

DESIGN BASICS
101
By Patricia Simons

Bird
Template



The Bird Design tool is partially nested and made from 1/8" clear acrylic (pictured on left in Illustration 1). The Mini and Small Bird Machine Quilting Tools (pictured in center and on right respectfully, in Illustration 1) are not nested and are made of 1/4" clear acrylic.



Illustration 1

Simple Block Design Create a simple block design using the Bird Design Tool and the 8-point Block Grid. The technique used is "Rotate".

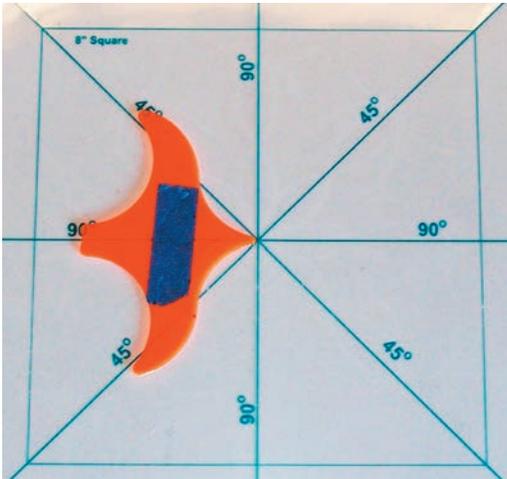


Illustration 2

Place the nose of the bird on the center of the 8-point block grid with the tail split in half on the horizontal 90° line.

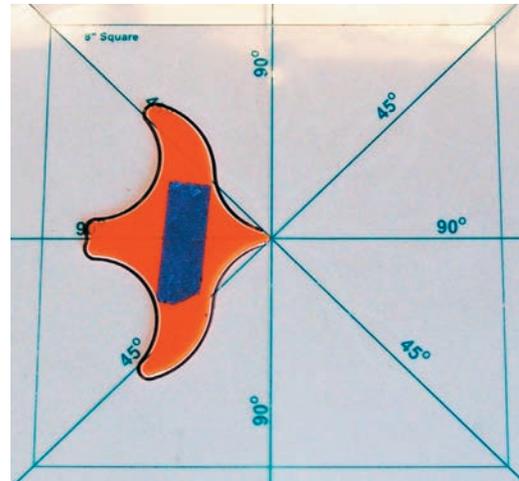


Illustration 3

Draw from one side of the bird's nose around the tail to the other. Do not draw around the tip of her nose.

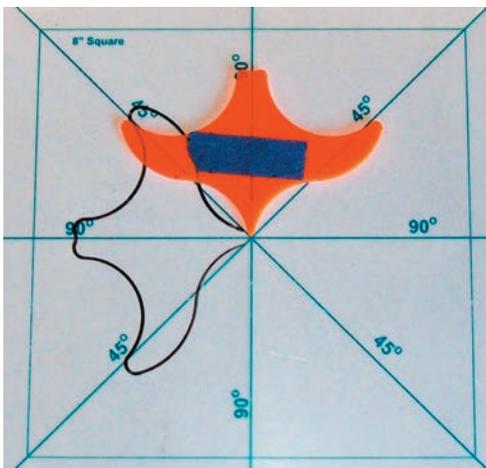


Illustration 4

Rotate the bird to the vertical 90° line.

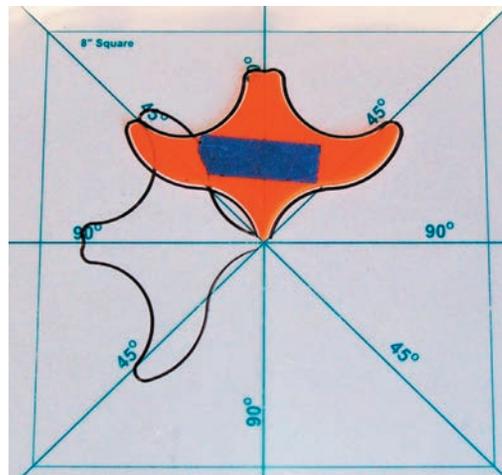


Illustration 5

Starting where you stopped in Illustration 3, draw from one side of the bird's nose to the other.

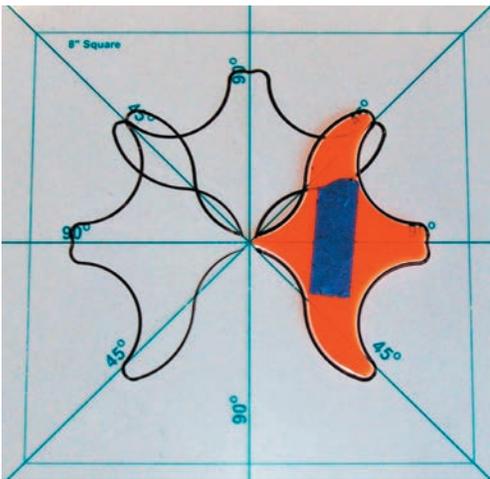


Illustration 6

Rotate the bird to the horizontal 90° line. Starting where you stopped, draw from one side of the bird's nose to the other, as shown on the left.

Rotate the bird to the vertical 90° line. Starting where you stopped, draw from one side of the bird's nose to the other, as shown on the right. The completed design is shown in Illustration 8.

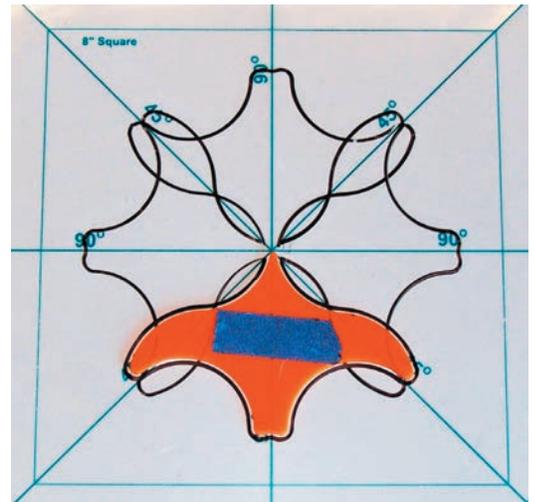


Illustration 7

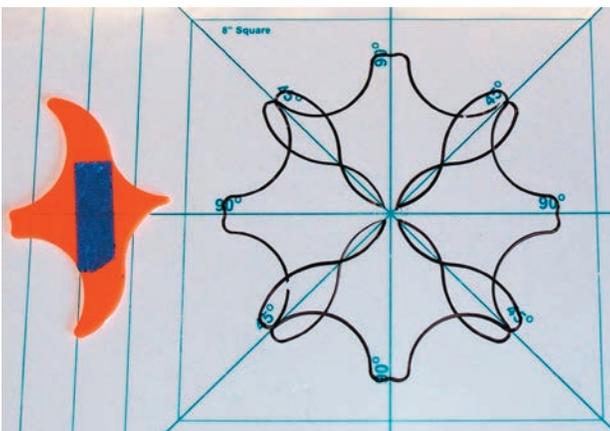


Illustration 8

Note: If you would prefer to quilt directly on the quilt without marking, use our 1/4" machine quilting tools. When using the machine quilting template allow a 1/4" of space to accommodate the hopping foot when placing the template.

