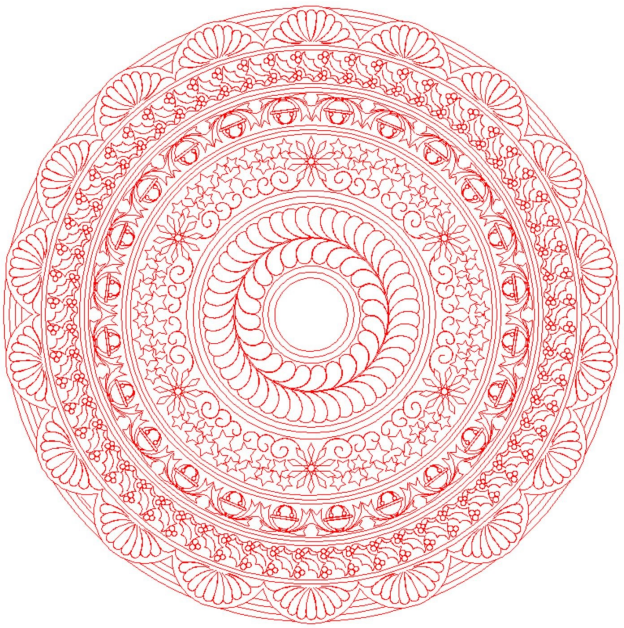
Club Notes: Moonstone November 2023



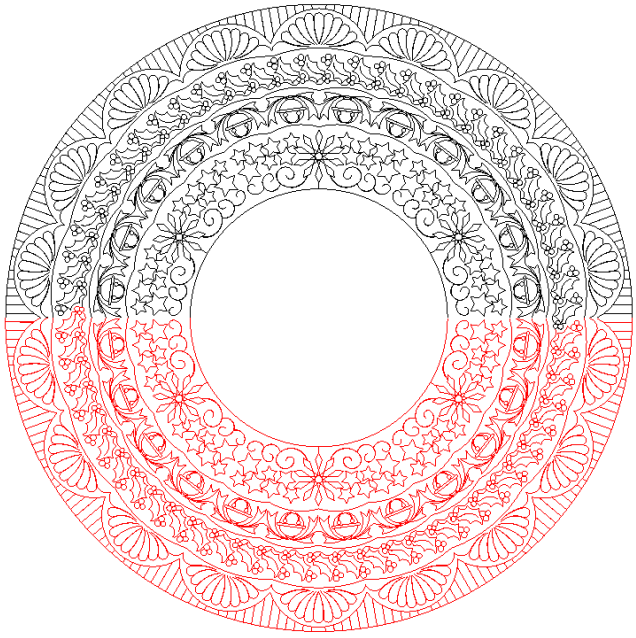
Greetings Quilters!

Kim was asked to create this Christmas Tree Skirt patter, and Val Greenwell stitched out this beautiful sample to share. This tree skirt does not have a self binding, so when you plan it out, plan on fabric for binding. You must be able to quilt a minimum of 18.98" in order to quilt out this skirt, one half at a time. There are no plans to make a version of this tree skirt suitable for quilting on a smaller throat machine. (There are instructions for this tree skirt in this newsletter).

Sweet Dreams Quilt Studio is attending the Houston Quilt Festival 2023 and will be out of the office November 1-5th. If you have an emergency situation, send and email or call me (573-446-0421) and we'll help you. Kim does not plan to draw patterns while in Houston.

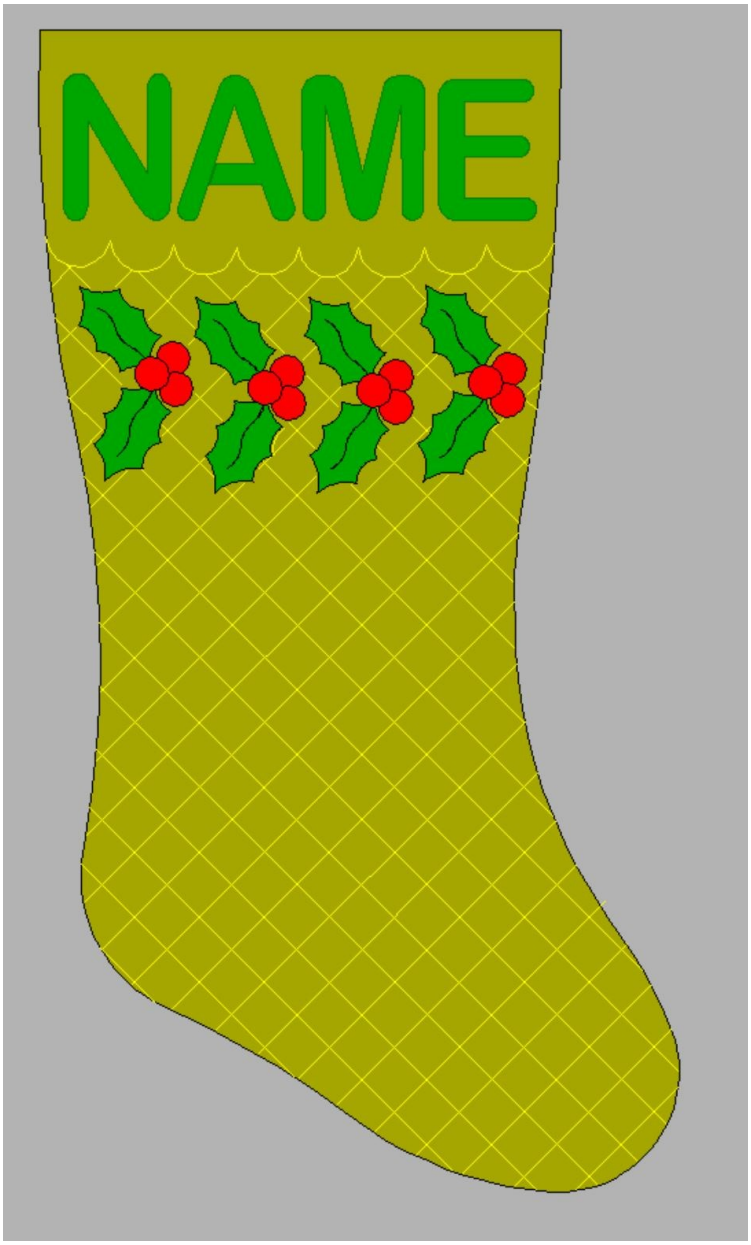
Enjoy the patterns!

