

Stitched Mosaics Supply List

I am very excited to spend the week with you making Stitched Mosaics quilts. Using this technique, you do not need to know how to draw to create photo-realistic quilts, which is why this process is so fun to do.

We will start the week by preparing a photo of your choice and learning how to really “look and see”. The technical and artistic process of Stitched Mosaic construction will be a large component of the first two days of class. Since much of the design of a Stitched Mosaic quilt is dependent on color, value, and pattern we will spend time throughout the week playing with, and exploring, those elements as a part of quiltmaking.

Also covered is discussion on quilting the sandwich and embellishing to add additional details to the quilt top. Some participants will get to a point where they will be able to layer the quilt sandwich together and start quilting during class, others will not. If you tend to work quickly and think you may get to that point, be sure to bring batting, backing fabric, and plenty of safety pins for pin-basting the layers.

Come prepared to experiment, have fun, and spend time with new crafty friends.

Supplies to Bring

- \$30 materials fee, paid to Timna
- A photo, printed on paper, that you would like to recreate in fabric. *Your finished quilt will be approximately the size of the photo*, so keep that in mind. 18”x24” is a good size to start with, but if you want to go smaller, or bigger, feel free to do that. At the end of this note I listed some suggestions on choosing a good photo to work from. Local copy shops, as well as places like Staples can print your photos. I have my patterns printed in color.

If you have any questions on what photo you should use, please email me before the workshop and I will be happy to give you feedback.
- Lots of scrap fabrics (at least 2.5”x2.5”) - more variety than you think you’ll need - in the colors you plan to work with. If you have scraps to add to a communal bin, please bring those as well. “More is more” is definitely true with this technique. I’ll have my scrap bins with me to supplement whatever colors you may need.
- A sewing machine. This technique works best with a machine that can do a blanket stitch or zigzag, but a straight stitch machine (such as a Featherweight) will work as well.
- General sewing supplies (scissors, rotary cutter, rulers, small mat, seam ripper, stiletto, pencil, paper etc.) Bring any other tools that you like to work with.
- Iron and ironing pad
- Paper scissors
- Glue Stick
- Neutral colored thread - grey or beige. As well as threads that generally match the palette of your photo.
- Long quilter’s ruler 6”x24” as well as other rulers for cutting 2.5” squares.
- Cutting Mat
- If you are an embellisher, bring an assortment of embroidery floss, beads, etc that you love to work with. If that’s not your thing, no need to bring them. All of my quilts are made without embellishments, but your finished quilt should reflect your style.

Optional Supplies:

- Monofilament for machine applique. I like Superior Mono-poly and will have some for sale.
- Light Box

If you have any questions at all, please let me know. I’m so looking forward to seeing you all!

Guidelines for Choosing a Photo for a Stitched Mosaic Quilt

If you have any questions about what photo to use, please email the photo to Timna ahead of time to see if it will be appropriate for this technique – timna-tarr@gmail.com

The main image should fill the frame. While you do want to have some background visible, the most important element should take up most of the space. It is also helpful if the main image has clear, defined edges. Rather than taking a photo of a whole garden, consider zooming in and taking a close up shot of a couple of leaves. I have found that filling the frame with the main image produces more striking results than with photos that are less specific to the subject.

Use a well-lit photo. Make sure that you can see the color and variation of shapes within the photo. Avoid photos where the main subject is dark or hidden in shadows.

Try to be at eye level with the subject. The strength of the subject comes through when it is looking straight at you. Photos taken from above the subject have a less powerful visual impact than those taken at or below eye level. Sometimes I need to take dozens of photos to get the “right” picture. Don’t be afraid to snap and delete.

Cropping can be your friend. If an image doesn’t fill the frame in a way that you like, crop the photo so that less background shows. You can do this using photo editing software, or just cut off the excess after the photo is printed.