



it's quilted!

Laura Lee Fritz's CONTINUOUS LINE CLUB

SEARCH



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WELCOME QUILTERS!

IN THIS ISSUE: **VOLUME 1-CAREERING OR CAREENING?**.....



Careering or Careening?

Are you hoping to begin machine quilting as a business? Is your existing business careening out of control? You may benefit from some work strategies to ensure that you don't bury yourself in quilting jobs and end up with no time for your own quilting.

I have collected a few tips during the 20 years I have been machine quilting for others. Some of them might help you work with a bit more efficiency.

Before we go any further, this bears emphasis:

You are your most important client. Respect that client and be sure to book time for her or him. Save time to practice quilting new ideas, to play with family, and to be alone.

How can your room set up save time?

- Display thread cones on your wall, quick to reach, quick to select.
- Light from a window or being near a heat source can quickly deteriorate cotton threads. Be sure your thread display isn't affected by either.
- It's handy to have two of your most-used tools at your work area; one at each end of your quilting table.
- Keep a sampler handy, containing at least a dozen each of textural fill designs, borders, sashes, and some botanical ideas. Show the designs you are confident in and enjoy doing. Update the sampler as you offer more choices.
- Have quilted samples of common fabric with different battings, to demonstrate the look and "hand" of a wide range of batts.
- Stock your favorite batting in bulk, so you have an alternative handy for a customer who brings a batt you know won't work well for you. (That brings up many questions, which will be addressed in upcoming articles!)
- Keep a pile of 4" to 6" square cotton batting scraps to clean oil and dust from your machine and the work area.
- If you use chalk to mark quilts, 80/20 or bonded polyester batt scraps erase chalk from fabric.
- Alcohol wipes help to spot clean oil from a quilt, just in case.
- Create a work order that's ready to fill out with the client's information; include batts you carry (with prices ready to circle) and your terms and conditions. (More on this topic will be in upcoming articles, too!)
- Purchase some pens with your business name and phone number on them; the pens are probably going to walk out the door, so let them work for you.

Download some spring-themed quilting patterns here!

VISIT LAURA'S STUDIO

Odd Turnout

[Laura's Studio](#)

By lauraleefritz on 7/17/2008 9:31 AM

Silk batt vs. cotton batt

[Comments \(0\)](#)

[More...](#)

A Quilted Four-Patch Kaleidoscope Jacket

[Laura's Studio](#)

By lauraleefritz on 7/10/2008 2:24 PM

Between the show in Salt Lake and the Machine Quilters Showcase in Kansas City, I had just enough time to quilt this jacket . . .

[Comments \(0\)](#)

[More...](#)

Utah Home Machine Quilters Show

[Laura's Studio](#)

By lauraleefritz on 6/30/2008 2:50 PM

The Utah Home Machine Quilters Show was one of the friendliest quilt shows I've been to. Live music on Sunday, on the stage right next to my booth.

[Comments \(0\)](#)

[More...](#)

Moving Shop

[Laura's Studio](#)

By lauraleefritz on 6/17/2008 12:23 PM

Recently, we moved our shop from the south edge of Missoula to Florence, down in Montana's Bitterroot Valley.

[Comments \(1\)](#)

[More...](#)

Glad to be back home again, but what a great show that was!

[Laura's Studio](#)

By lauraleefritz on 6/11/2008 3:59 PM

Images of the jacket that won second place.

[Comments \(0\)](#)

[More...](#)

"...while I love the horses, could you do moose?"

[Laura's Studio](#)

By lauraleefritz on 6/2/2008 9:37 AM

Quilting a machine appliqué-over-Pendleton wool jacket.

[Comments \(0\)](#)

[More...](#)

MQSC Quilt Show, June 2008

[Laura's Studio](#)

By lauraleefritz on 5/27/2008 1:58 PM

Quilt show coming up in Santa Rosa, California the first weekend of June.

[Comments \(0\)](#)

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Home Machine Quilters Show in SLC

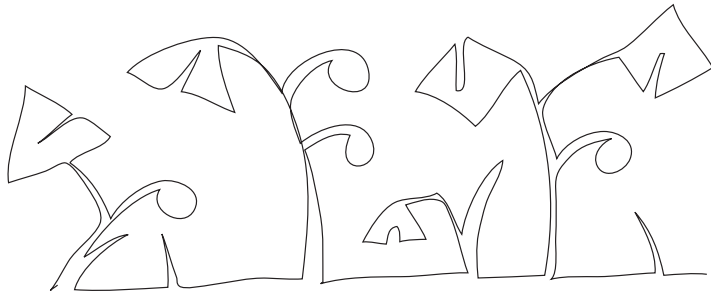
[Laura's Studio](#)

By lauraleefritz on 5/12/2008 9:06 AM

Woolfelt vs polyester

[Comments \(0\)](#)

