

BOT SQUAD

NEWSLETTER

On-Line Classes

Webinars make learning fun and easy too.

Cooking with Karen

Check out what Karen has cooking in her kitchen.

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Ask Angela

What advice does Angela have regarding "proportion."

QBOT Compatibility

See our ever-growing list of compatible machines/frames.

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Binding made easy with Carol's Tips!

With special tools and tips, Carol has lots to share about binding your quilts.

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Corina's Corner

Don't miss this special corner where Corina is learning more new sewing techniques.

QBOT Club

We have officially launched!

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SUMMER IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER

My travels have not stopped and the fun continues on. It's time to pick up a good read, watch a great movie with a loved one or quilt a beautiful quilt. Carol has heard that we have all been quilting our tops and now it is time to bind. We are working on the summer classes, quilt shows, and QBOT Events. Keep a watchful eye on the event page at www.myQBOT.com to see what is happening around the world. We have also added some of the supporting products for QBOT and your quilting world. Now I am off to finish quilting three quilt tops and add binding to four quilts that just came off the frame. It is great to have Carol's Tips for the binding and Karen's appetizers for snack.

See you in class and Happy Quilting,
Denise



CHALLENGING ALL QBOT QUILTERS!!

There are many competitions for quilters, and some of you may have entered these before. I, on the other hand, have always aspired to enter and have yet to do so. Sew here is the challenge that I am giving myself and everyone else who quilts with QBOT:

Enter a competition, and you just never know what may come from it!

COOKING AND CLASSES

Cooking with Karen -- Two Appetizers

Crazy Crab

- 11 oz. softened cream cheese
- 2 TBS Worcestershire sauce
- 1 TBS mayonnaise
- 1 small grated onion
- dash of garlic salt
- 1 can crab meat
- 1 bottle Bennett's Cocktail Sauce
- parsley (optional)



Mix first five ingredients together and spread into a dish with a lip on it. (I use a dish for crepes.) Open the can of flaked crab meat and spread on top of cream cheese mixture. Spread on top of crab meat 1 bottle of Bennett's Cocktail Sauce. (I've used other cocktail sauces but it does not taste as good.) Top with dried or fresh parsley. Let stand 24 hours before serving with crackers.

Olive Treats

- 1 large can of black olives - finely chopped
- 3/4 cup Hellman's mayonnaise
- 1/2 cup Parmesan cheese
- 3 green onions including green part - finely chopped

Mix and spread on square pieces of cocktail rye. Place on cookie sheet and bake in 350-degree oven for 5 minutes, then under broiler for 1 to 2 minutes.

Enjoy!!!



On-Line Classes

Free Basic QBOT Training

Reserve these dates for the rest of the year.

Tue, Jul 20, 2010 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm EDT	Tue, Oct 19, 2010 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm EDT
Tue, Jul 20, 2010 9:00 pm - 10:00 pm EDT	Tue, Oct 19, 2010 9:00 pm - 10:00 pm EDT
Tue, Aug 17, 2010 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm EDT	Tue, Nov 23, 2010 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm EST
Tue, Aug 17, 2010 9:00 pm - 10:00 pm EDT	Tue, Nov 23, 2010 9:00 pm - 10:00 pm EST
Tue, Sep 21, 2010 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm EDT	Tue, Dec 14, 2010 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm EST
Tue, Sep 21, 2010 9:00 pm - 10:00 pm EDT	Tue, Dec 14, 2010 9:00 pm - 10:00 pm EST

WHAT'S NEW WITH QBOT?

Ask Angela,

What is the best way to understand "Proportional YES" and "Proportional NO" options?

I think of it like this...do I want to *keep the shape* or *fill the space*?

- "Proportional YES" will *keep the shape*. This means that a circle will be a circle, a square will be a square.
- "Proportional NO" will *fill the space*. This means that a circle could be changed to an oval, or a square to a rectangle.

