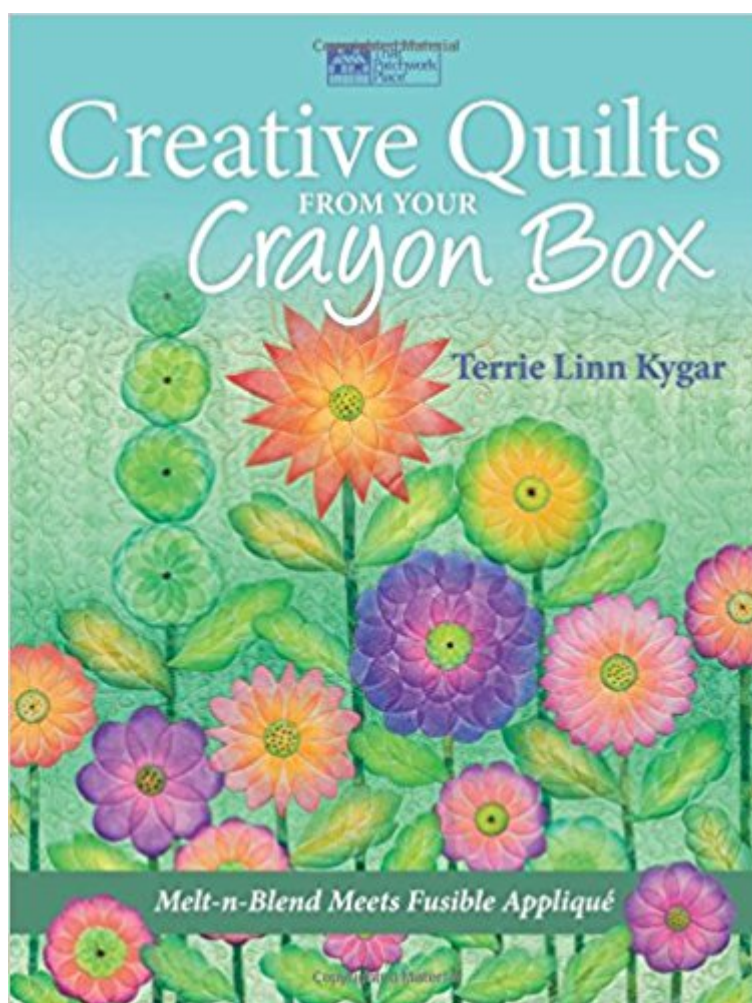


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# Creative Quilts From Your Crayon Box: Melt-n-Blend Meets Fusible Applique



## Synopsis

It's time for new fun with an old favorite--crayons! Using the new Melt-n-Blend technique, anyone can create beautiful appliqué designs with a dimensional, hand-painted look that brings quilts to life. Learn to tint and shade luscious fruits, gorgeous blossoms, and more--using crayons, colored pencils, and markers. Choose from seven inspiring projects of increasing complexity, with something for every skill level. Make one-of-a-kind appliqué designs that can be used in any project--simply fuse them into place.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Get yourself a big box of Crayola Crayons and bring out the artist within! Terrie Linn Kygar's Melt-n-Blend technique for applique quilts involves blending hot melted crayons onto hot fabric. Terrie cuts out her fabric appliques and fuses them onto a pressing sheet first, then melts puddles of crayon wax right on the pressing sheet to one side of the motif. A paper napkin folded to a point is dipped into the wax, then Terrie begins coloring and shading her appliques. It's not rocket science, but it does take practice. "I have taught this technique to eight year olds and eighty year olds," Terrie writes in her introduction to the book. "I haven't had a single student who couldn't learn the Melt-n-Blend technique." Besides crayons, Terrie uses colored pencils and black Pigma pens to shade, outline, and add detail. The results are gorgeous, with quilt designs that look like watercolor paintings. The book contains seven inspirational applique projects consisting of fruit and flower motifs. If you enjoy coloring and shading and are looking for something different, you might want to

give this method a try. --The Quilter magazineIt's time for new fun with an old favorite medium, previously used in our childhood, wax crayons! Using the new Melt-n-Blend technique, anyone can create beautiful applique designs with a hand painted look that brings quilts to life. Terrie explains how to tint and shade luscious fruits, beautiful blossoms and more, using crayons, colored pencils and markers. There are 7 inspiring projects of increasing complexity to choose from, with something to delight every skill level and the designs will be personal to you every time. This is an interesting idea and could be amalgamated into pieced projects as feature. --Fabrications magazineWe recently experimented with crayon techniques in the Popular Patchwork forum and I do wish we'd had the benefit of this great book to aid us. Terrie's techniques uses nothing more than ordinary Crayola wax crayons (not fabric crayons), fusible web and paper napkins to create gorgeous fruit, flowers, birds and butterflies with delightful jewel-like colours and a hand-painted look. She uses ordinary white fabric or pale batiks as a base and then builds up the wax coloured layer with an easy melt and blend method. Terrie gives excellent instructions on how to achieve this effect and claims to have taught everyone from children to grandparents to create this type of appliqué motif successfully. She has no problems with washing the resulting items either! This is a very interesting and well thought out, and well presented, process; this would be a great book for those who feel that their artistic skills may be limited. --Popular Patchwork magazineWe recently experimented with crayon techniques in the Popular Patchwork forum and I do wish we'd had the benefit of this great book to aid us. Terrie's techniques uses nothing more than ordinary Crayola wax crayons (not fabric crayons), fusible web and paper napkins to create gorgeous fruit, flowers, birds and butterflies with delightful jewel-like colours and a hand-painted look. She uses ordinary white fabric or pale batiks as a base and then builds up the wax coloured layer with an easy melt and blend method. Terrie gives excellent instructions on how to achieve this effect and claims to have taught everyone from children to grandparents to create this type of appliqué motif successfully. She has no problems with washing the resulting items either! This is a very interesting and well thought out, and well presented, process; this would be a great book for those who feel that their artistic skills may be limited. --Popular Patchwork magazine

