



August 2026

snippets

CHAIRLADY'S REPORT

Dear members

I'm delighted to share that the five-day quilt festival in Port Elizabeth was a wonderful success! Kenyan quilts were proudly displayed alongside beautiful work from around the world, and the response from visitors was incredibly warm and encouraging. The exhibition was a fantastic opportunity to showcase the creativity, skill, and stories behind our quilts, while also strengthening our relationship with the festival organisers. Even more exciting, it has opened the door to future opportunities, including possible participation in the 2028 Pretoria festival.

Looking ahead, I'm excited about the possibilities for building even greater visibility through exhibitions in 2027 and by aiming for major international events such as the Quilt Festival in Birmingham, UK and Carrefour Patchwork in France.

The education plan for the rest of the year is also very exciting! We hope to welcome inspiring international textile teachers to Nairobi, creating fresh opportunities for learning, creativity, and connection. I'll be delighted to share more details as the plans come together.

The Sampler quilt instructions will soon come to an end, making way for another wonderful opportunity to refine our quilting skills and help newer members build confidence as they learn and complete a finished project by the end of the programme.

As you sew, so shall you rip....

Love

Amber

*Quilt used for Border and Background
throughout Snippets by Surrinder Thethy*



Elizabeth Griffiths: **IN THE MOOD FOR MIXED MEDIA**

Elizabeth Griffiths wants you to know it's okay to set down your needle now and then and explore other art forms.

Whether you pick up a pencil, paintbrush or other mark making instrument, whatever you create can inform your textile art. Elizabeth enjoys watercolour and print and, as a result, her mixed media textile art is a delight to behold.

Elizabeth's creativity also earned her a competitive seat on Sky Arts TV's Portrait Artist of the Year. Hear about her challenge to stitch a portrait in just four hours and the celebrity who wouldn't sit still.

[It's time to learn how to exercise your creative rights with mixed media!](#)



"When I stitch, it's deliberate. I know where my needle is going and what I want to achieve. But when I work in mixed media, I'm able to break away from some of the predictability of stitch and can instead be led by the medium I am using."

Caroline Harrius - Textile Artist

Let's get technical

SCRAPPY BINDING TUTORIAL

Instructions by <https://www.sewmariana.com>

For all of you struggling to decide which color fabric to use for you binding, let me add one more option: all of the above. ;)

For this binding I used a mix of solids and prints in rainbow colors. I dug out my scrap bins and even cut some fat quarters, (don't ever be afraid of using your stash!), ending up with a great variety of colors and small prints.



$$\text{Length of Quilt} + \text{Width of Quilt} \times 2 + 8'' = \text{Total Length of Binding Strip}$$

$$\frac{\text{Total Length of Binding Strip}}{\text{Length of Each Binding Piece}} = \text{Number of Binding Pieces I Need}$$

Organize your prints and solids in the order you want and start sewing them in pairs, short ends together. I chain-pieced and it went really fast.

Press the seams open to reduce bulk. Keep sewing the pairs into groups of four and so on, until you have the length you need.



Now press your binding strip in half lengthwise, wrong sides together. And voilà! You're ready to sew your binding onto your quilt!



Types of Thread

Every Sewer Should Know —



THE RIGHT THREAD MAKES ALL THE DIFFERENCE

1. Cotton Thread



Natural fiber thread, perfect for quilting, embroidery & general sewing.

2. Polyester Thread



Strong, durable & colorfast. Ideal for everyday sewing and seams.

3. Nylon Thread



Strong and slightly stretchy. Great for activewear and outdoor fabrics.

4. Silk Thread



Luxurious and smooth. Best for hand sewing and delicate fabrics.

5. Rayon Thread



Glossy finish with excellent color quality. Great for embroidery.

6. Metallic Thread



Adds sparkle and shine. Perfect for decorative sewing and special effects.

7. Thread for Denim



Extra strong for thick fabrics like denim, jeans & heavy cotton.

8. Embroidery Thread



Designed for embroidery work with a beautiful sheen and strength.

9. Topstitching Thread



Stronger and thicker. Perfect for visible seams and topstitching.

10. Serger Thread



Made for overlock/serger machines to finish seams neatly and securely.

11. Invisible (Monofilament) Thread



Clear thread that blends with fabric. Great for delicate and invisible stitching.

12. Wooly Nylon Thread



Nylon core with a textured wrap. Ideal for stretchy and knit fabrics.

DIFFERENT THREADS, DIFFERENT PURPOSES
CHOOSE THE RIGHT ONE FOR PERFECT RESULTS!





