



Club Notes:



Greetings from Mid Missouri!

As usual, Kim and I have been very busy. On Saturday, March 18th, I realized that I had 25 quilts in house waiting to be quilted. I had previously been mostly ignoring the opportunities to actually count how many quilts I had on my shelf to do. I was quilting in the evenings and on the weekends, but realized that I was waaaay behind.

When I get stressed out, I clean! Alan and Jordan were looking for foxholes in which to hide, but I ruthlessly assigned tasks from MY LIST to them. By golly, if I'm stressed out, they're going to be stressed out, too!

I bought a new vacuum (Shark) and vacuumed the world! I picked up pins from the floor around the blind hemmer station (I put zippers on quilt backings using a commercial grade blind hemmer machine). I paint brushed out the tracks on both Statlers, dusted the machines, Windexed the tables, and ran oil routines. I threw away "retreat poop" ruthlessly. You really only have so much room for all the cute stuff you get when you go to quilt retreats, you know!

I ran Sweet Dreams Quilt Studio for two days from my house so I could keep the Statlers running. By the end of the day on March 26th, I had two custom quilts left in line and all of the edge to edge quilts done! Success! The stress level wasn't at zero, but it reduced to a level that is acceptable.

So...what did I do as soon as the stress level was reduced? I volunteered to help my daughter's high school theatre department make mermaid tails for an upcoming musical. The director brought the fabrics to me.....these are not quilting fabrics. These fabrics have sequins, rhinestones, and glitter. They are sheer, netting, slinky, and you can't press them....not even with the coolest setting on the iron. I finished the last mermaid tail last night. This morning, I dragged out my new Shark and vacuumed up glitter from my cutting table, pressing table, sewing table, and the floor. At the end of the world, I believe there will be two survivors: cockroaches and glitter. I think I got enough of the glitter sucked up so that my customer quilts won't go back home covered with sparkles. After I finished cleaning up the glitter I began to get ready for work. Took a shower and got dressed. Went to put on my antiperspirant....there was glitter on it!

When Kim isn't drawing patterns for customers, she's been working on a quilt for a young mother whose daughter is on the same cheer team as Lucee (Kim's oldest granddaughter). This young mother has been diagnosed with breast cancer. The motherboard went out on her favorite sewing machine, so she had to get it repaired. She didn't like piecing on her other sewing machine (which she primarily uses for machine embroidery). She purchased flannel backing fabric with a hexagon print (which required matching the pattern). Several attempts later, she succeeded, but vowed to never do that again! Kim also enrolled her youngest granddaughter (Phoebe, age 2) in recreational soccer. I saw the video and it was hilarious! The other two-year-old kids (not just Phoebe) were completely oblivious to the instructor's directions, and in fact, weren't even listening. Imagine that! At least they were all outside running around getting some fresh air and exercise. So were Kim and Dave.

Business-wise, we are hard at work on the new Sweet Dreams Quilt Studio web site, which we are hoping to launch within a couple of months. The biggest change to the website will be the ability for you, the customer, to use enhanced search tools drill down to the patterns you want. We're pretty excited about it. We plan to create some videos to show people how the website will work. I know most of us are change-resistant (me, too), but we think you're really like THIS change. The new site will also have additional pattern views so you can see things like how edge to edge patterns nest, how border and border corners connect. You'll be able to search for edge to edge designs only or you can search for custom quilting patterns only. This new web site has been a long time coming, but we think the hard work will make YOUR quilt lives much easier! At the SUGAR conference in June, we also plan to include using these new search features as part of our What's For Dinner class.

Happy Quilting from Kim and Janet

**The Amber April 2017 Archive contains 105 patterns,
including 53 panos, a retail value of \$1315.00.**

Longarm Tip of the Month



Making use of the space you have available:

I have been quilting for hire since 2000 and have tried many different types of organization of the various components involved in an in-home longarm quilting business (thread, batting, and quilts to be quilted).

