

# IMPROVISING FROM A SCORE (FLOATING SQUARES)

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With jazz music, a score, or lead sheet, indicates basic chord changes, and arrangements of a song without specifying how the song should be performed. Now imagine a score written for a quilt! Learn basic ruler-free patchwork techniques and how to set limits that support your creative flow. Finding flow not only feels great, it quells the urge to plan ahead. Leave with the confidence to create your own patchwork improv scores for exploring flexible patterns. Featured in [The Improv Handbook For Modern Quilters](#).

## Tools & Supplies:

- Large cloth scissors – *make sure they are sharp and functional*
- Rotary cutter and cutting mat – *no ruler necessary*
- Seam ripper
- Pins
- Tailors chalk or marking tool
- Thread – *medium gray blends well with everything*
- Sewing Machine with extension chord

## Materials:

- The basic score calls for three fabrics, but you may end up doing multiple variations.
- Bring quarter to half to one-yard scraps in a variety of values, neutrals, shades, tints, brights. Try not to coordinate or match your selections. 50-70% solids recommended.
- Estimate amounts according to your goals for the project. Keep in mind your target size, your natural pace and scale, and the time limit of the workshop.
- Bring one or two medium to large scraps to **share** with the class.
- For guidance on choosing a diverse range of colors for patchwork improv visit this link: <https://sherrilynnwood.com/color>
- Don't fuss over it! Bring a range and quantity of fabrics that best supports your creative flow and come with a make-do attitude and whatever you bring will be fine!

My workshops are structured with an hour of upfront instructions, demos, and brainstorming, after which I set everyone loose to sew. Please be on time to get the most of the workshop. If you do arrive late, simply jump in where we are and do your best. Leaving early is not as critical.

IG hashtags: #floatingsquaresquilt #floatingsquares #improvhandbook