



Kreinik Metallic Threads can be used for serging, free motion sewing, quilting, machine lace making, and clothing embellishment. The threads are available in basic, hi luster, and glow-in-the-dark colors. Kreinik's thinner threads—Cord, Japan #1, Very Fine (#4) Braid, Fine (#8) Braid, and Ombre—work well in the bobbin; Cord and Japan #1 work well in the needle also. The heavier threads—1/8" and 1/16" Ribbons, Medium (#16) and Heavy (#32) Braids, and Facets—can be couched using one of the feet available for couching. Call Kreinik's Consumer Info line at 1-800-537-2166 for tips on couching Kreinik threads, or the name of a shop or mail order source that carries Kreinik threads.

Tips on using Kreinik Threads in bobbin work

With a little care, Kreinik Metallic Threads can be used in the sewing machine. Sewing machines with a removable bobbin case that has a tension adjusting screw offer the most options. Sewing machines with drop-in bobbins that wind through the needle offer the least; those machines can use the finer threads—Japan #1, Very Fine (#4) Braid, and Cord—through the needle. **Experiment with your machine using different needles, tension settings and thread set-ups until you get a combination that works for you and your machine.** All specialty threads require more care and creativity when using a sewing machine, but the extra effort brings outstanding results.

WINDING BOBBINS

Kreinik threads are available on two types of spools, and there are two methods for winding bobbins based on those spool types. To avoid wear on the thread, bypass the bobbin winding tension and hold the thread gently between the thumb and forefinger while you exert a slight tension as the thread is winding. The thread should neither be too loose nor too tight on the bobbin.

For black plastic spools with end caps, let the spool fall into a box or clean wastebasket on the floor in front of you so it can unwind freely. Hold



the thread between the thumb and forefinger with gentle pressure 4 to 10 inches from the bobbin as it winds, making sure that it winds evenly. Wind only 3/4 full.

Cardboard spools with more yardage can be mounted vertically on a pencil and held in place with the thumb and little finger above and below the spool. It should turn freely. The middle fingers can touch the spool gently to exert tension as it unwinds. If you are right-handed, hold it in your left hand. Fill bobbin only 3/4 full.



Large cones of Kreinik threads can be placed in a box on the floor or on an off-machine threadholder. This lets the thread unwind off the top of the cone. Keep several bobbins filled with different colors so it is quick to change color.

One general principle is that if a Kreinik thread cannot be used through the needle, then it can be couched or used in the bobbin. Newer embroidery machines easily use Kreinik Blending Filament and Cord in the bobbin (*working the design on the bobbin side instead of on top*). Use a new needle for each project and change the needle if it hits anything during sewing.

THREAD SET-UP

If your machine has a horizontal spool holder, Kreinik Blending Filament and Cord will work well. However, some thread colors and types work better if the thread unwinds straight off (perpendicular to) the spool instead of off the end. If the thread kinks, knots or breaks, placing the spool off the machine in a freestanding holder positioned so it feeds evenly into the first thread guide and winds straight off the spool is helpful. Also, a drop or two of thread lubricant such as "Sewers Aid" can help.

Sometimes, when the spool is in a vertical position, the spool will bounce and the thread will wind around the spindle, lock and then break. On cardboard spools with large yardages, the thread may fall off the spool, lock around the spindle and break. A thread net can solve this problem. However, the best advice is to **experiment with different set-ups.**

TENSION

Sewing with decorative threads in the top and bobbin require adjustments in tensions. *Become familiar with your machine.* Learn the standard settings for top and bobbin and how to tighten and loosen each. **Find a dealer who has had experience with changing top and bobbin tensions and is willing to teach you, or contact your local sewing or quilting guild to find experienced sewers.**

STABILIZERS

To ensure smooth sewing without puckers, a stabilizer may be needed. There are many and you may need more than one. Sometimes the fabric by itself or combined with an interfacing provides enough stability. Other times you may need extra help, such as tear-away products, embroidery hoops, water-soluble stabilizers and iron-away stabilizers. Test a sample to get the desired effect.

CARE

Kreinik Blending Filament, Cord, Cable, Ombre, plus the Braids and Ribbons are hand and machine washable and dry-cleanable. Do not use bleach. Blending Filament, Cord, Cable, Kreinik Braids and Kreinik Ribbons can be tumble-dried on low setting. Water soluble stabilizers require hand washing to remove. Japan threads can be washed to remove the stabilizer, but for maintaining its beauty in everyday wear, dry cleaning is recommended. Facets are dry clean only.

When ironing a finished piece containing Kreinik Metallic Threads, iron on the wrong side (using a polyester or wool setting) covered by a press cloth. With raised braids, iron face down on a terry towel. Do not use steam. Iron-away stabilizers require ironing for longer periods. Use the stabilizer on the wrong side of the fabric at the minimum temperature and time needed to remove the stabilizer. Always make a small test sample to test temperature and settings. Making small samples for settings and techniques is quick to do and saves much time in the long run. You may discover other delightful effects you hadn't thought of before.

Vickie Hu Poirier is a textile artist from New Mexico. Her work includes dimensional quilts, tapestries and wearables.

© Copyright 1998 Kreinik Mfg. Co., Inc. UKM2009

MACHINE EMBROIDERY with **Kreinik** Metallic Threads

By Vickie Hu Poirier

COLOR • TEXTURE
Dimension

Whether you are creating a special garment or a treasured quilt project, Kreinik Threads add visual effects and sensory excitement that quickly turns the ordinary into an award-winning heirloom. Kreinik offers a wide selection of thread sizes that are used with a sewing machine and serger to add color, texture, and dimension to all of your projects. Be subtle or bold. Be conservative or indulgent. With Kreinik, the creative possibilities are endless.

