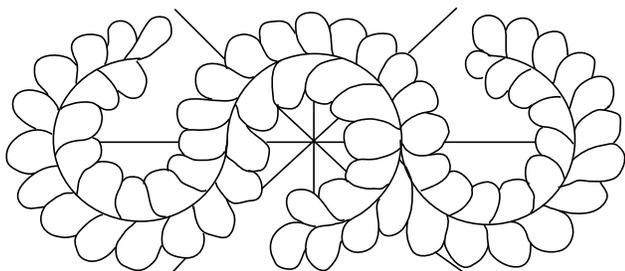


# Feathered Swag Stencil <sup>\$6</sup>

6 inch x 14 1/2 inches

This design will fit diagonally across a 12 inch quilt block and can be used for a elegant border design



Registration Lines on the stencil make design placement on your quilt EASY and ACCURATE

For all types of quilting –  
Hand, Home Sewing Machine  
and Longarm Machine

**Instructions for a beautiful feathered wall quilt included!**

Early in my professional quilting career I discovered that marking registration lines on the quilting area made for EASY and ACCURATE placement of quilting designs much easier.

To use my **Feathered Swag** stencil, simply draw either horizontal and vertical OR diagonal lines within the quilt block, border or area to be quilted. Line up the cut registration lines of the stencil over the drawn lines on the quilt and begin marking through the lines of the stencil.

To keep the stencil from slipping while marking, spray a small amount of temporary quilt basting spray on the quilt side of the stencil. Use pounce powder, chalk pencil, chalk spray or water soluble marking pen to mark the quilting design.

**Do not quilt along the registration lines.**

This stencil works for all types of quilting – hand, home machine and longarm machine.

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**A beautiful Feathered quilt pattern is inside!**

## Quilting with your Feathered Swag Stencil

Here are three important quilting rules: Rule # 1—There are NO rules! Rule # 2—There are NO quilt police! Rule # 3—Refer to Rules # 1 and 2! Remember, this is YOUR quilt and it will reflect your “style” of quilting. It won’t be perfect, but remember there are NO perfect quilters!

The spine of the feather is the curved line that divides the feathers in half and I prefer to stitch this line first. This gives you the foundation for your feathers. If you have trouble making a smooth curved spine line with your machine—don’t worry about it! When your feathered design gets completely finished, there will be so much “activity” along the spine line, no one will notice if it is not “perfectly” smooth. If you have a really hard time stitching this line, disguise it by stitching a second spine line over the first line and “wiggle” the second stitching line. This will make your spine line look like “ribbons” and give your quilting more “texture”.

The “feather” part of the design can also cause some stitching problems. Don’t worry if you can’t get your stitching line on top of each other where the feathers are next to each other. Just move your stitching lines apart no more than 1/4 inch and you will be fine. In fact, I like the more “open” look this gives feathered designs.

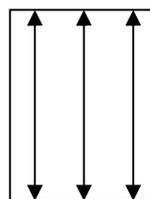
Remember to relax, quilting is supposed to be enjoyable! Being a “perfect” quilter will NOT bring about world peace, nor will it make you loose 10 pounds or anything else.

Begin quilting the **Feathered Swag** design by stitching the spine (circular line) of the design. Stitch the feathers on one side of the spine line and then stitch the feathers on the other side of the spine.

## ADDING BORDERS TO YOUR QUILT

Many quilters have problems with quilt borders that will not lie flat. Their borders may “wave” and this will make pleats when the border is quilted. To make a border that lies perfectly flat follow these directions.

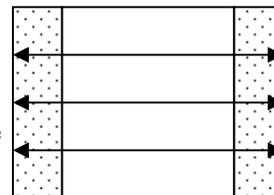
After the body of the quilt is completed, gently press before adding the borders. Determine the LENGTH of the quilt border by



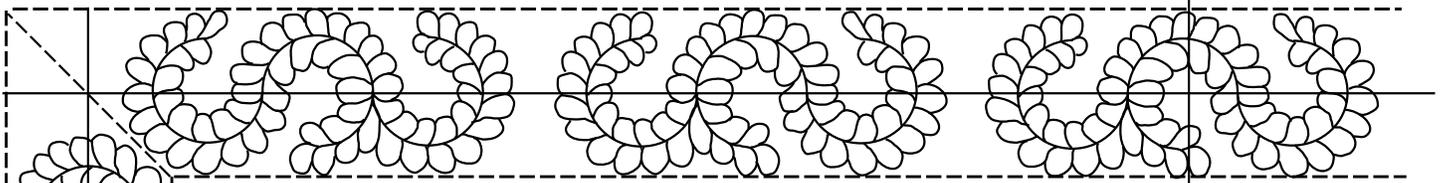
measuring lengthwise across the center of the quilt and about halfway between the center and the raw edge. Do not measure along the raw edge. This edge may have stretched. Find an average of these measurements and cut two border pieces that length. Divide the border pieces and the corresponding quilt edges into quarters and mark with pins. Pin the border piece to the quilt edge,

matching pins, easing or stretching as needed. Sew and press. Repeat for the other side.

Determine the WIDTH of the quilt border by measuring across the center of the quilt widthwise, measuring from the raw edge of the (just applied) border to the raw edge of the (just applied) border. Measure again about halfway between the center and the raw edge. Find an average of these measurements and cut two border pieces that length. Divide the border pieces and the corresponding quilt edges into quarters and mark with pins.



