

# Fun Fabric Collage

A GSQ Workshop Presented by Member Ginger Scott  
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I would like to introduce you to one technique of fabric collage, namely, the technique used by quilt artist Laura Heine. What I like about this collage method is that it is fun and uses a lot of different fabrics! It reminds me of being a young child and cutting up colored papers or magazines to make a creative picture. The fusible adhesive, Steam-A-Seam II, is repositionable, like Post-It Notes, you do not need pins or glue while you are working on the layout of fabric motifs.

## Materials List

- Muslin fabric (light to mid-weight) - enough yardage to accommodate your design image with a about four inches excess all around.  
It would be good if you came to the class with your image drawn onto the muslin. This can be done by tracing your paper image with a Sharpie marker and then laying the muslin over the the image and tracing with a #2 lead pencil.
- Steam-A-Seam II fusible adhesive - approximately 3 yards (by 12 inches wide). The guild has purchased a 40 yard roll of Steam-A-Seam II; a supply-kit is available for purchase at the guild meetings at \$10 for 3 yards.
- Image of your choice. I would suggest an image that would fit a 24" x 24" square of muslin. A simple outline drawing is a good starting point. Animals work well. I have a dress-form pattern I am willing to share with you for the purpose of this workshop. Laura Heine has several patterns available on her website, <https://www.fiberworks-heine.com/collage-laura-heine.htm>

- Scissors for cutting fabric and scissors for cutting fabric attached to the fusible material. A variety of scissors sizes is advised. You need sharp scissors that are easy to maneuver. The scissors will get gunked up with the adhesive, so bring a cloth to wipe down your scissors periodically. I found the **Fiskars** brand work well and so do the Karen K. Buckley serrated edge scissors.  
<http://www.karenkaybuckley.com/store>
- Rotary cutting rulers to use as a straight edge for “pressing” the fabric to the fusible. I like to use a 4” square ruler most of the time, as it is easy to control. You can also lightly press the fabric to the fusible with an iron, however, I found that sometimes using the iron makes the fusible less tacky for the repositioning step.
- Iron and small ironing surface are optional
- **Lots of fabric choices** - You do not need large pieces, fat quarters work well. It is good to have a variety of motifs in different sizes, from as small as a half-inch to as large as about 6 inches.
- Rotary cutters - I love the smallest size (18mm) cutter, as it is easy to rough cut motifs with this size. I also like the small size (28mm) for rough cutting.
- Rotary cutting mat
- Portable design wall is optional but good to have.