

# Fast Forward Quilt-Along Month 3

A modern quilt by Amanda Murphy for BERNINA.



AMANDA *AM* MURPHY

## Quilting the Left Side of Fast Forward

You will need a ruler foot and the following Amanda Murphy Good Measure Quilting Templates to complete the quilting:

- Every Ribbon Candy Set of 4
- Every Circle
- Every Angle

### Frame General Instructions

These instructions assume you are quilting on a Q Series on a frame. To minimize thread color changes, we'll rotate the quilt top 90 degrees and mount it so that the **Fabric A** Background area is at the top.

In general, as you work down the frame, follow these steps:

1. Advance the quilt.
2. Baste the edges.
3. Clamp the sides of the backing.
4. Use 2" quilting clips to secure the fabric to the top front bar if you are floating your quilt top. *Make sure your fabric isn't too tight or it will result in skipped stitches!*
5. Quilt the design.
6. If there are any large unquilted areas (over about 2" in this case) that you want to come back to later, make sure to baste them using BSR3 with a stitch length of 1 SPI so the fabric doesn't get folded as it is rolled onto the take-up bar.

I used BSR2 for all rulerwork and BSR1 for most of the free-motion, with stitch lengths of 10-12 SPI depending on the size of the motifs.

## Domestic and Sit-Down Q-Series Modifications

Quilters on Q-Series Table Model and domestic machine owners should baste their quilt sandwich using their method of choice. Next, I'd recommend quilting with a long basting stitch about 1/8" away from the raw edge of the quilt top, all the way around the quilt. These stitches will later be covered by the binding, but they help keep the backing from being caught underneath and stitched through.

Sit-down quilters will also do all their stitch-along-the-ditch quilting and creation of rulerwork motifs at the onset of quilting. The difference is that they can get to all areas of the quilt at any given time because they are quilting on a table.

**I recommend first stitching along-the edges of the zigzag rows to secure those areas. Then proceed add the quilting as instructed for each month of the quilt-along. Then complete each step for a given area, rather than waiting in order to roll the quilt.**

It is essential to read ALL directions through before quilting each month! When you work on a frame, you must complete enough steps to secure the fabric before advancing to the next quilting area so that it doesn't later fold on the bars.

*This means that if you are on a frame (as opposed to a table) you will not advance to the next area until a significant amount of quilting is done and several steps are completed!*

I also recommend watching the coordinating videos on BERNINA's blog [weallsew.com](http://weallsew.com) before quilting!

## Mounting the Quilt on the Frame

Mount the backing and the batting LENGTHWISE on the frame. (Since we will be rotating the quilt top, we must also rotate the backing.) Make sure it isn't too tight - you should be able to grab your the tip of your finger through the fabric. Using BSR3 and a setting of 2 SPI, run a line of basting stitches at the top of the batting and backing either by moving the machine across the frame against the take-up bar or by using channel locks. Mount the rotated quilt top along this basted line to ensure it is square to the frame. Using BSR3 and a setting of 4 SPI baste around the quilt top as far as you can go about 1/8" from the raw edge. I like to use the ruler base and my Every Angle quilting template for this, but the straight line ruler in my Jubilee set also works great! These stitches will later be covered by the binding.



## Quilting the Edges of the Pieced Flying Geese

Using a thread that either matches or is slightly lighter than the background quilt around each of the pieced flying geese, right "along-the-ditch" a hairline more toward the Background Fabric. **Although all the quilting is shown outlined in light green for clarity below, if you are on a frame just complete this quilting on the area you can reach with the machine WITHOUT advancing the quilt top.** Then proceed to the next step.

*If you are on a domestic machine or a sit-down Q-Series, quilt around all of the pieced flying geese on the entire top before proceeding to the next step.*

Try my Good Measure Measuring Gauge to help you estimate the 1/4" between the seam and the template's edge.

