

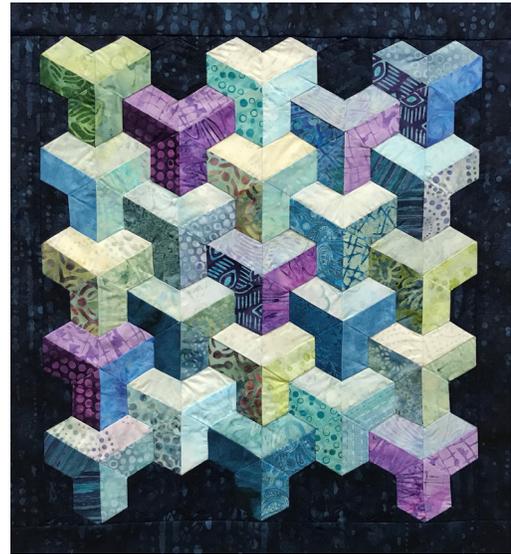
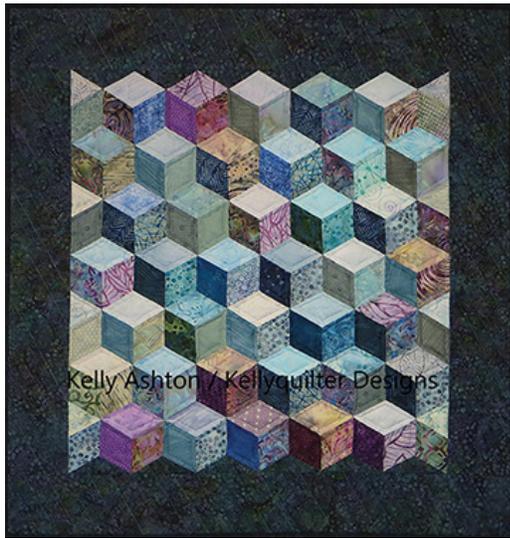
Tumbling Block & Inner City “Two-fer” Workshop

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Both Tumbling Block and Inner City are comprised of a single block, each made with “one-patch”, whose visual impact is generated through the use of color and value. The color and value variation creates the illusion of depth and dimension and “light and shadow”! Either block can be used to make a quilt in any general size desired by the quilt-maker. The two blocks also lend themselves well to being used together in the same quilt!

SUPPLY LIST & PRE-WORKSHOP PREPARATION

Sewing Machine: Cleaned, oiled, ready to sew! Don't forget power cord, foot control, bobbins, a “**patchwork**” (1/4” piecing foot) foot **WITHOUT** guide / flange, and a new Universal or Microtex (sharp) sewing machine needle, size 80/12 (for 50 wt thread) or 75/11 (for 60 wt thread).

Piecing-weight (50 or 60 wt) machine sewing thread, neutral color. I prefer Presencia cotton 60 wt thread or Aurifil cotton 50 wt thread.

Rotary Cutter: 28 mm size is recommended

Rotary Cutting Mat: A small mat (approximately 8x8”) on a rotating base is perfect. A small, non-rotating mat (12x12”, 12x18” or therabouts) will work fine, too.

Rotary Ruler: Your favorite ruler for cutting width-of-fabric strips.

Mechanical Pencils: “lead” AND white chalk (such as Bohin or Sew Line)

Iron and Ironing Board / Pressing Surface

Notions: pins, seam ripper, thread snips / scissors, etc.

Paper and pencil: for note-taking

“Design Wall”: Approximately 30x30” piece of cotton batting or part of a flannel-backed plastic table cloth to lay out blocks. (*Optional*)

Klutz Glove: *optional*, yet encouraged

Workshop Kit (mandatory for each participant): Accurate cutting is the foundation of successful patchwork. Kellyquilter Templates are mathematically accurate and make rotary-cutting the patchwork pieces a breeze, enhancing the workshop experience for the participant. The Workshop Kit contains 5 acrylic templates and anti-skid material for the templates. **Kit:** \$25.00 payable to Kelly via cash or credit / debit card at the beginning of the workshop.

Fabric: 100% cotton quilt fabric (regular quilting cottons, batiks, or a mixture). **NO flannels or lawns, please.**

(Please read the article on “*Selecting Fabrics with Value Variation*” beginning on the next page.)

