

Fearless Free-Motion Quilting with Valli Schiller (Saturday March 7, 2020)

(Class Participants are asked to bring their lunch. The class runs from 9am-4pm)

Skill Level: Beginner

No machine quilting experience is necessary, but you must be familiar with the operation of your sewing machine.

Specifically, you need to know how to:

- thread the machine
- drop the feed dogs and
- adjust needle thread tension.

Supplies (required)

- Sewing machine in excellent working condition. Bring your foot control and manual.
- Free Motion Quilting Foot for your sewing machine. (Your machine manufacturer may call this a “darning” or “free motion embroidery” foot.)
- Bed extension table for sewing machine. This is where you rest your hands; the larger the flat surface around your needle, the easier it is to free motion quilt.
- At least four practice quilt sandwiches, around 14” square. Use solid-colored top fabric, or piece together some orphan blocks. Basting isn’t necessary if you use cotton batting.
- Thread & matching bobbin (40-wt or 50-wt cotton, or 40-wt trilobal poly). Pastels or mid-tones are better than very dark colors.
- Machine needles (size 80/12 or 90/14 topstitch or quilting needles are good choices)
- Thread snips
- Water erasable quilt marking pen
- Your favorite pen or pencil and plenty of letter-sized paper

Supplies (optional, bring only if you already have them)

- Supreme Slider
- Sewslip, or other silicone sheet
- Long, bent-tip tweezers
- Machine quilting gloves like Machingers or Grabaroos
- Straight stitch throat plate for your sewing machine
- Alternatives to paper and pencil:
 - iPad and stylus, with a simple drawing/note-taking app installed
(Valli likes You Doodle – the free version is fine)
 - an LCD writing tablet, 8.5” or larger (Boogie Board eWriter or equivalent)
 - a small whiteboard (no larger than 11” x 17”) with wet or dry erase marker