

Edge to Edge with Q-matic

By Denise Jones

Getting ready to quilt:

To create and stitch any Edge to Edge design layout in Q-matic the quilt top, batting and backing will need to be loaded on the frame. Test the stitching with the top thread and bobbin to be used after the sewhead has been cleaned and oiled. Be sure and check the bottom side of the quilt stitch too. If all looks good it is time to start.



Baste a line across the batting and backing to use to place the quilt top straight.



Bring the quilt top up and over the backing rail to the basted line on the batting and backing.



Pin to secure and baste across the top and down the sides of the quilt top that is in the area where stitching can be done.



Set the Safe Area when Q-matic is opened or use the Set Safe Area icon on the lower left. Make sure both the X and the Y belts are engaged. The Safe Area should be 1-3 inches larger than the quilt top on all sides. Move the sewhead all the way back and to the left of the quilt top. Note: the quilt top is not right at the top of the Safe Area at this time. Press Set on the sewhead.



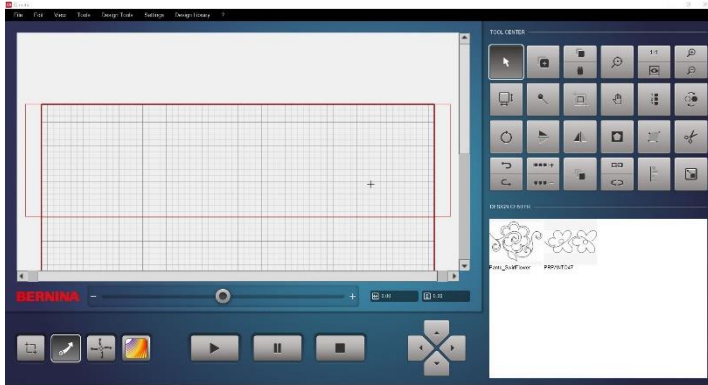
Bring the sewhead forward and then across the quilt top to just beyond the right side and all the way to the front of the frame. Press Set on the sewhead.



The Safe Area is now seen on the Q-matic screen. It is the red box just larger than the grid after the quilt size is set.



Set the quilt size using the Quilt Size tool in the Tool Center. Make sure and measure the quilt top because sometimes they are not the same as the pattern stated. The one in this example is 66" X 54". It is turned on its side so there will be fewer rows to stitch.



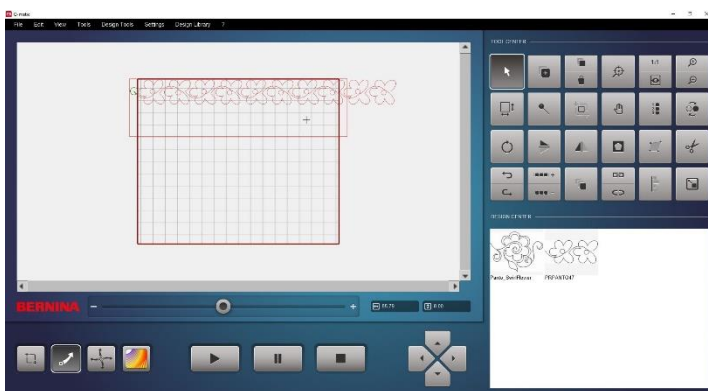
Now let's design the Edge 2 Edge layout:



Select the design or designs to be used from the library using the Add A Design tool in the Tool Center. When the design is in the Design Center double click to place it on the Quilt Area. (the grid)



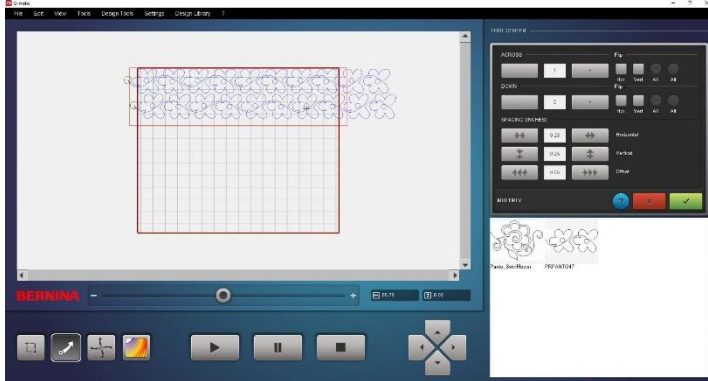
With this design selected use the E2E+ tool in the Tool Center to add enough designs to go across and have an extra on the right hand side. The first row is created.



