

## QUILTER'S CREATIVE TOUCH 5, BEGINNINGS VERSION

### UPGRADING FROM QCT4 – E2E PANTOGRAPH ON A ROLLING RAIL FRAME

1. Open **QCT5** (backing, batting and quilt top should be on frame, ready to quilt.)
2. Touch **“Pantograph”** when Home screen opens.
3. Set **“Safe Area.”**
4. Set the **“Total Width”** for your quilt by touching the yellow ruler along top of screen.  
Touch the icon at bottom with yellow ruler and green slanted line.



- Move the machine to the **top left corner** of your quilt top, **even with where you want the uppermost stitches of the first row to hit and where you want the stitches to be aligned on the left side.**  
Position your needle over the intersection of these horizontal and vertical positions.  
Touch the left side of the large ruler icon box at bottom.
- Move the machine anywhere along the right side of your quilt top, the same distance outside the right edge as was used from the left edge. (You do not have to keep the machine moving straight across when making this selection.)  
Position needle above where stitches should align on the right side.  
Touch the right side of the large ruler icon box at bottom.

Note: If backing will be folded over for binding, set beginning and ending measurements at quilt edges or slightly within.

- Touch icon at bottom with black sewing machine.  
This will move your machine to the top of your quilt and to the center of the width (and ultimately your design) you just measured.



**MARK THIS POSITION WITH WHATEVER METHOD YOU CHOOSE** (painters tape with dot marked on it to place directly beneath needle, removable marking pen, etc.)

This is where you will place your needle above after you go to **“Quilting Interface”** screen and are ready to place zone, when **“Zone Placement (Center)”** is selected. (Will be explained later in this document.)

Touch **“Apply Measurement”** along bottom of screen.



The screen will return to the PantoStacker screen and the new width measurement will be reflected in the **“Total Width”** measurement.

5. Set the **“Total Height”** for your quilt that will not exceed the total inches for throat of machine, including when quilt has built up on take-up rail, reducing throat space.
6. Touch **“Options”** in upper right hand corner.  
**“PantoStacker Show Grid”** should already be selected by a green check mark.  
 Touch **“OK.”**

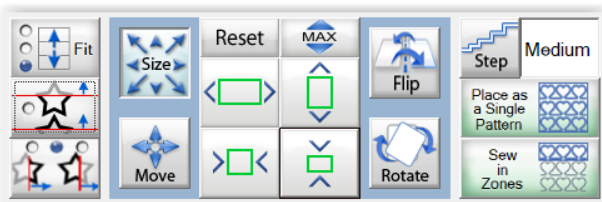
Each grid you now see on your screen reflects 1 square inch.

If you have an odd number for Total Height, a half row will show at top and bottom of screen.

7. Touch **“Select Pattern”** and open desired pattern. This tutorial references **“shamrocks-n-leaves.gpf.”**
8. Set **“Rows”** to **“1”** or **“2,”** which is still the maximum row number for Beginnings version.
9. Set **“Patterns”** number.
10. Design pattern as desired.
11. For rows that should nest together, touch **“Fit”** (at bottom of screen) until the 3<sup>rd</sup> choice down is selected. This choice will allow you to vertically increase both design rows but keep them within the **“Total Height.”**

The single star underneath the **“Fit”** option should not be selected as this would allow unwanted vertical wrapping.

Next, touch **“Size.”**



Change the **“Step”** size as needed to control how much the icons under **“Max”** will increase/decrease the vertical height of the design.

Note: The icons to increase and decrease the horizontal width are still inactive in Beginnings version.



“Reset” will reset the pattern to default size.

“MAX” will change the pattern size to fit within the row height.

12. Touch the magnifying glass icon along the top of the screen:



Touch the vertical mark down the horizontal line to magnify the design.



This is done to easily determine where the highest stitches of a row will hit in relation to the row above that it nests into. Further design changes (size, nesting, etc.) can still be made while in this screen.

Once you are in the “**Quilting Interface**” screen and have completed quilting the row(s) that can be sewn within the “**Safe Area**” and *before you advance your quilt*, QCT (when Center Zone Placement is selected) will move the needle to the bottom center of last row quilted. You will mark that spot.

→ For **non-nested** designs that will look best with **no distance between each row** (such as “**curl circle.gpf**”), you will only need to mark that bottom center spot to properly place the next zone once you have advanced your quilt.