Kim and Janet



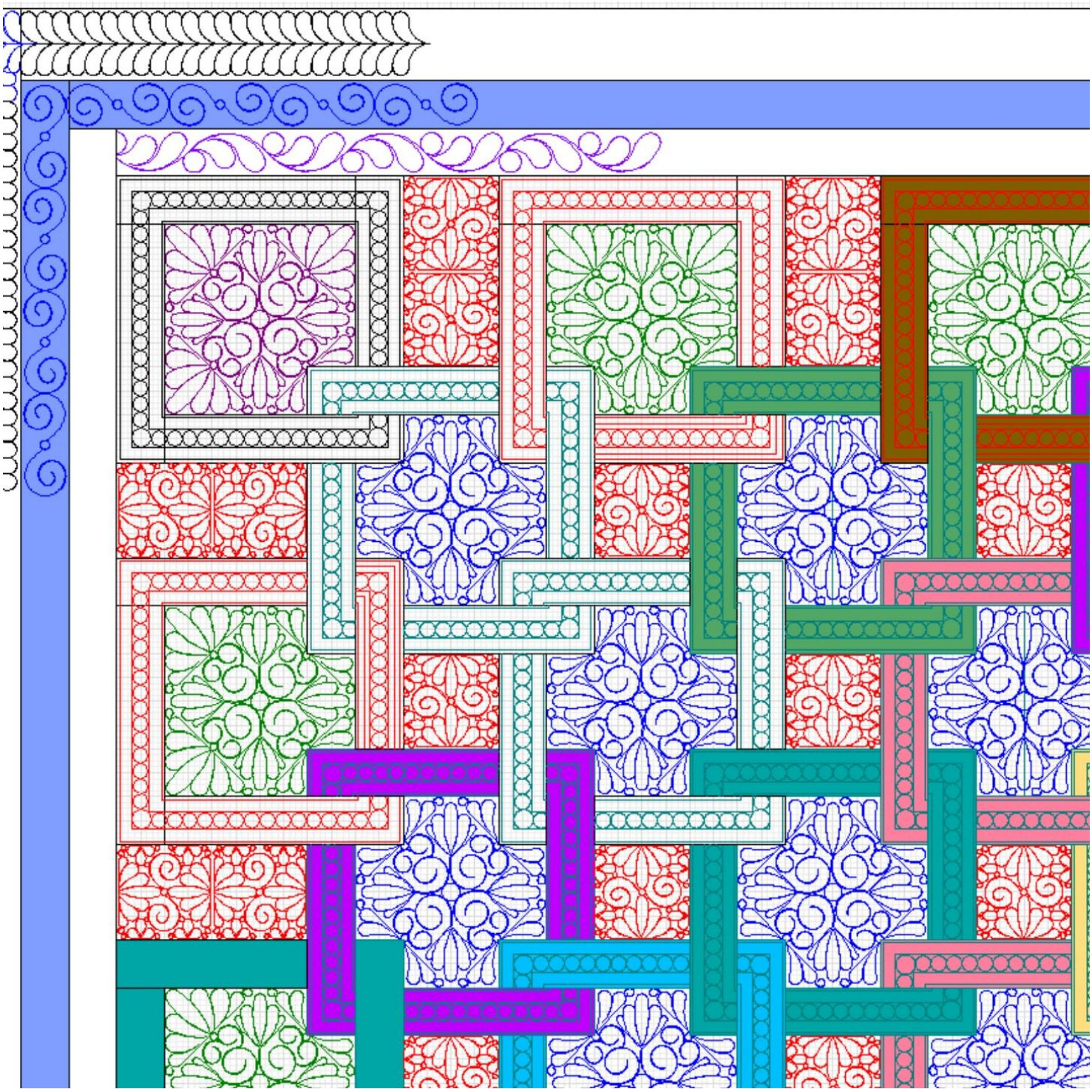
The Moonstone November 2023 Archive contains 87 patterns, including 63 e2e patterns, a retail value of $1185.00.