Simple Block Design 2

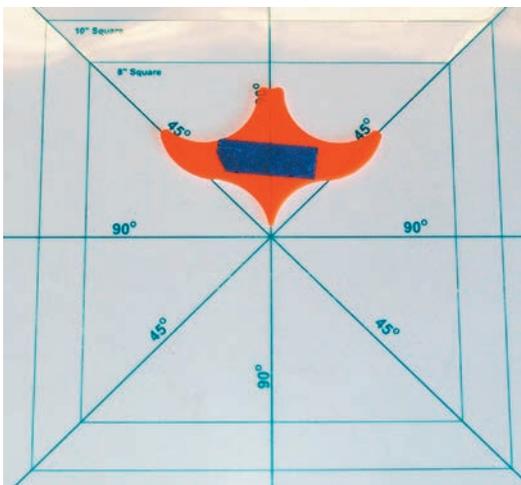


Illustration 9

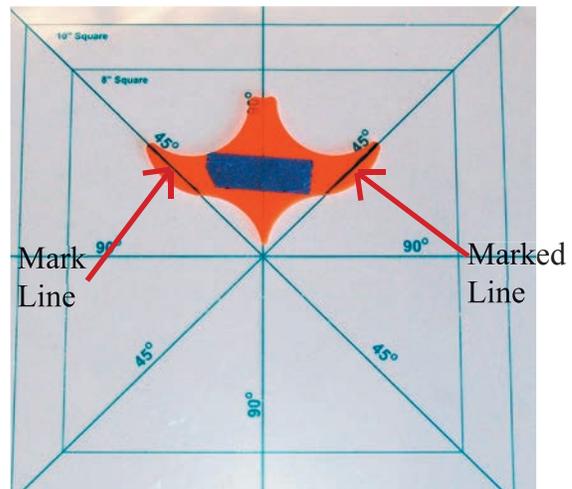


Illustration 10

Place the bird with her nose facing the center, her tail split in half on a vertical 90° line and her wingtips split in half by the 45° lines (diagonal lines). Note, her nose will NOT be touching the center of the block. See Illustration 9. To aid in making sure you place the bird in the same place as your rotate around the block, draw the 45° lines on the template. See Illustration 10.

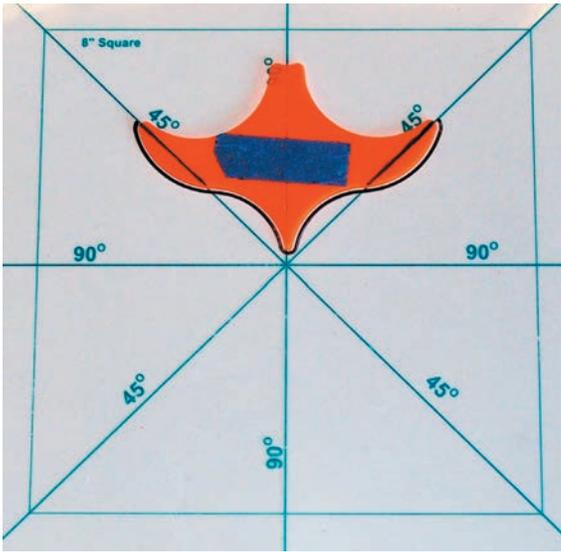


Illustration 11

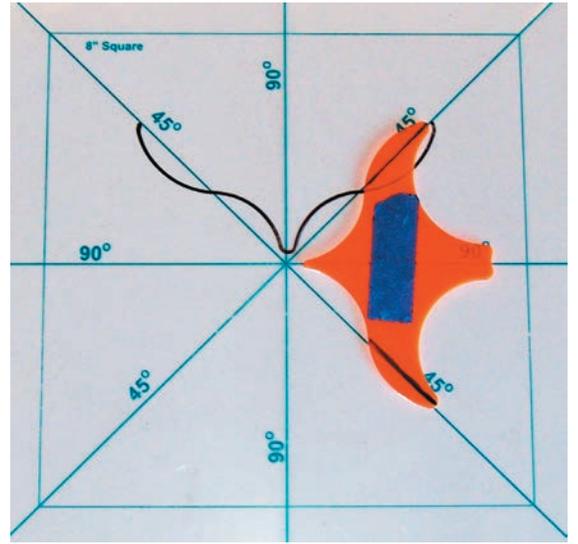


Illustration 12

Draw from 45° line around her nose to 45° line...or wingtip to wingtip. Do not draw around her tail or beyond the 45° line. See Illustration 11. Rotate the bird to the horizontal 90° line, aligning the lines on her wings with the lines on the grid as shown in Illustration 12.

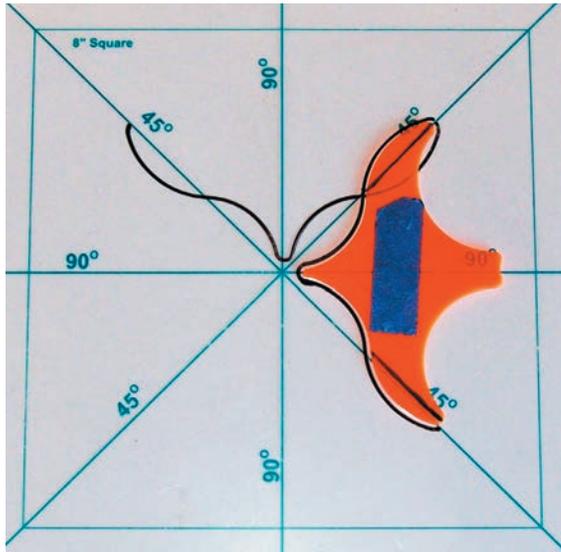


Illustration 13

Draw from 45° line around her nose to 45° line...or wingtip to wingtip as shown on the left. You will create a loop on the 45° line.

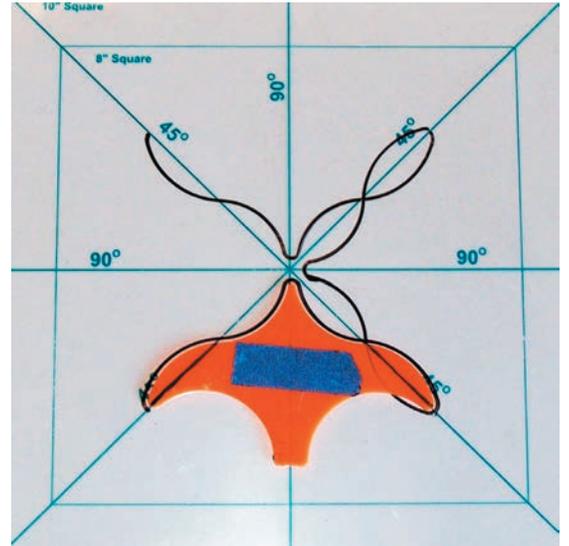


Illustration 14

Rotate the bird to the vertical 90° line, aligning the lines on her wings with the lines on the grid. Draw from wingtip to wingtip as shown above.

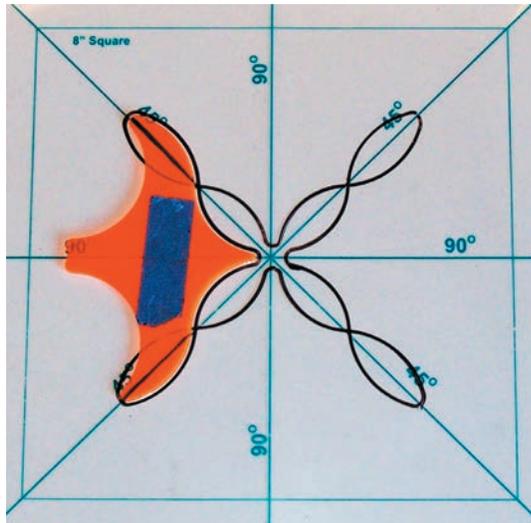


Illustration 15

Rotate the bird to the horizontal 90° line, aligning the lines on her wings with the lines on the grid. Draw from wingtip to wingtip as shown on the left. This completes the first four loops.