→ For **non-nested** designs that will look best with **distance between each row** (such as “**aztec.gpf**”), you will need to measure **down** from that bottom center marked spot the desired measurement between rows to properly place the next zone once you have advanced your quilt. Mark that adjusted spot.

→ For **nested** designs, you will need to measure **up** from that bottom center marked spot the measurement a lower row nests into the row above it to properly place the next zone once you have advanced your quilt.

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There are two ways you can measure up from the bottom center spot marked on your quilt top:

**12. a)** Measure up from that mark the amount of overlap (in inches) between where the lowest stitch hits for last row quilted with where the highest stitch in the next row to be quilted should hit. This is best accomplished using the magnifying glass option explained in this step. Mark that adjusted spot directly above the bottom center marked spot.

**OR**

**12. b)** Lay a long ruler on quilt top (after a row has been quilted) even with where the highest

stitches for next row to be quilted should hit. This is done by determining which design elements in last row quilted will align with those highest stitches in next row. This is best accomplished using the magnifying glass option explained in this step.

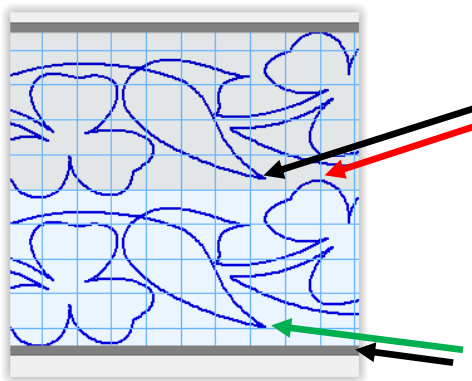
Mark that adjusted spot directly above the bottom center marked spot.

**EXAMPLE FOR THIS TUTORIAL:** Using the nested design “**shamrocks-n-leaves.gpf**”, the highest stitch of the design is the top of the upward pointing shamrock, at the tip of **red** arrow in diagram below. That shamrock is level, i.e. aligned, with the pointed tip of the leaf in the preceding row.

This means the distance from the bottom of row to the pointed tip of the leaf, at the tip of **green** arrow in diagram below, is the amount of overlap that will be used to measure up from the center spot marked on the bottom row for adjusted center mark placement.

Measuring up from the bottom of row to the pointed tip of the leaf is about  $\frac{1}{2}$ ". You will need this amount once you begin quilting, when adjusting center mark placement to allow for nesting.

Note: When the “**Total Height**” is an odd number of inches, a  $\frac{1}{2}$ " row will show at the top of the grid and also at the bottom of the grid.



Tip of pointed leaf is about  $\frac{1}{2}$ " above bottom of row

**Important:** When the first row is moved up to create a partial first row, you **will** need to use a ruler as described in “**12. b)**” above to determine adjusted center mark zone placement.

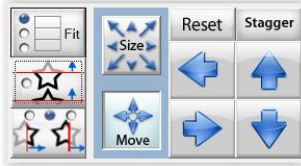
Touch “**Fit**” then the “**X**” in the red box in upper left corner of screen to return to the “**PantoStacker**” screen.



13. When desired panto design has been achieved, save design.
14. To quilt a partial first row to prevent gaps along the top of your quilt, you will need to move the design up. With “**All**” rows selected, touch “**Move**,” then the blue arrow pointed up. You may need to adjust the “**Step**” size to “**tiny**” or “**small**.”

The top selection for **“Fit”** should be selected for the blue up and down blue arrows to be active.

Note: The single star underneath the **“Fit”** option should not be selected as this would allow unwanted vertical wrapping.



Touch the blue arrow pointing up until the design is adjusted as needed, with the first row now being a partial row.

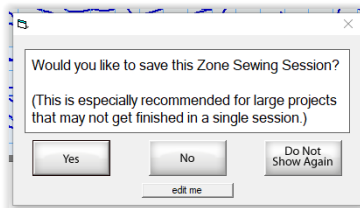
**Example:**



15. Touch **“Sew in Zones”** in bottom right of screen.



You will be prompted to save your design. Since the design has already been saved, touch **“No.”**  
(If you were using a Hoop Frame, you *would* need to save at this point!)



