

Workshop Descriptions

Fabric Covered Baskets (3 hour workshop)



Students will learn how to create beautiful (and useful) bowls and baskets using clothesline. These are not only pretty, but are great for organizing and/or gift giving. Bet you can't make just one!

We will start by showing the many possibilities that can be created with shape, thread, fabric, etc. and then learn the basic wrapping and sewing methods. Students will pick angled or straight sides and quickly get to work.

This is a great way to use up that leftover fabric, free/inherited fabric, or just that fabric you no longer love. Or you can choose to go modern and just let the clothesline and thread do all the talking.

Once everyone has the techniques well underway, we will delve into the endless finishing and embellishment options. Think fuzzy yarn, lace, buttons, beads...oh my!

Material list will be provided. There are no additional material or kit fees.
Sewing machine (and extra needles) with zig zag stitch and basic supplies required.
Students will leave with a unique basket well underway (or maybe even finished)!

Play Date (3 hour workshop)



AKA Remember Kindergarten? Students will learn how to unleash their creativity and let their hair down by using colors, items, shapes and techniques that are out of their comfort zone. Most importantly, they will learn to have fun again!

This class is not for those who want to learn a specific technique, or replicate a specific quilt. It is for those who need to loosen up, find their creative side, or just want to have fun playing with friends and fabric! All rules are out and quilt police are definitely not welcome! We will start by sharing ideas, methods, and fabrics, and then let the games begin. We will cut, glue, sew and laugh while creating a fun and funky art quilt.

A material list will be provided. There are no additional material or kit fees required.
Sewing machine and basic supplies required.
Students will leave with a completed quilt top.

Holy Moley! (3 or 6 hour workshop)



Students will learn how to create the ultimate in negative space on their quilts, an actual opening (ok, it's a hole!) that can be incorporated into any style quilt.

First we will discuss where and why you could, or should, use openings as well as several methods and materials to create them. Then we will discuss the basic design and technique that we will be using in class and each student will draw a template for their own version of this design (yes, each piece will be slightly different...how fun is that?!). Next, we will learn how to make the individual segments and spend some time constructing them. After each student has this well underhand, we will learn how to attach them into the design, creating the negative spaces. Finally, we will discuss finishing techniques, including binding, facing, quilting, etc.

Note that class is broken down into sections, with instructions and critique at beginning and end of each section so everyone can actually learn the technique and be able to create other projects with openings.

A material list will be provided. There are no additional material or kit fees required. Sewing machine and basic supplies required (must be able to do a zig zag or blind hem stitch). Students will leave with a small piece of contemporary wall art that is well underway.

What If...? How Come...? And Why Not...?! (3 or 6 hour workshop)



Students will learn how to create a modern, improvisational quilt in this fun, fast paced workshop. There are no patterns or rules in this class, only questions and unbridled fear to change, rearrange, create and go with the flow. This is a great class for those who are stuck or just bored with the same old thing!

First we will discuss modern quilt making. What is it and why is it so popular? We will look at several quilts (both traditional and modern) and see what could have been done to make them the opposite (traditional to modern, modern to traditional). Next, armed with this small amount of knowledge (who needs to know it all anyway?) we will work through several different techniques in an improvisational fashion. These exercises will teach you how to improvise, change, create and just go with the flow. Finally, we will discuss various modern methods of quilting and ideas to quilt your own masterpiece. Students may bring a quilt top that is just not working for them and we will discuss those three burning questions of, 'what if? how come? and why not?', in a group effort to turn that boring top into a finished show stopper.

A material list will be provided. There are no additional material or kit fees required. Sewing machine and basic supplies required. Students will leave with a small modern quilt top.

Everything...Including the Kitchen Sink (6 hour workshop)

Students will learn how to combine random blocks, leftovers and ufo's into a cohesive and stunning 'kitchen sink' quilt.

In this class we will learn many tips and tricks to combine a multitude of seemingly unrelated items into a quilt that somehow, magically works. So dig out all those, 'what was I thinking?' blocks, blocks you made and decided one was more than enough, the stack of blocks from that block of the month your friend talked to you into years ago, and maybe blocks you won at your guild and of course, those leftover bits and pieces you just couldn't bare to part with.

We will start by discussing the basic strategies and then (as a group) examine each persons treasures, giving ideas and suggestions for color and setting options. Students will then decide what is right for them, and begin sewing together their 'kitchen sink' quilt. This method will enable everyone to successfully replicate the process again and again.

A material list will be provided. There are no additional material or kit fees required.
Sewing machine and basic supplies required.
Students will leave with a quilt top well underway (or maybe even finished!).

Bag Making Boot Camp (6 hour workshop)



Students will learn basic bag making skills to create their own unique hand bag.

In this class will will learn various techniques to take your bags from drab to fab! These are techniques that can be combined with existing patterns or used to make your own unique bag. Students will receive and follow along with my basic tote bag pattern. We will discuss various fabrics plus interfacings and stabilizers to create high end bags and how to adjust the pattern for different looks. We will work with zippers and learn how to install them into the top of any bag, plus how to make a hidden zipper pocket. *No more fear of zippers!* We will attach handles with rivets (also a fun way to relieve a little stress!) and learn how to install purse feet to give your bag that polished look.

This is a fast paced class broken down into sections with samples and instructions given at the beginning of each section. Students will then have time to complete the step while receiving help or assistance. We will then move on to the next step, making this a doable project in the six hour time frame. Suitable for all levels but best for intermediate and above.

A material list will be provided. There is an additional kit fee of \$15 per student payable to teacher day of class.
Sewing machine and basic supplies required.
Students will leave with a finished (or almost finished!) bag.