



SUPPLY LIST

One-Block Wonders

Teacher: Kathi Miller

In this class we will use a single large-print fabric to create kaleidoscopes. Kaleidoscope blocks – each one unique – are produced by aligning the printed design on several layers of fabric and then cutting and sewing triangles together. Once all the blocks are made, the kaleidoscopes are used to “paint” a watercolor-like quilt. These quilts look complex but are actually easy, easy, easy – and fun to make besides.

Tools and notions needed:

- Sewing machine in good working order. Know how to operate your machine.
- Basic sewing supplies: needles, thread, several full bobbins, seam ripper, rotary cutter with a new blade, 17" x 23" cutting mat, rulers (one long and one short). You will be cutting 6 layers at one time so you might want to use a “jumbo” 60 mm. rotary cutter.
- Other sewing supplies:
 - Flower pins. These lay flat enough for a ruler to be over them and do not shift when you are cutting.
 - Design wall – piece of flannel or batting that the fabric will stick to without being pinned so that the kaleidoscopes can easily be moved around.
- Special tool: 60-degree ruler, preferably a Clearview Triangle Ruler. Please do not bring a 60-degree ruler with the tip(s) squared off (like the one sold under Marti Mitchell's name).

Pattern or book: “*One-Block Wonders*” by Maxine Rosenthal. Book is required.

Fabric requirements:

You need 6 repeats of a large-print fabric. Some suggestions:

- Choose a fabric with very little background. Too much background gives you blocks with little design and the blocks tend to look alike.
- A background that is not a solid color works better than a solid background but solid backgrounds can be used.

- Stripes and straight lines that run parallel or perpendicular to the selvage should be avoided.
- Swirls work well.
- I avoid fabrics with animals and/or people as you can end up with eyeballs and other body parts in strange places! This is totally my personal opinion. I've seen One-Block Wonders from a rodeo print with cowboys, horses and livestock and another from an Asian print featuring koi and both were great.
- The larger the print, the less the finished blocks will look like the original fabric. This is the result you want!
- Try to limit the number of colors in the fabrics. Designing with fewer colors is much easier than designing with 8 or 9 colors.

You'll find lots of examples of suitable fabrics in the *One-Block Wonders* book.

Larger prints usually feature a repeat about every 24". 4-5 yards will make a very comfortable lap quilt. If the distance between repeats is 6" to 8" (which is a short repeat), you will end up with a very small project. For short repeats, buy 12 repeats instead of 6. Add an extra half-yard or yard to have a piece of the original fabric as a reference. I like to include a piece of the original fabric on the quilt back so it can be compared to the kaleidoscopes.

When shopping for fabric, you might want to bring two mirrors with you. Arrange the mirrors in a V shape and move them around the fabric to get an idea of the kaleidoscopes it will form.

A couple more things:

- DO NOT PREWASH THE FABRIC.
- DO NOT BUY FABRIC FROM MORE THAN ONE BOLT. There is no guarantee that the colors or print of a pattern are exactly the same from bolt to bolt.
- DO NOT IRON YOUR FABRIC BEFORE CLASS. Bring it to class folded as it came off the bolt.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions. My home number is 360.694.0501. Email is miller1623@comcast.net.