



Fabulous **FEATHERS**

free-motion challenge quilting along

Week 5 Quilting Diagrams & Tip Sheet
For more information about the challenge, visit FMQchallenge.com

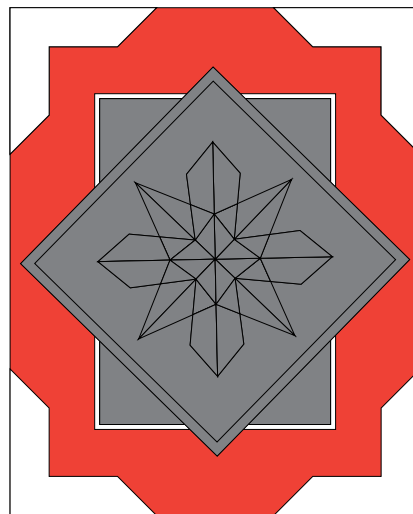
Fabulous FEATHERS

Week 5 Diagrams & Tip Sheet IRREGULAR AREAS

So far in the Fabulous Feathers Free-motion challenge, we have been quilting feathers in defined areas such as blocks. But not every quilt is going to have the perfect area for adding feathers. No worries! In this week's challenge, we are going to learn 3 different ways to quilt feathers in irregularly shaped areas.

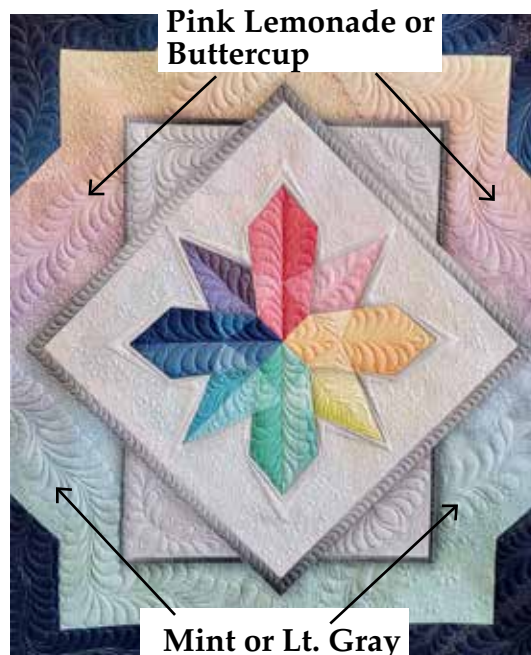
This Week's Challenge:

Are you ready for this week's machine quilting challenge? If you are quilting along with me on the custom challenge panel, fill in the areas highlighted in red with feathers. Try one technique or all three, just be sure to fill in the whole area.



Thread Color Suggestions

In this week's challenge, not only are we quilting the largest area of the quilt, the fabric is also a range of colors. This is a good thing, it means you can have a lot of fun with the thread colors. For the top half both Pink Lemonade and the Buttercup threads would look great. And for the bottom half, Mint or Light Gray is a solid choice. Pick one color for each area or switch them up as you go, either way it will look great!



