

Machine Quilting and Finishing with Esther Anderson

Sunday 25th February 2018
OR Sunday 25th March 2018 10am to 3pm

This is a class for beginners who have made some patchwork but want to learn about quilting and how to finish their pieces. The class is ideal for anyone who has completed Esther's Beginners Blocks workshop or anyone else who wants to improve their quilting and finishing techniques. Esther will cover everything you need to know to turn patchwork into a quilt including the different ways to layer up a quilt, machine quilting with a walking foot and binding. Esther will also teach you about the different types of wadding and machine needles, discuss threads and thread choice, discuss how you mark your quilt with quilting patterns and how you can create different patterns with a walking foot and will demonstrate free motion quilting.

What to Bring to class

I would recommend that you bring some practice fabric and wadding so that you can have a go and try different quilting techniques. So for this bring two fat quarters of plain fabric and one fat quarter of 80/20 wadding.

You should also bring a small quilt top or cushion fronts ready to be layered up and quilted. Please don't bring anything large as they are not ideal for learning on! For each piece you want to quilt you should have a piece of backing and wadding which is bigger than the quilt top.

So for example - cushion front 18 x 18 inches, cut backing and wadding 20 x 20 inches
Quilt top 30 x 40 inches, cut backing and wadding 34 x 44 inches.

These are approximate, the bigger your piece, the more clearance you need as it can be difficult to layer up exactly. I would recommend a flat wadding such as 80/20 or cotton wadding for each of your pieces.

Binding ó To practice binding, we will trim and bind your practice piece so for this you will need 15cm of fabric cut into two 2 ½ inch wide strips. If you would like to bind something larger you will need to work out how many strips of fabric you need. Measure the circumference of your quilt in inches and then divide by 36. That will give you the number of strips required. You do need a bit of spare fabric for joining so round up and if in doubt, get an extra strip.

Other Requirements

- Lots of different threads that go with what you want to quilt. Bring what you have and I will also have threads for you to try. Suggested threads are plain ones such as Coats, Gutterman or Presencia cotton or variegated thread such as Gutterman Sulky. Any good quality cotton thread is fine.
- Topstitch or Quilting needles in size 80 to 90 ó I will discuss needles in class so you may prefer to buy on the day depending on what will suit your thread.
- Sewing machine with walking foot and free machine foot (FMQ foot is optional)
- Hera marker, seam creaser, chaco liner or fabric marking pen if you have them, but I will demonstrate these tools at the class so I would recommend waiting until you try them, you can decide which you prefer.
- For layering up you will need 505 Spray, curved safety pins or tacking thread ó I will discuss these options in class.