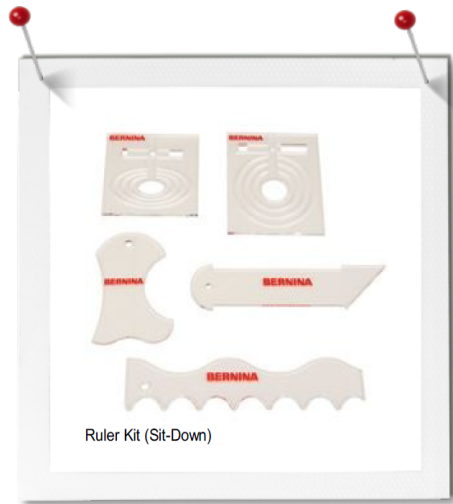


## Fact Sheet: *Starting your scrapbook*



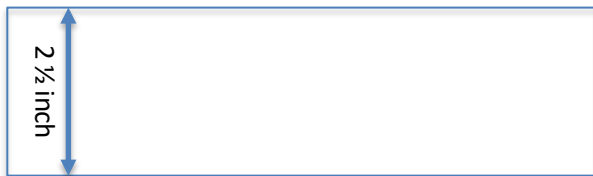
You will notice these notches on both ends of the straight ruler, these are handy little ¼ inch guides. Whether stitching in the ditch or stitching point to point you can use these guides for a perfect straight line.



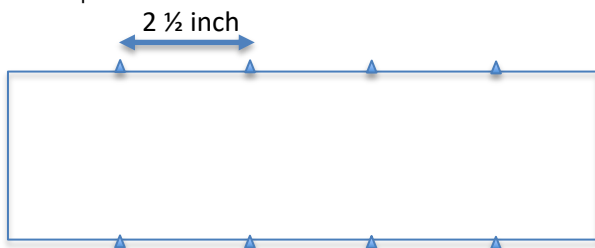
The first sample to add to your scrapbook will be a simple exercise using the straight ruler from the sit-down Ruler kit. This straight line cross design is a great way to get the feel for ruler work. This is also a fast and simple way to fill in borders on a quilt.

### **Marking up**

Make yourself a small quilt sandwich. Mine was roughly 12inch by 9inch. Draw two vertical lines with a gap of 2 inch between them.

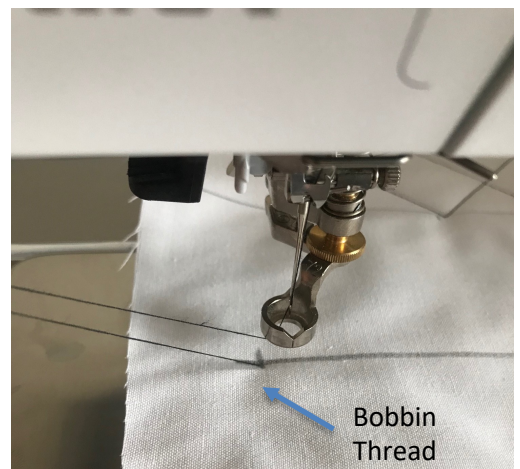


On both vertical lines draw a mark every 2 inches. Remember these are practise samples, so don't be to pedantic.



### **Getting Started**

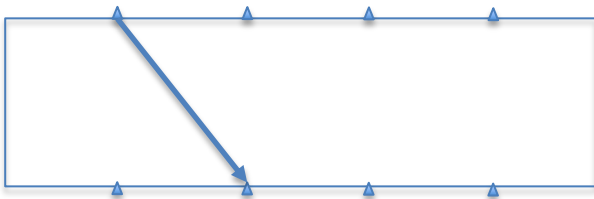
The first thing you want to do is bring the bobbin thread to the top of your work. Hover the needle above the first marks on one of the vertical lines. Gently holding your needle thread, press the needle up-down button twice. lift the foot to disengage the top tension and slowly pull the top thread. You will notice the bobbin thread come to the top.



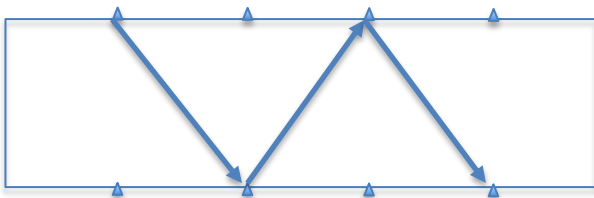
Pulling the bobbin thread to the top will give the back of the quilt a neater finish. This will also give you both threads to hold onto when securing your first stitch.

## ***The first stitch***

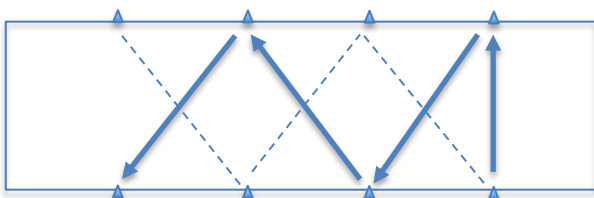
Before bringing your rulers to the table, you need to secure your thread in the sandwich. With the foot down, gently hold the two threads and do a few little stitches over the first mark. With the foot in the down position and the needle in your work, its time to bring in your ruler. With the gripper side of the ruler on the fabric, bring the ruler to the side of the ruler foot. Keep in mind, the needle will stitch  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch from the side of the ruler. Gently hold the ruler with a few fingers and the rest supporting the fabric. Use the  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch guide on the end of the ruler to join the first mark to the second mark on the opposite vertical line. Don't forget you don't have to stitch the whole line all at once. Stop the machine if you feel you are slipping and reposition your hands and your ruler.



