



Fabulous FEATHERS

free-motion challenge quilting along

Week 6 Quilting Diagrams & Tip Sheet

For more information about the challenge, visit FMQchallenge.com

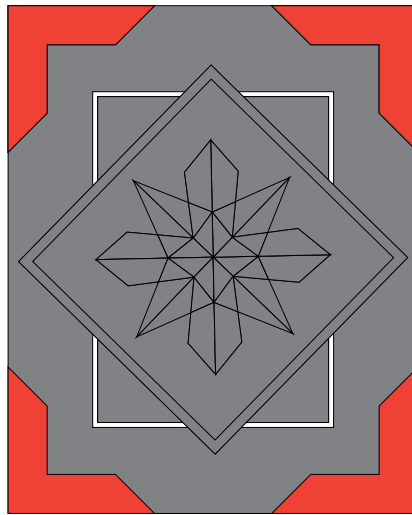
Fabulous FEATHERS

Week 6 Diagrams & Tip Sheet BORDER CORNERS

We know that feathers are gorgeous in all areas of quilts. But when I think about a traditional feather, I picture it in a border wrapping around the quilt. What a great way to highlight the center of the quilt! If we want to add that look to our quilts, we are going to have to learn how to quilt the feather around the border corner. In this week's challenge, I am going to show you a few different options.

This Week's Challenge:

Are you ready for this week's challenge? If you are quilting along with me on the exclusive challenge panel, fill in the border corners highlighted in red with feathers. Try all the different ways, or quilt them all the same, it's up to you!



Thread Color Suggestions

For this week's thread color suggestion, I want to encourage you to play with all the different colors as shown on the right. I know it might be a little scary since we are quilting on dark blue fabric. But since the colors are lighter than the fabric, it's going to look great. If changing thread colors doesn't sound like your idea of a good time, I would suggest Haze for the corners.

Pink Lemonade

Buttercup



Haze

Mint



Quilted Example

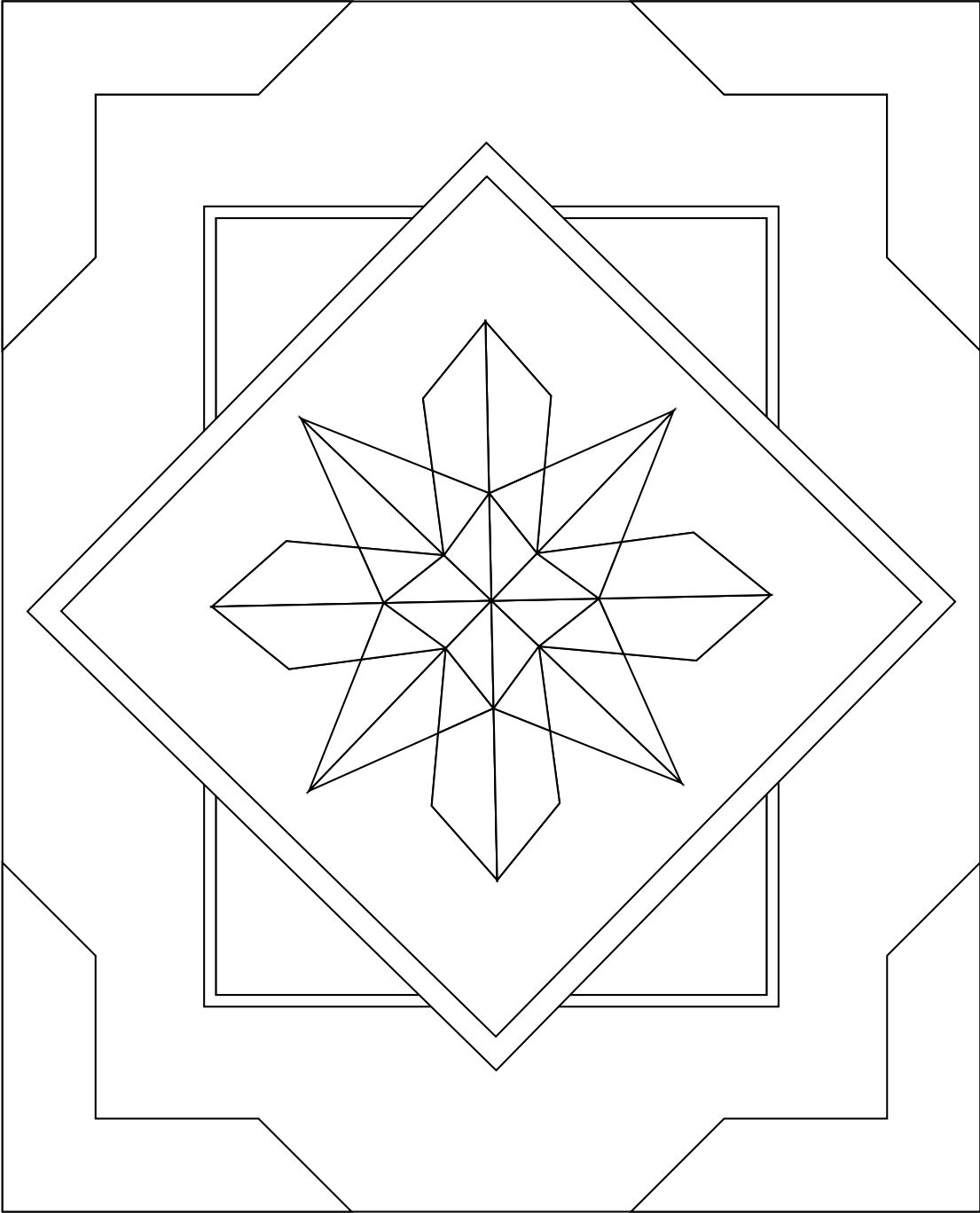
Pictured below is how I chose to quilt the Fabulous Feather Free-motion Challenge panel for this week's challenge. You can use it as a reference for your quilting design placement, or come up with something completely different.





