



Tutorials

Handling Metallic Threads



When to use

- Use metallic threads for quilting, embroidering and embellishing.
- These threads add exciting and interesting effects to all your creative projects.
- Their brilliance add the ultimate sparkle to all of your decorative projects

Metallic

- Special metallic embroidery thread, weight 40
- has a core made of polyester with a metallic coating

Sliver

- special metallic thread
- It is a thin, flat, ribbon-like metallic film

Holoschimmer

- Holographic metallic thread
- is a thin, flat, ribbon-like polyester film that is metallised with an aluminium holographic layer
- Holograms are 3-D images that have been projected and captured on a 2-D surface. This method is used for the production of this very special thread to give it a shimmery, brilliant reflectiveness

Tips For Working With Metallic Threads:

- Use special needles:
So-called top-stitch needles- extra-sharp, with an extra-large eye, and a large groove to accommodate topstitch thread.
- Reduce the speed of the sewing machine
- Keep your tensions loose
- Change the position of the bobbin
You may experience problems with sewing machines where the bobbin is mounted in a horizontal position. If possible attach the bobbin in an upright position or use a multiple spool holder which is often available from the machine manufacturer/retail store.
Sometimes it might help to put the metallic bobbin into a toilet paper core and place it according to your machine type behind or next to your sewing machine. This assures an upward unwinding.
- All parts of the sewing machine should be smooth, clean and in excellent working order. Any little flaw or rough area will break the metallic thread and make it fray.
- Sometimes a drop of oil at the right place works wonders
- Available now is a so-called thread lubrication unit which is glued to your machine.
Its use is especially recommended for metallic and loosely twisted threads. The silicon fluid greatly improves the friction properties of these threads and guarantees reliable guiding.
- If all these hints fail to work, there is always the possibility to use the metallic thread as under thread.
For this wind the metallic thread and sew from the reverse side.