

October 2020

Hello!

We hope you are doing well. We certainly missed seeing all of you this fall!

We recently heard from White Birch Lodge about a change they are making next year. Because of the change in revenue in 2020, they are increasing the rent for the lodge. We will need to pass along some of this increase to you. We are sorry this happened but they are being generous to let us continue to hold our retreats. If we weren't there, they would book weddings and would make more income.

The increase will be \$75.00 per person. The original cost of the retreat was \$575.00 and you have already paid \$150.00 deposit. This means the balance due is \$425.00 plus \$75.00, for a total of \$500.00. Usually we request the balance to be paid by July 4 of next year (2021). We are willing to spread out the payment if that works better for you. Let us know.

We realize this is a bit of a surprise. We understand if you want to change your mind about attending. We love having the retreats at White Birch Lodge and want to continue doing them. We do have quite a wait list. We are considering opening up a fifth week in October. We will make that decision in the next few months.

And now for something fun!

Sue has been working hard on a great project and wanted to share it with you. After misplacing our phones at the retreats and needing somewhere to put our tissues, we were inspired by a design from the past. In the olden days (18<sup>th</sup> century!), women's clothing did not have pockets. Instead, they had a separate "pocket" that was worn under their skirts. We thought it was a great idea. We have attached a pattern for you to make your very own "Pocket"! When printing the pattern, the box on the upper right should measure one inch by one inch.

We will be in touch next spring with Sampler project ideas. We are working closely with White Birch Lodge and following Michigan Department of Health requirements for holding events. We are confident the retreats can be safely held in the fall of 2021.

## Holly Girls Quilt Retreat with Pat Holly and Sue Nickels

Here is a little project that you can make to use at next year's retreat. We were misplacing our phones at the retreat and we wanted something to keep our phones with us. The neck purse for a phone is awkward. Wearing it around your waist seemed much more comfortable and we thought of the 18<sup>th</sup> century "pocket" used when women's clothing did not have actual pockets.

Pockets were made to be tied inside skirts. These pockets were roomy and actually functional! Instead of being attached to the garment they were instead attached to their own waistband/ties. This allows changing gowns without having to transfer your pocket contents and also keeps the pocket from weighing down the skirt. Pockets were accessed through slits in the sides of the petticoats. They could either be a single pocket, a matching pair each on each side. These pockets were often embroidered with beautiful designs, pieced patterns, or simple plain fabric was used. We have designed a few small pockets using applique, piecing and quilting. It will fit an average size phone. If you have a larger phone add a little more length to bottom of pattern and make the opening a little longer. Look online for other ideas for your pocket. Search "18<sup>th</sup> Century Pocket" images. We hope you enjoy making your own "Pocket". We might even have a contest- Best "Pocket" wins a prize!

### Supplies:

Fabric:

- ½ yard for background, backing and piecing. ½ yard for back, binding and ties
- miscellaneous pieces for applique and piecing.

Batting (cotton or cotton blend): 2 pieces 9" x 12"

Thread: Cotton to coordinate for piecing, applique and quilting.

### Applique version:

Cut background for applique (front of pocket) 9" x 12" Starch this fabric.

Mark outline of pocket on front- use cutting line not stitching line. Also, mark slit for opening. Use light box or make a cut out pattern and trace around. Applique pieces on background using your favorite applique technique.

Continue with "Pocket construction for all versions".

### Honey Bee Version:

Cutting instructions:

Cut 5 blue squares 1 3/8" by 1 3/8"

Cut 8 white squares 1 3/8" x 1 3/8"

Cut 4 white rectangles 1 3/8" by 3 1/8"

Following **Diagram 1**, piece 9 patch- add white rectangle top and bottom and add square/rectangle units to sides. Applique leaves and teardrops using your favorite applique technique.

