

Intro to Quilting

Story Quilts & Faith Ringgold

Inspired by Faith Ringgold's *Story Quilt* on view at the Zuccaire Gallery as part of *Artists As Innovators: Celebrating Three Decades of NYSCA/NYFA Fellowships*.



Change 3: Faith Ringgold's over 100 Pound Weight Loss Performance Story Quilt, 1991
Acrylic on canvas with pieced fabric border. © 1991 Faith Ringgold, Courtesy ACA Galleries, NY

Zuccaire Gallery Quilt Demonstration

The sample bag contains all the materials you will need to create a small “Mug Rug”. For the purposes of this demonstration, you will be sewing the pieces together by hand. This project can also be done on a sewing machine.

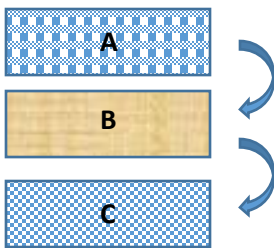
Supplies provided:

- A threaded needle (attached to your fabric)
- 2 small pieces of fabric - each measures approximately 2” x 3” (A & B in Figure 1)
- 1 small piece of fabric - measures approximately 2 ½” x 3” (C in Figure 1)
- 1 piece of fabric - measuring 5 ½” x 5 ½” (D in Figure 2)
- 1 piece of batting - measuring 5 ½” x 8” (Figure 3)
- 1 piece of fabric - measuring 5 ½” x 8” (Figure 3 – back fabric)

From the work station table you should take:

- Binder clips or straight pins

Figure 1



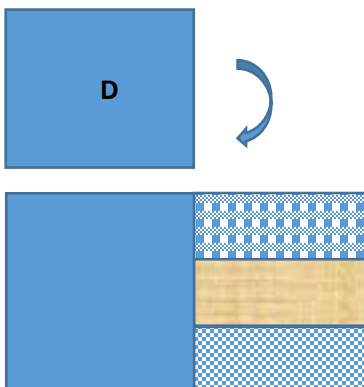
Choose 2 pieces of material; you can sew them together in any combination you wish.

The print sides (or “right” sides) should be facing each other. You will be sewing along the 3” side of the material. Sew the 2 sides together using a running stitch (basically the thread goes up and down in the fabric and looks like a dotted line - see Figure 4). Try to keep a ¼ inch seam. Next, sew the third piece of material to the 2 stitched pieces.

Once all 3 pieces have been sewn together, finger press or iron all the sewn seams to one side. All seams should go in the same direction.

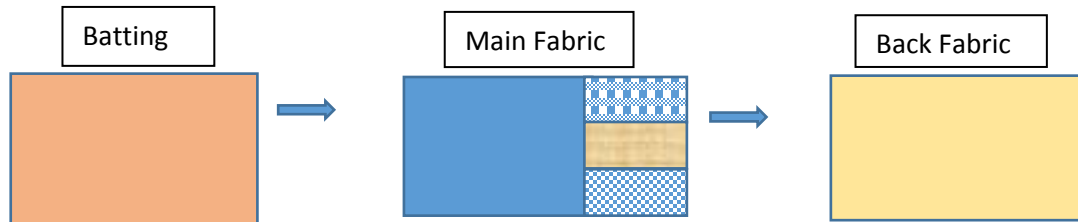
These 3 pieces now form a rectangle.

Figure 2



Sew this square piece (D) to the three pieces that were sewn together to form a rectangle. Remember: before you begin to sew, the printed sides of the material should be facing each other. When finished sewing, finger press or iron the sewn seam.

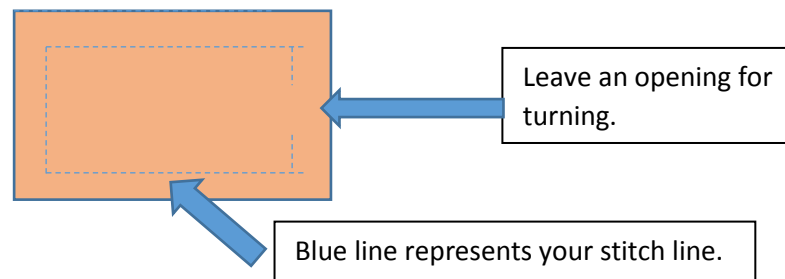
Figure 3



Make a quilt sandwich. Lay the batting on the table. On top of the batting place the main fabric – the print/right side faces UP. Next lay the back fabric – print/right side faces DOWN.

Use a running stitch to sew all pieces together; leave an opening for turning the material inside out.

Figure 4



Push the fabric through the opening. Poke the corners a bit – try to square them off.

Before you sew the last section, use your fingers to press down/fold in the raw edge of the unsewn section of material – you want to “tuck” in the raw edges.

Seal the open edge with an overcast stitch, whip stitch or a decorative ¼” running stitch. The mug rug is complete. Enjoy!!

