

Holy Mola! Make the Festive Bloom Mola

Using Hand reverse applique

Teacher: Margaret Brewster Willingham, *Eye of the Beholder Quilt Design*

ALL levels

6 hour workshop:

Supply List below makes 1 – 12” x 12” Festive Bloom Mola block by hand reverse applique* Our Mola project will use 3 layers of contrasting batik fabric; a dark top, bright middle and colorful background layer. We then use another batik for under-coloring the leaves and another for flower applique. The fabric colors noted below are offered only as a reference point relating to our sample.

Required Kit includes:

- ☒ **Festive Bloom pattern piece(s)**
- ☒ 1- No 7 Sharps needle for basting
- ☒ 1- No. 11 Milliner’s needle for applique
- ☒ 1- spool of basting thread for basting
- ☒ hand-outs.

Fabrics*:

Our Mola project will use 3 layers of contrasting batik fabric; a dark top, bright middle and colorful background layer. We then use another batik for applique accents. The fabric colors noted below are offered only as a reference point relating to our samples.

- ☒ 1 – FQ Dark batik, top fabric (**Black, Purple**)
- ☒ 1 – FQ Light/ bright batik, middle fabric (**Yellow, Turquoise**)
- ☒ 1 – FQ Light-medium colorful batik, background fabric (**Purple, orange**)
- ☒ 1 – FE each accent color, flower centers & leaves applique (**Turquoise, green***)
 - ***OPTIONAL Fabric Kit. Cost = \$20.00 + shipping.** Available on www.eobquiltedesign.com. **Fabric Kit includes:** 1- FQ Black batik, top fabric; 1- FQ Yellow batik, middle layer; 1- FQ Purple batik, background fabric; 1- FE each Turquoise & Green batik, accent fabric.

Other Supplies:

- Threads: 50, 60 or 80 wt. threads for hand stitching (SAME COLORS as top, middle & applique fabrics)
- 1 spool each SAME COLORS as top fabric
- 1 spool each SAME COLORS as middle fabric
- 1 spool each SAME COLORS as flower center applique fabric
- 5-8 safety pins and straight pins for pin basting
- Marking implements:
 - Mechanical pencil or Frixion gel pen*: tracing pattern onto wrong side of background fabric and possibly designing on middle layer)
 - Clover blue washable pen, white ceramic pencil, mechanical pencil, eraser: possibly for designing your secondary designs on middle fabric and frame designs)
- 1 pair small, sharp scissors- our exclusive Kai 4 1/2” bent-handled slightly blunt-tipped scissors strongly recommended*

Rulers:

- Small 4" or 6" ruler for designing/ marking middle layer designs
- 12" or 16" ruler- designing/ marking frame
- Lightbox very helpful, depending on if you can see through your background fabric to trace the pattern

*We *strongly recommend* these items which are available from www.eobquilt.com: Kai 4" bent-handled slightly blunt-tipped scissors; Frixion gel pen; Beam N' Read Personal Light; USB Adaptor; 28 wt. hand cotton quilting/ button thread; Desk Needle Threader.

Preparation prior to class:

- ✂ Cut: 1 – 13 ½" x 13 ½" square Dark batik, top fabric (Black or dark)
 - ✂ Cut: 1 – 13 ½" x 13 ½" square Light/ bright batik, middle fabric (Yellow)
 - ✂ Cut: 1 – 13 ½" x 13 ½" square Light-medium colorful batik, background fabric (Purple) ✂
- Cut: 4 – 2 ½" x 3" rectangles, leaf fabric, under-color (Green)

For design possibilities:

- ✂ Cut: 6 – 1 ½" x 3" rectangles accent color, flower applique (Turquoise*)

Bring: Bring remainders of FQs of other fabrics to class along with all class supplies. Be ready for success!

The items on the supply list are specific for a reason. They work. They are the tools I use every day in my work and will help you be successful. In a Virtual class there will not be a product table set up in the classroom for you to purchase items when / if you find your tools are not working. I would hate for you to be frustrated and discouraged because of the wrong tools. Please be sure to order everything you need from the website or your local shop so you are properly prepared. Having the right tools will make all the difference in the world for your pleasure and success. I want you to have the best possible experience in my class.

WHY THE TOOLS ARE IMPORTANT!

Batiks are the requested fabric for our projects, or top quality hand dyes. The reason is they have a high thread count (220). The high thread count produces a tight weave which will give you a nice hole when you baste with the No. 7 Sharps needle and 12 wt. basting thread (see below), and minimizes the fraying as you cut and hand stitch. Occasionally I've run into a "hard" batik, but not too often. Batiks and hand dyes are also beautifully colored fabrics, rich in color and design, generally irrelevant which is the right side. I recommend pre-washing fabric before beginning your project.