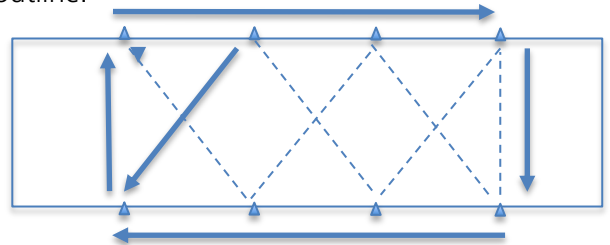
Once you have joined the first two markings, continue in a zig-zag motion.



When you reach the last point, it's time to work your way back. First you need to stitch back to the top line so you can begin your zig-zag back to the start.



When you have finished the last of the zig-zag, stitch straight up to close the rectangle. Continue stitching across the top line to the right and stop when you have reached the corner. Carefully follow the existing line to the bottom corner and continue along the bottom to complete the outline.

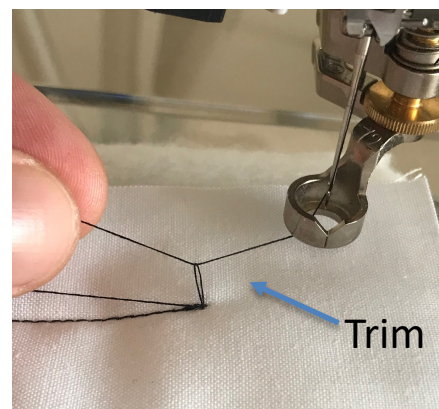


## ***The last stitch***

To finish off your quilting, stitch a few little stitches like you did at the beginning. Lift the needle and foot to disengage the tension. Slide the fabric away from the needle so you can grab hold of the top thread.

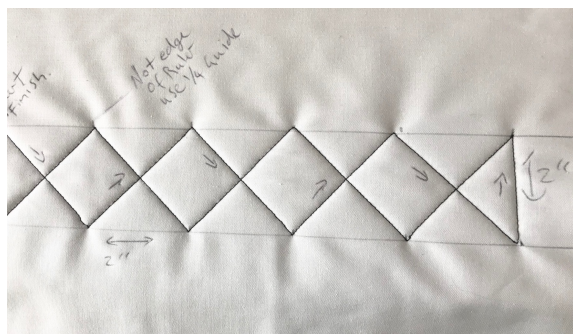


Holding the thread, move the fabric back with the needle over the last stitch. Still holding the thread, drop the needle down and back up. Still holding the thread, lift your foot and move the fabric away from the needle. Gently pull the top thread until you have the bobbin thread showing and trim these threads nice and close to the quilt.



## Make Note

As this is the first sample for your scrapbook don't be scared to scribble any notes for later reference.



If you are sewing on a domestic machine you may find the ruler easier to manage by sewing back to front, rather the side to side. Start sewing the first wave and don't forget you can stop at any point to re-position the ruler. Once you reach the other side, flip the ruler to the other side and line up the small markings as before.

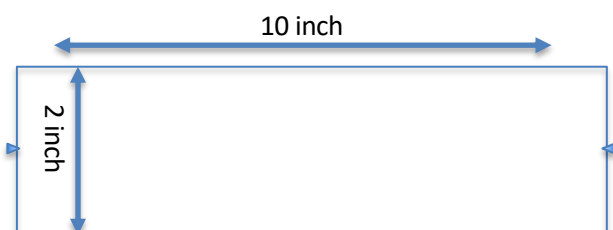


## Curved lines

You may have noticed the curved edge on the end of the straight ruler, the curved ruler that resembles an apple core and the long wavy ruler. These curved edges can be used in many different ways to create many different patterns.

Let's use the long wavy ruler to make a continues petal pattern.

Start by ruling up a 10 inch by 2 inch rectangle and mark in a half way point on both vertical lines.



Over one of the half way marks, pull up the bobbin thread. Sew a few small stitches like our first sample. Using the small markings on the wavy ruler, line them up with the vertical lines of the rectangle. Remember the needle sews 1/4 inch from the edge of the ruler.



When sewing the second wave, make sure you keep the 1/4 inch gap between the middle of the design and the finishing point. If you need to, stop and re adjust the ruler to keep the 1/4 inch gaps. The reason for keeping this gap is because of the 1/4 inch space between the needle and the edge of the ruler. As you can see in the below picture, the stitch lines are nice and close as a result of keeping the 1/4 inch gap.



