

January Snowflakes

Art Quilt Wall Hanging

About this project

This project gives a basic plan for a themed art quilt wall hanging. The finished size for all the monthly wall hangings is 7" x 12". Each month is a different theme, with ideas for creating a unique art quilt. Each wall hanging is fat quarter, jelly roll, scraps or stash friendly!

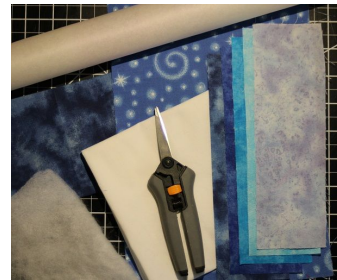
January is a winter landscape scene, with artfully cut fabric snowflakes as a focus.

Follow my YouTube Tutorial: [January Snowflakes](#)

Fabric + Supply requirements

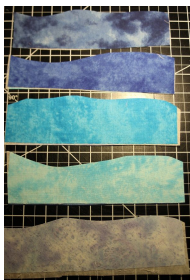
You will need:

- 2 ½" x 8" cuts of 5 unique shades (dark to light) of blue fabric, solids or prints
- Half of a fat quarter (11" x 18") of a bright white fabric, solid or printed
- 7" x 12" cut of a light blue fabric, solid or printed
- Fat quarter of a coordinating fabric for backing and binding
- 7" x 12" cut of batting
- ¼ yard paper backed fusible web
- Very sharp scissors



Background instructions

The base of your wall hanging is the 7" x 12" cut of light blue fabric, which will become the sky in your art quilt. You could even choose a dark blue, black or starry fabric. Remember, this is an art quilt, and you are the artist!



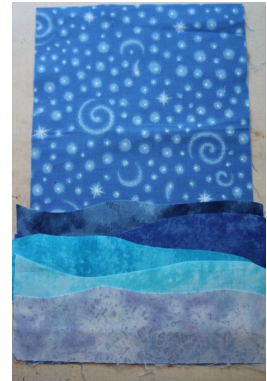
Apply each of the 5 blue fabrics to a same sized section of paper backed fusible web. Refer to the instructions on the fusible web - most have an adhesive side that the fabric is ironed onto.

Using a rotary cutter or scissors, cut a gentle wave along one edge of each strip. Leave the paper backing on until you have finished cutting. After you have cut the wave, it is safe to remove the paper backing to begin placing the fabric onto the background.

You will begin creating a landscape with layers of the shades of blue. Blues will really make the bright white snowflakes pop! The landscape can be built from dark to light or even white. Be creative and use what you want!

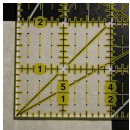
Starting at the horizon, begin by placing the darkest blue strip about 3" from the bottom. Continue placing the strips, moving toward the bottom. Place the strips at slight angles, randomly to build layers of landscape. Imagine snow covered gently rolling hills. Finish with the lightest strip at the bottom.

When you are happy with the design of the landscape, press the fabric onto the background following the fusible web instructions.



Snowflake instructions

Now it's time to make the snowflakes! Iron the white fabric onto paper backed fusible web. (A fat quarter will make more than enough snowflakes, so if you want to be a bit more thrifty, work with half of a fat quarter to start.)



Cut different sizes of squares from the white fabric. Anywhere from 2" to 4". A 2" square will make a really cute little snowflake but may be difficult to cut. Be sure to use SHARP fine point scissors.

Cut snowflakes. You might remember doing this as a kid using paper or with your own children or grandchildren. Same idea, but with fabric! The paper backing makes it easier to fold and cut.



Fold each square as follows:

1. Fold in half corner to corner, along the diagonal.
→ *You get a little more accuracy if the fabric is on the outside of the fold.*
2. Fold in half again.
3. Fold this triangle into thirds.
→ *Pin or clip to hold the folded snowflake in place as you cut into it.*
4. Cut a straight line from the tip.
5. Now, make small cuts along the two long edges of the triangle. Small cuts will make for more intricate snowflakes. Big cuts are easier and still make neat snowflakes!
→ *Be patient with yourself and this process. You only need a few snowflakes.*
6. Unfold to see your snowflake creation!



Need more help with this? Check out my YouTube Tutorial: [January Snowflakes](#)

Randomly place your snowflakes on your landscape to create a pretty snowfall. Consider placing snowflakes so they go off the side. When you like how it looks, remove the paper backing and press each snowflake to adhere it. Trim edges.



Finishing the wall hanging

There are several options to finish your wall hanging:

1. Quilt, and add binding.
2. Quilt and zigzag edges.
3. Layer, stitch and turn, then quilt.

Option 1: Create a quilt sandwich with your art quilt top, batting and backing. If you are able to free motion quilt, you can follow the landscape shapes, and go around the edges of the snowflakes. To quilt with a straight stitch, make gentle wavy lines that mimic the direction of the landscape shapes, and stitch straight lines through the snowflakes.. You can hand quilt for even more intricate quilting. Cut two 3" squares from the backing fabric. Fold each in half to create a triangle with a folded edge. Place a square in each top corner, and pin in place. Bind the edges of the quilt with bias binding made from any fabric you choose.



Option 2: Create a quilt sandwich and quilt as desired as in option 1. Add the triangles to the top. Stitch a zig zag around the raw edges instead of adding binding.

Option 3: Layer quilt batting, quilt backing right side up, two triangles at the top, and your art quilt top, face down. Pin in place. Stitch around the edges, leaving a 4" gap. Turn the quilt inside out and press. Hand or machine stitch the gap closed. Quilt and hang.

To hang, insert a 6" dowel with a small diameter ($\frac{1}{4}$ " to $\frac{1}{2}$ ") into the two triangle pockets.