

Floating Scrappy Inner City

Sample Size: ~32" x 36" - easily made larger or smaller, if preferred

Kelly Ashton, Designer and Instructor

SUPPLY LIST & PRE-WORKSHOP PREPARATIONS

Please read the supply list in and follow the pre-workshop preparations prior to the workshop.

The Inner City block is a traditional block that is eye-catching no matter the chosen style of fabric: historic reproductions, solids, batiks, or contemporary / modern prints. Inner City makes into a stunning quilt with incredible visual dimension by using variations in both color and value.



SUPPLIES

SEWING MACHINE: provided!

KELLYQUILTER ACRYLIC TEMPLATES PROJECT SET: Templates H2, FHH2, HD2, AND HET2 are required for each participant. The cost of the template kit, which also includes anti-skid material, is \$17 (tax included; retail value \$20 before tax), payable to Kelly at the beginning of the workshop (cash or credit / debit card, please).

THREAD: 50 wt or 60 wt machine-piecing thread, neutral color

ROTARY CUTTER: 28mm size is preferred

CUTTING MAT: Cutting mats will be available in the classroom. However, if you have an 8" - 12" (or so) square or round mat on a rotating base, please bring it with you to class. If you do not have a mat on a rotating base, a small rectangular mat (6" x 8" or so) would work and be helpful.

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ROTARY RULERS:

-6" - 8.5" x 12" - 24" rectangle for cutting WOF strips (not necessary to bring to class if you do the pre-workshop cutting - and, please, do the pre-workshop cutting) :)

MAGIC Premium Quilting & Crafting Spray (my personal favorite) or Mary Ellen's Best Press (for pre-workshop fabric preparation - see page 3)

MECHANICAL PENCILS (to mark fabric): regular "lead" mechanical pencil and white chalk mechanical pencil (such as Bohin or Sew Line)

NOTIONS: Thread snips, seam ripper, pins, and any other favorite notions

IRONS / PRESSING STATIONS will be available in the classroom.

PEN OR PENCIL for taking notes

FABRIC: 100% cotton fabric (regular quilting cottons, batiks, or a mixture).
-**NO flannels or lawns, please.**

-Please read the article on "Selecting Fabrics with Value Variation" (beginning on page 4) for fabric selection guidance.

NOTE: The Inner City quilt is a project whose finished size is easily adjusted / customized simply by adding more Inner City Blocks until you achieve the desired size. If you wish to make a larger quilt, you will add more value sets and, perhaps, additional multicolored pieces to make the desired number of blocks.

FABRIC TO BRING TO CLASS:

For Inner City Blocks:

-1 multi-colored FQ (fat quarter - 18" x 22")

- use the multi-colored FQ to inform your color selection for value sets and to include in some of your Inner City Blocks, if you wish.

(See article beginning on page 4).

-3 to 4 value sets of 3 fabrics (one each of a light value, medium value, and dark value fabric in each set) - Each of these pieces of fabric could be $\frac{1}{8}$ yard cuts, FQs, or fat eighths - or even large scraps, 10" squares, or 2½" strips

Having one multi-colored FQ and 3 - 4 value sets of fabric will be plenty of block fabric for class. Later, you can add value sets, as needed, to make the quilt as scrappy and/or as large as you wish.

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For Background / outer border / binding fabric: to make the sample size, 1 yard will be ample (add 1/3 yard for binding, if you wish)

If you wish to make your quilt larger than the sample quilt size, purchase the amount of fabric that is the length of your desired quilt plus enough yardage for binding (for this calculation, the border width can't be cut larger than 8" wide.) Example: If you want a quilt 108" long, purchase 3¾ yards of setting / border fabric. (After you have prepped the fabric, cut off WOF binding strips first, followed by 4 length-of-fabric border strips, and set the binding and border strips aside. Use the remainder of the fabric to cut the setting pieces.)

If you're uncertain of the quilt size you want to make, I suggest waiting until later to choose the setting / border fabric.

Pre-Workshop Instructions: Please complete this *before* class!

FABRIC PREPARATION:

Prepare all of your block fabrics by generously (quite damp; not dripping wet) spritzing them with MAGIC Premium Quilting & Crafting Spray or Mary Ellen's Best Press (or spray starch, or sizing - anything that will add body and mild stiffness to the fabric) and pressing them until dry with a dry iron on cotton setting. Or, you can spritz the fabrics, iron them briefly, then hang to dry. Once dry, press out the wrinkles using a steam iron on cotton setting.

When you have selected fabric for the setting pieces / outer border, prepare the fabric in the same way.

