

Magic Mirror Mandala

Full-Day Workshop

with RaNae Merrill

In this workshop, you will learn simple techniques for designing a spiral mandala quilt as you create your own version of the quilt shown here. We'll explore "seeing between the blocks", proportion, flow forms, color and value, and mirror symmetry. The class is based on the techniques in *Magnificent Spiral Mandala Quilts*. In the first half of the class you'll create your design; in the second half you'll sew the first spiral for your quilt.

Quilt size: Two sizes are available, a 20" diameter mandala that finishes to approx. 30" square, or a 30" diameter mandala that finishes to approx. 45" square.

Class kit, \$16.00: The class kit is required, and includes all of the class instructions, pre-printed templates and foundations used in class, instructions for completing the quilt, and a package of translucent foundation.

Tools: (*Items marked with asterisks are available for purchase in class*)

For designing:

- _____ Scissors for paper
- _____ Pencil and a *fresh* eraser
- _____ Fine-point permanent black pen
- _____ 12" Ruler
- _____ 4 (at least) clear plastic page protectors
- _____ Dry-erase markers or crayons in a variety of colors. (See notes below.)
- _____ 15-20 Q-tips (for erasing dry-erase markers)
- _____ Several sheets of white paper 8-1/2" x 11"

For sewing:

- _____ Basic sewing tools: pins, scissors, etc.
- _____ Neutral colored thread for sewing;
I prefer a fine weight, #60 - #100 if possible.
- _____ Rotary cutter (45mm or larger), ruler and mat
(Please bring one with a blade guard.)
- _____ Two highlighter pens in different colors
Orange, Pink or Yellow are best

- _____ Transparent tape
- _____ *A pair of mirrors at least 8" x 10", taped together along one edge to make a hinge (if they are rectangular tape them along the shorter edge). ***Smaller mirrors will NOT work. Bring your own - do not plan to share.*** Mirrors available in class are non-breakable. (See pre-order info on next page.) ***If you bring glass mirrors, cover the back of the mirrors entirely with tape before you come to class, so that they will not shatter if dropped. Do not fold the tape over the edge to the mirror side.***

- _____ Double-sided tape (a full roll; permanent, *not* removable; buy it fresh at an office supply store: old tape shreds! Scotch brand in yellow and red box is best.)
- _____ Masking or painter's tape
- _____ *Add-a-Quarter and/or Add-an-8th tool with a card
- _____ *Seam roller (optional, but really helpful)
- _____ Several plastic bags to hold cut pieces of fabric

Dry-Erase Markers (ESSENTIAL):

Bring dry-erase markers or dry-erase crayons in a variety of colors; if possible, colors similar to your fabric colors. These are readily available at any office supply store. ***Do not substitute water-based, permanent, or highlighting markers!***

Sewing Machine Set-up: (Sewing machines will be provided in class. These instructions are for use at home.)

Bring your machine ready to sew with a new 75/11 or 80/12 needle. Use a foot that allows you to clearly see lines on the foundation, such as an open-toe foot, or a clear foot with a center-line mark. Please check your machine to make sure it is working properly before you bring it to class. Don't set up the machine at the beginning of class -- you'll need the table space for designing, then set up when you're ready to sew.



Fabric:

Fabric #1: One multi-color large-scale print fabric. **Fabric Group #2:** Pull from the first fabric a palette of 3-5 colors, then add 2-5 shades of each color. These should read as a single color: solids, tone-on-tones, small textures or tiny prints. **Fabric Group #3:** Several multi-colored fabrics in small to medium prints that combine colors in Group #2. (Be adventurous - go for vivid, interesting textures and patterns! Even bring some fabrics that you think might not go together.) The colors should be evenly distributed throughout the pattern. **Fabric #4:** A light or dark neutral to use as negative space within your mandala. It can be a solid or subtle pattern in a single color. In class we sew one spiral block, so you will need 1/8 yard (or less) of each fabric and you will not use all the fabrics; to finish the whole quilt you will need 1/8 to 3/8 yard of each color in the mandala, 1 to 1-1/2 yards of the background fabric (this could be the large-scale print or any other fabric), 1/2-1 yard of the negative space fabric and 1 yard of fabric for borders and binding. (These yardages are approximate, depending on your design.) You will be creating your own design from a starter template, so yardages depend on how you place colors in your version. Width-of-fabric (WOF) 1/4 yards are better than fat quarters for this project, but either will work. See below for information on purchasing a fabric kit, though I really recommend bringing your own fabrics -- you will learn a lot more.

Items available for purchase in class:

Books: *Magnificent Spiral Mandala Quilts* is the book on which the class is based. I recommend that you have the book to accompany the class. *Simply Amazing Spiral Quilts* is also available for purchase in class; it offers a wide variety of ideas (other than mandalas) for using spirals in many different quilt settings.

Tools: In the tools list on the first page, items marked with an asterisk will be available for purchase in class.

Mirrors, \$25.00: Each person must have their *own* set of hinged mirrors for the design portion of the class, and small mirrors will NOT work. Mirrors available for purchase in class are non-breakable and lightweight so they are safe for travel. Please pre-order mirrors -- see instructions below. ***IMPORTANT: If you bring your own glass mirrors to class, the backs must be covered completely with tape before class so they will not shatter if dropped. The mirrors MUST be at least 10" long on one side. If the mirrors are rectangular, tape them together along the SHORTER side, so that the long side rests on the table when they are open.***

Fabric kits (optional, available for purchase in class): There are several optional fabric kits available in a variety of colors, sizes and prices. Look at the colors/styles available at www.ranaemerrillquilts.com/teaching/160. If you want a fabric kit, I recommended that you pre-order it -- follow the instructions below. Include your name, class, date and kit style in the subject line of the email. I may have a few extra kits available but they are available only on a first-come first served basis.

To pre-order mirrors and fabric kits: Send an email to ranae@ranaemerrillquilts.com. In the "Subject" line write MIRRORS and/or THE NAMES OF THE FABRIC KIT, YOUR NAME, your GUILD, OR EVENT NAME, and the DATE. Emails must be received no later than 10 days prior to class to guarantee your order; if I'm on a multi-event trip you may need to order even earlier. Extra mirrors and kits may be available in class on a first-come, first-served basis. To have it shipped to you before class, please order through the online store at www.ranaemerrillquilts.com. (Standard shipping charges and shipping times apply. Please note that if I am travelling, orders through the store may not be shipped until I return home, which may be after your class, so it is best to pre-order.)

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For more information about Spiral Quilt workshops and lectures, go to www.ranaemerrillquilts.com/teaching, or contact RaNae at ranae@ranaemerrillquilts.com

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