

# INTRODUCTION to BORO/SASHIKO WORKSHOP

**When:** See available dates please

**Time:** 09.30AM to 12.30PM

**Where:** 4Ever Blue Studio, Mezzanine Level, Unit 3, 11 Forge Close, Sumner Park

**(Group Bookings, min 4 max 6 participants can be arranged for another day/time of your choice)**

To book or for further information, please contact Nicole at:  
nicole@4everblue.com.au or 0402 860 749

**Cost:** \$35.00 per person, including morning coffee or tea with a yummy snack, plus cost of kit \* see choices below of either Happy Buttons (Brooches), Zipper Bag or Japanese Drawstring Pouch

**Happy Buttons Kit** (\$15.00) consisting of either two round or one rectangular Brooch, Base fabric, Japanese fabric patches, Sashiko Thread, Sashiko Needle, Light Interfacing. Examples below, choose your own colours.



**Zipper Bag Kit** (\$35.00) consisting of Outer fabric, Japanese fabric patches, Sashiko Thread, Sashiko Needle, Lining, Interfacing and Zipper. Either light or dark base and then add your own choice of patches in class.



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**Drawstring Pouch Kit (\$55.00)** consisting of Outer fabric, Japanese fabric patches, Sashiko Thread, Sashiko Needle, Lining, Interfacing and Draw String. Either light or dark base and then add your own choice of patches in class.



## IMPORTANT:

Please bring sharp scissors and your own pins. If you have any fabric scraps you might want to incorporate, bring them too.

Only basic hand-stitching (Sashiko straight stitch) will be used in this project in class. The time allocated will not be sufficient to finish off the two larger projects, this will have to be done in your own time. Both projects will need to be sewn together using a sewing machine, once you have finished the stitching. Notes will be provided.

To secure your spot, a non-refundable, but transferable deposit of \$35.00 is required, please also advise which kit you would like me to prepare for you, to save time in class.

Both the Zipper Bag and the Drawstring Pouch kits are available in either a light or a dark base cloth, please advise your colour choice when booking, you will be able to choose your patches and embroidery thread in class.. 😊

**Bank Details:** 4Ever Blue Creations

BSB: 064-173 Account No: 10462650

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## What is Boro?

Boro is essentially the practice of using a simple running stitch (a sashiko stitch) to reinforce a textile item using spare or would-be-discarded scraps of fabric. It is a practice that grew out of necessity in medieval Japan, and has evolved, four centuries later, into a distinctively gorgeous textile art-form. Like sashiko itself, boro combines practical functionality with beauty.

‘Boro’ more or less translates as ‘ragged’ or ‘tattered’. For Japanese peasants of the Edo period, it was utterly necessary to get the maximum wear and use out of their textiles, so no scrap of fabric was ever thrown away. At the time, Japanese peasants (particularly in the north) didn’t have access to durable cotton fabric and had to make do with homespun hemp fabric, which would typically show signs of wear more quickly.

Using fabric scraps dyed with indigo or brown earthy tones, garments were continually mended and passed down over generations. Each additional scrap of fabric—with its own unique story—would come to map the family’s history and heritage. The evolution of patterns and motifs in the reinforcement stitching (sashiko) added beautiful decorative touches to these garments.

Central to boro is the concept of finding beauty in mending—that nothing should ever be wasted, and that imperfections have their own subtle and simple appeal.

Just as sashiko has become a popular worldwide textile craft, so has boro. It has transcended its origins to become a form of textile design and artistic expression. A number of influential Japanese sashiko artists are active in the creation and exhibition of some exquisite boro textiles.

Finished items available for inspiration (and purchase..😊) in my Studio, or via my Etsy Store:

<https://www.etsy.com/au/shop/4EverBlueCreations?ref=seller-platform-mcnav>

<https://www.instagram.com/4everbluecreations/>

## Further reading/Links of interest:

<https://www.pinterest.com.au/nickydfs/boro-sashiko/>

<http://www.amusemuseum.com/english/boro/index.html>

<https://www.instagram.com/sashi.co/>

<http://www.susanbriscoe.com/>