quilting — stippling

A meandering machine-quilting stitch often used to fill in background areas.

1. Select the area to be quilted. Baste or pin baste the top, the batting and the backing together. Place the open toe foot at one edge and begin stitching. Watch the movement of the needle as it travels back and forth in the open area of the presser foot. (#1)

2. When you have reached an ending point, stop with the needle down at the farthest point on either the right or left side. Using your presser foot lifter, raise the foot and pivot 180°. Position the foot so the previous row of stitching is along the edge of the toe. (#2)

**TIP**
By pivoting and stitching in the opposite direction when stippling with a machine stippling stitch, you avoid the stitch looking like an even pattern across the quilt top. The stitching will look more meandering than a patterned stitch.

**Fabric, needles, notions required:**
Cotton solids and prints; batting; quilting needle, size 90/14; machine quilting or all-purpose sewing thread for the needle and bobbin.

**Open Toe Foot**

**Stitch:** Stippling Stitch

**Width:** Pre-set

**Length:** Pre-set

**Tension:** Pre-set