

Art Quilt Color Swatches

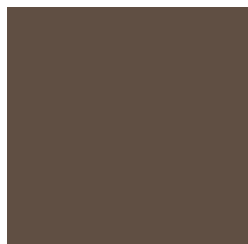
Selecting fabric for an art quilt doesn't have to be overwhelming or frustrating. These are the colors I use most with my quilts. Know that they aren't the ONLY colors I use, but this is my basic palette. Then I add in reds, purples, etc. If you would like to learn more about color, how to select texture, or prints to avoid, check out my Art Quilt Fabric Handbook. (This is THE tool that successful National Park Quilters use to select fabrics.) You don't need a new fabric wardrobe to make a National Park quilt. Chances are, you have just what you need!

When looking in your stash, choose fabrics that are most similar in COLOR to these swatches. I teach my quilting students to focus more on getting the color right than the print right.

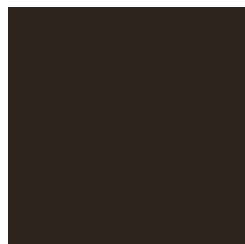
You'll see that I have lots of green fabrics and one blue for the sky. This swatch is the PERFECT color for a blue bird sky. If you want to use more shades of blue; GO FOR IT! Using lots of browns in your quilt may seem drab, but the color of animals and the earth are far from boring!! TIP: You can mix it up and use purple instead of brown.



407 Chesnut



1851 Otter



1136 Espresso



443 Cedar



1677 Curry



1451 Avocado



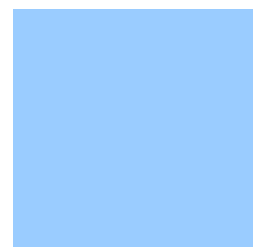
409 Juniper



1361 Spruce



146 Glacier



196 Blue Jay



31 Palm



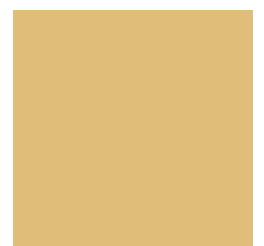
1263 Olive



347 Artichoke



1840 Dill



492 Latte

HOW TO USE THE SWATCHES

Fabric prints change every 6 months, and it can be tricky to find a fabric that I used several years ago. Instead of sharing the name of the print, I match the color to Kona's color panel. You don't need the color panel! You can match the colors using the printed swatch, or doing a quick internet search!

PRINT IT OUT

There will be color variations between computers and printers, but that's ok! You don't have to have an exact match to be successful! If you use a different shade of green or brown, your quilt will still look amazing. Take the print out, and pull fabrics from your stash that are the closest match to the print out. Don't worry about whether the print "works"; select the colors that work best. Then make a block! :) When you are just starting out with an art quilt, please have the intention of joy and fun rather than masterpiece. Just play. I have found when I have this as my goal instead of "making the best block EVER", the block comes together in a beautiful way!

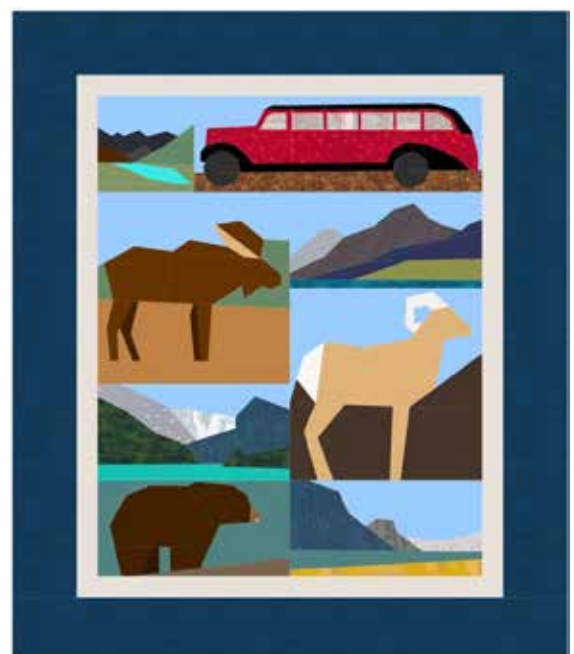
LOOK ONLINE

You can also match the swatch using the Kona name and code using an online search. Simply type in "Kona name number" and click images. You can use any search engine. Then hold your fabrics up to your screen, and voila!!

PS - most of my patterns use this same system, so you can look for fabrics in your stash using either of the 2 methods.

Tip:

Use the basic palette, then add in other colors from your stash to tell your travel story. Note the colors from my basic palette: greens, blues, browns, and yellows.



Suggested Fabrics

Batiks, blenders, low volume, loose prints and solids are my go to prints. When I started making National Park patterns, these were the fabrics hiding in the back of my stash.

Feel free to use bold, modern or floral prints too! If the color is right, the block will look right!

You might be thinking, "Ugh. I don't have many solids". That's ok!!! I don't either! Look for the COLOR in the prints you have.



Tip:

You don't have to use only solid fabrics! Showing you solids is a timeless way to share my favorite colors.



Fiona Sandwich Patterns

Most landscape art quilts are applique. My patterns are English and foundation paper pieced so you can use, wash and love the quilt, rather than hanging on a wall (you can do that too!).

There is National Park entrance sign block, and you can "check off" your visit with a patch sewn to the block! No need to make a quilt with only places you've been in the past. Have something to look forward to in the future as well.

Simple landscape and animal patterns that you can mix and match to show off your memories and milestones.

fionasandwich.com for National Park inspired patterns.



My Swatches

This is a place for you to put your fabrics. Glue the fabric to the individual squares.

