

FTCU BASICS CLASS— OUTLINE

Class 1 — Quick start & basics

- ◆ open a file in 2 different ways
- ◆ understanding and navigating the workspace
 - toolbars and icons
 - selection frame, context sensitive icons & transform box
 - slow draw
- ◆ file formats
 - native file vs stitch file
 - saving a file
- ◆ digitize 2 simple designs
 - use existing resources in the shape library
 - trace an image using a backdrop
 - apply run, steil, standard fill & applique

Class 2 — Making embroidery that looks good

- ◆ good designs
 - runs on the machine well
 - no hard spots
 - no unwanted gaps and good registration
 - you like it
- ◆ smart practices by stitcher
 - fabric + design choice
 - fabric prep options
 - stabilizer choice & hooping
 - machine issues
 - thread
 - tension
- ◆ digitizing a good design
 - stitch length, density, underlay, push & pull
 - what are they and why do they matter*
 - what is appropriate and when*
 - let FTCU choose properties*
 - how to develop your own preferences*
 - presets*
 - sequencing and tie-on and tie-off
 - inclination lines
 - turning corners*
 - catching light*
- ◆ Save2Sew
 - what does it really do
 - how to use it to advantage

Class 3 — Stitch choices

- ◆ line options
 - run, bean
 - steil & steil run
 - motif
- ◆ satin options
 - auto vs. not auto
 - spiral, radial & contour
- ◆ fill options
 - standard patterns, fancy patterns
 - motif
 - ripple
 - mesh
- ◆ gradients & color blends
 - what's a gradient?
 - why quality color blending is a labor of love and not just clicking an icon
- ◆ embossing
 - interesting uses

Class 4 — Lettering

- ◆ Regular text
 - kerning, moving letters
 - baselines
 - envelopes
- ◆ True Type fonts
 - two ways
 - do they work?
- ◆ Purchased alphabets
 - bringing them into FTCU

Class 5 — Editing stitch files & FTCU wizards

- ◆ autodigitizing
 - why the cons outweigh the pros
 - in my opinion*
 - what to use if you must
- ◆ photo2stitches
- ◆ editing a purchased design
 - convert to outlines (yes, no, sometimes?)
 - selecting parts
 - cutting apart
 - deleting/moving/adding individual stitches