

Welcome to Introduction to Block Printing on Fabric Workshop  
with  
Yuko Miki

**Materials:**

- Linocut carving tool
- Carving block (soft rubber material)
- Water-based fabric screen printing ink
- Paint roller
- Inking plate
- Cup/holder for ink
- Batting or bath towel (flat)
- Tracing paper
- Drawing paper
- Pencil & eraser
- Spoon or bone folder
- Fabric (natural fiber is recommended)
- Household Iron & ironing board

**Optional:**

- Baren
- Quilter's ruler
- Exacto knife
- Drying rack

**Overview:**

1. Create your design on paper
2. Trace the design on tracing paper with pencil
3. Flip over the tracing paper so the pencil drawing is on the carving block surface. Your design needs to be transferred horizontally flipped on the block for it to print in the right orientation. Rub the design onto the block with spoon or bone folder and transfer the image.
4. Carve the design. Leave the black lines and carve the white part. First, carve the outline with #2 tip. Carve out the rest with bigger or smaller sized tips. Cut out the excess block using the exacto knife or tip #6 of your linocutter. Clean out the edges using tip #5
5. Test print on fabric. Put the ink on inking plate (about 1 tablespoon). Roll the ink out with paint roller until it's well saturated and sticky/tacky.
6. Roll the ink on to the block. Coat evenly.
7. Place the inked side of block onto the fabric. Don't move the block once it's placed on the fabric. Press on the block using the palm of your hand, not fingers. You can use a Baren to distribute the weight evenly. Remove the block.
8. If needed, clean the block with water and soap, pat dry and carve more areas to clean/refine your design. Repeat.
9. Air dry the fabric after printing is complete. Air dry overnight or follow the instructions on your ink container.

10. Heat set using household iron. Set to the temperature appropriate for the fabric. Turn the fabric so you're ironing the back of the fabric. Do not use steam. Iron for about 3 - 5 minutes while moving your iron.
11. Clean your paint rollers, inking plates, and blocks with water and soap (dish or laundry detergent work fine). Pat dry and then air dry completely before storing them.

### **Things to Consider:**

- Lino cutter blades are pretty sharp. Be careful and always cut away from your hand/fingers!
- Store your ink in a sealed container away from heat and direct sun.
- If you're printing over a couple of days, you can wrap your paint roller with a plastic wrap and put it in a ziploc bag and store it in the freezer overnight.
- Place waxed paper or tissue paper between your blocks if you're storing them in layers so they don't stick to each other!

### **What we used in the class today:**

- Speedball Linoleum Cutter Assortment 1 (<http://bit.ly/linocuttool>)
- Moo Carve Block 6-3/4-Inch by 11 by 0-1/2-Inch (<http://bit.ly/moocarve>)
- Blick Waterbased Acrylic Fabric Screen Printing Ink (<http://bit.ly/dickblickink>)
- Speedball Waterbased Fabric Screen Printing Ink (<http://bit.ly/speedballink>)
- Shur-Line Roll-It Paint Roller 3 in. (<http://bit.ly/paintroller>)
- The Warm Company Warm And Natural Cotton Batting 34"x45" (<http://bit.ly/cottonbatting>)
- Fiskars 6x24 Inch Acrylic Ruler (<http://bit.ly/fiskarsruler>)
- Dick Blick Economy Baren (<http://bit.ly/blickbaren>)

### **Where to buy your supplies:**

Blick Art Materials ([dickblick.com](http://dickblick.com))

Online Fabric Store ([onlinefabricstore.net](http://onlinefabricstore.net))

All About Blanks ([allaboutblanks.com](http://allaboutblanks.com))

ConventionTOTES ([conventiontotes.com](http://conventiontotes.com))

Muji USA ([muji.com/us/](http://muji.com/us/))

Local hardware and home improvement stores

Amazon.com

Goodwill & other thrift store - for fabrics (look for good bed sheets, curtains, and table clothes) and misc. tools.

Look in your home!