

Utah Valley Quilt Guild 2023 Quilt Challenge - Improv Quilt



Our quilt challenge for 2023 is improv quilting. The deadline is November 8, our last guild meeting of the year. Any size quilt or quilted garment can be entered as long as it includes improv piecing, applique, and/or quilting. A prize will be given to the viewer's choice award winner. We're hoping you'll accept the challenge and try something new.

Improv Applique Ideas

Improv (Improvisational) (Improv for short) Applique means creating an applique design without a specific pattern

Steps for Improv Applique - by American Quilter's Society, 2-20-18



- Layout fabric scraps on your table or design wall. Move them around until inspiration hits.

- Select an image for inspiration, not necessarily re-creation and get to work.

- Don't worry about a plan, grab your fabric, needle, and thread – and see where the thimble takes you!

Basting isn't cheating...

- Use little dabs of glue to hold things in place while you secure with applique stitches.

- Applique right on the design wall.

- Take a close up picture in sections with your phone, then use the images as guides.

There's no such thing as a mistake...

- No, really. It's the magic of improv.
- When something isn't working, try something else. This is an opportunity to exercise creativity. Don't worry.
- Remember embellishment, it improves everything!



Try This!

Method #1 - Appliqué over a background

1. Build a background in light or dark neutrals. Keep it simple with squares or rectangles, but use several fabrics in similar shades and hues to add variety and interest.
2. Using a contrasting fabric, choose an image to applique and repeat it in various sizes. A fusible such as a Steam-a-Seam2 or Wonder Under will make this process quick.



Method #2 - Applique on separate blocks and then piece them together



Method #3 - Add applique to improv pieced blocks

