Stunning Stitches Class Plan

From Stunning Stitches for Crazy Quilts

By Kathy Seaman Shaw

Note to Instructors and Shop Owners:

Stunning Stitches for Crazy Quilts can be used with or without templates. My preference (and that of the hundreds of students I've taught) is to use the templates. The book pages can be scanned and printed to paper vellum for making templates. This is an easy task for most but can take some time. You can print these ahead of time; make it part of the class with a 2-day course (one for preparing the templates, one for embroidery); or purchase the ready-made template set from shawkl.net or creativeimpressions.com.

This is a great follow-up class to a separate class on sewing a pieced crazy-quilt block. Or you can use a simple muslin fabric with faux-seam lines drawn on it to simulate sewn seams.

Class Description:

Create stunning embroidery seam designs using simple, basic stitches. Adorn these seams with silk ribbon, beads, sequins, and buttons. These are ideal for crazy quilts but can also adorn cuffs, collars, purses, or other sewn objects. Templates are used in marking needle-up/down positions for the stitches, keeping all of the work uniformly spaced and neat.

Class Length:

This class can be taught in two formats. A 1-day (6-hour) class is recommended if using pre-purchased templates; a 2-day class is ideal if preparing the templates in class. This plan is designed for a class of 5–10 students.

Class Supply List:

- Required text: Stunning Stitches for Crazy Quilts by Kathy Seaman Shaw
- 12-14-inch quilting hoop or Q-snap frame
- Pieced crazy quilt block or solid fabric faux-block
- Assorted size package of chenille needles (sizes 24–26)
- Assorted size package of milliners needles (sizes 1–3)
- Package of beading needles
- Spool of silk thread or thin thread for beading (2-ply embroidery bobbin thread)
- 4mm silk ribbon (in at least 3 floral colors)
- 4mm silk ribbon (in 3 shades of green)
- Perle cotton thread (size 8 or 12) in colors to complement the silk ribbon
- Assorted small buttons, sequins, and beads
- Assorted seed beads (size 11)

Class Agenda:

- 1. Introduction of students and teachers.
- 2. Discussion of supplies.
- 3. Instruction on building layered seams (pp. 9-11).
- 4. Instruction on beginning/ending fibers and ribbon for embroidery (pp. 12–14).
- 5. Instruction on preparing templates (p. 20).
- 6. Instruction on using templates to mark on fabric (p. 22).
- 7. Instruction on following the pencil marks on fabric (made with templates in last task) to create the base seam of embroidery using perle cotton (pp. 29–34).
- 8. Instruction on adding combination stitches and silk ribbon to the base seam (pp. 37–50).
- 9. Instruction on adding beads and baubles to the stitched seam.

The following videos cover preparing and using purchased templates

Video 1:

https://youtu.be/p7u_gLxu-mg

Video 2:

https://youtu.be/OPd1D3v7UdA