Quilted Example

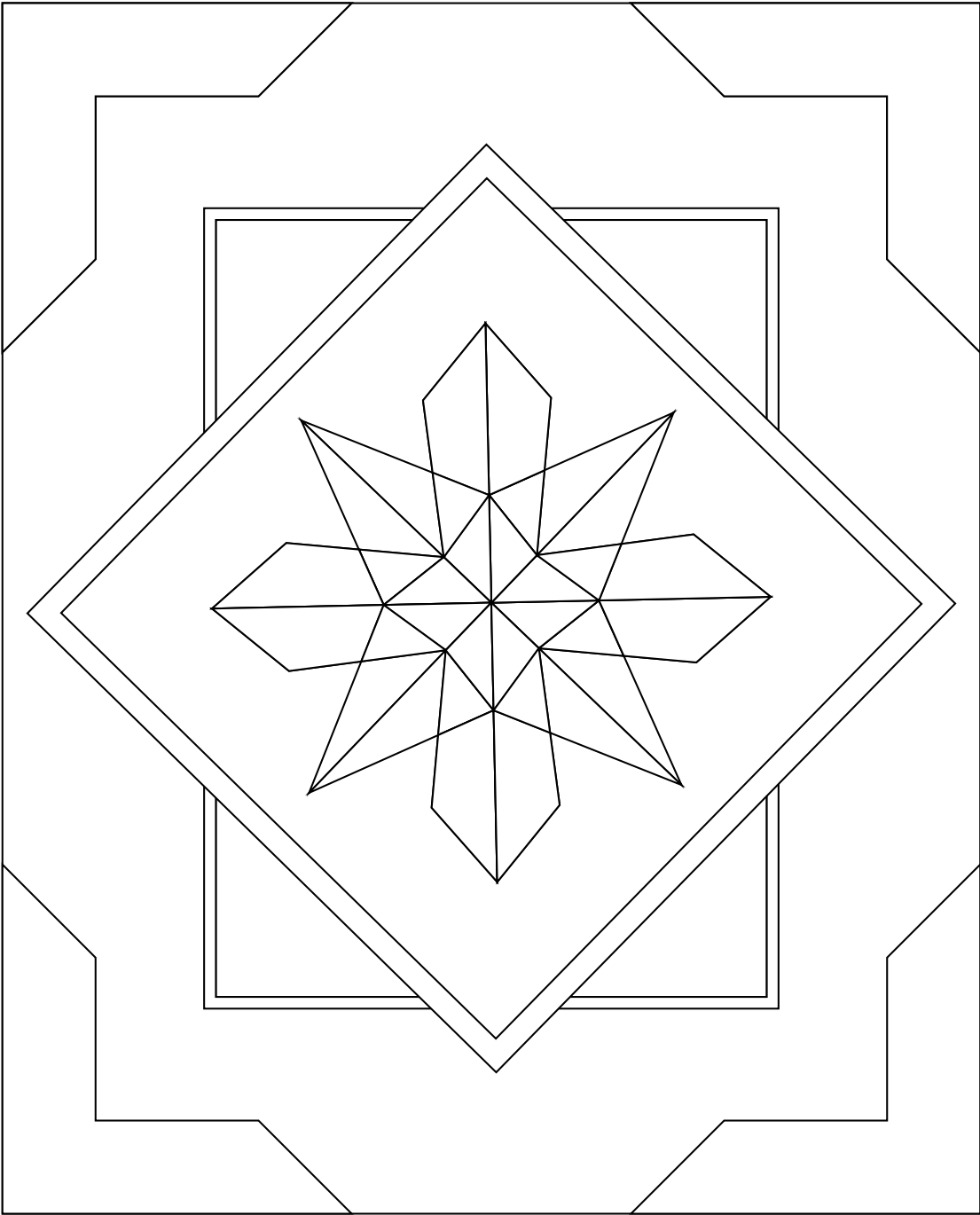
Pictured below is how I chose to quilt the Fabulous Feather Free-motion Challenge panel for this week's challenge. You can use it as a reference for your quilting design placement, or come up with something completely different.





Design Audition

Use the diagram below to audition your design placement.



