

Composition Quartet: *four techniques for fused quilts*

A quartet of quilts! Challenge yourself compositionally and learn four different ways to construct fused quilts: squares/rectangles, curvilinear/organic design, cut-and-collage, and landscape. Using step-by-step directions with many creative options, you'll make 4 quilts (about 16" x 20" or larger) using Sue's fusible techniques. She will also cover fusible basics, working with non-traditional fabrics, quilting, blocking, and binding. By the end of this workshop experience, construction ideas will abound!

SUPPLIES PARTICIPANTS SHOULD BRING:

- PHOTO INSPIRATION** or source material: 1) a few photographs of landscapes to choose from and translate into a quilt, 2) an inspiration for curvilinear design, for example, a photo or artwork with lots of curves like a Georgia O'Keeffe flower painting 3) any other inspirational material you might want to bring.
- FUSIBLE:** 20-25 yards (the faster you work, the more you bring) of Pellon *Wonder-Under 805* (WU is 17" wide). Buying a whole bolt is the easiest thing to do (that's 20 yards). *Watch for sales on Wonder-Under. I have bought it for half price at JoAnn.* Soft Fuse is a good product and is 18" or 37" wide (adjust amount as necessary) and can be ordered online. *Misty Fuse* is also a good product, but please bring a roll of parchment paper to use with it as it does not come with paper. Yes, you can use the *Steam a Seam 2 Lite* especially if you already have it and you like working with it. Do not bring *Heat'n'Bond*.
- FABRIC!!!!** Bring an assortment of fabrics for the top of your quilted constructions. Remember that you can fuse fabrics that you can't piece, so be creative. The fabrics should be a **variety of solids, near solids, small prints, large prints, plaids, etc., with a wide range of VALUE and color.** Have fun with this! Keep in mind that you will be making a landscape if you want to use realistic colors.

Please include some or all of the following:

- silk of all kinds, cotton, rayon, polyester
- batiks, hand-painted and dyed fabrics are great;
- a few sheers such as tulle, net, organza (poly or silk), chiffon (poly or silk)
- fun, fun fabrics, possibly recycled from thrift store clothes--washed
- You can bring fabric that you have already fused for other quilts, or if you like to get a head start, fuse 10 fabrics, an area about 17" x 9" (do not pull off paper, transport flat or rolled)
- Don't sweat the fabric choice too much. We can make almost anything work. If I were to suggest a minimum of fabric, about 40 different fat quarters would do.
Pre-washing is not required, but I almost always do, including the recycled clothing and anything that I think is prone to bleed. Also, your fabrics will fuse better if you pre-wash them.

- 2 yards or more cotton backing fabric (fabric for the back side of the quilt)
- BATTING:** one twin-size cotton batting (If you want to use up smaller pieces of batting, please bring 6 pieces about 24" x 24" or larger.). To ensure consistent results only bring 100% cotton batting such as *Quilter's Dream Cotton* or *Fairfield Soft Touch*. Some batting



SESSION 1

Sunday to Friday, February 25–March 1, 2024

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contains polyester or another synthetic scrim that can cause problems, like dimpling or warping (*Warm 'N Natural* has such a scrim. If it is all you can get, we can deal with it.)

- Teflon press sheet; parchment paper (Reynolds white smart-grid is good), both are useful
- straight pins, masking tape
- steam iron
- 1 yard of 100% cotton fabric in a solid color, preferably white (this is a "junker" fabric, just an ironing surface). Part of the cotton batting and this cotton fabric will be used to create an ironing/design surface on your work table
- sharp scissors (one large, one small), cutting mat, rotary cutter (a large and very small, 18mm, would be ideal), and gridded ruler (24" x 6" good), gridded square (6 ½ or larger)
- Table-top light, extension cord, outlet strip, and design wall (design walls are furnished by Empty Spools Seminars for use during the workshop.)
- one or two soft-lead pencils (2HB Ticonderoga good), two soft-lead, colored pencils (like Prismacolor), or your best approximation of these pencils:
- 12 pieces of 8-1/2 x 11 copy paper.
- Something to cover your work station at night

OPTIONAL, but HELPFUL SUPPLIES

- press cloth of white long-staple/low-lint 100% cotton, like Pima Cotton
- tweezers
- a quilt to show the class
- camera/phone camera, highly suggested
- about 5 manila folders or gallon plastic bags for storing fused scraps
- old blouses or other clothing to add to class stash
- silks are great; cotton, rayon and polyester are welcome
- tacking or sealing iron (brand name, Hobbico); iron cleaning sheets (for a fusing slip-up);
- X-acto knife (helpful to cut intricate designs);
- a sewing machine is not required, but you may bring it if you have the room with appropriate other supplies.

SUPPLIES I WILL HAVE ON HAND

A pile of recycled and thrifted fabric scraps to share.

Please email or call if you have any questions about the supply list!

SUE BENNER

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