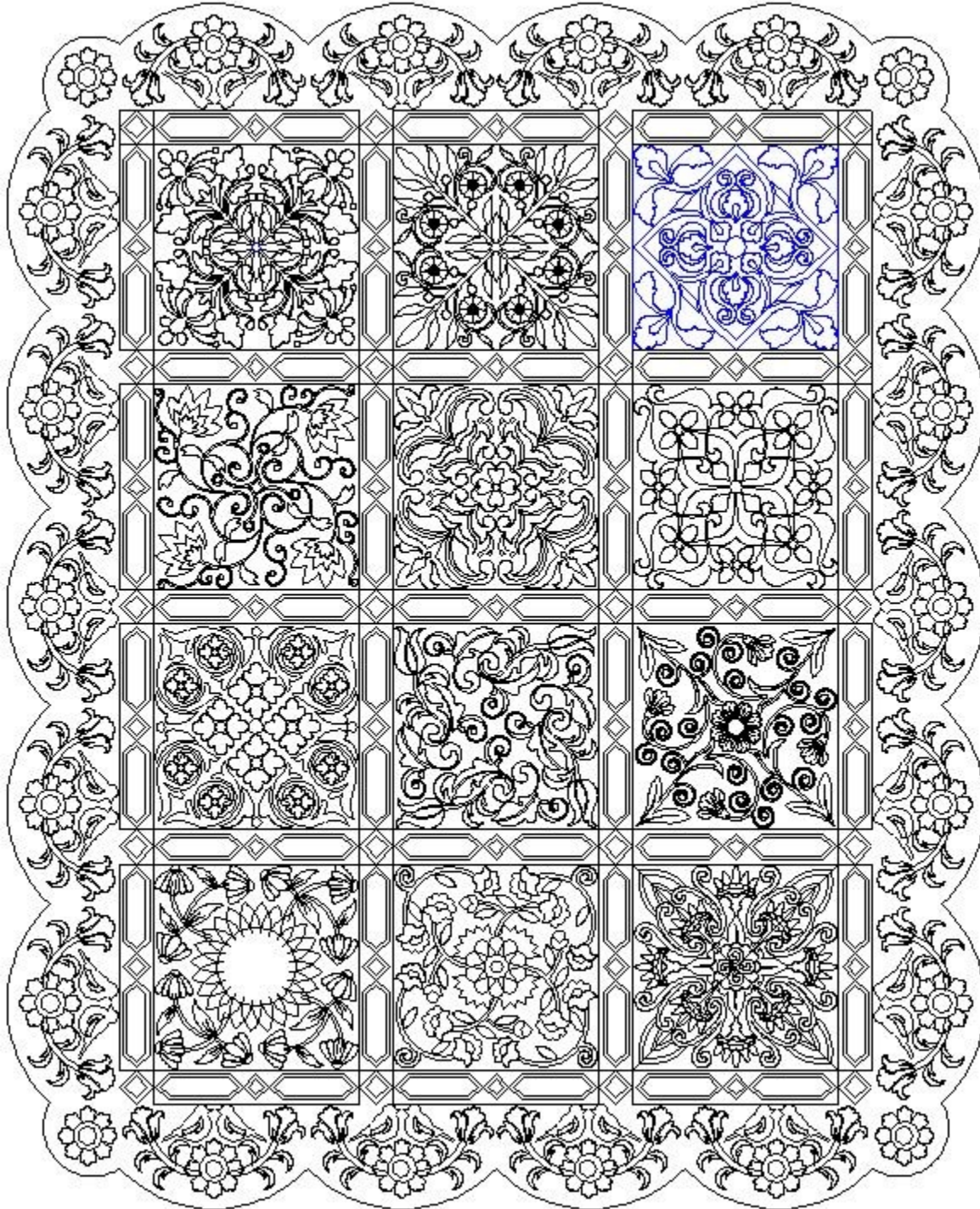
I have for a long time used the personal quilt carrier bags from Virginia Longarm. I have hung these bags on hooks on the back of a door, lined them up on the floor, etc. When I suddenly had 25 purple bags in house a couple of weeks ago, my husband helped me make a big change.

He replaced the shelf brackets (for an existing shelf) with the kind of brackets which support a closet rod. Put up the closet rod. Went to Walmart and purchased 2 pkgs of shower curtain hooks (\$6.50 each pkg). Now all the purple bags are hanging neatly, customer name tags positioned for easy access and they are arranged with the oldest to the left side.

Some of my older quilter customers still have the garment bag style of quilt carriers, and those just fit right over the curtain rod. Works great!

