

# Ruler Quilting FUNdamentals

free motion quilting, domestic machine

with Valli Schiller

Add a new technique to your free motion quilting repertoire! Ruler guided quilting enables you to stitch precise straight lines and curves with minimal marking. And since your feed dogs are dropped, you can stitch in any direction to create complex designs without turning your quilt.

## In this class, you will...

- ✓ Learn how to free motion quilt using a ruler foot and acrylic templates as guides.
- ✓ Learn to quilt dot-to-dot, using simple straight lines and arcs to make intricate designs.
- ✓ Get hands-on ruler quilting practice by starting an elegant 20" square whole cloth quilt (pattern provided) that you'll finish at home.

## Skill Level

To get the most out of this class, you need working knowledge of free motion quilting.

You should already be comfortable with:

- ✓ Installing a free motion foot, dropping the feed dogs, setting automatic needle down, and making thread tension adjustments on **your machine**.
- ✓ Bringing bobbin thread up to the surface before starting to stitch.
- ✓ Free motion quilting along a marked line, and freehand stippling/meandering.

## Supplies—required

- Sewing machine **with foot control**. Bring your manual, too.
- Bed extension table for sewing machine (minimum 11"x15")
- **Ruler Quilting Foot** specific to your sewing machine.  
*Bernina* foot is #72; some *Janome* models can use the "convertible free motion foot" with "ruler toe"; the *Juki* "Ruler Foot for TL Series" is also compatible with several other straight stitch sewing machines. *Westalee* and *Accents in Design* make good after-market ruler feet for most makes/models – double check the size before you buy.
- **Thick acrylic ruler quilting templates**: STRAIGHT and SHALLOW ARC, each at least 6" long. (If you don't already have similar templates, the *Westalee 12 inch Arc/Straight Template* is a great starter ruler and the only one you'll need for this class.)
- Water or air erasable quilt marking pen
- Basted quilt sandwich (any method you prefer), at least 22" square. Use a solid colored top fabric that shows markings easily. Please mark quilt top **before class** with grid diagrammed below. Allow at least 1" margin of fabric around boundary of marked grid.
- Small quilt sandwich for warming up. Use scrap fabric and batting, no need to baste.
- Rotary cutting ruler: square or rectangle with longest side at least 8"
- Thread & matching bobbin (50wt cotton or 40wt trilobal polyester), same color as quilt top or slightly darker; thread snips
- Machine needles (90/14 *topstitch*, *metallic* and/or *quilting* needles are good choices)
- Protractor (inexpensive plastic version is fine, available at office supply stores)

## Supplies—optional, but bring if you have them

- Machine quilting gloves like *Machingers* or *Grabaroos*
- Long handle tweezers
- *Supreme Slider*, *Sewslip*, or other silicone sheet
- *Handi Grip* adhesive grip strips
- Any other items you find helpful for free motion quilting

Before class, please use water erasable pen to mark these **BLUE** gridlines and dots on your quilt top. Don't mark the red dimensions; they're for your reference only.

