

HOW TO QUILT A

Random Crosshatch



It's much easier to quilt an uneven grid without marking than it is to quilt a perfectly straight grid. Use the edge of your presser foot as a guide for line spacing and never mark a single line again! If you have the option to attach a guide bar to your foot, this will give you more spacing width options. Or play around with your needle position to achieve a similar result.

Designer: *Christa Watson*

Skill Level: Confident Beginner



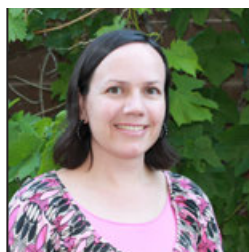
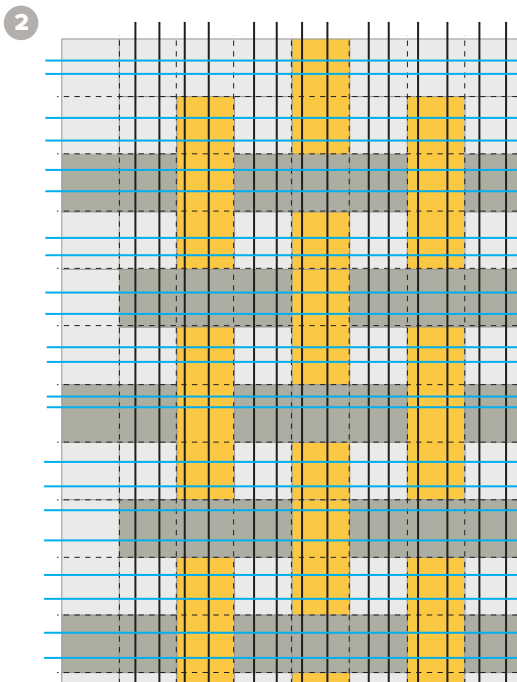
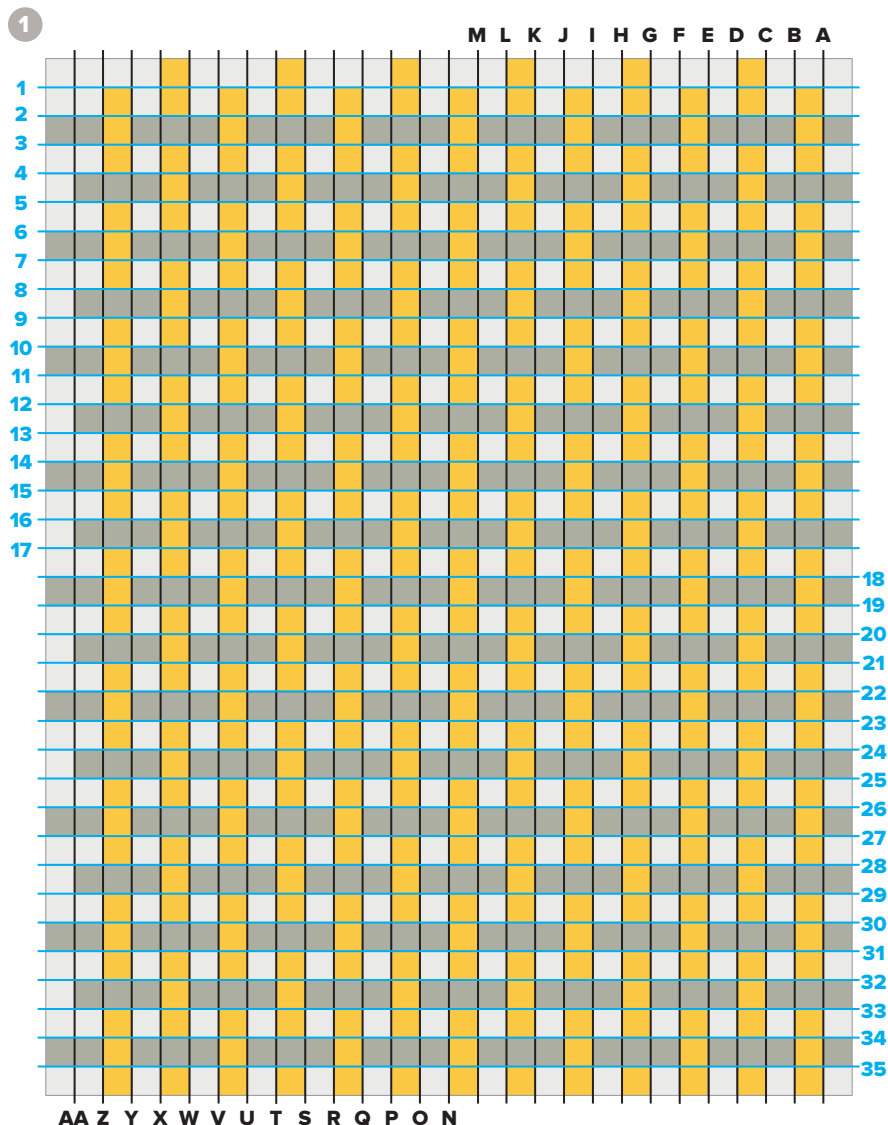
The complete pattern for Christa's Color Weave quilt can be found in issue #21 of Modern Quilts Unlimited.

Instructions

1. Anchor quilt all the vertical seam lines in the ditch, spacing the lines about 2" apart. Begin by working your way across the quilting, following lines A–M. Where there isn't a seam line, quilt as if there were one, eyeballing where the seam would be. Or create a crease with a hera marker if needed to temporarily mark the line. When you've completed line M, rotate the quilt 180°. Working from line N at the center to line AA at the outer edge, quilt the lines.

Rotate the quilt 90° and anchor quilt all of the horizontal lines in the same manner, stitching in the ditch or "virtual" ditch to quilt anchor lines 1–17. When you've completed line 17, rotate the quilt 180°. Working from the center to the outer edge, quilt anchor lines 18–35. (*Figure 1*)

2. At random intervals, quilt additional straight lines, varying the space between each line for variety. I quilted lines anywhere from ¼" to 1" apart. To avoid burnout, quilt a round of lines all the way across the quilt in both directions, working your way through rows A–N and 1–18 as you did before, rather than focusing in on one small area at a time. You may decide after a few rounds of quilting, you are ready to move on! (*Figure 2*)



Christa Watson

Christa is an award-winning quilter, author, teacher, and designer who lives in Las Vegas, Nev., with her husband and three children, who all think it's normal to have a house full of fabric. She's written three books on machine quilting, and her passion is helping others learn how fun it can be to make a complete quilt from start to finish.

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