

Textured Silk Jacket

BY NINA MCVEIGH

SUPPLIES

- BERNINA® Decorative Needle Punch Accessory Set
- BSR - BERNINA® Stitch Regulator or other free-motion presser foot
- Simple jacket pattern with jewel neckline – sample used out-of-print Simplicity 4405: June Colburn Designs II
- Jacket fabric: Silk Noil in amount according to pattern
- Assorted pieces of Silk Dupioni in several complementary colors for needle punching the collar
- Lining fabric in amount according to pattern
- Strips of dupioni and various cords, threads and ribbon for closures
- Armo Weft interfacing
- Buttons
- Fabric marking pen
- Assorted seed beads
- Size 60 Universal needle
- Monofilament thread
- Lightweight bobbin thread
- Metallic Thread

CUTTING AND PREPARATION

Cut out all pieces of the jacket and lining (*except the upper collar piece*) as directed by the pattern.

Rough-cut a piece of jacket fabric slightly larger than the upper collar pattern piece. Fuse Armo Weft to the wrong side in preparation for needle punching.

Using a fabric marker, trace the upper collar onto the prepared fabric, including the cutting lines and seam lines.

NEEDLE PUNCHING

Tear strips of silk dupioni about 1½” wide, then cut into 1½” pieces.

Attach the BERNINA® Decorative Needle Punch Accessory Set to your machine, removing the bobbin case and hook system, according to the instructions on the DVD included with the set.

Cover the traced collar with silk pieces, randomly mixing the colors and letting the strips extend unevenly beyond the collar edge. Punch entire collar leaving about ¼” un-punched around the outer edge (slightly more than the seam allowance).

The BERNINA® Decorative Needle Punch Accessory Set is available for current BERNINA® machines with a CB hook system (maximum 5.5mm stitch width). This includes all **activa** and **aurora** models, the **artista** 630, retired **activa**, **virtuosa** and **artista** 165/170 machines.



Needle punching by machine topped with free-motion stitching and a scattering of beads add color, texture, and movement to this simple jacket. The unique collar treatment and fun closures make this garment a fashion statement that says, “Style”!

Pull back the extending silk pieces around the outside edge and pin to the collar to keep them out of the seam allowance. Trim the fabric on the cutting line of the traced collar.

Place the under collar (lining) *right side* down on the needle punched upper collar; pin. Sew the lining to the collar, being careful not to catch any of the loose silk ends in the seam. Turn the collar *right side* out and punch the silk along the outer edge; add extra pieces to fill in as desired. Remove all pins and trim silk pieces as needed for the look you want.

FREE-MOTION STITCHING

Remove the Needle Punch Accessory Set from the machine and replace the hook system and bobbin case. Attach the BSR – BERNINA® Stitch Regulator and thread the machine with metallic thread (Glitter #204 by Superior). Lower the feed-dog of the machine. *Note: Other free-motion presser feet such as Freehand Embroidery Foot #24 or Freehand Quilting Foot #29/29C may be used instead of the BSR.*

Select the straight stitch and free-motion stitch over the needle-punched area to add texture and interest to the collar.

BEADING

Insert a size 60 needle; thread the needle with monofilament thread and the bobbin with lightweight thread. Machine beading is a free-motion technique so leave the feed dog lowered and remove the presser foot as this technique requires none. *Note: You may want to place fabric in a spring hoop.*

Pull the bobbin thread to the top of the fabric; take a few anchoring stitches and cut the thread ends.

Using tweezers, hold a bead with the hole facing up. Turn the hand wheel until the tip of the needle is in the bead. If the bead is not exactly where you want, you can actually drag it with the tip of the needle to the right spot. Move your fingers away from the needle. Lower the needle into the bead, and then raise it. *Tip: If your machine is equipped with an electronic foot control, tap your heel on the back of the foot control, dropping the needle into the bead; using your heel again, raise the needle.* Move slightly away from the bead and take a stitch. The bead will flip over on its side and lay the way it should.

Travel by stitching to where you want the next bead. Repeat the process until the beading is as desired, taking a few tiny stitches to tie off the thread; clip thread ends.



JACKET ASSEMBLY

Finish constructing the jacket according to the pattern directions.

Make buttonholes as directed by the pattern. Tie narrow strips of dupioni and various cords, threads and ribbon through the holes or decorative openings of the buttons; sew buttons onto the jacket to correspond with buttonholes. *Hint: If using large decorative buttons you may want to sew snaps on the jacket under the buttons.*

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