Techniques for Quilting Feathers in Irregular Areas

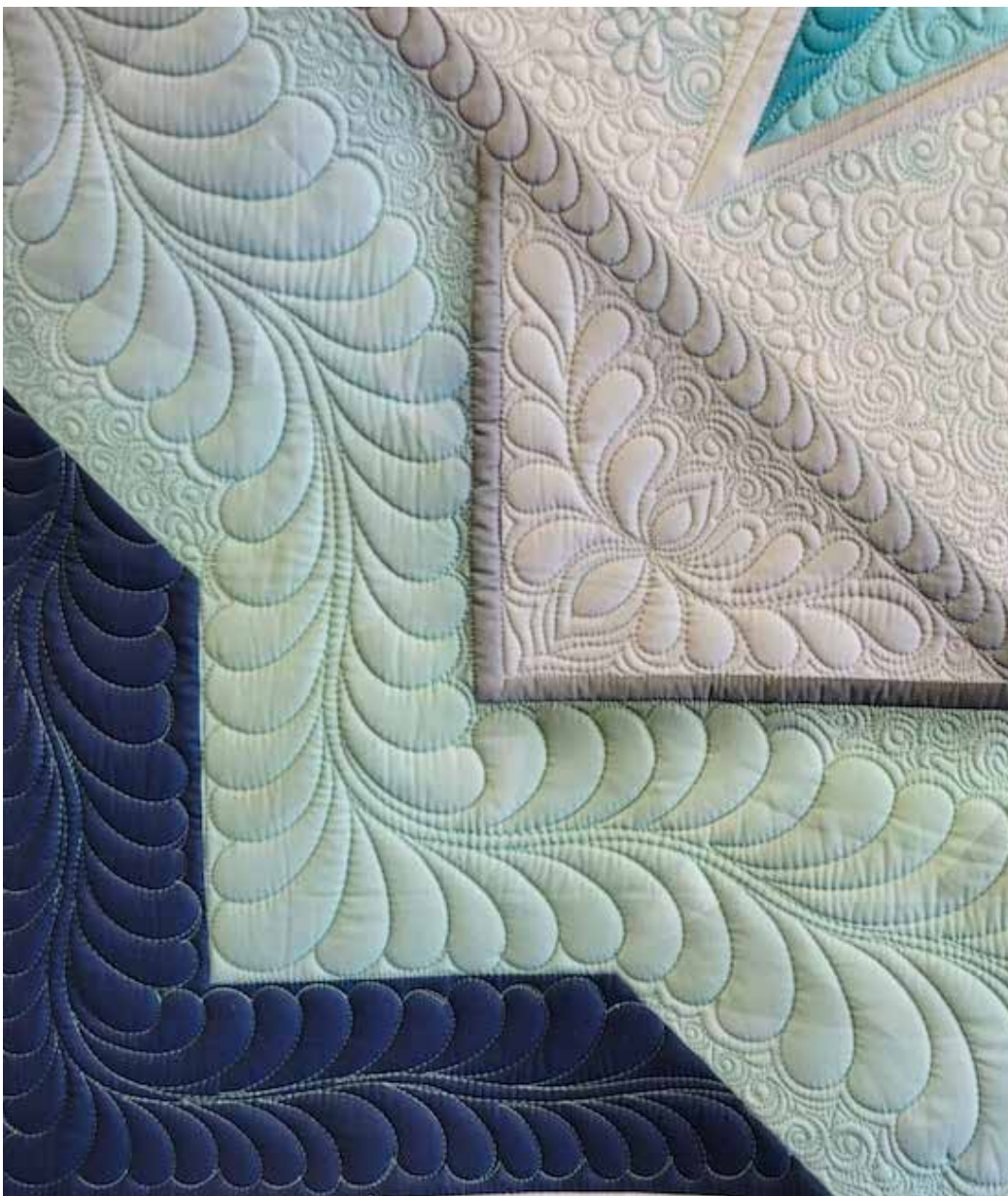
Technique #1: Break it Up

When dealing with larger areas, sometimes quilting a long, continuous feather can be tricky. Especially for those on a sewing machine with a small throat or when quilting long vertical areas on a longarm. Instead of struggling with one long feather, break it up and quilt it in several sections. You will still get a stunning feather look, without all the hassle. Plus it gives you more flexibility with design placement!



Technique #2: Fit it In

Quilting a long continuous feather in an area can make a big statement on your quilt. You can use it to frame an element or to highlight a particular area. It's not necessarily more difficult, it just involves more repositioning of the quilt. If you are dealing with an irregularly shaped space that doesn't have a huge difference in widths, you could opt for the second technique, fitting it in.



Technique #3: Play Peek-a-Boo

For areas that have more dramatic differences in width, the peek-a-boo technique is a fun way to quilt feathers in those areas. It might be a look a little difficult, but it just requires a little traveling along the edge. Following the instructions below to add this to your quilt tops.

