

# Monthly Mandalas

## Supply List (revised 10/23/23)

Instructor: Helene Knott 503-631-8806 Email: [helene.m.knott@gmail.com](mailto:helene.m.knott@gmail.com)

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In this monthly Mandala quilting class, you can register for each individual session, then save and assemble your 'quilt as you go' Mandalas in to a lap-sized quilt at the conclusion of the series, or sign up for just the sessions you wish, finishing each Mandala as a standalone project. Each of the nine sessions will feature a different Mandala design and focus on a different method of drafting or stitching your Mandala, a tenth optional session will provide instruction in assembling your pre-quilted blocks into a single lap-sized quilt using an easy construction method. By the end of the series, you will have a library of different Mandala quilting designs to use on future quilts. This class is suited for quilters who already have some experience quilting and a familiarity with free motion quilting, students are expected to already have rudimentary machine quilting knowledge and skills, as those will not be covered in the class. The supplies listed will be needed for every session and should be brought to each class. Other supplies may vary by session and will be provided by the instructor when applicable.

**Please be courteous to others by arriving for class with the correct supplies. Contact me at 503-631-8806 if you have any questions**

### TOOLS/MATERIALS:

- **Sewing Machine:** A good basic home machine, preferably with feed dogs that can be dropped. A Singer Featherweight is not a good choice for machine quilting for a number of reasons. Please bring your **owner's manual** if you have one and are not familiar with all the functions of your machine **as well as the utility tools kit** (small screwdrivers, brushes, etc) in case you need to perform some minor maintenance on your machine during class.
- **Sewing Machine Accessories:** You need to bring a free motion foot for free motion quilting (this is absolutely necessary). **Make sure you have the right foot! I have seen a number of students come to class with an open-toed embroidery foot which is intended for zigzag stitching and will not work for free-motion quilting!**
- **Fabric:** You will need an 18 ½" square of your top fabric and a 22" square of backing fabric for each Mandala. The backing fabric will ultimately be visible as the sashing for the final quilt (or the binding on a standalone project), so choose those carefully, coordinating the colors/textures to harmonize with the top fabrics. If you are intending to make all 9 blocks, coordinate or match your topping and backing squares as desired for a single quilt or go for a scrappy assortment of colors. As the quilted design will be the feature of your blocks, choose fabrics that read as a solid, avoiding bold or busy prints. Cut these as accurately as possible.
- **Batting:** You will need an 18 ½" square of batting for each block you intend to make. Choose a thin, even cotton batting like Quilter's Dream, Warm & Natural, Warm & White, or something similar. If you intend to assemble your blocks into a single quilt, make sure your batting is the same in each block. Cut the batting as accurately as possible.
- **Thread:** Sewing thread in the color/fiber of your choice. Gorgeous results can be obtained by making the thread used for the Mandala a higher contrast with the fabric and the thread to add texture to the design, closer to the fabric in color. If you want your Mandala prominently featured, choose a 12 weight thread for that feature. Otherwise, anything from a 35 – 50 weight will be fine. **NOTE:** Metallic and holographic threads are notoriously temperamental, avoid those unless you are experienced at working with them.

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- Sewing Machine Needles: Bring a package each of machine quilting needles in size 11/75 & 14/90 and Microtex needles in size 12/80.
- **Stitching Test Swatch:** a couple of 18" 'sandwiches' made from muslin (or other inexpensive fabric) topping and backing layered and pinned or spray basted with thin batting.
- **Pencil and a good eraser:** bring a separate eraser, they never give you enough eraser on a pencil, I prefer the white 'plastic' erasers made by Pentel or Staedtler.
- Safety pins: for pin basting, about 16-18
- **should be adequate. You can bring basting spray instead if you wish, if you opt for basting spray, you will need to bring a 'spray box' (a cardboard box at least 22" square with sides high enough to capture over-spray). Regular Straight Pins.**
- **Scissors or thread snips:** The squeeze tweezers type thread snips are particularly useful for machine quilting and are a great investment.
- **Seam Ripper**



Below are just some of the class projects you will learn to quilt in this series.

