



Mini Landscape Quilt

This little quilt is approximately A4 size but the technique will work for any size of quilt.

It is made by appliquéing the fabrics to each other using either stitch n tear or lightweight sew-in Vlieseline as a support and then details are added with either hand or machine quilting.

I hope you will enjoy making it – you can choose fabrics and colours to reflect the landscape where you live or make up your own fantasy landscape.

To make it you will need:-

- The pattern (or you can design your own)
- A piece of stitch n tear or lightweight sew in 'Vlieseline (L11/310) approx A4 size
- A piece of freezer paper A4 size
- 10 different fabrics of your choice. You will only need small pieces – if you have a batik fabric you might get more than one colour from it
- Sewing thread – either invisible or to tone with your colours
- Thread for quilting and embellishing
- A piece of wadding a little larger than A4 – I find a low loft cotton wadding works the best
- A piece of fabric for the back at least 1½ inches bigger than the finished top
- Fabric and paper scissors
- Sewing Machine and/or hand stitching needles and pins

Method

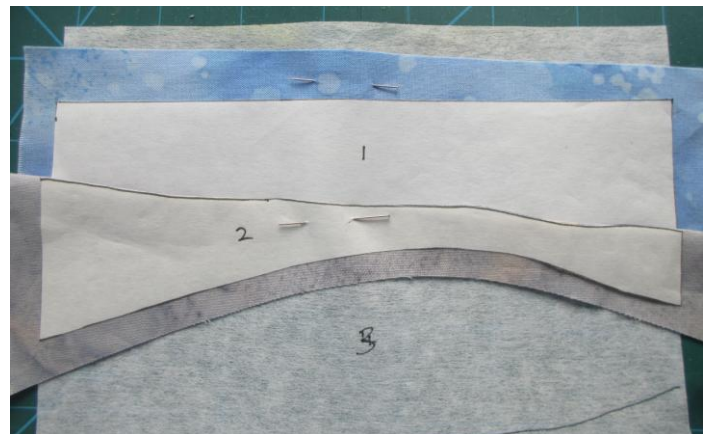
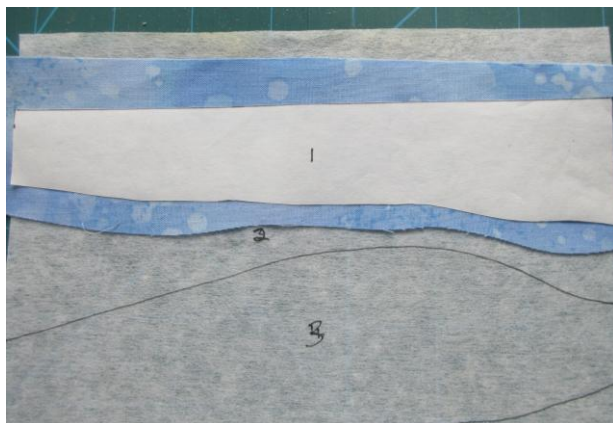
1. Start by printing the pattern and tracing it onto both stitch n tear (or Vlieseline) and freezer paper. Trace the border as well and add the numbers.
2. Next choose your fabrics. Remember to choose lighter and softer colours for areas farther away and darker and brighter colours as you come into the foreground. This will give the appearance of depth to your landscape and appear that the viewer can step into the picture. These are the fabrics that I used.

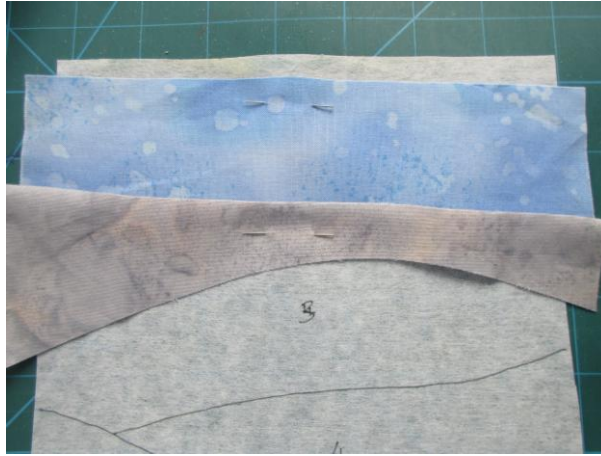


3. Next, cut the freezer pattern into the individual pattern pieces and iron each pattern piece onto the chosen fabric on the RIGHT side (see below left) and cut them out leaving at least $\frac{1}{4}$ inch all round the freezer. If you leave a little more you will have some 'wiggle' room when you come to stitch them together.
4. When the pieces are stitched together each one will overlay the previous one so we now need to press under a seam allowance on the top of each piece. (see below right) Use the freezer paper as a guide and take care as it is a bit fiddly and the iron will be hot. As you press each one keep the pieces in the right order.