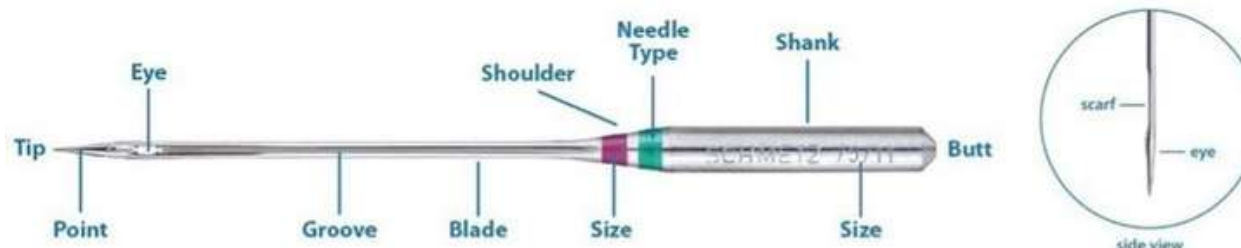
SEWING MACHINE NEEDLE SIZES EXPLAINED

A guide by www.ageberry.com

Have you ever wondered why there are so many different needle sizes for sewing machines? Or how to know which size to use for which fabric? Sewing machine needles are incredibly important as the wrong size or type of needle can cause skipped stitches, broken thread, and even damage to your fabric.

The size is in fact simply the thickness of the blade of the needle.

Different sizes of needles are necessary because different types of fabrics require different levels of penetration from the needle in order to stitch them together properly. For example, thin fabrics like chiffon need thinner needles than heavier fabrics like denim and leather because they require less force to penetrate them. Similarly, thicker fabrics like canvas need thicker needles because they require more force.



Often, there are two numbers on the label for the needle, and these two numbers are separated by a slash. These two numbers are both sizes for the needle.

The first number = European size (which is in fact international, or metric), range in size from 55 to 120

The second number = American size established by the Singer corporation, ranging from 7 to 19.

Why do we have two different measurement systems? Only people from Singer could explain it since they came up with this arbitrary number system (what does 12 have to do with the actual size of the needle, which is 0.8mm?). But let's count our blessings, after all, we "only" have two measurement systems, while we have many more needle systems. The main thing to remember when you're shopping for sewing machine needles is this – the higher the number, the thicker the needle. At least here both systems agree!

60/8, 65/9, 70/10 – These needles are very fine, thin needles that are suited to very delicate fabrics such as fine lace, chiffon, georgette, organza, or lightweight silk.

75/11, 80/12 – These needles are lightweight, suited to somewhat lightweight fabrics like voile, silk, cotton, lightweight wool, linen, etc.

90/14 – This size of this needle is considered medium weight. This needle will allow you to sew on a wide variety of medium weight fabrics like quilting cotton, velvet, corduroy, linen, muslin, many types of knits, fleece, etc.

100/16 – This kind of needles is considered heavy weight. You can sew denim, canvas, leather, coat wool, corduroy, faux fur, etc. with this kind of needle.

110/18 – This is a very heavy needle and is suited for sturdy, thick fabrics like heavy denim, upholstery fabric, heavy canvas, or faux fur fabric.

120/19 – This is the heaviest needle available for non-industrial use. You can use it for any fabric that is heavier than the above listed fabrics.

It's important to note that these sizes are just a guideline.

TYPES OF SCISSOR

Used In Sewing

1

FABRIC SCISSORS



Used for cutting fabric. Sharp, strong & long blades for clean cuts.

2

EMBROIDERY SCISSORS



Small in size with sharp pointed tips. Used for embroidery & detailed work.

3

THREAD SNIPS



Best for cutting threads & small trims. Easy to use and carry.

4

PINKING SHEARS



Used to cut fabric edges in a zigzag pattern to prevent fraying.

5

APPLIQUE SCISSORS



Bent blades help in cutting intricate shapes & applique designs.

6

DUCKBILL SCISSORS



Flat bottom blade keeps fabric in place while cutting curves.

7

BUTTONHOLE SCISSORS



One blade is flat to slide under stitches and cut the buttonhole.

8

PAPER SCISSORS



Used for cutting patterns, paper & cardboard.



Right Scissor = Perfect Stitching



KQG
MERCHANDISE



Become a
MEMBER in 2026 and...