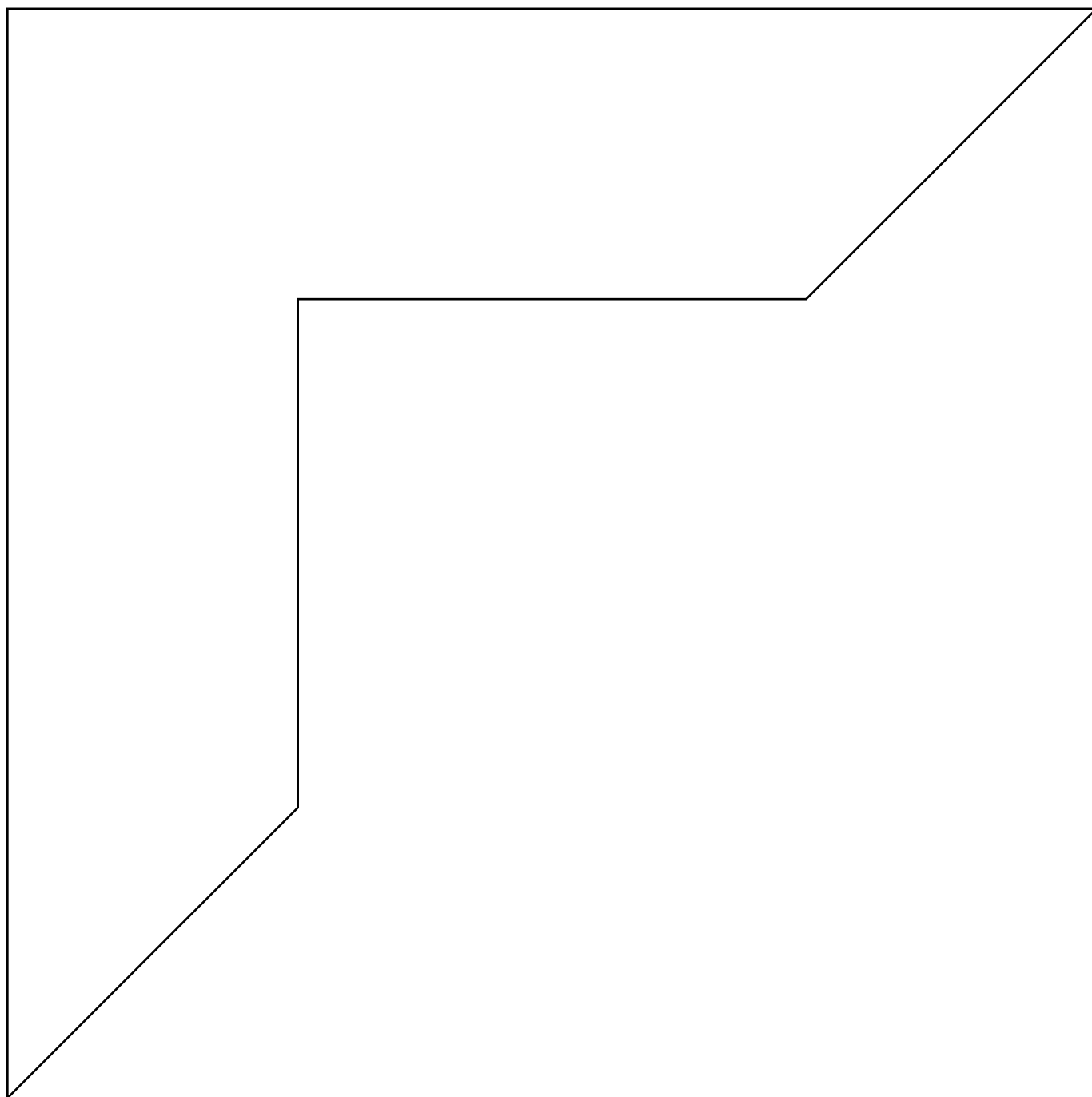
Design Audition

Use the diagram below to audition your design placement.



