

# Chinese Lanterns Art-Quilt For The Wall

By Pamela Priday



**A Monoprinted image using three different printing techniques.**

- Printing plate
- Bubble wrap
- Rubber mat

## Materials

- A sturdy piece of glass plate, perspex or a glass chopping board for use as a printing plate. Tape any sharp edges to prevent injury.
- Printing mat (plastic covered lightly padded base).
- Selection of Jo Sonja's Artists' Colours
- Jo Sonja's Textile Medium
- Sponge brush
- Bubble wrap – the size of your fabric
- Rubber mat – a little shorter than your fabric
- Water spray bottle
- Fabrics and wadding
- Sewing materials



## Method

*Enjoy the freedom of starting out your project with no predetermined image in mind.*

Exercise your creativity – monoprint with Jo Sonja's paints and let your fabric-art “talk to you” in a way that utilises the image that arises in your mind. For example, Chinese lanterns emerged in my thoughts as I viewed the completed painted piece and then my stitch and embellishments supported this image.

1. Fabrics needed for this project are a commercial fabric for the background (top of quilt), backing and binding. Background fabric tone should not be too dark to allow the painted images to clearly show.
2. Wadding for the middle of the quilt is also needed – I like to use cotton wadding but any of your choice could be used. Note, the wadding does not need to be washed.
3. Remove fabric sizing by washing the background piece prior to printing.
4. Adopt the usual practice of using a lightly padded plastic base when applying the prints to your fabric pieces.
5. For the first monoprint: Apply solid circles of paints (about 1½ inches round) mixed with Textile medium (50/50) onto the printing plate. (I used red, purple, yellow to also create orange).
6. Lay background fabric over printing plate. Roll with a brayer (or use your hand) to make a firm imprint onto the fabric. Carefully lift fabric off plate and lay over plastic base. At this stage you may wish to lightly spray the fabric with water if you want your paint to spread a little with a slightly watery look. Let this dry.
7. For the second monoprint: Place bubble wrap on plastic printing base. Using a sponge brush paint bubble wrap with a 50/50 mixture of paint and Textile Medium. Colours mixed were black and blue to make a dark bluish-black print to show over the previous printed colours.
8. Lay fabric over the painted bubble wrap and press using a brayer or your hands to engage a print. Do this lightly on some areas and using stronger pressure on other areas – to give interesting light to dark images. Lift off and let the fabric dry.
9. For the third monoprint: Using the same paint/textile medium mixture and technique as in the 2nd monoprint, paint your rubber mat. Using this like a stamp, place it over the fabric and press with a brayer or your hands to imprint. Let this dry.
10. Iron the dried painted fabric to heat set the pigments.
11. Your piece is now printed. Start making your art-quilt, using the top fabric and wadding. Embellish this with machine or hand stitch and beading to provide visual texture and interest. This also serves to hold your sandwich together. I used metallic polyester and cotton threads.
12. Add backing fabric to your quilt sandwich, trim to size, and apply binding to the edges.
13. Paint a label and apply this to your quilt using fusible webbing or stitch. Creating a unique label that reflects the individuality of your quilt title is fun, quick and easy to do.



CHROMA  
*It's all about the paint.*