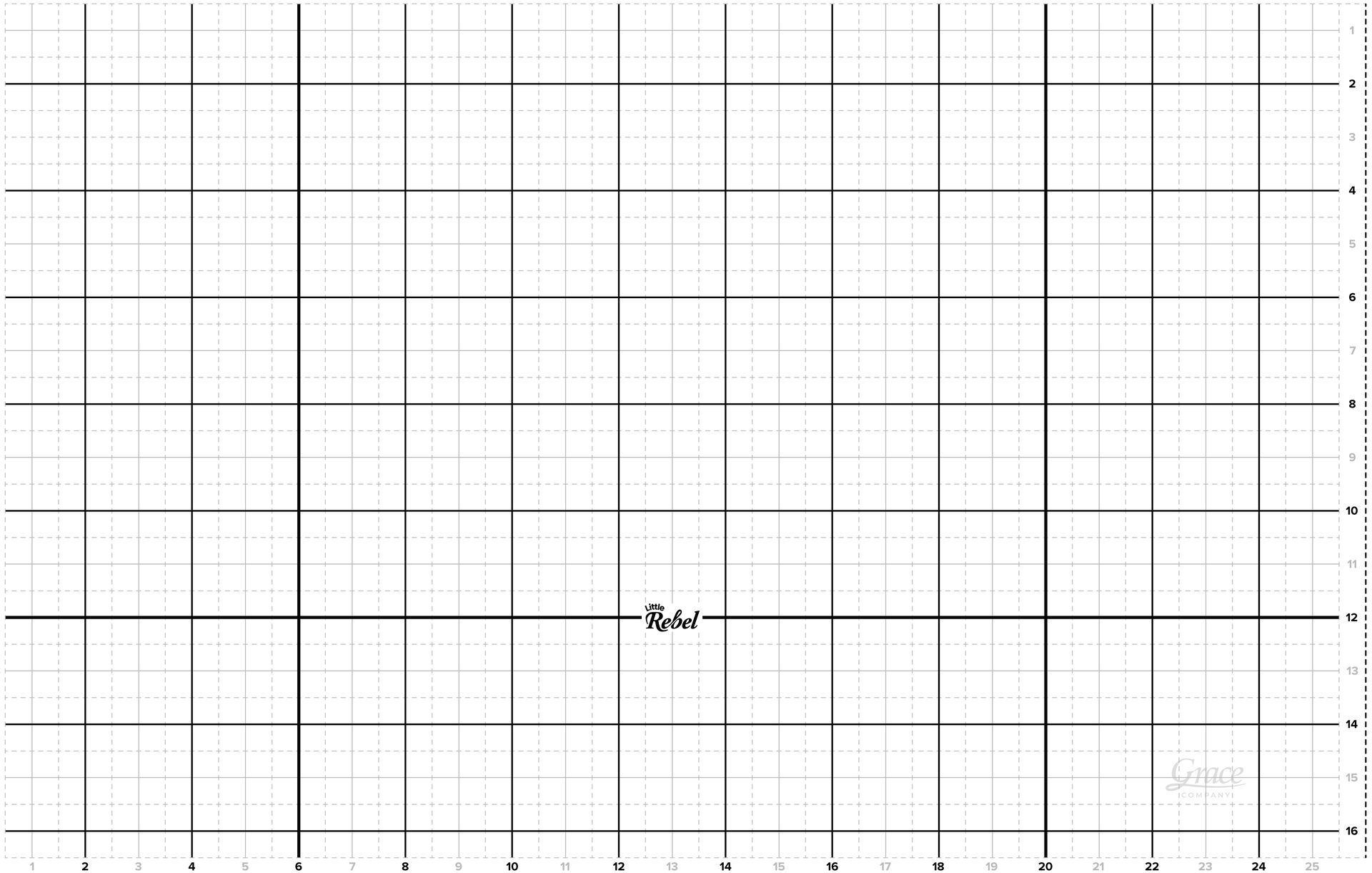


Mini Quilter
TABLETOP FABRIC FRAME

Practice Grid Minimal Instructions

Grace Company provides the practice grid to help you become confident visualizing the quiltable area.