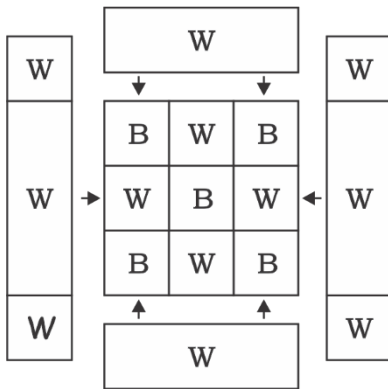
Cut 2 rectangles white fabric  $4\frac{7}{8}" \times 2\frac{3}{4}"$  - Add to sides. Cut white fabric for bottom  $9" \times 2\frac{3}{4}"$ . Add to bottom of piece. Cut white fabric  $9" \times 5\frac{1}{4}"$ . Add to top of piece. The block should measure approximately  $9" \times 12"$ . Mark outline of pocket on front- use cutting line not stitching line. Also, mark slit for opening. Use light box or make a cut out pattern and trace around. Continue with "Pocket construction for all versions".

Diagram 1

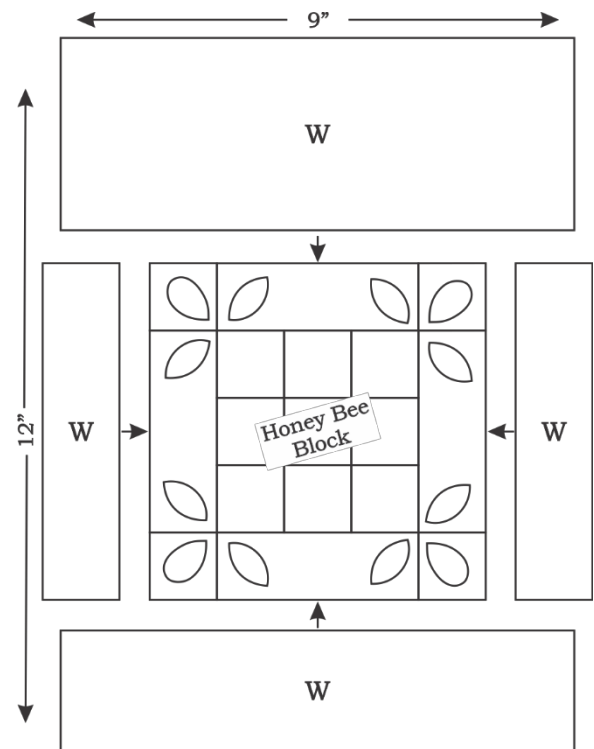
Piecing Honey Bee Block

B - Blue squares

W - White squares & rectangles



Use light box or make a cut out pattern and trace around. Continue with "Pocket construction for all versions".



### Pieced version:

Use 9" or 10" pieced block. I used a 9" block called "Corn and Beans" from our sampler quilt. Mark outline of pocket on this block- use cutting line not stitching line. Also, mark slit for opening. Use light box or make a cut out pattern and trace around. Continue with "Pocket construction for all versions".

### Quilted version:

Cut fabric for front of pocket  $9" \times 12"$ . Mark outline of pocket- use cutting line not stitching line. Also, mark slit for opening. Mark for quilting using feather design provided or your own design. Use light box, if needed. Continue with "Pocket construction for all versions".

### Design your own

Use your own idea for the front of your pocket. Use the outline from pattern and follow instructions from other options.

### Pocket construction for all versions

Complete the front of pocket:

- Cut backing  $9" \times 12"$
- Cut batting  $9" \times 12"$

Mark top for quilting, if needed. Layer and baste (I safety pinned basted). Hand baste with thread along marked outline of pocket. Quilt as desired. The front of your "Pocket" is complete.

