



Fabulous FEATHERS

free-motion challenge quilting along

Week 2 Quilting Diagrams & Tip Sheet

For more information about the challenge, visit FMQchallenge.com

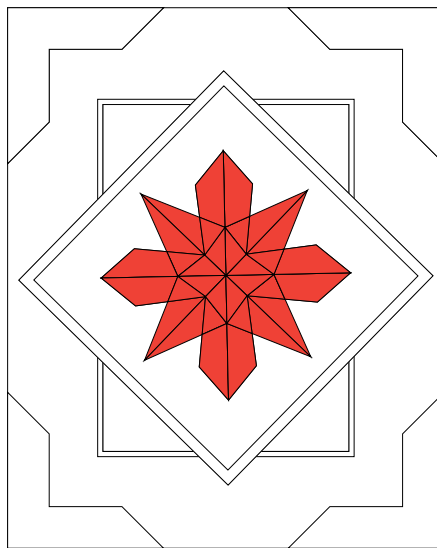
Fabulous FEATHERS

Week 2 Diagrams & Tip Sheet FEATHERS IN BLOCKS

This week, we are thinking “inside the blocks” by learning how to quilt several different feather designs in blocks. Not only is this a great way to show off the blocks in your quilt top, some quilters might find it an easier way to quilt feathers. Blocks have a defined space and a clear ending point (when the block is finished) which gives us one less thing to think about when quilting.

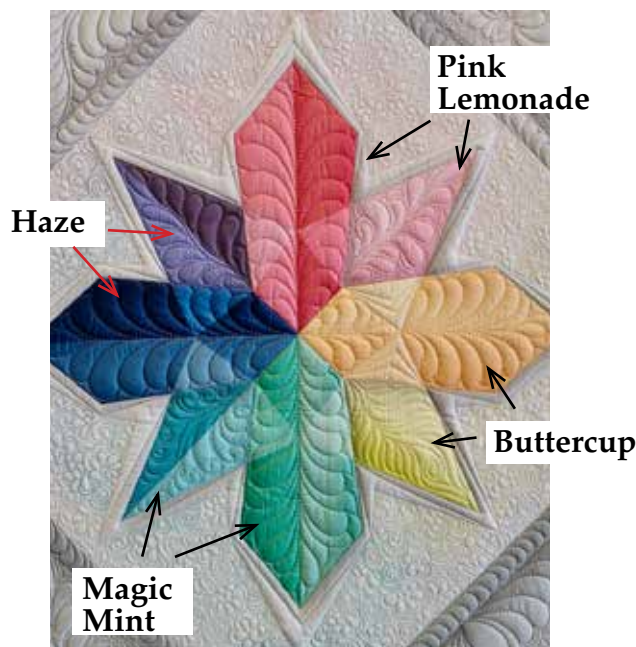
This Week’s Challenge:

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 center “blocks” (highlighted in red) with feather designs. You can quilt the same feather in all the blocks, try different variations from the video tutorial, or come up with your very own feather variations.



Thread Color Suggestions

The beautiful rainbow colors of this panel provide the perfect opportunity to use several different thread colors. However, if changing threads isn’t your kind of thing, I would suggest a light gray thread. The neutral color will blend in the best on all the different colors. If you purchased the coordinating thread collection, this thread color placement diagram will show you which colors I suggest for each block.



