

Class: **Basic Machine Quilting – Free Motion**

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CLASS SUPPLIES

- **Quilt Samples** During the class we will be creating samples that you will want to add to later and save for reference as you create your own person style. I suggest having at least two available for class, you can always add more as you need them.
 - **Fabric should be light, solid, and no print.** Good grade Muslin works great for fabric samples for both top and bottom. Your thread should be one or two shades darker than the top, so you can see it, but not too dark as it highlights imperfections which can discourage you. A pastel color, like yellow or peach works nicely.
 - Best size mini-quilt to create stitching samples is a **fat quarter size top and backing or ½ yard folded as comes off the bolt.** This gives you the ability to make two samples from one yard of fabric. A medium batting, with a bit of loft, allows you to see the stitches or texture created by your stitches. Something like **Hobbs 80/20** is my favorite for samples.
 - The sample quilt does not need to be spray basted or pinned due to size, but a basting stitch around the outside helps keep things from shifting.

We will be reviewing various quilting notions and tools used in free motion quilting and how they affect your desired results in class —machine setup, thread sizes, needles, fabrics, batting, etc... The following list are the basics to get you started.

- **Sewing machine set up with a foot designed for free motion quilting.** Each brand of machine will have unique accessories, but an **Open toe free motion foot**, sometimes called darning foot is available for most machines and works nicely. Make sure you feed-dogs are down or covered. Nice, but not required, **speed setting, stop w/needle down, single-hole plate.**
- **Needles:** The right Needle for beautiful quilting is dependent on many factors, so it is fine to start with what you use for your quilt piecing and as your experience grows you can add to your collection of needles. Recommend a size 12 to start. We will review various needle types in class and their purposes.
- **Thread:** **Aurifil 50 wt** is a good cotton thread for free motion quilting and practice work. It gives good looking stitche, while minimizing tension problems. Regular sewing thread, example 50wt 3 ply poly core thread may not give you the desired results. **Bobbin:** For class purposes the **Aurifil 50 wt** used on top will be fine. We will discuss in class thread options for both top and bobbin and how they interact together. Don't forget to wind several bobbins **same color as top thread.**
- **Quilting gloves** allow you to grip the quilt and manipulate it easier. There are other tools that help move the fabric, one example is the "Gypsy Quilter Fabric Glide". Samples of these tools will be available in class for students to try.
- **Marking tools.** **Air erasable (purple)** and **blue water-soluble** are best markers for class activities. Samples are also a good time to utilize the **FriXion Pen**, that you would not want to use for marking on your finished quilt. A liquid eraser pen is a nice-to-have to quickly remove markings when you change your mind.