

## Preparing for the Workshop

### Virtual Workshop

Nancy Prince

Thanks for signing up for one of my virtual workshop. Virtual workshops are not like on-site workshops in that I will not physically be there to help you with machine problems nor will I be able to look over their shoulder to see how you are progressing. To hopefully avoid some problems the day of the workshop and knowing that some of you may not be overly familiar with thread painting I have prepared a list below on preparing for the workshop.

## Preparing for the Workshop

### Essential Links for a Successful Workshop Day [http://www.nancyprince.com/Virtual\\_Workshops.html](http://www.nancyprince.com/Virtual_Workshops.html)

- Virtual workshops are new to all of us and my aim is to transfer you from an on-site workshop to a virtual one as free of issues as possible. The link above containing the documents below will hopefully put you at ease by explaining what is needed to prepare for the workshop and the steps needed to assure a successful day with your machine. While I will not be there physically, the process for teaching you a technique remains the same.
- The first thing you will need to do is copy and paste or type the URL above in your computer or laptop's browser. Press Enter and you will be directed to the Virtual Workshop page. Scroll down to the workshop you are taking and you will see 5 links above the picture of the workshop. Clicking on each of these links will bring up the links listed below. Print the two documents view the two videos and click on Purchase the Workshop Kit to order the kit and the hoop.
- **Supply List** - lists the supplies needed and a few free-motion feet and machine tips. A picture of 2 hoops will show you the type of hoop you will need – either a plastic or wooden machine embroidery hoop.
- **Purchase Workshop Kit** - A kit is required for the workshop and should be ordered at least **2 weeks in advance** of the date of the workshop to allow for processing and shipping. The workshop kit includes everything you will need to participate in the workshop *except* for the thread listed on the Supply List and a hoop. Order the hoop (this is a machine embroidery hoop NOT a hand embroidery hoop) with the workshop kit if needed. Otherwise bring your own hoop. For those of you using 40 weight polyester or rayon on the top spindle Superior's 60 weight Bottom Line thread has been recommended for the bobbin in a light and dark color. Using 50 weight cotton in the bobbin and 40 weight polyester on the top can lead to bobbin issues which can result in an unbalanced tension. Of course, if you have another brand of 60 weight thread, then by all means wind your bobbins with that. It is not a requirement to purchase the Bottom Line thread for the workshop but it is there if you need it. To purchase the workshop kit click on Purchase Workshop Kit and this will direct you to the Store on my website. From here you can order the workshop kit and hoop and bobbin thread if needed. The other products listed are not mandatory for the workshop but can be ordered for future use. The kit also includes some practice material for the "homework" section below.
- **Preparing for the Workshop** - By now you have gone to my Virtual Workshop page and printed off Preparing for the Workshop because you are reading it right now.
- **Thread Painting Stitches – video** – please watch this 9 minute video which shows the difference between the straight and zigzag stitches which will be the only two stitches you will be using in the workshop.
- **Setting Up Your Machine for Free-motion – video** - please watch this 19 minute video as it will walk you through the steps to set up your machine for free motion. I have discovered over 20 years of teaching that many students are unfamiliar with the necessary requirements for successful free-motion whether you are thread painting or quilting.

## Day Before and Day of Workshop

- The day before the workshop I will email the **inactive** video links of your workshop to you. For example, if your guild or show selected Thread Painted Landscapes Woodlands then links to the videos for that workshop will be

emailed to you. The morning of the workshop the video links will be **activated**. Once activated, the video links will be just like being in the classroom with me. You will have a front row seat to see up close the demo that is taking place. The beauty of the video links is that you can rewind to review a part of the demo that you would like to see again plus you will be able to work at your own pace and not a workshop set time table. Another perk to a virtual video workshop is that the video links will be active for 5 days after the workshop. In a normal workshop setting access to me is limited to the 6 hours of the workshop but this extended time of 5 days gives you more time to finish your project. All you have to do is click on the first link and you are ready to start thread painting.

- The videos are copyright protected so please do not share or record them for your own use or to share with someone else. Please respect the copyright laws and this in turn respects my time and work.
- The day of the workshop will begin with a short class introduction on Zoom after which you can access the videos that make up your specific workshop. The Zoom meeting will be on throughout the day for us to get together to access how things are progressing. Outside of the “get together” time you can access me in real time for the duration of the workshop simply by taking a photo of your work and sending it to me by text, phone or email. This way I can personally attend to you should you want to be critiqued or to correct a problem. Having a photo in hand allows me a better visual than trying to see what you are doing on a computer screen. The bottom line is that I will be available for the 6 hours of the workshop when needed.
- During the workshop, I can be reached at
  - + Home: 888-853-0975
  - + Cell or text: 407-496-8001
  - + Email: [nancy@nancyprince.com](mailto:nancy@nancyprince.com)
  - + Send me a picture on your cell phone along with your name if you have a problem or want critiqued.

## Homework – **At Least Two Weeks Before the Workshop Day**

- Homework!! Just when you thought you were in a place where homework didn't exist then I come along and ruin everything. Virtual workshops are not like on-site workshops in that I will not be there physically but that doesn't mean that I won't be there to help. To hopefully avoid some problems the day of the workshop and knowing that some students may not be overly familiar with thread painting there is a little bit of homework to do before the day of the workshop. Now most of it consists of sitting in front of a computer or laptop screen so how hard can that be??
- A workshop kit is required for the workshop and should be ordered at least 2 weeks in advance of the date of the workshop to allow for processing and shipping. To purchase the workshop kit please see Purchase Workshop Kit under Preparing for the Workshop on the first page. The kit can be ordered at any time after signing up for the workshop.
- View the two videos ***Thread Painted Stitches*** and ***Setting Up Your machine for Free-motion*** listed on the first page. These videos can be watched as many times as you wish and whenever you want.
- **Practice kit** – OK, now the videos are out of the way and you have your machine set for free-motion and you have received your kit. In your workshop kit you will find a small piece of muslin, a piece of stabilizer and instructions. Follow the directions to complete your homework. This part of the homework consists of just a bit of practice to get you used to moving the hoop.
- In under an hour you should be ready for a problem free day of thread painting. Preparing for the workshop ahead of time assures a fun and self-assured day.
- Any questions before the day of the workshop? Then email me at the email address above before the workshop if you have any questions.

## Zoom

- Sign up for a free Zoom account at [www.zoom.us](http://www.zoom.us)
- Check with your guild for help with all Zoom related areas