For more information about the challenge, visit FMQchallenge.com



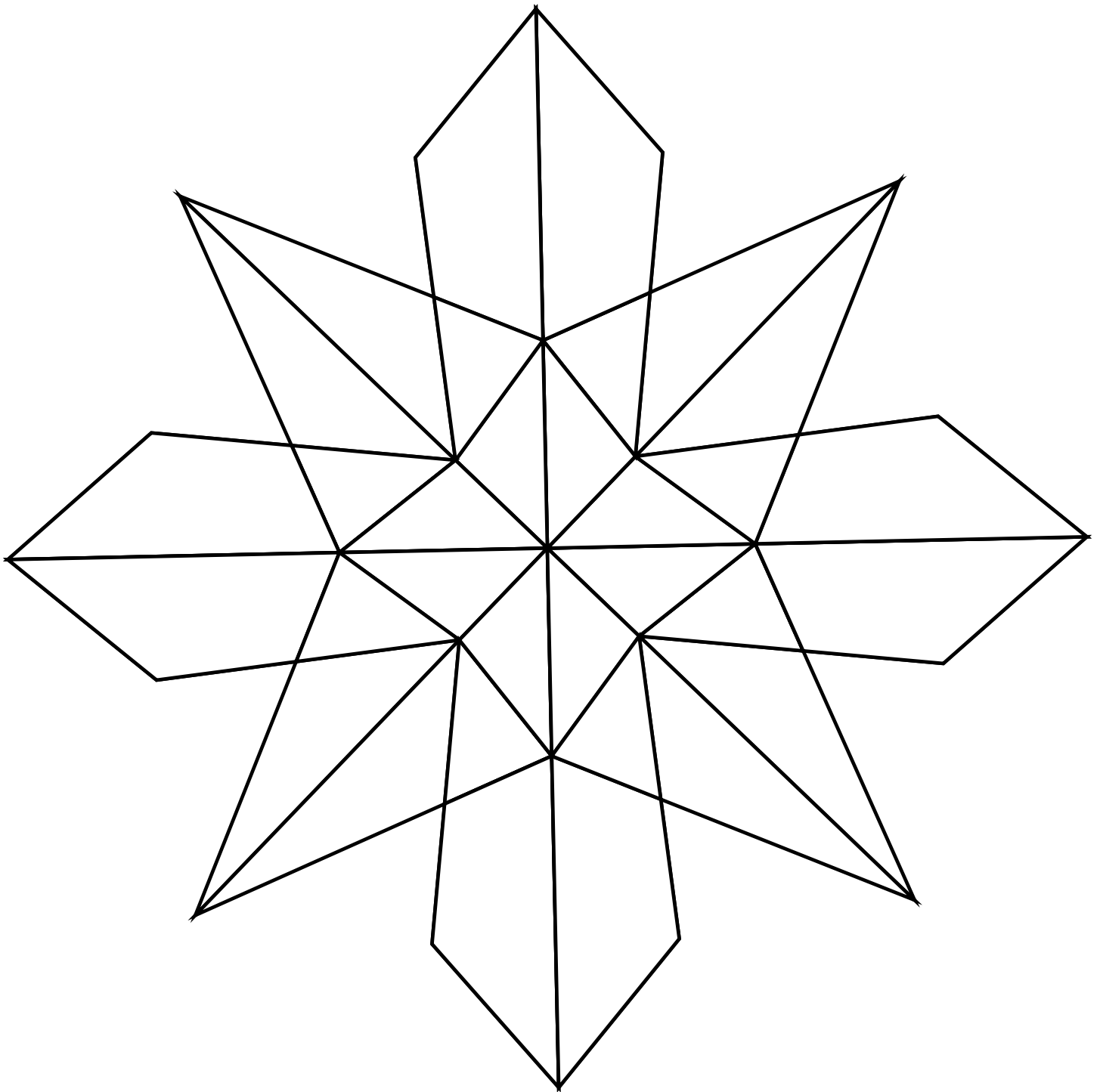
Design Placement Suggestions

There is no right or wrong way to quilt along in the Fabulous Feathers Free-motion Challenge! But if you would like to use the same design placement as featured in the tutorial, check out the diagram below.



Audition Different Designs

If you are feeling adventurous, try using different variations or take the easier route and quilt the same design in each block....it's up to you! Use the diagram below to audition different design ideas.