Elegant Holly REA (raw edge applique) Christmas Stocking

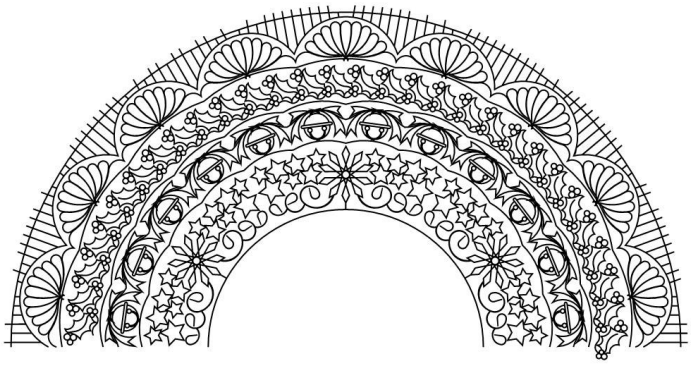


Check out the “Instructions and Guides” link on our website home page on how to place your “name” on the cuff of this stocking.

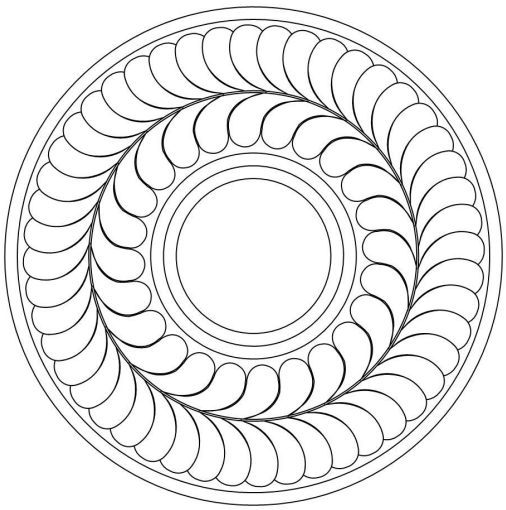
Patterns for Dare to be Square Quilt



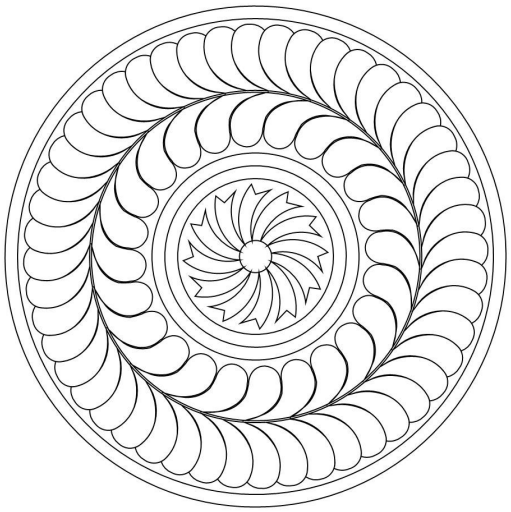
The 2023 Christmas Tree Skirt Patterns



This pattern requires you to quilt out one half of the circle at a time, but you ROTATE the second half, NOT flip.

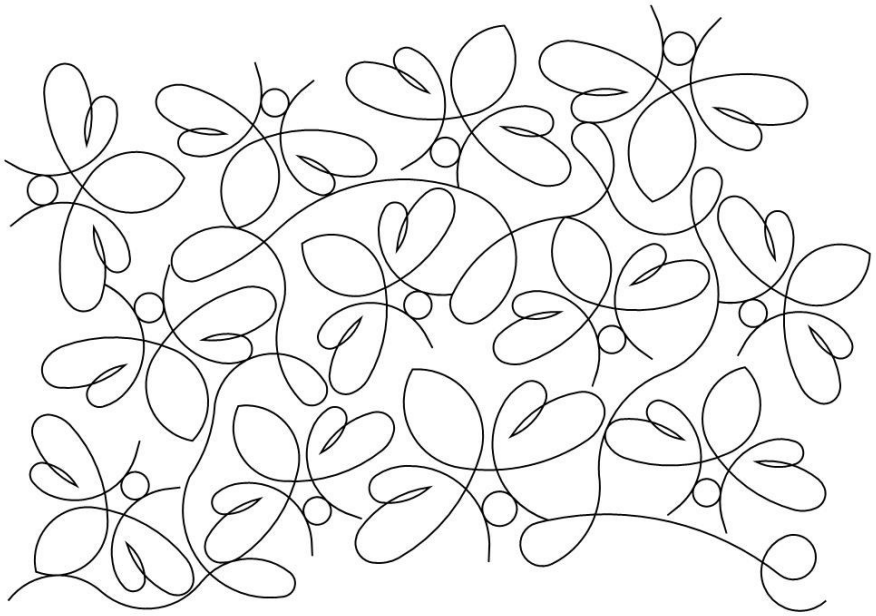


This is the pattern which you quilt in the center if you are making it as a tree skirt.

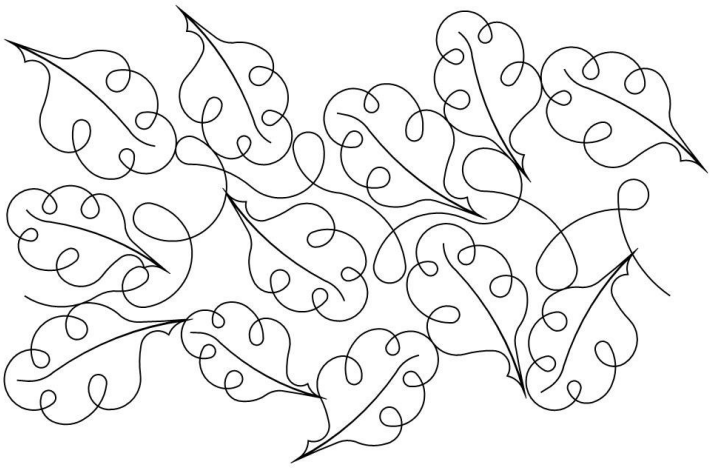


This is the pattern which you quilt in the center if you are making it as a table topper.

