


## Episode 4 Class Notes: Draw Elegant Feathers

Instead of Free Motion Quilting, we are learning how to do Controlled Quilting. Once the blocks are ironed together with the backing and batting, we'll start by drawing simple yet beautiful designs. Each block will help you build your quilting skills as we explore a variety of designs.

You can follow what I show you, create your own designs, or repeat the ones I teach—it's your quilt, so make it your own! 

**Tip:** Remember you can practice on paper that is cut to the block size before drawing on your fabric.

### Marking your fabric:

Use the [Bohin Fabric Marking pencil](#) with fine 0.9mm leads in a color that contrasts with your fabric. I used grey on white fabric. When using dark lead, **press very lightly** to avoid dark lines that are hard to wash out. A faint line is best, so it is visible under your machine light.

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### Feather designs:

The second design will use the [Feather Templates pack](#). There are 3 templates in this set with varying feather sizes and once you learn how to use them, you'll be able to achieve beautiful, consistent feather designs with ease! You will find the feather instruction booklet [here](#).

### Your second set of blocks:

You can choose any block to quilt your feathers on – I will be using Blocks A1 – D2 – E4.

For Block A1, draw its size on paper using the [cutting chart](#) (e.g., 10" x 11"). Then, draw ½" lines around it for your seam allowance. If you draw or stitch past the block lines while quilting, you'll cut off the sides of the feathers.

Next, draw a curved spine. If you're feeling unsure about this, you can use the large, curved template from the Dot to Dot pack to help guide you.


**TIP:** I've found that the feathers flow much better if you start drawing from the bottom of the spine and work your way up to the top.



*Block A1 Example (10" x 11") using the Feather Templates*

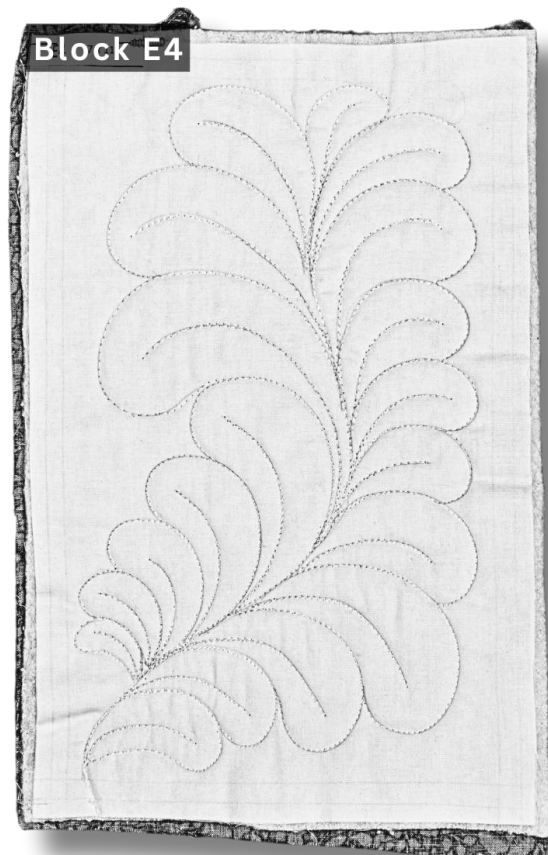
Next, choose the size of the feather shape to start with. I'll use the plumper feather template from the pack of 3, but you can start with one of the smaller shapes. You can keep the feather shapes the same size all the way up both sides of the spine, or feel free to make them larger or smaller as you go.

As you get more comfortable with the design, you could even try making a Heart Feather or a circular feather design.

*Stay tuned for the next episode where we will draw designs onto the next blocks – Pauline* 



*Block D2 Example (5" x 11") using  
the Feather Templates*



*Block E4 Example (7" x 11") using the  
Feather Templates*