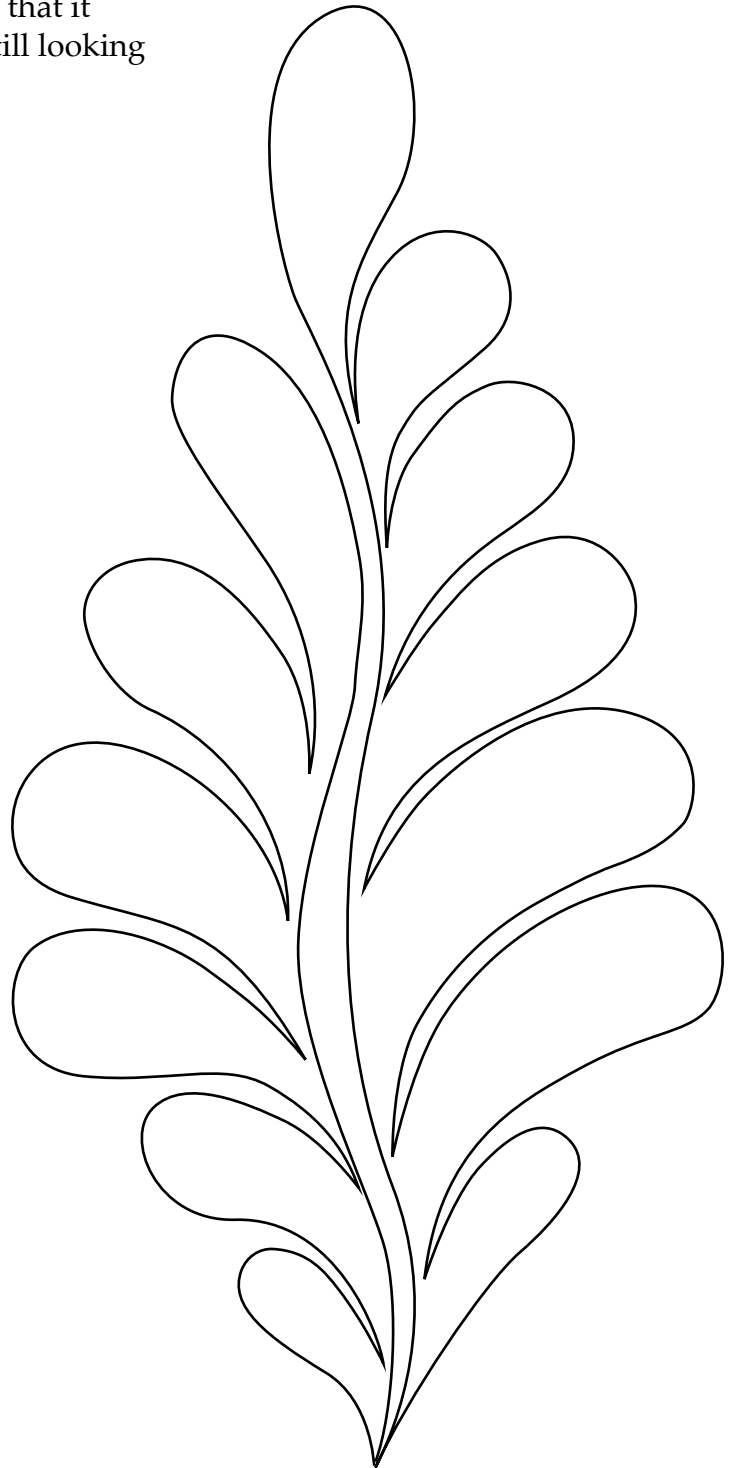


FEATHER VARIATIONS

There are so many different feather designs! These are just a few variations that I like to use.

Basic Feathers

This feather design gets its “basic” name from the fact that it doesn’t include traveling. This means that it tends to be an easier feather to quilt while still looking great on all kinds of quilts.