Favorite E2E Patterns

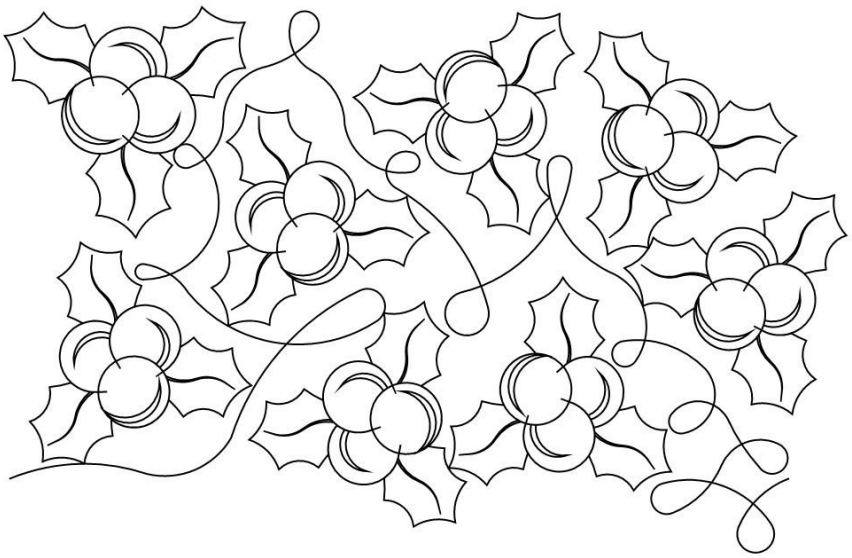


Honeybee e2e 001

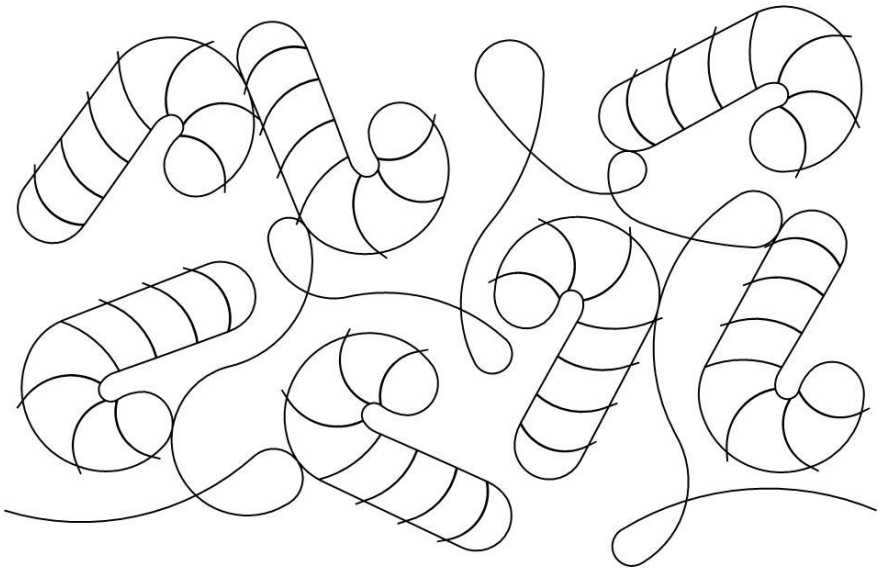


Oak Leaf E2E 002

Christmas Patterns

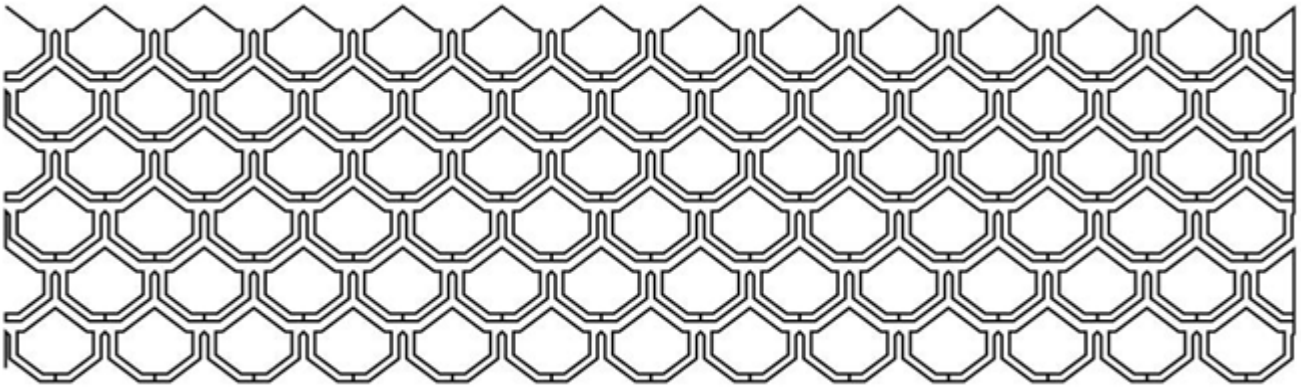


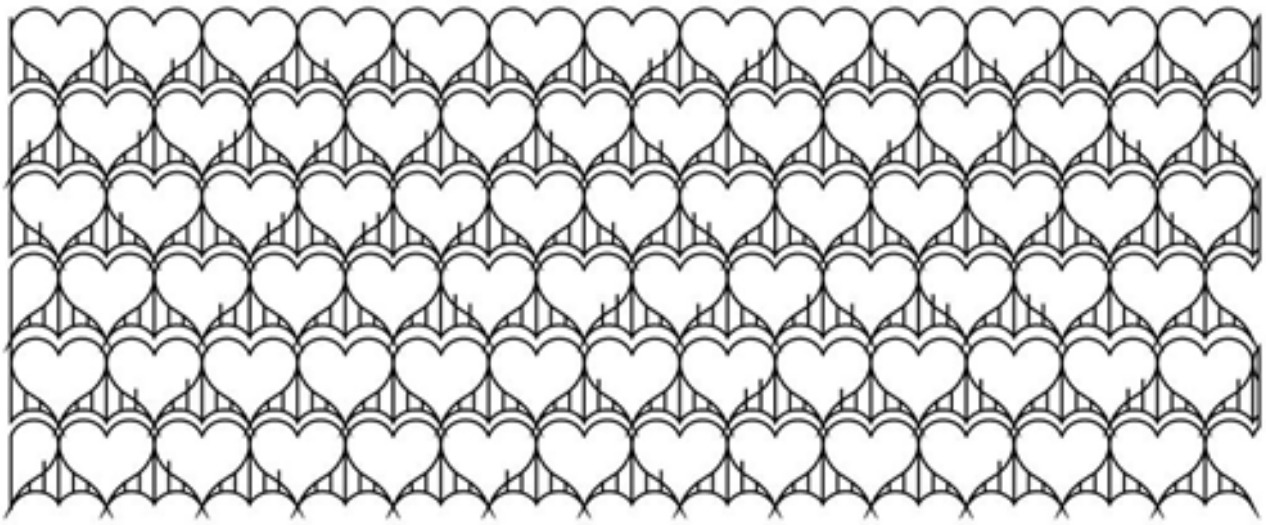
Chubby Christmas E2E 001

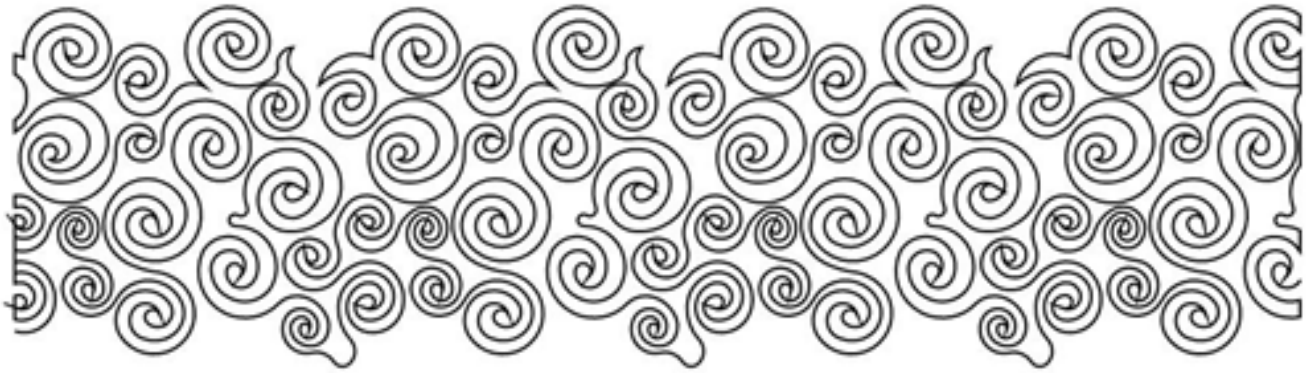


Chubby Candy Cane E2E 001

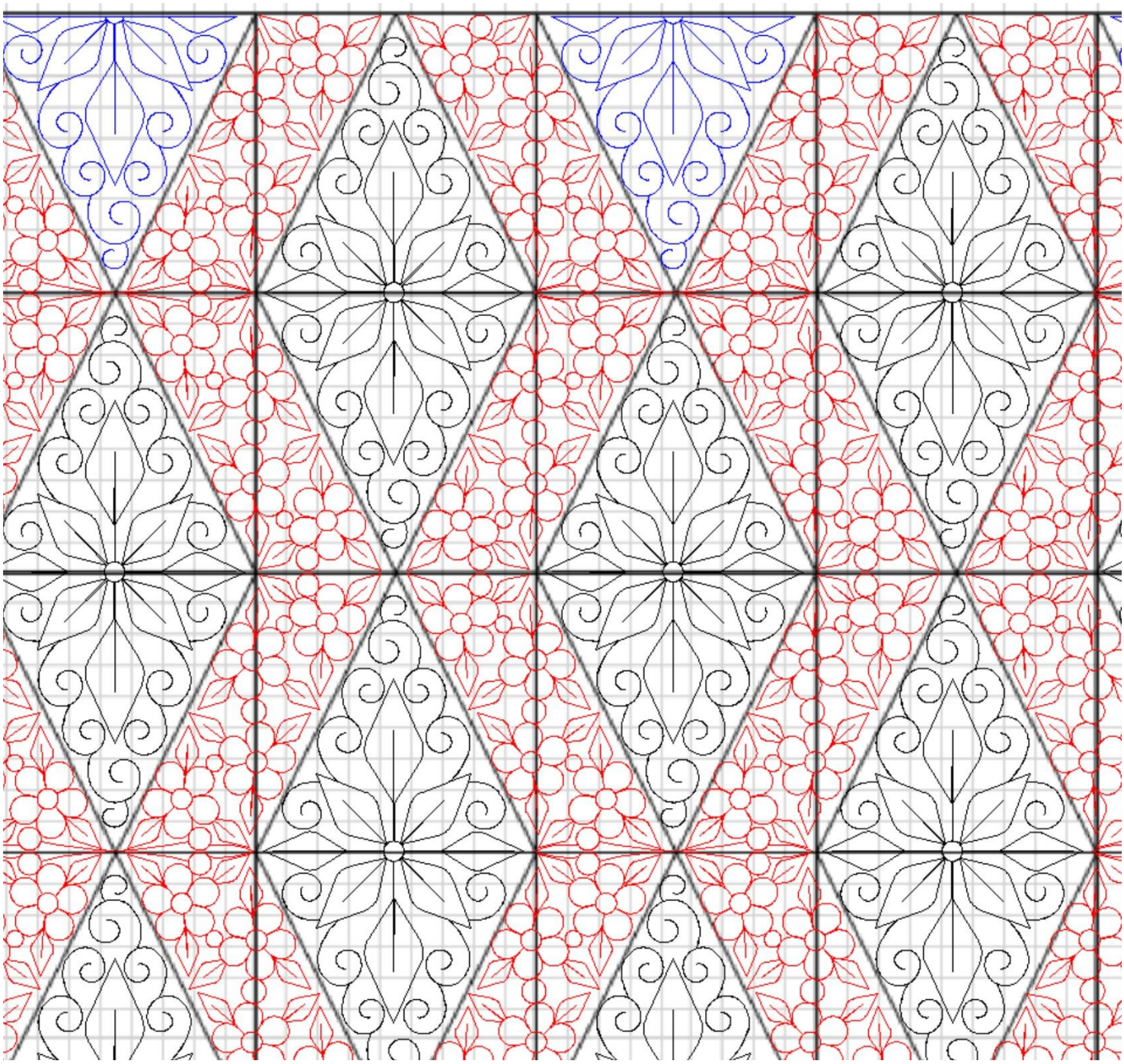
New Extended Width Patterns



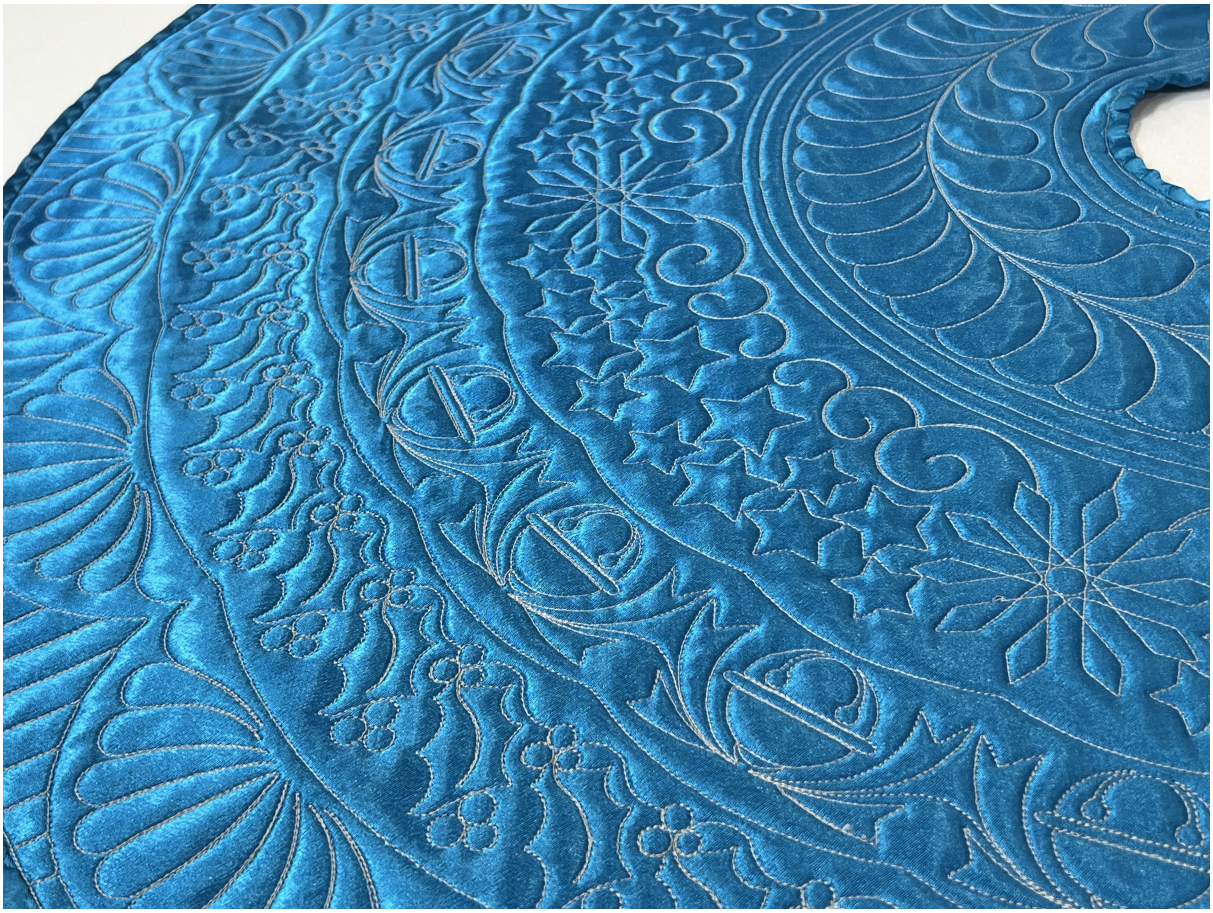




Bejeweled Quilt Patterns



2023 Christmas Tree Skirt Sample, cont.



The Name Panos...sigh!

—I do my level best to talk my quilting customers OUT of stitching name panos on their quilts. Why? Because I think they almost always detract from the quilt itself AND you can't read the names from the backside of the quilt. My personal quilting philosophy is to "do no harm" which means not quilting elaborate designs on a quilt just because I have a computer guided longarm which allows me to do so. Just because you CAN does not mean you SHOULD.

