

A good question came up today... about my [upcoming Textile Treasures retreat](#) at the BERNINA Creative Center. Someone asked about the balance between module use and manual techniques they might be practicing while at the retreat. Here is my response.

Basically, each and every Fiberella Textile Treasure technique *could be performed manually or in-the-hoop*. That said I have made choices based on my own preferences, possible results and our time frame for the course. By learning some techniques manually, a Participant can reflect on what needs to be included if translated for in-the-hoop module creativity. While using a module, you can expect to be learning quite a bit of relevant info for a manual approach as well. Admittedly, there would be need for some modification. However, similar or related results could be achieved. Handling fiber, threads choices and the all-important technique ideas; and the process steps themselves will share similarities for either approach. During the lecture demo, I will have time to include some tips for converting the techniques from module-to-manual and vice versa. It's really all about personal preferences and possibilities.

Each technique I have chosen to perform manually in the hands-on, has some advantage in that direction; and the same is equally true when I have chosen to use the module – for time saving, accuracy or because I would simply prefer to have some tasks done for me by module while multi-tasking to increase output. Since during hands-on time we will be moving at a somewhat swift pace, I think it is important to evaluate the balance at hand.

Here's how a Participant can expect to experience the Textile Treasures in the hands-on class:

1. Cotton/Silk Confetti Lace – embroidery module
2. Gradation Felt Applique Embellishment – embroidery module (though the hand blending of fiber is identical to manual approach)
3. Semi-Sheer Bias Felt with Embedded Motifs and Fluted Edges – manual
4. Artsy-Lacey Fabrics - manual
5. Nuno Felting / Fiber Smocking – manual
6. Tiny treasures to Catch the Light – embroidery module
7. Felt Cuff Bracelets &/or Curtain Tabs by the Batch – manual
8. Edgy Assorted Linear Trims by the Yard – manual
9. Artful Boxes – prep embroidery module, assembly manual
10. Ornament Grande – embroidery module

*Note: embroidery module above could mean DesignWorks, Needlepunch &/or Stitch*

I am confident that the concepts naturally lend themselves to suit the preferences of the individual in the future. Textile Treasures can be performed well including the use of a module, or exclusively with a manual approach if preferred. I based the hands-on experience on my own personal preferences for each technique. Customers could do the same. Just expect some small modifications would be needed, and a bit of one's own tweaking to satisfy personal preferences. Why, isn't that how the creativity and the fun kicks in? :-)

This event will be a jam session of ideas and fresh techniques. Additionally, the color lesson that runs its current throughout the course is valuable to both approaches. Zero time will be devoted to teaching digitizing during these sessions.