



6700 Series
Crafts
Section I



Creative Living with Sheryl Borden
6700 Series



Table of Contents

Crafts

Step-by-Step Nuno Felting	I-3
Stencil Brush Techniques	I-4
Felted Flower Pin.....	I-6
Fabric Tinting with Crayons	I-6
Quick & Easy T-Shirt Scarf	I-7
Quick & Easy T-Shirt Apron	I-8
Hardware Embellishments for Needlepoint	I-10
To Dye or Not to Dye	II-12
Joyful Creations.....	II-13
The Facts About Rayon from Bamboo	II-14
Velvet Stamping Album.....	II-15
Bella Crafts Quarterly	II-16
Faux Quilting Technique	II-17
16-Card Wonder Workshop.....	II-18
Guests	II-19

Due to the size of this section, it has been separated into two sections in order for it to be downloaded more quickly. For instance, “Step-by-Step Nuno Felting” is in Section I on page 3, whereas “To Dye or Not to Dye” is in Section II on page 12.

Step-by-Step Nuno Felting

Nuno is Japanese and it means fabric. Laminated felting is another name for Nuno Felting.

The key to successful Nuno felting is: HMPA - Heat, Moisture, Pressure and Agitation. All these things are required to produce Felt and to Nuno Felt.

Traditionally, nuno felting is done with bamboo mats and a lot of rolling with the arms.

However, we have added our own twist to this artform and that involves bubble wrap, noodles, panty hose, music and our feet. Not only does the pressure from using our feet outweigh the arms, it's a great way to combine making fabric and exercising.

The best fabrics to use are silk gauze, chiffon and even some organzas. The point being, it needs to be a loose or open weave. So, if you have an open weave boucle or wool, try it; what's the worse that could happen? My guess is that it will work just fine.

Pressure and agitation are the keys to working your wools into your silks. Along with rolling and moisture, the wools are worked into the silk to create a drapery and lightweight fabric that is easy to sew, and makes beautiful clothing items such as scarves.

Working to music is a more pleasurable way to keep count on the rolling. It's upbeat and you know when the song is done, it's time to check your roll to see if the fibers are going through. It needs to be something that is fast paced and enjoyable.

Butt rolling is probably the fastest way to nuno a silk piece. Not everyone can do this because it is tougher on the back, but if you can, then hold on to the sides of the chair, and you might as well hold in your abdominal muscles and wait and get the benefits of rolling and sitting on the roll and begin rolling it to the music.

Try adding in other objects. For instance, if you find paper such as the sandwich papers from McDonalds that are coated, they can be used in your work and they add significant interest. You might also like to even try using paper money.

This is one technique that you can go minimally or go crazy and add in a ton of stuff as long as you have the glue and the glue is the wool.

For more ideas and information, go to Barbara's website.



Samples of wool rovings

COURTESY: Barbara Crawford
Crawford Designs and Sewing Made Simple
www.crawforddesigns.net

Stencil Brush Techniques

Beyond Stenciling

Naturally, the brush is great for stenciling, but that is just one of many uses for your stencil brushes. Have you ever been underway on a project, and couldn't find the "perfect" fabric for the border or binding, coordinating fabric for a garment, or felt that certain sections of a quilt design just weren't right? Stencil brushes can be used to alter the color of a fabric, add subtle texture or mimic hand dyed fabric - all without the use of a stencil.

Change Background Color



Original Background



After color change

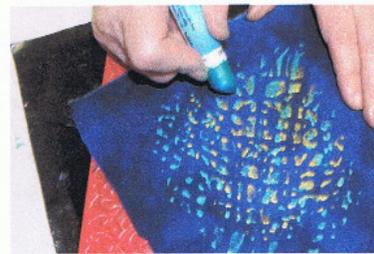
Here's how: The bamboo leaves were stenciled on a pink/orange batik with a paintstik stencil brush, but I wanted more blue in the background. I applied iridescent turquoise paintstik color to my standard stencil brush and brushed directly over the entire fabric (including the stencil leaves) in a circular motion. Larger brushes work best, either 1/2" or 5/8" size. This process turned the background shades of blue and minimized the pink. The technique is similar to applying eyeshadow -- just build up layers until you get the right effect.

