

An interview with Ginny aka Ginny's Happy Cuts

by Carrie Schwartz, [Carrie's Creations](#)

I had the privilege to interview Ginny from [Ginny's Happy Cuts](#), one of our newest designers. Ginny joined Paperthreads in March. She has two hundred and ninety-six files currently in her store! Her methods and ideas are revealed below. I believe you will learn much about her personality and designs as you read.

Carrie: I read on your introduction page that you have always been involved in crafts. At what age did you begin crafting?

Ginny: My aunt taught me to knit at the age of five.

Carrie: Was there someone who influenced your desire to craft?

Ginny: My mother was the biggest influence. She made all of our clothes when we were little. I received the scraps of fabric and I would make Barbie clothes out of them.

Colorforms - Do you remember them? There was this huge kitchen in a flat box with a refrigerator and stove that I wanted so bad. Finally, I made one myself out of cardboard and paper by copying the design. I was about eight or nine at the time.



I also made a pair of sandals back then, out of cardboard. The sandals had several layers with the heel having more layers than the sole.

Carrie: That is amazing what else did you do?

Ginny: Coloring books- we each had our own private time with our mother. She had her own coloring box and we would get our time alone with her as we colored we could talk. That's how she connected with us.



At the age of twelve I wanted a sewing machine. My parents told me to make a dress by hand and then they would give me a sewing machine. I made my first dress by hand. Then they gave me an old black sewing machine. From there I made my school clothes, my sister's clothes, my prom dress, curtains and my own wedding dress.

Carrie: What is your favorite craft?

Ginny: Scrapbooking and quilting

Carrie: When did you begin quilting?

Ginny: I made my first quilt when I was pregnant with my first child in 1976.

Carrie: Did someone teach you?

Ginny: No, I was looking in a magazine and I found a baby quilt I liked. I followed the directions.

Carrie: How many quilts have you made?

Ginny: Oh it's hard to count, I've given most of them away as gifts and donated one to a local theatre during their production of OKLAHOMA, they raffled it off and raised twelve hundred dollars.

Carrie: Do you like musicals?

Ginny: Ah, I directed over thirty! I taught voice and piano for over fifteen years and that's what got me into musicals.



Carrie: I also read that you have completed over 80 albums and that most of them sit on your book shelf. What is your secret to getting so many albums completed?

Ginny: When you have an obsession you do it a lot! It's a lot easier when you have more time. Once the kids hit high school I began. Once they left home it filled the empty gap. I love reliving the memories when I scrap the old pictures.

Carrie: Which is your favorite album that you made?

Ginny: Oh gosh, that is hard. I would say Christmas, because it's my favorite time of year when the whole family is together.

Carrie: Which is your favorite technique or product?

Ginny: I'm a paper addict. I actually like hand cutting the motifs from pattern papers and using them as embellishments.

Carrie: I also read that you had some designs waiting in Inkscape before your Silhouette arrived. Are the files in the store?

Ginny: Yes, the first file I made is in the store. It is a very complicated overlay. I was a detail freak from the beginning!



Carrie: What was your reaction when you were invited to join Paperthreads?

Ginny: I was ecstatic! I had been approached by other sites but the positive creative atmosphere that Michelle has created at Paperthreads is just what I needed.

Carrie: How did you come up with your name Ginny's Happy Cuts?

Ginny: I love designing and it makes me happy and if my designs make other people happy when they use them then it completes the circle.

Carrie: Where do you get your inspiration?

Ginny: I don't know I've got more ideas in my head than I'll ever do.

Carrie: Once you have your idea what do you do? Do you hand draw or sketch your ideas before working in Inkscape?

Ginny: No, I design the way I scrap. I just start with one simple idea and it evolves. I never have a detailed plan.

Carrie: What is your favorite file that you have made?

Ginny: Whatever the current file is that I am working on. The best one still hasn't happened yet. That is how I feel about life. My best day is still ahead of me.

Carrie: Which file took you the longest to create?

Ginny: The first file that I made it took me about a month.

Carrie: What are your future expectations?

Ginny: To have innovative and fresh ideas that inspire others to be creative with my designs.

Carrie: In November you will offer the Scrapbooking, Cards & More QMC what are your thoughts about the club?

Ginny: I'm super excited about having the contact with the customers and getting to know them.

Carrie: Do you know what you will be offering for the club members?

Ginny: First of all they will get the same detail as in my other files. They will get holiday files from Halloween through New Years, where a lot of the elements can be used on non-holiday pages. In one week they may get a title with an embellishment and later coordinating pieces. I will be giving them cards and projects that they can use as gifts and home decorating items. Don't tell anyone but one of the designs will be a wreath!

I really enjoyed interviewing Ginny and getting to know her in a more personal way. Not only is Ginny a talented designer but she is very uplifting. She laughs often and has a wonderful spirit of hope as she looks to each day with great expectations.



Carrie Schwartz