

Scared Stitchless!

Introduction to Free Motion Quilting

Level: Beginner

Objective of this Class: With your domestic sewing machine, you can create heirloom quilts. This beginner class will cover topics ranging from marking your quilt, batting choices, pinning your quilt, working with stencils, free motion fills, grid work, to alternate ways to transfer designs to your quilt tops. Learn to pin your quilt and prepare it for quilting. Then dive in and practice free-motion grid work, quilting loops, curves, and straight lines, all using your home sewing machine.



Supply List: Things you will need for class.

- One (1) ~18x22" quilt sandwich for this first practice sampler (2 fat quarters with batting between)—dark solids work well with light thread or light solids with dark thread. Fat quarters work great.
- Roll of 2" wide Blue Tape or Packing Tape
- Sewing Machine in good working order (with instruction manual). Must have a plexiglas surround for your machine (e.g., Sew-Steady table) or a small surround that comes with some machines. **You must have room for your hands on both sides of the needle to move the quilt under the needle.**
- Free motion quilting foot or darning foot for machine and the ability to drop the feed-dogs. If unsure, bring all the feet for your machine. **No walking foot please.**
- Basic notions including small scissors or snips, seam ripper, pins, etc.
- 1 pkg. Schmetz Microtex or Quilting machine needles size 75 or 80 (a variety pack is great)
- #1 Curved safety pins, 2 dozen or more
- Blue water-soluble marking pen and/or white ceramic pencil (e.g., Bohin, SewLine or Fons & Porter) for marking designs. Blue line for white/light fabrics, white for dark fabrics.
- Threads for stitching: Contrasting thread for practice squares. Recommended threads are Aurifil 50 weight cotton or Glide 40 weight poly, or similar.
- Your choice of something to give your fingers traction as you move the fabric sandwich under the needle. Suggestions include Machingers or Grabaroos quilting gloves, garden gloves with rubber nubs on fingertips, or fingerless yoga gloves. An oil-free lotion with glycerin (Neutrogena makes several options) also gives nice traction when quilting.
- Extension cord/power strip.

Recommended Battings: Quilter's Dream Cotton, Quilters Dream Wool, Warm and Natural, Warm and White, Hobbs 80/20 blend.

NOTE: Class begins with lecture/overview and pinning your practice sandwiches. Machines will be used after lunch as we get to the hands-on portion of the class.