—Regardless, name panos are popular, especially around Christmas and Graduation seasons. Consequently, this archive contains more name panos than I would like. Most of them you will never have a use for, so just cull them out and forget about them. That's what I do...they don't make it onto my Statlers. If you need one, you can always ask me to send it to you again.

—Almost every single name pano started out life as a "normal" pattern, to which we were requested to add a name. The original "normal" pattern is probably NOT included in the current archive, as it was created at some time in the past. That's one reason why CJC members get a 20% discount on all online pattern purchases.

—From time to time we poll our Crown Jewels Club members and ask them if they'd like us to delete all those name panos from the archive. As Crown Jewels Club members, you pay the $50.00 monthly fee and get EVERYTHING Kim draws….including the name panos, and apparently, you want them all. Very few people (much to my surprise) voted to have them culled out prior to release.

Statler Owners Upgrading to Creative Studio 7.3 and 7.5 *(please read)*

Plan your software upgrade! If you have quilts to run and cannot afford any downtime, wait until your quilt load eases up before uploading.

Some people have had better luck downloading the software to a usb stick and upgrading their Statler and their Stand Alone Mode computers from the usb stick, rather than opening the Creative Studio software and then letting it upgrade from that point.

Statler Owners: If you're using CS 7.5.4 are your encrypted patterns suddenly have a dark gold background (instead of light yellow), LOG OUT of your Creative Studio Cloud Database. Reboot your Creative Studio software and then log back into your CS Cloud Database. Your patterns should then be light yellow (which means that they will stitch). If you still have problems, sync your patterns to your Gammill Pattern Cloud Account.

If you upgrade to Statler's Ascend, Gammill will make all of your patterns (in your Gammill Pattern Cloud Account) work with your new system, but you will need to contact SDQS with your new Statler Gold Key number.

Statler Technical Support

417-256-5919 ext. 1 / StatlerSupport@gammill.com

