

INTRO TO FREE-MOTION MASTERY IN A MONTH (LINES, CURVES & CIRCLES)
MATERIALS LIST FOR STUDENTS

This class does not require that you have a copy of the Free-Motion Mastery in a Month book or the tool kit that goes with it. However, if you already have them, please bring them to class. They will also be available for purchase in class. Once you have experienced how easy it is to learn free-motion quilting using the Free-Motion Mastery in a Month system you will probably want the book and tool kit so you can use them to continue practicing your free-motion quilting skills at home. For a preview of how Free-Motion Mastery in a Month works, and to purchase books and tool kits, please visit

www.FreeMotionMasteryinaMonth.com or www.RaNaeMerrillQuilts.com

IMPORTANT:

Please arrive at class 30-60 minutes early. This is an important time to get one-on-one help preparing your sewing machine for free-motion quilting. Class will begin promptly on time.

Sewing Machine

Bring your own machine to this class. This is the set up you will need:

- ___ Sewing Machine
 - ___ Remember the foot pedal and power cord.
 - ___ Bring the extension table or accessory box so you have the full sewing surface to work on.
 - ___ Make sure your machine is cleaned, lubricated and working properly. Sew on it before you come to class to test it!
DO NOT SKIP THIS STEP -- IT IS ABSOLUTELY ESSENTIAL
 - ___ Know how to drop the feed dogs
 - ___ Know how to adjust the tension. If you have a computerized machine, find the tension adjustment control BEFORE YOU COME TO CLASS.
 - ___ Bring the instruction manual (you can probably find it online if you can't find it at home).
- ___ Free-Motion Quilting Foot. If you do not know what this is or aren't sure if you have one, read this blog post on my website (<https://ranaemerrillquilts.com/blogs/from-ranaes-studio/all-about-machine-quilting-feet>) or ask at your sewing machine shop BEFORE you come to class. You may need to buy a free-motion quilting foot. Know how to attach the foot to your machine. Test it to make sure you can move the fabric under the foot when the presser foot is down. If the fabric won't move, you either have the wrong foot or you need to decrease the presser foot pressure. .DO NOT SKIP THIS STEP. IF YOU DON'T HAVE A FREE-MOTION QUILTING FOOT YOU WILL NOT BE ABLE TO QUILT ON YOUR MACHINE.
- ___ 1 empty bobbin
- ___ Extra sewing machine needles, sizes 80/12 and 90/14. (Bring different types, for example Universal, Quilting, Topstitching, Microtex. If you are taking this class at a store, these will be available there.)

Tools You'll Need in Class

- ___ Thread snipping scissors
- ___ Pencil & paper for taking notes
- ___ Optional: Quilting gloves if you have them

Fabric, Batting

Fabric for a small wall hanging, Batting, printed instructions and other classroom tools will be provided in class. There is a \$30 per student materials fee payable directly to the teacher in class. Please bring cash.

Thread

- ___ Bring 3 spools of cotton sewing weight thread, whatever brand works best in your machine. Neutral color in light, dark and medium values.

NOTES:

The Class Project

In class we will quilt three 12" x 12" quilt sandwiches as we explore three different shapes and patterns built from them. As part of your class materials you will receive instructions for cutting the blocks and making them into a small wall hanging. Of course, you can use the blocks for other things as well. There will be a demonstration at the end of class on how to join pre-quilted blocks "quilt as you go" style to make larger projects; these instructions can also be found in the book.



Sewing Machine Set Up

If you are bringing your own sewing machine to class, PLEASE READ CAREFULLY AND FOLLOW THESE INSTRUCTIONS. If the event is providing a sewing machine, you will not need this information for class, but it will help you set up your sewing machine at home. If you are not sure if sewing machines are provided, check with the event.

- _____ Make sure your machine is cleaned, lubricated and working properly. Sew on it before you come to class to test it! **DO NOT SKIP THIS STEP -- IT IS ABSOLUTELY ESSENTIAL**
- _____ Make sure you have a free-motion quilting foot and know how to attach it.
- _____ Know how to drop the feed dogs.
If your machine does not allow the feed dogs to be dropped, know how to set the stitch length to 0. There are plates available to cover the feed dogs, but I find that most of these are too high for free-motion quilting -- they end up pressing against the free-motion foot and don't allow the fabric to move around. I prefer not to use a plate, and instead simply set the stitch length to 0 so the feed dogs do not advance the fabric.
- _____ Know how to adjust the tension. If you have a computerized machine, know where to find the tension adjustment control before you come to class.
- _____ Bring the instruction manual (you can probably find it online if you can't find it at home).

You will need these accessories:

- _____ Free-motion quilting foot or darning foot **ABSOLUTELY ESSENTIAL!!**
See photos below and follow these instructions carefully:
If you buy a new foot for this class, attach it on your machine *before you come to class*. Do this at the store where you buy the foot so that you know how to attach it, and so you can test that it fits your machine properly. Check the height of the foot: when you lower the presser foot, the free-motion foot must allow the fabric to move freely between the foot and the feed dogs. If the fabric won't move, either you need to adjust the foot up, or you have the wrong foot for your machine. Solve this before you come to class, because *if you can't move the fabric in your machine, you can't quilt*.
- _____ 2 empty bobbins (in addition to the pre-wound bobbins mentioned earlier)
- _____ Extra needles in a variety of sizes & types (75/11, 80/12, 90/14 "Universal" and "Quilting" styles)
- _____ 1/4" foot (*You may not need this in class, but you will need it to assemble the quilt afterward.*)

Thread: Because some machines are picky about thread, please bring your own: high-quality cotton, regular sewing weight. Bring several colors in medium values that are clearly visible on both light and dark fabrics.

Quilting Feet

Here are several common free-motion quilting feet. All of them allow the fabric to move freely in any direction without touching the feed dogs. You may already have one or more of these. If you are buying a new foot, choose one that allows you the best visibility of the area around the foot, like the first one shown below. **Be sure to test the foot on your machine before you come to class.** You should be able to move the fabric freely when the presser foot is down and the feed dogs are dropped. If the fabric won't move, either you need to adjust the foot up, or you have the wrong foot for your machine. Check with your sewing machine shop and solve this before you come to class, because *if you can't move the fabric in your machine, you can't quilt*.



Open-toe darning foot
(Bernina #24)



Clear plastic darning foot
(Singer)



Closed-toe quilting foot on
Bernina stitch regulator



Echo-quilting foot on Bernina stitch
regulator