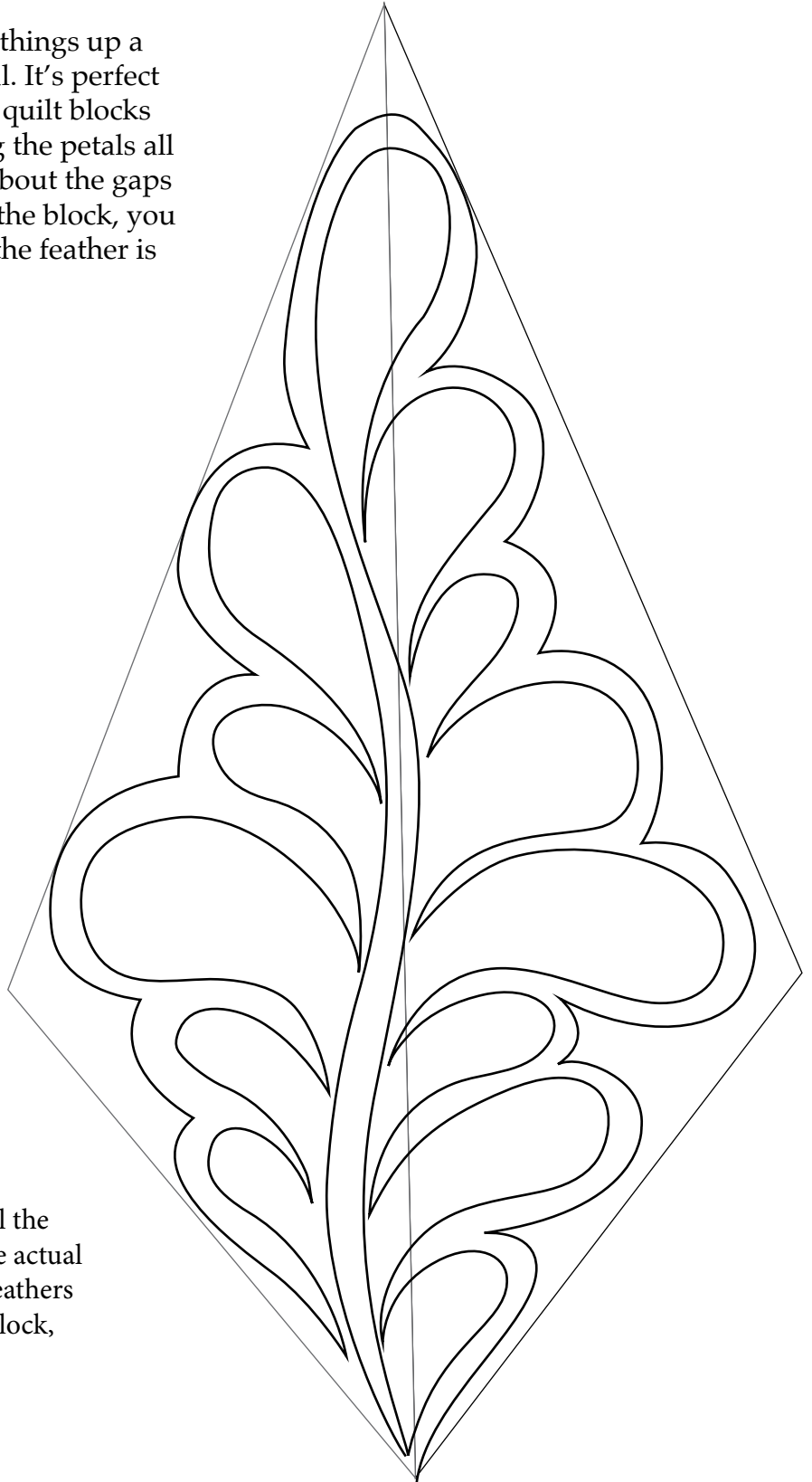


Give it a try!

Practice drawing along the diagram until the design clicks. This diagram is very close actual size of the purple block on the Fabulous Feathers panel. Use it to mark the design on the block, then quilt on the drawn lines.

Wonky Feathers

This basic feather variation changes things up a bit by varying the widths of the petal. It's perfect for adding a whimsical look to your quilt blocks or if you are struggling with quilting the petals all the way out the edge. Don't worry about the gaps between the design and the edge of the block, you can use echoing to fill them in once the feather is quilted.