Terrie's mother and grandmother taught her to sew when she was eight years old, and she started making her own clothes in high school. Terrie enjoys teaching, especially her Melt-n-Blend technique, which uses melted crayons on fabric. She once taught a classroom of elementary students to knit and quilt, and she figures if she can teach fifth-grade boys to knit and quilt, she can teach anyone! Terrie lives with her family in Oregon.

If the technique in this book was as easy as described in the introduction, I would've given five stars. I was undecided on whether to go with 3 or 4 stars, so to be nice I just went with 4. I have used permanent ink on fabric with great results, I have always loved coloring, and I am a pretty darn good at all kinds of drawing and painting. So I was not in the least intimidated to try this melt & blend technique. I only mention that because in the introduction she makes a point of saying how well everyone does with the technique, even non-artistic types who were initially too intimidated to want to try it. My first impression with the technique, was that it was a cumbersome procedure, without the benefit of producing great results. The main two issues were: 1. The crayons do not stay melted for very long, and you can't melt much at a time. You have to keep melting a small amount, coloring, and re-melting more. You really need to have your iron right beside you, unless you want a lot of extra exercise getting up and down! 2. Although some colors blend fairly well, some do not. You kind of get used to how one color applies, then when you try another, Yikes!!! It's obvious that beautiful works can be accomplished, as proven by the great photos in the book. But believe me, it is not something that is easy to produce the first time you try it. So after that first experience, I had four friends from my quilt guild over. We all made sure we had all the supplies necessary at our fingertips. We each had our own crayons, we had the proper napkins, etc. Everyone was really excited to try the technique,..... but no one was pleased with the results. We finally just started playing around with other techniques. We found that it was better to lightly color a base coat over the fabric first (with regular unmelted crayolas), press it to warm it up, then color over it while warm, re-press to warm, then blend the colors while warm. Basically, just color on warm fabric, and blend on warm fabric, rather than continually melting a separate little puddles of crayon. Also, we all thought it would be easier to color our patterns this way without the fusible web, and then put the web on afterwards. Because with the original way, all of the stickiness on the underneath side of the applique piece was melted into the fabric by the time it was all done. Which is probably why the author recommends fabric glue to hold down applique pieces on the background! So bottom line, the procedures outlined in this book were not impressive to me, or the four other experienced quilters/applique'ers that came to my house and tried it. Maybe with practice things might improve, but like I said it is too cumbersome to melt, blend, melt, blend, melt, blend, etc. On a positive note, the patterns are simply beautiful, and a couple of the guild members want to buy the book just for that reason. As for the coloring, we will use inks, paints, or a different method of crayon work! I've tried this method twice now, and I won't be trying it a third time. I will however, try a different method of coloring these beautiful patterns!

As an older quilter I still look for new ideas that I will be comfortable in trying. Crayons and coloring always have me a lift in my childhood and with my children as they grew older. Bring able to incorporate my love of coloring with a new focus I quilt design is a welcome technique. The book offers excellent instruction on the process and is very easy to follow. The suggested projects are an added plus.

This book is exquisite! The projects are beautiful, the concepts are simple yet yield wonderful results. Terrie Kygar's book is a must buy if you have any interest in art quilting, coloring quilts, etc. her directions are clear and well illustrated. Novices should have no fear, this book makes it doable! Every pattern piece needed to create the beautiful quilts are right here in this book. This is absolutely the best quilt book I have bought in years!....and I buy a lot.

Such a creative and inspiring book! The how-to photos are excellent and the written instructions are clear, concise and very easy to understand and follow. The finished projects help to provide so many unique ideas. Who would have thought that a box of crayons could be so much fun!

The book is ok, but the author neglects to give all the proper instruction regarding blending for when you start doing projects beyond the book. One word of caution, test your crayon on a small part of your pressing sheet. I have the one the author suggested and it was ruined when I did this project. The pressing sheet could have been defective, but better to be safe than sorry and have to go out and buy a new one like I did.

Love this new twist on an old idea! The book is a wonderful guide full of inspiration for the crafter or designer that is ready to create something unique

good book, worth buying. I got it from the library to check it out and see how good this book was, and it is. Its worth buying and keeping .

Would recommend this book and taking her class to anyone! She's a great person and a wonderfully fun technique!!

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