

Kawandi/Siddi Style Patchwork

Supply List (2 pages)

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Kawandi Patchwork originated in Africa and was brought to India, where it became known as Siddi patchwork, and they were made by the Siddi, a community descended from the Bantu peoples of Southeast Africa. The method is the same for both and is used to make light, summer-weight quilts, usually without batting, though in some cases, layers of other fabrics are used as fillers. Traditionally hand-stitched, this technique can also be done by machine if hand sewing is not your cup of tea. The hand sewing is remarkably easy and fast, and resembles Boro or contemporary Kantha. This method makes Kawandi Patchwork a portable project to take with you. On summer outings.



In this class, you will make a small, table-mat-sized sample, either by hand or by machine, to your preference, to learn the technique. If desired, you can prepare for and tackle a larger project, such as a baby quilt. These rustic quilts are typically very colorful and scrappy, being made to use up and recycle salvaged fabric scraps.

Please be courteous to others by arriving for class with the correct supplies. Contact me at 503-888-9784 or helene.m.knott@gmail.com if you have any questions.

A Note to Students: Many students do not realize that once the teacher is paid, the shop offering a class makes little if any income on the class itself. The shop is relying on product sales to continue offering quality classes to you. Therefore, I urge you to patronize this shop when buying your supplies for this class as much as possible and remind you that big chain stores do not offer the variety of classes that the smaller shops do. Keep quilt classes alive by supporting this shop.
Thank you, Helene



Tools/Materials:

- **Fabric for patchwork:** You will need scraps! Lots of scraps. They can be any size or shape (rough squares and rectangles are easier to work with) but larger scraps go together faster, I recommend they be no smaller than 4" square or so. In the authentic Kawandi Quilts, anything goes; in traditional Siddi Quilts, recycled Sari silk is often used. I will have lots of extra scraps to share but bring what you can, especially if you want to control the color palette of style of fabrics. A place mat or table runner sized project can easily be made from a gallon Ziploc bag stuffed with scraps
- **Backing:** Siddi/Kawandi quilts typically do not have batting but using a flannel for the backing can add a bit of extra body. If you wish a bit of loft, I would recommend an extra layer of flannel in place of batting. These quilts are finished with a self-binding so backing should be 2" - 3" larger than you intend the finished project to be.
- **Sewing pins:** You will need lots of sewing pins so bring plenty of them.

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- **Scissors:** A small pair of sharp craft-style scissors.
- **Hand sewing needle:** a longer basting needle or size # 1-2 Milliner's needle is ideal (for hand technique only).
- **Thread:** For hand sewing, I recommend a colorful Perle Cotton in size 8 or 12. For the machine sewn version any thread around 35-40 wt. will do but the 12 wt. threads are particularly lovely. If you opt for 12 wt. A heavier needle like a #16 topstitching needle will give you better results.
- **A thimble:** for hand sewing if you prefer to use one.
- **Needle grabber (optional for hand sewing only):** This is a round rubber disk used for grabbing and pulling a hand sewing needle through dense material.
- **Portable light and/or magnifier (optional – for hand sewing only):** Good lighting is essential for handwork and the lighting in classroom environments isn't always up to the task. It can be helpful to have additional, focused lighting in the form of an Ott type lamp or the LED type that hangs around your neck. Some lights come with an attached magnifier lens, this too can be useful.
- **A small travel iron and pad (optional):** This is optional but useful as you will be constantly turning raw edges under and having a small pressing station at your side will speed up this process. Do not bring a large iron as too many irons may strain the circuits in the classroom but small travel or mini (Clover) irons would be fine. You can also opt to finger press the edges as is done in India or Africa.
- **Sewing Machine (OPTIONAL -FOR THE MACHINE METHOD ONLY):** With a standard piecing foot.