

# Rock On

Level: Intermediate to Advanced

Get down to earth with your quilts as you discover the beauty and design possibilities of rocks and stones as you learn how to make good design from natural sources.

From tiny pebbles to mighty mountains, from smooth and round to sharp, faceted and jagged, rocks surround our world and make up much of the raw material of our planet. In this class we will look at images and actual stones to discover the rich variety of this extraordinary element, and using these as a basic design source you will build a richly colored and patterned quilt top. Your design may be based on small multiple pebbles, soaring monoliths, ancient symbolic lithographs, or exquisite gemstones.

Emphasis will be on shape, color, texture and line.

You may choose to piece, applique, fuse and stitch in a variety of fabrics of your choice to create an individual quilt top. Maybe you can even add some real stones as textural embellishment!

## Supply List

**Sewing Supplies** This is fun and I want you to bring what excites you!

**Choose from this list according to whether you want to work by hand or machine or both:**

### 1 For machine sewing:

sewing machine, cleaned and oiled in good working order with knee lift (if you have one)

Appropriate extension cord, multi plug / adaptor

Normal sewing feet, including a 1/4 " foot. Optional specialist open-toed embroidery feet, or any other you like working with.

Machine needles: choose according to your fabric. Schmetz 80 for cottons, 60 for silks or fine fabric, 90 for heavier fabrics.

Threads: neutral sewing thread for piecing and threads too match and contrast with your fabrics.

Optional: a variety of metallics, embroidery or heavy threads.

sharp scissors

Fusible and stabilizer of your choice.

### 2. For hand sewing:

Hand sewing needles that you can use for fine and heavy threads.

A variety of threads both thick and thin that you can make including machine stitching thread, stranded embroidery thread, perle cotton.

sharp scissors

### 3 FABRICS:

A variety of fabrics in colors of your choice, both hand-dyed and commercial in solids , subtle tone-on-tone prints, stripes, checks or strong graphic patterns, maybe some that include strata, rock or stone-like designs.

Make sure you have a range of lights, mediums and darks.

You may choose to include silks, velvets, linens and textured fabrics that might add richness and subtle variation to enhance your wonderful rock-based designs.

Remember, the greater the choice you have, the greater the possibilities for your work!

### PREPARATION:

LOOK EVERYWHERE AT ROCKS AND STONES! They may be sharp, smooth, jagged, layered, even old and weather-worn, or ancient monoliths. Any of these can be the beginning of a wonderful design! You may even choose to bring a few rocks or stones that can be your starting point, or that you can even incorporate in your work. Find and bring images that excite you and that combine the solidity of rocks with the vitality of unexpected combinations, shapes, richness and movement, and come ready to roll along with them.

The possibilities to ROCK ON in your individual unique work are endless. I can't wait to see what happens!