

05 22 2025 Program Meeting
Quilting With Selvages
Kay Wieland

Quilting with selvages involves incorporating the finished edges of fabric, which are typically not meant to be cut, into your quilting projects. This can be done by using them as part of the quilt top, as binding, or even as a unique feature in a quilt block.

Methods for Quilting with Selvages

- **Selvage Fabric:**

You can sew selvage strips together to create a larger piece of fabric, which can then be used for quilt tops, blocks, or even binding.

- **Selvage Bindings:**

Selvages can be folded and sewn to create a unique and durable binding for quilts.

- **Selvage Quilt Blocks:**

Selvages can be incorporated into quilt blocks in various ways, such as overlapping strips to create unique designs or using them as the main element of a block.

- **Selvage Quilts:**

Entire quilts can be made using selvage fabric, often featuring the unique patterns and textures of the selvages themselves.

Tips for Working with Selvages

- **Straighten Edges:**

Before using selvages, it's often helpful to straighten the edges by either trimming them or folding them over to create a clean edge.

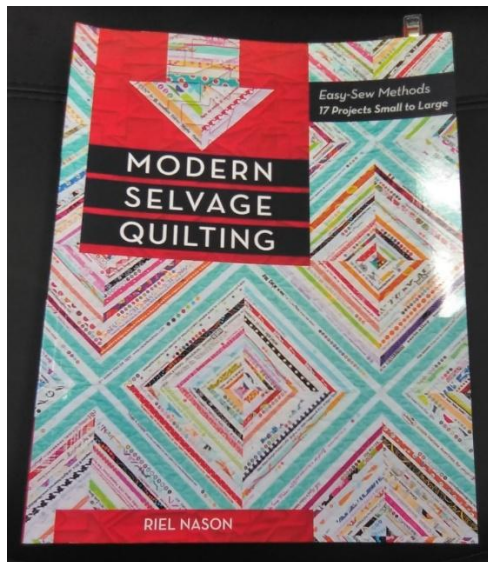
- **Sew Carefully:**

Selvages can be a bit tricky to sew with due to their tighter weave and potentially uneven edges. Pinning or using a stabilizer can help.

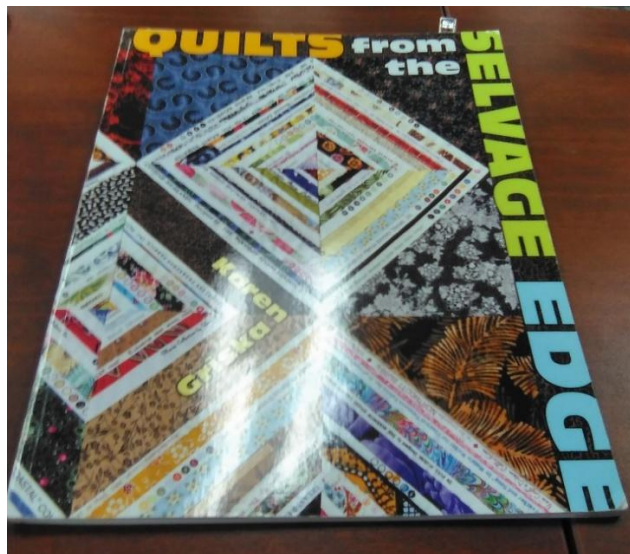
- **Embrace the Uniqueness:**

Selvages can add a unique touch to your quilts with their colorful designs and patterns.

Books You Might Use



Published 2016



Published 2008



Published 2012

Making Selvage Fabric

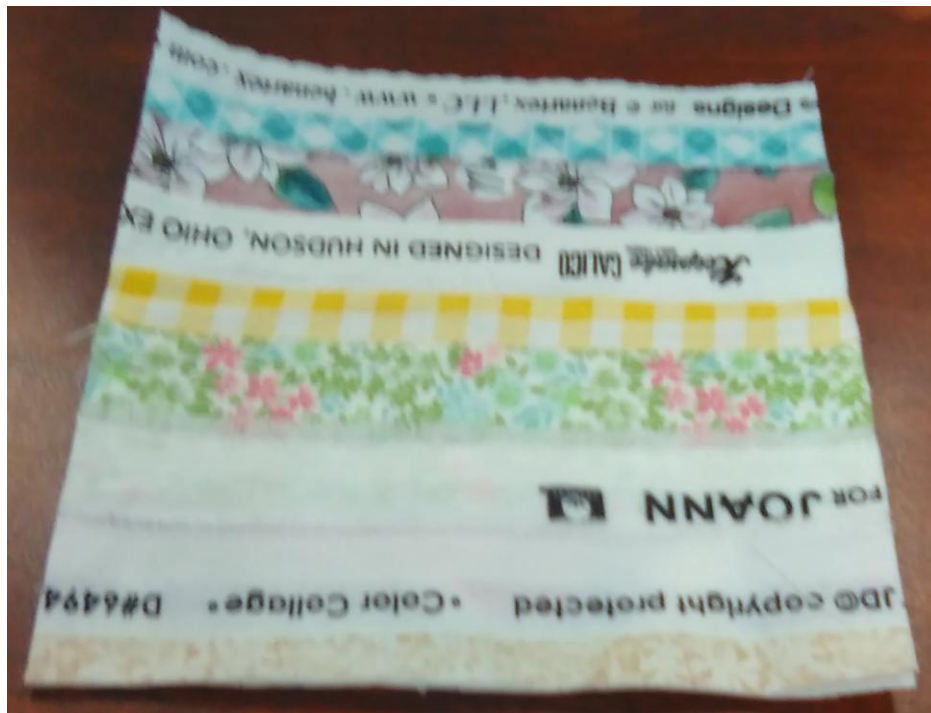
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s5JjVmVowR0>