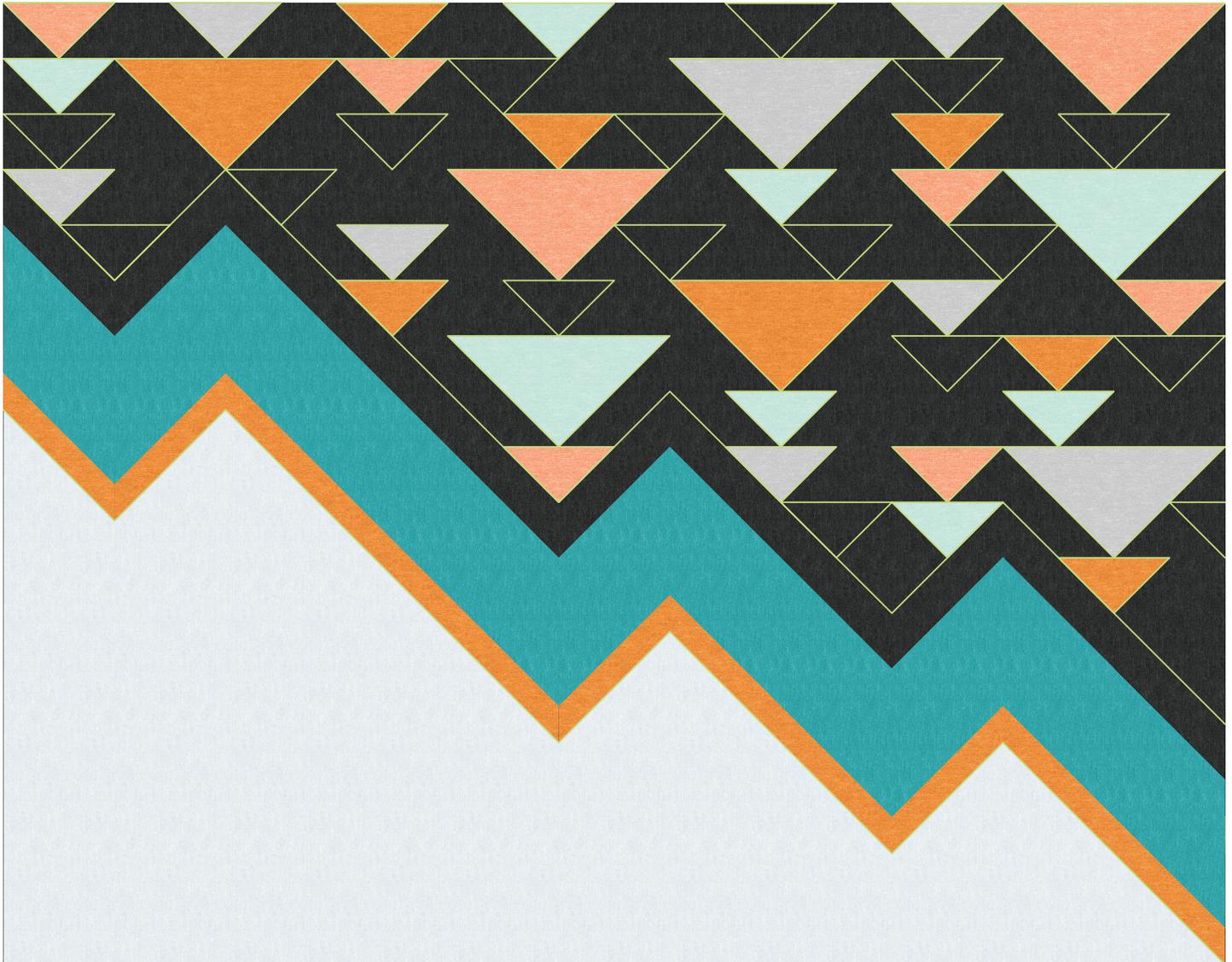
My Good Measure 4" curved snips are great for trimming threads!



## Quilting MORE Flying Geese

Using a thread the thread of your choice (perhaps having more contrast with the background), quilt additional 6" x 3" flying geese as shown. Use the seams as reference points. Eventually, once you advance the quilt top, you will also quilt the zigzag line as shown below. **Although all the quilting is shown outlined in light green for clarity below, if you are on a frame just complete this quilting on the area you can reach with the machine WITHOUT advancing the quilt top.** Then proceed to the next step.

*If you are on a domestic machine or a sit-down Q-Series, quilt around all of the pieced flying geese on the entire top before proceeding to the next step.*



## Quilting Detail Inside the Flying Geese

Using a thread the thread of your choice add quilting detail to the flying geese:

*With chalk, draw a line vertically through the center of each goose - this line will tell you where to pivot your stitch direction.*

On the larger geese:

- Quilt a line 1/2" from the short sides of the flying goose.
- Quilt a line 1-1/2" in from this.
- Quilt another line 1/2" from this.
- Quilt a final line 1-1/2" in from this.
- Add free-motion in the wider channels. *Look at the diagrams on the next page and the videos on [weallsew.com](http://weallsew.com) for inspiration.*

On the smaller geese:

