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Fiber Types – A Partial List

Flower Thread

A matte-finish, 100% cotton thread, packaged in skeins. Available from several fiber manufacturers; the original being Danish Flower Thread. Used for traditional Danish embroidery. Also recommended for linen, evenweave and afghans. Equal to about two or three strands of embroidery floss.

Medici Wool

A product with a homespun look. Looks especially nice with natural linen.

Metallic Blending Filament

1 ply, thin metallic thread (on spools.) Frequently combined with regular (cotton) floss to provide extra sparkle.



Use short strands, preferably less than 15”.

Metallic Braid/Ribbon

Metallic threads, available on spools. Used alone to provide definition, sparkle and texture. The braids are rounded, and the ribbons are flat.



Use short strands, preferably less than 15”.



Slipknot the thread onto the needle to improve handling and minimize fraying.



Run the thread over a fabric softener sheet.

Pearle Cotton

A "mercerized, twisted, non-divisible lustrous cotton thread" available in skeins and balls. Used with many counted thread techniques, such as pulled thread and Hardanger. Available in different weights (comparisons given to strands of embroidery floss):

#12 equal to about 2 strands of floss

#8 equal to about 3 strands

#5 equal to about 4 strands

#3 equal to about 6 strands.

Robbin Floss

A shiny, flat fiber. Can be used with Metallic Ribbon to provide some real sparkle.