1. To make selvage strips, you need to cut past the selvage edge of the fabric. The selvage strips should be $\frac{3}{4}$ inch to 1 inch wide.
2. Make selvage fabric by Foundation Piecing the selvage strips onto a fabric background. Cut background fabric to only what you need.
3. Top stitch the first strip (right side out) to the fabric background (selvage edge to the cut end of the fabric background).
4. Overlap the next strip $\frac{1}{4}$ inch onto the unfinished edge of the previous selvage strip. If the overlap is not enough, the selvage strips come apart. You can take the strips apart, overlap more, and sew them together again. Or you might do a fancier stitch

like a herringbone to keep the strips together. One Guild member used a fancier stitch the second time, and it worked.

5. You can use a glue stick to keep the strips together.
6. Dry iron the strips to set the glue.
7. Top stitch the strips across.
8. You make the fabric width and length you desire.

You can also overlap the selvage strips **without** a fabric background. You might want to use starch or stabilizer on the strips, so they keep their shape because they are not on a foundation material. Using 1-1/2 inches wide strips might be a good idea.

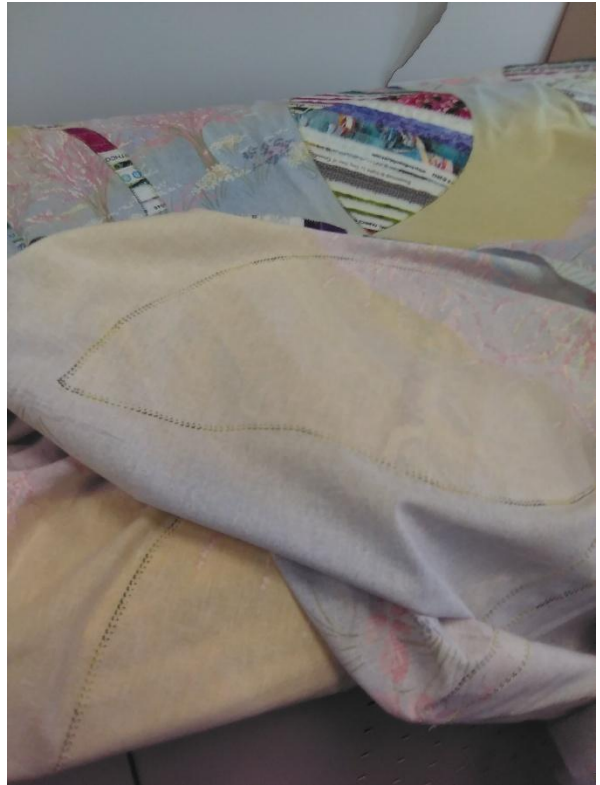
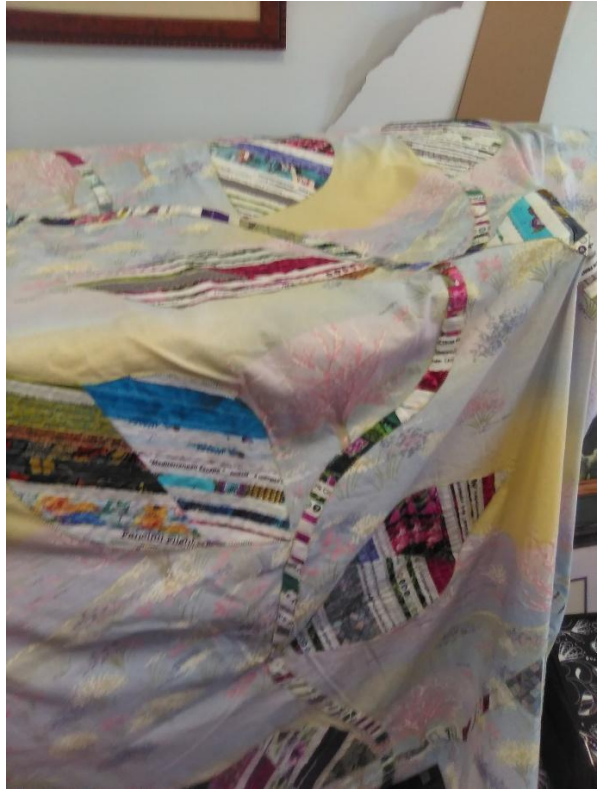


Fabric Should Look Like This

Kay Wieland's first selvage quilt was a basketweave. It was an Ozone Layer Quilt Guild Challenge to use 20 inches by 20 inches squares with 20 different selvages.