Add Subtle Texture

Here's How: The Ariga star (instructions in my Star-Builder Inspirations book) was fused directly on a solid black fabric, but I wanted more dimension and texture for the background. Rubbing directly on the fabric with a paintstik caused strong colors and texture that fought with the star - not pleasing to my eye. The solution was to achieve a much softer effect by placing texture under the fabric, applying paint to a paintstik stencil brush (iridescent purple, gold and turquoise were used to coordinate with the star colors) and brushing directly on the fabric.



The only difference between the two illustrations below is one uses direct application with the paintstik and the other uses a brush:



Solid black background

Soft, subtle texture



Tips: I've found that small, asymmetrical textures work well for this purpose. Here, I've used one of the plates from the Animal Skin set of rubbing plates. Yes, I know some of you react to the name of Animal Skins with "ewhew," but giraffe skin, snake skin, and elephant skin textures are excellent. As always, I use a Grip n'

Mimic Hand Dyed Look



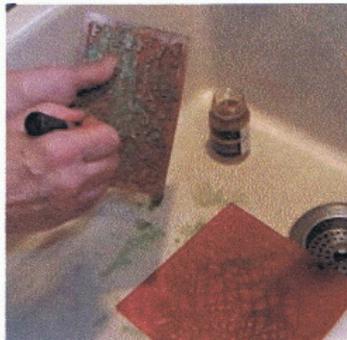
White silk scarf transformed

Here's how: This sample began as a plain white silk scarf. First, I gently brushed iridescent turquoise paintstik color over the fabric with standard stencil brushes. Then, I placed my Fantasy Script under the fabric and did another layer of soft rubbings with iridescent purple to create a hand dyed look.

Tips: Dedicate a brush to each color (otherwise, you will get mud). Make sure the work surface is completely free of threads, cat hair, paint crumbs, etc. - or these objects will show up as texture on the fabric.

Caring for your tools

Although there are a number of ways to clean brushes (soap and water, solvents, degreasers), my favorite method is to use the Cedar Canyon Textiles Brush Soap. This product is made specifically to clean oil paint from brushes, works great for getting paint out from under fingernails, and even removes paintstik stains from clothing.



Simultaneous cleaning of brush and textures

Cleaning brushes requires applying the cleaning agent to the brush, and rubbing against a rough surface - the sink trap is handy for this purpose. Rinse, and continue the process until the water runs clear. Recently, I discovered that using a grubby rubbing plate or stamp as the rough surface cleans both items simultaneously, which speeds up this chore.

Torn Edge Technique

Supplies

- Paintstiks
- Standard stencil brushes (one for each color)
- Fabric (either solid or subtle batik) in colors suit-

able for your specific project, pressed

- Copy paper, file folders or similar (avoid newsprint because the print may run).

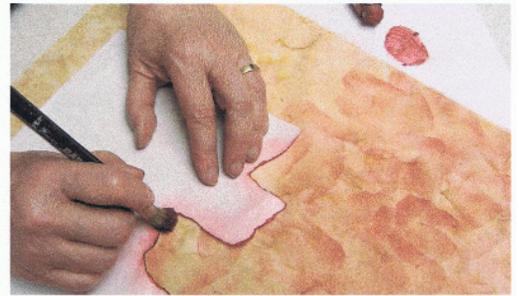
If the project will be washed in the future, now is the time to prewash, so as to remove sizing and avoid shrinkage while laundering.

You will need a perfectly smooth, flat surface. Any imperfections (cat hair, threads, marks on your cutting board, etc.) will show on your work. A piece of heavy, smooth cardboard works well.

Step 1 - Tear a piece of paper in a curved line.

Step 2 - Place the torn edge on the fabric.

Step 3 - Add color to the stencil brush (either directly from the stick or create a color palette on any non-porous surface (wax or parchment paper, plastic plate, etc).



Creating rock formations

Step 4 - Rub the brush over the paper edge onto the fabric -- which creates a soft edge.