Note: For Placement and Fill Methods like those in QCT4 Beginnings:

- a. Touch **“Options”** and change default selection of **“Power Place”** to **“Select and Sew”**
- b. Touch **“Place as a Single Pattern”**



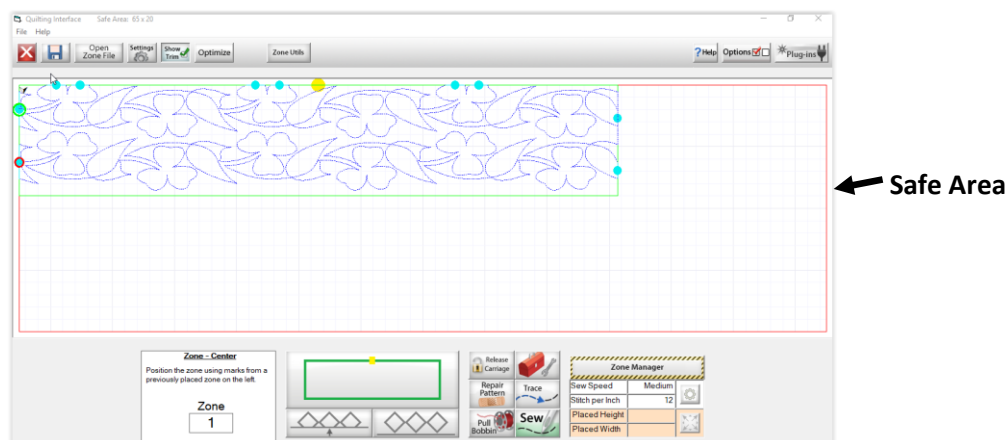
16. The next screen is the **“Quilting Interface”** screen.

To see grid lines in this screen, touch **“Options”** in upper right corner.

Under **“Quilting Interface,”** touch **“Show Grid”** then touch **“OK.”**

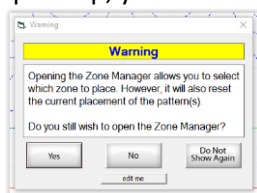
Note: The red line around design represents the **“Safe Area.”**

Example:

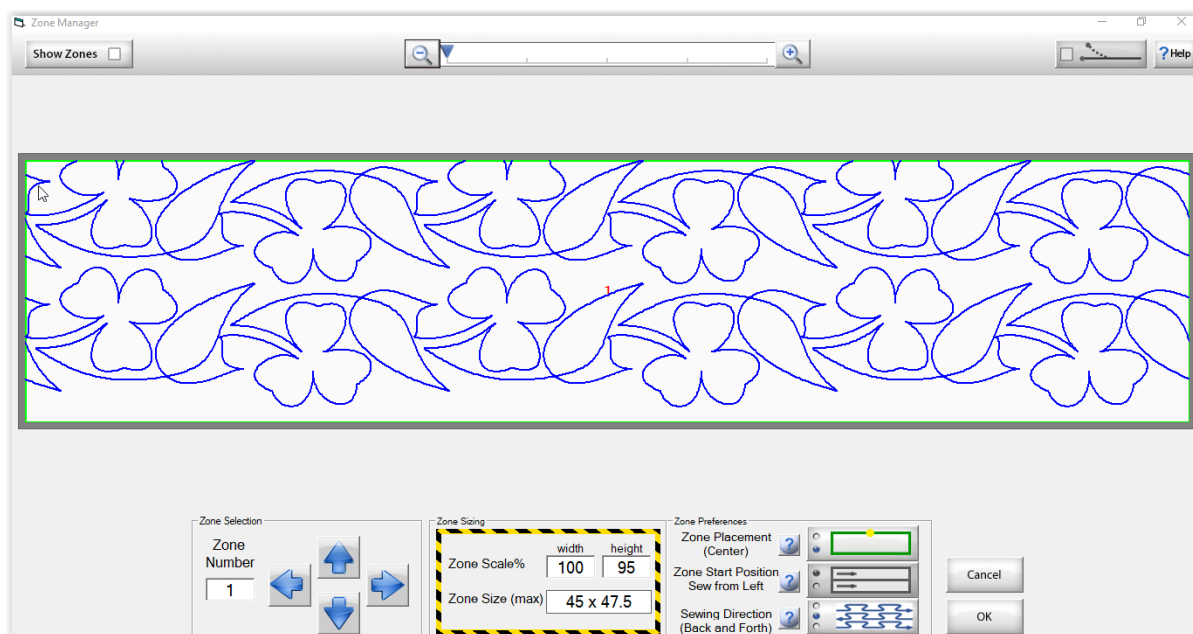


17. Touch **“Zone Manager”** icon in lower right of screen.

The following message will show letting you know that if you have already placed your design on your quilt top, you will need to reset it if you proceed. Touch **“Yes”** to open.



