

SWIRLS 2.0 REQUIREMENTS

NB the exact quantity needed of each item will vary depending on how many pieces you create and how much experimentation you do, but the amounts suggested will be ample to get you started.

Basics

- * Sewing machine (in good working order, with a free motion embroidery foot)
- * Sewing machine manual
- * Usual sewing equipment (scissors, needles, pins etc)
- * Canvas or firm cotton calico, 1 metre minimum
- * Firm embroidery stabiliser (e.g., Stitch'n'Tear or Madeira Cotton Soft), 1 metre minimum
- * Fusible webbing (e.g., Bondaweb (Vliesofix)), at least a fat quarter or 1 metre
- * Baking parchment or a silicone sheet
- * Iron and ironing pad
- * Notebook or folder (for handouts, notes, stitch experiments, ideas)

Design

- * Sketchbook or paper
- * Pen, pencil, eraser, ruler
- * Watercolour paint (e.g., Koh-i-noor or any cheap palette – nothing fancy)
- * Brushes, water jar
- * Table protector (e.g., oilcloth, plastic tablecloth, old newspapers)
- * Felt pens and markers (e.g., cheap kid's markers, colouring pens, pencils)
- * Glue stick or glue (optional)
- * Paper scissors

Development

- * White gesso or gouache (or a tester pot of matte household emulsion)
- * Acrylic wax or similar (water-based)
- * Papers (anything goes: sheet music, old book pages, maps, junk)
- * Lightweight fabric (cotton, silk, lace, recycled fabrics; small pieces)
- * Organza or chiffon - natural or white, a small piece (an A4 piece is ample)
- * Organza or chiffon - any colour you like, floaty scarf scraps are perfect
- * Machine threads (any all-purpose polyester or cotton threads)
- * Bobbin thread (e.g., Bottom Line)
- * Machine embroidery threads (any good quality brand)
- * Metallic threads (any good quality brand)

Finishing

- * Trims and decorative edges (optional e.g. ric-rac, lace edges, bobbles)
- * Beads and sequins
- * Fine bead needle (if adding beads)
- * Large-eye sharp needle (or a tapestry needle)
- * Tacky glue (if you need to secure heavier embellishments before stitching)
- * Cocktail stick – to save your fingers!

Towards the end we'll look at other things needed for mounting finished work, as this is largely personal choice.