



Black Forest Quilting

Personalized Machine Quilting

Newsletter
Summer 2005

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International Machine Quilters Association Convention

Karyn just returned from the 2005 IMQA convention in Kansas City where she took four hands-on classes from wonderful teachers. She learned many new free motion techniques which included new ideas to use on sampler quilts. She has several new samples from these classes in her studio. She also purchased a CD of all the quilts that were on display in the show, which was a big part of the convention. There were over 400 quilts and garments displayed in the show.

One of the things Karyn learned at the convention was a new technique for doing Traupunto that will save some steps and will cost you less. She is putting together a sampler to demonstrate the new technique. Just ask to see it.

New Vendor For Backing Fabric

We have found a new vendor to supply us with backing fabric. The fabric will cost a little more, \$7.00 per yard, but we think it is much better quality than what we formerly stocked.

Handy Tips

If you are using blue chalk marking on your top, you can clean this with Sew Clean. If you use a wash-away blue pen, clean this with a solution of 1 quart water to 1 teaspoon baking soda. Be very careful in your use and handling of this type of marker, as any heat will set it into your fabric.

Calculating how much fabric you will need for the binding of your quilt can get a little complicated. Here is a chart we found that gives you the amount of 2" wide straight grain binding fabric required for three different sizes of quilts.

For 4 strips x 44" = 176", purchase 1/4 yd.
For 6 strips x 44" = 264", purchase 1/3 yd.
For 9 strips x 44" = 396", purchase 1/2 yd.

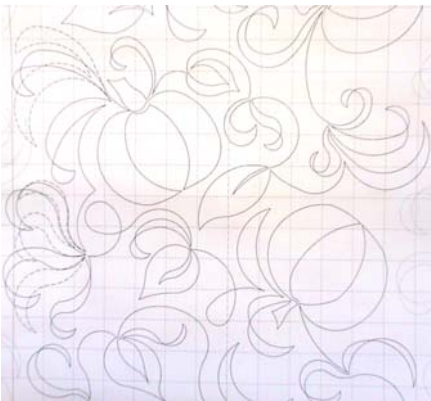
How To Square Your Quilt Before Binding

(From an article by Cathy Franks, a fellow long arm quilter.) “This is what I do for my competition quilts. If they are bed or whole cloth quilts, I wash them. I take them out of the washer, shake them out and lay them on a carpeted surface. I steam press the quilt starting at the center and moving out to the edges. I again shake out the quilt and lay it on the floor. I check to see if any “hill” appears. If so, I steam press them down. I shake out the quilt again and check to make sure the quilt is lying flat. Continue doing this until the quilt is flat. Once the quilt is lying flat, I use large rust free safety pins and pin along the edges. Pin no less than 1 inch apart. Let the quilt dry for at least 24 hours. Make sure nothing can run across the quilt such as children or pets.

I use 4 large carpenter squares and the longest steel edge ruler I can find. The best place to look is a hardware store (hardware stores are really quilt stores in disguise!!!) My straight edge is 6 feet long. Take your tools to your pressed quilt. Try not to pick up the quilt before you mark it. Lay one carpenter square along the top corner. Line up the edges of the square so that you will create a line that the binding can follow. Lay the straight edge along one side of the square. Lay another carpenter square so that one edge of it lies along the ruler. Continue doing this on all four corners. To make sure that you have a square quilt you need to do the following measurements: Measure each diagonal. Measure the width of the quilt at the top, middle and bottom, ditto for the length. Only when all these measurements are correct can you mark the line for the binding. I cut the quilt edge at this point but some people don't.”

New Patterns

We have purchased several new patterns recently for you to use in your projects. They are shown below. Ask to see them next time you drop by the studio.



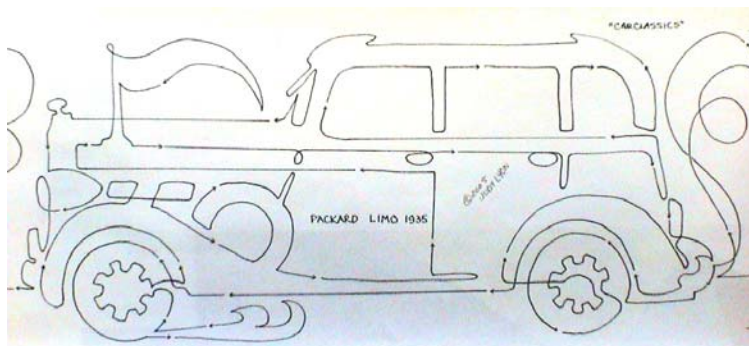
15” Pumpkins Galore



9” Ponderosa Pine Spray



11.5” Columbines with Hummingbird



8” Car Classics (several different cars in pattern)



12.5” Windy Meandering