You are now in **“Zone Manager.”**



You will see a red number “1” in the center of your design.

Note: In Beginnings version, Zone 1 is the only zone you will have *if* you are using a Rolling Rail Frame (a Hoop Frame will be different.) With each advance of your quilt, you will repeat stitching Zone 1, which can only have 1 or 2 rows and cannot exceed the dimensions of your Safe Area, shown in small print near the upper left corner of screen.

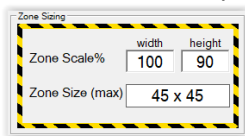
In “**Zone Sizing**”, by default, the “**Zone Scale% width**” is set to 100. This is because the Safe Area is wider than the width of your quilt top.

The “**Zone Scale% height**” should *not* be 100 because that would make it the same height as the Safe Area. It can be changed by touching the number to get a numerical keypad but. Touch “**OK**” on keypad after entering desired number.

For most quilts, it is recommended to be no more than 90 for a Q’nique 15 or 95 for a Q’nique 21. This allows for quilt buildup on take-up rail. With a glide rail, height can be set to 98.

These numbers can be changed as needed. For example, if you get to the last row of your quilt and QCT shows out of Safe Area but your machine *does* have the space to finish sewing the row, the number can be increased to allow stitching to complete. For shorter projects such as a table runner loaded horizontally, in order to take full advantage of the quilting space, you might want to increase the number.

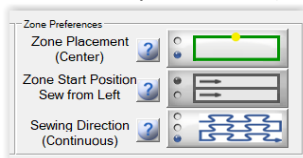
Note: The amount you set will stay until you change it.



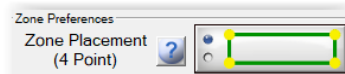
Important: Changing the Zone Scale% has ***no effect*** on panto size or anything about its design.

## 18. Set your “**Zone Preferences.**”

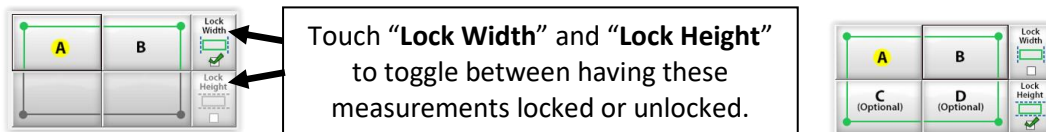
By default, “**Zone Placement (Center)**” is selected and is the placement to be used for this tutorial. The initial zone placement (whether first row is partial or full) will use the center mark made in Step 4.



If you touch the green rectangle, the choice will toggle to “**Zone Placement (4-Point).**”



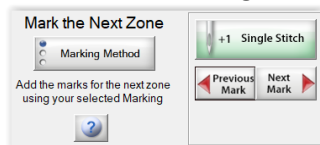
In the “**Quilting Interface**” screen, with “**Zone Placement (4-Point)**” selected, only the top left corner “**A**” has to be placed and “**Lock Width**” can be selected as shown by green check mark, but all corners can be placed. Once “**B**” is placed, “**C**” and “**D**” are optional for placement.



Move your needle above the position on your quilt that corresponds to the green dot for that lettered quadrant, then touch that letter.

When a zone has completed stitching, “**Previous Mark**” and “**Next Mark**” can be used to mark one or both lower corners for subsequent zone placement, noting that depending on design, this mark may need to be adjusted up or down, as discussed in Step 12.

Note: The measuring discussed in Step 12 will also apply with this zone placement.



The design created along with the “squareness” of the quilt will be determining factors in which Zone Placement option is best.

