

Scrappy Improvisation

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This class will help you use all those scraps that are too big to throw away, but you're not sure how to use. You'll learn how to make the negative space of the background flow into your scrap piecing and how to create a cohesive composition. We will focus on making blocks for a quilt and learn how to panel different sized blocks to create a quilt top. The fabrics listed make a top approximately 40" x 50". If you'd like to make a larger quilt, please adjust your fabrics accordingly.

Materials

Sewing machine with ¼" foot (if available)
Basic sewing/ rotary cutting/quilting supplies
Cutting mat and 24" acrylic ruler
Matching thread
Painter's tape

Fabrics

Background fabric - 2 ½ yards
Solid fabric or fabric that reads as a solid that will contrast with your scraps.

Scrap fabrics

Stuff (and I mean STUFF!) a two-gallon zip lock bag with scraps or bring lots of 1/8th yard cuts. Sort your scraps by color (or your yardage). This will help you decide on and easily work with the color story for your blocks.

Scrap considerations and options:

Try to include a variety of sizes and shapes. It is important that you have different values in your selections. **Lights, mediums and darks are essential for a good composition.** Include strips and both large and small pieces. Scraps can be prints or solids or a combination. I recommend you have at least some solid fabrics to help your prints shine.

*Choose scraps in two or three colors like I did for the quilt in the photo. I used scraps from my orange, green and brown scrap buckets.

*Choose scraps that are primarily one color with touches of an accent color.

*Choose scraps that are from colors that are next to each other on the color wheel (blue/purple) (red/orange) (green/blue).

*Go totally scrappy...disregard color entirely and bring a random selection.

Finishing Materials

(Do not need to be brought to class, but are needed to finish the quilt)

1 2/3 yd. of backing fabric

1/3 yd. of binding fabric

45" x 60" piece of low loft batting

Design Wall

Please bring 1 yard of flannel, batting, or a flannel backed tablecloth to use as a design wall if design walls are not provided.

Note about fabric amounts:

For any improvisational class, it is always better to have more fabric than not enough. The more fabric options you bring, the more flexibility you will have in creating your design.