

Creating Hand Colored Quilt Blocks



Capture children's artwork or any other image that can be traced onto fabric using these simple steps.

Supplies Needed:

- Foam Board
- Fabric Paint Markers
- Cotton fabric that can be seen through for tracing
- Images for tracing
- Pins

Step 1- Finding the images

Draw your own designs or do an internet image search to find desired pictures. Along with any specific pictures you are looking for like teddy bear, Disney, puppies, etc. include terms such as "coloring book pages" or "preschool coloring pages". Be sure to choose images that don't contain too much detail. Images that resemble basic coloring book pages work best.

Decide what size block you want for your quilt and if necessary, resize the images you choose to be at least $\frac{1}{2}$ " inside that margin to account for seam allowance and avoid getting the image caught in the seam. For example, if your finished block size is 10", cut your fabric at $10 \frac{1}{2}$ " and be sure your image is no larger than $9 \frac{1}{2}$ ". You might prefer to leave even a bit more space around the perimeter of the image.

Step 2- Supplies and Fabric prep



Choose the fabric paint pens you want to use. We use Tulip brand and are happy with the result. Prepare fabric according to manufacturer's directions. Usually the fabric must be prewashed.

Foam board is highly recommended for use to secure image and fabric in place and have a sturdy surface upon which to work. You will use these boards multiple times. They are worth the investment.

Step 3- Tracing and coloring the images onto fabric



- Tape image to foam board. A small piece on top and bottom is sufficient to hold image in place.
- Place fabric over image and secure with pins along three sides.
- Using a black paint marker, trace the image.
- Using the colored paint pens, color the picture as desired.
- Follow directions for “setting” the finished picture. Some paint markers require you to heat-set with an iron. Tulip paint pens don’t require that step.
- Your blocks are now ready to incorporate into your quilt or any other textile project.

Would you like your own digital copy of these directions? Scan the QR code to find a downloadable file in our Facebook group.