➡ **Note:** Touch the “?” in blue for the following explanation of the Zone Placement choices:

*There are 2 ways to place zones: 4-Point and Center.*

- **4-Point Placement**

*This method allows the greatest precision in placing zones. Zones can be stretched, skewed, and tilted, using 4-Point Placement.*

- **Center Placement**

*If your goal is to quickly place pantos down the entire quilt, center placement is ideal for this. A single point is all that is needed to place the entire zone.*

*In either case, the software will guide you in placing zones to ensure the patterns align properly, from zone to zone.*

The “**Zone Start Position**” is grayed out and is not an option to select in Beginnings version.

Note: By default, zone stitching will start from the left.

Toggle to the “**Sewing Direction**” of your choice by touching the grid to the right, which shows a visual explanation.

By default, the 3<sup>rd</sup> choice, “**Continuous**,” is selected. This means if you have created 2 rows, after the first row stitches from left to right, a straight line will be stitched down the far right to begin stitching the second row from right to left. This is the placement to be used for this tutorial.

If you have 2 rows and do not want a connecting stitch between them, select “**Back and Forth**” and there will be a jump stitch from the end of the first row down to the second row, stitching from right to

left. (Note: If you select **Remove All** in **Optimize**, this jump stitch will be removed.)

➡ **Note** Touch the “?” in blue for the following explanation of **“Sewing Direction”** choices:  
*Each zone may contain many rows of patterns. This button sets the direction of sewing for each of the rows.*

- **Uniform**

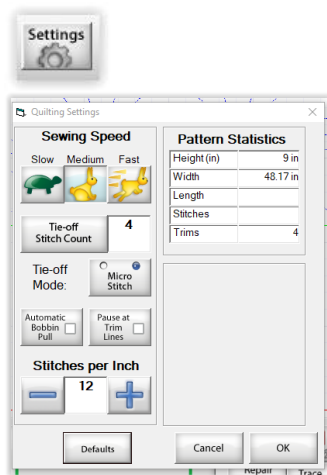
*All the rows within a zone will be sewn in the same direction, either all from left to right, or all from right to left. The direction is automatically determined by the software, depending on which zone is being sewn.*

- **Back and Forth**

*The pattern rows will be sewn left to right, then right to left, etc, within the zone. The software automatically determines whether the sewing begins at the right or left edge of the zone, depending on which zone is being sewn.*

Once you have made your selections, touch **“OK”** in bottom right of screen. You will return to the **“Quilting Interface”** screen.

19. Touch **“Settings”** at top left of screen.



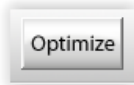
Change settings as desired for **“Sewing Speed,” “Tie-off Stitch Count,” “Tie-off Mode”** (**“Back and Forth”** or **“Micro Stitch”**) and **“Stitches per Inch.”**

Touch **“Automatic Bobbin Pull”** (selected by default) to remove the check if you do not want the machine to do this automatically. **For this tutorial, uncheck this option.**

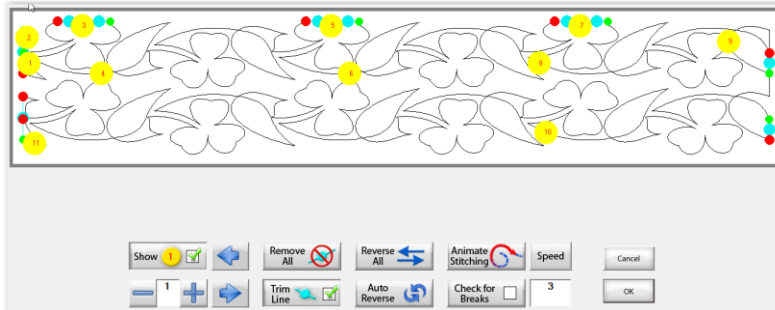
Touch **“Pause at Trim Lines”** (which is selected by default) to remove the check.

Touch **“OK”** to return to **“Quilting Interface”** screen.

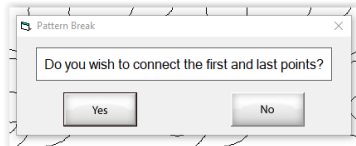
20. Touch **"Optimize"** at top of screen.



Touch **"Remove All"** to remove all breaks (blue dots) in stitching the design, so that your design will stitch out in one continuous line and not have "jump stitches."



Touch **"No"** to question, **"Do you want to connect the first and last points?"**.