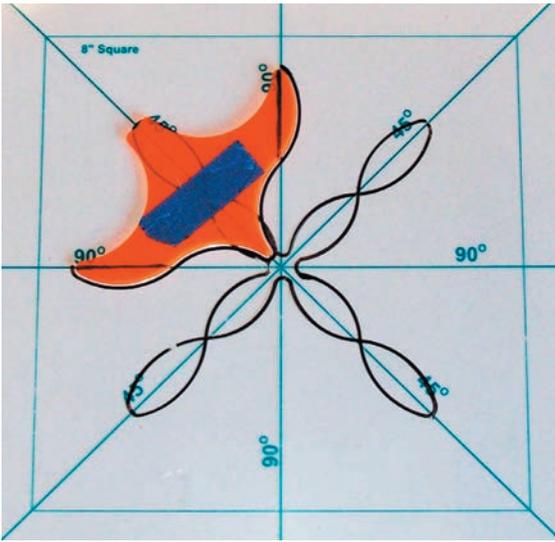


Illustration 16

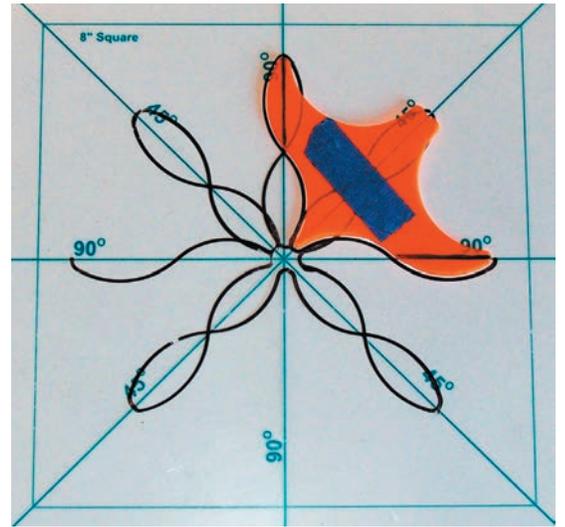


Illustration 17

Rotate the bird to the next 45° line. Her tail should be split by the 45° line and the lines on her wings should align with the 90° lines. Draw from wingtip to wingtip using the 90° lines as your start and stop points. See Illustration 16. Rotate the bird to the next 45° line aligning up as previously. Draw from wingtip to wingtip as shown in Illustration 17.

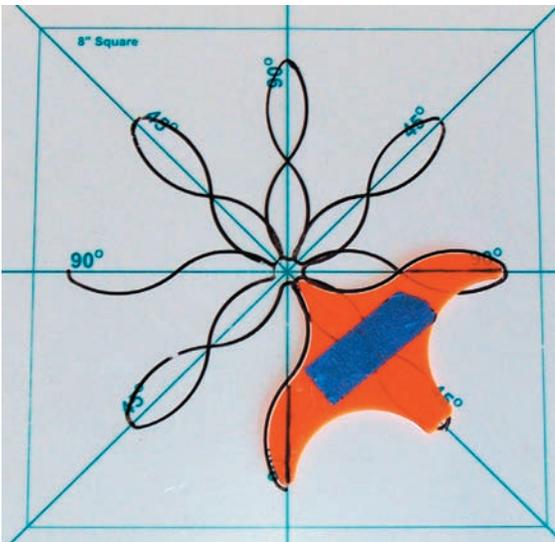


Illustration 18

Rotate the bird to the next 45° line aligning up as shown on left. Draw from wingtip to wingtip. Rotate once more to the final 45° line to complete the drawing as shown in Illustration 19. You can create similar but slightly different looks by changing where the wingtips are positioned on the lines. See Illustrations 19b and 19c.

Note: If you would prefer to quilt directly on the quilt without marking, use our 1/4" machine quilting tools. When using the machine quilting template allow a 1/4" of space to accommodate the hopping foot when placing the template.

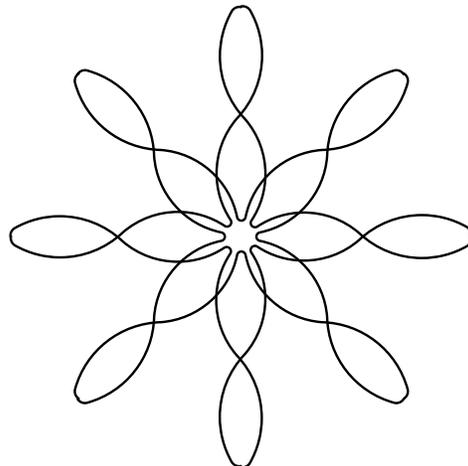


Illustration 19

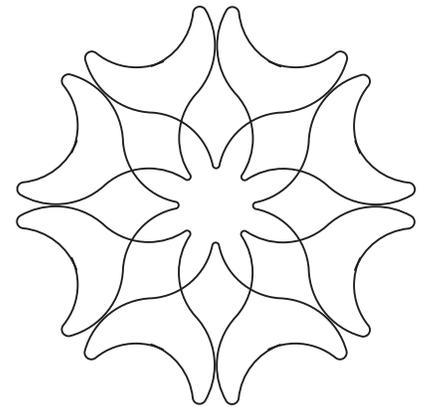


Illustration 19b

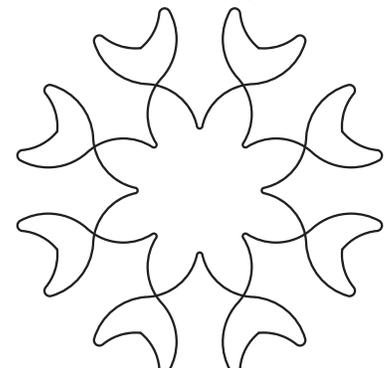


Illustration 19c

Block Design Variations

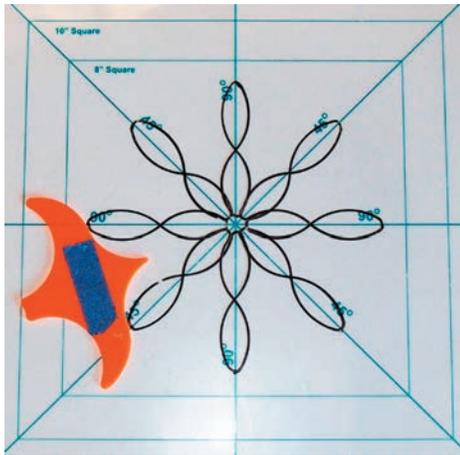


Illustration 20

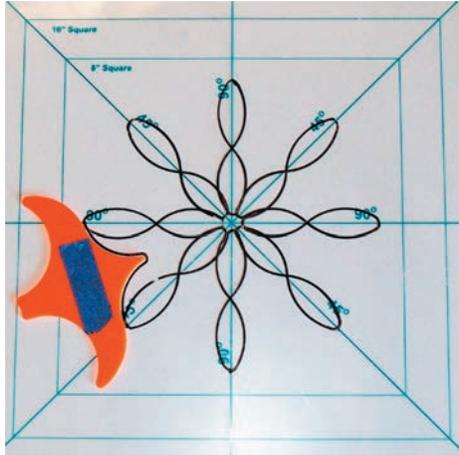


Illustration 21

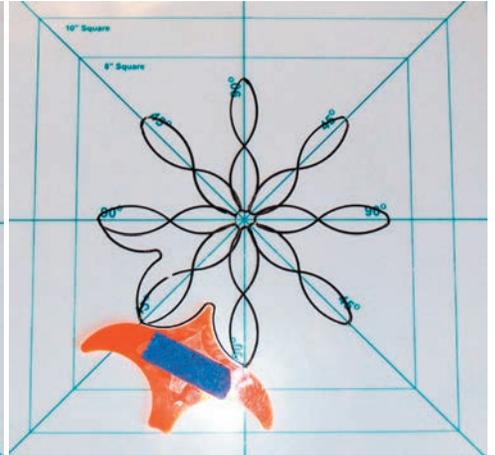


Illustration 22

If you desire, you can use the design in Illustration 19 as the basis for a more intricate design. Place the bird template so her nose points towards the center and her shoulders rest on the top of the loops as shown in Illustration 20. Draw from top of loop, around her nose to top of loop as shown in Illustration 21.

