

Bargello With A Twist - Supply List

by Louisa L. Smith

- Note paper and pen, sharp fabric scissors and paper scissors and seam ripper.
- A piece of cotton batting, felt or flannel backed tablecloth for a work wall
- Spray Starch (I like the regular Niagara)
- Rotary cutter, board and ruler- bring the largest board and the largest rulers you own.
- ¼ inch or larger drafting paper (optional, used to create bargello designs on paper, colored pencils or pens are handy here as well)
- If embellishments are desired: embroidery floss, beads, Fraycheck anything to go with your theme.
- Sewing machine (if you plan on sewing your strata in class, versus at home have several bobbins filled) **DO NOT FORGET YOUR FOOT PEDAL!**

Fabrics:

You will need a variety of fabrics, different colors, textures and prints. They should range in value, so that you can create light to dark effects.

Transition fabrics are needed to go from one color family to another. For instance if you have been using a run of blue fabrics, a fabric with a lot of blue and some green would make a great transition fabric to go into a green run.

I like to buy ¼ to 3/8 yd pieces. I have used as little as 16 fabrics (but you will need about 4 strips of each then) anywhere to 54 fabrics. **Larger prints will be interesting to use as a focal point or theme – please make sure you have at least ½ yard.**

Background fabrics can be used very successfully you will need to have about 1 to 2 yards, depending on the importance of it in your composition. As a last suggestion have at least 3 to 5 fabrics of a color family – one strip by itself is useless. Play with your cut strips on the wall to make sure you like the flow of color. **READ THE ATTACHED!**

If you are an intermediate quilter and would like to insert some twists, we will also need smaller strata to “play” with.

Please read the attached about cutting your fabrics prior to class!

Books to read:

Bargello Tapestry Quilts by Marilyn Doheny

Bargello Quilts by Marge Eddie

For more info: 970 593-1265 or email: Quiltescap@aol.com

Talk to your quilt shop owner, they can help you put together fabrics
And check out our website: www.Quiltescapes.com

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Cutting strips for your bargello prior to class:

From all your fabrics cut at two 2" wide strip (If you prefer to make a smaller piece you could cut your strips 1 1/2" wide)

That means that each strip is about 42" by 2"

If you have fatquarters, cut two and sew to each other so that it will be about 42" long also.

Cutting hints:

First of all have your fabrics nicely pressed fabrics that are wrinkled are sure to distort your strips. Be careful. Read up on cutting with a rotary cutter if you are a beginner. Make sure your fabrics are ironed and lay flat on your cutting table, we don't want to end up with "V" or "S"-curves instead of a nice straight 2" wide strip. If you are experienced and always fold your fabrics twice (4 layers!) then make sure the main fold is clearly visible and still use it as a guide for the horizontal marks of your ruler. (The main fold is the fold in the fabric when it is rolled up on a bolt)

Please put the horizontal lines of your ruler on the fold to keep your strips straight and keep the fold near you (next to your body versus away from you so that you can clearly see it! The use of spray starch may keep your long strips from stretching when sewn to each other. So ought to spray your fabrics before cutting. You need to cut your strips correctly, that means that all your strips have the exact same width. And by all means use a new blade!

We will play with the order of the strips in class. To save valuable class time have your strips cut and place them on a hanger or leave them folded the way they are cut, stack them on top of each other and tie them with left over fabric strips in two places. This is an easy and good way to transport your cut strips and prevent them from wrinkling! Also please fill several bobbins before coming to class and use a good quality thread.