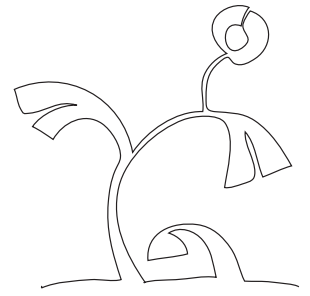
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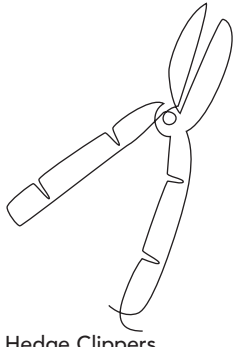
Art Deco Flowers 1



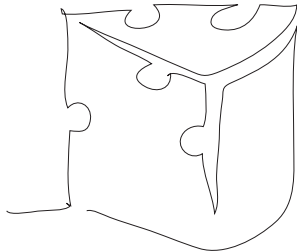
Art Deco Flowers 2



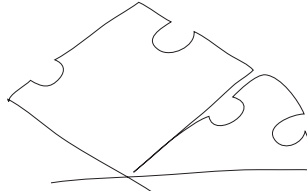
Art Deco Flowers 3



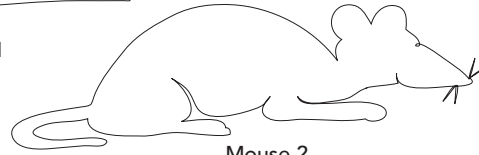
Hedge Clippers



Cheese 2



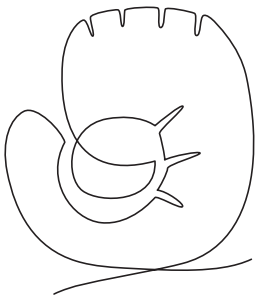
Cheese 1



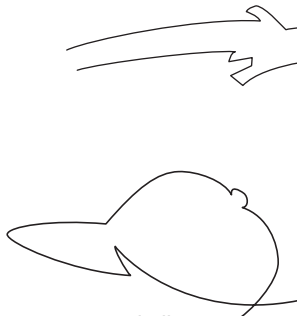
Mouse 2



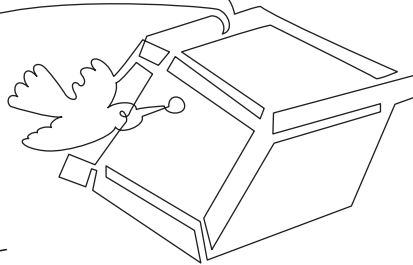
Mouse 1



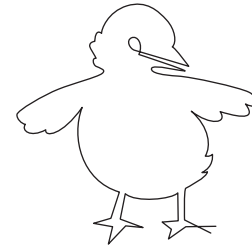
Catcher's Mitt



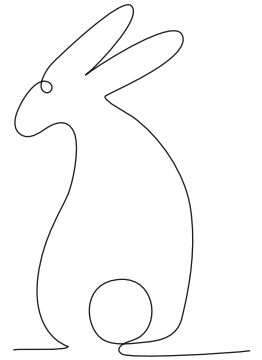
Baseball Cap



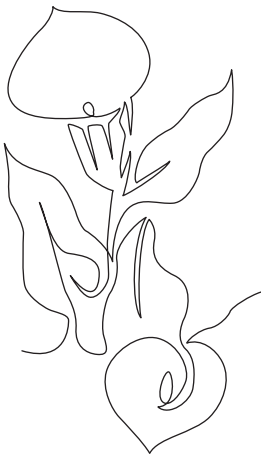
Birdhouse Hanging from a Branch



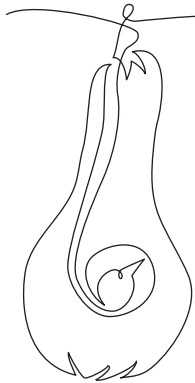
Duckling



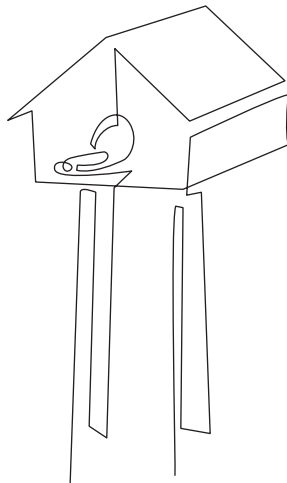
Bunny



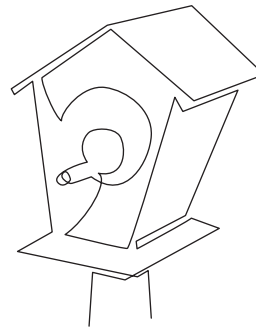
Calla Lily



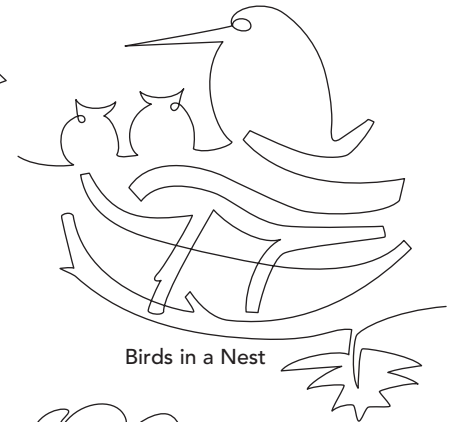