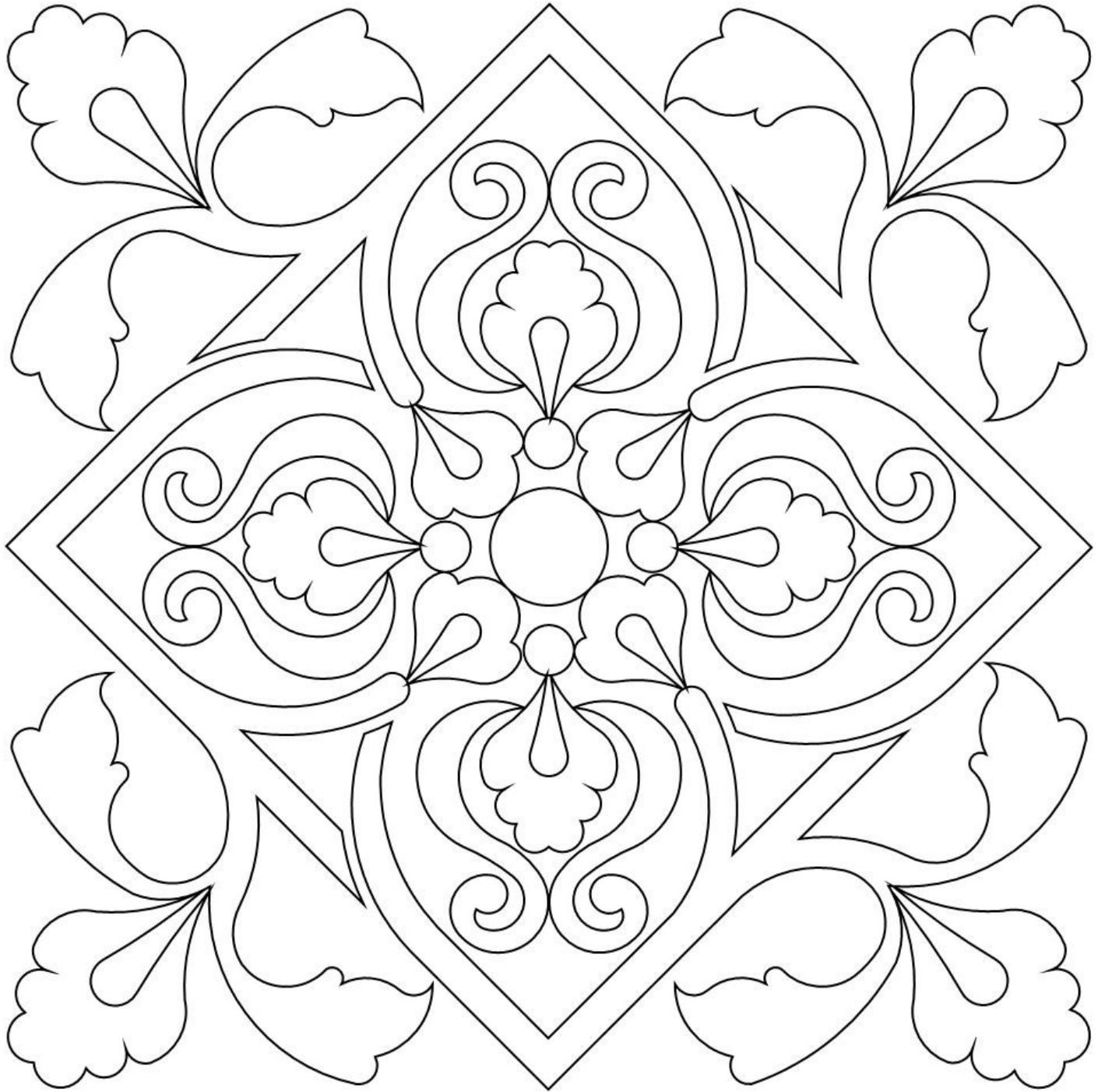
Sweet Dreams Quilt Studio's Block of the Month

Kim has designed a whole cloth quilt: *Bouquet de Fleurs*. Each month, CJC members will receive one of the blocks in the quilt (depending on which one she has actually finished and sewable). These patterns can be used to create the whole cloth quilt, but can also be used to quilt a quilt block. As long as you remain in the Crown Jewels Club, you will receive all of the patterns for this whole cloth quilt. As a reward for your perseverance, there will also be a surprise at the end of the BOM!



Bouquet de Fleurs

BOM #3



Multi Sized Panos...

What's up with those, anyway?

Kim has developed an ongoing series of multi-sized panos. Almost every week, one of my longarm quilt business customer chooses a very simple and linear e2e pattern for me to quilt on their quilt. They are easy to set up, quilt out pretty fast, but only quilt about 3 or 4 inches across the quilt in one pass. That means that I have to hover over the quilt, not getting more than 5 feet away from the machine because it's going to require me to reset at the end of each pass very quickly. Now, I know that with my Statler software, I can build a couple of rows, change the sew order and connect them at the ends of the passes. That takes a lot of time. So, Kim is making "belly bar" worth of passes for a number of different e2e designs. (These are also really easy to audition on your Quilter's LightBox software.)

Measure your quilt as it is loaded on the machine. Choose the multi size pattern closest in width to your quilt width. With Statler software I can still use E2E Mode and place two pins. It doesn't matter that the start and end of the belly bar are not on the same horizontal setting. You need to look carefully at your set up to make sure that you only have one repeat showing. If you have more than one repeat showing, you can either manually change it back to one repeat and adjust the pattern sizing, or if you try that and don't like the way it looks, select the next multi size pattern up in width.

For those quilters who have machines with shorter throats, Kim is working on some extended pattern versions suitable for those machines. If you have particular patterns for which you'd like to have an extended version, send us an email and we'll add your request to the list!

