



# LEARN & CREATE

with Baby Lock



## Kiss Your Stash Goodbye Free Motion Quilting with Pantographs

Ever wondered how to get started with using a Pantograph? Denise has you covered in this edition of “Kiss Your Stash Goodbye!”. Learn how to plan out your design, line up stitching and stitch from either the front or back of your machine. Denise makes it look easy and soon you will be an expert too!



### Supplies:

- Painter's tape
- Laser light
- Frixion Marking Pen
- Pantograph-Paper Pattern
- Golden Threads Tracing Paper
- Weights to hold pantograph in place
- Horizontal Spool Pin Holder
- Seam Fix Seam Ripper with Eraser

What is a pantograph?

1. A pantograph is any paper pattern
  - It could be a pattern from a magazine
  - It could be a purchased pattern on a roll
  - Or it could be a pattern you drew for yourself on Golden Threads Paper



A laser light can be used to transfer the pattern from the paper to the quilt.

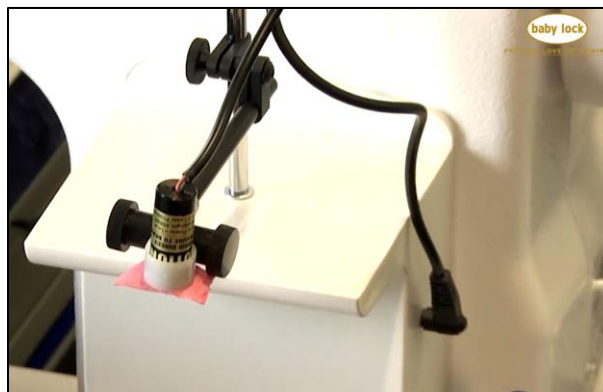
1. Attaching the laser light to the frame or machine

- Base of machine has a threaded hole that can be used to attach the light
- There is also a threaded hole on top of the machine that can be used
- Denise attached the laser to the spool pin



2. If you want the light a little farther out to the side of the machine, you can use the Optional Horizontal Spool Pin

- The Horizontal Spool Pin is designed for threads on traditional spools that need to turn for the thread to feed properly
- Denise installed it on the spool pin of the machine to provide a place to attach the laser so the light extended farther out from the machine



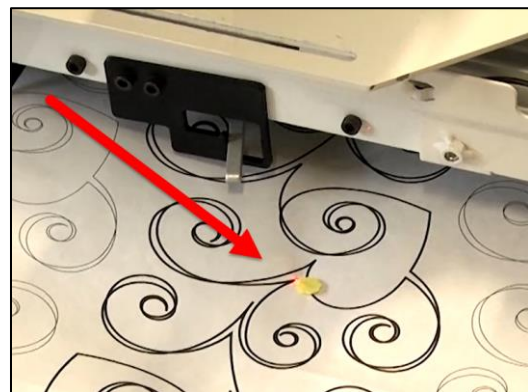
- This allows the laser to be positioned straight up and down for greater accuracy

3. Place a piece of tape over the laser light and put a hole in it with a straight pin. to make the point of the light smaller for greater accuracy

To sew a pantograph from the back of the frame:



1. Stitch from the back of the machine
  - a. Denise does not like stitching from back of machine
    - i. You are stitching removed from your quilt
    - ii. Like driving in the fog looking at the yellow line with your head out the window
2. Denise will show you both sewing a pantograph from the back of the machine and how to sew it from the front in this video
3. Denise suggests that for your first pantograph quilt, use the wildest fabric you can find in your stash and a neutral color thread.
  - a. If your stitching is not perfect on that wild fabric, it will not be as obvious
4. Place pantograph on the bed of the machine and anchor it in place with weights
  - a. Anchor it in place with weights or tape
  - b. Make sure the pantograph is straight on pantograph shelf
5. Line up the pantograph with the fabric
  - a. Position the machine where you want to start sewing
  - b. Start at edge of fabric
  - c. Place the needle down in the fabric
  - d. Move around to the front of the frame and pull the bobbin thread up
  - e. Put the needle back down in the fabric in the same spot where the bobbin thread was pulled up
6. At the back of the frame, adjust the position of the laser and if needed the position of the paper pattern so the light is at the starting point of your pattern.
  - a. The needle is in the spot where you want to start sewing
  - b. Now you are positioning the pattern to match
7. Mark the starting point on the paper pattern
  - a. You could use a Post-It note dot or a highlighter
  - b. Denise used a pin to mark the start point
    - i. You can see the yellow head of the pin in the picture