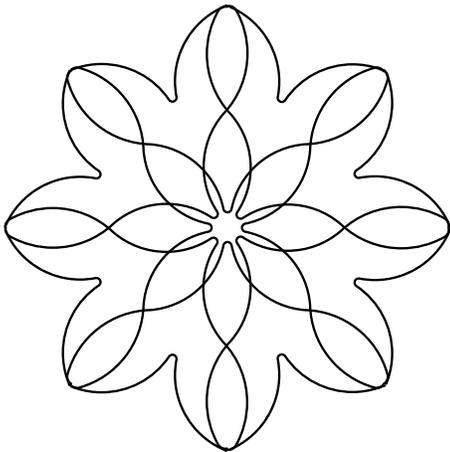


Illustration 23

Rotate the bird to the next opening. Position her the same, being careful to keep her nose pointed to the center. Draw from loop to loop as shown in Illustration 22. Continue around the design until all openings are filled. The completed design can be seen on the left.

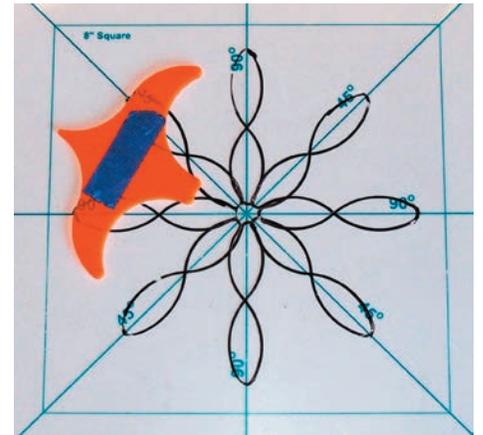


Illustration 24

An alternative look is possible if you position the bird with her tail toward the center as shown in Illustration 24. Be sure the bird's shoulders are resting on the loops in such a way as to allow the drawn line to touch the loops.

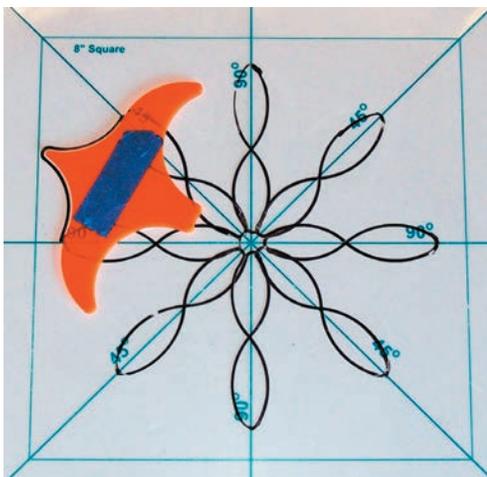


Illustration 25

Draw from top of loop around her nose to top of loop as shown on the left. Continue around the design until all openings are filled. The completed design is shown on the right.

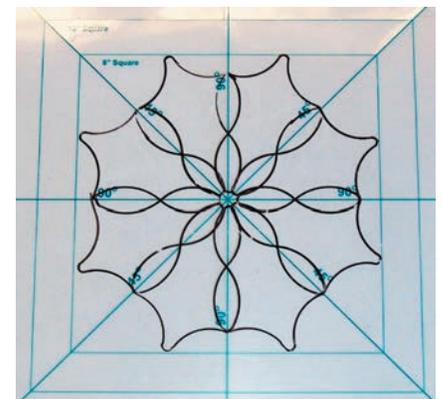


Illustration 26

Border Design 1

Create a simple border design using the Bird Design Tool and the Border Grid. The technique used is primarily “Slide” with a bit of “Flip”.

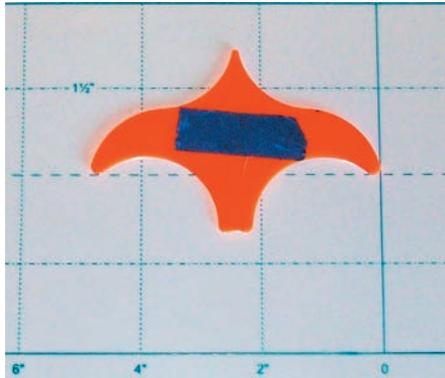


Illustration 27

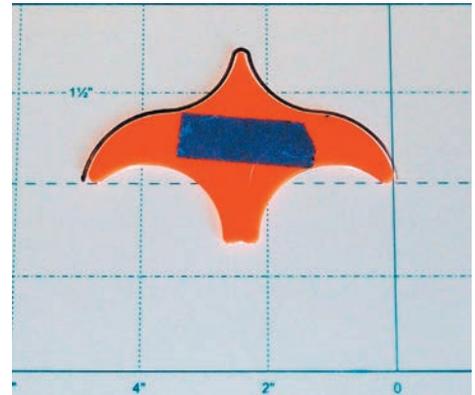


Illustration 28

Place the wingtips of the bird on the centerline of the border as shown in Illustration 27. Draw from wingtip, around her nose, to wingtip as shown in Illustration 28. Do not cross the centerline.

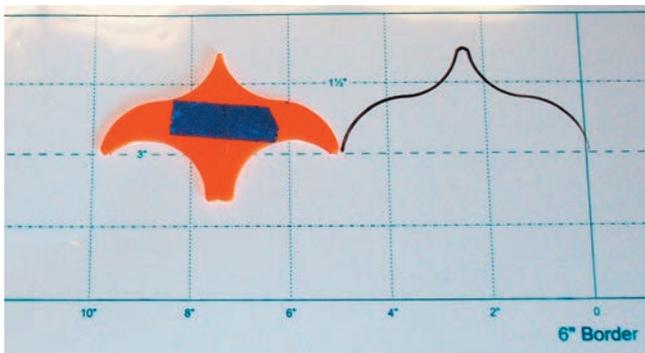


Illustration 29

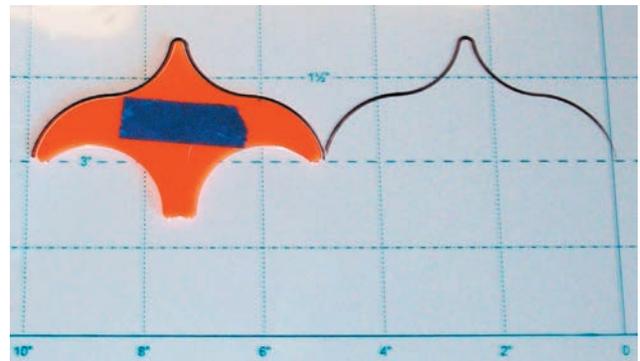


Illustration 30

Slide the template until her opposite wingtip is touching the stop point as shown in Illustration 29. Starting where you stopped, draw from wingtip to wingtip going around her nose as shown in Illustration 30.

