

ROCKHOUNDING BLOCK WORKSHOP SUMMARY

With Abigail Vargas

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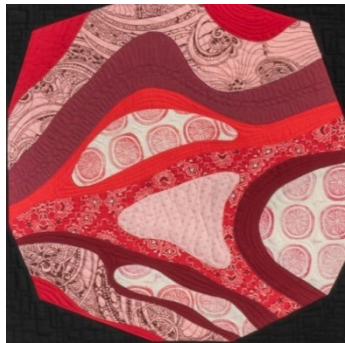
Skill Level: Intermediate or higher

Abigail creates stunning large-scale rock portraits using a specialized turned-edge machine appliqué technique. In the Rockhounding workshop, discover her method for creating bold, intricate shapes with ease. Students will explore fluid, agate-inspired forms and learn how to piece complex curves without frustration.

Abigail will demonstrate how to cut shapes from a paper template and neatly turn the edges using a mini iron for clean, precise lines. Students will then use a placement guide to layer their shapes and secure them with machine stitching using monofilament thread.

Designed for intermediate and advanced quilters, this workshop focuses on building skills to create dynamic quilts rich in movement and color. Participants will leave with a completed block sample, along with the knowledge and confidence to design and sew their own complex appliqué compositions in the future.

BLOCK PATTERN CREATE IN WORKSHOP:



Intermediate Block



*Figure 1*Quilt Inspiration (Some Blocks not Included in Pattern)

ROCKHOUNDING MATERIAL LIST

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\$20 Supply fee payable to the teacher the day of the workshop

Fabric Recommendations per Block:

- Fat quarter or more Background fabric (the background fabric in the sample photos is black)
- Two contrasting colors
- Three values per color: light, medium, and dark
- Varied prints to add texture. Consider including one solid or blender, a small print, a medium or large print, and/or a stripe, check, or gingham.
- Fabric requirements: Each fabric should be a minimum of 3/8 yards (WOF). Fat quarters may be used for some of the smaller areas.

Optional Preparation for Class:

- Use planning page for planning colors to use during class.
- Highly recommended (not required): Prewash all fabric to remove sizing.

Supplies: (Go to link for suggested supplies: <https://www.avargasdesigns.com/supplies>)

- Rockhounding Pattern & Planning Page (provided by teacher)
- 14"x14" Pinnable Design Board (teacher to provide loaners that can be purchased at class)
- 28mm Rotary Cutter
- 4"-6" Precision Scissors for cutting Paper (larger scissors are difficult to cut smoothly)
- 4"-6" Precision Scissors for cutting Fabric (larger scissors are difficult to cut smoothly)
- Water soluble Glue Stick
- Pencil with eraser for marking pattern
- Portable Ironing Mat at least 14" long. (If using wool, cover with a protective cover as iron will be very hot.)
- Spray Starch in non-aerosol bottle.
- Clover Mini Iron with small triangle shaped tip
- Small or Mini Iron
- Stiletto or Finger Stiletto (Trolley Needle Thread Controller)
- Blue pen fabric marker, white pen or pencil fabric marker, gray/yellow pencil fabric marker
- Basting or Seam Align Glue with Applicator Tip (I prefer Acorn Seam Align Glue)
- Pins
- 12.5" x 12.5" Square Rotary Cutter Ruler for squaring final block
- Monofilament Thread and medium gray cotton thread for bobbin
- Standard Quilt Sewing Supplies
- Sewing Machine (remember power cord, foot pedal)
 - Open Toe Foot or clear zigzag foot (for zigzag stitch)
 - 70/10 Microtex Needle