Basic Instructions for making 2023 Christmas Tree Skirt Pattern

Default size: 18.98” x 36.61” for the half pattern.

It will make a 36.61” circular tree skirt.

There are 2 center options: one has a hole in the center to allow you to make a tree skirt and the other is filled in so that you could use it as a table topper.

To Stitch:

Put the main pattern on the screen.

Make a copy.

Rotate the copy 180 degrees.

Line up the two patterns. Just get close, you will have to make adjustments once you stitch the first pass.

Put in the center pattern you want to use.

Now you can make adjustments to the size if you want. You can enlarge if you have extra throat space. You can shrink if you have less throat space but **you must enlarge or reduce all at the same time**.

Load your backing (can be anything, will not be seen), batting and fabric on your longarm. I recommend a very thin batt to help with shrinkage. You’ll need a spi of 14 to 16.

Mark the center and bottom half patterns as sewn.

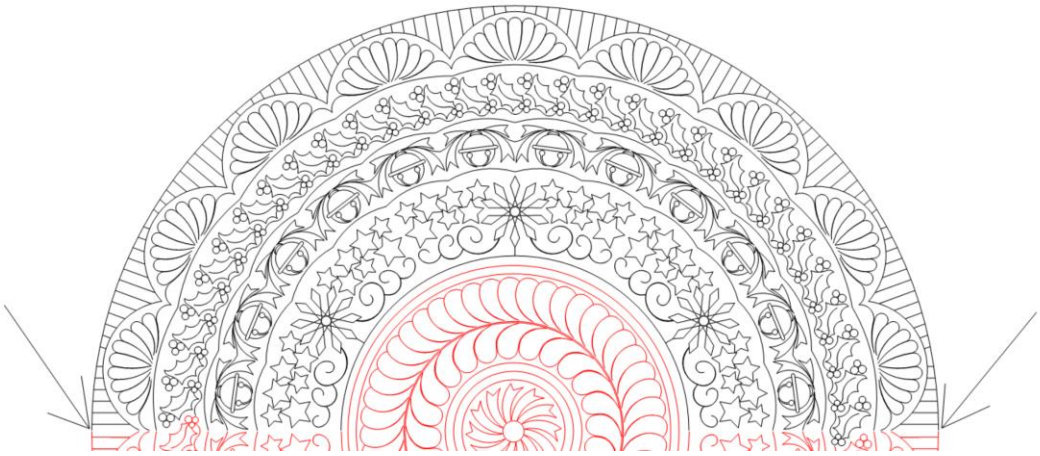
You will stitch the top half of the skirt first.

