



From Delightful Quilting & Sewing
Free email newsletter for quilters and sewers
Avon, NY
By Appointment 585-226-2577

Snippets

A FREE email
newsletter for
quilters and sewers.

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Snippets

June 2010

Dear Joyce,

If this is your first issue or you are relatively new to **Snippets**, let me introduce myself.

My name is Joyce Blowers. Some of you might remember when I taught and helped at the Fall Frolics sponsored by Bailey's Sewing Center, and when I taught at Bailey's. I have now retired from my job (high school teacher/college & career counselor) and have time to pursue my passion of quilting and sewing.

Last year I started Delightful Quilting & Sewing, a business dedicated to helping my sewing and quilting friends get the maximum enjoyment in the art of sewing and quilting through education with **Snippets**, classes, and as a longarm quilting machine dealer for Nolting, the original longarm manufacturer. The classes we offer are not like those at the quilt shops, but are meant to meet the needs of beginners to get them off to a great start on their quilting journey. I also teach on other topics that can help you maximize your quilting and sewing experience. (read the article below for more information)

If you have friends or know of others who would benefit from starting with the basics or need to brush up, please forward **Snippets** to them and have them call me at Delightful Quilting & Sewing to find out more about our [classes](#). My greatest pleasure is to prepare others for a wonderful sewing and quilting journey.

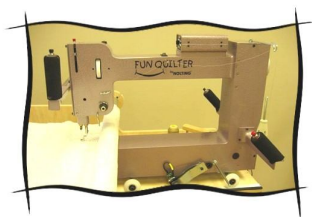
Happy sewing and quilting,

Joyce

Joyce Blowers

PS. Announcing **Autumn Adventure 2010**, Quilting, Sewing and Machine Embroidery weekend, October 8 - 10. in the Geneseo, NY area. The event features the Midwest YaYa Sisters, Rita Farro and Mary Mulari, HoopSisters Educator Marilyn Gatz and a number of other sewing, quilting and serger teachers. Proceeds to benefit the building fund for KidStart, Geneseo. For more information and an enrollment package, call Debbie Beach at 585-658-2828 ext. 133, or visit

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Class Offerings from DQS

Quilting 102

Four Classes: July 19, Aug 2, 16, 30
6:45 - 8:45 PM

4 weeks - This hands on project class is for those that have quilted a little and want to increase their skill and learn more quilting techniques. \$40. Maximum 6 students, pre-registration required.

Call 585-226-2577 or [email](mailto:) early to reserve your place in either class.

Color Theory IV - Color Temperature & Mood

How Colors Affect Us



Whether on the walls, the floor or in a quilt on the bed, color can evoke a mood, an emotional response based on the way that color appears in the world around us. If you think about each of the primary (red, yellow, blue) and secondary colors (green, orange, violet) you already have thoughts about how they make you feel. For example, yellow is the color of sunshine, sunflowers, and spring flowers. Thinking of yellow reminds us of happy, sunny images. The color red is found in flowers, fruits, traffic signals, and fire. Red could affect our emotions in several ways from passionate to dangerous images. Then green, the color of leaves and grass, is a very soothing color and causes us to have tranquil thoughts.

Warm or Cool - How Does Color Affect Your Mood?

Besides the emotion of the color, colors are divided into two temperature groups, warm colors (red, orange, yellow) and cool colors (blue, green, violet). The warm colors are both powerful and stimulating while the cool colors are tranquil and soothing. When used together in a quilt, the warm colors will advance (be more prominent) and the cool colors will retreat (be less obvious). Design variations of patterns are created by the use of warm and cool colors along with the value (lightness or darkness) of the color. And, to make it even more complicated, remember that when looking at colors, it is all relative - that is, a comparison with the other colors being used in the pattern. Even a warm color can appear "cooler" when it is next to a color shade that is warmer and advances more in the pattern.

As you work on your next quilt, think about its use or purpose before choosing a color palette. Is the quilt being made as a gift to cheer someone, or for a small child as a nap quilt. One needs to be cheerful. Yellow is the sunny color, so adding a little yellow to the fabric selections would evoke a happy mood. For a child's nap quilt, blues or greens, which are tranquil and soothing would be better than reds or oranges that are more stimulating.

One other thought about color choices has to do with your own personality and disposition. Sometimes our color choices may speak more about us than what we say. We may gravitate toward specific colors or color temperatures because that is just our type of personality. We might need to consciously step outside of our (color) box and think about the purpose of our quilt. Once we have decided on the color based on the quilt use/purpose, then we can decide what other colors to add using the color, monochromatic, analogous, complementary, split-complementary, triadic or

Fall Classes
Dates TBA

Fancy Foot Work - expand your creativity using the feet that came with your machine. This class will give you new ideas for embellishing your projects.

Color Basics For Quilters - Learn to apply color theory using the color wheel to make the color selections in your quilts outstanding.

[Click For More Class Information](#)

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tetradic color scheme, and keep in mind color values to enhance the pattern.

