

## COURSE DETAILS – 5 DAYS 5D0051

TITLE: THE MACHINE EMBROIDERER'S WORKSHOP

TUTOR: VAL HOLMES

LEVEL: BEGINNERS/INTERMEDIATE

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### AIMS OF COURSE:

To learn the possibilities of using the sewing machine for free motion embroidery in a context of personal design on a variety of surfaces.

### WHAT STUDENTS SHOULD ACHIEVE:

A worksheet or collection of samples of free machine embroidery which will allow you to learn the techniques and have an insight on how these techniques can be used. The first morning will include an observation of a simple object (or part of a simple object) – flower, fruit, shell, lichen, rust etc. (you may bring their own if they wish). The rest of the course will be sampling with the different machine embroidery techniques in a progressive manner to interpret this observation in a realistic way, or a progressively abstract way if desired.

### MATERIALS AND TECHNIQUES COVERED:

Free motion embroidery to interpret marks and observation.

Use of line and pattern, zigzag and satin stitch, tension techniques: whip stitch, feather stitch and cable, Bondaweb and appliqué, dissolvable fabrics, lace, weave and felt techniques, quilting. Other surfaces will be covered by lecture or demonstration, including the embellisher.

### TEACHING METHOD:

Demonstration and explanation followed by student experience.

### EVENING SESSIONS:

#### **First evening session – attendance is an essential part of the course:**

Lecture with CD slide show showing various embroideries achieved with free motion embroidery, and discussion on machines, needles, threads and fabrics

#### **Other optional evening activities:**

Finishing off the day's work – the learning will be intense and to finish all samples some evening work may be required. The workshop is available until 10pm, these sessions are untutored.

### GENERAL TIMETABLE:

Day 1. Observation of object, working with line

Day 2. Working with zigzag and satin stitch. Appliqué and Bondaweb.

Day 3. Tension techniques

Day 4. Working with dissolvable fabrics.

Day 5. New surfaces for stitch

### STUDENT PREPARATION FOR COURSE IF ANY:

Please return the form overleaf if you wish to borrow a college sewing machine.

Find an interesting subject that you are prepared to work with and from for the week. This could be:

A piece of interesting ethnic or colourful embroidery

A piece of lichen or bark

A rusty piece of metal

Flowers – one interesting flower or a group of something colourful to choose from

Fruit and vegetables – an interesting apple, decorative cabbage etc

Shells (you need to find texture and colour)

**HEALTH AND SAFETY:**

The tutor instructs students in health and safety issues relevant to this course. Students may work unsupervised on agreed projects once they have satisfied the tutor as to their competence. There may be restrictions on the equipment available to students in the tutor's absence. All Personal Protection Equipment, apart from footwear, is provided by the College.

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**MATERIALS FOR THE COURSE:**

PLEASE REMEMBER THAT ON PRACTICAL COURSES YOU MAY WELL NEED TO PURCHASE MATERIALS THROUGHOUT THE COURSE TO COMPLETE PROJECTS

Please bring:

**Fabrics and threads**

Calico ½ metre

Other colours of fabric and threads that may relate to your chosen object

Hand embroidery threads: perle, soft cotton etc. in a colour range

Dissolvable fabrics: Aquabond and Solusheet or Romeo

Sheet fabrics in matching colours (a small quantity)

Bondaweb ½ metre

Piece of fabric prepared for quilting or a piece of quilt wadding 30cm x 30cm

2 pieces of fabric the same size as your quilt wadding 30cm x 30cm (this can be prepared in class)

30cm x 30cm synthetic felt

Silk or wool fibres – e.g. silk or wool tops

Sewing machine threads (some can be purchased in the shop)

**Sewing Machine:** clean and oiled, with all accessories (College machines may be reserved using the form below)

Sewing machine needles: bring plenty of spares

**COURSE TIMETABLE** (unless otherwise stated above or agreed with the tutor during the course)

Course timetable for 2–9 day courses – each course starts with a welcome session on the first evening of the start date of the course and is followed by 2–9 days depending on the length of the course.

<b>Arrival Day</b>	From 4.00pm	Arrival for residential students. Non-residential students please arrive by 6.45pm for welcome chat and dinner.
	7.00	Dinner.
	8.15–9.15	First teaching session.
<b>Daily Timetable</b>	<b>9.15am</b>	<b>Morning classes.</b>
	10.30	Coffee.
	12.45pm	Lunch.
	<b>2.00pm</b>	<b>Afternoon classes.</b>
	3.30	Tea.
	5.00	Classes finish.
	7.00	Dinner.
	8.15	Evening working – students may have evening access to certain workshops in the absence of their tutor, but only with their tutor's permission and provided it is safe to do so.
<b>Departure – last day</b>	10.00am	Residential students are asked to vacate rooms.
	3.00pm	Classes finish.
	3.30	Tea then departure.

## REPLY FORM TO RESERVE A COLLEGE SEWING MACHINE

COURSE: 5D0051 THE MACHINE EMBROIDERER'S WORKSHOP

TUTOR: VAL HOLMES

DATES: 30 NOVEMBER –5 DECEMBER 2008

I will be bringing my own sewing machine.

OR

I will need to borrow a sewing machine from the College.

NAME: .....

TEL NO: .....

Please complete and return to the:

WORKSHOP MANAGER  
c/o The Admissions Office  
West Dean College  
West Dean  
Chichester  
West Sussex PO18 0QZ

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