It will stitch from the outside in.

Roll the quilt but make sure you have access to the bottom of the pattern you just stitched.

You need to measure from the left outside circle to the right side of the circle.

From arrow to arrow but on the actual quilt.

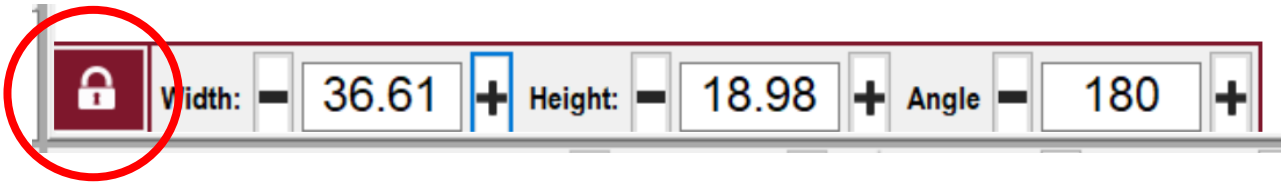


Now toggle the toggle the bottom half as unsewn (top should already be toggled sewn).

Select pattern and look at the width. You need to change the width of the pattern to match the width that you got from measuring.

Make sure that you have not turned off the freeze aspect.

This is how it should look.

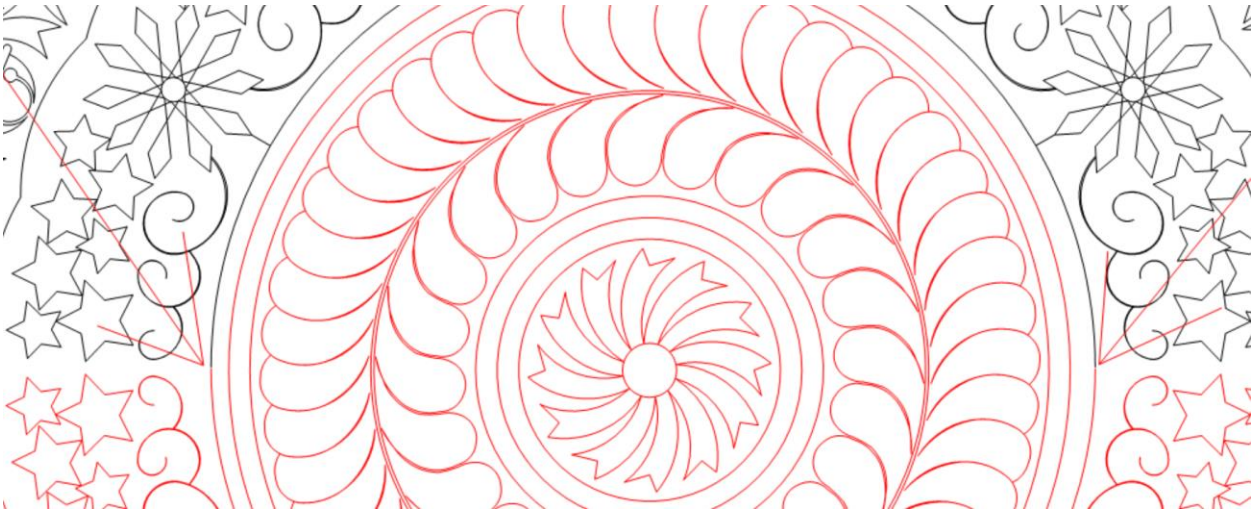


You need to line up the bottom pattern to the actual position of the stitched top half pattern.

You can place the head at the left side of the outside circle (where the left arrow was in previous diagram) then select the bottom half pattern and move it until the upper left point lines up to the upper pattern. If you had to change the width of the bottom pattern then, on the CAD screen, the right side will not match.

Stitch out.

Now you need to measure the interior circle.



Find the center, between those 2 points and place a pin. Position the head such that the needle is directly over the center. Put the center pattern onto the CAD screen. Adjust the width of the center pattern to be ½" smaller than the measured space.

Now position the center of the pattern such that the center of the pattern falls right on the center of the crosshairs.

Stitch.

Finishing

If you are making a table topper, cut out the quilted piece ¼" away from the outside circle. You can bind traditionally. **OR** You will have to put right sides together with the quilted piece and the backing fabric. Pin. Stitch around the perimeter, leaving an opening for turning. Turn. Close opening.

If you are making a tree skirt you will cut out the entire piece ¼" away from the outside circle. You will cut from outer edge to inner circle (I recommend cutting where the 2 patterns joined) and then cutting out the center giving yourself ¼" from the stitching.

You can bind traditionally or put a backing fabric, right sides together, on the piece and stitch around the piece leaving an opening for turning. You will have to clip corners and inner curves. Turn. Close opening. Add ribbon or fabric to tying opening closed.