

Art Quilt Techniques ~ Strip Pieced Poetry Quilts

Supply list (2 pages)

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In this Art Quilt techniques session you will learn an easy way to do neat accurate calligraphy on fabric and then strip piece the verses with other fabrics to make charming a little quilt. The quilt can be any size you wish but a 9" x 12" project is recommended. You may choose a short poem or quote by a favorite author or write your own but t keep it short – no more than a few verses.

Please be courteous to others by arriving for class with the correct supplies. Contact me at 503-888-9784 or helene.m.knott@gmail.com if you have any questions.

A Note to Students: Many students do not realize that once the teacher is paid, the shop offering a class makes little if any income on the class itself. The shop is relying on product sales to continue offering quality classes to you. Therefore, I urge you to patronize this shop when buying your supplies for this class as much as possible and remind you that big chain stores do not offer the variety of classes that the smaller shops do. Keep quilt classes alive by supporting this shop.

Thank you, Helene

TOOLS/MATERIALS:

- **Poem Fabric:** A 9" x 12" or 12" x 12" square of fabric. This fabric should be light in color and finely woven with a smooth (not rough or nubby) surface texture, batik would be perfect. It can be patterned if you wish but the pattern should be subtle and not too prominent or distinct; you will be writing on this fabric and you want your lettering to remain clearly visible.
- **A black or brown Pigma Micron pen:** in size .005 or .01 or .03. The larger pen sizes (.05 or .08) will not be as controllable. Use only the Pigma Micron pens, other inks tend to bleed into surrounding fabric and get fuzzy.
- **Other fabrics:** Choose a variety of fabrics in colors and prints that pertain to your poem; you will need about 3-5 fabrics that coordinate nicely with one another.
- **Motif fabric (optional):** You may want to 'embellish' your strip pieced quilt with a fussy cut appliqué. The motif should have clearly defined edges to cut easily. Like the other fabrics, the motifs should be pertinent to your poem.
- **Fusible web (optional):** Bring a piece large enough to accommodate your motif if you are using one
- **Rotary cutter, mat and cutting ruler:** Ideally, the ruler should be at least 12" long and at least 2 ½" wide.
- **Sewing machine:** with standard sewing accessories and a quarter inch piecing foot.
- **Thread:** 100% cotton in a neutral color for piecing
- **Embroidery Scissors:** a fine tipped pair with sharp blades no more than 1 ½" long (for cutting out the motif if you are using one).
- **Thread snips**
- **Sewing pins**
- **Your original poem or quote printed onto copy paper:** These verses will be your master templates for the calligraphy so they should be printed in the size, arrangement and font that you want; remember, you will be tracing these letters so consider that when choosing the font you print in. Keep scale in mind too, you want the lines of the poem to fit the width of the quilt in the size you wish.
NOTE: There is a distinct advantage to having the poem printed in reverse onto the 'dry' side of freezer paper. Ironing the freezer paper to the wrong side of the fabric you intend to write on will create a stable surface for the lettering and prevent your fabric from slipping while you trace plus provide the lettering to trace right side up. To do this, you need a graphics program capable of flipping your original writing, I am happy to do this with your poem or quote if you send me a document with your poem laid out in the typeface and size you want ahead of time, contact instructor if you want to do this.

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- **Freezer Paper:** optional if your poem is already printed in reversed letters on freezer paper
- **Haiku (optional poem):** this is a Japanese style of poetry consisting of three verses and are particularly well suited for this project. The first verse is five syllables; the second is seven syllables and then five syllables again for the final verse. The verses do not rhyme and the subjects are usually observations of life and nature. Google 'Haiku' and 'Basho' to read some traditional examples
- **Portable Light box:** to use for tracing the lettering onto your fabric. Alternatively; you could trace on a window but this is harder to do neatly. I will have a couple of light boxes some can use but it's best to have your own.

