

NeedleNews

Monthly newsletter from Needleworks Fabrics and Classes

Volume 2, Issue 12

December 15, 2006

"For unto us a Child is born, ...and His name shall be called... the Prince of Peace." (Isaiah 9:6)

We pray for a peace-filled holiday season and a bright new year. Allison & Family & Staff

Inform: Recently, I have had lots of calls asking my advice about sewing machines. I thought I would give you my thoughts on choosing a machine for a beginner sewer. I sold sewing machines and sergers for over 13 years, and I know a fair bit that may be of help. These are some pointers I have given to customers lately.

- There is a big difference between stitches and stitch functions. Stitches are the different patterns that a machine will sew, straight, zig-zag, buttonholes, etc. Stitch functions include the adjustments you can make to the stitches. A straight stitch that can be adjusted from 0-5mm may be called 6 functions (0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5). Most sewers would call this only 1 stitch.
- Machines will adjust a zig-zag stitch from the center of the stitch or from one edge. For a fully adjustable zig-zag, both edges will get wider or narrower as the width of the zig-zag is adjusted. Some machines will continue to have the same width on one side, while the other side gets wider or narrower. The fully adjustable zig-zag will give you much greater versatility on your decorative stitches.
- Electronic features such as speed control, needle up and down, stitch selection and thread cutting are all those extras that cost more, but depending on your wallet and the type of sewing you do, these are features that you need to think about.
- There are a variety of manufacturers of sewing machines and a number of dealers in the city. Don't be afraid to check out each one.

- Make sure you ask about warranty, repairs, and availability of parts and accessories.

I hope that these pointers will help you as you make a new purchase this year.

Excite: The **2nd Annual Swap & Shop** will be held on Saturday June 2. You can start preparing now as you clean up from your Christmas sewing frenzy....sort the items you no longer want and store them in a box until the end of May. Last year we had a lot of items brought in and sold. 10% of each sale was forwarded to Neighbourlink Calgary.

We are working hard on the final touches for our **Projects of the Month**. Each month, starting in February, you can come in and buy a kit for a project. You will have 1 month to complete the project and bring it in to show us and then receive a coupon for 30% off the next month's project. The project kits will be as complete as we can make them, so that all you need to do is go home and sew! Our goal is to encourage you to try something new, learn a new technique, and fully complete projects that would be ideal for gift giving or keeping for yourself. Each month the quilters will work on a table runner and the sewers will work on a bag or container of some sort. We will have samples in the store during January.

Educate: Our Classes are listed in the following categories to help you find them easier. Classes are designed for individual instruction so that anyone should be able to take almost any class we offer. A full listing of all classes in our schedule can be found on our web page. www.needleworks.org

- **Sewing:** classes for beginners and more advanced sewers wanting to make clothes for themselves and their family.
- **Fun:** classes for projects other than clothing.
- **Serging:** classes to teach and encourage you to make the most of your serger.
- **Quilting:** all levels and types of quilting classes
- **Kids:** sewing and quilting classes designed for children 7-14 years old. Older children are encouraged to participate in the adult classes.

Come let us teach and inspire your creative side.

Sewing:

Open Classroom: We now have a second classroom open. So you can come in any time and rent table space to work on your own projects. Only \$5 per hour. Come in and get some help or instruction from our staff for only \$10 per hour. Please call ahead for either so that we can make sure there is table space available for you.

Adult Learn to Sew: This beginner class is for those who haven't sewn before or who haven't sewn for a long time. This is also a great time to learn how to use your new or new to you sewing machine. Students will make two projects: a tote bag and a pullover top. \$90 Mon. Jan. 15, 22, 29, Feb. 5; 6:30-9:30pm

Sensational Shirts: Choose a shirt pattern and fabric and we'll help you to fit the pattern and sew the shirt. This class will focus on collars, cuffs and buttonholes. \$90 Mon. Feb 12, 26, March 5, 12; 6:30-9:30pm

Pants: Draft your own pant pattern. This class will teach you how to measure accurately and draft for a well fitting pair of pants. We have increased the time so that students can sew their pants in class. \$105 Tues. Feb 6, 13, 20, 27, March 6; 6-9pm

Bra-Making: Christy will join us from Edmonton to teach two classes on Bra Making. Check out her web site for full details. www.freespiritbras.ca.

Vests: A vest is a wardrobe basic. You can dress up an outfit or make it as casual as you want. This class will focus on vest construction for a lined or reversible vest while we give you lots of ideas for personalizing it. \$45 Tues. Jan 23 & 30; 1-4pm

Fun

Wardrobe Planning: A combination of discussion and lecture on planning a wardrobe to suit your body and lifestyle. The class will discuss choosing patterns, fabrics, colours, styles and fit for all body types. Although this is part of our Plus Sewing classes, we think this information is great for everyone. \$25 Wed. Jan 10; 6:30-9:30pm

Needleworks, Fabrics & Classes
759 Northmount Drive NW Calgary AB T2L 0A1,
S-W corner of Northmount Drive & 14th Street NW
403-210-2883
www.needleworks.org

Hours of Operation
Mon – Sat: 10am–6pm

Sewing Plus

Let Hermina help you, inspire you and motivate you to sew something that will fit you and look good on you!

