



# Spice Up Your Jeans

by LINDA WHITE

## Supplies

- Jeans
- Embroidery design(s)
- OESD StabilStick Cut-Away Stabilizer
- Isacord Embroidery Thread
- Bobbin thread
- Two bleach-proof tubs or basins
- Bleach
- EZ Glitzer Pro or Kandi's Glitz n Go™
- Hot fix crystals, pearls, and/or rhinestuds



Want to add a little spice to your jeans? It's easy! Just gather your supplies and follow the instructions below.

## Instructions

Open the inseam(s) all the way, and then overlock all the raw edges with a sewing machine or serger to prevent raveling.

The bulky seams in jeans are too thick to hoop. Instead, hoop a layer of OESD StabilStick Cut-Away Stabilizer, paper backing side up. Score the paper and remove the backing. Lay the portion of the jeans to be embroidered over the sticky stabilizer and smooth into place.

*This article originally appeared in Through the Needle ONLINE Issue 8*



Stitch a basting box around the inside of the hoop to secure the jeans before starting the embroidery.

Embroider the jeans with your favorite design(s) using Isacord Embroidery Thread. Isacord is polyester thread, and will not lose any color when soaked with full-strength bleach. The jeans in the sample were embroidered with designs from OESD's "Flourish Fancy" design collection #12224.

When the embroidery is complete, remove the hoop from the machine and the jeans from the hoop. Trim away the stabilizer about  $\frac{1}{4}$ " from the embroidery stitching.

Fill one bleach-proof tub with water. Working over the other tub, pour full-strength bleach on one leg of the jeans. When it reaches the desired color, immerse it in the tub of water. If you don't, the bleach will continue to work.

Repeat for the second leg.

## TIPS

Use new bleach; it's stronger than bleach that has been open for a while.

To see what color the denim will turn when bleach is applied, test a small area inside the jeans. Depending on the dyes used, black denim might bleach to a different color, such as red or blue.

Wash and dry the jeans by themselves, so there's no chance of the bleach affecting the color of other items.

Turn the jeans inside out and re-stitch the inseam(s).

Add some glitz just for fun!

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