



# Welcome To My She Shed

I want to start out my sewing room presentation by showing a picture of our home as well as giving you a little history. My Father, Husband, Grandfather (with a little help from me) built our home starting in 1977 and it took us a little over 2 years to build. Originally, our plans were to finish off the second floor as our family grew or when we had the money to expand. Well, as a lot of plans for the future go, the second floor is still one large room. When our son moved from home, this room became my sewing room, thus my indoor “She Shed!”



I like collecting signs that relate to quilting, crafts, and me. Here are some of the signs that line the wall as you go up the stairs to my now "She Shed sewing room". As you go through the following slides showing my sewing room, you will see that I come from a family that has always like to salvage stuff – especially my Dad. He would fix the items he found and we were able to use them again. So, as the sign below says, "It is what it is."





Even though I like doing all types of crafts, I always come back to my sewing and quilting. As the sign says, "Sewing is my THERAPY"



**This is it! Above are pictures from both directions of my sewing room. This room is 32 ft long by 16 ft wide. As you can see the walls are only 4 ft high and then follow the pitch of the roof. (that is why at the beginning of this presentation, I showed You a picture of our home from the street). Because we did not have a lot of money when we built the house, the lower walls are paneled and the angled walls are 4 ft by 8 ft sheets made out of cornstalks which was a cheap product at the time and we could use it to finish off the room. These sheets are like cork board and I can pin my quilt blocks up using the wall like a bulletin board. Off this room is a 12 ft x 12 ft room where I store my stash.**



When my Father passed away, his sewing machine went into my sewing room. This is a heavy duty machine he purchased new from a military surplus auction. The whole house shakes when you turn it on. He used the machine To sew canvas and straps. Sitting on the machine table Is an overhead projector that I borrowed from our church. I use this machine to enlarge the art quilts that I make.



At the beginning of this presentation, I told you that my Dad liked to salvage stuff. Well, this cart is just one of the many things he found, fixed and now we use in the sewing room. This cart has the pins, scissors, etc. that we use with the longarm. He fixed another cart that I use to sort and move fabric around in the sewing room.



Jeanne Surber buys the batting we use in rolls. Rolls of batting are heavy and cumbersome, so my Husband got a rolling plant stand holder and attached a rod in the middle that holds the batting. Now we are able to cut batting without having to lift it.

*One man's trash is another man's treasure"*

My Dad built this cabinet from refrigerator drawers he purchased at garage sale. This is where I store my jelly rolls, layer cakes, panels, etc.



This is a shelf unit that I was able to save when our church kitchen was remodeled. I use it to store my batiks.



*"One man's trash is another man's treasure"*



This is the APQS longarm that Jeanne and I use. It's not the top of the line but it does what we need it to do.



These cabinets sit behind the longarm. The top is used to hold our longarm tools and books. I use the bottom to store some of my craft supplies.



I purchased the cabinet years ago from “Good Wood” to hold thread. Each drawer is labeled with the color of thread or the item that is in the drawer.





I bought cabinet on sale at “Lowe’s.” I put an old shoe holder that I had in the bottom of the cabinet to hold and separate the different types of stabilizers used with my embroidery machine. On the outside of the cabinet is one of several racks my Husband made to hold spools of longarm thread.



I found that tool chests are nice for storing embroidery machine thread. I started out with the red chest and found that the drawers in this chest were not deep enough for most of the spools of thread (laying down or standing up). I now use the red chest for specialty thread and embroidery hoops. I purchased the black chest on sale from “Lowes” and the drawers are plenty deep for my thread. Each drawer is labeled for the color of thread.



I don't know about others who do machine embroidery work, but you never seem to have the right color of thread. And, if you are stitching something that requires shading, you need several shades of that particular color. Over the years, I have collected a lot of embroidery thread. Also, I found that "peels" are a great notion that keeps your thread from raveling off the spools.



My Husband built 2 book cases for me that you can see are well used. Not only do I keep my quilt books here, I keep each block of the month quilt and the instructions for my embroidery projects all in separate notebooks.



I found I needed a place to store ribbon. This ornament storage box is perfect for storing ribbon. Because the walls in my sewing room are only 4 ft high, the box fits nicely on the floor by the book cases.



**My sewing room computer.**



**This set of cabinets is where I store most of my craft supplies.**



Each cabinet is labeled and the tubs inside are also labeled.



This is a cabinet my Dad built for my Sister, a school teacher, to hold construction paper for her students. When she retired, I inherited the cabinet. I found it was a good place to store my rulers.

*"One man's trash is another man's treasure"*



This is my sewing area. I keep my embroidery machine, Babylock sewing machine and the Bernina 830 sewing machine my Husband gave me 40+ years ago close because I use all three. Originally, I just had a 4 ft table that you can barely see below the top to sew on. My Husband added the finished plywood top to that table expanding the sewing area to 8 ft by 4 ft.





For years, I used a cutting table my Dad built from a door with fold up banquet table legs. It was nice but I found I needed more space for cutting, storage, and other crafts. My Husband and I built the bottom of the table in four sections and bolted them together when we got them in my sewing room. The top of the table is a finished piece of plywood (8 ft x 4 ft). When we designed the table, I asked my Husband to include a shelf so I could put the rulers and other stuff I was currently using close at hand. The storage area with curtains is where I store my UFOs, quilt and machine embroidery patterns, as well as stuff I want to forget about for a while. I cleaned this table off so I could take a picture of it to show you. Normally the table is covered in fabric and other things I may be working on. Just ask Jeanne!



Remember the sign!



*She Who Dies  
With The Most Fabric Wins*

FABRIC HOARDER



Behind these doors is truly “No Man’s Land”!  
Behind these doors is where I store “The Stash”  
and more.



This is a 12 ft x 12 ft room where I store all my fabric, more craft supplies, and my quilts. You name it and you might find it in this room.



My name is “Denise” and I  
AM a Fabricoholic!

In the tubs on the bottom shelves  
contain my stash fabric sorted by color.  
The tubs on top also contain stash  
fabric but it is stored in separate bags  
by projects.

The opposite side of the room also  
Contains project bags, kits, and craft  
Supplies that I use. And, yes we have  
2 more rolls of batting.





**This picture shows what goes in a project bag. If I have a particular pattern in mind, I include it the bag with the fabric.**



This is a cabinet was built by my Father-in-law for the sound equipment for his church in Tazewell, VA. When the church no longer needed the cabinet, guess who inherited it? I found that was a good place to store my interfacing.

*One man's trash is another man's treasure"*

Every girl needs a "hope chest". This is the hope chest my Dad built for me when I was in high school. I store my finished quilts in and on top of this chest.





These racks are on the back of the doors when you enter the room. Jeanne obtained these racks from "Village Stitchery" when they closed up shop. They have been great for storing our longarm thread.

*One man's trash is another man's treasure"*



I access our Zoom meeting in my sewing room. Some of you have asked about the hats they have seen behind me. I figured this was good time to tell you about the hats. Jeanne and I were in an organization that had an Easter Hat Parade for several years. These are two of the hats that I made for the parade. I told you that I can be creative. Jeanne was very creative with her hat too.

I am always looking for new sewing techniques and crafts to learn and try. My sister and I took an art extension class from William and Mary and one of the art pieces we had to make a 3d collage. Being a quilter, I thought "log cabin!" The framed picture below is my 3d Log Cabin collage made with textured paper.





Well, this is the end of the presentation on my Sewing Room (She Shed).  
I want to leave you with these 2 wishes . . .

MAY ALL YOUR UPS & DOWNS IN LIFE  
BE WITH A NEEDLE AND THREAD

and

keep calm  
AND  
quilt on