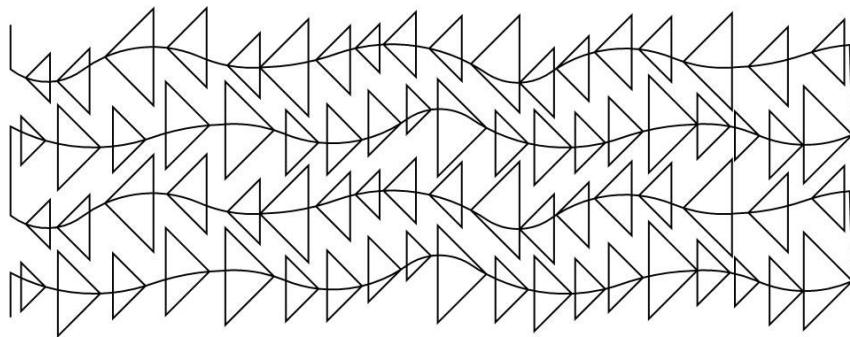
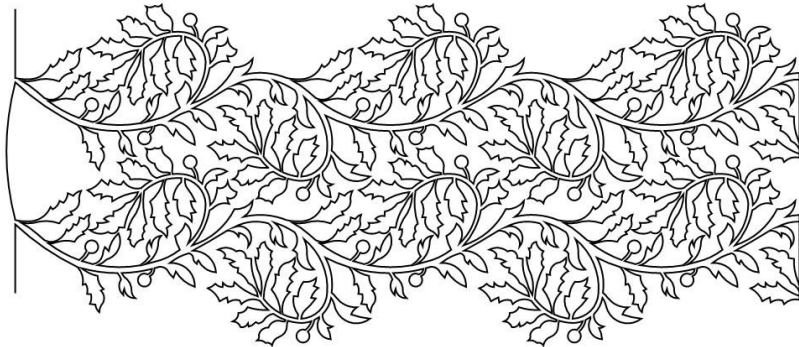
Shrinkage with the Multi Sized Panos

When using any intensely detailed quilting pattern, what is one of the biggest sources of frustration (aside from running out of bobbin before the end of the row)? Shrinkage, right? You are likely to run into shrinkage issues when using the larger sizes of Kim's Multi Sized Panos, too. You may already know how to minimize shrinkage, but if not, here are a few tips:

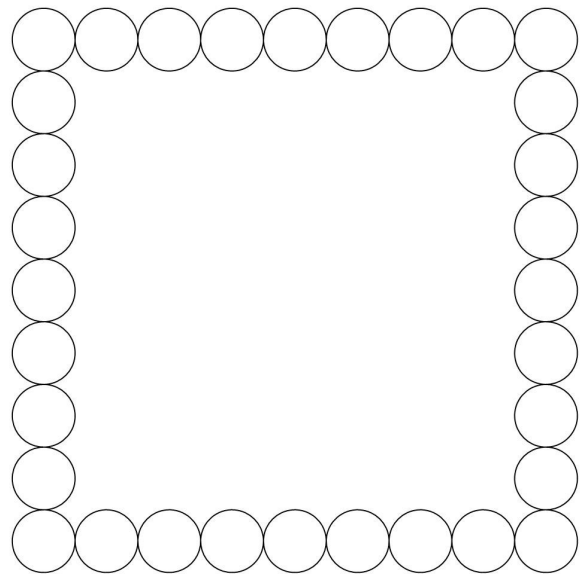
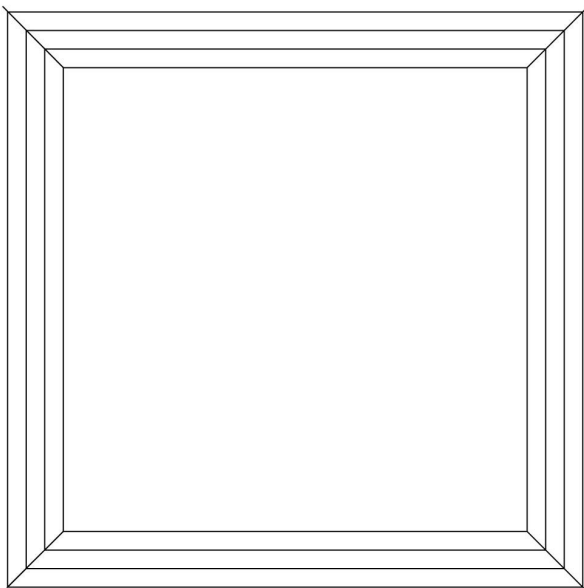
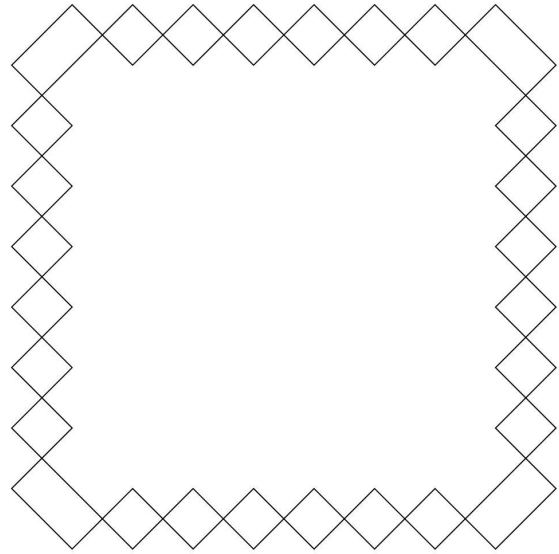
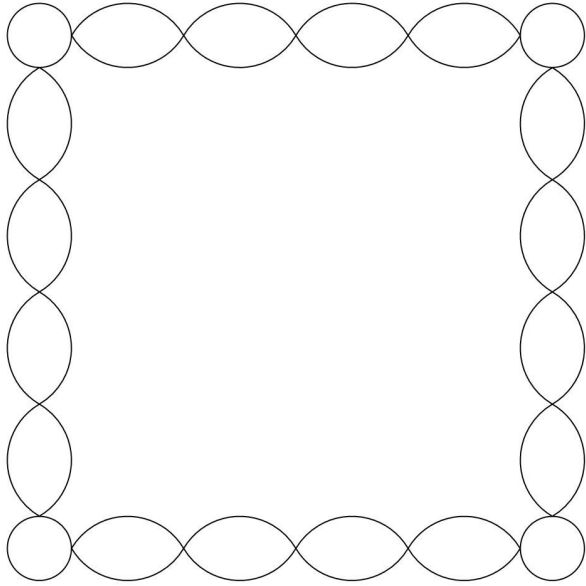
- 1) Use low loft batting.
- 2) Keep good tension on the quilt sandwich.
- 3) Use the largest stitch per inch setting you can, without sacrificing aesthetics.
- 4) Keep your tension set as loose as possible, without sacrificing stitch quality.

