

# SEW CREATIVE

## Make an Art Class Quilt

**Materials:** Heavy-duty paper or cardboard, Duck Tape® (rolls and sheets) in a variety of colors and patterns, pen or pencil, straightedge, scissors

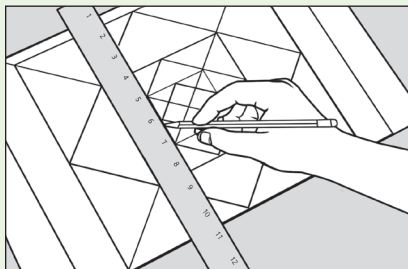
1. Introduce students to quilts as both utilitarian handicrafts and true works of art. Discuss American traditions of quilting, the myriad of patterns, and how quilts tell stories and record history.
2. Have students describe and discuss what they see in each quilt. *What shapes, colors, and patterns do they see? What meaning do they draw from each quilt and its components?*
3. Tell students that they will be making their own unique quilting block pattern based on something meaningful to them, to be included in a class quilt created with Duck Tape® as their “fabric.”
4. Have students sketch out their block’s graphic composition, encouraging them to choose dynamic palettes and to use not only straight lines and angles, but also curves, circles, and other free-form shapes in their designs.
5. Have students choose a name for their blocks and share with the class why they created the designs they did and what they represent.



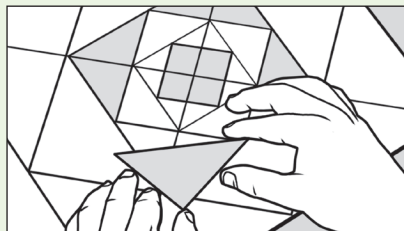
Crafter: Jim Noonan. Photo: Thom Lang Photography.

**For advanced students/classes:** Encourage students to create multiple blocks for the class quilt or to fashion their own individual quilts (small or large) so that they tell a personal story, such as their family tree or cultural heritage. Have students create numerous unique blocks that represent family members, historic locations, cultural events, and the like.

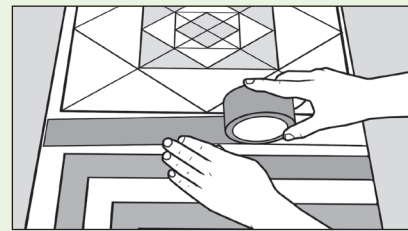
## HOW-TO



**1. Plan** Cut heavy-duty paper or cardboard into square of desired size and draw block pattern based on preliminary sketch. Be sure to leave a 1-inch margin around whole block.



**2. Sew** “Color” in lines and shapes using both rolls and sheets of Duck Tape® in a variety of colors and patterns. Tear tape with fingers or cut with scissors to achieve desired shapes. Overlap and layer tape to achieve unique patterns and textures.



**3. Assemble** Work as a class to determine the layout and story of the quilt. “Sew” panels together along the 1-inch margin on each block, using a single color or pattern of Duck Tape® as the inner binding and to finish the outer edges.