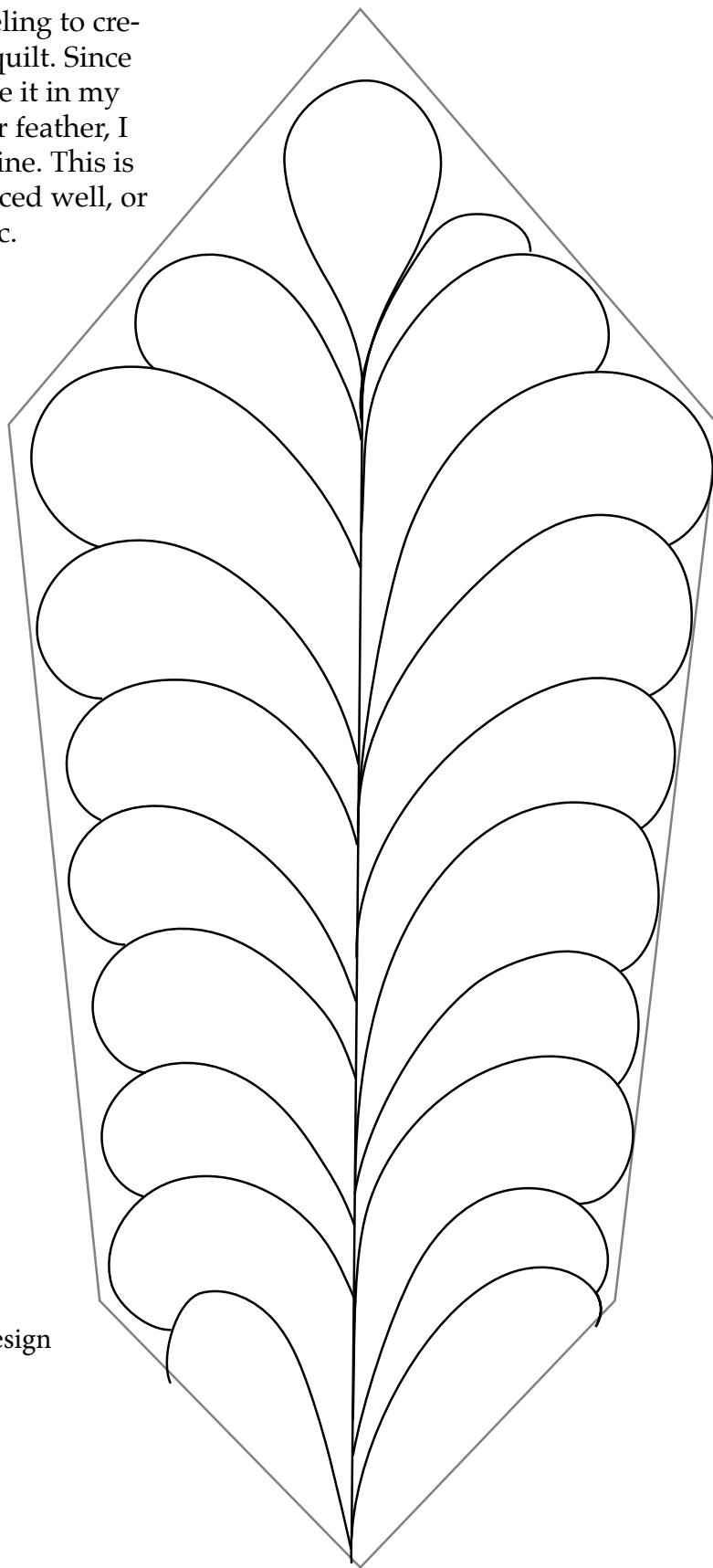


Give it a try!

Practice drawing along the diagram until the design clicks. This diagram is close to the actual size of the pink block on the Fabulous Feathers panel. Use it to mark the design on the block, then quilt on the drawn lines.

Custom Feathers

The custom feather adds a little bit of traveling to create a design that looks so elegant on your quilt. Since it takes a little longer to quilt, I prefer to use it in my favorite blocks in a quilt. For this particular feather, I am using the “seam” of the block as the spine. This is a great way to highlight blocks that are pieced well, or for blocks with a lot of contrast in the fabric.