For Hand Work

No. 7 Sharps Needles: Our No. 7 Sharps are John James needles that we use for basting in our trace, baste, snip & stitch process for hand reverse applique. They are a thick needle that leave a big hole in the fabric because they separate the fibers of the fabric. We use this hole to see the sewing line as we remove the basting thread and replace it with the stitching line.

28 wt. Hand cotton quilting/ basting thread: When basting we want a thick thread when we baste as it helps

to make and keep that hole begun by the no. 7 Sharps needle in our trace, baste, snip & stitch process for hand reverse applique. If you can't see the holes, you won't be able to stitch your design accurately. You want your thread in a contrast color to your top fabric. We have natural, white and red colors in stock.

No. 11 Milliner's Needles: These are our preferred hand stitching needles for hand reverse applique. Made by John James, they are similar to, but stronger than a straw needle, so don't easily bend. They are gold N' glide needles which means they have a polymer coating so they glide through the batiks easily, and have no burrs on them. The polymer coating also cuts down on hand/ wrist fatigue.

Kai 4" bent-handled slightly blunt-tipped scissors: An Eye of the Beholder EXCLUSIVE. The bent-handled shape makes them the ideal scissor for trimming out your fabric to create your seam allowance- the blade and fabric can lay flat on the table or in one hand while the other hand cuts. Because the fabric is flat it minimizes boo-boos. The slightly blunted tip gives you enough tip to cut deep into your corners, yet the blunted tip doesn't catch on the background fabric when you are between your top and background fabric which also minimizes boo-boos. These scissors open and close easily which cuts down on hand/ wrist fatigue, and the vanadium steel holds its edge.

For your purchasing convenience, the above items are sold in these Hand Accessory Kits. - Hand Accessory Kits

o Hand Accessory Kit 1. Cost = \$21.38: 1 – pack No. 7 Sharps needles for basting; 1 – pack No. 11 Milliner's needle for hand reverse appliqué; 1 spool natural color 28 wt. cotton thread for basting; Kai 4" bent-handled, slightly blunt-tipped scissors for hand work.

o Hand Accessory Kit 2. Cost = \$28.90: 1 – pack No. 7 Sharps needles for basting; 1 – pack No. 11 Milliner's needle for hand reverse appliqué; 1 spool natural color 28 wt. cotton thread for basting; Kai 4" bent-handled, slightly blunt-tipped scissors for hand work.

Kai 4" straight blade slightly blunt-tipped scissors: An Eye of the Beholder EXCLUSIVE. I use these scissors to clip my points and curves after trimming out. The slightly blunted tip gives you enough tip to cut deep into your corners, yet the blunted tip doesn't catch on the background fabric when you are between your top and background fabric which minimizes boo-boos. These scissors open and close easily which cuts down on hand/ wrist fatigue, and the vanadium steel holds its edge. The straight shape helps to make my clips perpendicular to the basting line.

Desktop Needle Threader: I wouldn't be sewing without it, since I can't see well enough to thread the tiny eyes of my No. 11 Milliner's needles. In the blink of an eye my needles are threaded and I'm back to sewing. **Beam N' Read Personal Light and USB/AC Adaptor (sold separately):** I use my Beam N' Read light every single day. The elastic neck strap adjusts for easy on/ off over my head and to situate the light once on. Flip up the hood and I have 6-LED lights shining on my project in the same direction as I'm looking at it without any shadows. It's lightweight, too, even with its 4-AA batteries powering it. Or I can save my batteries by plugging in with the USB/AC adaptor to an outlet or a USB port. Battery operated, it's great at the long arm, for when the power goes out or for reading in bed, too.

Frixion Gel Pens: in Black or Blue these make tracing the pattern onto the wrong side of my background fabric a breeze. I would never mark the front of my quilt with these pens as they weren't designed for fabric, but the wrong side of my background fabric will be hidden away inside my quilt when the piece is all done.

Other helpful products:

Pin Pals: I use my Pin Pal to hold my Kai scissors, wearing them on my left shoulder. The Pin Pal stays in place by 2 magnets-one in front and one in the back. Of course you can also use it to keep your pins handy. **Magic Thread:** Run your hand sewing threads through your pot of Magic thread before threading your needle and see how easily your thread glides through your fabric as you stitch. Magic Thread reduces static and moisturizes the thread so it tangles and knots less.