

# BIG STITCH QUILTING

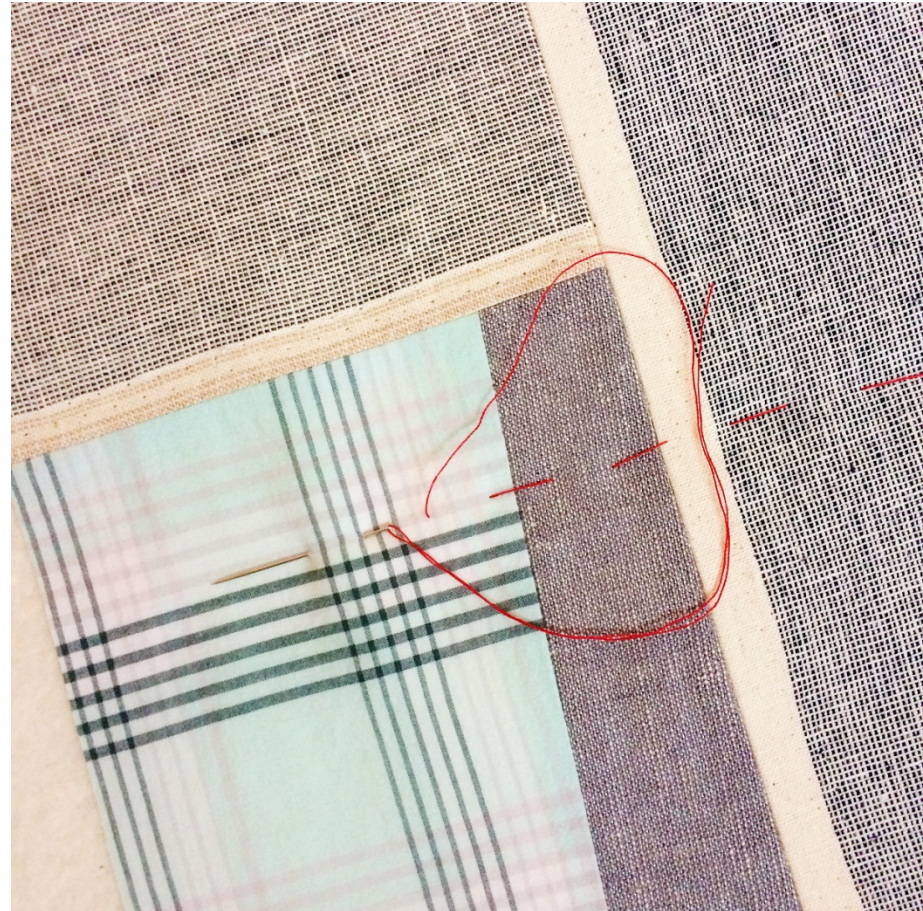
Presented by Rebecca Greco

and Laura Loewen

# Basting for hand quilting

Spray  
Pins  
Thread

Laura and Rebecca both feel that spray basting first and then adding either pins or thread basting helps secure the layers of the quilt for the amount of handling you do for hand quilting.



# Choosing a design



Echo

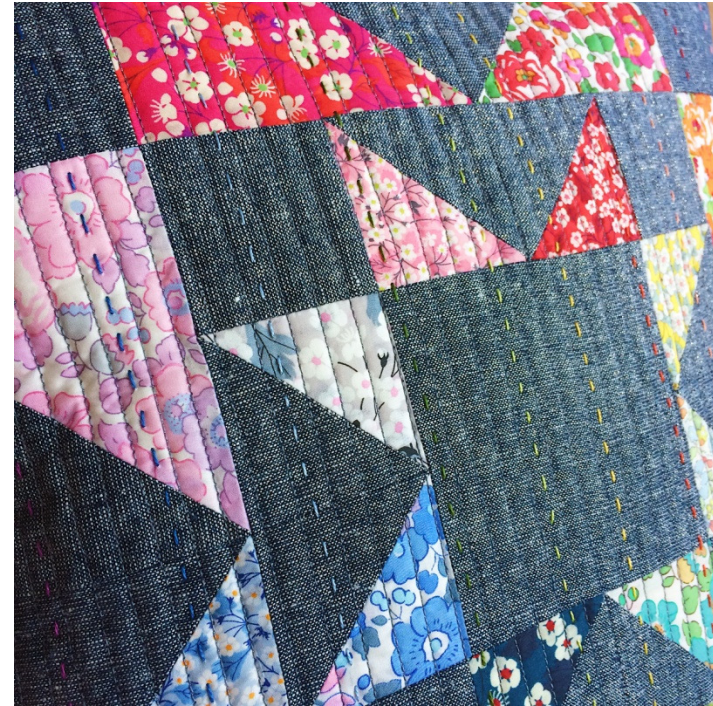
Straight Line

Organic Lines

Overall Pattern

Pictorial

# Choosing a design



Incorporating hand quilting with machine quilting.