And, to adjust for shrinkage, be prepared to measure for shrinkage, and adjust the placement of future rows to accommodate that shrinkage.

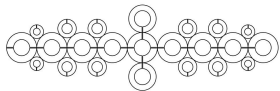
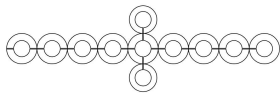
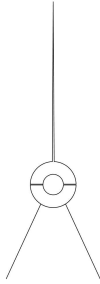
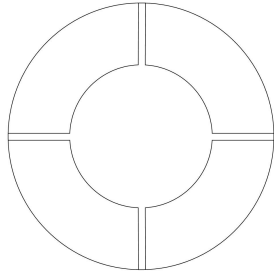
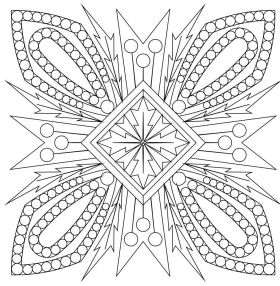
Extended Panos



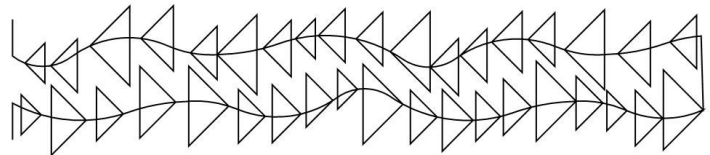
New Frame Patterns



The Cactus Quilt Patterns



Extended Panos—Short Arm Versions



It is worth mentioning that not every longarm machine “likes” extended panos. I run two Statlers, and one of them has no difficulty at all running from right to left, while the other one doesn’t behave well at all traveling from right to left.

Practice on a piece of muslin before you queue up an extra large version of an extended pano. Takes a bit of time to practice, but not as much time as managing thread breaks or “frogging”, right Lee?



Meet Your New Best Friend!

**Spring Is Coming
More time to quilt!
\$60.00!**

Created by Sweet Dreams Quilt Studio,
Quilter's LightBox[®] software was designed to easily:

- Import photos of your quilt and/or quilt blocks.
- Import photos of quilt block pattern pictures.
- Preview quilting patterns superimposed over the quilt photos.
- Enlarge, reduce, copy, rotate, increase or decrease line widths, and adjust thread colors.
- Print pictures of the quilt/block with the patterns, and a list of the quilting pattern pictures used.
- Create a .zip file with all of the pictures for ease in emailing to quilt customers.
- Freehand feature, for those times when you want to doodle on your own!
- And now you can fade out the quilt image behind your pattern layout to better view the patterns.

