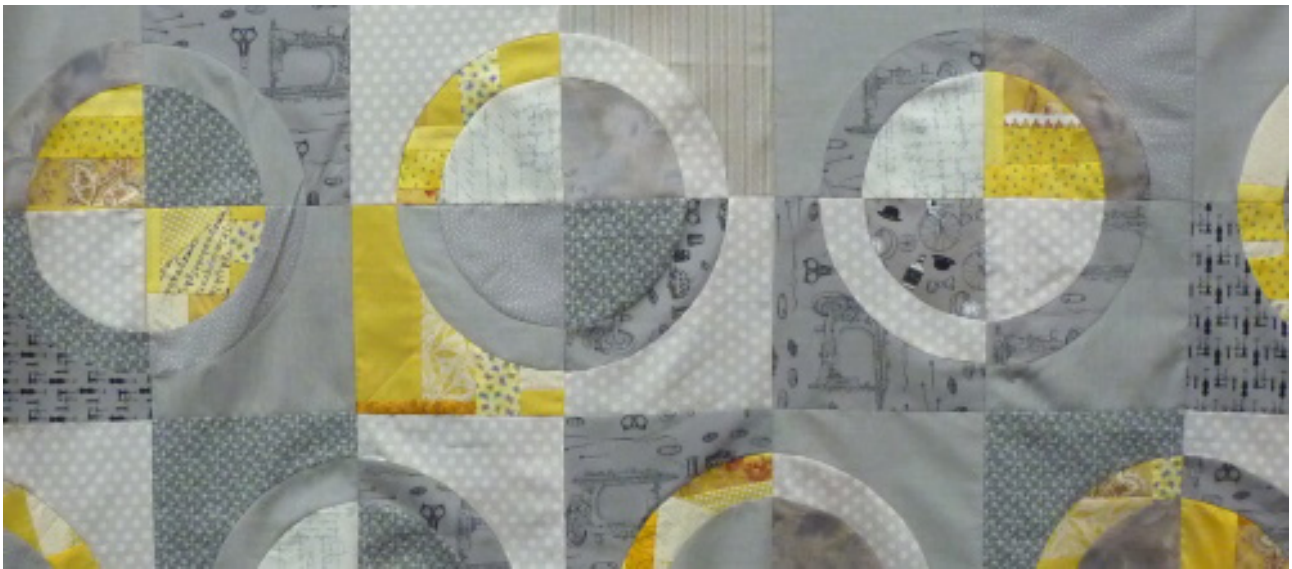




## MODERN ART QUILTERS Sew-A-Long **MADE CLOTH**

Now, the Using Up Of Scraps is a most important part of quilting, otherwise the drifts in the corners will, sooner or later, swallow the household's pets and cause the vacuum cleaner to die a horrible death by suffocation...

Recently I had a big sort-of-scraps, and put them in bags by colour, (which was satisfying) and I determined to actually use some of them up instead of just arranging. I am making a big EPP\* hexagon quilt in my TV time, and this has made inroads, but not reduced the piles enough...

So, I have been making "Made Cloth" - sew pieces together, press, trim, sew more bits on, until you have pieces big enough to be useful

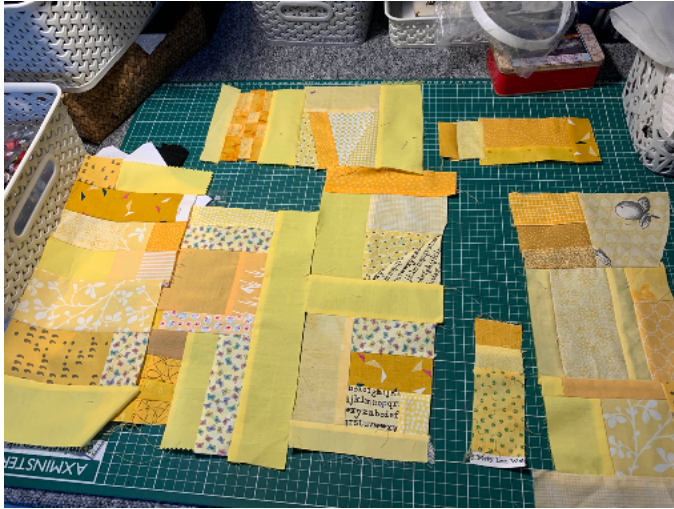
There are a few rules I use for this, primarily that all the pieces come from one colour set - scrappiness can be carried only so far, and multi-coloured can fail so often. Whereas a big lump of one colour has unity, charm, and impact...

So, I made Yellow, and added lots of different greys, and cut the pieces with a formal set of Drunkards Path templates to make the little quilt above. And this week I discovered that 2021's Pantone Colours are yellow and grey... So, timely, or what



Scraps sew together really happily. I usually start with a long strip, and sew pieces to it, right sides together, until I reach the end. Then I press the seams (always to one side, please) and cut the

"flags" apart, sew these to another strip or to each other, and keep on like this until I have a biggish piece



Or, I sew any two pieces together which are more-or-less the same size, then press, add another bit or joined bit, and proceed as above. Press firmly and frequently for best results, and trim the edged straight if they get too wibbly.

If you sew two straight edges together with a consistent seam they will ALWAYS lie flat.

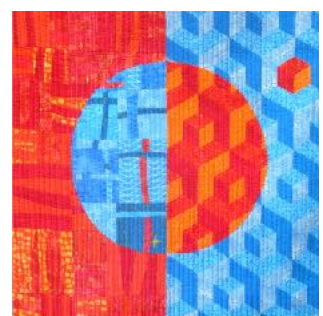
My heart likes squares, but I have sewn a lot of discarded triangular bits together from the bags this Winter...

Then I like to cut the resulting pieces quite formally, into squares, or pieces like the ones in the quilt at the top, mixed with background fabrics to tie them all together...

When cutting, watch that you don't leave too skinny a seam at the edge

Note that I haven't finished these, still need more red, and pink, purple, dark blues.. They look utterly fantastic in neutrals, too

Ongoing, and I may sash the resulting blocks...



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