

Sew & Sew Retreats

and creative textile workshops

Fiber Art Class:
Tactile Textiles
Half or Full Day



LINDA SWEET

Linda Sweet Designs – Owner / Fabric & Mixed Media Artist
Sew and Sew Retreats – Host & Instructor
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Introduction

Embroider over patterned fabric to transform and highlight its design. No transferring or tracing needed.

The intent of this class is to teach participants how to embroider and embellish printed fabric with a multitude of stitches.

Summary of Class

A blank canvas can be an intimidating place to start any creative endeavor. All that possibility can quickly turn to pressure. The decorative technique taught in this class lets participants skip that "Where do I begin?" phase and jump right in.

I will bring a piece of pretty patterned fabric for each participant so they can embroider over the design. There's no sketching, tracing, or transferring, just simply stitching. Embroidery will completely transform the fabric, adding texture and dimension. The embellishments on the fabric will make it look alive.

The selected fabric will be a good size to make a pillow with when completed.

Once the technique is learned, participants can embroider on hand towels, table linens other home accents and purses.

Class Outline

- Introduction
- Review embroidery stitches handout
- Discuss stitches complimentary to fabric
- Learn variation of embroidery stitches and embellish fabric
- Final questions and discussion

Class Goals

- 1) To introduce class participants to a variety of embroidery stitches
- 2) To work with pre-printed fabric to embellish
- 3) Stitches include:
 - a) Back
 - b) Bullion Knot
 - c) Chain
 - d) Couching
 - e) Fishbone
 - f) French Knot
 - g) Lazy Daisy
 - h) Running
 - i) Satin
 - j) Split
 - k) Straight
 - l) Twisted Chain Stitch
 - m) Wheatear

Class Size & Space

- 1) A class size of 25 participants is manageable.
- 2) No previous experience is needed. Some embroidery background might be helpful.
- 3) An area with a flat working surface of 24"x24" for each class participant is best.

Time

3.5 Hours (Half-Day Workshop) – Allows time for introduction, teaching embroidery stitches, embellishing fabric, any clean-up and final questions and discussion. This can also be a Full-Day Workshop to assure a significant amount of embroidery is completed.

Costs for Kits

- Total kit cost per participant is **\$30.00**. Kit will include pre-printed fabric and embroidery floss, possibly beads, printed embroidery instructions for finishing as a pillow.

Materials Students Need to Supply

- Small scissors
- Needle threader – wire
- Embroidery hoop – 8" or 10" is best
- Embroidery needles – bring a variety of sizes from 3 to 12 (sharp end)
- Thimble – optional

Teaching Fee

I'm happy to offer Full Day or Half-day Workshops for Guilds, Symposiums, Retreats, etc.

- \$275 per day for full-day workshops
- \$130 per day for half-day workshops

Tactile Textile Photo Examples



Endorsements

Roxanne Terranova

Executive Assistant – South Milwaukee School District

"I have had the opportunity to take lessons from Linda Sweek recently in fabric baskets and embroidery. Her instructions are clear, easy to understand, and complete. Within 15 minutes I was making my fabric bowl! She was extremely patient teaching me how to embroider, providing not only written instructions, but hands on instruction, watching my technique and providing immediate feedback so I was able to achieve beautiful results.

I have purchased several pieces from Linda Sweek Designs. Each is a one-of-a-kind art treasure. From the pillows, to purses, to wall art, everything has been crafted as if a part of Linda was going with them. The craftsmanship is stellar and the designs are truly spectacular. When I am looking for the perfect gift or a special treat for myself, I shop at Linda Sweek Designs!"

Debbie Lemke

Enterprise Solutions Collaboration & Learning Manager – Northwestern Mutual

"Linda's art always has that little bit of extra – usually a bit of whimsy – that catches me/you by surprise. Sometimes it's in an extra attachment (a charm or ribbon or button) and sometimes it's an artfully-placed stitching detail that captures your attention and makes you want to emulate it in your own designs. I'd love to take a class from her to tap into that creative eye, to gain an understanding of how to look at something ordinary – a tea towel, a scrap of fabric, a pile of bric-a-brac – and learn how to turn it into something captivating and extraordinary."

Lynne Stern

Marketing Communications Manager – Bradley Corporation

"Linda is a talented, insightful individual with many strengths ... she has a warm, out-going personality and she is an excellent relationship-builder. Linda always maintains a professional attitude and inspires others to succeed. Working with her was a very positive experience."

Bio

Linda Sweek

Fabric & Mixed Media Artist

Owner of Linda Sweek Designs & Sew and Sew Retreats

Workshop Instructor

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After a successful 25-year career in marketing, public relations and communications leadership roles, Linda Sweek has had the good fortune of pursuing her passion of fabric and mixed media art for the past five years and starting her own business – **Linda Sweek Designs**. Besides fabric and mixed media artistry, Sweek does custom sewing, teaches workshops and is the founder and host of **Sew and Sew Retreats**.

Sweek started to embroider at the age of eight – to her it was like painting a canvas. Additionally, her grandmother, who was an artist, took her to art museums and galleries for instruction, and welcomed Sweek into her studio to work with clay, pastels, and acrylic paints. Applying this knowledge of studio art, Sweek's preferred medium became textiles.

She has been privileged to exhibit her work in several juried art shows including the "Second Fiber Arts Biennale: Wisconsin State of the Art" 2015 at the Wisconsin Museum of Quilts and Fiber Arts, Grace Fine Arts Festival and Milwaukee Third Ward Gallery Night's. Her work is sold in numerous gallery's and gift shops. Awards received include Martha Stewart American Made 2014 Award Nominee, Best of Houzz - 2014 Badge Award Winner, and multiple Wisconsin State Fair first, second, third place ribbons in textile categories.

Sweek has a bachelor's degree in professional communications with honors and a minor in liberal arts from Alverno College, Milwaukee, Wisconsin. She also studied textile and folk art in the U.S., Mexico and Europe, and has explored art at 22 museums from Paris to Florence, Vienna to London, Chicago to Honolulu, New York to Mexico City and beyond.