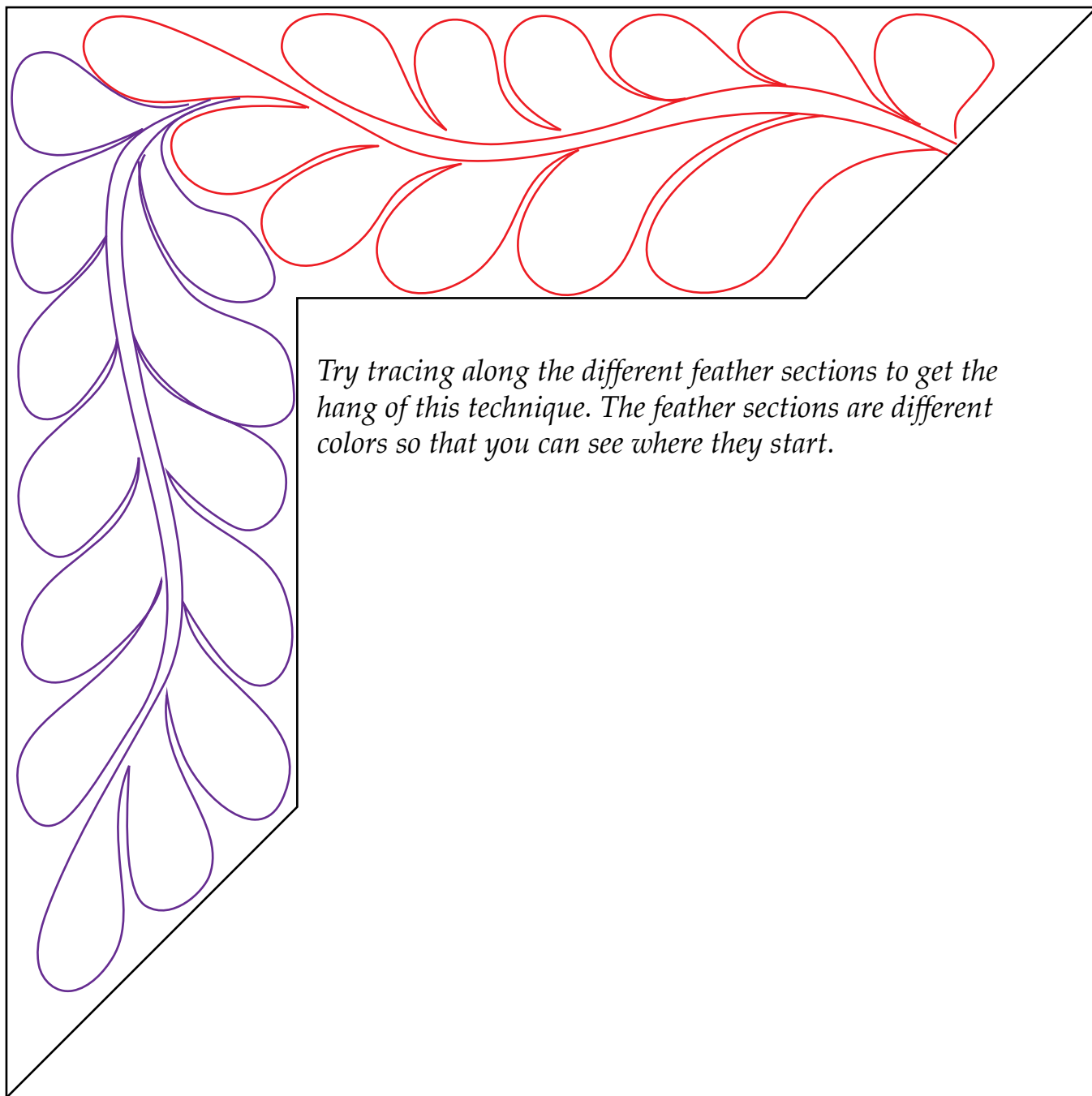
Design Audition

Use the diagram below to audition your design placement.



