

## BEGINNING MACHINE QUILTING

This is the class to learn a variety of skills that will enable you to quilt your own projects in the future. Practice projects will be "sandwiches of 18 x 22 " of fabrics or muslin – nothing that you will be using as an actual quilt. Once you master some skills, you can move on to an actual quilt or throw.

Please bring the following to class:

1. Sewing Machine - *with instruction manual* if you are not familiar with the machine
2. **Walking foot *and* darning foot for the machine**
3. Size 90 topstitch needles – new needles – I will talk about different needles in class
4. Thread – that *doesn't* match the fabric you are using – we want the stitches to show.
5. Fat quarters of fabric for both the top and bottom layers of your practice pieces - we will layer them in class – or – use squares of leftovers from your stash – please make sure they are at least 12 – 15" square – bring enough for 2 practice pieces if using fat quarters, 3 -4 if using smaller squares of fabric.
6. batting – the same size as sample fabrics for practice sandwiches.
7. Pencil or marking device.

*That being said, I use the following products – there will be a discussion of products and informative books during the class.*

Needles: Topstitch needles – size 80 – 90

Machinger brand or some other brand of quilters gloves that will improve your grip on the fabric.

Mettler, Auro-fil, or Presencia threads for solid colors – King Tut or Sulky Blendables for variegated threads. I love the rayon threads and the poly sheen threads – great effects.

I recommend the purchase of a good instructive machine quilting book to add to your library – Sue Nickels, Harriet Hargrave, Angela Walters and Cynthia Needham have all got comprehensive books with excellent illustrations. You will never regret the purchase!

I use 1" safety pins for the layering process – it is a matter of preference if you want the "bent" quilters pins or the old fashioned safety pins – I use straight old fashioned ones.

I use Hobbs Heirloom batting – there are a number of lovely battings available, I recommend a low loft cotton that has good draping quality when working on a large quilt. The Hobbs wool is lovely!

Contact: Colleen Blackwood - [bwood@wtechlink.us](mailto:bwood@wtechlink.us) if you have questions