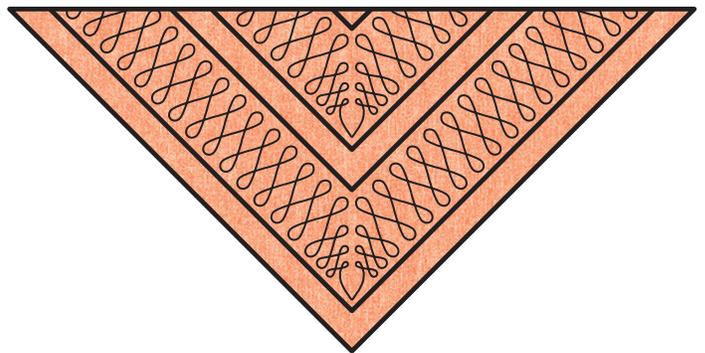
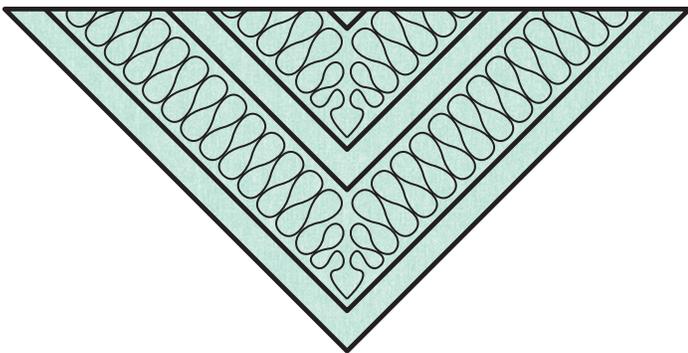
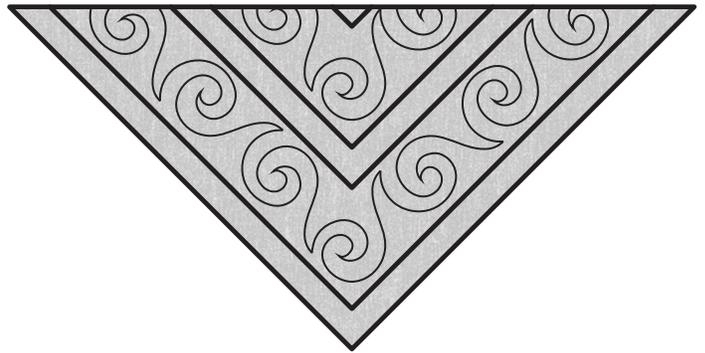
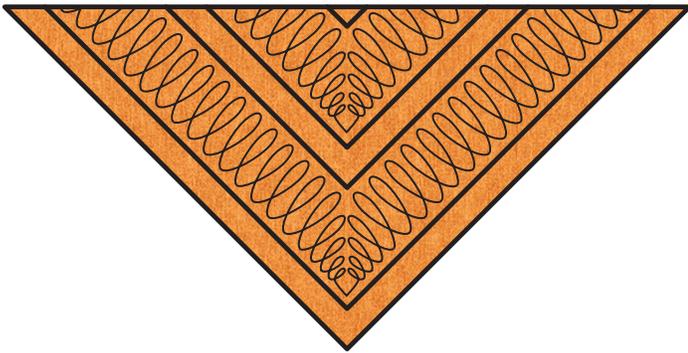
- Quilt a line 1/2" from the short sides of the flying goose.
- Quilt a line 1-1/2" in from this. *These little triangles will be really tiny!*
- Add free-motion in the wider channels. *Look at the diagrams on the next page and the videos on [weallsew.com](http://weallsew.com) for inspiration.*

Eventually you will quilt additional channels next to the zigzag area as shown below. You will not be able to quilt these lines in one pass because the depth of the zigzag is greater than the depth of the machine's throat space. You'll quilt part of these lines this month and part the next.

**Although all the quilting is shown outlined in light green for clarity below, if you are on a frame just complete this quilting on the area you can reach with the machine WITHOUT advancing the quilt top.** Then proceed to the next step.

*If you are on a domestic machine or a sit-down Q-Series, quilt around and inside all of the flying geese on the entire top before proceeding to the next step.*





## Advancing the Quilt

We will quilt a free-motion background behind the flying geese as a final step once all the other quilting is complete, but for now we need to advance down the quilt top. We do need to add some basting stitches in the background area first though, to ensure that the unquilted areas don't cause fabric folds as the quilt is rolled onto the bars. The pink line below shows a suggested basting line. I like to use BSR with a stitch length of 1 or 2 so the stitches are easy to remove when working back up the quilt later.

**One you baste the background, advance the quilt and complete all the steps in the next section.**

**Stop quilting before you roll the zigzag section behind the deadbar.** I've shown approximately where this might be for each size of Q-Series below, but it might vary depending on your batting and other factors. The ruler table, which is so necessary for this type of design, also eats into the quilting space. We'll quilt the zigzag area next month and you'll be unable to access this area again until the very end if you work any further. This means that you might not be able to complete the quilting shown in the lower right on the diagram below this month and THAT IS OKAY! It is simply part of working on a frame. Of course the trade-off of having a frame is not having to move the weight of the quilt, and that makes this worth it!

This is where having an extra quilt space (i.e. a greater throat depth on the sewhead) is really advantageous. You can quilt a larger area and spend less time rolling your top. But don't worry, you can still complete a custom quilt like this one even on a Q16! The trick is to work down the quilt sequentially.

If you make a mistake and forget to stop for the zigzag area don't panic. You can catch that area and quilt it at the very end. But if you decide to do this make sure to heavily baste this area so that you don't get folds on the bars. *(Ask me how I know this! It is a mistake you only make once!)*

