



A division of Galloping Rabbit, Inc.



Independent Authorized Gammill Quilting Machine Dealer

Loading with Red Snappers: The Jukebox Float

Several of you have asked us to provide a document about how we load a quilt top with Red Snappers (since, like with so many techniques, we don't follow the "rules"). Here's our Modified Jukebox Float in a nutshell:

1. Wipe down your table under the machine. Make sure there are no drops of oil that might stain the quilt. Remove everything from the tabletop. Push the machine head all of the way to one side of the table.
2. Measure the length of the quilt (especially the Statler owners who will be doing an edge to edge).
3. Mark the center point of the top and bottom edges of the backing with a pin.
4. Loosen your "Quilt Top" leader and pull it straight back onto the table. Do not pull it around the belly bar.
5. Align the center of the **bottom edge** of your backing with the center of the lead (or the center of the tabletop), with the excess fabric extending off the table top onto the floor where you are standing. The wrong side of the backing will face the ceiling; the right side of the backing will be toward the floor.
6. Use the small 2" Red Snapper pieces. Align the edge of the backing with the edge of the serged fabric on your lead. Snap one of the 2" pieces right over the center marks, and use two others, one on each end of the backing.
7. Either start at one end, or start at the middle piece and press the longer Red Snapper units onto the lead, replacing the 2" pieces as you go. It helps to bend the Snapper up to help it open. Use your palm to make sure that it is pushed down the entire length of the lead. Fill in with the shorter Snaps as needed.
8. Wind the entire back around the "Quilt Top" leader bar.
9. Lower the lead from the Take Up bar onto the table, giving yourself 8-10 inches of slack. Fold this lead back on itself so that you can see the serged edge.
10. Loosen the Quilt Top lead and bring the backing **around the belly bar** and over the Take Up bar. Line the center of the edge up with the center of the lead and again use the 2" Snappers to hold the center and ends of the top edge of the backing in place. Replace with the longer Snappers.

Kelly Gallagher-Abbott and Jim Abbott

www.jukeboxquilts.com

Mailing: PO Box 488, Ft. Collins, CO 80522-0488
Shop: 2025 Turnberry Rd., Ft. Collins, CO 80524

Ph: (970) 224-9975 or 1-855-44Quilt (1-855-447-8458)

Email: Kelly@jukeboxquilts.com

Copyright 2012
All Rights Reserved



A division of Galloping Rabbit, Inc.



Independent Authorized Gammill Quilting Machine Dealer

11. Roll the quilt backing up onto the “Quilt Top” bar until the Red Snapper is showing 2-3 inches from the Take Up bar. Make sure the leads are not twisting on themselves at the ends of the table. The backing should be smooth.
12. Lay your batting on the backing, aligning the top edge of the batting to the top of the backing just along the edge of the Snap.
13. Run a horizontal channel locked basting stitch along the top edge through the batting and backing. Align the quilt top to this stitched line and baste in place 1/8” from the quilt top edge.
14. **WITHOUT** side tension in place, baste the quilt top down the left edge 1/8” from the unfinished edge, baste horizontally across the quilt (use channel lock if you have a seam or row of blocks, adjusting the top as you go to line up with the basting), and baste up the right edge. If you are doing a loose edge to edge design, the distance between horizontal basting lines can be greater than if you’ll be doing dense quilting. For loose quilting, we’ll have the distance be the sewing field, for intense quilting, we’ll leave no more than 8-12” between horizontal basting lines.
15. Advance the layers. Do not worry if you see the top wrinkle above the basting line as it nears the Take Up roller.
16. Flip up the quilt top, then the batting. Inspect that the backing is smooth and thread free. Smooth the batting in place, then the quilt top. Again, baste a letter “U” (down the left side, across the quilt horizontally, and up the right side).
17. Continue this down the length of the quilt until the bottom edge of the top is basted.
18. Roll the quilt back onto the “Quilt Top” bar so you can begin quilting at the top of the quilt. Apply the side tension (pinning or clamping to the backing only), and start quilting.
19. When quilting is complete, whip the Snappers off with flourish – it takes less than a few seconds to have the quilt off the machine!
20. Compliment yourself for getting the Snaps – think of the time you saved (not to mention Band-aids) loading the quilt!

Here are some pointers:

1. If you use side tension while basting, your edges will bubble up and the borders will not lay flat.
2. Attaching the backing to the “Quilt Top” rail allows you to drop under the machine and inspect thread tension if needed on the quilt backing.
3. Once the layers are basted, it’s easy to pull one quilt off the machine and replace it with another if needed.
4. It’s so easy and fast to use the Red Snappers that it’s simple to turn a quilt to complete the side borders. Leave all basting in place in the borders, and run vertical channel locked basting lines down the sides of the backing (2-3 inches outside the quilt top) prior to turning the quilt – trim the backing to these basted lines to make it easy to reload the quilt.

Kelly Gallagher-Abbott and Jim Abbott

Copyright 2012
All Rights Reserved

www.jukeboxquilts.com