

SUE CARLSON TECHNIQUE: GENERAL MATERIALS LIST

1. •SCRAPS OF FABRIC in a variety of colors and shapes. The little pieces that you would normally throw away. The more the better, fiber content may, and can, vary. SPECIAL EMPHASIS ON FABRICS WITH PRINTS OR PATTERNS IN THEM - especially "organic" shapes such as flowers, leaves, swirls, etc.. Batiks work especially well as there is usually a value range (light to dark) in addition to the overall design (solid colored fabrics or those with gradual color gradations don't work well in this technique).
2. •LARGER PIECES of fabric in a variety of designs and colors you plan to work with - especially fabric you may want to use as background to your subject.
3. •FOUNDATION FABRIC. Muslin works well, as it is sturdy but light enough so that a photocopied pattern can be seen through it. It should be large enough to more than cover the base of your project - usually 1/2 to 1 yard.
4. •TULLE (Bridal Illusion) in a variety of colors, especially black and a color or two to match your color scheme - size to match your project.
5. •AILEEN'S TACKY GLUE or other water soluble, non-toxic, craft or fabric glue. I like a glue that has some body to it (it won't seep through the fabric easily) and that dries flexible (some white glues are made to dry stiff).
6. •FABRIC SCISSORS - different sizes or styles may be helpful. Larger for the straight cuts, smaller for detail cutting. I find those pelican-BLADED embroidery scissors nice for cutting around curves.
7. •Sharpened PENCILS.
8. •Fine-point permanent MARKER.
9. •Straight PINS.

OPTIONAL YET HELPFUL

1. •NETTING - various sizes, weights, and designs to play with.
2. •Sue Olson's BOOKS - Serendipity Quilts: Cutting Loose Fabric Collage (will be available in class), presents the cutting loose process; and Free-Style Quilts: A "No Rules" Approach, presents fish and coral reef quilts (will need to find a used source as it is out-of-print).
3. •A REDUCING GLASS (looks like a magnifying glass), or a PEEP-HOLE from a door (find at a hardware store), or DIGITAL CAMERA. Any of these will reduce the image you are looking at and allow you to assess how your work is progressing from a different perspective.
4. •TRACING PAPER.
5. •Clear TAPE.
6. •TWEEZERS or STILETTO (I don't use them, but many students do and are happy they brought them).
7. •Table LAMP.
8. •Foam core BOARD - to work on and possibly to transport work-in-progress.

OPTIONAL ONLY

1. •In multiple day classes there may be those who get to the quilting stage, maybe one will even get to the binding, but most will still be collaging (I'd be in that group!). So, use your best judgement on how fast you work and how easy it is to travel with your machine. If it's not a big hassle, bring it just in case. In which case, please add:
2. •A SEWING MACHINE that can be set up for free-motion machine quilting--including the correct presser foot (refer to owner's manual if needed).
3. •BACKING FABRIC - to match size.
4. •THIN COTTON BATTING - to match size.
5. •SAFETY PINS for basting.
6. •A variety of THREADS for quilting. I particularly enjoy using rayon, variegated, or other specialty threads.
7. •A ROTARY CUTTER, cutting MAT, and cutting RULER.