8. Marking the starting point allows you to remember where you started when you sew the next row and might also be helpful in determining your stopping point at the other end of the row.
9. Before you begin to sew:
  - a. Verify that you are set at the correct stitch length
  - b. Verify that you are in Precision regulated mode
10. Precision regulated mode means that if you stop moving the machine, the needle will stop sewing
  - a. Gives you the opportunity to pause without creating a knot



11. Note where the points are on your design
  - a. Points are places where you can pause sewing
  - b. You may need a pause to breathe just like a singer
  - c. You may also need to reposition yourself
  - d. Don't forget to move your feet with your hands
12. It is also important that the cords attached to your machine allow you to move freely
13. If you do not keep the light exactly on the line, it is ok
  - a. No one but you will ever see that paper pattern!

You can do this in record mode to save for future use

1. If you are recording, remember to engage the Pro-Stitcher
  - You only need to record one repeat



- Pro-Stitcher will repeat across the fabric/quilt
2. If you are not recording, disengage the gears so it is easier to move the machine

Pause occasionally and check your work

1. Denise ran out of bobbin thread
  - Starting with a full bobbin helps!
2. If you run out of bobbin thread move around to the front of the frame
  - Replace the bobbin
  - You will probably also need to rethread the needle thread because it is likely to break when there is no bobbin thread to hook onto.
3. Find the spot on the quilt top where the stitching line ends
4. Place the needle down in the fabric exactly where the stitching ends
  - Pull up the bobbin thread
5. Lock threads in place by stitching several stitches in place
  - Clip or bury the thread tails
6. Set the machine in place with the needle down and you can return to the back of the machine
  - The laser light will be lined up with the position where the needle is in the design
7. If you watch out of the corner of your eye, you will be able to see the top thread moving and it unwinds from the cone
  - If the thread is moving, you still have bobbin thread and stitches are still being formed



You will get the best results if you look ahead

1. Instead of looking at the light on the pattern, look at the line about 3 or 4 inches ahead of the light
2. Think about when you drive a car; you look ahead
  - b. Don't look directly at laser
  - c. The farther ahead you look the smoother your curves will be
  - d. It's hard at first but trust yourself
3. Remember you are the only one who knows where the original line was
  - a. Following the line is easier the more you practice



To sew a pantograph from the back of the frame:

1. You will need your pantograph pattern and some Golden Threads Paper
2. If you have the Pro-Stitcher with its record feature, that is even better
3. Denise used a Sharpie marker on the video so you would be able to clearly see what she was doing
  - A Frixion Marking Pen is a much better choice when you do this because you can iron it away when you are not happy with what you have drawn
4. Use a marking pen to trace the pantograph on the Golden Threads tracing paper
5. Draw the pattern following the same sequence you will use when you sew
  - b. Drawing the pattern will help you begin to develop muscle memory and train your brain to sew the pattern
6. Draw just one repeat of the pattern
7. Trace a little bit of the pattern in the row below your pattern
  - c. Those bits of the next row will show you where to line up with the previous design
8. Compare your tracing with the patterns already stitched and check to see the design is positioned the same direction
  - d. You may need to draw the top of the second row
  - e. Positioning may be nested
  - f. Second row is a placement row
9. Baste the Golden Threads Paper in place so the paper does not move
  - g. A 1/2" basting stitch works well
  - h. Remember to change length back to what you were using before you went to basting
10. Stitch through the paper and onto the fabric to continue the design
  - i. Turn on record mode on Pro-Stitcher
11. Pull Golden Threads Paper away



4. Seam Fix eraser will remove the extra paper that may still be in your stitching



Happy Quilting,  
Denise Applegate-Schober

