

LET'S QUILT DAY FOR JUNE 2021
WATERCOLOUR QUILTS

It is hard to believe how quickly the time has flown by and it is June already and we have not been able to meet once at all. Hopefully things will turn around for the fall and we will be able to meet once again!

For June, I thought we could explore something that has always fascinated me – Watercolour Quilts. I was able to find a book at the library by Pat Maixner Magaret and Donna Ingram Slusser entitled “Watercolor Impressions” which is actually their second book on this subject. Their first book is entitled “Watercolor Quilts”.

In this book, they mentioned the artist Deirdre Amsden, who does an impressionistic style of watercolor quilting using small pieces of fabric to blend and shade her colors. Below is her picture and a couple of her quilts.



Author/Artist Deirdre Amsden



Her Quilts



In the book that I borrowed, the authors discuss the differences between the different fabrics. Smoothy fabrics have no real designs apparent in them and are used to create an illusion of a light source. Chunky fabrics are dark coloured fabrics and include print fabrics that have strong design lines. To transition or move from Smoothy Fabrics to Chunky fabrics, you are supposed to use Reachy Fabrics. These fabrics have lines or vines or branches that give the subtle look of movement from one area to another. If you have a very small area to transition or move from Smoothy to Chunky fabrics, then it is suggested that you use Freckle Fabrics. These fabrics contain both light and dark lines and colours and have quite a bit of contrast within the block. You can also create “Flowers” by grouping like colours and blossoms of fabrics and using several blocks together from the same fabric.



“Flower” example



“Smoothy” Fabric example



Whims Watercolor Kit -Amazon

I also found a good description on Stitchin’ Therapy’s website at: [Stitchin' Therapy: Tutorial Design a Watercolor Quilt](#) and they have a three part Tutorial that easily explains the process and allows you to make a lovely wallhanging.



There is a You Tube video by Cheryl Sleboda about making a Watercolor Quilt using fusible web at: [Technique of the Week #18 - Watercolor Quilts - YouTube](#) and a lovely video of examples by Pamela Gregan called Wonderful Watercolors at: [Wonderful Watercolors.avi - YouTube](#). There are also a couple of videos by Whims – a kit and a demonstration on You Tube.

Our Tip of the Month for June is from an episode of a Fons & Porter “Love of Quilting” show and is about Binding Management. A viewer wrote in that if you wrapped your binding around a toilet paper roll or a large spool of thread and then put a cord or a piece of string through the hole large enough to put over your head, the binding will roll off easily when you are sewing it to your quilt.

Meribeth and I were discussing having a Yardages Sale (any fabric piece over 1 meter and you price what you want to receive for it) so if anyone is interested, I would appreciate you contacting me and letting me know ASAP otherwise we will come up with a Plan B. Have a great summer and happy quilting!

Deb Owens
Vice-President