

# Luminosity

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This dazzling special effect is surprisingly easy to achieve, once you understand a few simple concepts: When you surround a relatively small area of warm, intense color with a larger area of cooler, less-intense, darker color, your quilt will appear to glow, as if light and warmth are coming from behind.

This one-day workshop begins with a crash course in color, followed by evaluation of your fabrics to ensure success. Then you'll begin cutting and piecing your blocks. Along the way, I'll have lots of tips for making the process easier and more accurate. I'll also go over how to cut and attach the "spinning" borders.

## Fabrics

Your fabric choices are what make this quilt work. Gather:

- Warm, intense (bright), medium-value for the centers of the blocks. On the color wheel, the warm colors are yellow-green, yellow, yellow-orange, orange, red-orange, and red.
- Cooler, less-intense (duller), darker-value colors for the strips surrounding the center. On the color wheel, the cool colors are green through violet.

Batiks, hand-dyes, and mottled fabrics that appear to be "shot with light" work beautifully. If you look at the image of my quilt, you'll see many batiks, but I used prints and stripes, too. Avoid patterned fabrics with lots of contrast—a dark blue with white motifs, for example. Also avoid muddy batiks—they won't look luminous.

For the blocks, you'll need:

- 16 different squares, each 6½ inches, of warm, intense fabrics. You can bring the squares already cut, or bring more than enough fabrics and decide which ones you want to use.
  - 1/8 yard *each* of 16 cooler, less-intense, darker fabrics.
- If you want to simplify my quilt, you'll need ¼ yard each of eight warm, intense fabrics and ¼ yard each of eight cooler, less-intense, darker fabrics. With these amounts, your fabrics will repeat more often in the quilt and the effect will not be as complex.*

**Important note:** For your cooler, less-intense, darker fabrics, don't go *too dark* or *too dull*. You need a few slightly brighter, medium-dark fabrics to give your quilt life.

For the border and binding, you'll need

- 1½ yds. fabric for borders and straight-cut binding. To make bias-cut binding, you'll need a total of 2¼ yds. You won't need these fabrics for class.

## Tools

- Sewing machine
- Basic sewing supplies, including thread that blends with your fabrics
- Rotary equipment. A 6" x 12" or larger ruler and a medium (such as 17" x 23") or larger rotary mat for cutting the squares and strips. Also bring another smallish ruler, approximately 4" x 14", to help you in "whacking" the basic blocks. A rotating mat, 17" x 17", is **very** helpful in cutting the blocks.

Luminaria Pattern

- Available in class, \$6.00