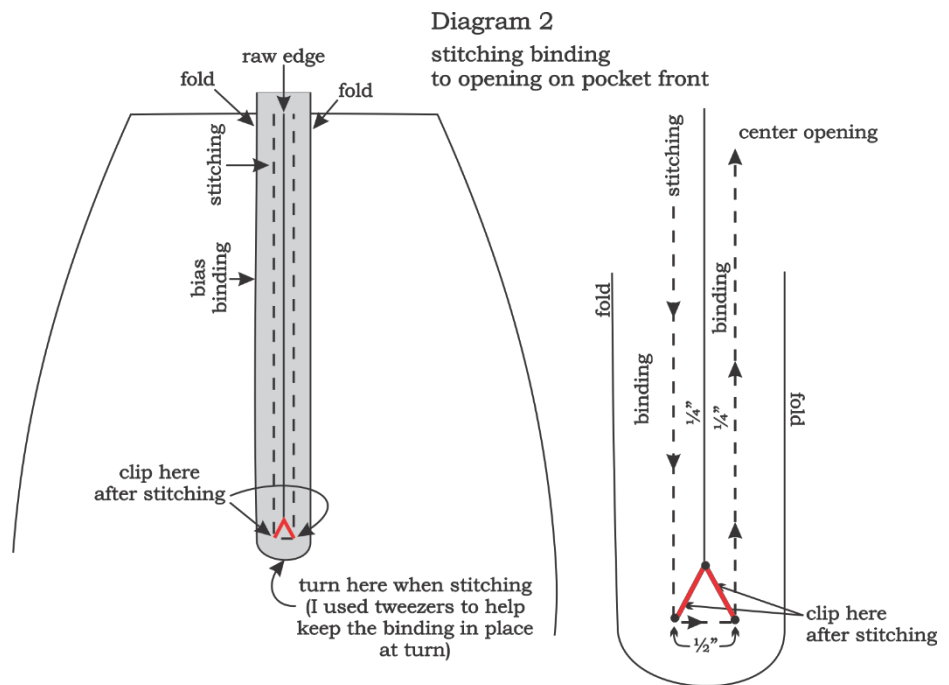
Back of Pocket: Cut fabric for back 9" x 12" Mark outline of pocket on this fabric use cutting line not stitching line. Mark for quilting, if needed.

Cut backing and batting for the back 9" x 12" layer and baste- including hand baste with thread along marked outline of pocket. Quilt as desired- I quilted easy curvy lines or free motion meander for the back. The back of your "Pocket" is complete.

Carefully cut the front and back quilted pocket pieces along marked cutting line. Cut opening (slit) on **front** pocket.

Cut **2 ¼"** bias strip 18" long for finishing opening on front of pocket. Press in half lengthwise. Attach to opening using ¼" seam allowance- straight stitch along left side- carefully turn at bottom of opening. This is tricky (**see Diagram 2**). Stitch bottom across ½" and turn to finish stitching right side. Use tweezers to keep binding in place at turn. Carefully clip at bottom area, as shown. Turn binding to inside and hand stitch. The bottom area will look full- but can be worked to lay fairly flat.

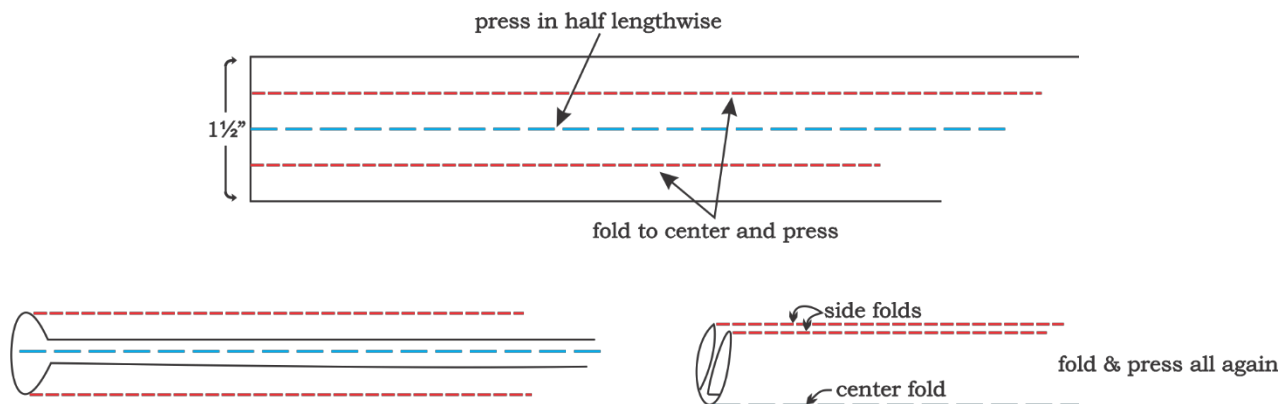
Pin front and back quilted pieces with right sides out. Thread baste all sides.