Note: If you would prefer to quilt directly on the quilt without marking, use our 1/4" machine quilting tools. When using the machine quilting template allow a 1/4" of space to accommodate the hopping foot when placing the template.

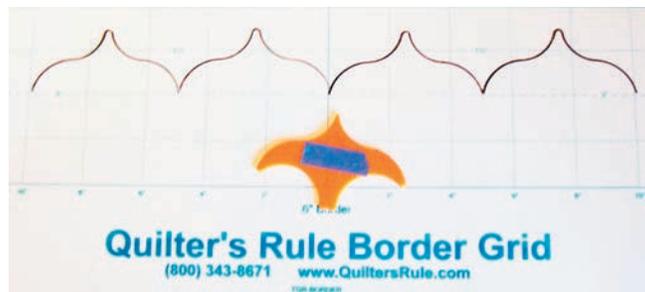


Illustration 31

This completed border design as shown above could be used as is or as a spine for feathers or your favorite embellishment designs.

Border Design 1 Variation

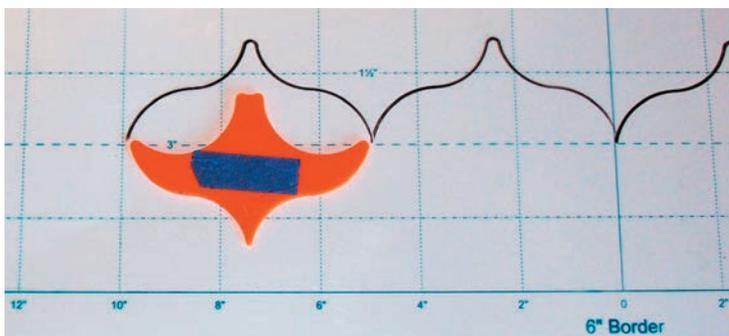


Illustration 32

Start with Border Design 1. Flip the template so that the bird is facing the opposite direction. Line up the wingtips.

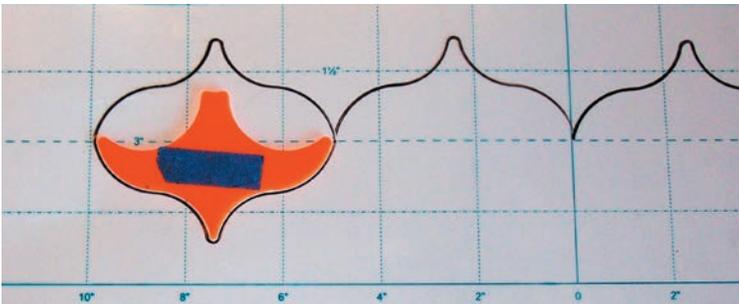


Illustration 33

Draw from wingtip, around her nose, to wingtip as shown to the left. Do not cross the centerline.

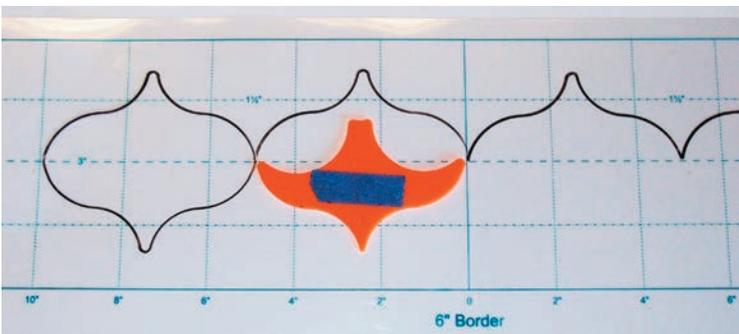


Illustration 34

Slide the template until her opposite wingtip is touching the stop point. Starting where you stopped, draw from wingtip to wingtip going around her nose.

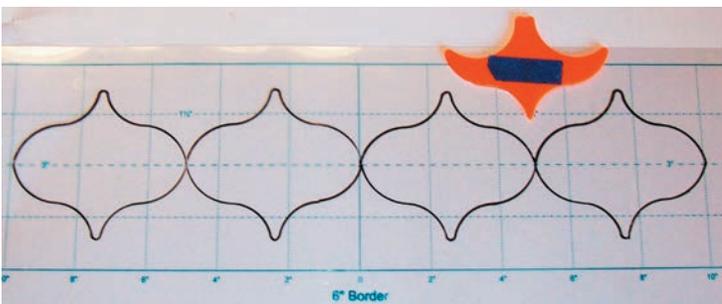
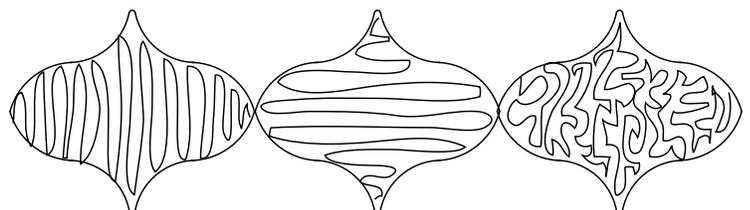
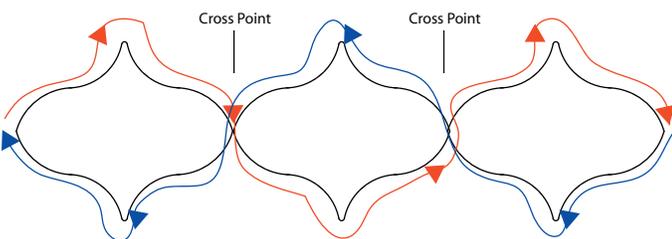


Illustration 35

The completed design as shown to the left could be used as is or use a creative fill in the open areas created. When stitching this design, it is best to cross over the center line to create crisp cross points.



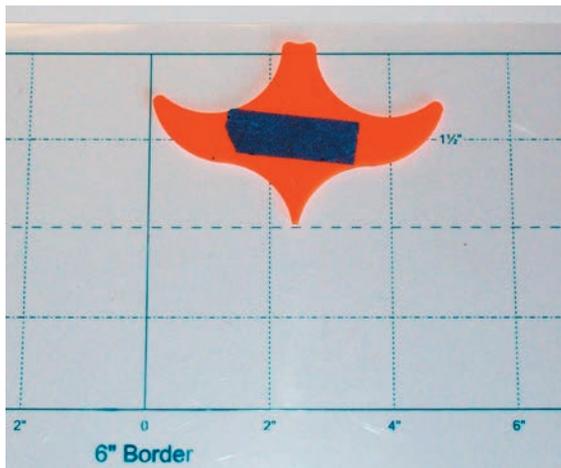


Illustration 36

Simple Border Design 2

Place the nose of the bird on the centerline of the border as shown to the left.

Draw from wingtip, around her nose, to wingtip. Do not cross the centerline.

Slide the template until her opposite wingtip is touching the stop point. Starting where you stopped, draw from wingtip to wingtip going around her nose as shown below.

Note: If you would prefer to quilt directly on the quilt without marking, use our 1/4" machine quilting tools. When using the machine quilting template allow a 1/4" of space to accommodate the hopping foot when placing the template.

