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## **SCRAP QUILTS: TECHNIQUES AND TRICKS FOR MAKING BEAUTIFUL QUILTS FROM SCRAPS**

### **SUPPLIES**

#### **1. General sewing supplies**

- Sewing machine with 70/10 or 80/12 needle
- Neutral color thread
- Small cutting mat and rotary cutter
- Chalk or white fabric pen to draw sewing lines on the background fabric when making half square triangles.
- Ruler for cutting fabric:
  - 12-inch (or longer if you want) ruler: Will be used for cutting fabric and drawing sewing lines on the background fabric.
  - A square ruler that is 6 ½ x 6 ½ inches or 8 ½ x 8 ½ inches is needed to trim squares when making half-square triangles.
- Spray starch: I like Mary Ellen's Best Press unscented, but any fabric starch is fine.
- Small sharp embroidery snip scissors: I like the Karen Buckley 4-inch ones, but the key here is they need to be small and sharp.
- Small towel: This class uses a fair amount of starch so the towel will protect your pressing mat or the classroom ironing board.

#### **2. Optional supplies**

- Small traveling iron and pressing mat (irons and ironing boards are provided in the classroom)
- Tailors' clapper: Don't buy a tailor's clapper unless you want to! You can also use any heavy item to keep seams flat. I will bring a clapper to class so you can try it and see if it is something you want to purchase.
- Stiletto: That Purple Thang, a bamboo skewer, or any stiletto you use to get seams open.

#### **3. Fabric**

- Scraps: Bring as many fabric scraps as you like. They can be large or as small as 1 inch in diameter.
  - We will sort your scraps into one or two general color categories (example: scraps that all have some blue or aqua in the fabric) to pick a color theme for your project.
- ¼ yard of 2-3 fabrics that you want to be the focus fabric for your defining color scheme
- A ¼ yard or so of solid fabric for the background/contrast to the half square triangles. We will make 2-4 squares in class. The total amount of background fabric needed for your quilt will depend on the size of your project so bring a solid fabric you know you get enough of for your final project.

### **SCRAP SWAP**

This class is a great opportunity to get rid of fabric you no longer want and pick up something new. If you can, bring some fabric or scraps of fabric that you would be happy to donate and we will set aside a table for a “scrap swap.” Gambling and playing with new fabric you have not seen before can sometimes make your quilt move from Ok to “wow.”

**A few notes about fabrics for this project:**

- Why prints not plain colors? We will be sewing small scraps into 4-6-inch pieces of fabric. Plain fabrics do not blend well with their neighbor when placed next to each other in different shapes.
- Color scheme: you can use any color scheme you want. That said...
  - Analogous, complementary, and triadic themes all work well
  - Random scraps of any or all colors are harder to integrate into a theme, although it can be done. This is why some feel scrap quilts are not that interesting. We will spend a bit of time in class talking about how to use random color scraps well so feel free to bring your whole scrap bag.
  - Monochromatic schemes can work but you will need a wide array of scraps with different shades, hues, and values if the whole quilt will be monochromatic.
- Jelly rolls and charm packs (10-inch squares) work very well if you want a pre-selected color scheme.

If you have any questions prior to class, email me and we can chat via email or plan a phone call as needed.

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