Receive a
certificate...



and this
BEAUTIFUL
Starter Pack





KENYA QUILT GUILD MEETINGS

JULY

SATURDAY 4TH

Trademark Hotel

THURSDAY 16TH

Sikh Union

AUGUST

SATURDAY 1ST

Trademark Hotel

THURSDAY 20TH

Sikh Union

SEPTEMBER

SATURDAY 5TH

Trademark Hotel

THURSDAY 17TH

Sikh Union

10AM - NOON

FREE BEGINNER QUILTING CLASSES AFTER EACH MEETING

WWW.KENYAQUILTGUILD.ORG
KENYAQUILTGUILD1@GMAIL.COM

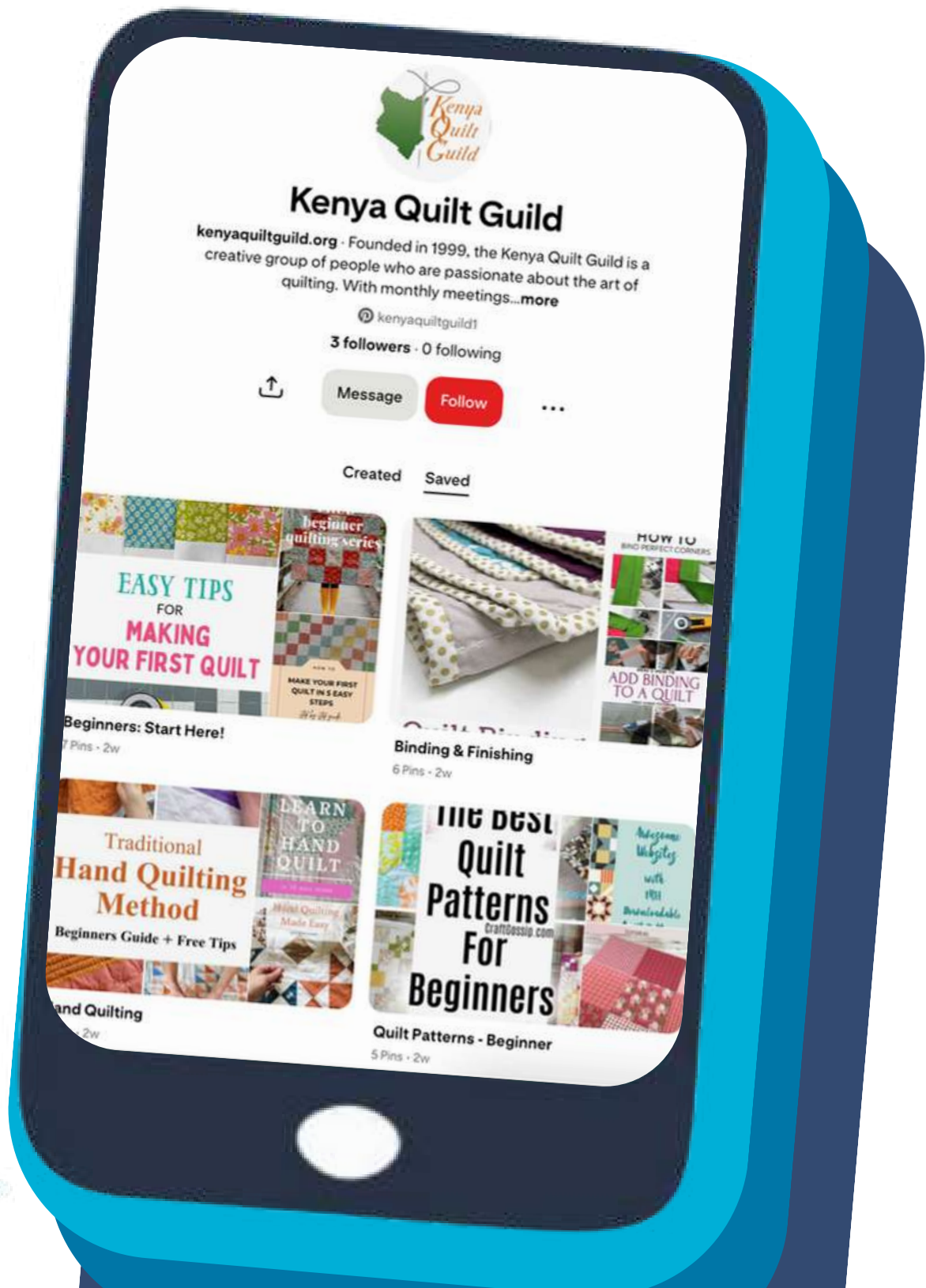
LIST OF TEACHERS OFFERING CLASSES

BEGINNER'S CLASSES		
GILL REBELO	LORESHO	0722 613105
RAGHBIR SYAN	NGONG ROAD	0721 372208
RAJI SYAN	NEW MUTHAIGA	0722 362362
AMBER SIDDIQUI	SPRING VALLEY	0717 492210
ROHINI DESAI	BROOKSIDE	0722 840 846
POLEY BHAMRA	BROOKSIDE	0721 289110
APPLIQUE CLASSES		
AMBER SIDDIQUI	SPRING VALLEY	0717 492210
ROHINI DESAI	BROOKSIDE	0722 840846
RAGHBIR SYAN	NGONG ROAD	0721 372208
RAJI SYAN	NEW MUTHAIGA	0722 362362
MACHINE QUILTING/ FREE-MOTION QUILTING		
ROHINI DESAI	BROOKSIDE	0722 840846
RAJI SYAN	NEW MUTHAIGA	0722 362362
HAND QUILTING & HAND EMBROIDERY		
CHRISTINE KIBUKA	SIMBA UNION	0734 440688
AMBER SIDDIQUI	SPRING VALLEY	0717 492210
BARGELLO CLASSES		
RAJI SYAN	NEW MUTHAIGA	0722 362362
LOG CABIN, SAMPLER QUILTS, CATHEDRAL WINDOWS AND OTHERS ON REQUEST		
GILL REBELO	LORESHO	0722 613105
ROHINI DESAI	BROOKSIDE	0722 840846
SMALL PROJECTS-BAGS, FABRIC BOWLS & GIFT ITEMS		
RAGHBIR SYAN	NGONG ROAD	0721 372208
ROHINI DESAI	BROOKSIDE	0722 840846



