

# Self-Check -- Week 1

I planned for Week 1 to be a pretty gentle introduction. Everyone here is at a different stage of learning -- some of you probably found most of the week to be review, some of you are brand-new to feathers (or maybe even to freehanding!)

Next week we'll move on to really focusing on the SHAPE of the individual feathers, and you'll continue to practice drawing in all different directions. Drawing and stitching aren't quite the same, but the more drawing you do, the easier the quilting will be -- and drawing is a LOT more portable than the quilting machine!!

I've put together a really short checklist of things to think about as you look back over this first week. I'd love to hear your thoughts in the forum!

- Which direction is the hardest? You will want to concentrate on this direction when you are doodling, both on paper and on fabric.
- Even though I told you not to worry about the shape, are you finding that your feathers are looking prettier the more you draw and stitch them?
- Use a permanent marker to date your stitching practice piece. Keep this one around awhile, you will want a record of your first Over the Top Feathers. You will want to be able to look back some day and see how far you have come!
- Pat yourself on the back and take a deep breath -- you survived the first week of Feather Boot Camp!