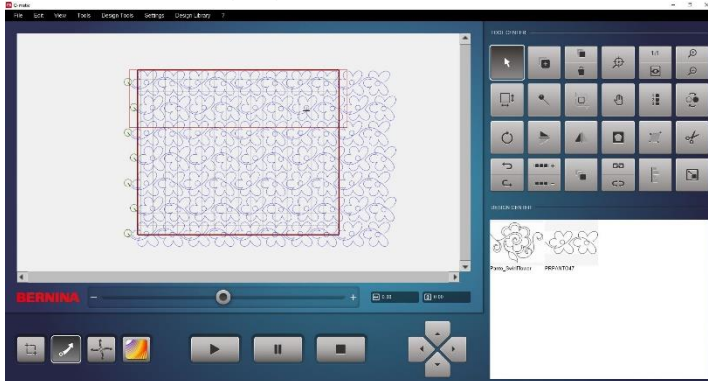
With that row still selected (red) open Multiply.

When the Multiply opens add one row. Make the adjustments needed to the Offset or Vertical spacing. In this example the Offset was done first and then the Vertical

spacing. Remember when adjusting the Offset the top row is the one that moves.



When all looks good add more rows so that the full grid is covered with part of the bottom row hanging out.

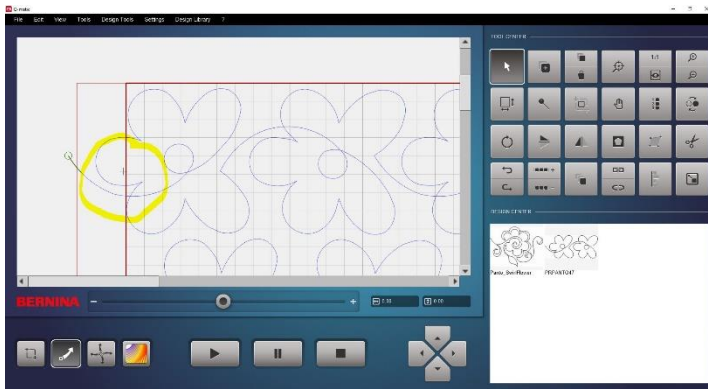


Now we need to get the top of the quilt to match the top of the grid. When you create a layout they may not always be the same.

Place the sewhead on the upper left corner of the quilt top.

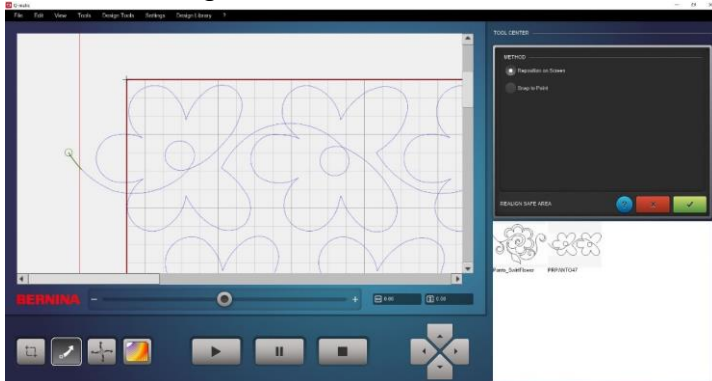


When you look at the computer screen the crosshairs of the needle are not at the top of the grid. They are way down into the design. The Safe Area needs to be realigned.

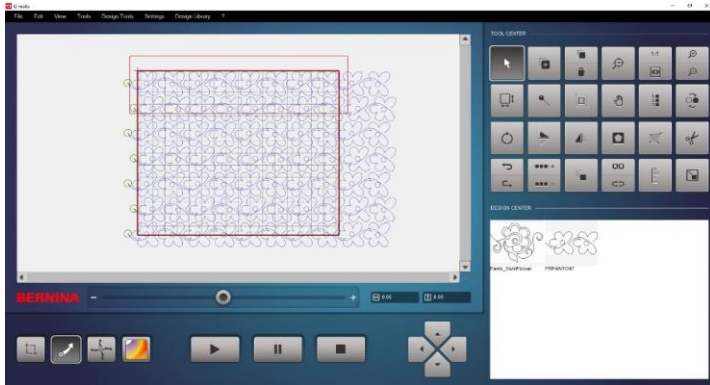


Open the Realign Safe Area tool in the Tool Center.