THE GUILD HAS JOINED PINTEREST!

www.pinterest.com/kenyaquiltguild1/





LIBRARY

You can now borrow great quilting books for a small fee from our library at the meetings. Please return any library books you may have borrowed in the previous years.

BOOK RENTAL: 100 Kes



WEBSITE

www.kenyaquiltguild.org



DOOR PRIZES

You have the opportunity to win a fun prize at each meeting! Don't forget to sign in at the door when you get your name tag.

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DID YOU KNOW? WE ARE ON
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PINTEREST! PLEASE LIKE, FOLLOW AND
SHARE WITH ANYONE WHO'D LIKE TO
SEE WHAT THE GUILD IS UP TO.



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INSTAGRAM:
[thekenyaquiltguild](https://www.instagram.com/thekenyaquiltguild)



PAYMENTS:

You may pay for
Kenya Quilt Guild
subscription of your classes at
one of our monthly meetings
or by

Paybill no: 4043847

Account Number: Your Name

KQG'S MEETINGS:

TIME: 10:00 AM TILL NOON
(Kenyan Standard Time)

Monthly Meetings:
3RD THURSDAY OF THE
MONTH
SIKH UNION

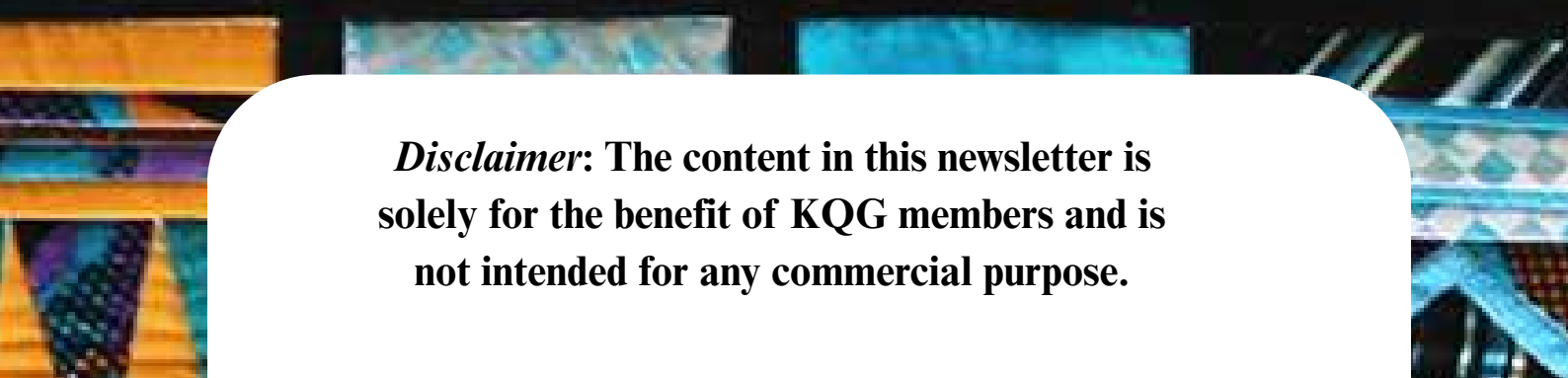
1ST SATURDAY OF THE MONTH
TRADEMARK HOTEL



KQG CO-ORDINATES:

Email: kenyaquiltguild1@gmail.com

Website: www.kenyaquiltguild.org



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solely for the benefit of KQG members and is
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