

Getting Started with Improv Piecing

Fridays: March 6 AND March 13, 2026

9:30 am– 3:30 pm

\$60

Get started in improvisational piecing: it's very freeing—there are no corners or points to match, or patterns to interpret, or persnickety cutting measurements. It allows you to create your own unique quilts, and most of all it's FUN!



You won't be making the specific quilt shown here—that's just an example of what you'll be creating **OF YOUR OWN DESIGN**. The sample quilt is about 18" x 24".

You'll learn:

- 6+ types of elements, pieced freeform, that you can put together to make a unique quilt (and use in making lots of other abstract quilts)
- variations and additions you can make, to multiply your design possibilities
- how to use some composition “tricks” to pull the elements together
- creating transitions to pull the elements together into a pleasing, cohesive whole

We'll be using some fun tools to help guide you through some decisions about what to make—but you can also go your own way as the spirit moves you.

Fabric requirements:

I suggest that for this first improv experience you choose solid or reads-as-solid fabrics so you don't have to make decisions about how to use prints; sometimes they can fight with each other. Batiks are OK, if you they don't have discernable patterns or prints.

At a minimum:

- 1 yard background fabric
- 1 yard main color (high contrast compared to background)
- ½ yard of accent color

Having said that, it would be useful for you to have 2 or 3 shades of the main color, and 2 or 3 shades of the accent; you may want to make those choices during the class, as you see how your elements are coming along.

Other Materials and Supplies:

- Rotary cutter, ruler (24" is fine, but I use a 6" x 12" a lot—it's less ruler to heft around as you cut), and mat
- Sewing machine in good working order, with a new needle
- (You should have a means to sew an accurate, scant 1/4" seam)
- Some marking tools that will show on your chosen fabrics—chalk, eraseable pencils, etc.
- Thread and spare needles
- pins and/or clips
- Other standard sewing notions

NO NEED TO STRESS about any of this; e-mail me if you have questions about the fabrics you've chosen, or anything about the class. We're going to have fun, darn it, so I hope to see you there!

--Karen

Karen@warpedspinster.com