The software includes over 9000 quilting pattern pictures and free monthly updates for quilting pattern pictures. The software is available for purchase online with immediate download, and also comes with a backup version on the DVD, along with the library of pattern pictures, delivered via USPS Priority Mail. DVD is shipped within 1 business day of order date. **Don't forget to download your free pattern pictures updates!!**

<http://www.quilterslightbox.com>

Pattern Type	Size	Name of Existing Pattern for Modification	Name to be included in pattern	Attach good photos of quilt and blocks	Style you're going for. Other patterns you're using in the quilt, etc.
Block #1					
Block #2					
Block #3					
Border & Border Corner #1					
Border & Border Corner #2					
Border & Border Corner #3					
Triangle-Equilateral (all sides equal and all angles are 60 degrees)					
Triangle-Isosceles (two equal sides and two equal angles)					
Triangle-Scalene (no equal sides & no equal angles)					
Sash					
Point-to-Point					
Edge-to-Edge—Directional					
Edge-to-edge-Non Directional					
Edge-to-Edge-Interlocking					
Edge-to-Edge-Squared					

Important things to consider and include with your design request:

When you take photos of the quilt and/or quilt block, the camera should be parallel to the quilt (we need a straight on shot). If we have to draft out the block, it helps a lot to capture correct angles.

If you want an existing pattern modified, we need the exact pattern name. (We cannot modify another designer's pattern, so please don't ask us to do that.)

Style you're going for: If you want celtic, but don't tell us and we make floral, no one will be happy.

If you want a name included in the pattern, you need to double check the spelling before you submit the request. If you find out after the pattern has been designed that you requested the pattern with incorrect spelling, your submission of the correct name spelling goes to the end of the drawing list, causing a delay for you.

If your machine has a short throat, please make sure you tell us the largest amount of the fabric your machine has access to quilt. [PLEASE email your design requests](#) (you can follow up with a phone call, but it helps us to have the email.)

Favorite Longarm Supplies Vendors:

Updated

We've had many questions from new longarm quilters about the best places to buy their supplies. So, we thought we'd provide a list of our favorite vendors. This is not an exclusive list....you may already have other vendors who take care of your longarm supply needs...and we're not trying to convert anybody.

Superior Thread: I buy King Tut Thread in the 2000 yard cones, although they have poly thread as well. They sell wholesale only, so you'll need your sales tax certificate to set up an account. They have an amazing selection of thread. They have fabulous customer service and an easy online account set up process. They also ship internationally! <http://www.superiorthreads.com>

Checker Distributing: Wholesale Only.....I have rarely looked in vain for anything quilt related on their site. Shopping for supplies can be addicting! Shipping is charged on large items, but not on items such as pins, needles, thread, books, scissors, or most other notions. They do charge shipping on bolts of fabric, luggage, cutting mats, Ott Lights, etc. (They now carry Quilter's Dream Batting.....but only to customers outside of the United States.) <http://www.checkerdist.com>

SouthStar Supply Company: They have scissors, snips & holsters, bobbins, pattern making supplies, rotary cutters, mats, knives, sharpeners, notions, needles, pins, ergonomics, safety, & handling supplies, steamers, machine oil, spot lifters, silicone.....and they are very nice people to work with.
<http://www.southstarsupply.com>

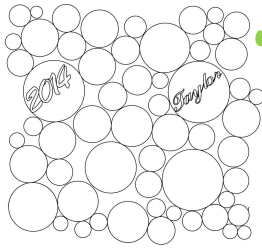
Quilter's Dream Batting: I have pretty much stopped purchasing rolls of batting. I find it easier to maintain an accurate inventory of batting, and it stores well. Unlike some packaged batting, I don't find that the QD batting is distorted, and so it doesn't require a trip through my dryer before I can use it. Some of my best friends who also have longarm quilting businesses stock packaged batting as well as batting on a roll. We agree that these people are easy to work with! <http://www.quiltersdreambatting.com>

Virginia Longarm: I buy the dress bag and the 3-sided zipper totes to deliver my quilts to customer. They bring their next quilt to me in their bag. When I arrive at our guild meetings, laden with my purple bags, people say it looks like Christmas. Their quilts stay clean and it adds a little extra class and professionalism to my business.
<http://www.virginalongarm.com> or call 804-708-0741.

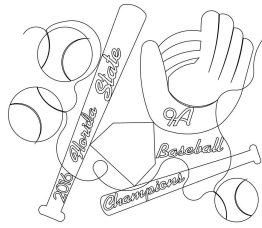
Wingspan Crafts: These are the people at MQX East who have the pre-shunk cotton batting (Katahdin) and the lovely 80/20 (Acadia). They were very nice to work with.
<http://www.wingspancrafts.com>

Winline Textiles: These people were at MQS in Wichita. Their batting also feels very nice, has great consistency. They sent me home with two sample batts (a crib size and a twin size). I have used both sample batts and was very, very pleased. Visit them at: <http://www.winlinetextiles.com>
Wholesale prices available!

