



Part 1: Choosing Fabric

This popular presentation discusses fabric selection in a practical language developed over decades to break down the confusion, frustration and fear involved in the decision making process.

Part 2: Make it happen:

Appliqué is all about preparation. We will make it happen with simple interactive demonstrations of techniques using Poly Fuse or Wash Away appliqué paper for shapes, organic stems and stitching using Perle 8 threads.

Note: If you do not have the materials but enjoy the demonstrations you can always get them later!

Break

Part 3:

After a bit of time with your stash, we will meet again for questions.

Fabric:

When selecting fabric look for options you may not normally consider. Have choices!

- Background: fat quarter or 42” square (based on width of the fabric)
- Consider regular prints like spots, stripes or plaids that are not high in contrast elements, or linen...have a few options as you may want to audition different fabrics
- Stems: consider any fabric that reminds you of stems either in colour or texture
- Flowers: be stimulated by colour, texture or design elements
- Pots: maybe look for options that have large scale prints
- Leaves: explore all your green options and include light/dark, warm/cool and textures
- Birds: think feathers, colour and texture

This workshop is also an opportunity to use orphan blocks, borders or medallions you may have in your UFO pile!



WHAT YOU NEED

Appliqué is all about the right tools. Here are my recommendations:

- Poly Fuse or Wash Away Appliqué Paper: this can be purchased by the metre or in packs of sheets.
- Thread: I highly recommend Elfin 60 weight by Wonderfil.
- Appliqué Pins: short, white headed pins make for easy handling
- Chalk Pencil: Bohin Chalk pencil is handy for making non permanent marks
- Perfect Scissors: Blue Handled are mid size and have a serrated blade for perfect cutting and snipping. They are both right and left handed as well!
- Fabric Glue Stick: used for finishing the edges of the fabric or positioning the shapes
- Mini Iron and Wool Ironing Mat: my favourite new toy is the wool mat which makes pressing very effective and is handy for travel
- Spray Starch/Alternative: Mary Ellen's Best Press is perfect!
- Needles: I prefer a size 11 Milliners Needle as I like the length and strength
- General Sewing Supplies
- Organic Appliqué: I recommend having this book as a reinforcement of the principles and ideas presented in the workshop.
- Design wall: A vertical surface to present or inspect your work. Design walls can be made using foam core, plywood or any flat surface. Simply cover with polyester wadding or grey flannel.
- Creative Appliqué Templates: If you don't like to draw you'll love this set of 35 Mylar shapes! Optional.