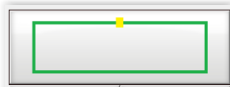


Note: To remove only SOME of the jump stitches, touch **"Check for Breaks"** to select and then **"Animate Stitching."** You will be prompted with the question, **"Do you wish to remove this break?"** for each break in the design. Touch your answer.

Touch **"OK"** at bottom right of screen.

If you return to the PantoStacker screen, by touching the **"X"** in the top left corner, you will need to repeat optimizing your design when returning to the **"Quilting Interface"** screen.

21. Move your needle to where you marked the top center in Step 4.  
Touch inside the green rectangle near center bottom of screen:

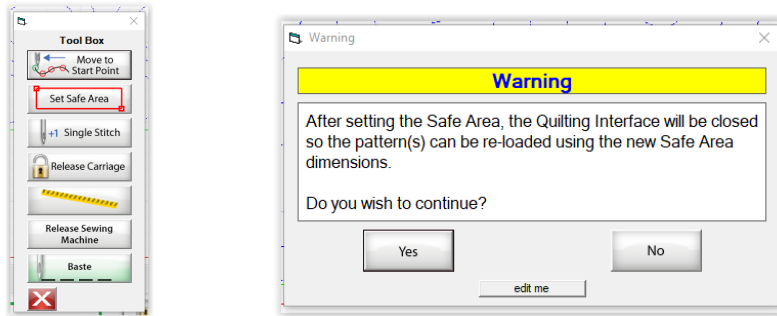


This places your design, Zone 1, so that it can now be quilted.

Note: If you get the message **"Out of Safe Area,"** which causes the screen to turn pink, you may need to:

- 1) Adjust the quilt on your frame by unrolling some quilt from take-up rail or advancing quilt further
- 2) Adjust pattern width or height in **"PantoStacker"** (amounts cannot exceed Safe Area measurements)
- 3) Reset Safe Area by touching red tool box, then touching **"Set Safe Area"** from options. You will get a

**“Warning”** message letting you know that after resetting Safe Area, you will be returned to the PantoStacker screen.



After touching **“Yes”** to continue, touch inside **“Top Left”** rectangle at bottom of screen.



Touch the numbers to set the width your machine can safely sew within, measuring from left to right edges of backing. This amount *must* be greater than the total width set for your panto design  
Touch **“OK.”**



← Note the instruction to **“Set the Quilt WIDTH”**

Touch inside **“Bottom Right”** rectangle at bottom of screen.



Touch the numbers to set the height your machine can safely sew within, measuring from top to bottom of quilting space allowed by machine throat. This amount *must* be greater than the total height set for your panto design.  
Touch **“OK.”**



← Note the instruction to **“Set the Quilt HEIGHT”**

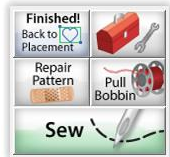
Your Safe Area has now been reset.

22. [Optional] Touch **“Trace”** along bottom of screen if you want to see where the design will stitch before it actually stitches. (Needle should be up.)

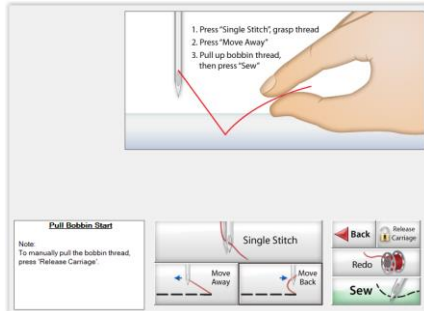


Note: To return needle to exact starting point, touch red tool box and touch **“Move to Start Point.”**

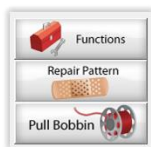
23. When you are satisfied the design will stitch where you want, touch **“Pull Bobbin”** and machine will move to where stitching will begin.



Touch **“Single Stitch”** and follow directions on screen.  
Once bobbin thread has been pulled to top, touch **“Sew.”**



24. When stitching has finished, **SELECT “PULL BOBBIN” TO PULL UP YOUR BOBBIN THREAD BEFORE PROCEEDING TO NEXT STEP!!!**

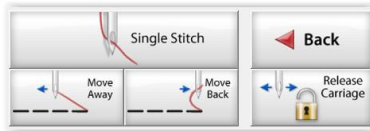


If **“Automatic Bobbin Pull”** has been selected in **“Settings,”** follow instructions on screen.