CUTTING:

From each prepared block fabric (*except* stripes / directional fabrics), cut 2¼" fabric strips and bring these strips (and the remainder of the fabric) to class. (If you're using any 2½" "jelly roll" strips, you DO NOT NEED to cut them down to 2¼".) Bring any prepared, uncut directional block fabrics to class, and Kelly will assist you in determining options for use of directional fabrics in your blocks and the appropriate width of strips necessary to cut the patchwork pieces.

I'm looking forward to seeing you in class! We're going to have a great time together working on this beautiful project! If you have any questions before class, please email me at: kelly@kellyquilter.com and type "Inner City" in the subject bar.

Kelly Ashton

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Selecting Fabrics with Value Variation

Kelly Ashton / Kellyquilter Designs

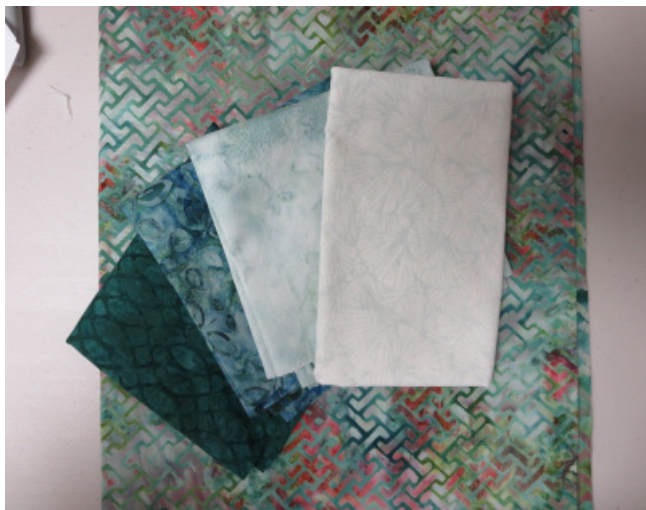
When selecting fabrics for a quilt project such as a Tumbling Block or Inner City, value variation is key. Let me show you some examples and give you some tips for fabric selection.

First, it is perfectly fine to use batiks and "regular quilters cottons" together in a project. I mix the two often in quilts to increase the visual interest in the finished product. $\frac{1}{8}$ yd. cuts work well if you're purchasing fabric. If you're pulling from your stash, then whatever size piece you have is fine, as long as it's at least $2\frac{1}{4}$ " wide.

Often, I begin by finding a multi-colored piece of fabric that speaks to me such as the one pictured here.

There are SO many colors in this piece! I love having a lot of options from which to draw!

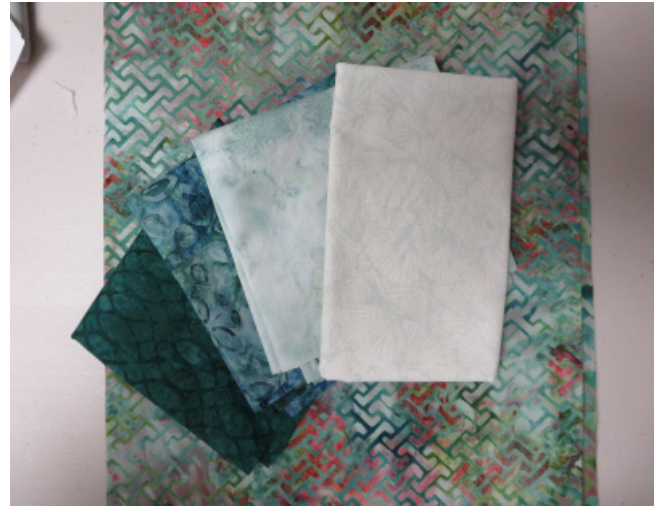
Next, select one color from the multicolored piece and look for a light, a medium, and a dark value fabric in that color.



I started with the dark teal green. Here, I've found four fabrics (you need at least three) that will work. From these four fabrics, I will be able to create a variety of light / medium / dark combinations to turn into Tumbling Blocks or Inner City blocks. I can use the top three fabrics. I can use the bottom three fabrics. I can make other combinations, as long as the value variation is adequate.



I can substitute a piece of the multicolored fabric in the block, too. If I use the dark and medium teal greens, the multicolored piece could be my light-value fabric. If I use the very light and the light teals, the multicolored could be my dark-value fabric. If I use the light and the "medium" teal green, the multicolored piece actually becomes the "medium-value" fabric because value is relative.



Next, I pulled the coral red color from my multicolored fabric, and I found light, medium, and dark values to create my set of value variation fabrics. As with the teals, I will also be able to substitute the multicolored piece within the block, if I wish.

I also found a piece of fabric that has a gradation of color across the fabric, so I have a variety of light / medium / and dark values in one piece of fabric!



I hope you have found these examples and tips on selecting fabrics for your project to be helpful. Mostly, have fun and enjoy the process! I look forward to having you in class!!

Kelly

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