



CLASS REQUIREMENTS

Class: **Floral Arrangement**

Tutor: **Sue Benner**

If you have questions: Contact the tutor: suebenner@aol.com

Beautiful flowers, concentric pattern, radial symmetry, block design, fusibles, using silks and sheers, and lots of fun are all included in this class. Learn Sue's layered technique for cutting, assembling, and arranging flowers as done in her extensive Flower Series art quilts. This class will give you the opportunity to use gorgeous fabrics and expansive color—plus, this construction method can be applied to other designs. Create a 16" x 16" to 24" x 24" art quilt with surprising complexity.

You must bring along the following:

- ❑ Source materials for flower images, i.e., flower books, your own photographs, seed catalogs, sketches of flowers; color inspiration sources;
 - ❑ 12 or more yards of Pellon Wonder-Under 805 (the faster you work, the more you bring). Wonder-Under is 100% polyester fusible web with release paper backing. If you cannot find this brand look for another product that is a paper backed polyester web. Do not bring Heat n' Bond, as it is a different type of product;
 - ❑ One-half of a full/queen-size cotton batting. Alternatively, you can bring 4 "scraps" of cotton batting about 30" x 30" each or larger. To insure consistent results only bring 100% cotton batting such as Quilter's Dream Cotton or Fairfield Soft Touch. Some so-called cotton battings (like Warm'n'Natural) contain a scrim of a man-made fiber that can cause problems, like dimpling or warping with high heat;
 - ❑ 2 yards or more cotton fabric for the backside of quilt, darker fabrics a bit better;
 - ❑ FABRIC (for quilt tops) -- Minimum guideline: 20 fat quarters or equivalent, but more is better.
- Choose an assortment of fabrics with your flower images in mind. Suggestions:
- Remember, you can fuse fabrics that you can't piece, so be creative with your choices.
 - Bring a range of values from light to dark, not just mediums (can use prints, solids, hand-dyed, etc.). Stretch yourself into brights, tints, tones and shades. Black is good, too.
 - Mind-bending color, be bold and don't forget some neutrals!!!!
 - Hand-dyed and painted, batiks, large prints, small prints.
 - Cotton, silk, linen, rayon, and polyester will all work, include some shiny, funky, silky, etc.
 - Recycled thrift store clothing, fun, fun, fun!
 - Sheers like chiffon and organza.

Pre-washing is not required, but I pre-wash almost every fabric I use, especially the recycled clothing. You can fuse fabric before the class, if you like. You could start with fusing a 18" or 22" length of Wonder-Under (17" wide) to a grouping (6-8) of fabrics. (Or, in other terms, fuse a collection (6-8) of fat quarters, if that is the usual quantity of fabric you buy.) Do not pull paper off, transport flat or rolled.

- 5 manilla folders, 20 sheets of letter size paper (makes sorting your cut flowers easier);
- Press cloth of 100% cotton long staple cotton (like Pima), pre-washed, approximately 18" x 18," white colour best. If you don't have this type of cotton bring any kind of white cotton;
- Compass (important!)
- Pencils, sharpener (or mechanical pencils)
- Black fine point Sharpie
- Masking tape
- Teflon press sheet
- 8½" x 8½" gridded plastic square (like Quilter's Rule or "Speedy" by Holiday Designs) , if you already have another size that is larger you can bring it instead (Students find this square to be very helpful. I use a template square cut out of a manila folder, very low tech and cheap.);
- old 100% cotton sheet or 1 yard of 100% cotton fabric (I have heard this called a "junker fabric" meaning it may get messed up and thrown away later, so don't use your best.). Part of the cotton batting and this cotton sheet or fabric will be used to create an ironing/design surface on your table;
- Small sharp scissors (This will be your main flower cutting instrument so be prepared that you will be cutting through fabric and WU paper some or most of the time. My suggestion is to bring TWO scissors, one a *small*, 6" long, SoftTouch Fiskars with a spring handle. And, two, a regular small scissors without a spring. I go back and forth between these two so I alternate my cutting motion);
- Cutting mat, rotary cutter (a large and very small would be ideal), and gridded ruler (24" length best);
- Straight pins for design board, design board or cloth;

A sewing machine is **OPTIONAL** (you can spend all your time designing flowers and assembling your quilt) and will be supplied by sponsoring companies.

If you want to use the machines the following supplies are suggested:

- Machine needles for quilting (e.g., Schmetz Stepp-Nadel Quilting Needles, Microtex or Jeans needles, Organ titanium coated needles are good, too);
- 5-20 colours of cotton, rayon, polyester, and metallic threads (do not buy new thread for this class, just bring what you can and appropriate needles, topstitch or metallic);

Optional Supplies:

Iron cleaner, hand-wipes (to clean graphite from pencils off your hands), tacking or sealing iron (Hobbico is one brand), reducing glass or other type of reducing viewer, digital camera, gallon plastic bags (three should be plenty) for storing fused scraps, circle template (like Pickett Circle Master for drawing smaller circles), X-acto knife (optional) if you like cutting with one;

If you would like to share your work with the class, feel free to bring a sample with you.

SUPPLIES SUE WILL HAVE ON HAND: digital camera and interesting fabric scraps.

- **Sewing machines will be provided by sponsor companies so you don't need to bring your own.** A technical assistant from that company will be available in class to assist any students who are unfamiliar with that machine.
- **If you prefer to bring your own sewing machine,** you may. Ensure it is well maintained and that you also bring the instruction manual and darning or free-motion quilting foot, even-feed (walking) foot, couching foot if you have one.

SUGGESTIONS

We also recommend bringing along a cushion in case your chair doesn't suit your height. This is not a necessity, just suggested.

Please make sure you label everything with your name.

Water bottle