If **“Automatic Bobbin Pull”** has **NOT** been selected,

- Touch **“Release Carriage”**
- Physically move machine away a couple inches then back while holding upper thread
- Touch **“Single Stitch,”** which pulls the bobbin loop to the surface
- Physically move machine away a couple inches and cut threads (allowing for thread length needed if threads are to be buried in the quilt layers)

- Touch **“Back”**



25. Touch **“Finished Zone! Proceed To Next Zone”** at bottom of screen:



You will be prompted to **“Mark the Next Zone”**:



There are 3 choices to toggle between by touching **“Marking Method,”** but you can use whatever marking method you would like (i.e. painters tape method, disappearing marking pen, etc.)

The center of the **“1 inch”** mark represents where the single stitch mark is.

A blue line represents where the design will stitch, relative to that center mark.

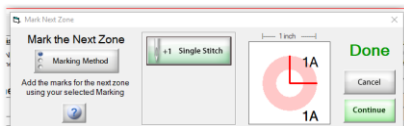
If tape has been used as a marker, this lets you know if stitching will go across tape.

In this tutorial, because the first two rows were shifted up, no blue line stitch mark is showing.

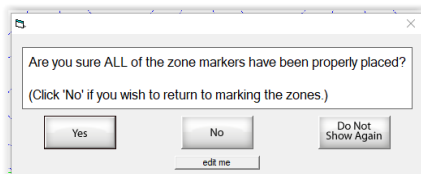
Example showing **“1 inch”** mark with blue stitch line:



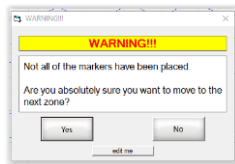
If you have correctly followed one of the three zone Marking Methods, **“Done”** will flash letting you know it is safe to touch **“Continue.”**



Touch **“Yes”** when all markers have been properly placed.



Note: If you did *not* use one of the marking methods given on screen, you will get a warning message. When you are confident you have adequately marked the needle position on your quilt top, touch “Yes”.



Because this is a nested design, you will now need to adjust the center mark up, level with where the top stitches of the upward pointing shamrocks will hit for the next row to be quilted.

→ Since the first adjusted center mark is based on placement of the first rows stitched that included a partial top row, you **will** need to use the ruler method explained in Step 12 b).

→ For the following adjusted center marks, measure up ½” from the bottom center mark of last row quilted to mark adjusted zone placement, explained in Step 12 Example.

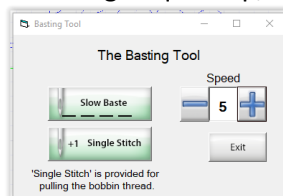
26. Advance your quilt.

27. [Optional] Each time the quilt is advanced, before resuming quilting, make a basting stitch 1/8” from left and right edges of quilt top by touching red tool box and then “**Baste.**”



The “**Baste**” option is only available with Q’nique machines!! To baste with other brand machines, choose “**Release Sewing Machine**” to have manual control of the machine.

Touch “**Single Stitch**” to pull bobbin, then touch “**Slow Baste**” to begin basting. (To help prevent side stretching of quilt top, baste up, i.e. away from you.)



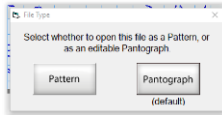
The size of basting stitches will be determined by how far you move the machine between each stitch. Touch “**Speed**” number (for a keypad) or the “-” or “+” to change the time between each stitch. The range is 1 to 5, with 5 being the fastest, although still quite slow. If quilt top border has fullness that needs to be worked in, choose a slower speed for the basting to have time to work in the fullness with your fingers.

Touch **“Exit”** when through basting.