# Marking a quilt

Herra  
Markers/Pens  
Freehand  
stitching



# Choosing a thread



Perle 8 options

Alternatives to Perle 8

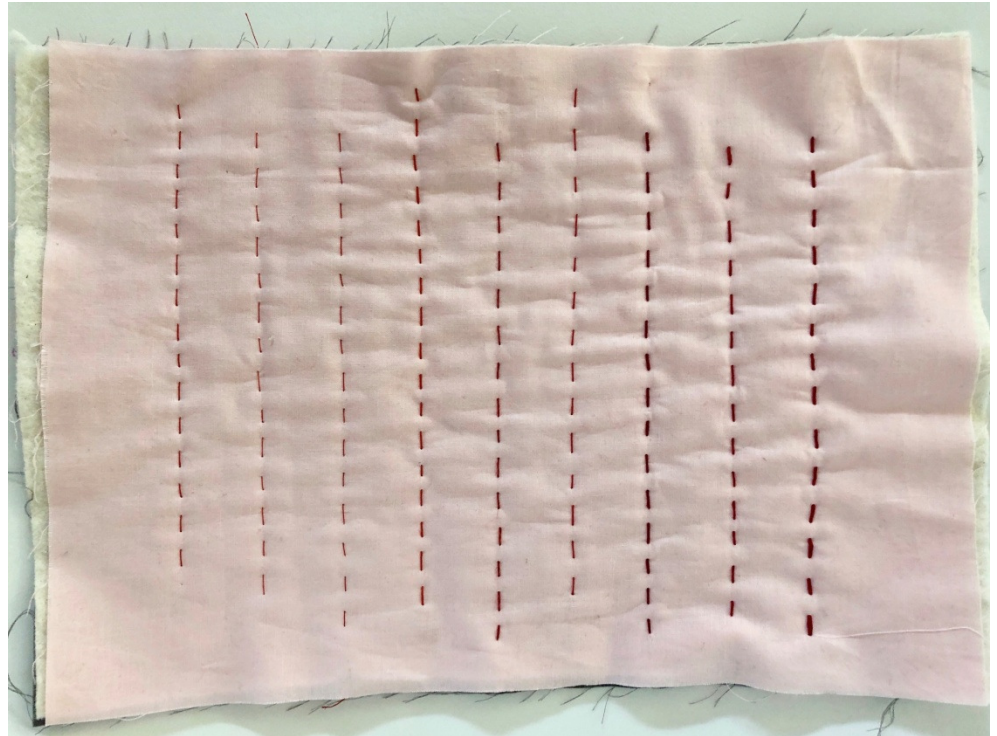
# Choosing a thread



## Perle 8 Cotton

Please see the extensive review of perle 8 cotton options on the blog.

# Choosing a thread



## Alternatives to Perle 8

There are other types of thread you can hand quilt with. 12 weight or 5 weight perle cotton are common options. However, wool thread, embroidery floss, and Sulky petites are all great for adding dimension and texture to hand quilting.



# Hoop or No Hoop



## Pros and Cons of hooping for big stitch quilting.

Both Rebecca and Laura choose to not use a hoop for big stitch quilting. The biggest draw back is that the stitching moves so quickly that you have to continuously reposition the hoop. Another negative is that the larger needles needed work best when the fabric is more pliable.

# The Quilting

Needle types  
Threading needles  
Needle threaders



Please see blog post for details on needle types.

The use of an embroidery needle threader is very helpful. If you have trouble threading your needle try threading from the other side. Machine punched eyes are wider on one side than the other.

# The Quilting



## Knot tying

## Knot burying — start and stop

Begin stitching with a small double knot. Start outside the edge of the quilt top by going through batting and quilt top. Or start in the center by “popping” the knot through the quilt top before taking your first stitch.

To end your row, use a double quilters knot as close to the fabric as possible. Put the needle back through the hole the knot is on top of and pull the knot back down below the quilt top fabric.

# The Quilting

Taking stitches  
Loading the needle  
Thimble types



See the detailed blog post on thimble types.

Use your needle to load stitches. You should be able to load 2-4 stitches on your needle.

Pull the thread all the way through and repeat loading stitches.

# Binding with Big Stitch



Finish a quilt  
with a touch of  
hand quilting.