Cut **2 ½"** bias strip 28" long (this may be pieced, if needed). Press in half lengthwise. Pin binding to edge of pocket (stitching is done from front side) along sides and bottom leaving top open-no binding. Stitch using ¼" seam allowance. Turn binding to back of pocket and hand stitch (clip binding in seam allowance area at curves to help lay flat when turning).

Cut two 1 ½” strips from width of fabric (this will give you 2 strips that are approximately 40-42” long). This will be generous for the ties. These can be trimmed after the pocket is done and you decide how you will tie around your waist. Stitch the 2 strips together along a 45 degree angle. Press lengthwise in half and then each edge to the middle (**see Diagram 3**).

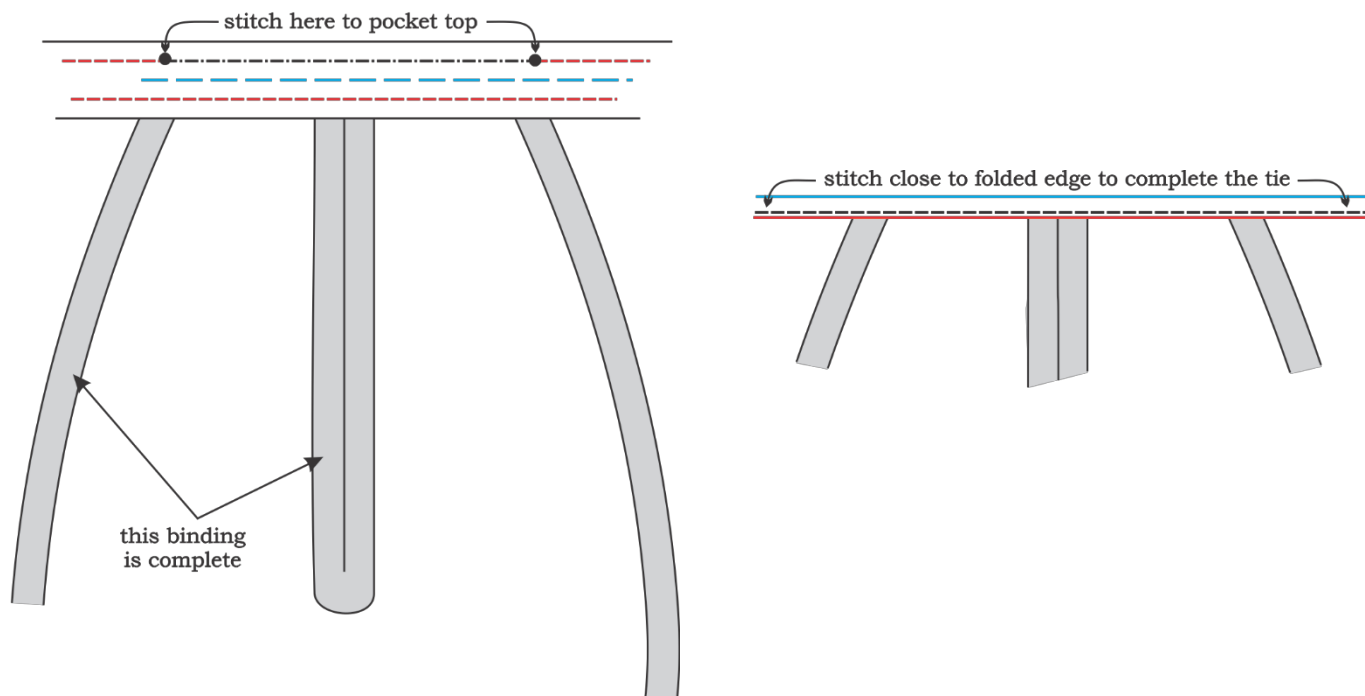
Diagram 3 - Ties



Open and center tie, place along top edge of pocket and using ¼” seam allowance stitch tie to pocket (**see Diagram 4**). Fold tie at top of pocket and on either side of pocket as pressed and folded. Stitch along edge to complete pocket.

