

Quilting with Rulers and Templates

Rulers are a great way to increase your precision and accuracy.

Safety:

- Ruler base – it provides more stability by increasing the work surface
- Only use longarm rulers that are ¼” thick (never use rotary cutting rulers!)
- Handi grip – this helps keep the ruler in place on your fabric
- Sure foot – This foot has a higher profile than most foot which prevents the ruler from hopping over the foot.

Tips for stitching with rulers/templates:

- Slow down – this is not a fast process. Slow and steady wins the race.
- 3-point pressure – gentle pressure
- Precision vs cruise – see which works best for you
- Don't out sew the ruler - don't reach – finger walk or pause and reposition ruler.
- Keep in mind that stitch will be ¼” away from ruler edge.
- Wider backing – the ruler base adds width to the machine. To prevent running into the clamps you need a wider backing. (Twill tape or extension for clamps)
- Longer backing – if you choose to use rulers in your borders, make sure you have space to lay rulers flat and not hit pins.
- Look ahead rather than at the needle.
- Only the ruler OR the needle should be moving at one time. NOT BOTH!! Start/stop is your friend!
- Set your machine to have the needle stop in the down position.
- When using curved rulers, apply more pressure at 2, 4, 7, & 10 (imagine a clock). At these points, the machine is changing directions and you need to be more aware and hug the hopping foot to the ruler.
- Combine rulers – curve w/ straight. You aren't limited to one.
- Echo feet can multiply ruler design options
- Couching with rulers is fantastic.



Designed by a Quilter, for Quilters.®

www.HandiQuilter.com • 1-877-MY-QUILT (697-8458)