch set-up. The default machine settings for a 4-thread or 3-thread overlock stitch are all indicated with a black dot on the setting. You will notice that the default settings for a 4-thread overlock are four: This does not mean that they have to stay there. It is important to become comfortable changing all the settings on an overlocker and to always test your stitch. Different fabric and thread combinations will require some setting variations to achieve the perfect stitch.Step 13: Set the cutting width and check rolled hem and MTC leversThe cutting width dial is located on the front of the machine and the indicator for cutting width is near the presser foot. The default cutting width is 6 mm, indicated by the dot. On the stitch plate of this machine, you will find the rolled hem lever and the MTC lever. The rolled hem lever is what moves the stitch finger under the stitch plate when you want the hem to roll. For most stitches the stitch finger is engaged and determines where the loopers meet at the edge of the fabric.MTC is Micro Thread Control and it moves the stitch finger right and left, giving a fine tune control to where the loopers meet at the edge of the fabric. Set the MTC to the plus for increased area in the loops to eliminate fabric tunneling. Set the MTC to the minus to eliminate loops hanging off the edge of the fabric.Step 14: Set the stitch length and differential feed!The final settings to change are easily accessible at the right of the machine. Stitch length is the top knob and the default is 2.5, just like a sewing machine.The differential feed knob is directly below this knob and is adjusted based on fabric performance. Overlockers have two sets of feed dogs, which move independently. When you adjust differential feed you are adjusting the way these feed dogs move. At a setting of 1 they move at the same rate. The setting 2 creates a gathering effect, as the front feed dog moves more fabric than the back. Conversely, the setting 0.7 creates a stretching effect moving less fabric than the back feed dog. This is a wonderful feature for creating perfectly flat seams when working with knits.Step 15: Test and make adjustments!Presser foot pressure is located on the top of the machine. For most sewing projects the foot pressure may be left at the standard setting of M. The machine has five settings. XH extra high provides the most pressure and XL extra light is the least.Always remember, you are in control! Do not fear changing settings and working with all the features to create the perfect stitch. These machines are made to be adjusted. I promise you, it will be as familiar to you as your sewing machine in no time.Download the free eBook about overlocker threading here. Also included are tips on machine settings,differential feed, presser foot pressure, and more. Skip to content

How to thread an empisal sewing machine. How to use empisal overlocker. How to thread an empisal overlocker. Hoe werkt een overlockmachine. How to change a needle on an empisal overlocker.