

CROSS CURRENTS

Give your quilts a new energy by discovering the strength of **crossed designs**. From signatures to quilts to voters' marks, X and + shapes have long provided visual impact along with strength and stability. Learn how these shapes and their variations have been effectively used for generations by quilters and other artists and crafts people. Discover how you can make your compositions sing with new life as you make X mark the spot! You may choose to **piece, fuse or appliqué** your quilt, mark it with pen, or stitch by hand or machine on it for embellishment.

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/multiplug

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 eg metallica, embroidery, etc

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

Hand sewing needles: a variety for thick and thin thread, Pins

Embroidery threads for hand sewing, stranded and/or perle threads.

Rotary cutter with sharp blade, cutting mat, plastic rulers of your choice

small sharp scissors for hand work.

Notebook/Journal with your choice of writing materials, Glue stick

Tracing paper, appliqué paper, stabilizer of your choice,

A few sheets of black, gray and white paper for cutting and tearing. Newspaper will also do.

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 checks or dots. 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 faces.

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

PREPARATION:

In this class we will be looking at **X and + shapes**, so spend time around you! See where shapes and lines intersect. Look at constructions, furniture, any thing where X shapes and lines overlap, even kisses! Collect images and designs from books, cards and magazines that please you, and bring these to class.

Become obsessed with X and +