Step 5 - Move the torn edge, and repeat. Use additional colors until the desired effect is achieved.



Rolling Hills

Waves



COURTESY: Laura Murray
Laura Murray Designs
www.lauramurraydesigns.com

Felted Flower Pin

Supplies:

- Simplicity 12 Needle Felting Machine
- Wool felt for base (9 by 11 sheet)
- Rovings to cover base in colors of your choice
- Silk ribbon and velvet (I used Hannah silk) for decorative embellishing and lining
- Silk hankies
- Hand spun or decorative yarns
- Additional items: silk or wool fabric, sparkle fibers (Angelini fibers)
- Additional beads or buttons for embellishing
- Scissors
- Needle and thread

Instructions:

- Lay rovings and art battings onto felt base
- Felt in place with machine (try to get good coverage at this stage)
- Cut shapes from wool, silks and velvets (leaves, circles etc.)
- Lay on top of felted roving
- Felt in place
- Lay out silk roving and felt in place
- When happy with results cut felt base in the shape of a pattern flower and assemble into a pin.
- Embellish with beads, buttons etc., as desired.

COURTESY: Michele Muska
Simplicity Creative Group
www.simplicity.com



Fabric Tinting with Crayons



It seems anything “retro” is popular once again. In the 50’s, crayon tinted designs were very popular. Women would often do outline embroidery and let their children

or grandchildren help color in the designs for dish towels, dresser scarves and pillowcases.

Today this same technique can be used to add dimension to appliqué or to create vintage looking pillows or other home decor. Children love to be part of this experience, and it can be incorporated into a child’s party activity or into a treasured gift for Mother or Grandma.

Begin by drawing a design onto fabric either with crayon or a fine Pigma or Sharpie pen. Color inside your design using as many Crayola crayons as you like to get the desired effect. If working with a large design, it is suggested to rest your hand on a clean paper towel to keep the design free of unwanted pieces of crayon.

Once the design is complete, you will need to heat set it using a dry cotton setting on the iron. Put one paper towel above and another below the area to be heat set and apply the iron for about 10 seconds before lifting it and moving it to the next area. Any excess color and wax will melt into the paper towel and the color remaining on the fabric will be set.



This is a great technique that even younger children will enjoy working with and older artists will enjoy perfecting.

COURTESY: Evelyn Terhune
Ozark Crafts
www.ozcrafts.com

Quick and Easy T-Shirt Scarf



Westcott Brand 6" MicroTip Large Handle Scissors are ergonomic, perfect for repetitive cutting and ideal for people with limited hand strength and mobility issues. The large handles on these snips maximize leverage and control and are perfect for intricate detail work and cutting through multiple layers and tough materials. Here's a quick tutorial on how to create a **Quick and Easy T-Shirt Scarf**. The scarf is embellished with funky flowers and highly customizable.

Tools and materials list:

- Westcott Brand Cutting Tools - The World's Favorite Scissors™ ExtremEdge® Titanium Bonded Scissors
- Westcott Brand Cutting Tools - The World's Favorite Scissors™ Precision Tip Large Handle Scissors Non-Stick Scissors
- Hand Sewing Needles
- Thimble (Optional)
- T-shirts in different sizes and different complementary colors
- Thread (different colors, matching t-shirts)
- Fancy decorative buttons



Directions:

Lay t-shirts on top of each other on a flat surface. Using Westcott Brand ExtremEdge® scissors, cut strips from the bottom of the t-shirts.



Fold each strip individually and with the Micro Tip Westcott Brand scissors, cut in from the folded edge, stopping 1/2-inch from the edge.

Continue cutting to the end of strip.



Take strip in both hands and pull to stretch fabric. The fabric naturally will create a curl.



Repeat this process to create 3 - 4 of these curled strips for the scarf.

Stack a layer of the fabric together to begin flower appliques/pin embellishments. Adjust the tension on your ExtremEdge® Titanium Bonded Scissors to your comfort for optimal cutting performance. Create a flower shape with wavy petals.



