

Improvisational Quilting

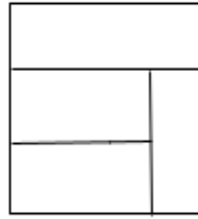
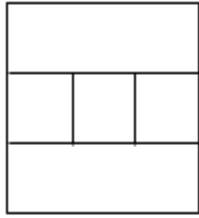
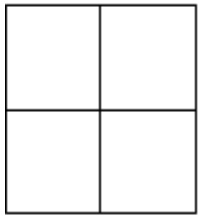
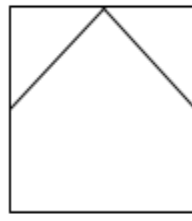
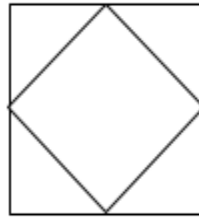
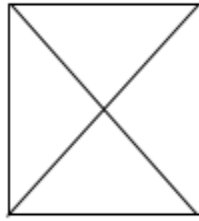
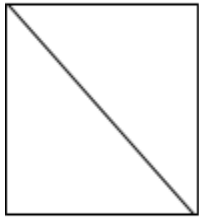
Supplies:

1. Sharp fabric scissors and/or rotary cutter with a fresh blade, and cutting mat.
Working sewing machine with neutral thread.
2. Cutting and Ironing Workstation. There is a lot of back and forth, up and down, cutting and pressing with improv! Try to set up your cutting board and iron conveniently nearby.
3. A large ziploc bag full of scraps of all shapes, sizes, colors and textures. See ***Prep Work** below.
4. Choose a substantial selection of fabrics that play well together:
I suggest at least 6-12 different fabrics. This will give you options.
Look for contrast in prints or color.
Collect a variety of lights, mediums and darks.
Choose something that you will enjoy working with for the day.
Cuts could be ¼-½ yard cuts, fat quarters.
You also have the option to keep working through your fabric scraps.
5. Choose two blocks that you would like to work with:
 - The first block should be simple, to allow for room to change and manipulate it. I have listed a few samples in this handout.
 - The second block should be a traditional block that you like, are familiar with, and can make without a lot of effort. Options for this could be a Sawtooth Star, Log Cabin, Shoo Fly, Churn Dash, Birds in the Air - or whatever you are interested in working with for the afternoon. We will be focusing on changing and manipulating it to take it from traditional to improvisational.

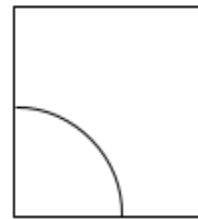
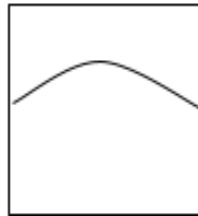
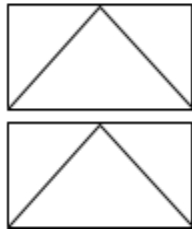
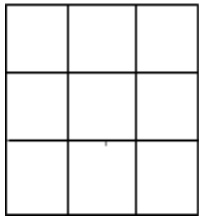
***Prep Work**

Grab a handful of scraps. Sort them into small, medium and large piles, ranging from 2” to 8”. Cut if needed, but do not use a ruler - use either scissors, free cut with your rotary or just start ripping. We do not want perfectly cut squares. The more odd shapes, the more interesting your lines will become. The weirder the fabric choices, the better. DO NOT try to coordinate. Textures and unusual fabrics add loads of interest, so do not discriminate. The less things match, the better you will understand this exercise.

Simple Block Options



Up for a Challenge



I look forward to seeing all of you in class. This should be a fun day!
Let me know if you have any questions.

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