Technique #1 Divide and Conquer - Quilting Diagrams

Instead quilting a feather that wraps around the corner, try the “Divide & Conquer” technique which allows you to quilt it in two separate sections. This is best for thinner or medium borders and can be used with the basic feather or custom feather, although I tend to prefer to use the basic feather when using this technique.



Technique #1 Divide and Conquer - Quilted Samples



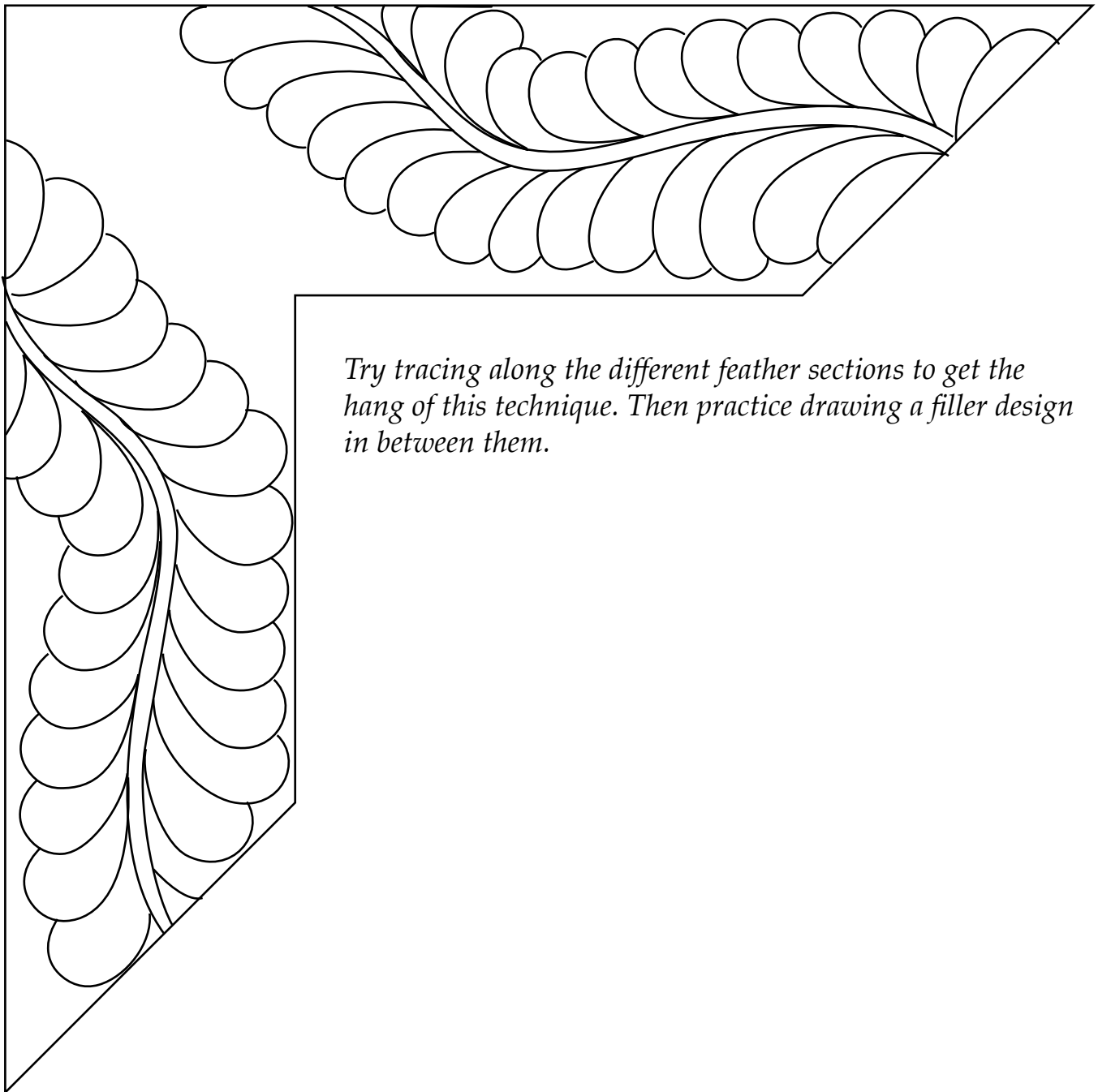
Quilting the sections so that they face the same way can give the illusion of one continuously quilted feather.