This is a **minimal** set of instructions for using the practice grid. You can find more detailed instructions and other digital resources for your Mini-Quilter frame by scanning the QR code with your phone's camera or by visiting https://digitalcontent.graceframe.com/course/582/784. **Note:** The detailed instructions are **not** the same as the printed Assembly and Use Instructions that came with your frame.

To use the practice grid:

1. Plan your continuous line designs on the grid before you start to quilt. Remember to avoid lifting your pencil.
2. Make a quilt sandwich to practice with and place it on the frame.
3. Mark your quiltable area:
   a. Pin your practice grid to the fabric, with the top-left corner of the grid in the top-left corner of the frame. **Note:** When you placed your quilt sandwich, the directions had you put the quilt top a few inches to the right and down from the corner. This difference is deliberate.
   b. Move your machine as far left as it can go without hitting anything. For example, don't let the wheels of the carriage hit the side tower, and don't let your machine brush the clamp on the rail.
   c. Draw a line on the practice grid from your needle vertically. You've marked the left edge of your quiltable area.
   d. Repeat steps 4b–c, except move your machine to the far right this time. This is the right edge of your quiltable area.
   e. Repeat steps 4b–c again, except move your machine to the back this time and draw the line horizontally. This is the top edge of your quiltable area.
   f. Repeat steps 4b–c one last time, except move your machine to the front this time and draw the line horizontally. This is the bottom edge of your quiltable area.
   g. Notice that if you drew your practice designs over all of the practice grid, parts of your design are not in the quiltable area. This is because your needle cannot reach every part of the frame. Notice that this fact is also why the directions told you to set the quilt top inward from the corner of the frame, and why the backing and batting need to be larger than the quilt top.
4. Practice moving the machine on the frame:
   a. Make sure your machine is unthreaded.
   b. Use a marker (that doesn't bleed!) to redraw your designs in the quiltable area on the practice grid. This makes it easier to follow with your needle in a moment, and gives you another opportunity to practice the movements.
   c. Turn on your machine and follow the designs in the quiltable area, using the needle as a "pencil" to poke holes. Use this practice to get a feel for how the machine moves on the frame.
5. Begin stitching your practice project:
   a. Take the practice grid off the frame for a moment. Starting from the middle, cut out the quiltable area, so you have a window in the grid. You'll use the window to continue to keep track of the quiltable area as you stitch.
   b. While the grid is off the frame, rethread your machine. Tack down the edges of your quilt top.
   c. Pin the practice grid back on the frame, in the same place, so you can see the quiltable area in the window. The grid covers the area where you can't quilt.
   d. With thread, stitch out your design in the visible quiltable area, following the holes in the fabric.
6. Shift the quilt so that a new zone is in the quiltable area:
   a. Take all the clamps off the rails except the one on the right of the front rail.
   b. Unpin the practice grid and slide it to the right until a 2" strip of stitching remains within the grid. Re-pin the grid to the quilt as much as you can.
   c. With the clamp, slide the quilt to the left until the practice grid is back in its original position.
   d. Reclamp the fabric and finish pinning the practice grid in place.
7. Continue quilting until you have stitched across the quilt top. When it's time to move the fabric up, you can still use the practice grid to help you:
   a. Follow step 6, except this time, leave a clamp on the left of the front rail and move the quilt right. Get the quilt back to the left side before moving it up.
   b. Rotate the grid 180°, placing it so that the last 1 ½" of your stitches are covered. Pin the grid to the fabric. Take all the clamps off the frame.
   c. Shift the fabric up until the top of the grid is at the take-up rail again.
   d. Place the grid in its original position and pin it in place.
8. Continue quilting, using the practice grid to help you, until you completely stitch the quilt top on your practice project.
9. Print more copies of the practice grid if you want to practice again.

Tip: When you start a new (non-practice) project, install a new needle in your machine.

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