

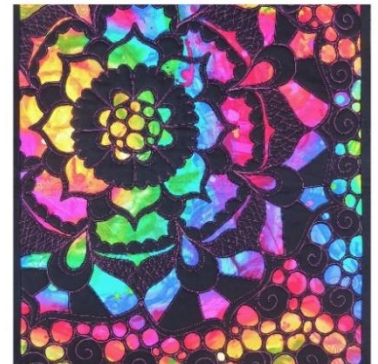
# Magnificent Mandalas

Let's add some Zen to our free-motion quilting. We'll warm up designing mandalas on paper, before learning how to use minimal marking to free-motion quilt a Wholecloth original mandala design. Watch your mandala bloom as you add layers of texture and color!

This workshop is geared towards quilters with some experience free-motion quilting.

## Materials/Supplies Needed:

- Sewing machine with free motion/embroidery foot and extension table (longarm/midarm quilters are welcome!)
- Quilting sandwich (18"x22") and 20-25 curved safety pins for pin basting
  - I recommend using a solid fabric for your quilt top so your quilted mandala will shine and an 80/20 batting such as Quilter's Dream or Warm & Natural
- Variety of threads that contrast with your quilt top fabric and play nicely with your sewing machine
  - Good quality threads (solid, variegated, metallic). I highly recommend either Aurifil and/or Superior. Consider bringing 4-7 analogous colors to create an ombre. Metallic accents can add some wonderful sparkle.
  - Machine needles appropriate for the threads you bring (top stitch, metallic, etc)
  - Extra bobbins
- Thread Snips, tweezers and self-threading needle to bury thread tails (I highly recommend Sench Side Threading/Spiral Eye Needles)
- 1 yard of 18" wide freezer paper and paper scissors
- Blue painter's tape
- A plastic sheet protector OR ~12" square piece of vinyl plastic OR ~12" square piece of acrylic plastic
- Fine Tip Dry erase marker, 5-10 Q-tips
- Drafting Tools: Straight Edge Ruler (24" and 12") and Adjustable Compass that can create large circles
  - Dasco Pro Giant Circle Compass with Rod (~\$8 at Home Depot/Amazon)
  - Lowe's carries a similar product: Stanley FATMAX Chisel Compass (~\$7)
- 5-10 sheets of photocopier paper, pencil, eraser and fine-tipped black permanent markers (ie. Sharpie/Micron)
- If you would like to try the cut away option (Crayon Etched Mandala featured in Bottom Photo):
  - Bring a fat quarter of contrasting print to layer under your solid quilt top for cut away work (bright batiks, hand dyes, ombres, rainbow prints all work well)
  - Curved tip embroidery snips (ie. Havel's Snip Eze 4 3/4" Embroidery Snips with Curved Tips)
  - Seam Ripper
- Optional (but not required) Items:
  - Machingers Quilting Gloves (for those stitching on a domestic sewing machine)
  - Chalk or ceramic marking pencil (I will be showing mark-free alternatives)
  - Digital camera/phone camera
  - Journal and/or books containing doodles/sketches of your favorite free-motion quilting motifs/designs



More pictures of Magnificent Mandalas are posted on my online [Mandalas Gallery](#).  
Questions/concerns? Feel free to contact me at [melbeach@melbeachquilts.com](mailto:melbeach@melbeachquilts.com)