

Quilt-as-you-go Tote Bag, Florence Baturin

After viewing the two-part tutorial for the “improv tote bag” and making one, Florence was addicted. She has had such fun making the bags, she’s already made eight of these easy and fun to make, design-as-you-go bags. Be as creative as you like as you foundation piece and fuse fabrics to create a unique bag. In addition, it’s a good use of those 2 ½” fabric strips in your stash.

Here are the links to the two tutorials:

- Part 1:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rHwcEzyjfn0>
- Part 2:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r8-0ttxkKjA>

Zentangle Quilting, Phyllis Maddox

<http://www.risingstarquilters.org/handouts/Free%20Motion%20Zentangle%20Quilting.pdf>

Paper Piecing the English Way, Julie Brown Neu

Pre-cut templates are available from:

- Cambridge Quilt Shop -
<http://www.cambridgequilts.com/>
- Paper Pieces - <https://www.paperpieces.com/>

Disappearing Hourglass Blocks, Sue Sharer

You Tube video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xXggafOP230>

Curvaceous Piecing, Amy Breiting

Amy recommends these books about curvaceous piecing:

- ***Oxymorons: Absurdly Logical Quilts***, by The Renegades and D S Hire & Marjorie Russell; published by AQS, 2001
- ***Vivacious Curvy Quilts*** by Dianne S. Hire; published by AQS, 2010
- ***Cutting Curves from Straight Pieces*** by Debbie Bowles; published by AQS, 2001

And here’s a You Tube video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9mlwp8TZtfU>.

You’ll find more instructions on the following page.

Fast Flying Geese, Rosemary Koch

Learn how to sew 40 flying geese at one stretch and with only a minimum of two pieces of fabric. Here’s a link to a YouTube tutorial made by Kits by Carla:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JS-cg8BNpdo>

No More Upside-Down Blocks, Nancy Soyring

Having trouble keeping your blocks in order between laying out and sewing them together? Nancy’s house is small, with no place to leave my quilt blocks laid out or room for a design wall. She had a lightbulb moment when she read Bonnie Hunter’s method of “webbing the top,” and saw how she could modify it to work in her limited space.

Here’s Bonnie’s method:

<http://quiltville.blogspot.com/2005/06/webbing-top-or-how-to-chain-stitch.html>

And here are Nancy’s modifications:

- Stack each column top to bottom
- Put a pin in upper left corner of top block of each stack to mark orientation of blocks
- Pin stacks together securely so blocks don’t get turned around when stored
- Number each column (attach paper or use a bunch of pins)
- Leave a safety pin in upper left corner of top block column #1 to show orientation of top
- Blocks will be all stacked up and ready to sew
- Working from left to right, sew together blocks from 2 stacks at a time

And here is another person’s method, with tips on pressing:

<http://poppyprintcreates.blogspot.com/search?q=anti+voodoo>

Improvisational Workshop, Carol Brown

To test your imagination and creativity, you will actually make (and send home) a postcard from an undiscovered planet using available small scraps. Interplanetary rules apply. Carol has brought post cards and glue sticks. Participants should try to bring small scraps and scissors.

You will be working outside your comfort zone. Three large strips will be sky, background and foreground. These sections need to be chosen and glued down in two minutes. The sky cannot be blue, but the other strips are up to your creativity. The landscape can be anything you can imagine—animal, vegetable, mineral—made from Carol’s available scraps. Think fast—you only have 10 minutes.

Cutting & Sewing Curves for the RSQ Mini-Demos February 28, 2017

By Amy Breiting



Cutting with a template.

Fabric is overlapped at edges. I will have a light blue curve to insert into the dark fabric.



Cutting with a template.

Fabric is overlapped but not at edges, making a shorter curve and smaller insert.



Free form cutting.

I've made a stack of fabric of approximately the same sizes and made a free form cut through them.



Free form cutting.

I took two unique pieces from my stack and matched the curves. Then I marked four matching points that I will pin before sewing.



Pinning.

I choose to pin my curves so that I only have to sew once. The pieces look very bumpy but they will sew nicely since you have pinned the beginnings and the ends, highs and lows and maybe even some in between. I press as the fabric dictates.

I like to make my seam allowances 1/8" but 1/4" works at times. Make your stitch length very short.