Which do you use most?

Answer, part 1: If I am quilting a design within a square block - and I am confident that it is in fact square - I will choose "Proportional YES." This will ensure that the quilting design/motif will retain its intended shape; there will be no distortion at all. The design will look like it's supposed to!

Answer, part 2: If I am quilting a design within a square block AND the design has a box/outline stitching around it, I always choose "Proportional NO." This combination (square block+box+NO) will result in a very nicely quilted square. The design will have an outline stitch with the motif in the center. Any small variation in the shape of the block will be compensated for by QBOT.

Answer, part 3: If I am quilting an "area" - like a triangle/flying geese block, rectangle, sashing or border strip - AND the quilting design is not a specific motif, I always choose "Proportional NO." This will fill the area with 'quilting.'

Answer, part 4: If I am quilting an "area" - like above - and the quilting design IS a specific motif, I will choose "Proportional YES" only if I am sure things will fit nicely. In this case, I may use software to assist in properly sizing the design.

A multi-part answer, but there you go! When I'm standing at my QBOT, I always ask myself, "do I want to *keep the shape* or *fill the space*?"

Compatibility List is Growing!

The current compatibility list for QBOT is shown below. In order for QBOT to work, you will need a quilting frame, sewing machine with built-in stitch regulator or a Quilter's Cruise Control. As we develop and test adapter kits for other quilting machines and frames, we will write up the instructions and make QBOT available. The development and test cycle for certain frames can be lengthy, so we ask for your patience as we expand QBOT's compatibilities.



Sewing Machines

Babylock Jewel and
Babylock QCP
Brother 1300/1500
Janome 1600P and Janome 6600/6500/6400
Juki TL98-E, Juki TL98-Q/QE
HandiQuilter HQ16
Nolting FunQuilter and Hobby
Quilter with Quilter's Cruise
Control
Hinterberg Voyager and
Hinterberg Indigo
Pfaff GrandQuilter/Hobby 1200
Pfaff 18.8
Viking MegaQuilter
Viking 18x8
Bernina machines with BSR
Tin Lizzie 18, Queen Quilter,
Ansley [all with stitch regulator]





CAROL'S TIPS

Do you have QBOT-quilted quilts to bind?

Now that we have 'sew' many quilters getting those quilts quilted, we have heard rumblings about binding. A lot of quilters dread the binding part of quiltmaking, but I actually find it one of my favorites, right up there with QBOT quilting and finishing the top.

Why, you ask? Am I nuts or something? Well, no. But binding the quilt is sometimes the last time I can touch and love it. Many of my quilts are gifts, whether to friends and relatives or charity groups. Some even go to police and fire departments for comfort for children in stressful circumstances. Traditional binding on the edges of a quilt gives it a good shot at lasting a long time, especially if the quilt is going to be handled a lot and loved to death.

Here are a few quick tips that may make your binding experience easier and more enjoyable:

