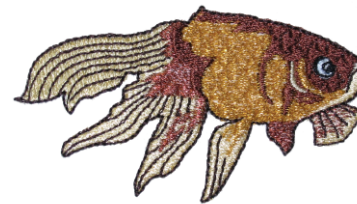


points out, “I like to find ways to add some pizzazz to my work. I can take a corporate logo that I’ve digitized for 40 weight Rayon, substitute Madeira’s No. 50 Metallic for a gray or gold, and the effect on my clients is predictable: It always blows them away!”

When creating his charismatic “Gold Fish,” Rich Medcraft combined Classic Rayon No. 40, FS No. 50 and FS No. 40 to get the look he wanted. “The metallic thread gives a punch and the Rayon gives an elegant touch.” There are actually four shades of Classic Rayon No. 40, plus black and white. “But you can change the fish’s character by simply changing his colors!”



Choosing an FS 35 weight metallic because of its color options, Melinda Dement, a digitizer/educator working in North Carolina, suggests, “With the thicker thread it’s important to use a large eye needle. And I always loosen the tension on the machine and slow it down a bit with the 35 weight, in order for the design to run smoothly.” Note that all the heavier weights will require special digitizing, avoiding small detail and short stitches. Slow your machine down and loosen your tension.

Pat Williams has used Madeira’s FS No. 20 to award-winning effect. “I think the FS 20 colors are gorgeous. When I saw color number 490 in the FS No. 20, I knew I had to stitch it out as peacock feathers!” Melinda advises using designs that feature longer stitches – usually 2½ mm to 3½ mm – when incorporating the heavier metallics into your designs.

Melinda Dement admits, “I’m always trying to find an excuse to incorporate metallics into my designs: they make a design bright, cheerful, and are great for accents.” Melinda used FS No. 40 and FS No. 35 to achieve her “Celebration.” “I wanted to invoke patriotism, and capture the universal appeal of fireworks.” Melinda used a #11 large eye needle and seven colors to capture her spontaneous design.



Q&A

I’ve heard that working with metallics can be a nightmare. How can I avoid a bad experience, but still add this special look for my customers?

Start with Madeira FS No. 50 and incorporate it into any design that has been digitized for 40 weight thread. Get comfortable with it. Master it! There are many shades of golds and silver to choose from. You’ll find it will behave just like your everyday 40 weight thread.

How can I avoid thread breaks and tangles with the heavier weight metallics?

Use a large eye needle, and follow the recommended needle sizes provided in our sidebar on the front. Reduce the tension on the machine slightly and drop the speed down to 600-650spm. Avoid designs with lots of small detail and use the heavier weight metallics with larger, decorative designs that feature longer stitch lengths.



For questions regarding Madeira’s Classic Rayon #60 or Polyneon #60,

Visit www.madeirausa.com Call 800 225-3001 Email contactus@madeirausa.com