You can cut a pattern out of the fabric and applique the pattern onto a background fabric. See the following pictures of Therese Springer's quilt top.



Selvage Blocks

Many Guild members made rectangular selvage blocks to use for a project. Many members made a triangular block.



Lay Out First Strip



Trim to Fit



Glue Stick Strip



Place Strip



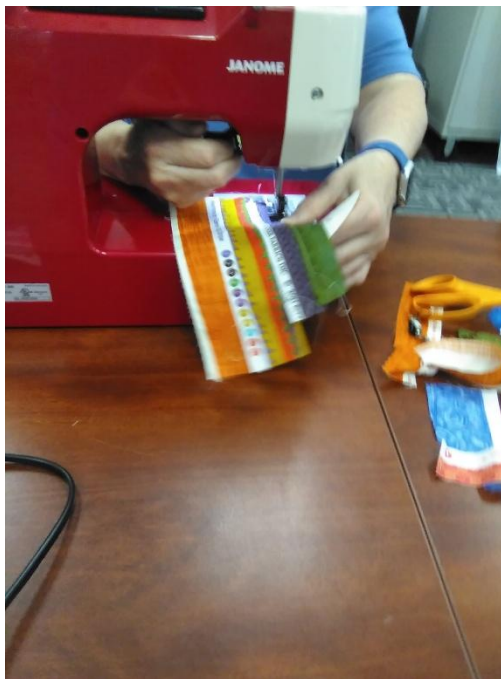
Pat Down & Then Dry Iron



Sew First Strip



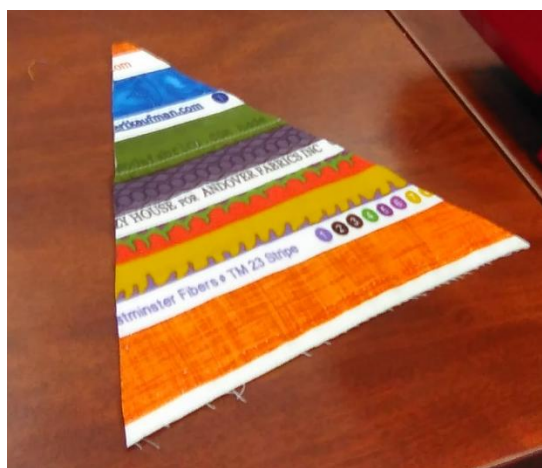
Finishing First Strip



Sew More Selvage Strips



Trim Strips After Sewing



Strips Trimmed to Triangle
Background Fabric

One Member made Log Cabin Blocks.



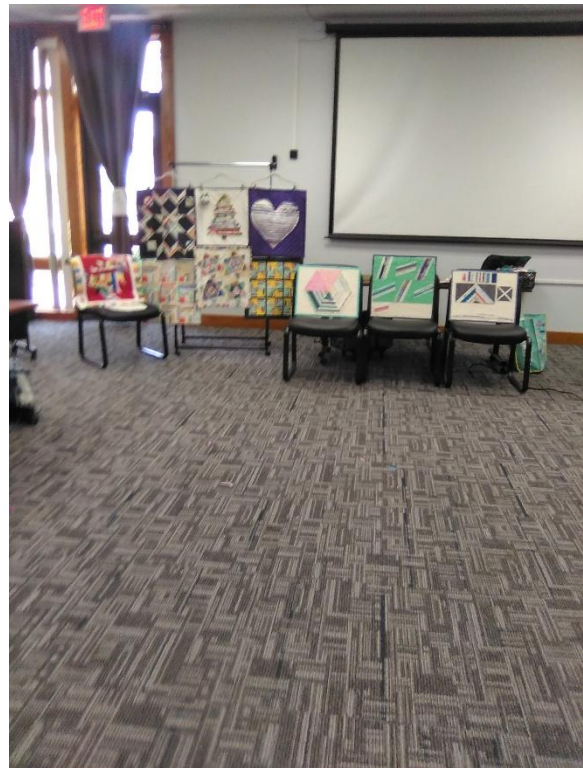
Kay Wieland Brought Quilt Examples



Selvage Spider Web



Quilted Bags



Blocks Used for Quilts