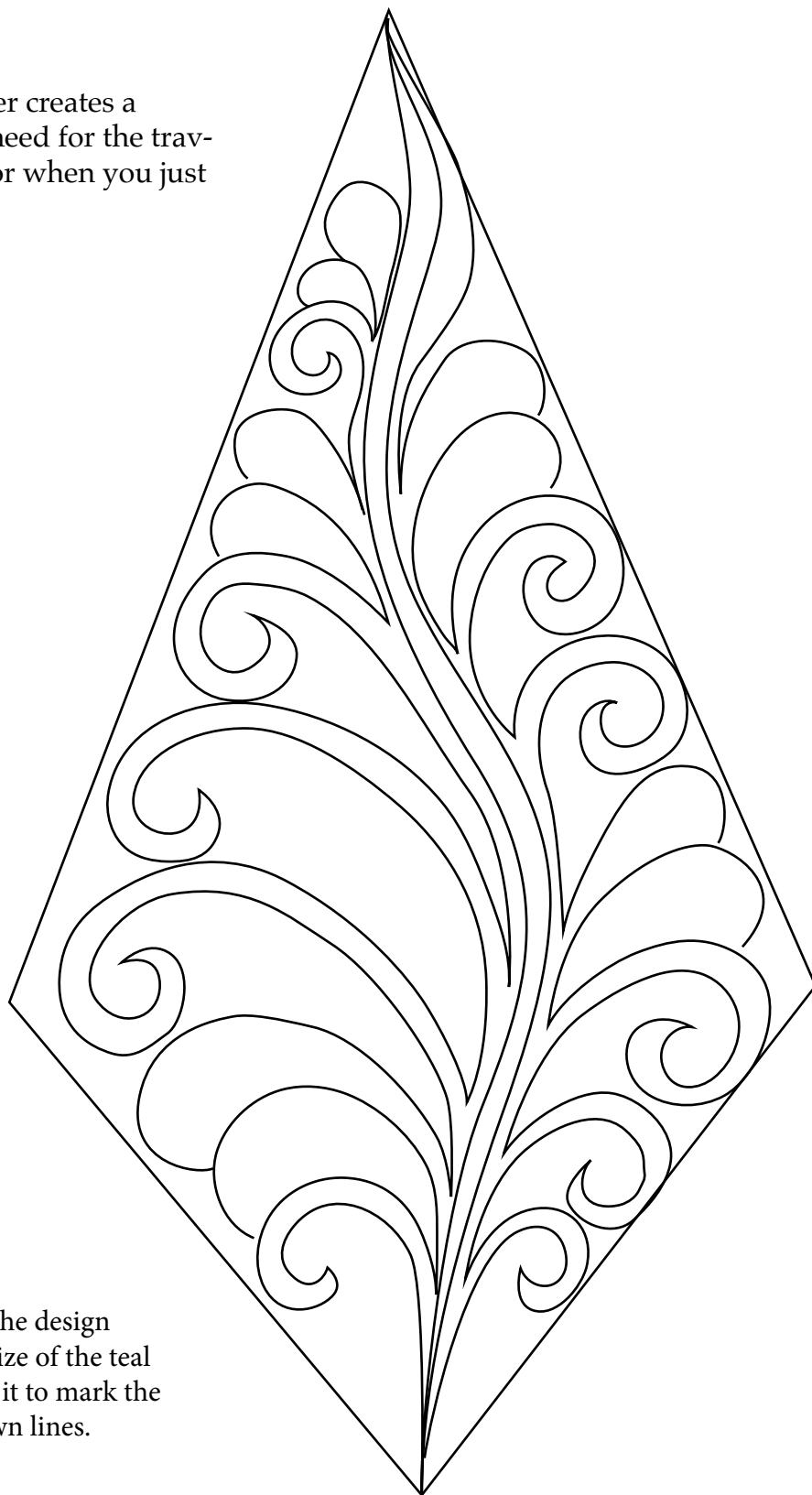


Give it a try!

Practice drawing along the diagram until the design clicks.

Curly Feathers

Adding a little swirl to the custom feather creates a whimsical variation that eliminates the need for the traveling. Try this design on novelty quilts or when you just want to add some fun with the quilting.