With the tool opened select Reposition on Screen. Take your finger or the mouse and move the crosshairs of the needle up to the upper left corner of the grid. Press the checkmark in green box to Confirm.



Zoom out to Full View (the eye on the bottom half) to see that the Safe Area has moved.



The design selected for this Edge 2 Edge is straight across the top so no need to trim this one. If the design needed to be trimmed at the top now is the time.



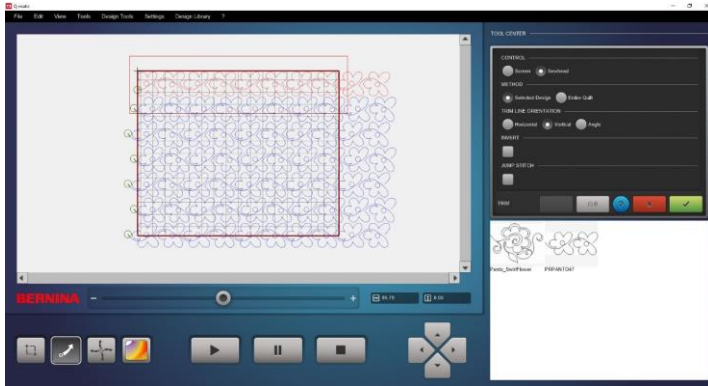
Select the layout and then click on the Un-connect tool in the Tool Center. It is the bottom half of this tool. When a layout is created with Multiply the rows are all Connected.

Time to trim the first row on the left and right of the quilt top. Place the sewhead on the left side of the quilt top.

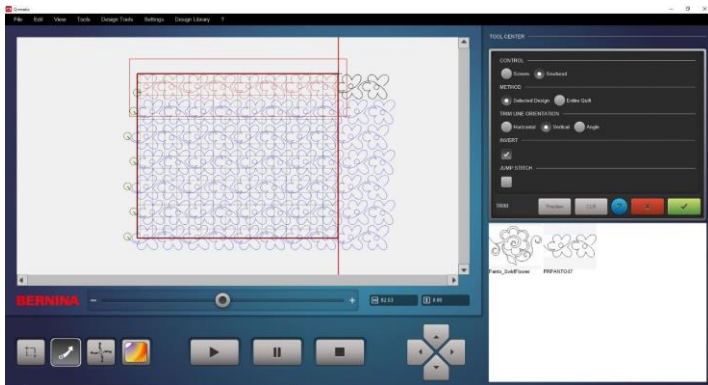


With the first row selected open Trim in the Tool Center.

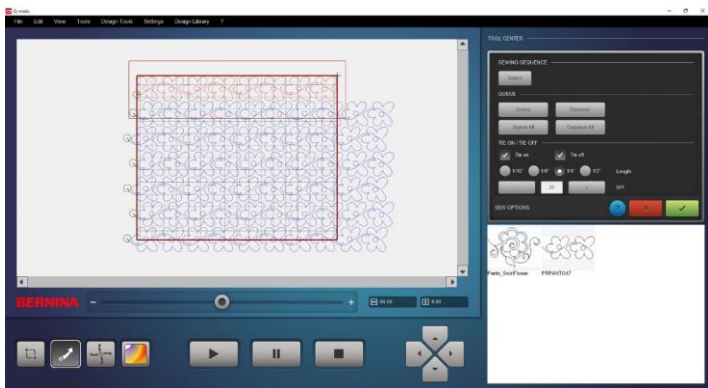
With the tool open select Sewhead, Selected Design and Vertical. Touch Set on the sewhead. The line can be seen on the Q-matic screen. Click Preview then click the checkmark in the green box to Confirm.



Move sewhead to the right side. Select the row again and open Trim. Select Sewhead, Selected Design, Vertical and Invert to trim the right side.

