

In the Boro Spirit: Student Supply List

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Batting & Backing: 1-2 yards of fabric for the back of your work. This should be the thickness of a quilt top, shirt, or tablecloth. (Follow the guidelines below for Fabrics.) **OPTIONAL:** 1-2 yard of thin cotton or other natural-fiber quilt batting.

Fabrics: Bring old, used fabrics, especially fabrics with meaning to you. They can be the remaining scraps of beloved but tattered garments, thin blankets, or quilts; pieces of fabric left or given to you by a grandparent, parent, or friend; interesting pieces picked up at a thrift shop such as a vintage linen tablecloth, tea towel, hanky, or doily; patches acquired while traveling; labels from beloved clothing items; an old, stained garment you can't bear to throw away; bits and pieces of beautiful hand-dyed fabric you've hung onto for years; bits of old lace and trimmings, etc. They can be any material; you just need to be able to easily hand stitch through them including when layered with another fabric or two. They can be frayed or tattered. Pieces can be very small (an inch or so) though ½-yard+. Bring enough to equal the surface area of a yard or so of fabric. More is fine.

Needles & Threads in colors that appeal to you (solid, variegated, hand-dyed, etc.):

- 3+ bobbins/hanks of pearl cotton in sizes 8 and 12. One color could blend with the predominant tones of the fabrics you're bringing, one could be an accent color, and one could offer value contrast. More colors and sizes (such as size 5 pearl cotton, #10 crochet cotton, and embroidery floss) are welcome.
- **Required:** Embroidery needles and/or milliner's needles in a few sizes to accommodate your various thread thicknesses (e.g., size 7 embroidery needles and size 24 chenille needles work well with sizes 8 and 12 pearl cotton). Bring several of each. You may also want to bring sashiko needles.
- **Optional:** 1-2+ spools of heavy-weight sewing thread such as button craft thread, 12-weight thread; hanks of solid and/or variegated embroidery floss.

Additional Supplies & Embellishments:

- Scissors for cutting fabric and thread
- Scissors for cutting paper and plastic
- Straight pins (a small container of these) and/or safety pins for holding your work together
- A pen or pencil for note taking and a note/sketch pad (any size you like to use) **(optional)**
- Collected images of boro work that speak to you from magazines, books, Pinterest, etc.
- Old buttons (e.g., from your grandma's button jar or off of old garments) **(optional)**
- Embroidery hoop(s) that can hold your stitching **(optional)**
- Thimbles **(optional)**
- Thread wax/conditioner **(optional)**