Dreamlines 2023: May: Beads

a FREE monthly art project with Brenda Gael Smith

OBJECTIVES:

- Make a 12-15in strip of dark beads against a light background.
- Build YOUR composition month-by-month or incorporate the strip into other design(s).
- Take it further: scale up the size of the bead design and/or make bead strips.

BASIC TECHNIQUE: 12-15in STRIP

Adjust to fit with the length of YOUR Dreamline(s)

Cut:

- One 2in x 10in rectangle dark fabric for the beads
- Two 11/4in x 10in strips light fabric and one 3/4 in x 10 in strip dark fabric for the line spacers
- Two 1in x 15in strips light fabric for the sides.

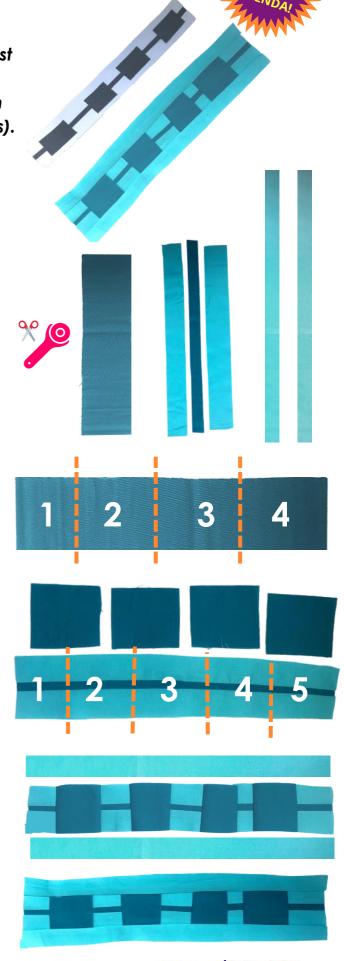
Making Beads

- 1. Cross-cut the 2in x 10in rectangle dark fabric to make 4 or 5 beads.
- 2. Make a line unit by sewing the two 11/4inx10in strips of light fabric on either side of the ³/₄in x 10in strip of dark fabric. Press seams outwards.
- 3. Cross-cut the line unit to make 5 or 6 line spacers.

Assembly

Sew the line spacers between the beads to make a strip 12-15in long. Press the seams towards the beads.

Sew 1 in strips of light fabric on either side to create the illusion of the dark beads floating on the light background.









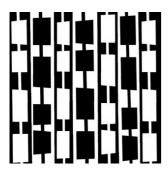
TAKE IT FURTHER: 40+in Bead Strips

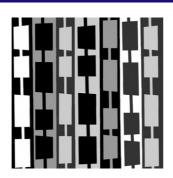
Adjust the number of beads and line spacers to fit with the length of YOUR Dreamline(s)

- One 5in x 30in strip dark fabric for beads. Cross-cut to make 6 or7 beads
- Two 2½ in x30 in strips of light fabric and one 1½ in x 30 in strip light fabric. Sew the light trips on either side of the dark strip to make a line unit. Press seams towards the dark line. Cross-cut to make 7 or 8 line spacers.
- Sew the line spacers between the beads to make a strip 40in long or desired length. Press the seams towards the beads.
- Sew 2in strips of light fabric on either side to create the illusion of the dark beads floating on the light background.

Variations

- Swap the darks & lights->light beads on a dark background.
- Vary the size and number of the beads.
- Vary the size and number of the line spacers.
- Vary the width of the side strips.
- Vary the colours. Mix in black & white.
- Free-cut rather than precisely measure.
- Experiment with curves if that is part of your technical skill-set.









#dreamlines2023 #dreamlinesproject #maydreamlines #brendagaelsmithworkshop

About the Dreamlines Project

skill-building • creative momentum • community

On the first day of each month from January to October 2023, Brenda shares a linear design loosely inspired by her Dreamlines series. In November, we will explore different layout options. In December, we will celebrate!

Sign up for the Serendipity Studio Newsletter to get each module sent directly to your in-box.

Join the Dreamlines Project Facebook group.



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