

From buttons and dinner plates to automobile tires and even the earth itself, circles surround us in our daily lives. In this class we look at them, slice them up and have fun sewing them!

Used symbolically in all cultures, circles are also a strong design element and focal point, adding power and visual interest wherever they are used.

In this hands-on sewing class, students will discover the possibilities of circles as they learn how to use them to **make a quilt top**. From perfect whole circles to eccentric and concentric circles, a variety of spirals and helixes, arcs and wedges, students will learn how to break up, divide, piece, appliqué, fuse, overlap and stitch to make a dynamic and exciting work. **Emphasis will be on design and practical sewing tips and techniques** and we will also discover how other artists and crafts people have used circles in their work to create character and emphasis.

SUPPLY LIST:

Sewing machine, cleaned, oiled and in good working order. Bring manual and knee lift if you have one.

Extension cord with appropriate adaptor/multiple

Normal feet for your machine.

Optional: embroidery or other specialized feet.

Machine needles. Choose according to your fabric. Universal (Schmetz 80) for cotton fabric, 90 for heavier fabric, 60 for silk or thin fabric

Optional: specialized needles e.g. metallica, embroidery, etc

Thread: neutral sewing thread of your choice. **Optional:** specialist threads e.g., metallic, embroidery or heavy thread.

Pins

Rotary cutter with sharp blade

Cutting mat

Plastic rulers of your choice

Circle templates of your choice.

compass

Glue stick

Notebook/Journal with your choice of writing materials

Tracing paper, appliqué paper, stabilizer of your choice,

Books or pictures as discussed below

FABRICS: A variety of fabrics in colors of your choice in hand-dyed and commercial fabrics, solid colors, subtle and/or strong textural prints, tone-on-tone prints. You may wish to include fabrics with dots or circles. Make sure you have a good range of lights, mediums and darks. Include neutrals, related colors and contrasts. 100% cotton is advisable but you may choose to bring some specialist fabrics like silks or sheers that might add subtle differences and enhance your circles

Remember the greater the choice you have, the more exciting the possibilities for your work!

PREPARATION:

In this class we will be looking at **circles**, so spend time looking at the circles and their details in the world around you e.g. in your home, nature, buildings and constructions,

etc. Collect images from books and magazines that please you, and bring these to class. See if you can find the circles in your fabric stash.

Become obsessed with Circles!

TEACHER WILL BRING: circle templates

a large variety of visual material such as slides and actual examples