Playing With Minimalism in Modern Quilting

Minimalism in Modern Quilting is inspired by the deliberate sparseness and simplicity of modern art of the 20th Century. It explores geometric lines and clearly defined colours. The use of colour is very clear but usually very limited and spare. It focuses on the interplay of shape and colour with a very limited palette. This style of Modern Quilts is very deliberate and planned with attention paid to clean lines and precise piecing.

This workshop explores and plays with minimalism in quilt design. Your design will be a play on one of four classic blocks (Flying Geese, Simple 8-point Star, Monkey Wrench, or Friendship Star – individual choice). Your blocks will be oversized and altered in some way from the classic block. I have lots of help when working with oversized blocks which are often more difficult that typical 9” or 12” blocks.

Your palette will also be simplified – just 2 colours, your background and your design elements. Choose solid fabrics so that you can focus on the simplicity of your design. Select a dominant colour such as green and then 2 – 3 additional greens in tints (with white added to the colour) or tones (with grey added to the colour) for the design elements. Don’t choose shades (with black added to the colour) as this will not work as clearly with your background. Your background fabric should be a neutral such as white or black but you could also opt for a grey or charcoal. White or a very light grey would be the easiest choice. Black or charcoal would be much more dramatic but possibly more challenging. A small amount of a graphic print in black & white could also be used. More specific details of fabric amount will be provided in August.

You will be aiming for either a Wall Hanging of approximately 36” – 48” or a Throw of Approximately 60” – 72”. There will be a pattern that will have lots of scope for you to choose your own project results. Your final design will have some expanse of negative background space which is often seen in Minimalist Quilts.

We will also explore quilting options in a minimalist style with your walking foot. You will also explore ways to add simple, spare handwork details in heavy weight thread such as 12 weight.