

Playing with Texture and Color

Sharon Bottle Souva

315-299-4526 / smsouva@yahoo.com

Congratulations.....

You have decided to break into exploration of texture and color with fabric.

In this class you will design a simple block using a stencil (mine or yours), use reverse applique to realize the ability of the fabric to make its own texture and work with a color wheel will help with choices for your fabrics as you layer complementary colors of different values together.

Begin by choosing your design. Keep it simple. You can use one of the patterns provided or draw your own onto card stock. The best design should have some open areas. See my examples.

Glossary of terms:

Complementary colors are directly across from each other on a color wheel. (for example: red and green are across the wheel as are blue and orange. However blue-green is opposite from a red orange.

Analogous colors are three colors that sit next to each other on the color wheel.

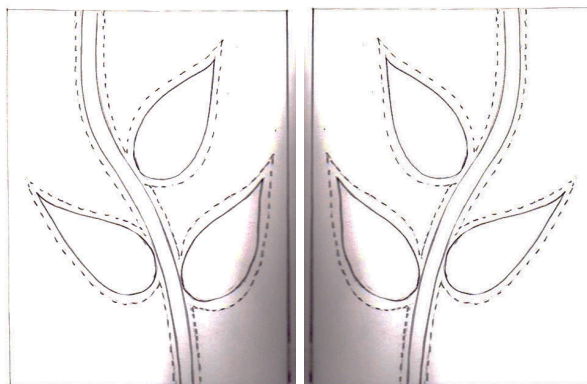
Warm colors - reds, oranges and yellows (Think sun and fire)

Cool colors - greens, blues and violets (Think water, shadows, leafy trees)

Value indicates the light, medium and/or dark nature of the color.

Fabric and working directions

1. Choose **3 different analogous** colors to work with, **either warm colors or cool colors**.
2. Select 4 fabrics within this color scheme in different **values**. Call this pile A
3. Select 4 fabrics that are **complimentary** colors to the original selection. These should also reflect the **light-medium-dark values**. Call this pile B
4. Cut each fabric into 4 rectangles: 6 ½ x 8 ½ inches each, keeping A and B separate.
5. Make a 2 block piles of each fabric and place in separate rows. (row A and row B)
6. Decide on which "pile" A or B / the warm or cool colors that you want as your background, and which you want as the design element.
7. Draw the design on the chosen background fabric using your stencil. Use a light colored pencil on the dark fabric, dark pencil on light fabric. Reverse the direction of your drawing in half of these fabrics.
8. Stack the background fabric on top of the design fabric. Mix and match as you like; one warm and one cool per pile. The only "rule" is to have a different **value** in each pairing for greater contrast.
9. Once they are paired, begin sewing about 3/8 inch on the OUTSIDE of the drawn lines. See example below.



10. Cut the top layer on the drawn lines. Scrub the cut edges with brush.
11. Turn and trim the back layer to reduce bulk.
12. Next you will lay out the 16 blocks in your favorite formation and sew with or without lattice and borders. Layer with batting and backing and quilt.
13. Quilt with stitches close to the cut edges to allow them to create a 3D effect.