

FAQ - FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is Practice Time?

- The purpose of **Practice Time** is to provide a regular place and time for members who want to practice free motion quilting to do so in a supportive, low pressure environment. All skill levels are welcome to participate and share their experiences. The main goal is to build confidence through practice.
- Your facilitators Janine and Janice will provide some resources before and during the sessions. They are not teaching a class. They will be practicing and skill-building right along with you.

When is Practice Time?

- **Practice Time** is from 1 - 3 pm during the virtual **4th Monday Sewing Party** on Zoom, January thru June of 2024.

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| Mon. Jan. 22 | Mon. Feb 26 | Mon. Mar 25 | Mon. Apr 22 | Mon. May 27 | Mon. Jun 24 |
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How long will Practice Time continue?

- This is a limited series of practice sessions, currently scheduled to last **six months**.

How much does it cost?

- **Practice Time** is free. You may have some cost for needles, thread, batting and fabric, but much can be made from your stash.

Can I just watch?

- Members not actively participating in **Practice Time** are welcome to attend the Sewing Party. We will mostly be practicing our quilting and asking and answering each other's questions. You may have an opinion to share as well. At times we may grab the screen to show a short video. If needed, we can open a break-out room.

What happens if I miss a session?

- All of the sessions are independent, although hopefully we all will become more confident in our skills as we progress. Patterns and links will be shared via email and/or posted on the CVQ website, so you won't miss out on information.

What do I need to bring?

- Sewing machine (in good repair), preferably with the ability to drop feed dogs
- Free motion quilting foot
- A plain sandwich for adjusting thread tension and for warming-up (you can use the same one over and over)
- Two or more quilt sandwiches, basted and ready to quilt
- New machine needle (Topstitch, Microtex or Quilting), size appropriate to your thread
- Thread: you will want to experiment over time, but start simple with either cotton or polyester in 35-50 wt.
- *Optional:* gloves or another gripping aid
- *Optional:* Supreme Slider or another slippery surface
- *Optional:* Page protector and erasable marking pen to practice drawing out quilting patterns
- *Optional:* Chalk or other device for marking on quilts

When and how will the suggested monthly patterns be provided?

- Janine will have samples of the pattern of the month at the Community Giving Workshop at Cotton & Chocolate. She will have a few print copies for those who cannot print easily at home.
- The pattern will be emailed to those on the email list maintained by Janice on Community Giving Workshop Monday.
- A link to the pattern will be provided in the MailChimp before the Community Giving Workshop and provided on the CVQ website (under "More") at approximately the same time.

What if I don't have time to sew the pattern of the month?

- Bring a 'cheater' fabric that mimics the pattern of the month (eg. a striped fabric instead of the strip pattern; a checkered fabric instead of a nine-patch pattern).
- Grab a piece of muslin or a solid fabric and just draw the pattern of the month on the muslin. Optionally, you can stitch on the drawn pattern to emulate seam lines.
- Use a top you already have, regardless of design elements, and just practice.

What do I do with the products of my practice?

- Keep it and use it.
- Gift it to a friend or relative.
- Keep it as a sampler and as a measure of your progress.
- Suggested patterns will be provided each month that can be finished as placemats (or table runners) in a size appropriate for Community Giving to donate to Many Mansions for their new client "Welcome Baskets".

What are the measurements for Community Giving placemats and table runners?

- New apartments are painted in low value neutrals. Pops of color will be appreciated. The tables are about 36" round. Sizes for placemats and table runners listed below reflect that, and the use of 3", 4" and 6" finished blocks.
- Placemats: 12-1/2" H x 16-1/2" W, or 16-1/2" square. The two (or more) tops don't have to match, but they should coordinate as they will be gifted in pairs.
- Table runners: 12-1/2" H x 36-1/2" W.