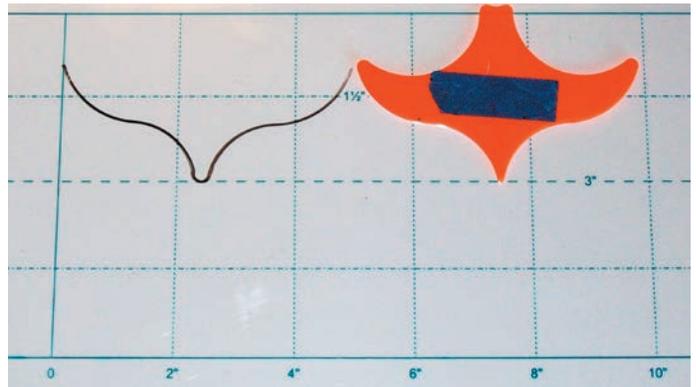


Illustration 37

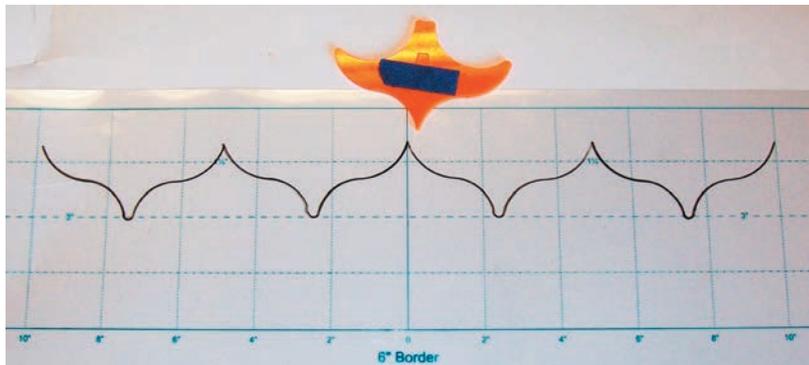


Illustration 38

The completed border design as shown on the left could be used as is or as a spine for feathers or your favorite embellishment designs. Note that this border design looks slightly different than the one in Illustration 31. This is due to the “points” created where the wingtips meet are on the outside rather than the center line.

Border Design 2 Variation

Start with Border Design 2. Flip the template so that the bird is facing the opposite direction. Line up the nose as shown on the right.

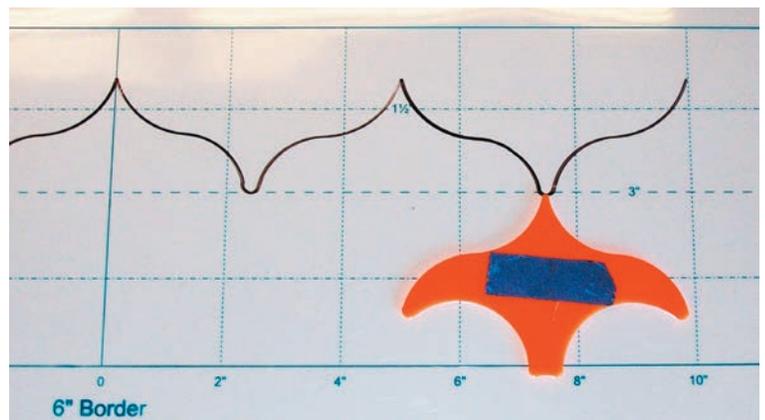


Illustration 39

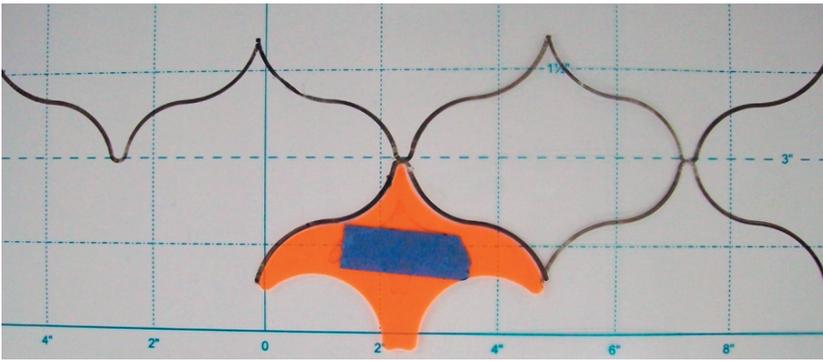


Illustration 40

Draw from wingtip, around her nose, to wingtip as shown on the left. Do not cross the centerline. Slide the template until her opposite wingtip is touching the stop point. Starting where you stopped, draw from wingtip to wingtip going around her nose.

The completed design as shown to the right could be used as is or use a creative fill in the open areas created. Note that this border design looks slightly different than the one in Illustration 35. This is due to the “points” created where the wingtips meet are on the outside rather than the center line.

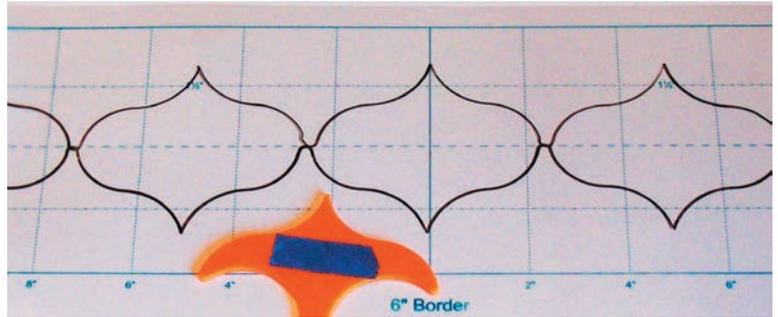


Illustration 41

Border Design 3

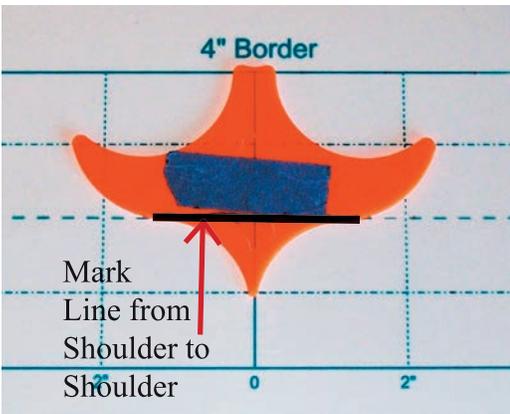


Illustration 42

Place the shoulders of the bird on the centerline of the border as shown on the left. Draw a line on the template which matches the centerline to aid in aligning the template.

Draw from wingtip, around her nose, to wingtip as shown on the right.

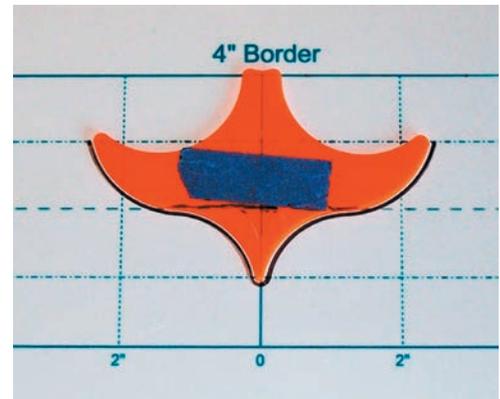


Illustration 43

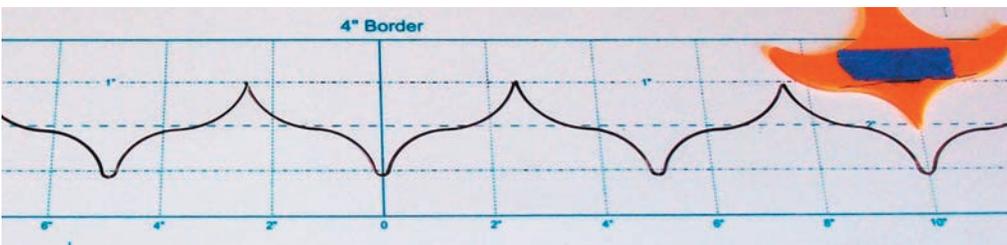


Illustration 44

Slide the template until her opposite wingtip is touching the stop point. Starting where you stopped, draw from wingtip to wingtip going around her nose. Continue to slide template until border is desired length.

