



*Look who's sewing with BERNINA...*

*Susan Fears*



**Susan Fears**, designer, teacher and BERNINA 8-Series expert, loves to sew it all - clothing, quilting and home décor. Susan enjoys trying new sewing techniques, incorporating designer details into her clothing, adding embroidery customization to projects, and designing for her home. As an Educator and Trainer for BERNINA of America, Susan shares her enthusiasm and knowledge for everything BERNINA.

As host of Virtual BERNINA Club presented in participating dealers' stores, Susan looks forward to creating and sharing her discoveries with all who attend. In addition, she contributes projects regularly to the BERNINA 8-Series section at [www.berninausa.com](http://www.berninausa.com) and is often the presenter for the BERNINA 8-Series webinars. You might also find Susan presenting TNT seminars around the country, teaching at quilt shows and working with BERNINA dealers. Contact Susan at [sfears@berninausa.com](mailto:sfears@berninausa.com) plus follow her latest discoveries on the [Bernina Blog!](#)



*BERNINA Embellished Pillows*

### *Susan's Favorite BERNINA Features...*

#### *Precision & Quality!*

I absolutely love BERNINA machines and am constantly amazed that I can do what I do because an engineer thought someone would want to. Some of the things I sew are very intricate – and some are very intense – such as my home dec projects. I appreciate the range of the BERNINA from delicate to heavy duty – all on one machine – and all with the same precision and quality. Sewing on a BERNINA is pure joy and I wish everyone could experience the sewing success I have in my projects because I sew on a BERNINA. The broad range of precision accessories make sewing with BERNINA a journey that never ends.

I have been sewing on a BERNINA since the 801S model and as I have updated to newer machines my sewing capabilities have increased and my creative horizons have widened. I truly feel that the BERNINA sewing machine is my creative partner and its abilities inspire me to create things I wouldn't have imagined possible. NOW, is the best time to be sewing!



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### *Susan's Signature Jackets*

I enjoy sewing pretty things that are useful – it provides a creative outlet in my clothing design, home décor and quilting. My favorite clothing item to make has always been jackets and I love creating jackets in the Chanel style. Working with textured tweeds, designing trims for the edge details and creating a jacket that fits well is the ultimate in sewing satisfaction. My work has been published in numerous magazines including *Threads*, *Inspirations* (BERNINA International), and *Through The Needle*. My creations are also featured in the *Seasons of Artistry* book and some of my jackets are pictured in Claire Shaeffer's book, *Sew Any Fabric*.



*Chanel-inspired Jacket*



*Embellished Jean Jacket*

### *Susan's BERNINA Journey*

I have worked in the computer industry, the apparel industry, managed a BERNINA Store and have been a BERNINA educator for 7+ years. I love the variety that everyday brings as an educator whether I'm designing projects or working with people around the country who love to sew, quilt and embroider. I have been fortunate to be part of the testing team and introductions of the BERNINA *artista* 200 and the BERNINA 830.



*Koos Jacket*



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## *Susan's Quilts*

I also do quilting – but I mostly enjoy creating the tops – the fabrics are so beautiful and I enjoy adding embroidery into my quilt design. I have been a guest on Fons and Porter's *For the Love of Quilting* Program and have designed several projects for their show, such as this *Butterfly Garden Quilt* featuring the BERNINA 830.



*Butterfly Garden Quilt - directions available at [www.berninausa.com](http://www.berninausa.com)*

## *Susan's Sewing Wisdom for Beginners...*

If you are buying a machine for the first time – buy quality – it will never disappoint you and even if that machine has fewer bells and whistles, the ones you do have will always work and get the job done without aggravation. The first Bernina I owned had 7 stitches, but it sewed flawlessly – and still does 25+ years later.

My other advice – don't over plan – just start. It's good to have an idea of where you're going – but allow yourself the flexibility to change if another idea presents itself along the way and improves the design.

Advice I wish wasn't true – If you don't have time to do it right the first time, make sure you have time to do it over.



*Virtual BERNINA Club Creations*