Diagram 4

open tie and stitch to top of pocket



Enjoy your “Pocket”.

Sue and Pat

# Applique Pocket Pattern

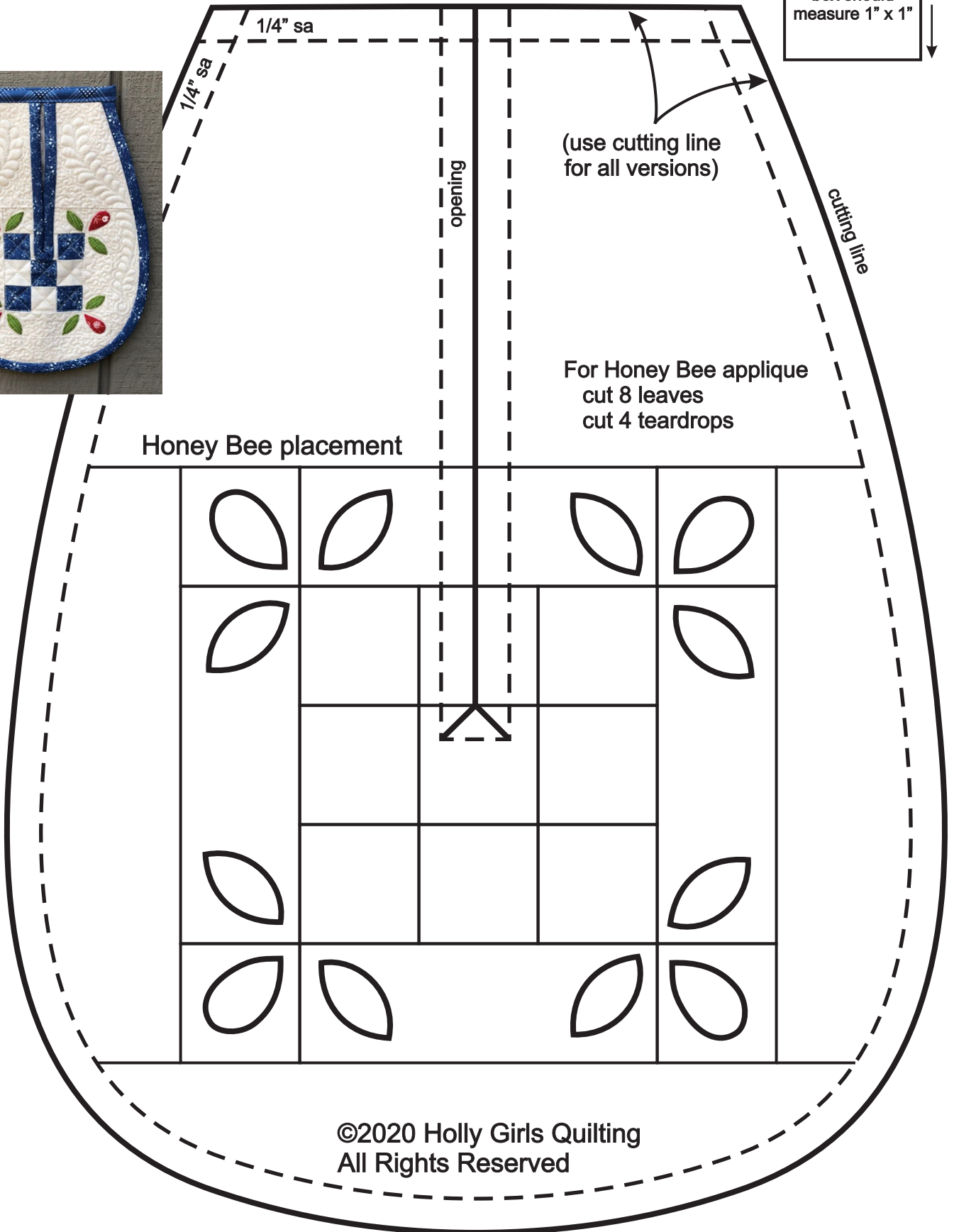
1"  
1"  
when printing  
pattern this  
box should  
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# Pocket Pattern