IDEAL FOR **Wearables**
Quilts • HOME DECOR

 **Kreinik**

PO Box 1966
Parkersburg, WV 26102 USA

Consumer Information: 1-800-537-2166

Web Site: <http://www.kreinik.com>

E-Mail: info@kreinik.com

GUIDE FOR USING KREINIK METALLIC THREADS IN THE NEEDLE & IN THE BOBBIN OF THE MACHINE

Important: ***Experiment** with your machine: use different needles and tension settings until you get a combination that works for you and your machine. Test before stitching on your actual project.*

THREAD	TOP	BOBBIN	NEEDLE TYPE	TOP TENSION	BOBBIN TENSION	COMMENTS	SERGERS
Blending Filament	Blending Filament	#60 or #80 cotton or #80 mono fila-ment nylon	Metalfil or Metalica	Loosen 1 or 2 marks from normal	Normal or tighten 1-2 marks from normal if bobbin thread shows on top	Sew more slowly. Thread is delicate. Zig zag: lengthen stitch slightly. High Lustre colors work well threaded from off the machine. Some machines allow you to skip the last thread guide before the needle to reduce fraying.	Upper and/or lower loopers. Can be mixed with other threads. Estimate 10 times the length to be sewn for thread yardage when using without mixing with other threads.
Blending Filament	#60 or #80 cotton or #80 Mono Filament	Blending Filament	Depends on fabric; Jeans 8-16, Microtex Sharp 8-14, Quilting 12-16	Normal	Loosen tension screw in 5 minute increments 1-3 times	Tightening top tension and loosening bobbin even more so it shows on top can be an interesting effect when using color thread on top. Can be used in embroidery machines. Pattern will be reversed.	Upper and/or lower loopers. Can be mixed with other threads. Estimate 10 times the length to be sewn for thread yardage when using without mixing with other threads.
Blending Filament	Blending Filament	Blending Filament	Metalfil	Loosen 1-2 marks from normal	Loosen 5-10 minutes from normal	More difficult combination; sew slowly. ‘High Lustre’ colors are more challenging when used in the needle.	Same as above
Cord Japan #1	Cord Japan #1	Cord Japan #1	Metalfil	Loosen 1-2 marks from normal or more if needed	Loosen 5-10 minutes from normal	Sew slowly. Can be used in zig zag. Increase stitch length. Sewers aid lubricant can help.	Upper and lower loopers. Can be mixed with other threads. If used in needle, sew slowly.
Cord * Japan #1	Cord Japan #1	#60 or #80 cotton or #80 mono	Metalfil	Loosen 1-2 marks from normal or more if needed	Normal	Sewers aid lubricant can help. Some colors are more springy than others. Required off machine or vertical spool set ups. <i>*Works in commercial quilting machines.</i>	Upper and lower loopers. Can be mixed with other threads. If used in needle, sew slowly.
Cord Japan #1 Cable	#60 or #80 cotton or #80 Mono Filament	Cord Japan #1	Depends on fabric type	Normal	Loosen 5-10 minutes from normal	Good quality rayon can be used on top. Can be used in embroidery machines. Pattern is reversed.	Upper and lower loopers. Can be mixed with other threads. If used in needle, sew slowly.
Cord Japan #1	Cord Japan #1	Blending Filament	Metalfil	Loosen 1-2 marks from normal	Loosen 5-10 minutes from normal	Sew slowly.	Upper and lower loopers. Can be mixed with other threads. If used in needle, sew slowly.
#4 Braid	#60 or #80 or #80 Mono	#4 Braid	Depends on fabric type	Loosen 1-2 marks from normal	Loosen to fit braid so it passes with slight tension	Keep another bobbin case for large bobbin threads (saves wear on tension). Adjust tension so top thread comes to bobbin side and holds braid firmly to fabric. Can be used in decorative stitches if straight-line type.	Top looper loosen tension, sew slower, use wider stitch width.
#4 Braid *	#4 Braid	#60 or #80 cotton or #80 mono	Metalfil	Loosen 1-2 marks from normal	Loosen 5-10 minutes from normal	<i>* Works in commercial quilting machines (#4 needle).</i>	Top looper loosen tension, sew slower, use wider stitch width.
#8 Braid	#8 Braid	#60 or #80 cotton or #80 mono	Metalfil	Loosen 1-2 marks from normal	Loosen 5-10 minutes from normal	Adjust tension so top thread comes to bobbin side and holds braid firmly to fabric. Can be used in decorative stitches if straight-line type.	Sometimes can be used in top looper. Sew slowly. Loosen tension as thread size increases.
#8 Braid #12 Braid #16 Braid	#60 or #80 cotton or #80 mono	#8 Braid #12 Braid #16 Braid	Depends on fabric type	Loosen 1-2 marks from normal	Loosen 5-10 minutes from normal	Straight stitch designs recommended.	Sometimes can be used in top looper. Sew slowly. Loosen tension as thread size increases.
Ombre	#60 or #80 cotton or #80 mono or rayon	Ombre	Depends on fabric type	Normal	Normal	Very pliable, makes lovely raised, nubby effects with zig zag and decorative stitches. Lengthen stitch length slightly. This is a versatile thread for decorative uses.	Upper and lower loopers. Loosen tension slightly. Covers beautifully.
1/16” Ribbon	#60 or #80 cotton or #80 mono or rayon	1/16” Ribbon	Depends on fabric type	Loosen 1-2 marks from normal	Loosen 5-10 minutes from normal	Straight stitch designs. 1/16” Ribbon can also be couched on a fabric for embellishment.	Upper looper loosen tension, use wider stitch width. Better results if ribbon unwinds straight off spool in horizontal set up.