

W08D: Curvaceous Squares

Improvisational Design, Technique, Intuitive Color

Teacher: Dianne Hire

Class Length: Full Day

Skill Level: Intermediate



SQUARE CURVES - EASY! Design template-free, intuitively created blocks of inset curves that become squares. Several options using the same exciting technique will be shown. By the end of the day, you may have your curvaceous squares designed, stitched together, and/or ready to quilt.

I. Recommended: 100% Cotton Fabrics, only!

Bring combinations of fabrics that *you really love together*. You may bring fabrics that read as solids... batiks, hand-dyed, motley commercials. **OR** if you like really printy fabrics, those, too, work well. Yes, even, a grouping of calicoes makes a lovely finished piece. Whatever you do, bring an array of colors that *you love* and offer visual delight to your heart. You may select all brights, or all muted, or a combination of both - just select according to what you like when you normally create a quilt. Vary your lights, mediums and darks for good contrast, but see specifics below before cutting. **NOTE: All fabrics, below, should be different fabrics from each other — if possible, none should be the same!** (NOTE: sharing is encouraged... so be prepared to swap and/or share should someone need a color/print!)

A. Pre-cut Squares. Please bring 40-50 pre-cut squares, all the same size. You may cut them anywhere from 5" to 8", but I suggest that 7" is a really good size (please, *please* cut these ahead of time to be prepared to work quickly and not slow down other class members.) Each of these should be different from each other, but all should combine together nicely. If you've chosen an array of prints, vary the fabric scales. To understand what to bring for color combos...

Colors: in your assortment of the 40-50 different fabric squares, "groupings are easy to bring. For instance, you will need 4 to 5 families (groupings). Here is a chart of only (4) groups as an example, only... modify your chart according to your color preferences, so fill in the "another family" blanks, to help you decide. This is only an idea / a suggestion of how to make your color selections, not a listing of what colors that you should bring:

Block	Blue Family	Green Family	Yellow Family	Red Family	Another Family?	Another Family?
#1	Turquoise	Chartreuse (lime)	Daffodil	Orange	?	?
#2	Sky Blue	Apple Green	Goldenrod	Fuchsia	?	?
#3	Periwinkle	Blue-Green	Lemon	True Red	?	?
#4	Grape Violet	Peacock	Ochre	Ruby	?	?

B. Many shades/fabrics of 1 color. You may need a "popper" color, depending on your choice of

design. Several design options are offered/shown, but bring approximately 30-40 pieces about 3" wide x 9" long to be sure you are prepared. This color is: another color that may not be used in the pre-cut square assortment. However, if you have some shade of green in the square mix (like very, very dark), you certainly may use an assortment from lime to chartreuse to mud green shades for the popper. Suggested: Again, bring families, i.e., greens to chartreuses, reds to oranges, yellows to oranges, etc.. If you have any questions about this, e-mail with a query, and I will send a .jpg of the workshop pieces. Assortments will give your piece excitement and movement vs. only 1 fabric/color.

C. **BLACK and WHITE:** Bring a fat eighth of solid white fabric and a fat eighth of solid black fabric. Solids, yes, please.

D. **SCRAPS:** the definitive word is "scraps"...in the same types and colors as in "A", above. Scraps should be different from "A", but in the same ilk. These will be used **if and/or when needed** as fillers... not a huge amount, plus we can share. Scraps. Really, I mean it: scraps. Do not cut from your stash!

F. **Borders:** Ordinarily, I suggest that borders be selected *after* the wallhanging is completely stitched together. However, if you have something in mind for your fabric array, bring it-- but warning: you "may" change your mind.

F. **OPTIONALS for additional pieces:** By the afternoon, you *may* need to create more blocks. Note the word, "may"! Thus, if you sew quickly, you may need others: 1/3 yard cuts or fat quarters... again, in the same "types" of fabrics.

II. Other Supplies

- **Bernina** sewing machines will be provided for this class. Please arrive early to get acquainted with your machine and fill a couple bobbins before class starts.
- To transport any unsewn blocks, you may need some flannel.
- Rotary cutter: *I like a very small bladed (Olfa 18mm) rotary cutter for curves;* however, if you like another size great.
- Fabric shears, normal thread (*for piecing*), pins, seam ripper, rotary cutter, mat & other normal sewing supplies for piecing.
- Needed: 12" square ruler.
- Orange extension cord (and electrical outlet surge strip, if you have one)
- Spray bottle with water (THIS IS AN IMPORTANT ITEM!!!)
- As always, I cannot help but recommend more fabric rather than less to satisfy that creative monster within us that needs to have a great fabric selection on hand.
- Iron & ironing surface will be provided by MQ.

Be prepared to share small pieces of fabrics,..this adds dimension to yours and others' created pieces.

Dianne S. Hire © 2004

Fiber Alternatives One Hundred Bayside Road Northport, Maine 04849
(207) 338-4789 e-mail: alternatives@gwi.net

Please call or e-mail me if you have any questions about this supply list or need further help.

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