The Art of English Paper Piecing

This 2-hour workshop will introduce you to this fun form of patchwork. We'll be making pin cushions, although they can also be used as baby or pet toys. We'll look at some examples of different shapes and patterns you can use, as well as ideas for what you can make. We'll then pick up our materials and begin making. We'll cover two methods of making the patches, how to join them and then remove the papers. I'll take you through how to complete the project from start to finish AND you'll have a worksheet to take away as a reminder.

Supplies you need:
- A print out of the hexagon template page
  - You'll need 8 of these paper hexagons. Print on "normal" printer paper. Avoid anything thicker than what you can easily fold. For example, cereal box card is too thick.
- Eight 2.5" squares of quilting cotton (per pin cushion).
  - A word about fabric choice - you might be tempted to use fabric you have on hand, such as canvas, upholstery, velvet, satin etc. All of these can be used but we'll discuss how different thicknesses of fabric affect what you're making and things to remember when mixing and matching fabric weights. For your first try, keep it simple and use something like quilting cotton.)
  - Quilting Stores sometimes sell "mini charm packs" which are collections of 20-40 pre-cut 2.5" squares from a coordinating fabric collection. Buy one and share with a friend! Remember to support your local stores.
- Toy stuffing or textile scraps for the filling
- Sewing needle, scissors and good quality sewing thread (I like gutterman)
- Optional - 2 buttons (1 for the front and 1 for the back)

Your Teacher

Alex Byrne is originally from England and has been sewing for more than 30 years. She has taught workshops in England, Japan and here in California. While she loves all textile arts, she is currently obsessed with quilting, and is a former President of the SF Quilters Guild. She has won ribbons for her EPP quilts and wearables.

You'll find her on Instagram as @lixiemakesit.