

CLASS REQUIREMENTS

Class: Sewing the Land

Tutor: Sue Benner



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

Each participant will create at least one landscape quilt, about 10”H x 20”W, along with a small study. Sue will show you how to look at the landscape, analyze it, and translate it to fabric. She will also cover fusible basics, working with non-traditional fabrics, and quilting and binding the fused quilt. A second image can be started with time permitting. You will see the landscape with new eyes!

Sue began making landscape images from raw edges, selvages, and other odds and ends from scrap bags. From there she has gone on to add other techniques and develop a large series of work inspired by wetlands in her childhood-home state, Wisconsin.

You must bring along the following:

- A few photographs of landscapes to translate into a quilt, any other inspirational material you might want to bring;
- 10-15 yards (the faster you work, the more you bring) of Pellon Wonder-Under 805. *Watch for sales on Wonder-Under.* Do not bring Heat n' Bond. It is a different type of product;
- One 1/4” wide roll or *partial* roll of Stitch Witchery, (the Australian equivalent is fusible (iron-on) hemming tape);
- An assortment of fabrics for the top of your quilted constructions. Remember that you can fuse fabrics that you can't piece, so be creative. Have fun with this! If you want to interpret your landscape with realistic colours, keep that in mind when choosing your fabrics. Or, you can use totally crazy, unrealistic colour. About 25 different fabrics, fat quarter (or like) size is fine, some suggestions:
 - Bring a range of **values** from **light to dark**, not just mediums. Stretch yourself into brights, tints, tones and shades. Black is good, too.
 - Mind-bending colour, be bold.
 - Hand-dyed and painted, solids, near solids, large prints, small prints.
 - Cotton, silk, linen, rayon, and polyester will all work, include some shiny, funky, silky, etc.
 - Recycled thrift store clothing.
 - Sheers like chiffon and organza.
 - Fabrics you have fused for other projects or classes.
 - **Please note, if you don't want to buy any fabric for this class, don't, just bring what you have...it will be fine.**
 - Scraps of all sorts, especially long strips, selvages, ribbons, raw edges, etc., with or without Wonder-Under on them.

Pre-washing is not required, but almost always do, especially the recycled clothing. You can fuse fabric before the class, if you like. This would greatly speed up your process in class. You could start with fusing a 12” length of Wonder-Under (17” wide) to a grouping of 20 or so different fabrics. If you buy fabric in fat quarters, fuse that amount. Or, you can fuse fabric scraps. Do not pull paper off, and be sure to transport flat or rolled.

- 1 yard or more cotton backing fabric (fabric for the back side of your quilt), darker fabric is a bit better;
- One half of a full/queen-size cotton batting **or** four “scraps” of batting each about 24” x 24” or larger. To insure consistent results only bring 100% cotton batting such as Quilter’s Dream Cotton or Fairfield Soft Touch. Some batting contains polyester or a scrim that can cause problems, like dimpling or warping (Warm ‘N Natural has such a scrim. If it is all you can get, we can deal with it.);
- 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 above cotton batting and this cotton sheet or fabric will be used to create an ironing/design surface on your work table. If the tables at the workshop are vinyl or another type of plastic and might warp, please bring a towel or extra batting to pad your table and keep the heat from penetrating to the surface;
- Press cloth of 100% cotton long staple cotton (like Pima), pre-washed, approximately 18” x 18,” white colour best. If you don’t have any Pima, don’t go out and buy any, just bring another pre-washed white cotton instead;
- Teflon press sheet;
- Pencil and paper, masking tape;
- Sharp scissors (one large, one small), cutting mat, rotary cutter (a large and very small would be ideal), gridded ruler (24” best but smaller will do);
- Straight pins for design board

A sewing machine is **OPTIONAL** 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);
- 10-20 colour 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); embroidery floss and needles for hand sewing are optional;

OPTIONAL, but HELPFUL SUPPLIES:

- reducing glass or other type of reducing viewer;
- a sample of your own quilt work;
- digital camera (highly suggested);
- about 3 manilla folders or gallon plastic bags for storing fused scraps;
- tacking or sealing iron; and tube of iron cleaner (for a fusing slip-up);
- portable light;

SUPPLIES SUE WILL HAVE ON HAND:

digital camera and interesting fabric scraps for the class to use.

Sewing Machine: 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 accessories, and **bring** darning or free-motion quilting foot, even-feed (walking) foot, couching foot if you have one,

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.