Windows and Ladders Quilt Class
Rachel Derstine

Supply List





This quilt is created with a whole cloth background. The other elements of the quilt are pieced separately then fused onto the background with a raw edge applique technique. The edges are finished using either satin stitch or couching with yarn. The finished piece will be approximately 25" x 36".

Fabrics:
Limiting the color palette to just two-color families will result in a more compelling work.
Choose one yard in a textured solid or hand dyed fabric in your favorite color for the background. The best practice in choosing your other color family is to look across the color wheel to choose its complementary color. You can see in the example above, I chose blue-violet and gold. I also chose gold and purple. There are several versions of the color wheel, but any should help you choose complimentary color combinations.
You may add silk fabrics and some prints or textured fabrics for your pops of color. I especially like to use a few prints with metallics. Be sure to add fabrics in related colors of several values. Fat eighths or less of these colors are all you need but choose some longer lengths of fabric for your long vertical stripes.

Fusible:
My fusible of choice is Mistyfuse. One pack is plenty. This fusible does not have a paper backing so you will also need some parchment paper or Teflon sheets to protect your iron and ironing surface.

Yarn:
Choose two or three colors of yarn that coordinate with your fabrics. Yarn content doesn't matter but color does. Thickness does not matter as we will double or triple stitch the thin yarn.

Thread:

My favorite thread for piecing is Aurifil. My favorite thread for couching and satin stitch is Madeira Supertwist. The metallics are beautiful. You may use whatever brand of thread you prefer.

Sewing Machine - Please have your sewing machine set up before class. Your sewing machine must be in good working order. It must also have zig-zag capability. Also have your manual available. You should know how to raise and lower the feed dogs.

Presser Foot:
Zig-Zag presser foot and a cording foot or braiding foot for couching are good to have. I like the Bernina #21 but any open toe foot will work. See if your brand of machine might have something similar. Some people like the rolled hem foot but be sure it has a zig-zag hole for the needle.







Additional items

Fabric scissors, rotary cutter, cutting mat, small iron and ironing surface, single cone thread stand.

Large Starbucks Straw and masking tape to tape it to the top of your machine. This is to help feed and control your yarn.

Stabilizer – any sew in stabilizer. I use Pellon 806 Stitch ‘n Tear. This will be pinned and basted to the back of the whole background before we begin.
For the silk fabrics, I usually use a fusible Pellon sheer weight or ultra-lightweight stabilizer to make the silk fabric less likely to fray or shift. I use this fusible before adding the Mistyfuse.

We will only be constructing the quilt top in class. I will make suggestions for quilting when you take it home.