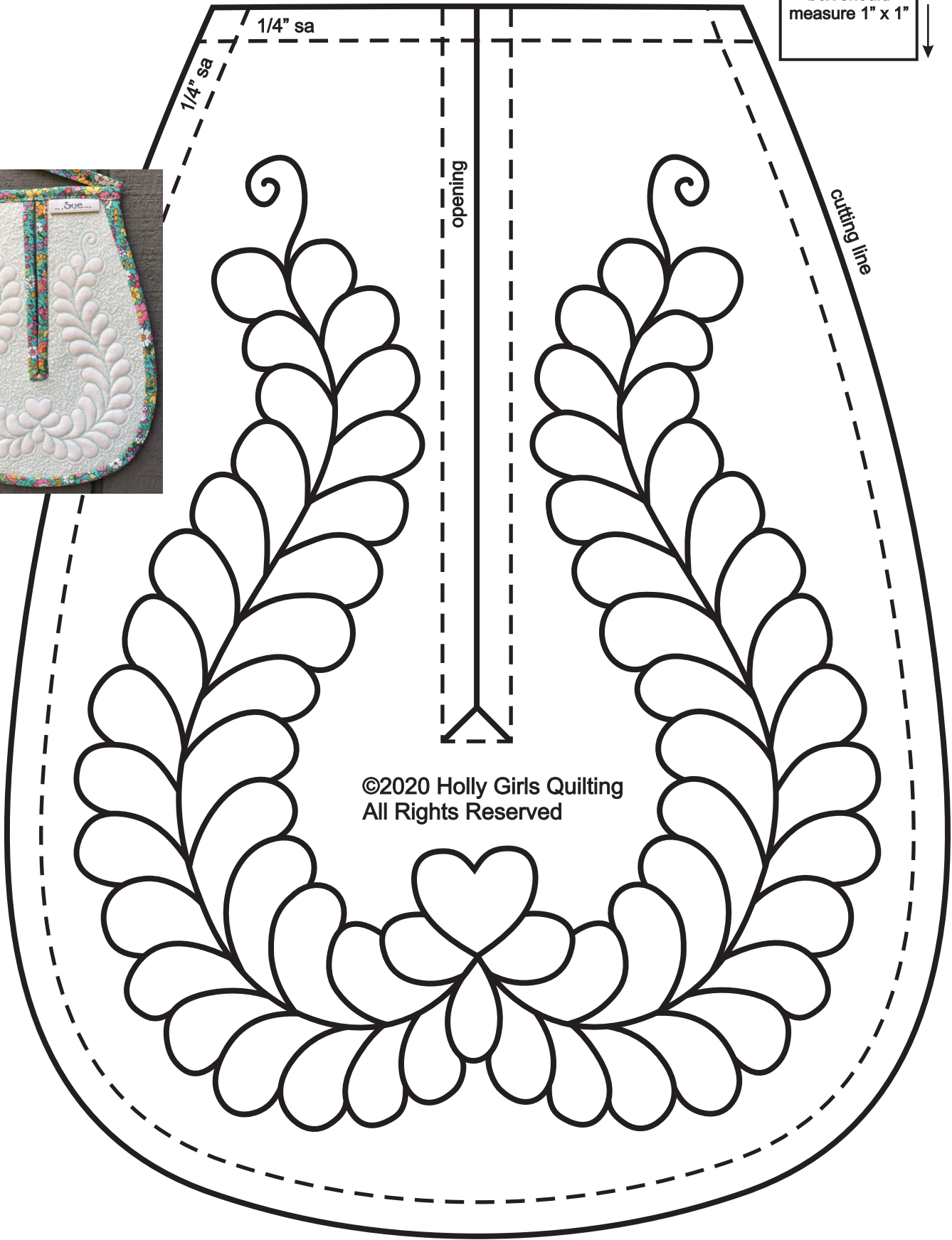


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# Feather Quilted Pocket Pattern

1"  
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measure 1" x 1"  
1"



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