Episode 3 Class Notes: Dot to Dot Quilting Designs On The Blocks

We are not going to Free Motion Quilt; I am going to teach my Controlled Quilting technique.
The designs are drawn onto the fabric after the blocks have been ironed together with the backing and the batting. We will start with very simple designs; each block will advance your quilting skills as we work through a variety of stunning designs.

You have the choice to follow what I show, or you may choose to create your own designs or just choose some of the ones I teach and repeat these. It is your quilt, so make it uniquely yours 💋

TIP: If you feel a bit challenged with your first few designs, I suggest drawing up some designs onto paper that cut in the size of the block and experimenting on the paper first. Once you are happy with your shape, you can then draw onto your fabric.

Marking your fabric:
Use the Bohin Fabric Marking pencil with the fine 0.9mm leads and choose the lead color that will be best to mark your background fabric.

I used the grey on my white fabric. **Tip:** if using the dark lead do not press hard as it will give you a dark line that will be hard to wash out. I recommend pressing **very lightly** so you can just faintly see the line when the light from your machine shines on it.
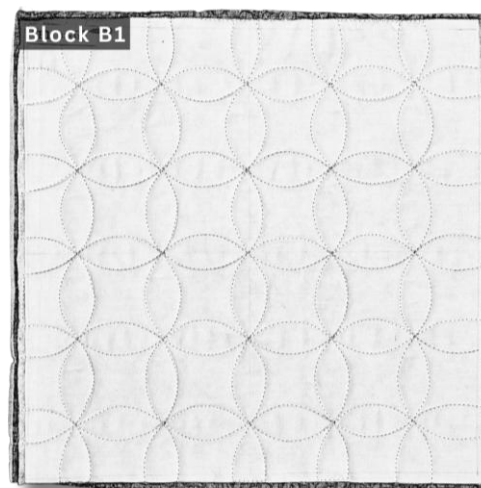
First set block – 2" Melons:

The first design will be using the Dot to Dot Curves & Grid System. There are 5 templates in this set and once you learn how to use them, lots of fantastic quilting designs can be achieved very simply by lining up the dots. The first set of blocks, B1 – B2 – C2 – D1 – A4, will be drawn using the grid templates and different curved shapes. You can find the Dot to Dot instruction booklet here.

Block B1 (11" x 11"):
The first design we will learn to draw is the 2" Melon to fill in the whole block.
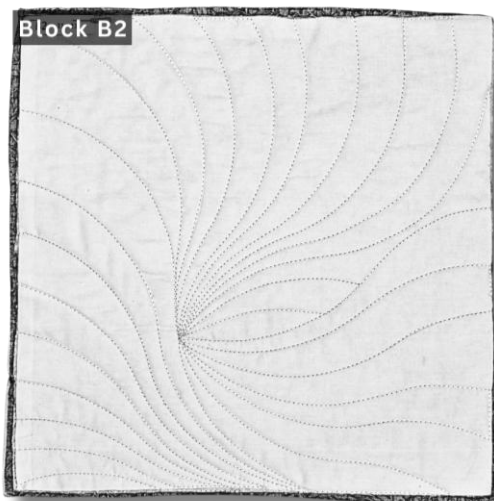
Use the 1" grid template (the one with all the small holes that are spaced a 1" apart). Lay the template with the 1" dots on top of block B1, use the Bohin pencil and mark through every second dot, so you have dots 2" apart to fill up the whole block.
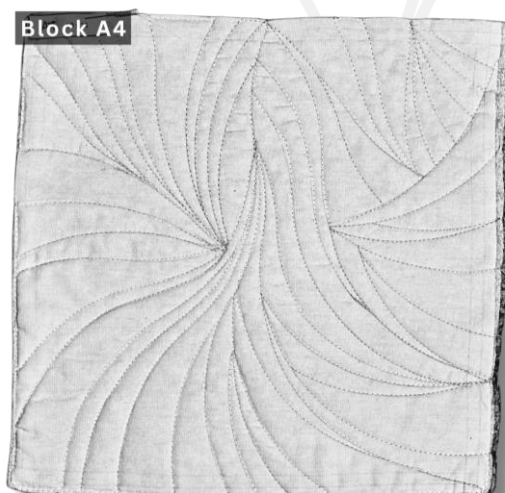
Block B1 Example (11" x 11"): 2" Melons (using the Dot to Dot Curves & Grid System)

Use the 2" curve and line up the dots you have marked, with the dots on the 2" curve template. Using the big, curved shape from the Dot to Dot set. Each block can have different angles to make them look different. I have drawn random lines using the curve of the template to give lines going in different directions and different widths apart.
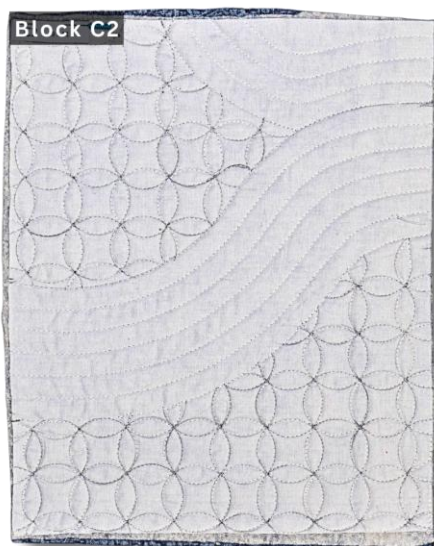
Stay tuned for the next episode to draw feather designs on the next blocks – Pauline 🖋

Block B2 Example (11" x 11") using the Dot to Dot Curves & Grid System.

Block A4 Example (10" x 11") using the Dot to Dot Curves & Grid System.

Block C2 Example (9" x 11"): 1" Melons using the Dot to Dot Curves & Grid System

Block D1 Example (5" x 9") using the Dot to Dot Curves & Grid System.