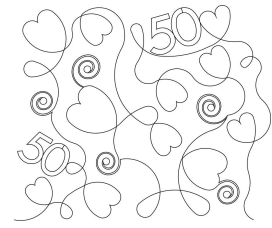
Panos



Pattern: 2014 taylor pano 001
Archive: Amber April 2017



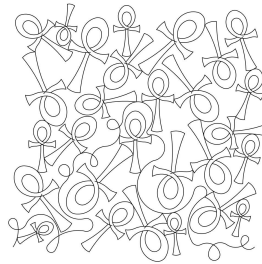
Pattern: 2016 florida champ pano 001
Archive: Amber April 2017



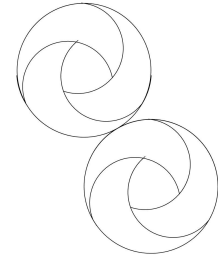
Pattern: 50 pano hearts
Archive: Amber April 2017



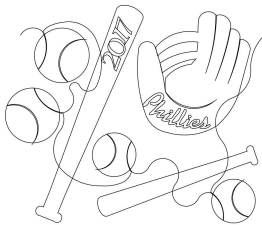
Pattern: airplane pano 005
Archive: Amber April 2017



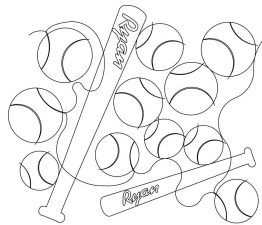
Pattern: ankh pano 002
Archive: Amber April 2017



Pattern: apperture pano 001
Archive: Amber April 2017



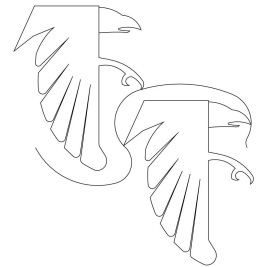
Pattern: baseball fun phillies 2017
Archive: Amber April 2017



Pattern: baseball ryan
Archive: Amber April 2017



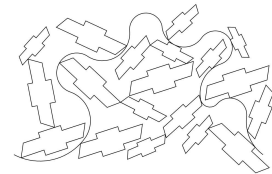
Pattern: bird hunting pano 001
Archive: Amber April 2017



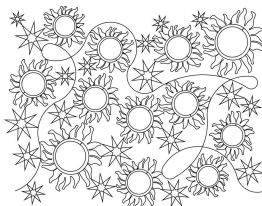
Pattern: bird of prey pano 001
Archive: Amber April 2017



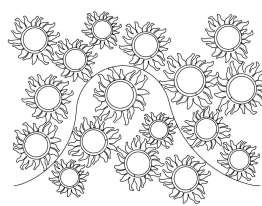
Pattern: birds and bees 2 sq
Archive: Amber April 2017



Pattern: bowtie pano 002
Archive: Amber April 2017



Pattern: celestial pano 001
Archive: Amber April 2017

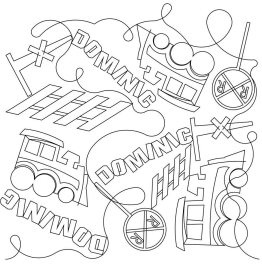
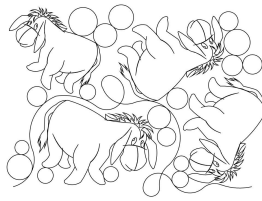

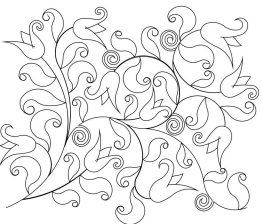

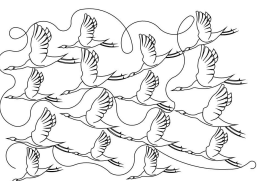



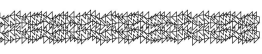
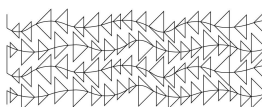
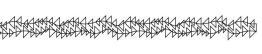






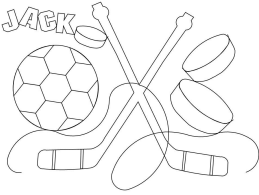
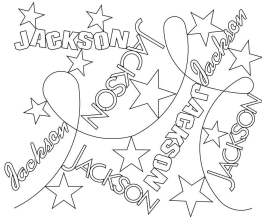
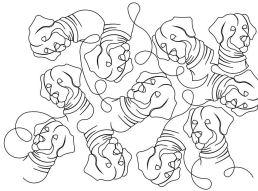










