

Kawandi Quilt Intro and supply list (Silke)

Kawandandi quilts are made in southeast India by descendants from African slaves. Traditionally, they are used for bed coverings and are entirely made from recycled clothing. They are made by hand. Kawandi quilts do not require batting. The Siddi women just use three layers of fabric. Since I have a lot of flannel leftovers, I use flannel.

I suggest you start with a small quilt to see if you like the technique and have the patience for it.

Supplies needed:

- 1. Bottom layer measuring 1" wider on all sides than middle layer (i.e. 14"x14")**
- 2. Middle layer measuring 1" less on all sides than bottom layer (i.e. 12x12")**
- 3. Scraps of fabric not too small since the edges will be turned under (can we share?)***
- 4. Pins - lots of them if you like to have control and plan carefully**
- 5. Embroidery floss: the stitches should show, so I like to work with #8 pearl cotton**
- 6. Sewing needle to fit your floss**

I LOVE this technique and I purposely put scraps together that do not necessarily coordinate, the funkier the better for me. However, I try to repeat fabrics because I like a bit of cohesion. I have learned to avoid batik scraps since they are so tightly woven and we are stitching through

5 or more layers. Southwest India is very hot and I am sure those women are mostly recycling old lightweight cotton saris.

Margaret Fabrizio is an American quilter famous for her Kawandi quilts. She is featured on Pinterest and Youtube.