

Eye of the Beholder Quilt Design

original hand and machine applique patterns inspired by the world around us

2324 Carriage Drive, Milliken, CO. 80543

info@eobquilt.com – (970) 330-6164

All About the Stitching: Hand Reverse Appliqué

Teacher: Margaret Brewster Willingham, Eye of the Beholder Quilt Designs

www.eobquilt.com:

SUPPLY LIST: Makes 1 Practice piece of hand reverse appliqué.

Required All About the Stitching: Hand kit. Cost = \$5.00

Kit includes: *Practice Piece* pattern + handout, provided by instructor in class

Fabrics

- 1 – 9" x 12" rectangle of medium-dark batik for top
- 1 – 9" x 12" rectangle of light batik for background

Other Supplies

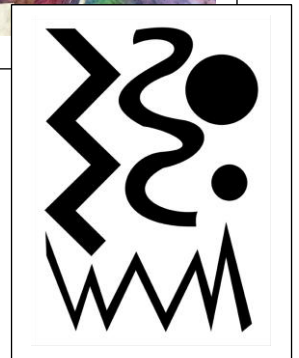
- No. 7 Sharps needle for basting*
- No. 11 Milliners needle for appliqué*
- Needle threader for small-eyed needles*(Clover Desktop Needle Threader* works with our No. 11 Milliner's needles*)
- 1 spool of 28 wt. hand cotton quilting thread for basting* (CONTRASTING COLOR to Dark top fabric)
- 1 spool each of 50, 60 or 80 wt. threads for hand stitching (SAME COLOR as Dark top fabric)
- 1 pair small, sharp scissors- our exclusive Kai 4" bent-handled slightly blunt-tipped scissors *strongly recommended**
- 5 safety pins or straight pins for pin basting
- Mechanical pencil or Frixion gel pen* (tracing pattern onto wrong side of background fabric)
- Pen for notes
- Battery operated light to increase visibility (Beam N Read personal Light* *strongly recommended*)

Helpful items: Light box, battery operated (to trace design onto background fabric)



*We *strongly recommend* these items which are available from www.eobquilt.com: No. 7 Sharps needles; No. 11 Milliners needle; Kai 4" bent-handled slightly blunt-tipped scissors; 28 wt. hand cotton quilting/ button thread; (or our convenient Hand Accessory Kit 1 or 2); Frixion gel pen; Beam N' Read Personal Light; USB Adaptor; Desk Needle Threader.

Be advised, there will be no electrical outlets in our classroom.



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Be ready for success!

The fabric and notions requirements listed in our patterns are specific for a reason. They work. They are the tools I use every day in my work and will help you. Our non-traditional methods do not require many tools, but having the right tools will make all the difference in the world for your stitching pleasure and success. I would hate for you to be frustrated and discouraged because of the wrong tools. Please be sure to order everything you need from our website or your local shop so you are properly prepared. Also, please check out our informative Technique Tutorials and Blogs. I want you to have the best possible experience with our patterns and methods.

Batiks are the requested fabric for our projects, though top quality hand dyes work very nicely too, particularly our hand process. 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, and it’s generally irrelevant what is the “right” side. I recommend pre-washing fabric before beginning your project. The experienced hand stitcher can choose to work in silks and other beautiful, but challenging fibers.

For Hand Work All items are available in the Notions section of our shop at www.eobquiltedesign.com

-No. 7 Sharps Needles (20 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 to baste with 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 now have natural, white and red in stock.

-No. 11 Milliner’s Needles: These are our preferred type of hand stitching needles for hand reverse applique. They are similar to, but stronger than a straw needle, so don’t easily bend. All the Milliner needles we sell are coated so they glide through the batiks easily, and are honed well so they have no burrs on them. The coating also cuts down on hand/ wrist fatigue. Recommended Needles are John James Gold n’ Glide, John James Signature, and Colonial Needle brand. My preference has been the John James gold n’ glides, but they have been impossible to get since covid, so have discovered the John James Signature Needles and Colonial Needle Milliner’s.

-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 glides along the fabric and 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. These are my go to scissors beyond reverse applique, too.

Hand Accessory Kits 2 convenient start-up kits for hand reverse applique available on line only.

- **Hand Accessory Kit 1. Cost = \$28.06:** 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.
- **Hand Accessory Kit 2. Cost = \$21.00:** 1 – No. 7 Sharps needles for basting; 1 – 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 (items 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.

-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.

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