

Creative Machine Quilting and Design

by Caryl Bryer Fallert

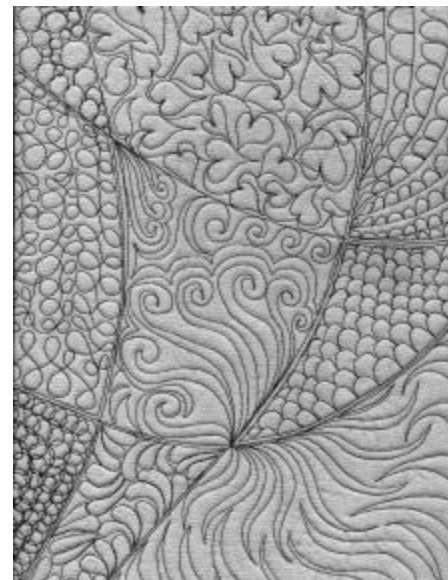
1-2 day class • all levels

You must know how to operate your machine in free-motion mode.

Learn the secrets of successful machine quilting. Various methods of machine quilting will be demonstrated in the class, and you will have a chance to make a sample of each one. Major emphasis will be on free-motion (feed-dogs down, hand guided) quilting. Workshop will include a slide lecture full of information and inspiration.

Subjects that will be discussed in the class include:

1. How to manage a large quilt with a standard sewing machine.
2. How to avoid physical exhaustion and repeat motion stress injuries when machine quilting
3. How to plan a quilting design after the quilt top is completed
4. Contemporary whole cloth designs
5. Enlarging and simplifying your drawings or photos to make them into quilting designs
6. How to make free-hand filler designs that look complex and are really easy.
7. Basting for machine quilting
8. Batting choice
9. Needle and thread choice
10. Marking and transferring your design to the quilt top
11. Couching with heavy cords and yarns
12. Design and composition in quilting designs
13. Shading with thread
14. Blocking, squaring up, and machine binding.



Subjects that will NOT be covered in the class:

1. How to manage disagreeable threads like rayon and metallic.
2. Trapunto
3. How to use your machine. You must know how to operate your machine, and it must be in good working order before the beginning of the class.

Supplies Needed

Sewing Machine: One that is friendly, well adjusted, and able to do free motion as well as straight stitching. Zigzag and other options are welcome. You must be familiar with your machine, and know how to operate it in the free motion mode. You must have at least one free-motion foot for your machine: darning foot (open toed is preferred, but closed is OK), "big foot", quilting foot, etc. Optional: If you already have the following feet, bring them along: • walking foot, • open toed embroidery foot, • open toed darning foot, • couching foot, • braiding foot, • edge foot.

- * Basic Sewing Kit for machine sewing. Scissors, needle changer, seam ripper, etc.
15-20 sheets of plain white copier paper

Extension cord: long, heavy duty with at least two outlets. Three prong adaptor if needed for classroom outlets

Iron: (one iron can be shared by the class)

Fabric: You will be making a series of small practice quilt sandwiches. You can make them in the class, or ahead of time. Size of 9" x 12" is recommended. If you cut your quilt sandwiches just a little larger than copier paper, you can trim them to fit into sheet protectors and keep them in a three ring binder. For the one-day class you will need about 10 quilt sandwiches.

Batting: Batting must be 100% cotton or 80% cotton / 20% polyester (Fairfield Cotton Classic is ideal). Enough to fill your 10 quilt sandwiches.

Thread:

- o 100% Cotton, 100% polyester, or cotton/poly sewing thread in several colors. Bring at least one color to contrast with your fabric.
- o Clear nylon or polyester monofilament Polyester is recommended.
- o Optional: If you have specialty threads you want to try (rayon, metallic, etc.), feel free to bring them, HOWEVER, this class will not include instruction in using specialty threads.

Needles: Bring a good supply of needles.

- o Schmetz #70 & #80 machine quilting needles are recommended
- o Schmetz #80 and #90 system 130 N (top stitching) needles may be needed for heavier threads.
- o Schmetz Microtex Sharp (#60, #70, #80) recommended for lighter weight threads.

Optional :

Gloves: Machingers™ are recommended (available from your local quilt shop or Clotilde.com.) You can also use latex surgical gloves, driving gloves, golf gloves, gardening gloves

Sew Steady-Portable Table or other Plexiglas extension table for your machine.

Small table top light box: If you are driving and already have one