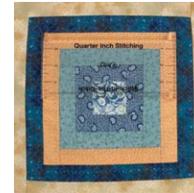


just ask, Jo-Ann



STITCH-IN-THE-DITCH

Stitch-in-the-Ditch refers to the practice of quilting a straight line, directly in the seam or ditch between two pieces of fabric. The **Acrylic Stitch Tool** is designed to be used with a 1/4" presser foot on a standard machine or with 1/4" between the needle & the edge of the foot. Align the two legs on the Stitch-In-The-Ditch side with the seam line. Press the machine foot up against the indented edge between two legs; stitch to the opposite end. Stop the machine, slide tool to next section; stitch. Repeat until stitching is completed.



QUARTER INCH STITCHING

Quarter Inch Stitching allows the quilter to stitch parallel lines spaced 1/4" apart. Repeat the previous steps. Align the two legs on the Quarter Inch Stitching side with a stitch line. Press the machine foot up against the indented edge between the two legs; stitch to opposite end. Stop machine, slide tool to next section; stitch. Repeat process until stitching is completed.

QUILTING THE DESIGN

Once the design, placement and scale of the quilting is decided, insert a new needle in the machine before stitching. Missed stitches or breaking threads can be the result of using an old or dull machine needle.

Baste layers together with safety pins, needle & thread or a basting gun to keep them from shifting.

Start in the middle of the quilt & work outward to the edges to prevent the fabric from bunching.

If the quilt is large, roll the edges & work on smaller sections at a time. **Quilter's Roll Clips** can help keep the quilt rolled and out of the way of the presser foot & needle. These flexible metal clips easily slide onto the rolled



Courtesy of Prym Consumer USA



MACHINE QUILTING BASICS

Machine quilting is the action of sewing together all three layers of a quilt, the top, batting & backing, using a sewing machine. This can be done several different ways.

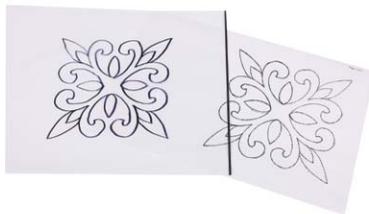
Decide which method of machine quilting to use. The quilter can use a standard home sewing machine, a quilting sewing machine or a long-arm sewing machine.

CHOOSING A QUILTING DESIGN

Quilt Stencils offer good options for both border designs & large block designs. Designs are available in quilting magazines, quilting books & online websites.

Select a design to complement the look & feel of the quilt. Transfer the design onto the quilt top using a preferred marking method.

CREATE A QUILTING DESIGN



Quilter's View Film is a transparent film that can be marked on & placed over quilt blocks to see how the finished design will look before stitching. Trace the design on the film & lay over block or quilt. It will show exactly where stitching lines will fall.



Need to adjust the size of a quilting design? Use the handy **Quilter's Scale** to find the percentage to increase or decrease a design. The double-sided plastic chart shows many combinations to adjust sizes. Find the current size of the design on the left side of chart & the desired size along the top of chart. Sliding fingers over and down the box where the two intersect provides the percentage to increase or decrease on a copy machine or scanner.

Quilting Stencils come in many shapes & sizes. Some are long & designed to be used for borders or sashing. Others are all-over designs to be used over the entire quilt top. Personal preference & the amount of machine stitching desired can be part of the decision.



Want a way to get a quilting design on the quilt without marking? Try **Quilter's Paper**. This tissue paper is used to create no-mark, tear-away stencils for machine quilting. Draw quilting design on Quilter's Paper; trace along the lines with the unthreaded sewing machine needle to perforate the paper, creating small holes. Layer several sheets of blank tissue under the marked piece & perforate several at a time. Lay paper template over blocks & follow perforated marks with a threaded sewing machine. Paper will tear away without tearing out stitches.

