

The Nest and more...a supply list

for exploring surface design with Sarah Ann Smith

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Because of the wide range of materials required, there is a kit fee for this class (see below) so students don't have to spend a fortune on paints and materials. Please check with your venue for the exact cost of the kit, which varies depending on whether the class is offered as a full or half-day workshop. If the workshop is a full day, bring more fabric!

To begin with the important stuff:

- Old clothes—you may end up with paint on them!
- Apron—optional but useful (see above)
- Comfortable shoes
- GLASSES to see— if you need them, including for hand work
- A willingness to try and...Perhaps... chocolate....definitely a snack

Fabric for practice and exercise:

Fabrics should be prepared for dyeing or pre-washed, as paint sometimes doesn't like to stay stuck to various sizing and treatments that one finds on commercial fabrics. If you really hate pre-washing, as I do, you can just wing it and see what happens—as we all know, paint will stay stuck if you want it to come off!

- White/Light solid cotton Fabric: Two or three 9-10 inch squares of pre-washed or PFD (prepared for dyeing)
- Sorta-solid fabrics: For a half day class, bring 2 or 3 pieces about the size of a piece of paper. You will be playing with paint and screens and stamping, so shape isn't important. Sorta-solid can be a true solid fabric (colored) or a semi-solid batik or a tone-on-tone batik. Feel free to bring fat quarters or what you have in your stash, then select a fabric and cut a chunk in class.
- Optional: 10-12" square of freezer paper—makes writing on cloth easier

For The Nest:

- 11 inch square of a beige or tan tone-on-tone or "solid" batik fabric or printed cotton. I encourage you to bring an extra one or two squares in case you aren't happy with your first prints.
- 12 inch square of batting and (optional) backing fabric
- 6 inch square of medium brownish fabric with fusible web on the back; semi solid or organic shapes work best (for the nest)
- Small scraps of pre-fused earthy colored fabrics...just a few
- In a half day class, I will include three blue eggs in the kit. For full day or if you want a different color, fabric for your eggs. Fuchsia eggs, anyone?
- One gallon size plastic baggie (large, any large size works)
- Hand sewing needles, including embroidery/crewel needles that will accommodate 6 strands of embroidery floss or perle cotton (thick). Note: you may not get to sewing in class unless you work quickly.
- Optional: small embroidery hoop; I never use one for this sort of stitching, but some folks do

- Thread: clear, green, tan and brown for couching down floss and ephemera; can be cotton or poly—whatever you have. Note: you may not get to sewing in class unless you work quickly.
- A little bit of fusible web—Mistyfuse is my favorite—if you want to fuse and stitch a bit less and nonstick press sheet or parchment paper (if you don't use fusibles, borrow someone else's press sheet! don't buy one just for this! Sarah will bring some parchment. Sarah will also have some Mistyfuse for sale, 12x12" squares). Steam a Seam 2 and sticky fusible don't work well.
- Thimble (if you use one)
- Very Optional/for after class: a 10x10 canvas and fabric to cover it. I mounted my nest on a 10x10 inch 1 1/2" deep canvas which I covered with fabric. I'll show you how in class, but you won't get to the point of finishing The Nest during the day, so won't need the canvas in class (if you decide to mount it at all). You'll receive instructions on "how-to" at home.

Other stuff:

- Paper, both white and (if you have it) some colored paper to practice stamping and printing
- Pen/pencil for note taking
- Marking pencil or pen (may not use, but might want it, and they are small)
- Scissors—for fabric (my favorites are Karen Kay Buckley's Perfect scissors) AND JUNKY scissors for cutting cardboard, foam and hard plastic
- Optional: rotary cutter, mat and ruler (scissors work, this isn't a precision class!)
- Optional: depending on venue, iron and ironing pad/board.
- I am looking for a source to add a recycled gift card to the kit; in the meantime, please try to bring: Old gift card or hotel door "key" OR Bondo scraper (from auto-body supply store, used for body work) OR kitchen bench scraper (that will henceforward be for art use only, not cooking!)
- Paper towels
- Garbage bag (tall kitchen size works) to protect your work space
- Old terry cloth hand towel or approx. 14 x 14" piece of batting (as cushioning to go under the pad in your kit)

Optional supplies to bring if you have them—I have these things to use, so don't bring lots (if you bring any at all!):

- Fabric pens such as the broad felt-tip Fabrico pens and writing fabric pens such as Pigma micron or Pitt
- Your own paint brushes
- Your own stamps, stencils and thermofax screens

Kit fee covers

- a full-size Thermofax screen of the Queen Anne's Lace for the student to keep,
- a baggie with 12-18 inches each of floss, hand-dyed floss or perle cotton and raffia to embellish The Nest,
- use of the teacher's thermofax screens, and stamping items during class,
- paint and fabric marking pens to use in class,
- use of the teacher's sponge paintbrushes and scrapers, plastic spoons/utensils to mix colors
- plate to use as a palette, narrow foam brush
- an absorptive pad for printing and handouts