

What products and/or services do you offer—supplies, custom orders, framing and/or finishing services, classes, stitch a longs and/or sit 'n stitch hours, retreats, special events, etc.?

Unique Lee Yours (ULY) focuses on Counted Cross-Stitch designs and supplies however we also offer charts and supplies for Hardanger, Embroidery, Tatting, Punch-Needle, Ribbon Embroidery and Needlepoint.

To this end we carry the full line of DMC floss plus Crescent Colors, Weeks Dye Works, The Gentle Art & The Caron Collection. We also carry Kreinik & Rainbow Gallery Products, Mill Hill Beads & Just Another Button Company. Charts & Kits from your favorite designers, a beautiful selection of linens and Aida in all counts / Colors from a variety of suppliers and of course all the basics for your next project - needles, floor frames, lighting, Q-snaps and scissors are available.

Special orders and mail orders are always welcome. Customers can go online to view available products from vendors such as Hoffman Distribution and Wichelt and shop online at www.uniqueleeyours.com. If we don't have an item in stock, we will get it for you!

ULY has several wonderful frame shops in the area that offer discounts to ULY shop customers. I enjoy lacing needlework for one of these shops and for customers who need this service. Plans are in the works to carry / custom order molding at very reasonable prices for do-it-yourself framers.

ULY has a FREE Sit-N-Stitch group every Wednesday from 1:00-3:00pm and on Saturdays 10:00-12:00pm. We also offer FREE afternoon support groups for previous class graduates in Tatting & Hardanger who may need a refresher on a technique.

The shop hosts a Lace Guild (3rd Saturday 10-12) with a focus on learning Bobbin Lace however lace knitters, tatters and needle lace artisans are all welcome to join. The Embroiders Guild of America meets here on the 3rd Thursday from 1pm-3pm. This Guild focuses on handwork and community service projects. We welcome special interest groups in all areas of handwork to schedule and enjoy our stitching room.

Classes offered at ULY include beginning to Advanced Cross-Stitch, Hardanger, Punch-needle, Tatting, Ribbon Embroidery & Finishing classes. Teaching is a passion and I enjoy designing one of a kind shop "exclusives" **for classes such as our scissor fob series.**

What draws Stitchers to your shop?

When I first opened the shop, a seasoned owner offered this advice when purchasing shop supplies, "buy an inch tall and a mile wide." I hear compliments every day that are a direct result of the wide variety of needlework choices offered at ULY.

Needle-workers enjoy seeing and touching their supplies. We appreciate and assist our clients in choosing just the right items for a project. A favorite is the "floss toss" when we gather all the

threads called for in a design and "toss" them on different fabrics until just the right piece is found.

We enjoy sharing our work with each other and all stitchers like to see finished projects on the wall for inspiration. Thanks to my generous and talented friend Sue Gunter, my cousin Diane St Andre and shop friends the walls here are sure to please with a wide variety of beautiful models to stimulate the creative juices.

Do you offer something unique—hard-to-find supplies, a unique atmosphere, unique classes, special events, or something else that is rarely found at other needlework shops?

Well, the name of the shop IS Unique Lee Yours. The idea behind our name and concept is; we can all stitch the same design but by adding our own flair we make it "uniquely ours." Our tagline, "Where Everyone Counts" was conceived by my daughter in law Tamzin. I love this as it is the perfect description of who we are and what we stand for!

One of the special things about the shop is our common love of needlework and our friendships. Customer Cathy says, "stitching together is the fast track to making friends" Many of our friendships go back 20 + years!

About a year ago, we started a new tradition here. On the first Saturday Sit-N-Stitch we enjoy tea together. Brewed and served in rose covered china we try out new flavors and enjoy a few extra minutes of relaxing with tea cup in hand.

How would you describe your shop's interior?

We have an open layout with a dedicated thread room & stitching room. Many framed and finished pieces are on display to enjoy throughout the shop. A featured section with the current holiday or season is always a highlight. We keep Christmas up year round and all other seasonal charts are easily accessible.

There's lots of natural light from windows and special daylight bulbs overhead so our threads and fabrics show their true colors. The use of beautiful antiques for our displays gives a warm homelike feeling to the shop.

Tell me about your shop's location and history.

The idea of ULY began in 2005 when we received news that our local shop had closed its doors. The original intention was to do a little designing and offer a place to teach and to stitch together.

To this end, a small stitching group was organized and we met alternately at my husband's office which would become our "shop" and at our friend Pat's home where I would take a small basket of new charts to look through.

The "shop" was a corner of my husbands (then) large office building and housed DMC floss, The Gentle Art Threads, Weeks Dye Works thread, a few charts and basic supplies.

One thing led to another and here we are celebrating our 7th Anniversary! ULY has taken over all the available real estate in the office building, leaving my husband to make his last stand in the lunchroom! Thanks to his support the shop was able to grow and is now a thriving business
Thanks, Honey!

The shop is located in Southern Oregon just one mile off the I-5 in Grants Pass. From the outside we look pretty plain, but don't let that fool you! There's 1200 + feet of Needlework Heaven inside. If you are passing by I hope you will drop in and say hello.

What aspect(s) of your shop are you most proud of? What would a customer be the most impressed by?

I really could not have envisioned the shop we have now, 7 years ago. I mean a basket and a corner? It has and continues to be an exciting adventure shared with customers and friends that were here from day one.

There is a creative and positive energy at the shop. It is exciting to see what's new and to find your next needlework project!

Is there anything else you'd like to add about your shop?

It is a joy to be part of such a great community of artisans. I love the fact that with the ups and downs of the economy creating beauty with our hands has not been lost for us or for others.

I meet stitchers everyday that share how needlework enriches their life, is their creative outlet and a great stress reliever! As for me, I have the best job in the world. I get to do what I love everyday and am happy to be able to share my passion for needlework with friends old and new!

Happy Stitching,
Lee