This article completes the four part series on color theory. Hopefully you will be try some of the ideas to help you make deliberate color choices. Even before you go fabric shopping, use Electric Quilt to draw or print out block patterns, or sketch your own pattern to audition color options. Then, when you go shopping, you will have more direction on just the colors you are looking for.

Some information from *Quilting Color Magic*

Tips and Hints

For Quilters and Sewers

Sewing with Denim

Prewash several times in the washing machine to soften. Dry in the dryer each time. If you have a serger, overlock the edges, or use an overcast stitch on your sewing machine. Use heavy duty thread and an HJ 16 needle, or one that is labeled denim as this sturdy, heavy fabric is hard to sew.

Top Stitching Hints

If you want a more distinctive top stitch, choose a slightly heavier thread and change the stitch length to 8 - 10 stitches per inch. If you machine has a utility stitch, often used for seams on stretch fabrics, that does a stitch forward, one back, another forward, this works well to enhance the top stitching.

Favorite Marking Tool

One of my favorite marking tools is the chalk wheel marker from Clover. I use this chalk marker to mark for both sewing and quilting. I can mark out design lines, start and stop points and the chalk easily brushes away when I am done or if I don't like the line I've drawn. The chalk comes in white and blue, and Fons and Porter also have similar chalk markers with other colors. (Joyce)

Bobbin Winding

If you are a longarm quilter, or quilt on your domestic machine, wind several bobbins at one time before you start. This way you can just change the bobbin when it runs out and keep up you momentum.

Serger Hint

Clean the lint from the feed dogs and looper area and replace the needles with every project. Clean the knife with a Q-Tip dipped in rubbing alcohol. A clean machine is important for optimum performance.

Glue Pen

My sister, Sylvia, reports that she recently used a glue pen with repositionable glue to attach pieces on an applique of a dog. "It was wonderful being able to turn under and position all of the pieces and see what it looks like before stitching." The glue is rinsed out after the project is

complete. Sylvia does advise testing the glue on your fabric first to make sure that you are satisfied with the final results. Some of the glues have a color that dries clear. Test to make sure it rinses out to your satisfaction. (Joyce)



Beginning Quilters With Their First Project

DQS Classes

Helping Beginners With The Basics

One of the goals of Delightful Quilting & Sewing is to help those new to quilting and sewing get off to a great start.

Years ago many of us learned to sew in home economics class in school, or we were in 4-H. Today, many schools have discontinued this class. Often those new to quilting sign up at the quilt shop to make a beginner project only to become frustrated at the pace of the class, falling behind, missing important instructions, and discouraged at not remembering how to finish the project. Having heard this from many want-to-be quilters, I decided that there needed to be classes to meet this need.

Delightful Quilting & Sewing has classes to help those new to sewing and quilting become more familiar with their sewing machine and also learn in a small, hands-on, slower paced class the fundamentals of quilting. We begin with the basics and learn all of the steps involved in making a quilt by making a small, manageable project. Students also learn many tips and hints that will make their quilt projects more successful. Once students have learned the fundamentals and basics, they are prepared to move on and take the wonderful project classes offered at our many local quilt shops.

Visit our website for a listing of upcoming classes for beginners. Other classes planned for the fall will help quilters expand their color choices and sewers have more fun with their machine.

www.delightful-qs.com Pre-registration is required for all classes.

Thread Tales

History of Needles

As you might expect, the first needles used to sew animal skins together were made from bone. During the Bronze Age needles were made from metal and over the years have become highly refined tools for sewing.

Although the Spanish made excellent sewing needles and



Sewing Machine Needles

guarded their secrets, the English eventually developed the process that continues to set the standard for modern needles.

Coiled wire is used, cut to length (for two needles at a time) and straightened, a process that requires heat, pressing and cooling. Grinders are used to make the point, then it is stamped to make the eye. The two needles are separated for the rest of the procedures. Burs are ground off and the needles are tempered (for strength), they may be electroplated with nickel, and finished. Sewing machine needles have a scarf and groove machined on them as well as a flat side for domestic machines. It is amazing that to manufacture that little needle takes about 70 processes from the coil of wire to the finished needle.

Today sewing machine needles are manufactured with different types of points, shafts, and sizes for sewing best on the different types of materials and fabrics. Remember, for best sewing results change your needle with each sewing project choosing one that is best for the type of fabric and thread you are using..

(source: Google)

Follow-up Links

[Quilting Classes](#)

[Commercial Longarm Quilting Machines](#)

[Longarm Machines for hobby quilters](#)

[Autumn Adventure 2010](#)

About Delightful Quilting & Sewing

We are dedicated to helping you maximize your quilting and sewing experience through education, quilting and sewing classes, and as a dealer for Nolting selling longarm quilting machines that meet the needs and wants of both hobby quilters and commercial longarm quilters.

Possible Savings

Act Now.

We am planning a trip to the Nolting factory in Iowa in early August. Potential savings on transportation costs of:

- Used machines & tables from Nolting's inventory
- Orders of new Nolting tables and machines

Call for more information. 585-226-2577

Offer Expires: July 9, 2010

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