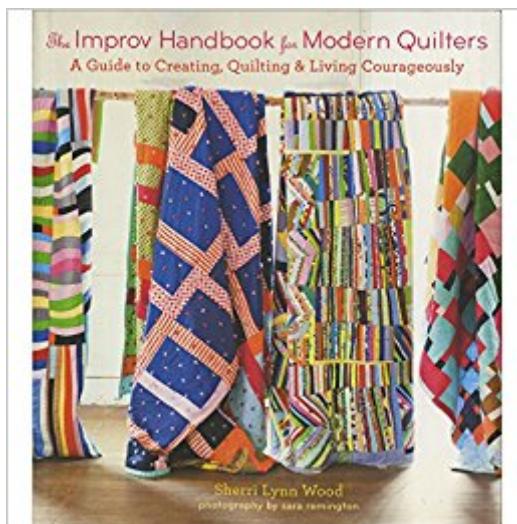


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# The Improv Handbook For Modern Quilters: A Guide To Creating, Quilting, And Living Courageously



## Synopsis

Forget step-by-step instructions and copycat designs. In *The Improv Handbook for Modern Quilters*, Sherri Lynn Wood presents a flexible approach to quilting that breaks free of old paradigms. Instead of traditional instructions, she presents 10 frameworks (or scores) that create a guiding, but not limiting, structure. To help quilters gain confidence, Wood also offers detailed lessons for stitching techniques key to improvisation, design and spontaneity exercises, and lessons on color. Every quilt made from one of Wood's scores will have common threads, but each one will look different because it reflects the maker's unique interpretation. Featured throughout the book are Wood's own quilts and a gallery of contributor works chosen from among the hundreds submitted when she invited volunteers to test her scores during the making of this groundbreaking work.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Wood offers a series of techniques, guidelines and lessons on color choice for those ready to explore improvisational quilting. Her book is loaded with full-color photos and examples to inspire. (Dallas Morning News) "Despite how it may seam, quilting isn't all about rules! Quilting can be an exhilarating way to channel your creativity and express yourself. This book is focused more on exploration than explanation—a perfect

mindset for beginners! (Powell's Books Staff Pick) "The Improv Handbook for Modern Quilters is on my all-time-favorite-most-beautifully-photographed-books list. There is just so much content (176 pages!) and fuel for creativity in here. I'll be honest, I'm a picture person and I usually don't read everything in a quilting book. But I sat down with this one and it's been so interesting. I actually keep it on my coffee table! (Faith Jones, Fresh Lemons) "I could learn a lot from this book" • I want to buy it. (Kaffe Fassett) "Refreshing, inspiring use of color and pattern and educational" • a must-have book. (Brandon Mably) "The whole look and feel of this book is glorious. You want to turn every page. You want to read it like a novel . . . there are life lessons here as well as quilt lessons. (Bonnie K. Hunter, Quiltville) "If improv scares you, check this book out because it lets you think about improv in a different way. This book makes you want to let go of control! (Stephanie Kendron, Modern Sewciety podcast) "One of the best quilting books I've ever read. Why? Because this book empowers readers to tap a creative vein and improvise with scissors and a pile of stash fabric. (Jennifer Ackerman-Haywood, Craft Sanity review) "As someone who enjoys improv quilting, I found myself poring over Sherri's book day after day, quickly jotting down notes and techniques to try with my next project. (Lish Dorset, Made & Remade blog) "Wood provides a comprehensive overview of improvisational techniques. (Library Journal)

Sherri Lynn Wood is an artist working in Oakland, CA. She is the recipient of the Joan Mitchell Foundation Grant for Painters and Sculptors, and a two-time MacDowell Colony Fellow. She has been making and improvising quilts as a creative life practice for twenty-five years, and blogs about it at [daintyme.net](http://daintyme.net). Teaching credits include Penland School of Craft, QuiltCon, and numerous modern and traditional guilds across the country.

This is a fantastic book! I am self-taught and am by no means an expert. I have only done quilting for fun, but sometimes it hasn't seemed like much fun when I feel like my work is not as 'perfect' in the traditional sense as it's supposed to be. It sucks to feel like something you put so much work into is disappointing because it's not technically perfect. This book is genuinely liberating; I did not realize how beautifully your work can turn out when you're not trying so hard to do everything with strict, straight lines and angles. I love that these show so much character and soul of the people who create them - I don't feel like traditional quilting really allows that as much. I am also shocked that you don't have to use a ruler at all and that you get breathtaking results nonetheless. This never

occurred to me, but I love it and cannot wait to use this technique. The pictures are incredibly bright and lovely. The projects are quite open to interpretation and offer a lot of room to put your own spin on them. The methods are easy enough that even I can understand and see myself putting this into practice without hesitation. I generally don't feel that after trying to learn something entirely new from a book (rather than video, etc.), but this is so clear and simple to read and understand that I was amazed. The results she shows, and how other people came up with such different takes on the same project guidelines she gives, are interesting and beautiful as well. I highly recommend this book; it has already changed my view on quilting drastically and for the better. I feel fortunate to have found such a great resource that opens my eyes to the fun I can have without the strict parameters I thought had to be there!

Wow, this book has completely changed my perspective on making beautiful quilts. I've made many traditional quilts over the years and never really enjoyed the piecing process, mostly due to the fact that I have a very old sewing machine and it is impossible to maintain an accurate quarter inch seam allowance. The lessons in this book give you the freedom (and courage) to break away from perfection in piecing, color selection and pattern; enjoying the process of improvisational cutting, stitching and color selection. I think this is the BEST instructional and design quilting book and I highly recommend it to anyone looking for a new direction in quilt making.

Tons of ideas within the covers of this book! This one makes me think outside the box.

It's a great book for technique. I don't love the quilts in the book, but I've been working with the scores and techniques and learning to make quilts that reflect my taste.

This is a delightful book that is not just about making quilts, it's about a whole approach to creativity and I know I'll be using these in many areas of my life.

I want to start quilting and would rather do designs that are not traditional. Loved this book for the ideas and helpful tips. Great photos which is important to me. Many thanks to Sherri Wood and .

Arrived in good condition

Love it, completely different approach to quilt making than I have used before. So it has opened my

mind to many new ideas.

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