

# Fabric Design Syllabus

*instructor Carina Gardner*

## *purpose*

Welcome to Fabric Design! If you have been looking to get the inside scoop on how to get your artwork ready for fabric, this is the place for you! This course is jam packed with all things that will get your work ready for showing a fabric company or to sell at a fabric design shop like Spoonflower. If you have been dreaming of becoming a fabric designer, this is the first step towards understanding how to get your drawings from paper to computer, putting your artwork in front of companies, and learning the technical in-and-outs of getting your artwork ready for production.

## *about this course*

This is a 3 week course that includes technical, practical, and theoretical video lessons and notes. I will also show you a technique for seeing your fabric designs come to life through your inkjet printer!

I talk to you about what it takes to find a fabric manufacturer that fits your needs and how best to market your work. We have a BLAST being creative! So put on your thinking cap because it's time to have fun!

## *prerequisite*

Because this course is Illustrator-heavy, I recommend you take Illustrator Basics CS6 Course 1 before you take this class. However, all of the videos are step-by-step so you should not have any difficulty following along if you have not had a lot of Illustrator experience.

## *contact info*

Please email the instructor with questions during the course.  
Carina Gardner, Instructor [carina@carinagardner.com](mailto:carina@carinagardner.com)

## *course objectives*

- + To be able to create a complete fabric collection over the three week course!
- + To learn how to get a design ready for production
- + To be able to identify your style and value as a designer
- + To learn the technical skills needed to design fabric
- + To learn more about the industry
- + To better understand how to market your work
- + To channel your *creativity*!

## *facebook community*

We have a private community on facebook for all members of the online classes. If you would like to join, please email [info@carinagardner.com](mailto:info@carinagardner.com) and you will be added to this group.

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## *schedule*

### Week 1

Conceptual and Technical: Developing the know-how for vectorizing your designs and getting them ready for production

MONDAY | Introduction to Fabric Design

Styling and Technical Know How

Interview the Creative Director of Riley Blake Designs Jina Barney

TUESDAY | Tiling a simple pattern/Creating repeats & Interview with Designer Amanda Herring

WEDNESDAY | From sketch to computer & Interview with Designer Deena Rutter

THURSDAY | From painting to computer

FRIDAY | Illustrating directly into the computer & Best pattern practices

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### Week 2

Creating your Fabric Collection: We start with the master fabric and work our way through designing an entire line

MONDAY | Master Fabric Patterns, Spot Colors, Pantones, and Colorways

TUESDAY | Secondary patterns and Tossed Patterns

WEDNESDAY | The perfect dot repeat & Interview with Designer Shari Butler

THURSDAY | Stripes, Spacing, and Scale

FRIDAY | Type Patterns

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### Week 3

Marketing and Printing: Getting your designs out of the computer

MONDAY | Finishing Up your Fabric Collection and Editing

TUESDAY | How to get your work ready for fabric production

WEDNESDAY | Testing your pattern at home: Printing at home

THURSDAY | Finding a company that is a good fit for you: Approach methods & Printing your work at Spoonflower

FRIDAY | Forum Day: Class Show and Tell (get critical feedback from the instructor and your peers!)

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## *stuff to know*

**SUPPLIES** If you decide to try printing some of your fabric through your inkjet printer, I will have a list of supplies and a video on it in class! It's going to be fun!

**ASSIGNMENTS** There will be assignments most days to help you get together a fabric collection by the end of the class. This is optional but SO important to your creative process. Designing while the class is in session will motivate you to work fast, hard, and put out good work. Assignments will keep you on track to help you find your style and work method.