

## ***Quilting outside the lines – ½ or 1 day workshop***

***with Kat Adams of KoolKat Quilting***

*This workshop can be done as a ½ or full day. The ½ day will involve more demonstrations and less hands on, due to time restrictions, so much of the work will be completed by the participants afterwards. The full day will enable most participants to get to the final stages of the project, with some finishing to be completed later.*

*Cost for the group: \$150 for ½ day, \$300 for full day plus extra for travel if your club is outside the Toowoomba region.*

*Plus \$20 pp for the kit (optional). For example: if a group of 10 undertakes the full day it would be \$50pp including the kit.*



*Have you ever wondered how those so called ‘creative’ quilters get such interesting backgrounds in their projects? Would you like to learn to embellish with pizzazz? Want to make something unique? There will be no pattern published which will resemble your finished work! If you would also like to develop your free motion and/or straight stitch quilting, and learn to embellish with yarn for stunning effects, then this workshop is for you! In this workshop, Kat will guide you along so that you can find your creative ‘voice’ and use up some of the contents of your scrap bin as well. Have fun and learn to relax with this free and easy approach to quilting. You will be making an 18” cushion during this series of workshops, but once you have learned the techniques, the sky’s the limit!*

***PS if you do have a free motion couching foot for your machine that will be great but if not, there are plenty of great effects you can do with just your walking foot and a zig zag stitch.***

***Kit (optional) to make a cushion – includes 18” cushion insert, misty fuse, wadding and zipper plus some fabric scraps to choose from - \$20.***

### **Requirements**

Sewing machine in good order

*(Don’t forget the cord and foot! - Ask me how I know!)*

New, sharp needles for your machine

Rotary cutter, ruler and mat

Random variety of your scraps (we will also swap and share)

***PLEASE DON’T PURCHASE SPECIAL FABRICS*** as this defeats the purpose!

Neutral sewing thread for piecing

An open mind and a sense of humour!

Walking foot for your machine

Your machine instruction book (if you can find it LOL!)

Free motion feet for your machine, if you have those

Extension table for machine if you have one

Quilting gloves (only if you already have them)

I will supply some scraps of non-slip rubber for this purpose, also

Prettier thread for quilting – test it to see if it likes being used that way.....

Couching feet, all types

Yarn for couching. (I use 8ply acrylic, plain and variegated)

Invisible thread for zigzag couching – or pretty thread, either is fine.

Fabric for your cushion back. You'll need two rectangles of fabric. One about 24" x 16" and a smaller one about 24" x 10" These can be made up of joined pieces, if needed.

Fill several bobbins beforehand to save time. (Neutral thread or bobbin filler.)

***If you don't have any of these, no need to go and buy. I will show you some methods that don't even involve free-motion quilting. You just need a walking foot and a machine which will do zig zag.***

***Step One: sewing your scraps together to make blocks for your cushion***

***Step Two: assembling the cushion top, quilting and embellishing***

***Step Three: further embellishment if needed, assembling and finishing the cushion***

*Note: if participants are interested in another workshop, I can do another one where we will make a different project using the techniques learned in the first workshop.*

*That could include a runner, bag, zip purse, or small quilt. It would not be necessary to have done the first workshop.*

## QUILTING OUTSIDE THE LINES

(Most) rules are made to be broken!

### THE RULES

Appliqué edges should be neat

Quilting lines shouldn't cross over

Quilting stitches should be the same length

Seams should be an accurate ¼"

### BREAK THE RULES

Layers which don't match are more interesting

Texture and movement can involve lines criss-crossing

It's not a problem in creative work, adds variety

With free-form blocks seam width doesn't matter

Think of some other 'rules' and their opposites about.....

Colour

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Fabric types

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Block design

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***However, there are some rules that I personally think should be adhered to, especially when constructing creative but functional textile pieces, such as quilts, runners, cushions and bags.***

The sewing together of the piece should be strong and sound.

The zip, opening, handle, strap, closure etc should work well and be able to stand up to robust use.

The piece needs to be (hand) washable if it is a functional item.

If it's a quilt it should be warm. If it's a bag it should be light in weight.

If it's a pencil case the zip should be easy to locate and use.

Blocks should be square and FLAT before joining. Before that – Anything goes!

Frayed edges etc could be a problem and might make the piece fragile and short lived.

These are just a few of my pet RULES for good sewing.

***Think of a few of your own..... You are free to adopt my rules, or not. It's your creation. Just make sure you do attempt to adhere to your important rules, and discard those 'quilt police' rules which don't apply right now!***