

FUNDamentals of String Quilting: Squares and Circles

The two most important things about string quilting are 1) making beautiful blocks from scraps and 2) having FUN. Relax and enjoy improvising when constructing blocks. Participants will make two diagonal square string blocks and two string circles. The string circles will be applied to background squares. These can be used as a hanging, a runner, or the beginning of a larger quilt project. Techniques to add interest to string blocks are emphasized. After making two square blocks and two circle blocks, participants are ready to string on their own.



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Class Supplies and Tools

___ Sewing machine and usual sewing supplies, iron, and ironing board

If you have a walking foot, that may be useful when doing the applique

___ Paper for foundations

For this class, you will need two 10" circle foundations and two 12-½" square foundations. Newspaper, lightweight kraft paper, paper lunch bags, or other lightweight paper will work. Regular copy paper will do in a pinch, but lighter papers work better.

___ Some flat head pins to cut paper foundations

___ Rotary cutter and mat, rulers, scissors for cutting fabric and paper

___ Fabric for strings

You will need fabrics cut into strings (differing widths, lengths, and shapes) for constructing the circles and squares. You can use leftover fabric. Having a variety of fabrics is important. If you need to purchase fabric, 5 or 6 fat quarters should be plenty and will give you the needed variety. It is good to have some extra fabric to work with.

If desired you can cut some strings 1-¼", 1-½", 1-¾", and 2" wide.

___ Background Fabric

Identify several fabrics that might be used as background squares for your circles. I recommend you do not cut these fabrics before class. You will need (2) 12-½" squares of background fabric.

___ Thread for Appliqué

Thread for appliquéing the circles onto the background fabric

___ Lightweight fusible interfacing Pellon

(Pellon P44F or similar) ¾ yard