Quilting the sections so that they face each other will highlight the border corner.

Technique #2 Running Out of Bounds - Quilting Diagrams

Turning the corner isn't necessarily difficult, it just presents one more thing to think about. If getting the feather to wrap around the corner seems daunting, try the second technique, running out of bounds. This is ideal for larger borders or outer borders.



Technique #2 Out of Bounds - Quilted Samples



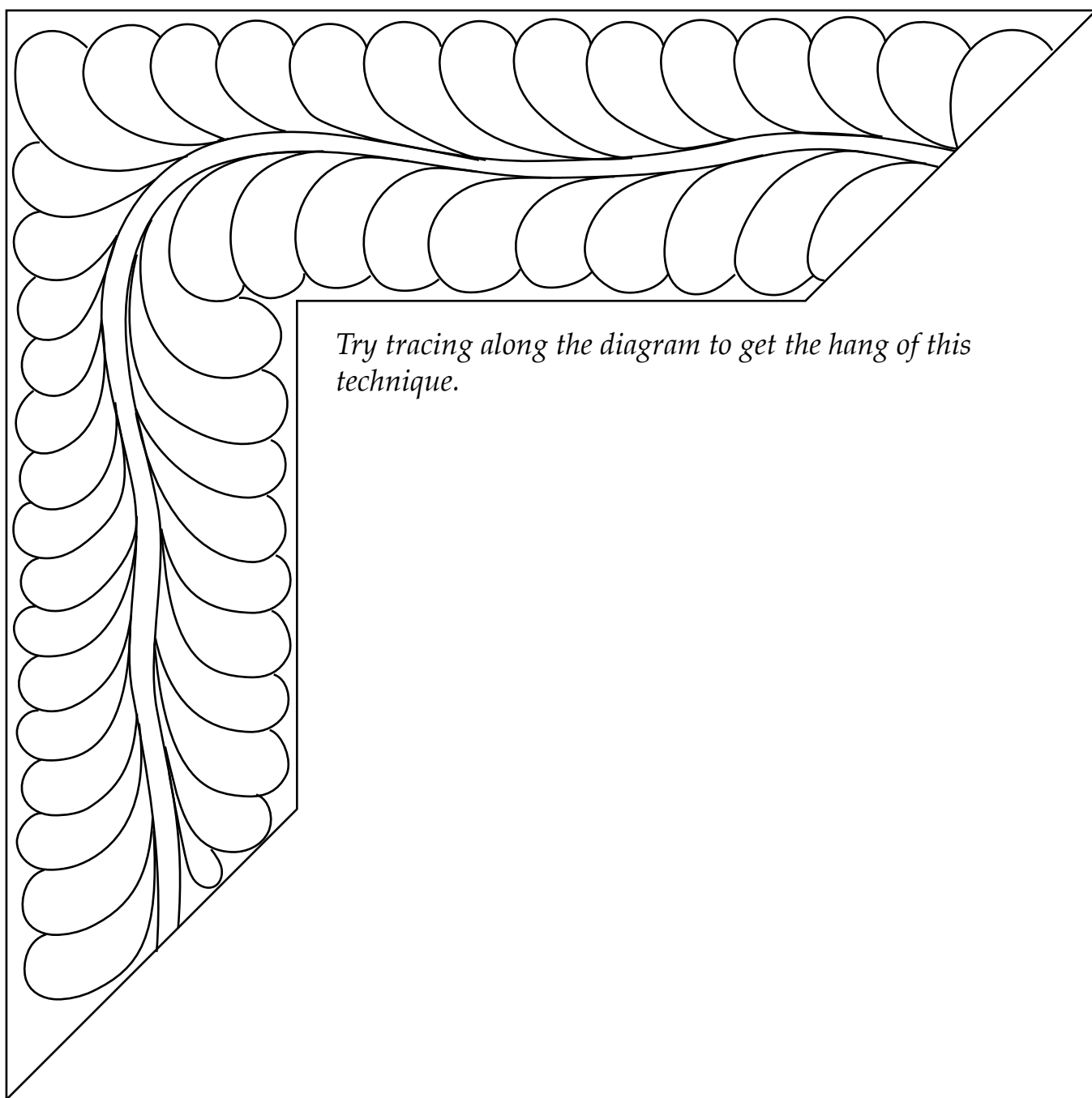
Quilting the feather sections in the same direction is the key to creating the illusion that the feathers are running off of the border.



