

Oast Sewing Bee

17 March 2024

Quilting with a Walking Foot

They say that 'Quilting makes the quilt' – but are you fearful of going beyond 'quilt in the ditch' or hand-quilting? You may even love to free motion quilt, but this can be time-consuming. Alternatively, it's an easy and effective option to 'quilt by cheque book' and send tops to be long-armed. However, what to do with charity quilts, baby quilts for your neighbour's relatives etc. when you may not want to spend a lot of time or money to get a quilt finished?

Use the walking foot on your domestic sewing machine to get your 'duty' quilting finished faster and easier than you ever imagined! Use straight or decorative stitches to create a host of easy designs. You may find that you like the look of this quilting style so much that you use it for all your quilts.

Thread and needle choices will be discussed and there will be lots of examples to inspire you.

Requirements

At Sewing Bee workshops we have already made several 'samples' of different blocks: Carpenters Star, Log Cabin, Exploding Pineapple and Disappearing 4 Patch. You could use these blocks to practise the techniques (unless you have planned to continue to make a quilt from them). If these blocks are sitting 'waiting', then bring them along with some backing and wadding and you can quilt them so they can become a cushion or part of a bigger quilt using the 'quilt as you go' method.

If you haven't got orphan blocks that need quilting, but you do have a top in the 'to be quilted' pile, then by all means bring that along.

In total, you will need 4 – 5 practice quilt sandwiches about fat quarter size (but size isn't that important). The day will begin with stitching samples to 'play' with the different stitches. For this exercise if the top fabric of the quilt sandwich is calico, it will show the stitches well, the backing fabric can be anything (something 'ugly' from the back of the cupboard!).

Also bring:

Walking Foot for your machine, some machines have 'dual feed', so familiarise yourself with how this works.

Size 80 Topstitch needle

Polyester machine embroidery thread if you have it

40wt and 50wt cotton threads

Pencil and paper

Your machine manual if you are unsure how to attach the walking foot.

Your machine with lead and foot pedal, an extension lead, a mug and your lunch.

Payment will be taken on the day, unless you wish to BACS the payment to:

Account Name: Oast Quilters

Sort code: 60-04-27

Account number: 94110883

Reference: Your Name/Mar24SewBee

£10 members, £15 non members