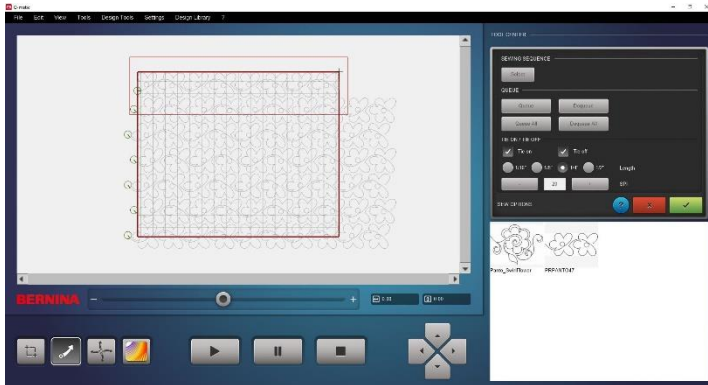


Click on Preview and then Confirm.

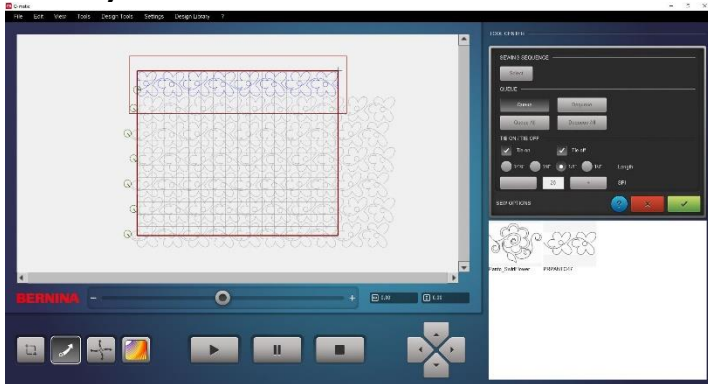




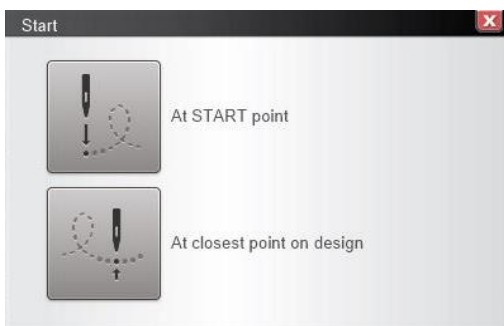
Click on the Sew Option tool in the Tool Center. The full layout is Queued to stitch at this time and it needs to be Dequeued All.



Queue just the first row to stitch. Confirm.



Press the Start button so stitching can begin. Touch At START point and machine will move to start stitching.



Use Pull Bobbin icon on sewhead screen to pull up bobbin thread then Confirm to stitch first row.



When first row is finished pull up bobbin thread and cut.

Advanced quilt so that the next row can be stitched.

Baste sides and replace clamps. Make sure that part of the already stitched row is still in the area the machine can stitch.

Place sewhead on a point in the design that was stitched that can be easily found on the Q-matic screen.



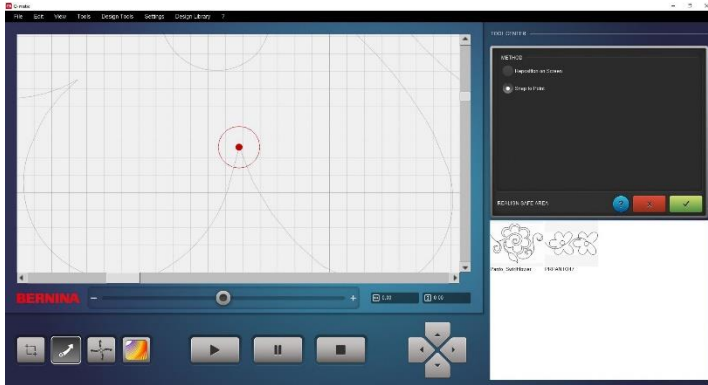
Looking at the computer screen find the same point and zoom in on it.