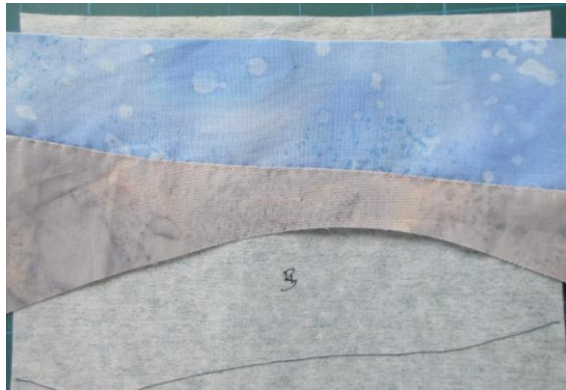


5. Now we will start to stitch our piece. Take the piece numbered one and pin it in place on the stitch n tear. Take piece number two and pin in place overlapping the first piece and lining up the freezer paper edges. I like to remove the freezer paper now before I stitch, as I can use it again, but you can stitch with it in place if you prefer.





6. If you are using a sewing machine use either a blind hem stitch (see photo below) or a small zig zag. Ideally we don't want our stitches to be too obvious. If you wish you can use a matching thread for each piece but if you don't want to change thread each time then either invisible thread or a 60 weight neutral colour is a good choice.



I like to use an open toed foot so that I can see where I am going.

If you are stitching by hand use small slip stitches to stitch through all the layers.

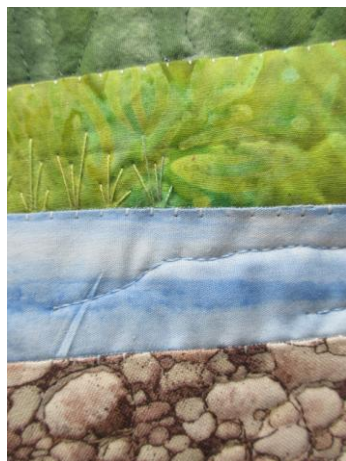
7. Continue adding the pieces one by one in the same way until you have them all stitched together. (Below left) Don't worry if your edges aren't straight as we will trim them later. If you are using stitch n tear it is now time to tear it away. Gently pull against the seams and remove it from each section. (Below right). If you are using Vlieseline you will leave it in place.



8. Press your completed landscape and trim it so that all the sides are straight. It is now time to quilt. Place your backing fabric **WRONG** side up and centre your wadding on top. Now place your landscape on top. You should have extra wadding and backing around the sides. (See below). Smooth out and pin or tack if you prefer.



9. We are now ready to quilt and this is when we can add lots of details to bring our landscape to life. I have done both hand and machine quilting on mine (see below). Often there are lines in the fabrics that you can follow or you can use stitches to divide areas into hills and add shadows. I have added some straight stitch grasses to the edge of my stream and some Bullion Stitch sheep to the grass. You can also use coloured pencils to add extra shading if you fancy.



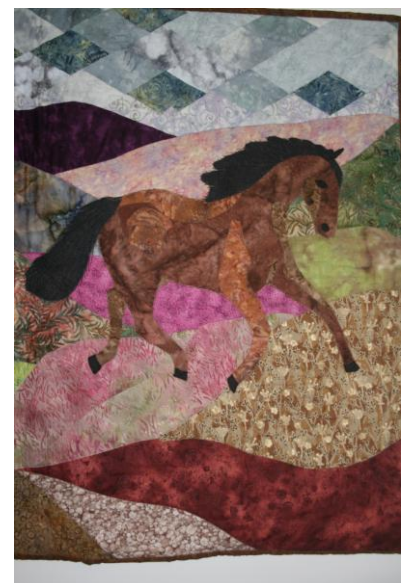
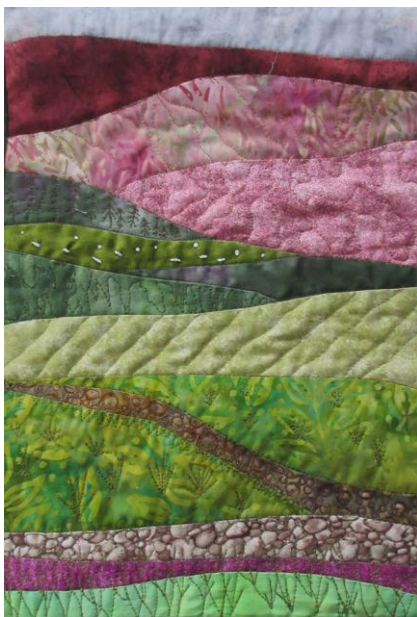
10. It is now time to finish your quilt by enclosing all the raw edges and there are several ways of doing this. For small quilts like this I usually fold the background fabric to the front to form a frame but it could also be bound in the traditional way or 'bagged out'.

11. Here is my way:-

- Trim the wadding level with the edges of the top
- Trim the backing fabric to $\frac{3}{4}$ inch larger all round
- Fold and press a $\frac{1}{4}$ inch seam in the backing fabric
- Turn this fabric over onto the front of the quilt and pin
- Either slip stitch by hand or top stitch by machine to secure



I hope you enjoyed making your landscape quilt. Why not make another with different fabrics? Even with the same pattern each one will be very different. There are some other examples below. You could even create your own pattern, perhaps using a photo as a starting point, or add an appliqué tree or animal. Whatever you decide – have fun!



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