-1 or 2 multi-colored fat quarters (18” x 22”) - use these to guide the selection of colors for the value sets. You may also wish to include some patches from these multi-colored pieces in some of your blocks.

-At least **3-5 sets of three (or more) fabrics per set** (each set must include a light / medium / dark value fabric); each piece of fabric in the set should be $\frac{1}{8}$ to $\frac{1}{4}$ yd. You may wish to add more color sets later depending on how large you decide to make your quilt and/or how much variety of color you wish to include.

You will not need setting fabric or border fabric for the workshop. Because the final size of your project is yet to be determined, I suggest purchasing the setting / border fabric later. We will discuss how to achieve the setting / border in the workshop.

Magic Premium Quilting / Crafting Spray (OR Mary Ellen’s Best Press OR Spray Starch): This will be used to prepare the fabric prior to the workshop. See Pre-Workshop Instructions later in this handout.

Selecting Fabrics with Value Variation

Kelly Ashton / Kellyquilter Designs

When selecting fabrics for a quilt project such as Tumbling Block or Inner City, value variation is key. Let me show you some examples and offer you some tips for fabric selection.

First, it is perfectly fine to use batiks and "regular quilters cottons" together in a project. I mix the two often in quilts to increase the visual interest in the finished product. $\frac{1}{8}$ yd. cuts work well if you're purchasing fabric. If you're pulling from your stash, then whatever size piece you have is fine, as long as it's at least $2\frac{1}{4}$ " wide.

Often, I begin by finding a multi-colored piece of fabric that speaks to me such as the one pictured here.

There are SO many colors in this piece! I love having a lot of options from which to draw!

Next, select one color from the multicolored piece and look for a light, a medium, and a dark value fabric in that color.



I started with the dark teal green. Here, I've found four fabrics (you need at least three) that will work. From these four fabrics, I will be able to create a variety of light / medium / dark combinations to turn into Tumbling Blocks or Inner City blocks. I can use the lighter three fabrics. I can use the darker three fabrics. I can make other combinations, as long as the value variation is adequate.



I can substitute a piece of the multicolored fabric in the block, too. If I choose to use the dark and medium teal greens, the multicolored piece could be my light. If I choose the very light and the light, the multicolored fabric could be my dark. If I choose the light and the "medium" teal green, the multicolored piece actually becomes the "medium" because **value is relative**.



Next, I chose to pull the coral red color. Here's what I found to create my set of value variation fabrics. As with the teals, I will also be able to use the multicolored piece within the block, if I wish.

I also found a piece of fabric that has a gradation of color across the fabric from selvage to selvage, so I have a variety of light / medium / and dark value in one piece of fabric!



I hope you have found these examples and tips on selecting fabrics for your project to be helpful. Mostly, have fun and enjoy the process! I look forward to having you in class!!

Pre-Workshop Instructions: **Please complete this *before* class!**

- 1) Prepare all of your block fabrics (including the multi-colored pieces) by generously (quite damp; not dripping wet) spritzing them with Magic Premium Quilting / Crafting Spray (or Mary Ellen's Best Press or spray starch, or sizing - anything that will add body and mild stiffness to the fabric) and pressing them until dry with a dry iron on cotton setting. Or, you can spritz the fabrics, iron them briefly, then hang them to dry. Once dry, press out the wrinkles using a steam iron on cotton setting. When you have selected and purchased fabric for the setting pieces / outer border, prepare the fabric in the same way.
- 2) From **each** prepared block fabric (*except* stripes / directional fabrics), cut ONE 2¼" x width-of-fabric strip and bring these strips (and the remainder of the fabric) to class. Bring any prepared, uncut directional block fabrics to class, and Kelly will assist you in determining options for use of directional fabrics in your blocks and the appropriate width of strips necessary to cut the patchwork pieces.
- 3) PLEASE do not cut any patchwork pieces with the templates prior to class. We will remove the paper backing from the templates and place the anti-skid material in the workshop.

I'm looking forward to seeing you in class! We're going to have a great time together playing with Tumbling Blocks and Inner City blocks! If you have any questions before class, please email me at: kelly@kellyquilter.com.

Kelly