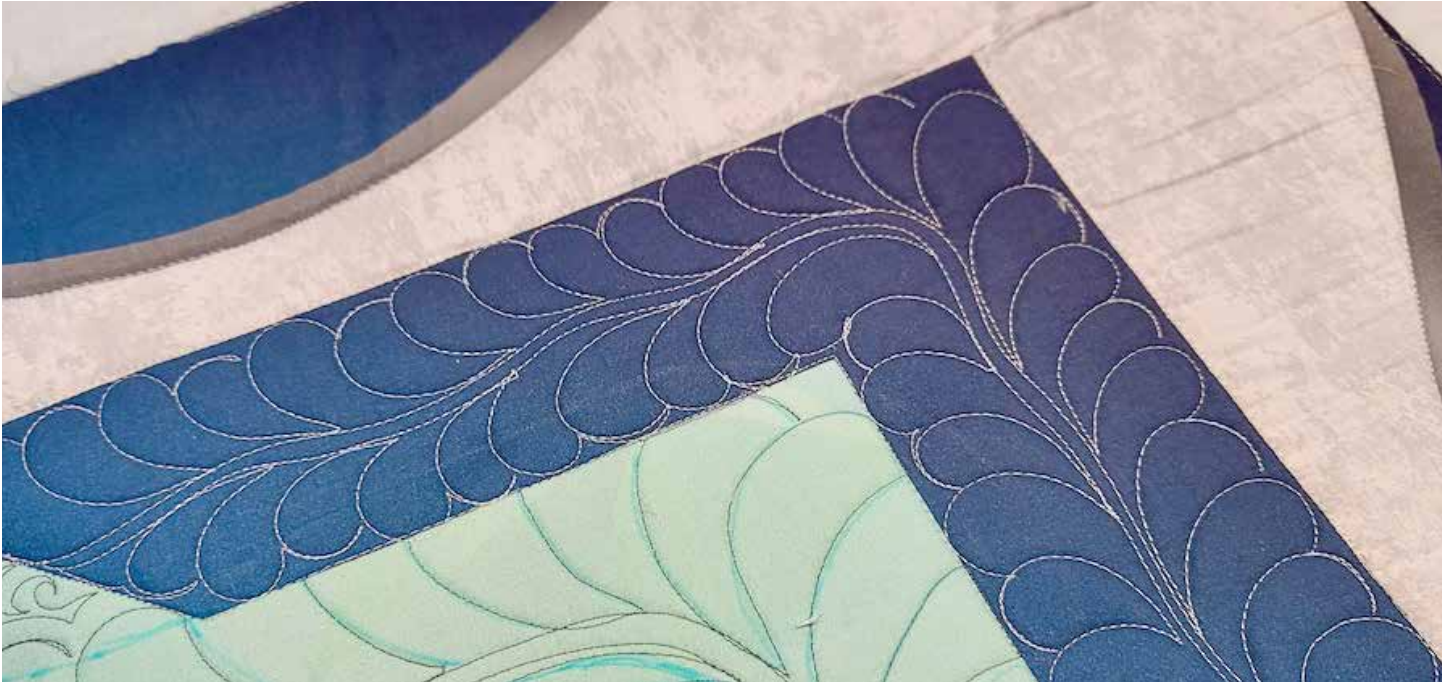
Try to keep both feathers as symmetrical as possible. Marking registration lines may be helpful.

Technique #3 Around the corner - Quilting Diagrams

When I think of a traditional border feather, I imagine it wrapping around a quilt. Quilting the feather so that it turns the corner isn't necessarily difficult, it just takes a little bit to get used to dealing with the larger area in the corner. It's worth learning because you can use this technique with both types of feathers and it works in borders of different widths.



Technique #3 Turning the Corner - Quilted Samples



Focus on filling in the border corner as much as possible, then use echoing to fill in any gaps.



This technique works well with both kinds of feathers.