Flipping the template over to the other side of the center line, align the bird with her shoulders on the centerline (use line marked on template as an aid). Keep the nose of the bird opposite the drawn nose.

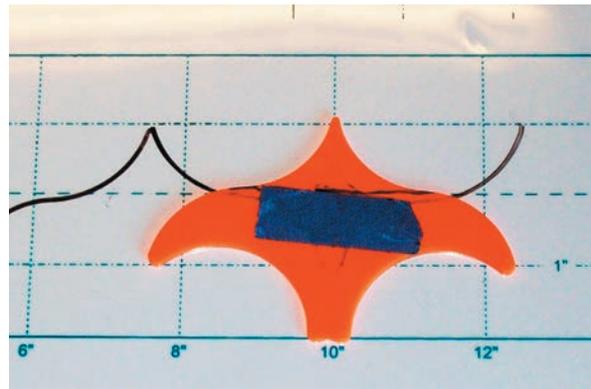


Illustration 45

Draw from wingtip, around her nose, to wingtip. Slide the template until her opposite wingtip is touching the stop point as shown on the left. Starting where you stopped, draw from wingtip to wingtip going around her nose.

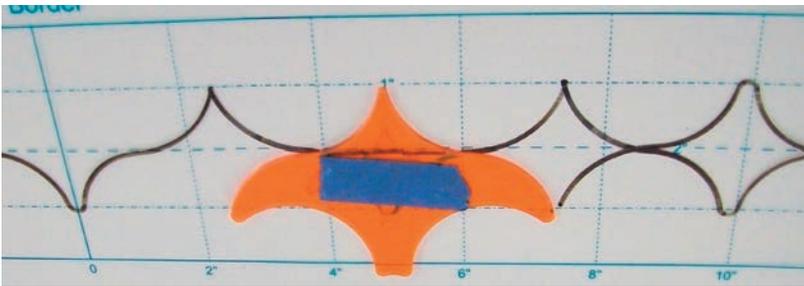


Illustration 46

Continue until border design is desired length. See Illustration 47. When stitching the design, it is best to cross over from one side to the other to create crisp cross points.

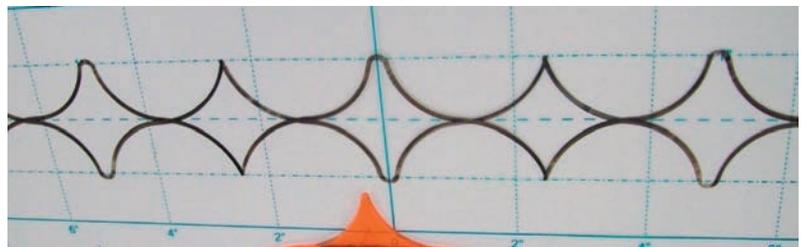
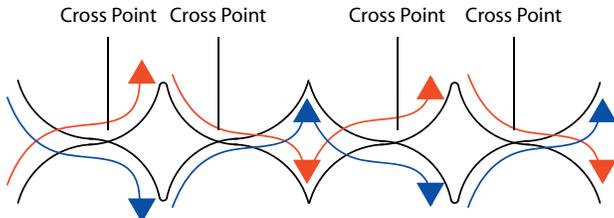


Illustration 47



You can change how this border pattern looks by changing where the shoulders of the bird lay on the center line.

Border Design 4

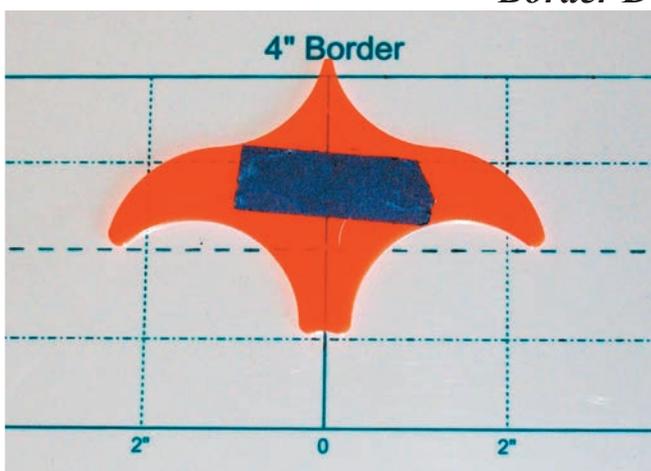


Illustration 48

Place the wingtips of the bird on the centerline of the border.

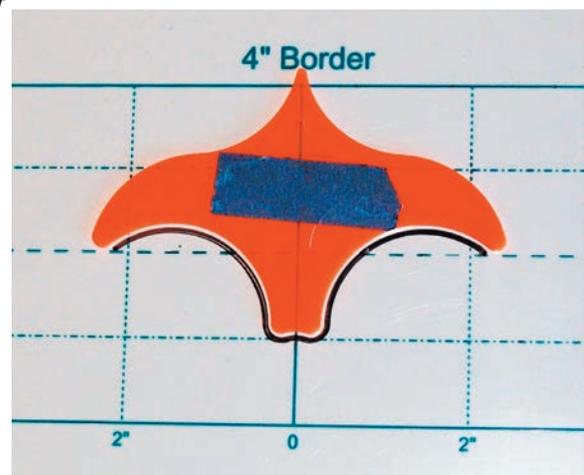


Illustration 49

Draw from wingtip, around her tail, to wingtip.

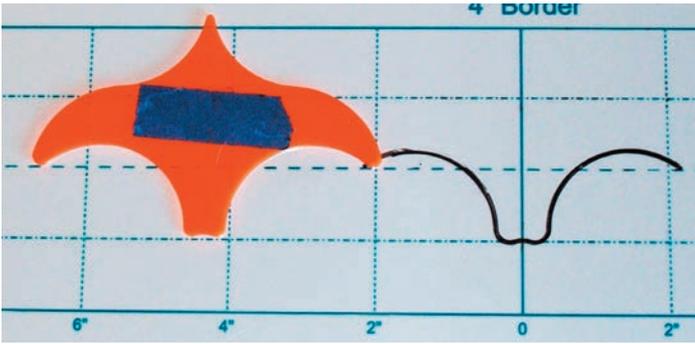


Illustration 50

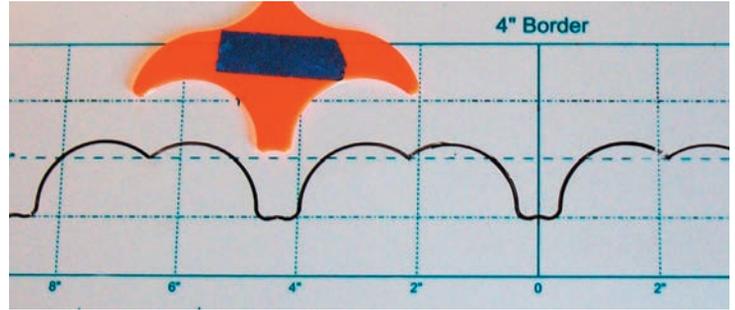


Illustration 51

Slide the template until her opposite wingtip is touching the stop point. See Illustration 50. Starting where you stopped, draw from wingtip to wingtip going around her tail as shown in Illustration 51. Continue until border is desired length.

Flipping the template over to the other side of the center line, align the bird with her wingtips on the centerline while keeping the tail of the bird opposite the drawn tail as shown on the right. Draw from wingtip, around her tail, to wingtip.

