

Sarah Bond – Coming Full Circle

Materials List:

Equipment: You will need your sewing machine in good working order, rotary cutter and mat, 24-inch ruler and basic sewing supplies. Paper scissors are helpful for cutting the paper patterns.

Fabric: It is always difficult for me to recommend amounts of fabric since this class doesn't specify a particular size quilt. Since we are at home and don't have to pack up fabric, our options are much richer and more varied. Here are some guidelines:

String Circles: The samples I've been working on include a wide variety of fabrics. Two strips of fabric $1\frac{3}{4}$ inches wide times the width of fabric is all that is needed to construct a quarter circle. Two fat quarters will make 6 quarter circles if the strips are cut slightly more narrowly at $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches wide. I love using stripes in these String Circles. The stripes lend a special quality of motion to the design.

Swirly Circles: This version lends itself to fabrics with high contrast. Solids are great, as are directional fabrics. Two width-of-fabric quarter yards should make multiple circles. The possibilities are endless.

Checkerboard Circles: $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ yard of 2 contrasting fabrics should be sufficient to make two circles. The optical effect of these circles is quite literally mesmerizing, so having ample options will allow for experimentation with lots of contrasting fabrics. This is most suitable for solids and blenders, but you can get great results with prints, so let your mind wander a bit when choosing these fabrics.

You can get a headstart by cutting strips for string fans. For each quarter circle you will need 12 strips, $1\frac{3}{4}$ inches wide, or $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches wide if you're confident about paper piecing. You can go with two color combinations, or cram as many as 12 strips into a quarter circle.