

Course content of Patchwork 101

Patchwork 101 - Patchwork for Beginners

Materials needed:

- Fine cotton or woven fabric in at least two different colors
- A total of approximately 60 cm x 60 cm of fabric
- Individual fabric pieces must not be smaller than 12 cm x 12 cm

Preparation:

- Rotary cutter, ruler, cutting mat (inch ruler; bring your own rotary cutter as well)
 - Set up 4 sewing machines
 - Ironing board and iron
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What is patchwork?

- Books with inspiring quilts; brief historical overview
 - Tradition in America; Amish heritage
 - Basic fabric knowledge: Which fabrics are suitable for patchwork?
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Inch vs. cm and the role of seam allowance

- Sewing fabric pieces together: What size will the finished piece be?
 - Inch or cm: both are possible, but difficult to handle in parallel
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The course project: A panel of 4 x 4 fabric squares

- Finished size: 40 x 40 cm or 16" x 16" (16" = 40.64 cm)
 - Finished squares: 10 x 10 cm → cut fabric squares at 11.5 cm with a 0.75 cm seam allowance
 - Finished squares: 4" x 4" → cut fabric squares at 4.5" with a 1/4" seam allowance
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Cutting with a rotary cutter and ruler

- Demonstration: hand position
 - When should you change the blade?
 - ALWAYS lock the rotary cutter
 - Participants cut their fabric pieces
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Assembling fabric pieces with the sewing machine

- Sew using the width of the presser foot as a guide; understand the sewing machine markings
 - Participants lay out their fabrics and sew the squares together row by row
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Tips for sewing intersecting seams

Strategy 1: Press seam allowances to one side, alternating directions ("nesting"); secure with sewing clips. The feed dogs are underneath.

Strategy 2: Press seam allowances open and secure with pins.

Participants press their fabric rows according to their chosen method and sew the rows together.

Revision #2

Created 2026-02-26 11:50:55 UTC by Nicola Henze

Updated 2026-02-26 11:58:24 UTC by Nicola Henze