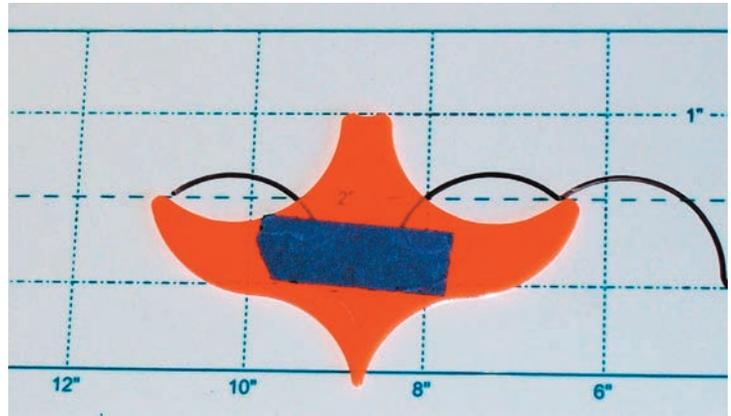


Illustration 52

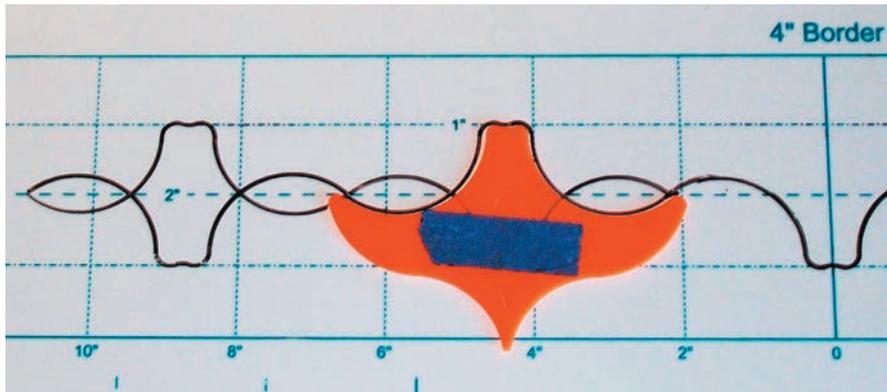


Illustration 53

Slide the template until her opposite wingtip is touching the stop point as shown on the left. Starting where you stopped, draw from wingtip to wingtip going around her tail.

Continue until border design is desired length. When stitching the design, it is best to cross over from one side to the other to create crisp cross points.

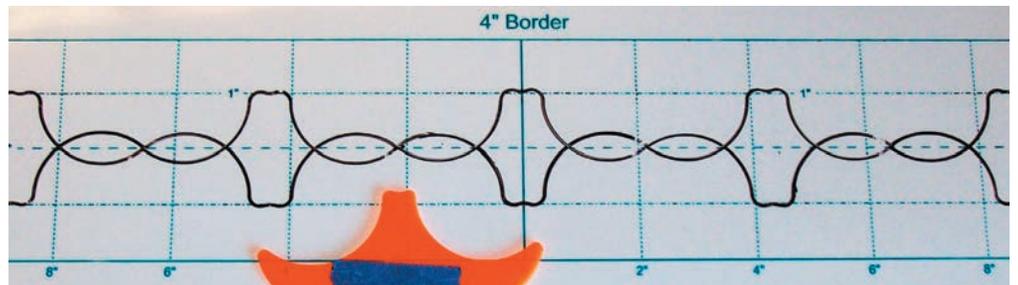
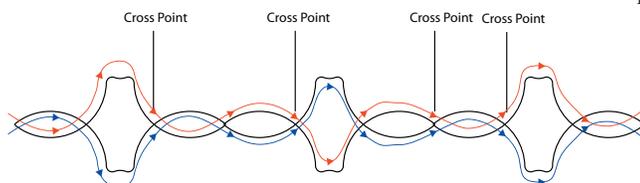
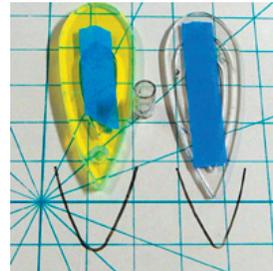
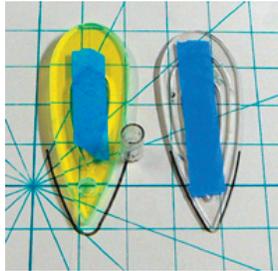


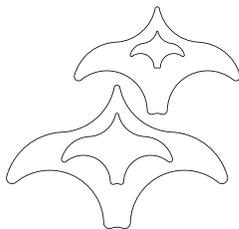
Illustration 54



NOTE: Please note the different effect created when drawing around the point of a template vs. stitching around the template. The template on the left uses a Tube Template Tester to simulate the effect of your foot on a mid- or long-arm machine on the stitching. Notice the more rounded effect achieved when compared to the right template's drawn line. Both templates are identical. The round foot of mid- and long-arm machines will "round" out any point.



PRODUCTS USED FOR CREATING YOUR OWN DESIGNS



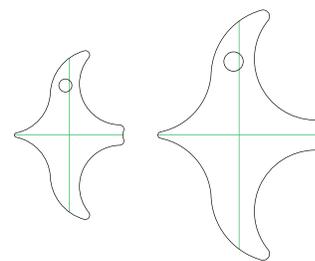
Bird Template

SF-DT09

Set of 4 Templates

1/8" Thick

Sizes: 1 1/4" x 3/4" to 4 7/8" x 3 1/8"



MQT-MN09

1/4" Thick

5" x 3 1/8"

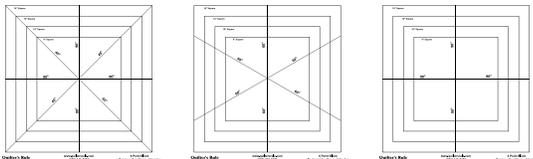
MQT-SM09

1/4" Thick

7 1/2" x 4 3/4"

Block Grids and Border Grid

Dry or wet erase pens can be used on all of our printed vinyl templates to test your quilt designs. Once you complete your design simply transfer onto the Stitch-Away-Paper or use what ever transfer technique with which you are comfortable.

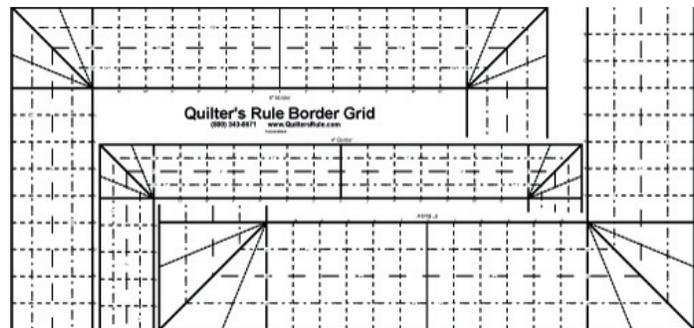


TGR-BG

Set of 3: 8", 10", 12", and 14"

4 point, 6 point, and 8 point

For more design grids, visit
[www. QuiltersRule.com](http://www.QuiltersRule.com).



TGR-BORDER

- 4", 6", and 8" wide border layouts with two corners
- Layouts are marked with a center line as well as two additional lines to center floating designs
- The center of each border layout is marked for working on center motifs
- Each corner has the 45° angle marked as well as two more angles for help in turning corners
- Overall template size is 25" x 52"

STITCH-AWAY-PAPER

Stitch-Away-Paper can be used for tracing patterns/designs onto your project or for foundation piecing.



Use alone or with the Whole Cloth and Block Grids. Available in two sizes: 25" x 36" and 8 1/2" x 11"