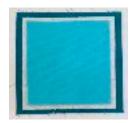# Stitching Together

Sue Bouchard * sbsuebouchard@gmail.com * 760.419.2334

Lesson Two - Organic Machine Quilting

Jacquie Gering's Walk book is a great resource for Machine Quilting with a walking foot.

1. Baste together Background (turquoise), Batting and Backing. This can be done with Odif 505 Basting Spray, fusible batting or basting stitches by hand. The Backing and Batting extends beyond all four sides of the Background.

Setting Up Sewing Machine for Quilting

1. Recommended thread is 50 or 80 weight. The higher number, the finer the thread. The finer the thread, the more likely it will blend into the fabrics. This is important to consider when doing all over quilting on different colors. The same thread should be used both on top and in the bobbin.
Cotton thread is stronger and softer than Polyester. But Polyester has a bit of stretch.

2. Use a Microtex (Sharp) Needle, size 80/12.

3. Attach Walking Foot to sewing machine using the User's Manual for reference.
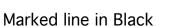
4. Set stitch length to 3.0 on a computerized sewing machine or 8 stitches per inch on a manual machine. Needle is in the center position. Start approximately in the middle of one side and lock the threads in place.

Quilting Your Top

Note: You do not need to cut your threads until the quilting is completed!

1. Sew with gentle wavy line from edge to edge. As a guide, mark a perpendicular line with a disappearing pen or Hera marker from the edge of the fabric.

Marked line in Black

Stitching is Red

2. Lift foot and turn parallel to edge. Stitch 2-3 stitches. Turn and sew using the previous stitching as a guide to sew back to the side you started on.

3. Lift foot and turn to sew 6-7 stitches along edge of fabric. Continue quilting, using the previous stitching lines as a guide.

4. Repeat process until half the piece is quilted. Note some curves along bottom edge may extend beyond edge of fabric.

5. 'Travel' back to the middle by sewing along the edge of the Top fabric.

6. Continue quilting the top.

Close up of left and right edges