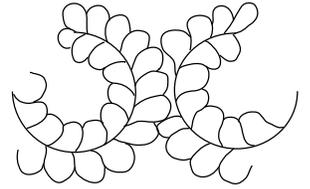
Pin the border piece to the quilt edge, matching pins, easing or stretching as needed. Sew and press. Repeat for the other side. Continue to measure this way for every border that you need to apply to your quilt.



To use the **Feathered Swag Stencil** as an elegant border design follow these instructions.

**Registration Lines** – On the top and bottom borders draw a line horizontally to divide the border in half lengthwise. On the side borders draw the line vertically to divide the borders in half widthwise. Find the middle of each border and draw a line. Draw a diagonal (miter) line in each corner of the border.

**Stencil Placement** – Place a Feathered Swag in each corner about 1/4 inch away from the drawn diagonal line. At the middle of your border, place another Feathered Swag, using the registration lines for accurate placement. Divide the remaining border in half, draw a line, then place another Feathered Swag on this set of lines. Repeat across each border. If one (or more) of the Feathered Swags are “smooshed” you can eliminate some of the feathers where the swags overlap. See drawing at right.



## **Feathered Swag Wall Quilt** – Approximate finished size 38 x 38 inches

Note: You will need the **Double Feathered Wreath** stencil to complete this quilt

**Fabric** - 2 yards hand dyed or “mottled” fabric 44 inches wide (Includes binding fabric)

**Backing** - 1 ¼ yard fabric, 44 inches wide

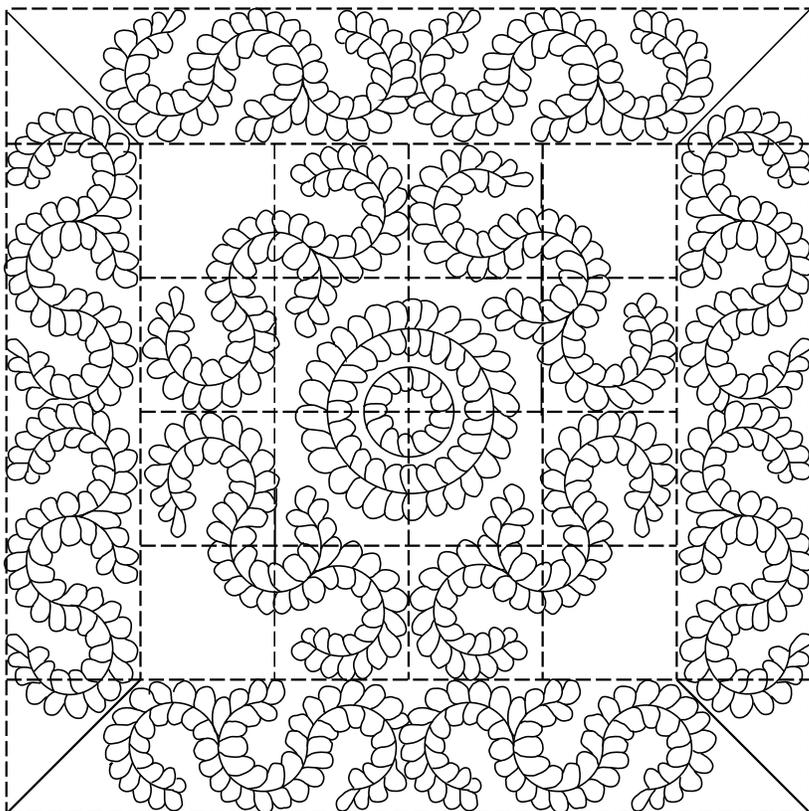
**Batting** - Low to mid loft, cotton or poly to fit quilt top.

**Cutting** - From quilt top fabric cut 16 – 6½ inch squares and 4 – 7 inch x width of fabric strips for border.

**Piecing** - Use 1/4 inch seams and press seams as desired. Be sure to “shuffle” the position of the fabric pieces.

Stitch 4 of the 6½ inch squares together to form one large square 12½ x 12½ inches. Make four. Stitch the four blocks together to make a 24½ x 24½ inch square. Add borders to complete the quilt top. Refer to instructions on previous page.

**Marking the pattern** - Place the **Feathered Swag** stencil **DIAGONALLY** over the center of the 12 inch block matching seam lines to the registration lines on the stencil. Mark the quilting design with your favorite marking tool. Repeat in all four blocks rotating pattern as shown below. Draw a registration line horizontally and vertically to divide the border in half. Position the **Feathered Swag** stencil on these lines and mark the quilting design in the corners as show at left.



Note: the centers of the **Feathered Swag** will be “smooshed” and you will need to remove some feathers from one side to make the border fit properly. Repeat for all corners. Trace the **Double Feathered Wreath** stencil (or another pattern) in the center to complete the design.

**Quilting** - Layer the backing, batting and quilt top together and pin baste or hand baste together. Quilt either by hand or by machine. To make your feathers “pop” use a contrasting thread to quilt the feathers. If desired, fill in with stippling or echo quilting in the “empty” spaces around the feathered wreaths and border. For best results, use a matching thread for the fill in stitching.

**Binding** - When finished quilting, bind the quilt in your usual manner.

Stand back and admire your work and graciously accept any and all compliments.