Quilts and the Underground Railroad

<https://www.nationalgeographic.com/news/2004/2/did-quilts-hold-codes-to-the-underground-railroad/#close>

The Women of Gee’s Bend <https://www.soulsgrowndeep.org/gees-bend-quiltmakers>

Black Art in America: The Quilting Tradition

<https://www.blackartinamerica.com/index.php/2018/11/09/the-quilting-tradition/>

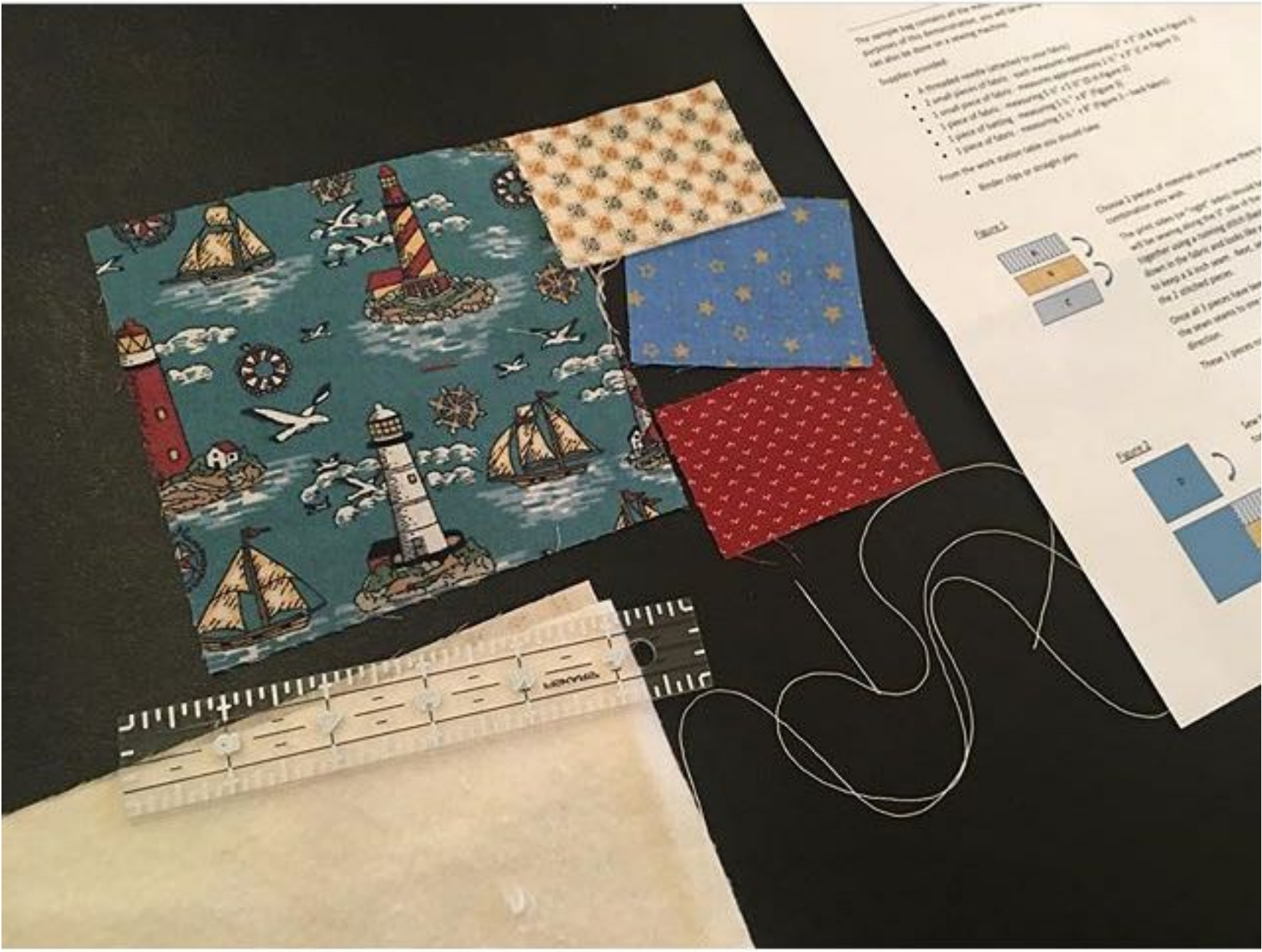
Stony Brook Hospital and Stony Brook Veteran’s Home are always looking for donations of homemade items: <https://you.stonybrook.edu/stonybrookstitchers/>

To learn more about quilting, YouTube has many instructional videos. Visit the sites listed and plan a trip to your local quilt store.

Suffolk Library (and your local library for classes) <https://www.livebrary.com/>

New York Quilt Guilds <https://www.generations-quilt-patterns.com/new-york-quilt-guilds.html>

Today’s quilt instructors: Kathy Finnegan, Ann DeChiaro-Pfisterer, Regina Biasetti



The sample bag contains all the pieces you will need to make the bag. If you are making the bag for a sewing machine, you will also need a sewing machine.

Materials provided:

- 1 piece of fabric - measuring approximately 2' x 2' (2A & Figure 1)
- 1 small piece of fabric - measuring approximately 11" x 11" (2B & Figure 2)
- 1 piece of fabric - measuring 11" x 11" (2C & Figure 3)
- 1 piece of fabric - measuring 11" x 11" (2D & Figure 4)
- 1 piece of fabric - measuring 11" x 11" (2E & Figure 5 - back fabric)

From the work station fabric you should have:

- Binder clips or straight pins

Figure 1:



Choose 1 piece of material, you can use the combination you wish.

The piece sizes are "right" when placed together using a sewing machine. Press down in the fabric, and look like to keep a 1/2 inch seam. Hand, or the 1/2 stitched seam.

Once all 3 pieces have been sewn together, the seam should be in the direction. These 3 pieces are...

Figure 2:



See...