Bird in a Gourd House



Standing Birdhouse 1



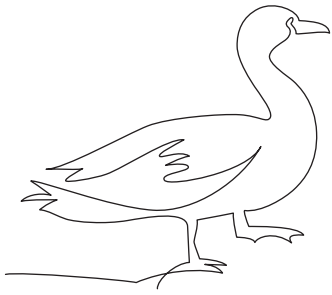
Standing Birdhouse 2



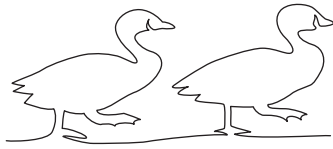
Birds in a Nest



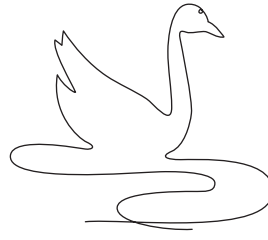
Bunny with Basket



Mother Duck



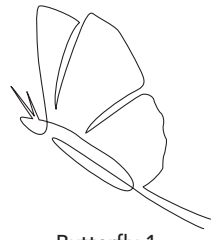
Baby Ducks in a Row



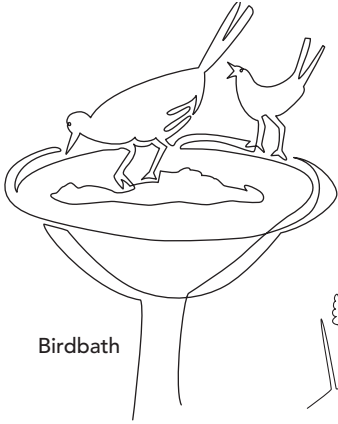
Swan



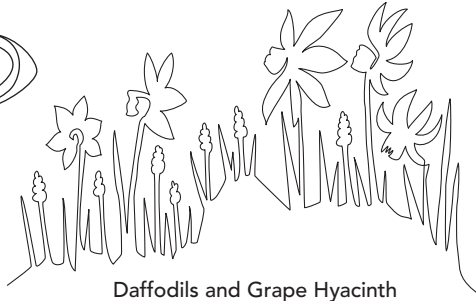
Butterfly 2



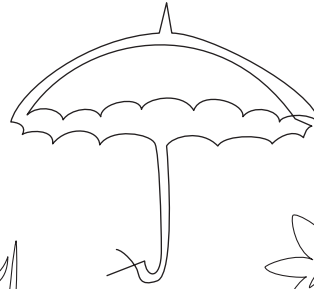
Butterfly 1



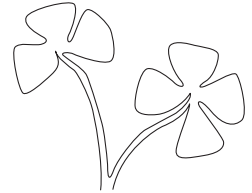
Birdbath



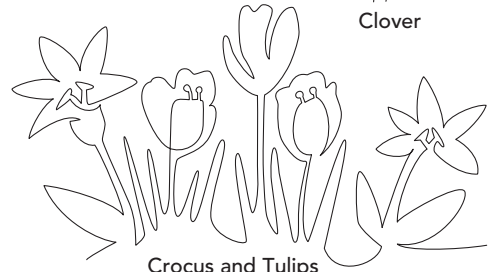
Daffodils and Grape Hyacinth



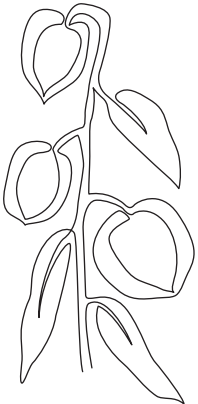
Umbrella



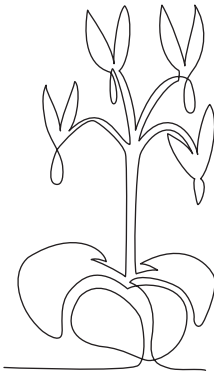
Clover



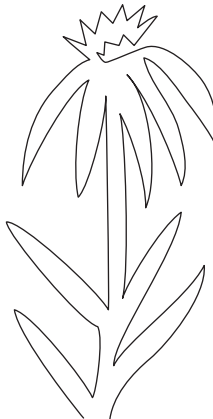
Crocus and Tulips



Chinese Lantern Plant



Shooting Star Plant



Cone Flower



Violets



Pussy Willow



Lilac



Forsythia



Spring Basket