

Collage the Garden :: From Photo to Flower Supply List

Learn to translate Sarah's photo of a flower (pink water lily or orange day lily) into a pattern and construct an enticing fused, collaged quilt top. Along the way you'll learn about design, value, shading, shape, different ways to approach your fused collage shapes, and how to apply Sarah's process to your own photos when you get home. You'll begin your flower quilt top in class and, time permitting, discuss thread-coloring and quilting.

Fabric: tone-on-tone prints with low contrast designs, particularly batiks, work best for me, but bring the fabric *you* love. In this class, you'll create a top about 8x11 or (if you feel confident about scaling up in size) up to about 12x15. That means you don't need a vast quantity of any given fabric—but a reasonably wide variety of prints and textures is good.

For the flower, look closely at the image and bring a range of value (light to dark) in your fabric. You'll also need three to five greens for the background. Look at the proportion of background to the size of flower to figure out how much to bring.

For the pink water lily, note that the reflection of the lily in the pond is quite greyed, so try to find a more muted, shaded fabric for the reflection. You'll also need a deep dark for the pond; I had a hand-dyed fabric that was somewhat solid with some light areas, which was perfect. If you don't have one perfect fabric, you can use several fabrics together. In the photo, you can see that my cloth is not only green but also brown and burgundy and blue-green! For the lily pads and pond, you'll want a range of medium to dark greens, a bit of yellow and ochre (a yellow-y tan), and possibly a bit of medium-light green for the lighter bits of the water if your pond fabric

For the orange day lily, you don't have to make it orange! Just bring a range of values from light to dark; this image uses light, medium and dark orange (nearly rust/burgundy!), yellow, and a yellow-green. If you want to create a stargazer lily, one that is white and hot pink with freckles, bring whites (white on whites work well here), light-medium and dark pink. Since this is a close-up, you'll use more of the flower colors and less of the background / foliage colors. You may pre-fuse fabric so you have more working time in class or do the fusing in class. I prefer vastly Mistyfuse, visit mistyfuse.com.

Please email Sarah if you have questions! sarah@sarahannsmith.com

GMAIL USERS: please add Sarah's email address to approved senders. Gmail always puts stuff into spam!

You'll need these supplies:

Learning to see/pattern:

- 1. Vis a vis wet-erase or other washable black marker (do NOT use dry-erase), available at Staples/office supply stores.
- 2. 5-10 sheets white paper—copy paper works, tracing paper also fine
- 3. Pencil, eraser and pencil sharpener
- 4. Digital camera (optional) if you have one—camera on phone is ideal
- 5. A couple paper towels and a small container for water or nearby sink to dampen
- 6. Clear page protector—essential!
- 7. Print out or visit copy shop to print good quality color and B&W photos.

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The Quilt Top:

- 8. Fabrics (see discussion above)
- 9. Non-stick press sheet or parchment for class sized project.
- 10. Marking tools such as Chalk pencil/blue pen
- 11. Paper scissors and freezer paper(only if you plan to make pattern pieces)
- 12. Fabric scissors, large and small
- 13. Small cutting mat (optional but encouraged)
- 14. 18 mm cutter (optional but encouraged) or other small rotary cutter
- 15. Transfer Paper if you have any; I prefer Transdoodle (at mistyfuse.com) or Saral brand, in white and possibly blue, but white should work for most needs. Transdoodle vailable at Mistyfuse.com; Saral at large art supply store or dickblick.com
- 16. Iron and ironing surface.
- 17. Ironing surface
- 18. Mistyfuse or other heat-activated fusible web. I vastly prefer MF for its soft hand and versatility. Available at Mistyfuse.com