Mix and match different colors and offset the shape of flowers to create a full floral look. Sew a button in the center of the flower pulling thread through to attach all layers to complete the flower applique. Sew a pin back to the back of each flower to create flower brooches. They can also be worn for different occasions without the scarf. Pin them on a lapel or handbag for extra flair!

Bring all strips together and connect them with the flower brooches. Now you are ready to go out on the town wearing your own colorful, customized, upcycled t-shirt scarf!



COURTESY: Marisa Pawelko
 Modern Surrealist
 Westcott Brand Cutting Tools
 Imagine Crafts & Tsukineko Inks
www.westcottbrand.com
www.craftingrocks.com
www.imaginecrafts.com

Quick and Easy T-Shirt Apron

Create an apron out of a t-shirt with ExtremEdge™ Scissors and embellish your apron with fabric and Fabric Fusion (peel and stick adhesive applique sheets). For an extra special touch at your next event, have custom t-shirts printed with your logo. Great way to recycle used t-shirts from thrift shops!

Supplies:

- Westcott Brand Titanium Bonded NonStick Scissors
- Westcott Brand Titanium Bonded ExtremEdge™ Scissors
- Westcott Brand 6" Precision MicroTip Scissors
- One solid color t-shirt
- Aleene's Fabric Fusion Peel & Stick Sheets
- Complimentary fabric that has designs within it small enough to cut out (i.e. cupcakes, characters, shapes, words, animals, flowers, fruits, etc.)

Directions:

Fold t-shirt in half.



With Westcott Brand Titanium Bonded ExtremEdge™ Scissors remove t-shirt sleeves. Cut up to 1" from the collar. *Optional: Save sleeves to make useful pockets for apron or save them for another craft project!



Open t-shirt up. Cut through only back layer (Leave front of shirt) 1" around collar.



Gently tug on edges of fabric to create a nice shape to apron. Fabric edges will roll naturally and the straps will ruffle slightly.



Start from the bottom of t-shirt and cut straight up the back with ExtremEdge™ Scissors up to 1" from collar.

For the embellishments, layer fabric on top of Fabric Fusion. With Westcott Brand Titanium Bonded NonStick Scissors cut out the shapes and images. The ergonomic handles on the 6"



Micro Tip Westcott Brand Scissors are perfect for cutting out intricate details from the fabric.

Fold the shirt in half and lay it flat on the table.



Peel the other side of the appliques and gently apply them onto the apron.

Now you have a fabulous new custom apron you hand created and designed yourself!

Start cutting strap from inside edge and continue cutting around to create even spiral cut strips.



COURTESY: Marisa Pawelko
Modern Surrealist
Westcott Brand Cutting Tools
Imagine Crafts & Tsukineko Inks
www.westcottbrand.com
www.imaginecrafts.com



Hardware Embellishments for **NEEDLEPOINT**

Take a trip to the hardware store!

A trip to the local hardware store can yield some interesting embellishments. Using such things as washers and hex nut covers add visual interest to a needlepoint project.

Working with Metal Washers....be art smart! [when preparing metal for your project] Corroding metal will damage the fibers used in your needlepoint. It is important to seal most metal pieces, such as washers, BEFORE using them in your project. Chromed pieces will not need to be lacquered.

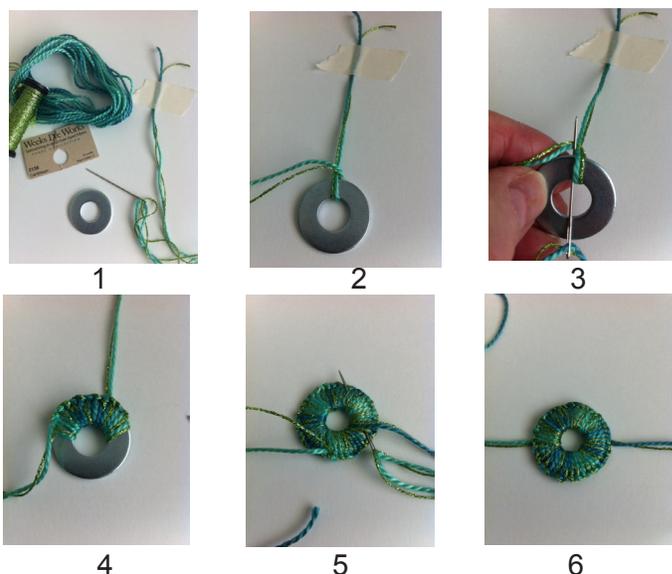
How to seal metal with lacquer coating!