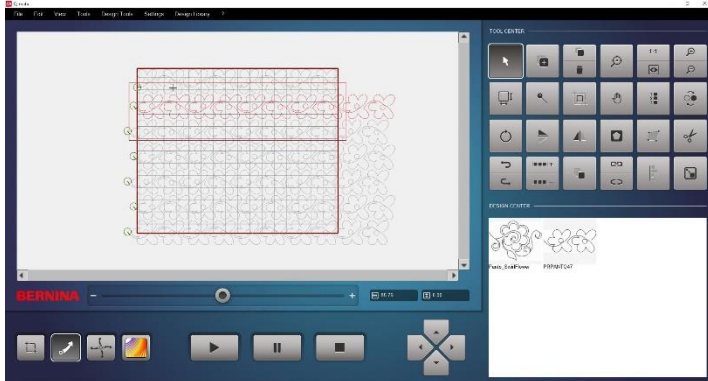
Center Zoom is great for this part of Realign the Safe Area.



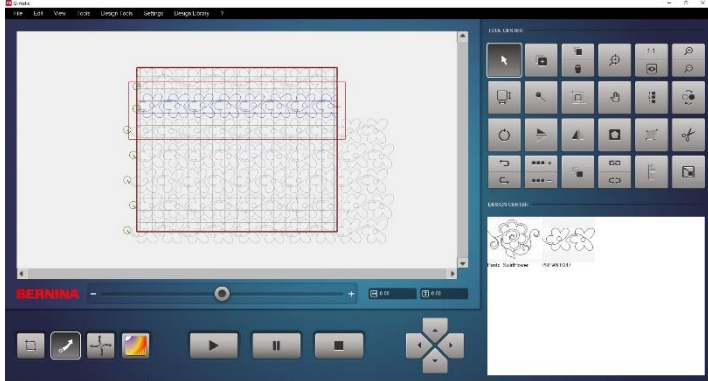
Open the Realign Safe Area tool in the Tool Center and Select Snap to Point. Click or touch the screen where you will see the red dot. You can click until you get it just like you want. Click Confirm to save and see the needle crosshairs on this spot.



Zoom out to see the Safe Area has moved down on the screen.



With the second row selected open Trim. Using Sewhead to trim move the sewhead to the left side and trim. Don't forget to Confirm. Move the Sewhead to the right and trim that side. Confirm. You will notice that after the design is trimmed it is now Queued to stitch so just press Start and follow the prompts as before.

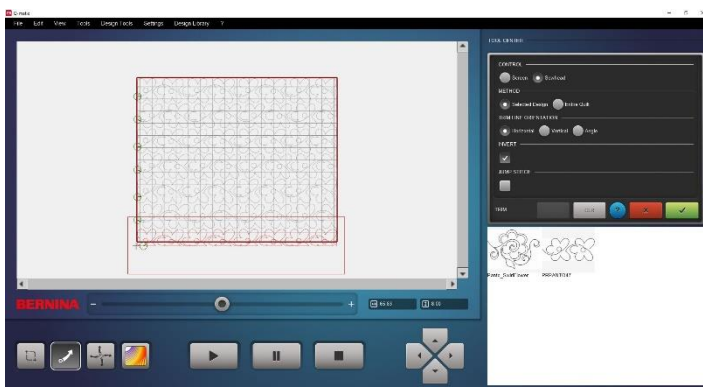
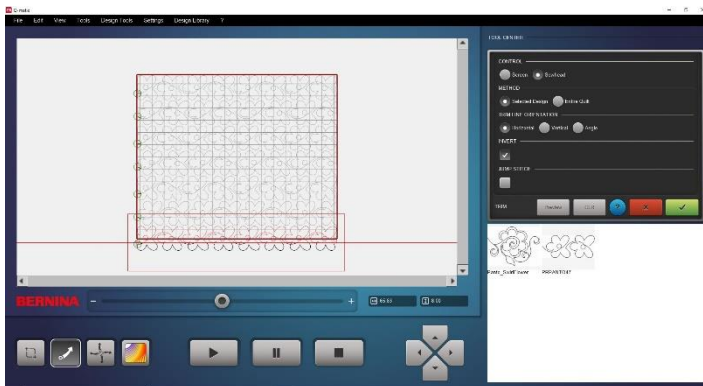


Continue advancing, realigning the Safe Area and trimming the sides as the rows are stitched out.

When the last row is ready to stitch trim both sides as before. To trim the bottom of the row, place the sewhead at the bottom of the quilt top.



On the Q-matic screen select the last row and open Trim. On the Trim screen select Sewhead, Selected Design, Horizontal and Invert. Press Set on the sewhead and Preview then Confirm.



The last row is Queued to stitch. Press Start.