- Measure the quilt, both length and width. Add together and multiply by 2. The result is the length of the sewn-together binding strips needed to go around your quilt. Divide this number by 40, and the result is the number of strips needed. Always round up!
- Cut binding strips 2-1/4" wide. Use a 1/4" seam allowance when applying it to the quilt. (If you want a wider binding strip, increase the width of the strips and the size of the seam allowance; for example, strips that are 2-1/2" wide should be applied with a 3/8" seam allowance.)
- To piece the strips together, align the ends of two strips at right angles, right sides together. Stitch diagonally from the left upper corner to the right lower. When all of the strips have been stitched together like this, press the seam over so it will lie flat. Then press the entire length of the strip in half, wrong sides together.
- At one end of the binding strip, fold the corner into a point. Do this by turning the upper right corner of the strip diagonally to the bottom edge. Press crisply. Then gently open up the fold and cut 3/8" to the right of the diagonal fold so you have a folded edge.
- Do NOT trim the edges of the quilt sandwich before applying the binding. The extra bulk helps give stability to the foot of the sewing machine and makes it easier to get a straight seam. However, if you have a lot of extra fabric and batting, you may trim it down a bit so it will fit comfortably in the throat of the machine. But be sure to leave up to an inch beyond the edge of the quilt top.
- Use a walking foot or the even-feed feature if your sewing machine has it. Most walking feet do not have a 1/4" mark, so be sure to test for this to determine accurate placement.
- Start stitching along the pointed end of the binding strip. When you approach the area where the top layer of the binding strip is, lift it up and stitch under it for about 1/2". Tack off and cut threads. Then lay the top layer down and start stitching about 1/2" past the 'opening.' In this way, you have left a "pocket" in which to nest the end of the binding strip when you have gone around all 4 corners and finished up. You will need to cut the end of the binding on the diagonal so that it fits nicely in this "pocket."
- I always start applying my binding at the same general location on every quilt I make. It's normally within 3 inches of the top right corner of the quilt top on the right side. I do this because shortly after I've completed the 4th corner turn, I'm done!!!
- After the binding is sewn on, I press it out from the seam, but not in half for the turn. With the top of the quilt up, just press the binding outward. This helps get an even edge when you roll over the binding for the hand sewing on the back of the quilt.

One last thing. I have found the [Perfect Binding Miter](#) to be an invaluable tool. It makes my corner turns perfect and consistent every time. Some specialty stores carry this handy notion, but if you cannot find them locally, we have them available on our [website](#).



QBOT Club is here!

With paid annual membership fee of \$49.95, you will have access to many “members only” exclusives (see website for complete details). Don’t miss being a “Charter Member.”

Membership Benefits:

- Monthly advanced-level classes
- Monthly quilting designs
- Monthly mini-projects
- Exclusive sales
- Free US shipping (reduced international shipping rates)

One benefit is the monthly online QBOT Club classes. Designed to address areas of interest for the advanced QBOT Quilter, these classes will take place once a month with 2 times

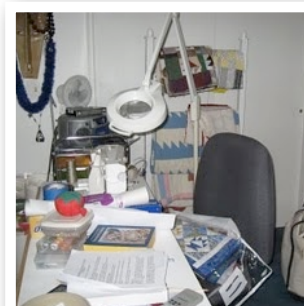
available for live broadcast participation. Although the general content will be the same for both time-slots, live participant input will vary. Your club membership allows you to participate in one or both. If you miss a scheduled live broadcast, you will have access to the recorded session for 30 days after the broadcast.

Another benefit is the ability to shop exclusive sales on kits, fabrics, and handy notions.

Club members will have special access to inventory blow-out sales, monthly scrap bags, and pre-release notification on kits and laser-cut fabric bundles. Additionally, members can participate in spotlight notions sales. Each month’s special will be different, with limited purchase timeframe. [Click to see more about the new QBOT Club!](#)

QUOTE OF THE DAY!

Dull women have neat sewing rooms.



Corina’s Corner

The Children’s Miracle Network Pillow Kits have been a huge success! 100% of the proceeds benefit children and their families across the nation so be sure to order yours today!



http://www.myqbot.com/kits_projects.html

As you may know, I am new to the wonderful world of quilting. There is so much to learn, and I am enjoying the development of my new skills. I have constructed several Springtime Pillow Kits

for friends and family and am in the process of making my Feeling Flippy Barrel Bag. As I have embarked on my first quilting projects, I discovered a few tips that a beginner or advanced quilter should always keep in mind.

1. Stop when you get too tired. There is nothing more frustrating than when you begin to make silly mistakes (like sewing your pillow inside out).
2. A seam ripper is your very best friend. This little gadget has been my handy sidekick and gotten me out of some very sticky situations these past couple months.
3. Don’t be too hard on yourself! Every pro was once a beginner.

Follow these tips so that you don’t start feeling flippy!