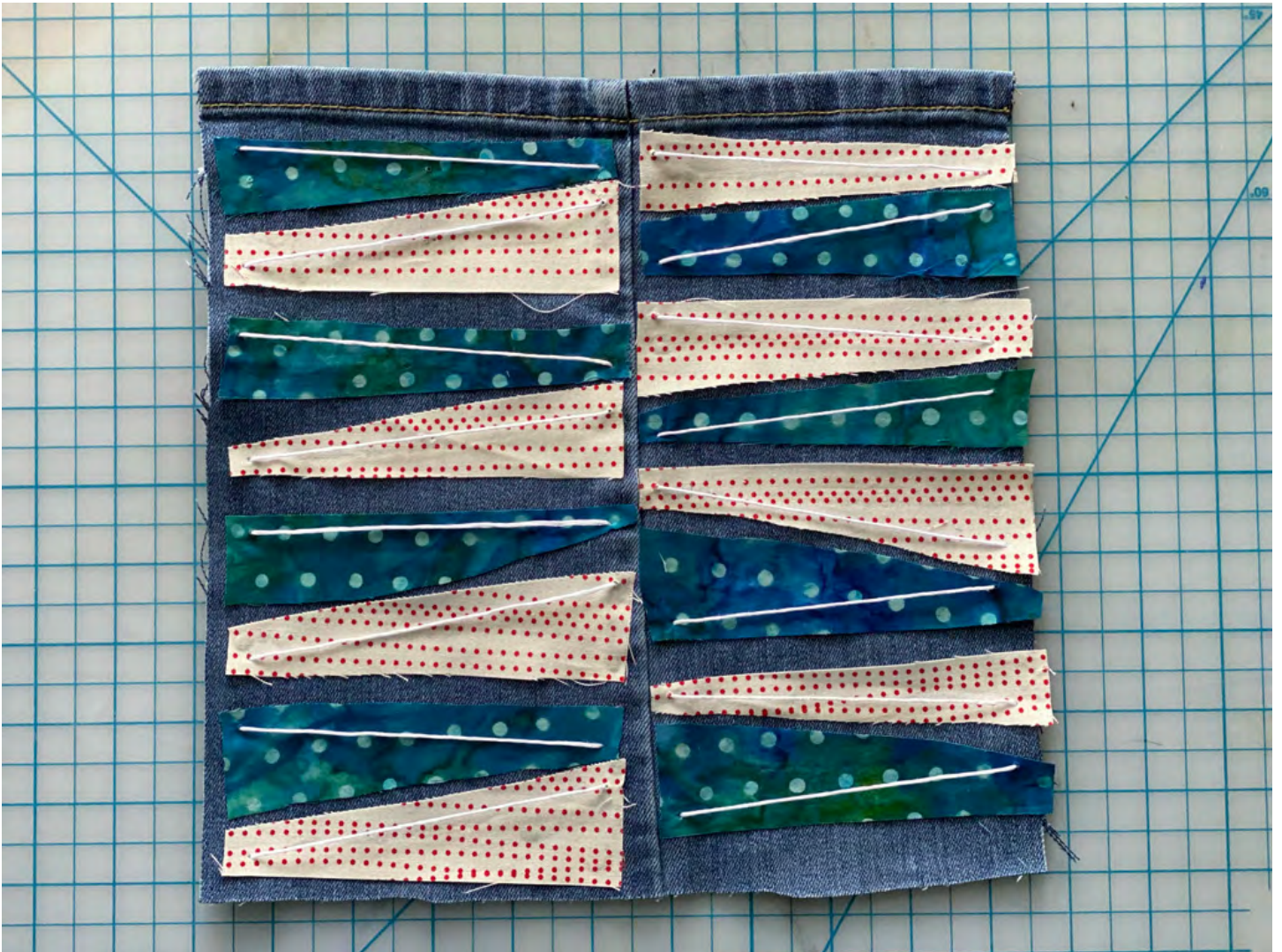


BLANTON

ART WHERE YOU ARE STUDIO



Mary Lee Bendolph: Mini Quilt Collage



MATERIALS

- Recycled fabrics
- Scissors
- Fabric glue or quick drying craft glue
- Embroidery floss or yarn
- Large eye yarn needles

INSTRUCTIONS

Step 1: Cut

To create your Mary Lee Bendolph inspired quilt design, start by gathering recycled fabrics like an old pair of jeans or leftover sewing scraps. Think about what you want your quilt design to look like. What shapes will make up your pattern? Do you want your quilt to be asymmetrical, like *Blocks and Strips*? Once you've thought out your quilt pattern, begin cutting the fabric pieces into your desired shapes and sizes. You'll also need a 12x12 in. fabric piece for your background.

Tip: If you're feeling stuck, search online for the quilt patterns created by Bendolph and the *Gee's Bend Quiltmakers*, or look around your environment for inspiration.

Step 2: Glue

Now that your fabric pieces are cut, play around with how you want them arranged on top of your background fabric square. Once you're happy with the placement, use fabric glue to adhere the shapes to your background fabric.

Step 3: Repeat

When your fabric glue is dry you can begin the process of stitching down your fabric shapes with a repetitive stitch pattern. The glue is already keeping the shapes in place, so the stitches are simply acting as a finishing design element to your quilt design. You can choose to stitch around all your shapes, simply tracing them, or introduce a new pop of pattern onto your fabric pieces. Just have fun with it — it doesn't have to be exact!

There you have it — your own Mary Lee Bendolph-inspired work of art! What will you title your art?

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LEARN MORE

Read

- [Bendolph Stitches Together Quilts and Civil Rights | University of Georgia](#)
- [Piece Together: The Quilts of Mary Lee Bendolph | Swarthmore College](#)
- [Mary Lee Bendolph | National Gallery of Art](#)

Watch

- [An Introduction to the Quiltmakers of Gee's Bend, Alabama | In The Studio with Mrs. Frobase](#)
- [Women Who've Made Gee's Bend Quilts Are Finally Receiving Their Due | Sunday TODAY](#)
- [Gees Bend Quilters | Craft in America](#)

Reflect

What shapes and patterns are in your quilt collage?

Where have you seen similar shapes and patterns in the world around you?

Why might someone make a quilt out of used clothes?