- *Clean* the surface of the metal really well. Use your favorite metal cleaner to polish the metal to the desired finish.
- *Remove* all residue by wiping the metal with solvent, such as zylene (available at paint stores or hardware stores) and denatured alcohol to make sure that the metal is completely clean. (Do not use isopropyl alcohol). Always follow the manufacturers' directions and safety precautions.
- *Make sure* that the metal is completely dry before spraying with a sealant.
- *Seal* your metal pieces with clear acrylic lacquer spray. Following the directions, and again, the safety precautions of the manufacturer, spray it over your pieces in a well-ventilated area, allowing them to dry before turning to seal the other side. Allow plenty of dry time (a day or two is great) before using them in your project.

Hint: I use a large cardboard box as a "paint booth". I place 3-4 straight pins into the cardboard (depending on the size of the washers) under each washer as a base to keep the washers up in the air, while spraying. You'll get a good edge coating, and they won't stick to the surface!

Stitching on Metal Washers.... be art smart! [creating round things] To Completely Cover The Washer: I used 2 different fibers here - a perle cotton and a metallic cording. Be adventurous and play around with various combinations.

Designer's Notes: To make it easy to get started, tape the ends of the fibers to the table before stitching. You can remove the tape after placing a few blanket stitches.



After stitching all around, run the needle under the stitches on the back side, half way around. Cut, leaving a tail a few inches long. You will use the tails to attach the covered washer to your project, working the tails into the existing stitches on the backside of the canvas. Get creative! Embellish needlepoint, pillows, photo frames, handbags & more. See examples on the following page.

Designer's Notes: Snaps make the most wonderful Chrome Wheels! Attach them to your stitched canvas by stitching between the little holes. I used the part that had the little "hub cap" facing up, as seen above. Want perfect dimensional circles? Blanket stitch over washers and attach to a stitched canvas (on lower left).



Attaching Metal Washers....and other hardware.
To Attach a Plain Washer: A sealed brass or copper washer can add an extra element of artistry to a needlepoint project, especially when attached with a nubby fiber for texture as seen on my "Autumn Sunflower" Night Sconce at right.



Designer's Notes: These Brass Washers were attached with a cotton perle fiber as part of an open stitch pattern. Then, I went back and overstitched the washers with a copper metallic fiber at the "12", "3", "6" and "9" o'clock positions to add visual interest. The addition of a small wood or glass bead at the center of each washer would add another textural element to this project.

To Attach Chrome Hex Nuts: I used Chrome Hex Nuts to signify some of the numbers on my "Cone Zone" clock. I left about a 4 stitch area unstitched where these would be placed. You'll need to temporarily attach your clock works to know where you'll be placing these Hex Nuts and mark those spots so that you do not stitch there. I placed this clock into a shadow box frame, so that there would be room in the back for the clock works.

Center the clock onto the back and mark where the clock works and Hex Nuts will attach to it. Remove the stitched canvas and drill appropriate sized holes in the backing of the shadow box before lightly padding and attaching the canvas.

Attach the Hex Nuts and Clock Works. Tightly wrap the canvas around the backing and attach. Place back into the frame and push it to the front so that there is room for the clock works. Note: Hex Nuts come with little bolts to attach them, see photo at right and at top of next column:



To Attach a Snap: Ok, this isn't from the hardware store, but it is hardware, so I wanted to include this idea! I like to be creative and after searching through my stash of goodies, I came upon the little drawer of snaps...here's the result on "Frame it...with Petey Patrol" from my Transportation Station Collection.

COURTESY: Sandy Morris-Grossman
Sandy Morris-Grossman Designs
www.sandygrossman-morris.com