



# *Happy New Year*

I am hoping that you all are enjoying the nice weather we are having. I have a feeling it is going to change soon. But after all this is January, and it is supposed to be cold and nasty for a while yet.

I mentioned 'thread count' before. Now is the time to expound on this a little further. We have all seen thread count numbers on all sorts of different fabric related items. Bedding is the most popular and the one that has the widest range of numbers. They range normally from 80 to 700, although the most popular range is from 180 to 320.

Technically, thread count means the number of threads woven together in a square inch. You would count both the lengthwise and widthwise threads. If the lengthwise threads number 100 and the widthwise threads number 100, that produces a thread count of 200.

We have some quilting fabrics that have a 200 thread count. That means there are 100 threads woven each direction. If any of you have sewn with these fabrics, it sometimes sounds like you are sewing paper. We must remember that when we sew, the needle is separating the threads of the fabric and putting an additional, larger thread in that place to make the seam needed. That is why when we sew a seam in the wrong place or a little off and we have to rip and resew, you can scratch or wash the fabric and it will heal itself. The needle has only gone between the threads of the fabric and not broken them.

If the fabric is woven with threads that are extremely close together, the needle will have difficulty in separating the threads and most likely will break some of the threads in the sewing process. That will leave small, almost invisible, holes that will fuzz when worn, washed and used. These small holes, over time and with use, will make larger holes and even tears.

Most of the cottons that we like to sew with have a thread count that ranges from 60 to 76 threads in each direction. Sometimes they are labeled like this: 60x60, 68x68 and 76x76. This is the thread count but it gives you both lengthwise & widthwise counts as a separate number. You don't have to do any math.

Another problem we will often find is that after we have sewn some fabrics that are very tightly woven and then we go back to our other quilting fabrics our machines don't sew as well. I also find this with my longarm quilting machines. The machine has had to work harder to push the needle through the tighter woven fabric and it has messed up the timing of the machine. Now I have to reset the timing before I can continue on with my next project. This could take as little as 30 minutes or as much as several hours, depending on how steady my hand is. Setting the timing requires extreme precision. Resetting the timing on your individual machine is probably something that requires a trip to the repair shop. Not a fun trip for anyone.

Now for more fun things. **Machine Knitting Club** will resume this month. It will be on January 21, 2012, 10a—noon. Come join the fun.

I am scheduling **Stable-Piecing classes** for the week of January 22. The schedule is below. Take a look to see what fits with your schedule. If you have a group and would like to schedule a time just for you, please call and I will do what I can to accommodate you.

In case of inclement weather, please call the shop to check if classes are being held. If you have not preregistered for an event or class please be aware that we have no way of notifying you of any cancellation.

Come visit,

Lora

Need dry cleaning done? We are a drop off point for Schwend's Dry Cleaning of Highland.

**Our hours are:**  
**Tues-Thurs: 9a-5p**  
**Fri: 9a-7p      Sat: 9a-3p**  
**We are closed on Sunday and Monday.**

# Recipes

## Silver Dollar City Noodles

2 cups flour  
1 tsp salt  
2 eggs  
4 Tbsp water

Mix flour and salt in large bowl. Make depression in center of flour mixture. Beat eggs and water together. Pour into center of flour mixture. Work flour into liquid with fork and then by hand to make stiff dough.

Roll out as thin as possible. Cut and separate and dry.

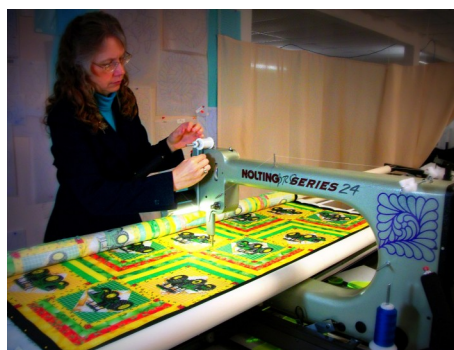
Use in any recipe needing noodles.

## Up and Coming Quilt Shows

### Quilt Shows

Scheduling is almost done for spring. I will have those March shows listed here next month.

Let me know if there is something that I need to consider adding to the schedule.



## Classes & Happenings

### Hand Knitters Anonymous

January 18, 2012 (Every 3rd Wednesday)

Time: 10a - 12 noon

**FREE!!!**

Bring your projects and your problems. For all of you who want to learn, have hit a snag, or you just want to knit away from home, this is the place for you!

## Block Party

January 17, 2012 (Every 3rd Tuesday)

**Time:** 6:30p - 8:30p

Come early if you want.

Come on out to our version of a block party. We will provide a block pattern, fabric, and refreshments, plus two hours of instruction on the construction of this block. The first six people to register will be able to reserve a sewing machine to use for the evening. Bring your own thread clippers, pins, etc.

**Class Fee:** \$20 No pattern required.

All supplies provided.

**Preregistration required.**

## Machine Knitting Club

January 21, 2011 (Every 3rd Saturday)

**Time:** 10a - 12 noon

Machine knitting club. Learn about machines and the machine knitting process. All different types of machines are welcome. Bring your own machine if you want to or just come and have a good time learning.

**FREE!!!**

**Preregistration  
Required**

## Stable-Piecing (12" Log Cabin)

January 25, 2012 (Wednesday)

**Time:** 10a - 12 noon

You will learn how to use Stable-Piecing and will piece two 12" Log Cabin blocks and put them together during class time. See how easy it is to piece accurate blocks. No worrying about 1/4" seam allowances. Bring your own machine or use one of ours. We have 6 older machines. If you want one of them please reserve it when you register.

**Class Fee:** \$35

Supplies needed: 1/4 yd each of light and dark fabric, 6" Add-A-Quarter ruler, thread, pins, thread clippers, rotary cutter. All other supplies provided.

Preregistration  
Required

## Stable-Piecing (12" Log Cabin)

January 27, 2012 (Friday)

Time: 1p - 3p

You will learn how to use Stable-Piecing and will piece two 12" Log Cabin blocks and put them together during class time. See how easy it is to piece accurate blocks. No worrying about 1/4" seam allowances. Bring your own machine or use one of ours. We have 6 older machines. If you want one of them please reserve it when you register.

**Class Fee:** \$35

Supplies needed: 1/4 yd each of light and dark fabric, 6" Add-A-Quarter ruler, thread, pins, thread clippers, rotary cutter. All other supplies provided.

Preregistration  
Required

## Stable-Piecing (12" Log Cabin)

January 28, 2012 (Saturday)

Time: 10a—noon

You will learn how to use Stable-Piecing and will piece two 12" Log Cabin blocks and put them together during class time. See how easy it is to piece accurate blocks. No worrying about 1/4" seam allowances. Bring your own machine or use one of ours. We have 6 older machines. If you want one of them please reserve it when you register.

**Class Fee:** \$35

Supplies needed: 1/4 yd each of light and dark fabric, 6" Add-A-Quarter ruler, thread, pins, thread clippers, rotary cutter. All other supplies provided.

# Spotlight!

Didn't get that blanket you wanted for Christmas? Or just need another one for you when all the favorites are taken?

We still have quite a few bolts of fleece to choose from. Come choose your favorites and make your own favorite blanket.



# Dakota Collectibles

*World's Largest Supplier of Stock Embroidery Designs*

## Dakota Collectibles Designs

Embroidery Club designs are currently in stock.



Madiera Thread  
1100 yard spool — \$4.19

To add your name to or remove your name from our mailing list, please contact us at [farm-landquilting@gmail.com](mailto:farm-landquilting@gmail.com) putting "Newsletter Subscription" in the subject line.