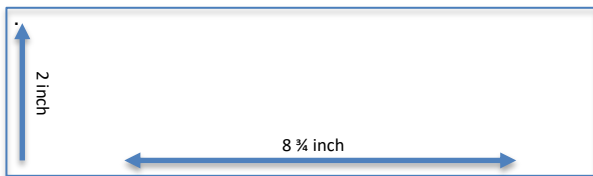
This simple pattern can be used to create so many different designs. Why not have a play around on the rest of this practice piece.



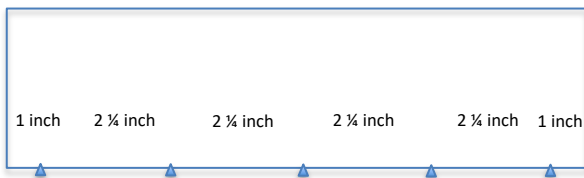


## Simple Circles

The next sample is so simple yet gives you such a great result. Using another small quilt sandwich, mark out an 8  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch by 2 Inch rectangle.



Starting from the left-hand side of the bottom line, draw in a 1 Inch mark. From this mark, continue drawing a mark every 2  $\frac{1}{4}$  inches as shown below.

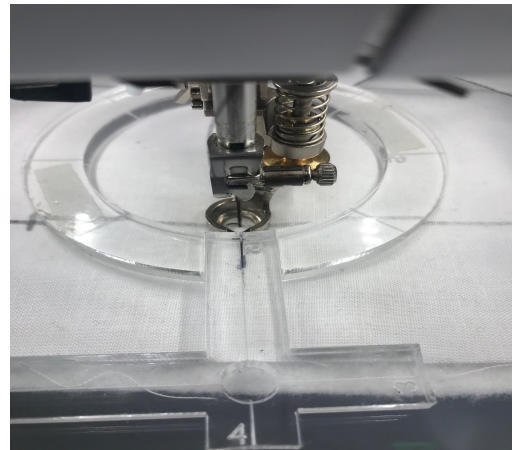


For this practice piece, we will be using circle number 1 and 2, as well as the little T shaped insert.

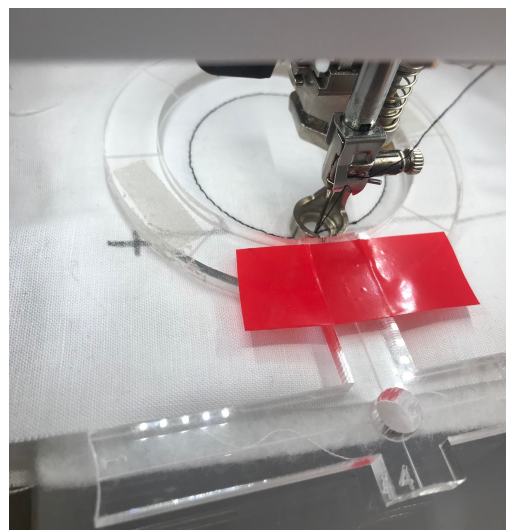


Once you have a steady hold on the circle ruler, its time to sew. Carefully work your way around the circle and stop once you return to the first stitch.

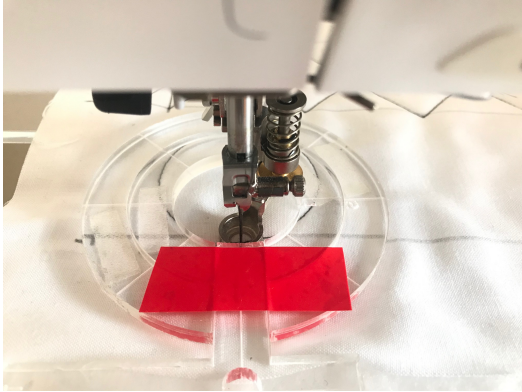
On the first mark to the left, secure your stitch using the same method as the first sample. With the foot down, bring the circle number 2 into position. Secure the number two finger of the T piece with some masking tape or something that isn't too hard to peel off.



Once you have a steady hold on the circle ruler, its time to sew. Carefully work your way around the circle and stop once you return to the first stitch.



Insert the number 1 circle inside the number 2 circle. Change the T piece to the number 1 and secure again with some tape.

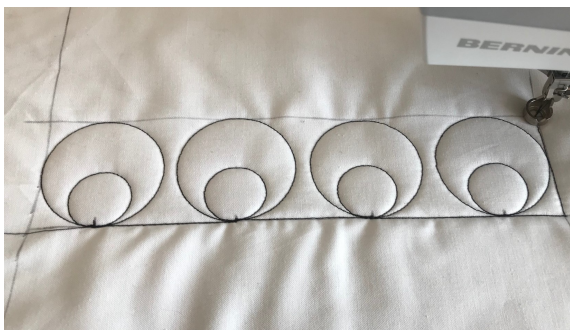


Repeat the same process around the inside of the number 1 circle. With your needle and foot in the down position, remove the rulers.

Grab your straight ruler to use as a straight guide. Stitch from the current position to the next marking. Continue sewing the circles until you have filled your rectangle.



The measurements can be adjusted for your work area as well as the spacing between the circle formations.



Have fun being creative and see how many wonderful shapes and design you can create.