

Sun City Summerlin Quilt Club – Guide from HQ Class

Preparing your Quilt Top

1. Borders should be square and flat.
2. Check for popped seams – the foot can get caught in an open seam.
3. Check quilt front and back for threads.
4. Press well
5. Stay stitch the edge, of border is pieced.

Preparing your Quilt Back

1. Make sure that the quilt back is square and on grain.
2. Backing needs to be six to eight inches larger than the front of the quilt – bigger if you are using rulers in your borders.
3. Press well.

Batting

1. Make sure the batting is the size of your backing fabric.
2. If the batting is larger than the quilt but not quite as large as the backing, lay strips of batting along the sides to keep it rolling evenly.
3. Know the stitch requirement for the batting you choose.

Loading the Quilt on the Frame

1. Proper loading is essential for quality results.
2. Ensure that the leaders are loaded on the pole in the correct direction, and centered marking are centered.
3. Pin the quilt top and backing to the leaders while keeping it square- **pin from center out**
4. Using channel locks stitch a horizontal line across batting – line up to that line – stitch basting stitch across top – stay within $\frac{1}{4}$ " from edge – channel lock vertical basting stitch down the sides.

Winding a Bobbin

1. Use M-Class aluminum bobbins. There is a box of M-Class Bobbins in the membership cupboard which can be purchased for 50 cents a bobbin. You must have the right change.
2. There are instructions for using the Bobbin winder that came with the machine in the green book.

Threading the Machine

1. Good quality thread yields quality results – you can use a variety of threads if you know how to use your tension to setup for them – even metallic thread.
2. We found (Sue and Kathy) during the class that we were most happy with Omni thread from Superior Threads.
3. Follow the threading guide attached to this handout for best results and don't forget to floss thread at tension assembly.

Cleaning and Oiling Machine

1. Use the oil provided with machine – do not push the brass nozzle back into the oil bottle once you have pulled it out for use.
2. Use a soft bristle brush to clean lint from the bobbin area or cotton swabs which are provided – do not use canned air.
3. Bobbin hook needs one small drop of oil on the shelf at the bottom of the hook with each bobbin change.
4. Keep table, tracks and carriage tracks and wheels clean – check to see that threads have not wound around wheels or gears.

Tension

1. The bobbin is the foundation for setting proper tension – learn to be comfortable setting and adjusting this tension – work with the bobbin case over the quilt – dropping it on a hard surface can damage it and the little screws are hard to find if dropped.

Setting Bobbin Tension Correctly

1. Place the bobbin in the bobbin case with the bobbin rotation clockwise.
2. Insert the bobbin in the case – slide the thread through the slot of the bobbin case and snap into place.
3. Place the bobbin in the palm of your hand with the bobbin facing up – pull a 6-8” tail of thread out of the bobbin case in your palm with the bobbin facing up. The bobbin case should stand up to a vertical position – it should just slightly raise and then slide back down to your palm with bobbin spinning inside the case. It should slide smoothly.

Needles

1. Change needle often – at least every big quilt.
2. Use needle size that is appropriate for the thread that you are using – the groove in the front of the needle is designated to protect that thread as it goes through the stitch process.
3. Longarm Quilting Needles are available in the membership cabinet for 50 cents per needle in Size 16 and 18.

Troubleshooting and Help

1. Please refer to the troubleshooting Guide on pages 9-10 of the HQ Manual to solve issues such “eye lashing’ in the Green Book.
2. There are many UTUBE videos to aid in your training and are a great reference after taining.
3. Also attached is a threading guide for your convenience and don’t forget to floss.
4. Grozbeck needles are used number 134 – suggest a variety pak but there are size 18 and 16 needles in the membership cupboard for purchase.
5. Thread such as Glide for Filtec, Omni by Superior and Bottomline at Superior were suggested although you can go so far as metallic thread if you know how to adjust the tension.
6. Altra Pounce Powder has apparently been redone and it will stay on in spite of the bounce on the long arm.

