

Quilting Tips

The following tips were taken from The Chatterbox, the newsletter of the Dufferin Piecemakers Quilting Guild. The column is called Vickie's Invaluable Tips, by Victoria Cane.

The Ultimate Crayon

The ultimate in fabric pastels/crayons is the Pentel brand. They are everything crayons are and more. They blend beautifully (i.e. yellow and red becomes orange) and are softer. The density changes slightly when ironed but the colour remains the same. The cost is \$3.95 for a package of 6 - red, orange, yellow, green, blue and black. I had 38 kids make blocks for a quilt, some blocks were made for a cancer quilt and I still have about 1/3 of each crayon left. You can purchase them on line at www.gsdye.com or phone: 416-596-0550.

Alternative To Bubble Jet Set

Mix half of Ultra Downey (must be this brand only), and half water. Soak fabric for 15 minutes. Rinse for 10 minutes, let dry. When dry, iron onto freezer paper, print, let dry at least 1 thy. Iron to set colours.

To cut the cost, use pillow ticking which is 100% cotton, has a very high thread count, and is very inexpensive. Other fabrics may give differing results, but go for the highest thread count you can find. I did have some colour loss, but I think this may have been due to the fact I printed at the highest resolution, and it was excess ink. After washing in warm water with Orvus, I had very little fading, and they look great, feel great, and are cheap. The small bottle of Ultra Downey is sufficient. (Remember it must be Ultra Downey). Pour the left-over mix back into a container to use again.