

MELINDA BULA

Fabulous Fusible Flowers

Before Class

1. Choose your flower picture or photo for inspiration.
2. Your inspiration needs to be a photo of a flower or flowers that you would like to interpret into an art quilt.
3. Edit down to one photo. This is the hardest part. Too many pictures will confuse the brain.
 - a. Print your inspiration photo on good quality photo paper, size 8"x 10". Try to get the color as close to the original picture as possible. We will use this picture to select our fabric colors. Color is everything! So do not forget the original picture.
 - b. You will need to make two more copies of your picture. They need to be printed on 8"x 10" regular white copy paper, not photo paper because we will be drawing on these copies. 1 in color and 1 black and white.
 - c. For you Apple iPad-heads: I am one, too. It's thrilling to see the great color on our iPads but you will still need the printed copies of your photo for class to make your pattern. You can use it in class but you still need the photo above.
4. Now the fun part of collecting your fabric palette. This is so important. You cannot make a realistic flower without it. The more fabrics you have the more successful you will be. You do not have to bring yards of each color, just a fat quarter yard will do. However, bring lots of choices in a ranges of values. Do not just guess - look at your photo to get color ideas. Look for the darkest colors in your photo and then the lightest. Squinting helps your eyes see the value better. The fabrics can be batiks, hand dyed, prints and small pattern fabrics as long as they read like a blended solid from across the room. No solids! They just don't have the depth you will need. You will have opportunity to visit two quilts shops, *Back Porch Fabrics* and *Cotton Patch*, which is on campus.

Value TIP: First look at the darkest colors you see in your photo. Then go to the lightest color almost to white and make sure you bring white. Now go to the medium shades, the medium lights and the medium darks and everything in between. The more colors you bring the more successful you will be.

If you have any problems with editing your photos or making copies, or just question please email me – I'm here to help! melbula@comcast.net.

Optional Idea- I have an array of beautiful flower patterns on my web site that can also be done in class. Let me know if you want to do the pattern and I will email or send you a color chart for picking your fabrics.



SESSION I

Sunday To Friday, February 21 – 26, 2021

Mail: 5306 Springridge Court, Fairfield, CA 94534-4005 | Phone: (707) 864-1170 Fax (707) 864-1345
Email: info@emptyspoolsseminars.com | Website: emptyspoolsseminars.com

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Supply List

- Tracing paper 8"x 10", sharp pencils, colored pencils or crayons, bold tip and an ultra-fine tip *Sharpie* marker in black, clear tape, glue stick.
- Large straight pins, rotary cutter, mat, ruler and a table light.
- Small iron and ironing pad. But if you want more room at your table there will be irons and boards provided by the event.
- Scissors**- Sharp paper and fabric scissors, in a variety of sizes.
- Parchment paper
- Fabrics**- color are choices by analyzing your flower photo before class. Bring at least 30-50 different colors and values of fabric. These can be **fat quarter** yards.
- 25 yards of **Steam-A-Seam2, Not the LITE!**
- Table top lamp and a multi-plug extension cord with surge protection
- Something to cover your design board and something to cover your work at night.

TIP: First look at the darkest colors you see in your photo. Then go to the lightest color almost to white and make sure you bring white. Now go to the medium shades, the medium lights and the medium darks and everything in between. The more colors you bring the more successful you will be.

I will be bringing with me some of my hand dyed fabrics for purchase. And we can do a field trip to the local quilt shop if we need to.

• **Background Fabrics**

You will need 1-2 yards each of assorted background fabrics. How much you will need is determined by the finished size of your flower. Remember, you will have to get the finished quilt under your sewing machine. Look at your photo to determine what colors of fabric to bring. What color do you see in the background of your picture? That is the color or colors you should bring. Bring a couple of choices to play with. I will be helping you with this decision, so do not worry.

No Sewing machine is needed in class! We will talk about the thread play on one of the days!



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