- **Wardrobe Planning:** A combination of discussion and lecture on planning a wardrobe to suit your body and lifestyle. The class will discuss choosing patterns, fabrics, colours, styles and fit for all body types. \$25 Wed. Jan 10; 6:30-9:30pm
- **Plus Jacket:** Everyone needs a basic, simple jacket. Learn about proper length and proportion as you sew this wardrobe basic. \$65 Wed. Jan 17, 24, Feb 7; 6:30-9:30pm
- **Plus Skirt:** Learn how to prevent that "too much in the front and not enough in the back" syndrome. A well fitting and well constructed skirt will look great! \$45 Wed. Feb 14, 21; 6:30-9:30pm
- **Plus Top:** A classic shell or top that fits you makes the difference between a so-so outfit and one that is WOW! \$45 Wed Feb 28 & March 7; 6:30-9:30pm
- **Plus Pants:** We'll show you how to make a basic pant to fit your body shape. No more sags or pulls. \$65. Wed. March 14, 21, 28; 6:30-9:30pm
- **Plus Dress:** Dresses are hard to fit & find, so come adjust a basic dress pattern that will give you that good fit for a great summer essential. \$90 Wed. April 4, 11, 18, 25; 6:30-9:30pm
- **Plus Fleece:** Fleece is the best fabric. Learn how to fit and sew something cozy and fashionable. Fast and easy and made to fit you right. TBA
- **Plus Jean Jacket:** You thought Jean Jackets were only for stampede? Come join us and make a jean jacket out of fancy fabrics and embellishments. TBA

Needleworks Class Registration Policies

- * Full Payment is required at the time of registration. GST is added to the cost of all classes.
- * A supply list will be given at time of registration. Please confirm class is running before purchasing class supplies
- * Students purchasing their supplies at Needleworks will receive 10% off their purchases.
- * Full details of the registration policy can be found on the website. www.needleworks.org

Rough Edge Jacket: Shirley will guide and inspire you to stitch appliqués freely onto a jacket or vest. This all-day class will challenge and inspire you to create more! \$45. Sat. Feb 2; 10am-4pm

Lace Scarf: This class was great before Christmas, and now that gift giving is over, we can focus on ourselves. Make yourself a beautiful scarf or necklace with a variety of threads and yarns. You'll be amazed at the magic! \$20 Wed. Jan 17; 6:30-8:30pm

Hand Dyed Fabric: Explore the fun of dyeing your own fabric. This introductory class is a great time to learn some basics and explore some simple colour theory. Students will dye 13FQ of fabric. \$90 (includes all supplies) Fri. Jan 26; 6-9pm

Quilting:

1-2-3 Quilts: A beginner quilting class that will take you from the very beginning to the very end of a quilt. Chose from 3 different quilts, chose from 3 different sizes, learn 3 very important techniques. \$90 Mon. Jan 15, 22, 29, Feb 5; 1-4pm

Free Motion Quilting: This class will have you creating beautiful quilting stitches in no time. Use a practice quilt to learn and master some beautiful fill stitches for your next quilt. Students will also learn how to use templates and master marking the quilt. \$45 Sat. Feb 3 & 10; 1:30-4:30pm

Free Motion Quilting—Feathers: Learn how to create beautiful feathers that fly. Students will learn 3 methods of stitching feathers. \$25 Thurs. Jan 18; 6-9pm

My Medallion Tucks: Learn how to create 3-dimensional tucks and stitches to create a striking wall-hanging. \$65 Wed. Jan 17, 24, 31; 1-4pm

Lone Star: Learn how easy it is to draft and stitch this favorite quilt. No two quilts will be the same! \$65 Thurs. Feb 1, 8, 15; 6-9pm

Save paper and postage: give us your email address and we'll add you to our electronic mailing list.

Serging:

Beginner Serger: This class is for those who know very little about their sergers. Paced so that you can learn to use your serger properly and with confidence, the instructor will teach you many time saving tips and tricks to enable you to get the most out of your serger. You will make three practical projects to show off your new skills as well making samples for a sample book. \$65 Tues Jan 16, 23, 30; 6-9pm

We offer a variety of other serger classes. They are all listed on the web page and when we have interest in one of them, we'll plug it into the schedule. Let us know what you are interested in.

Kids Sewing Classes

We are pleased to introduce a sewing certificate for our younger sewers. Children can work towards sewing certificates in a variety of different projects. Students work at their own pace on a selection of projects. See the website for more information. www.needleworks.org

Kids Sew After School: Register for 4 - 1½ hour lessons. \$45. Registration is on-going for 4 consecutive weeks. Mondays or Wednesdays. 4:30-6:00pm

Kids Saturday Sew: Register for 3 - 2 hour lessons. \$45.

- January 13, 20, 27; 9-11am or 11am-1pm
- February 3, 10, 24; 9-11am or 11am-1pm
- March 10, 17, 24; 9-11am or 11am-1pm

Home School Classes: Needleworks is proud to offer sewing classes for home schooled children on Friday mornings. Register for 4 - 1½ hour lessons. \$45 Check out the web page for full details. www.needleworks.org

- 11 years and older: 9-10:30am
- 7-10 years old: 10:45am—12:15pm