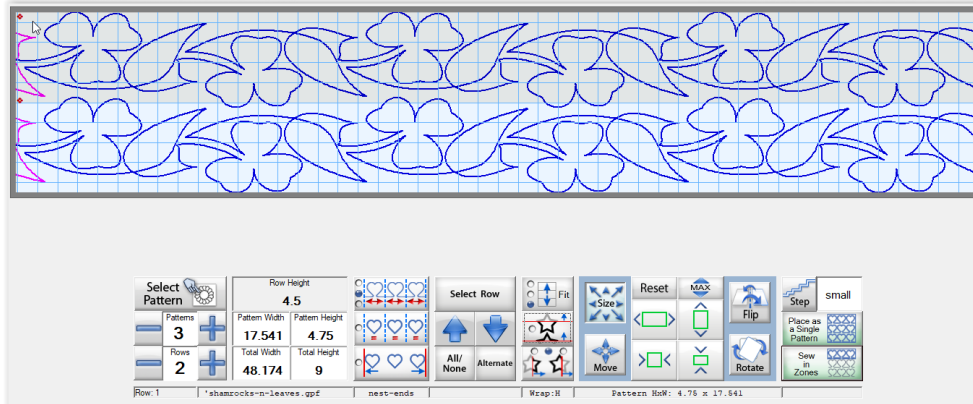
28. Touch the **“X”** in the red box in upper left corner to return to the **“PantoStacker”** screen.

Touch **“Select Pattern”** to open the file saved in Step 13.

Touch **“Pantograph”** when prompted on screen:

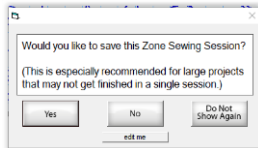


This returns your design to having two full rows.



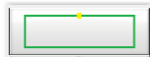
Touch **“Sew in Zones”** to return to the **“Quilting Interface”** screen.

Touch **“No”** to the on screen question:



29. Repeat Step 20 to **“Optimize”** and each time quilt is advanced.

30. Move needle over the adjusted mark made on quilt top at the end of Step 25. Touch the green rectangle at the bottom of the screen to make zone placement.



Touch **“Pull Bobbin”** and continue quilting as instructed in Steps 23-27 until you reach the end of your quilt.

As you complete each zone, per Step 25 instructions, measure up ½” from the bottom center mark (as explained in Step 12) and make an adjusted mark on your quilt top to use for next **“Zone Placement.”**

31. [Optional] When floating a quilt and quilt has been advanced within a couple of rows from bottom, advance all the way to bottom of quilt top and baste along bottom edge, keeping lower edge straight

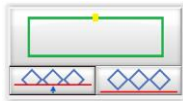
and corners square. You may want to use straight pins to hold quilt top square and bottom edge in place while you baste. Remove pins once basting is completed. (See Step 27 for basting instructions.)

32. Unroll quilt from take-up rail and re-set to resume quilting to bottom.

33. To stitch a partial last row at the bottom of quilt, move needle to where you want the lowest stitch to hit.

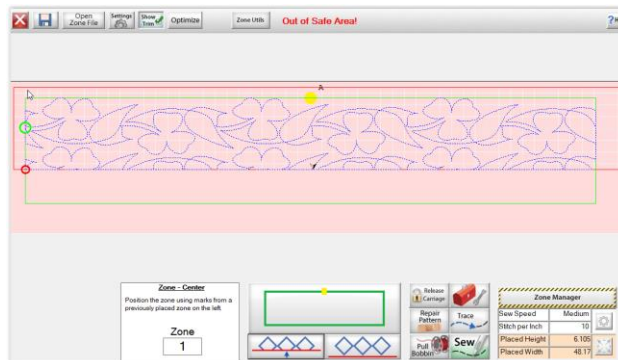
**Important:** Zone placement should have been made at this point – if not, the diamonds below green rectangle at center bottom will be grayed out and you will not be able to proceed until zone placement has been made.

Touch the icon with the partial blue diamonds at bottom of screen.



**DO NOT PANIC WHEN YOUR SCREEN TURNS PINK!!!!**

This is how this feature works!



Note: To toggle the partial selection off, touch the icon with the full size blue diamonds.

Touch **“Pull Bobbin”** then **“Sew.”**

Straight line stitches will stitch across the bottom, with no jump stitches.

34. Once you have pulled your bobbin at the end, there is no need to **“Proceed to Next Zone.”**

Now is the time, before removing the quilt from rails, to check for any areas on the backing that may need to be re-stitched. Unroll quilt from take up rail while checking for any poor quality bobbin stitches. Use **“Repair Pattern”** to make any needed corrections.

35. Touch the **“X”** in red square in upper left corner to return to the **“PantoStacker”** screen.

36. Remove quilt from rails!!! Congratulations!!!

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<https://www.facebook.com/groups/QuiltersCreativeTouch/>