

The Smörgås Board Game

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Short Description:

The Smörgås Board Game is a hands-on game that encourages analogue play and participatory design. The pattern modules can be further translated digitally to create bespoke printed fabrics.

Audience and Space: You at home

Duration: 7 hours, over two weeks

What happens? Take three different sized squares of paper - these will outline your designs.

Design and cut out a variety of differently sized, shaped and coloured geometrical pattern pieces in materials of your choosing. (This could be paper, card, fabrics, foils, etc.). Start designing your patterns inside on the squares by placing the pieces together. Capture the designs with your iPhone, camera or tablet as you go along. If you have Photoshop or a similar programme put the square design into a simple repeat – either tile it or mirror it. Send your favourite design to a digital print shop. Make your piece of fabric into a garment or send to the local tailor.

Equipment Needed: Paper and fabrics/ geometrical pieces, a camera, a pair of scissors, needles, sewing machine. A computer is optional if you want to put the design into a repeat.

Suggested Timings:

120 min: Design and make square frames and geometric shapes

120 min: Design patterns and select your favourite to send of to a digital print shop

120 min: Sew the simple garment

Pre Workshop Questions:

Have you designed your own textiles before? Tell us about the experience.

Post Workshop Questions:

How did it feel to create your own design? How do you feel about wearing your own cloth? Do you think that you will keep and value this garment because you have been part of the design process?

Film Clips, Websites and Books – things to watch and read before and during the project:

The Peoples Prints http://www.thepeoplesprint.com/

DIY-Couture http://www.diy-couture.co.uk/

Melanie Bowles http://www.melaniebowles.co.uk/

Bowles, M. and Isaac, C. (2012) Digital Textile Design. London: Lawrence King. http://www.amazon.co.uk/Digital-Textile-Design-Melanie-Bowles-x/dp/1780670028

Feedback: Please feedback to the TED team, ted@chelsea.arts.ac.uk