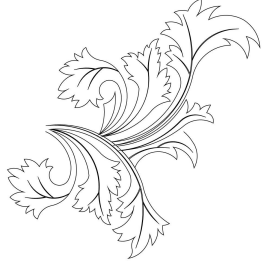
Pattern: celestial pano 002
Archive: Amber April 2017



Pattern: curved line maze pano 002
Archive: Amber April 2017

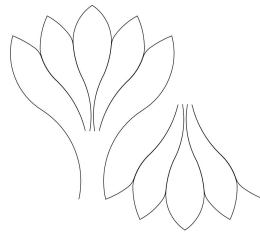
Panos

 <p>Pattern: dominic pano 001 Archive: Amber April 2017</p>	 <p>Pattern: donkey pano 001 Archive: Amber April 2017</p>	 <p>Pattern: dragonfly pano 003 Archive: Amber April 2017</p>
 <p>Pattern: fanciful tulip pano 001 Archive: Amber April 2017</p>	 <p>Pattern: flying bat pano 001 Archive: Amber April 2017</p>	 <p>Pattern: flying goose pano 001 Archive: Amber April 2017</p>
 <p>Pattern: flying goose pano 001 large Archive: Amber April 2017</p>	 <p>Pattern: flying goose pano 001 med Archive: Amber April 2017</p>	 <p>Pattern: flying goose pano 001 small Archive: Amber April 2017</p>
 <p>Pattern: flying goose pano 001 xlarge Archive: Amber April 2017</p>	 <p>Pattern: flying goose pano 001 Archive: Amber April 2017</p>	 <p>Pattern: flying goose pano sa 001 Archive: Amber April 2017</p>
 <p>Pattern: flying goose pano sa 001 Archive: Amber April 2017</p>	 <p>Pattern: flying goose pano sa 001 Archive: Amber April 2017</p>	 <p>Pattern: flying goose pano sa 001 Archive: Amber April 2017</p>

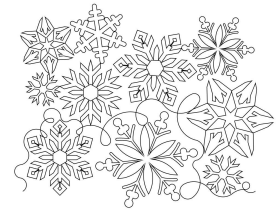
 <p>Pattern: flying goose pano sa 001 Archive: Amber April 2017</p>	 <p>Pattern: jack pano 003 Archive: Amber April 2017</p>	 <p>Pattern: jackson pano 001 Archive: Amber April 2017</p>
 <p>Pattern: labrador pano 001 Archive: Amber April 2017</p>	 <p>Pattern: leaf berry vine pano 001 Archive: Amber April 2017</p>	 <p>Pattern: leaf berry vine pano 001 med Archive: Amber April 2017</p>
 <p>Pattern: leaf berry vine pano 001 Archive: Amber April 2017</p>	 <p>Pattern: leaf berry vine pano 001 Archive: Amber April 2017</p>	 <p>Pattern: leaf berry vine pano 001 Archive: Amber April 2017</p>
 <p>Pattern: leaf berry vine pano sa 001 Archive: Amber April 2017</p>	 <p>Pattern: leaf berry vine pano sa 001 Archive: Amber April 2017</p>	 <p>Pattern: leaf berry vine pano sa 001 Archive: Amber April 2017</p>
 <p>Pattern: leaf berry vine pano sa 001 Archive: Amber April 2017</p>	 <p>Pattern: leaf berry vine pano sa 001 Archive: Amber April 2017</p>	 <p>Pattern: leaf pano 016 Archive: Amber April 2017</p>



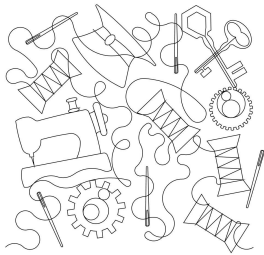
Pattern: phlox pano 002
Archive: Amber April 2017



Pattern: primitive flower pano 001
Archive: Amber April 2017



Pattern: snowflake pano 005
Archive: Amber April 2017



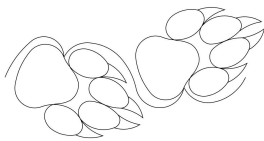
Pattern: steampunk quilter pano 001
Archive: Amber April 2017



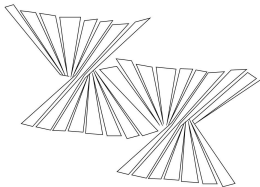
Pattern: wls pano 001
Archive: Amber April 2017



Pattern: wls pano 002
Archive: Amber April 2017



Pattern: wolf paw pano 001
Archive: Amber April 2017



Pattern: wonky pano 001
Archive: Amber April 2017

Panos