

Paper Cut Quilt Design

Supply List (2 pages)

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There are several cultures where the intricate cutting of paper is an art form. In Mexico, lace cut from tissue paper is a ubiquitous decoration during Día de los Muertos; in Eastern Europe, detailed images of flowers, animals, and the Tree of Life are the subject of paper-cuts called Scherenschnitte. This art form is also practiced in China and Japan, where intricate paper cuts are an art form in themselves and are often used as stencils to print fabric. The paper cuts are beautiful, but they are frequently too intricate to apply to fabric, even with fusing methods. I have found an excellent way of stabilizing the fabric for application. In this class, we will use this technique to create a small wall quilt from cloth.



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:

- **Fabrics for Papercut panels:** Bring two fat quarters one will be your background and the other will be for your paper-cut. They can be any color you wish but keep contrast in mind; there should be a significant contrast in value for the best results, a print or pattern is fine as long as it is very subtle, too much pattern will interfere with the details of the papercut. Likewise, a fine tight weave such as a Batik, will make detailed cutting easier. Prewashing the fabric is recommended for the best adhesive bond.
- **Additional Fabrics:** You may want to add borders or frame the panel with simple blocks. You may bring some fabrics that coordinate well with your center fabrics for these if you wish.
- **Embroidery stabilizer:** A medium weight embroidery stabilizer will be needed if you wish to add decorative stitching to secure the edges of your papercut design prior to quilting. Alternatively, you can wait until the quilt is layered and prepared for quilting and use the quilting stitches to secure or adorn the design.

Fusible web: Bring a piece the same size as your fabric, about a fat quarter. A product designated as lite will give softer results. OESD Soft Web, Gentle Fuse®, or Heat & Bond Featherlite are good choices but any paper backed web will work. If the fusible web you have has been lying around for a few years, you may want to buy some fresh as it dries out and gets crumbly with age. **NOTE:** this process will not work with a paperless product like Misty Fuse™

- **Freezer Paper:** Bring a roll, or a piece about 18" x 22".
- **Pencil**
- **Good eraser**

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- **Xacto (or similar brand) craft knife:** Make sure yours has a new sharp blade with a fine tip; the blade needs to be very tapered (not squat like a 'box' knife). A comfortable (preferably cushioned or contoured) handle is necessary to prevent your hand from cramping. There is a type you hold in the palm of your hand with a finger loop (pictured a right) that I find easier to use than the traditional straight handle.
- **Craft Scissors:** A pair with fine, sharp blades that can handle small details! You will be cutting mainly with the Xacto knife but will doubtless end up having to snip here and there with precision.
- **A Medium Sized Cutting Mat:** 11" x 17" or so.
- **Pattern:** I will have a couple of options to choose from but you can bring your own design source if you wish. Dover publications has some excellent books on Folk Art Papercut designs, or a book on stencil art can also provide good designs.



Dover Stencil Design



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