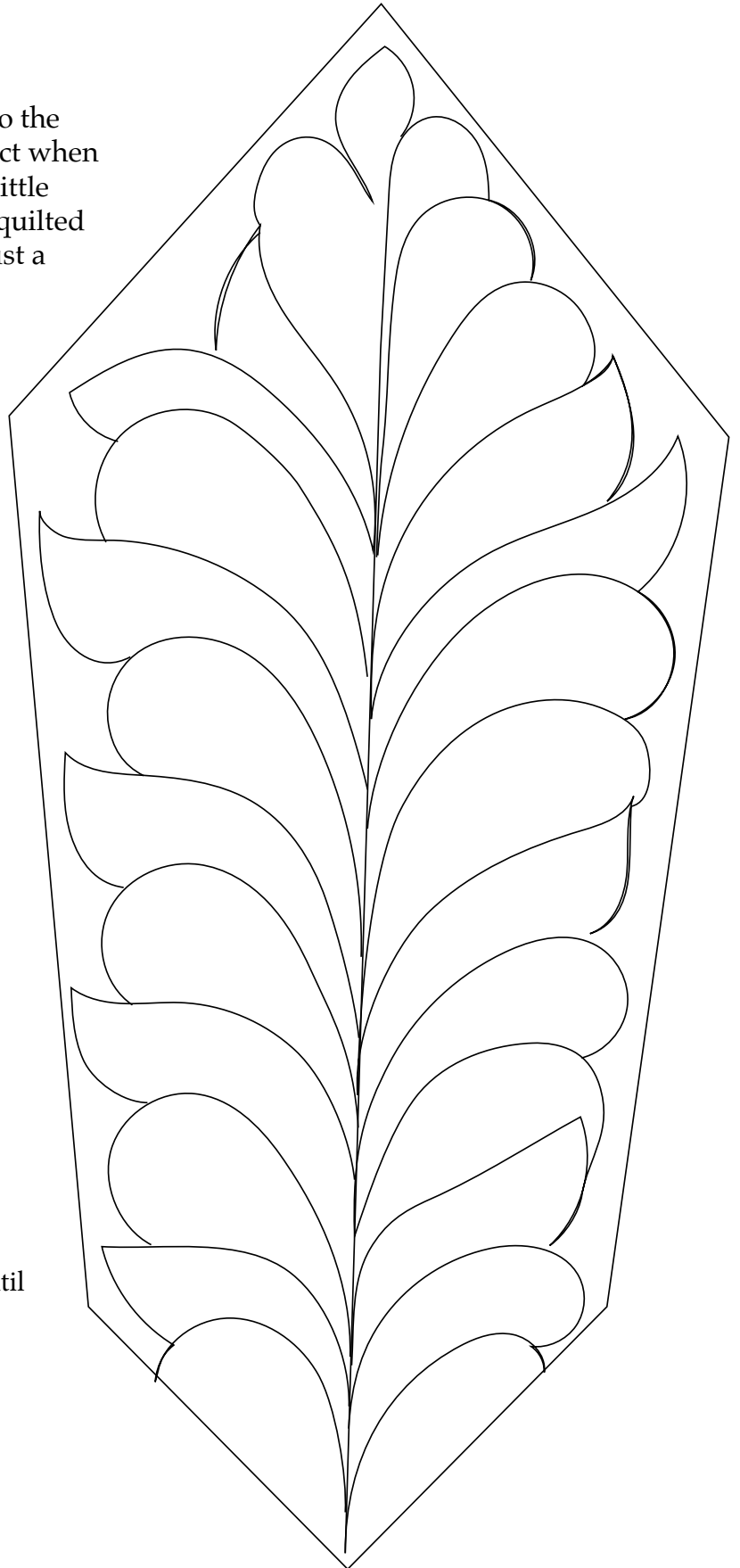


Give it a try!

Practice drawing along the diagram until the design clicks. This diagram is close to the actual size of the teal block on the Fabulous Feathers panel. Use it to mark the design on the block, then quilt on the drawn lines.

Ferny Feathers

This custom feather variation gets right to the point with ferny-shaped petals. It's perfect when you want a design that's a little curvy, a little pointy and a whole lot of awesome. It is quilted the same way as a custom feather with just a little tweak to the petal.



Give it a try!

Practice drawing along the diagram below until the design clicks.