



- When using good quality thread such as Madeira, breaks are rarely caused by faulty thread. First check the entire thread path to ensure correct threading and no tangles.
- **Needles** - it is critical to use the correct needle size, point and eye for the thread, application and type of fabric being embroidered. The correct needle will ensure that thread runs smoothly and will prevent snapping. If the thread is breaking at different points in the design, change the needle.
- **Thread tension settings** - rule of thumb for even stitches: on the reverse of your design, you should see **1/3** bobbin thread to **2/3** top thread. Thread breaks occur when the upper tension is too tight or if the bobbin thread is too loose and not running smoothly out of the bobbin case. Adjust the tension when changing thread types.
- **Digitising** - if the thread breaks at the same point in the design each time, adjust the digitising. Reduce overlapping stitch build-up and/or reduce stitch density where stitch distance is too high and check stitches are not too small.
- **Needle plate and bobbin case** - should be inspected for abrasions, sharp edges, cracks and lint build-up. Be sure to check the sewing machine hook, if it becomes damaged this can also lead to thread breaks.
- Thread breaks can be caused by friction/heat build-up from embroidering dense fabrics such as denim and leather or on cap seams. This can be prevented by using titanium coated, special application needles - **MXK5 SAN®1**.
- Take care not to use excessive adhesive spray as build-up can cause the needles to drag and thread to break. Changing needles regularly and using adhesive spray remover is recommended.

### Learn more:

**Punch Book** - Digitising for Embroidery design by Bonnie Nielsen

For more information go to [www.madeira.co.uk](http://www.madeira.co.uk)

Madeira Embroidery Training Courses contact: [training@madeira.co.uk](mailto:training@madeira.co.uk)

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