

Free Motion Quilting



I wrote in the introduction to my book: "It is my hope that there is a moment in time when you are in awe of what you are creating and it excites you to the core of your soul." If you feel far from that feeling, you will be much closer to that goal after our 5 days together. Many times I find that all that stands between you and joy is some targeted advice, a good dose of encouragement or a few tweaks to your set up. That's the magic of an in-person workshop! In our 5 days together I will be able to help you with tweaks to your set up, explore new techniques, add to your motif inventory and most importantly, find joy in free motion quilting.

The Supply List may appear long, but its condensed version would read: "all the stuff you need to free motion quilt in a classroom plus your project and 10 quilt sandwiches." Please write me with any questions you have. See you there!

NOTES FROM JENNY:

I will bring my own curated selection of supplies and tools that I love to free motion quilt with. I also will bring a great selection of panels that are great to free motion quilt upon including a few limited print Malaysian batik panels. I will also bring copies of my book.

- If you are traveling by plane and have trouble with any of these supplies, let me know and I can help.
- Empty Spools will provide each student a 3' x 6' design wall.
- If you are new to free motion quilting, make sure that your current set-up works for free motion quilting and

that you know the right settings for your machine to free motion quilt. To test, layer up a small quilt sandwich (top, batting, backing) and free motion quilt a little bit. You must have the right foot and your machine must free motion quilt well. *You* don't have to quilt well yet, but *your machine* needs to be capable of it.

- If you don't have a project in mind, we can talk about possibilities. I have many panels and other ideas for a project.
- I will be contacting each of you ahead of time about your intended project. I can make suggestions if you are unsure of your choice.
- I am a free hand free motion quilter and do not use stencils. If you use them for your project, please bring them with you.



SESSION I

Sunday to Friday, February 27 – March 4, 2022

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Free Motion Quilting

SUPPLY LIST

- Your best machine for free motion quilting. If you have a full-sized machine and a smaller, class-sized machine, please bring the larger of the two.
- Slide-on table if your machine has one.
- Manual for your machine.
- Ruler foot and rulers if you intend to use them. If you have a newer BERNINA, I can lend my ruler foot to play with. I will bring rulers that can be borrowed.
- Piecing foot and any other foot your project requires – couching, edge stitch, zigzag, walking, etc. Aw heck, bring any that you think you might possibly need.
- Free motion quilting foot – all that you have. Make sure the foot you have works well with your machine. We will be mostly free motion quilting; the wrong foot would be crippling.
- Straight stitch plate if you have one.
- Zig-zag stitch plate.
- 10 quilt practice sandwiches: about 14" square (you'll be able to get 3 cuts across the width of the fabric). Please use quality, 100% cotton, solid colored fabric and quality batting. Baste using your preferred method (spray, pin, etc.)
 - Choose colors that you enjoy, maybe even different colors front and back.
 - 3 yards each of 2 fabrics will make 10 sandwiches.
- Lots of quality thread, different weights, colors and fibers. In general, thread available at your local quilt shop is high quality; what is at your big box store, not so much.
- Extra bobbins.
- Needles appropriate for your project. For most free motion quilting, I recommend a coated topstitch needle. If you prefer another type, please bring that. I will bring coated needles in a variety of sizes.
- Wash-out marker of choice.
- 18" ruler.
- Free motion quilting supplies – gloves, slider, snips, any other notions you typically use at home.
- Personal small trash can for thread snips.
- Project of choice, plus all the threads, needles, batting and chocolate required for that project.
 - If you don't have a project in mind, no worries. Let's talk or write so that you have something to play with that you're excited about and comfortable quilting.
- Basic sewing supplies – scissors, rotary cutter and small mat, seam ripper, tweezers, pins, etc. I will bring a few bigger mats, but you might want a small one at your machine.
- 20 sheets of full-sized plain paper towels (no print) or 40 if they are the half-sized ones.
- Something to cover your area at night (a small sheet is perfect).
- Note taking supplies. I suggest a spiral bound, unlined book to take notes in. You'll want to have good notes and sketches to look back on.
- Blank paper to sketch on, at least letter sized. Bigger is better, I'll bring some packing paper. Lined paper is difficult to freely sketch on.
- Regular pencil; plus 3 or 4 colored pens or pencils to illustrate steps in the sequence of a design.
- A playful and open attitude and a desire to lose all fear of free motion quilting!
- Table top light with multi-plug extension cord with surge protection.

OPTIONAL

- A portable table for your machine (SewEzi, etc.), only if you prefer it and have one.
- BERNINA users only - BSR if you have one.
- Copy of Jenny's book: *Free Motion Quilting, From Ordinary to Extraordinary*, C&T Publishing.