



1
00:00:03,376 --> 00:00:04,616
>> This is Mission
Control Houston.

2
00:00:04,616 --> 00:00:06,996
One of the things that Astronaut
Karen Nyberg has been doing

3
00:00:06,996 --> 00:00:09,176
during her time onboard
the Space station,

4
00:00:09,176 --> 00:00:12,406
in addition to all the different
incredibly busy science

5
00:00:12,406 --> 00:00:13,726
activities she's
been working on,

6
00:00:13,726 --> 00:00:15,676
is she took up some
sewing supplies.

7
00:00:15,676 --> 00:00:16,966
She's always been
a lifelong lover

8
00:00:16,966 --> 00:00:18,016
of the arts and the crafts.

9
00:00:18,016 --> 00:00:20,886
And one of the goals that
she had was to make a piece

10
00:00:20,886 --> 00:00:24,476
of a quilt was she has been
up onboard the Space station.

11

00:00:24,476 --> 00:00:26,706

That piece will be
bought back to Earth,

12

00:00:27,146 --> 00:00:29,826

and what she's doing is
inviting people around the world

13

00:00:29,826 --> 00:00:32,796

to make pieces of this
quilt to join hers.

14

00:00:32,796 --> 00:00:36,496

The International Quilt Festival
actually began this week here

15

00:00:36,496 --> 00:00:37,166

in Houston.

16

00:00:37,496 --> 00:00:40,356

And at next year's
activities, that is when some

17

00:00:40,356 --> 00:00:43,316

of her materials and this
quilt will be on display.

18

00:00:43,316 --> 00:00:45,416

But is Karen Nyberg
onboard the Space station,

19

00:00:45,736 --> 00:00:48,496

talking about her process
and some of her supplies,

20

00:00:48,676 --> 00:00:50,776

as she takes part of
this quilting activity

21

00:00:50,776 --> 00:00:52,026

up onboard the Space station.

22

00:00:53,446 --> 00:00:55,866

>> Now that I've tried my
hand at sewing in Space,

23

00:00:55,866 --> 00:00:57,806

I can say one thing
with certainty.

24

00:00:58,116 --> 00:00:58,666

It's tricky.

25

00:00:59,676 --> 00:01:03,176

First of all, it's keeping
all of your things in order.

26

00:01:03,886 --> 00:01:05,466

Ziploc bags come in very handy.

27

00:01:06,076 --> 00:01:09,836

I have to keep all of my extra
fabric and thread and scissors

28

00:01:09,946 --> 00:01:12,626

and all of the supplies
that I'm using in a bag

29

00:01:12,666 --> 00:01:15,016

when I'm not using it, so
they don't just float away.

30

00:01:15,356 --> 00:01:17,706

So the bags come
in extremely handy.

31

00:01:20,816 --> 00:01:22,626

When I'm actually doing
the sewing and you want

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00:01:22,626 --> 00:01:26,746

to have things readily
available, I have this sheet

33

00:01:27,606 --> 00:01:31,196

of pile Velcro, and I can
clip it to Velcro on the wall.

34

00:01:31,706 --> 00:01:35,436

And I can keep a pair
of scissors, Velcro,

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00:01:36,136 --> 00:01:38,146

my magnetic case
with my needles.

36

00:01:39,616 --> 00:01:42,796

My spool of thread, and
then also, a straightedge,

37

00:01:43,756 --> 00:01:46,446

which brings me to the next
point that makes sewing

38

00:01:46,486 --> 00:01:49,886

in Space very tricky, is
cutting the pieces out straight.

39

00:01:50,716 --> 00:01:52,306

Getting the correct
seam allowance.

40

00:01:53,486 --> 00:01:58,526

You know, you can't lay things
down and measure and cut.

41

00:01:58,666 --> 00:02:00,356

The fabric doesn't.

42

00:02:00,356 --> 00:02:05,086
I find myself taping the fabric

43

00:02:05,086 --> 00:02:09,146
to a surface, trying
to lay it out.

44

00:02:09,146 --> 00:02:12,966
I measured a three-by-three
square

45

00:02:13,026 --> 00:02:14,386
on a piece of a cardboard.

46

00:02:14,886 --> 00:02:17,186
And I would actually
trace this onto my fabric,

47

00:02:17,616 --> 00:02:20,806
and cut what seemed like it was
probably a quarter-inch seam

48

00:02:20,806 --> 00:02:22,756
allowance around that.

49

00:02:23,466 --> 00:02:26,656
And then of course, when I start
piecing the pieces together,

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00:02:27,406 --> 00:02:29,776
it becomes very tricky
[laughter]

51

00:02:30,016 --> 00:02:32,596
when the pieces do not have
the quarter-inch seam allowance

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00:02:32,866 --> 00:02:35,106
that you really had hoped for.

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00:02:35,106 --> 00:02:38,826

It's less than perfect.

54

00:02:40,176 --> 00:02:44,186

I think I would have chosen
a fabric that doesn't fray.

55

00:02:44,286 --> 00:02:46,626

Perhaps maybe a felt
or something like that.

56

00:02:46,626 --> 00:02:49,276

Now, in hindsight, I wish I
had bought something like that

57

00:02:49,276 --> 00:02:51,406

to sew with, where
you could cut.

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00:02:52,416 --> 00:02:54,296

The seam allowances
don't matter.

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00:02:54,296 --> 00:02:55,676

You just cut the design you want

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00:02:55,676 --> 00:02:57,136

and then maybe do
some topstitching

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00:02:57,136 --> 00:02:58,656

on it to make something.

62

00:02:59,516 --> 00:03:02,496

So my experiment here of
sewing and hand sewing.

63

00:03:02,656 --> 00:03:04,266

And I don't hand

sew all that much.

64

00:03:04,886 --> 00:03:06,386

On Earth, I usually
use a sewing machine.

65

00:03:06,796 --> 00:03:09,766

And so, there's also that
patience of hand sewing,

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00:03:09,766 --> 00:03:13,136

and I respect those [laughter]
who do that, who do that a lot.

67

00:03:13,236 --> 00:03:15,716

But in keeping the
things together,

68

00:03:16,436 --> 00:03:18,646

that in itself can make this
a little more challenging.

69

00:03:18,726 --> 00:03:21,966

And then of course, like I
said, cutting the pieces out.

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00:03:22,166 --> 00:03:23,836

Getting the edges straight.

71

00:03:24,286 --> 00:03:25,326

And then keeping it together.

72

00:03:25,326 --> 00:03:27,596

I don't have pins with me here.

73

00:03:27,656 --> 00:03:30,346

And so, I've tried a
few different things.

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00:03:30,346 --> 00:03:34,186

I've tried using some
tape and taping the edges.

75

00:03:34,466 --> 00:03:38,036

I have five needles, and
I can use those as pins,

76

00:03:38,196 --> 00:03:42,626

the ones I'm not using, and try
and keep the pieces together.

77

00:03:43,196 --> 00:03:44,256

But also, that can be tricky.

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00:03:44,256 --> 00:03:46,706

And it's taking me a long time.

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00:03:46,776 --> 00:03:51,036

I'm almost done with one
single nine-by-nine quilt block

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00:03:51,566 --> 00:03:53,236

that has taken me quite a while.

81

00:03:53,236 --> 00:03:57,116

Longer than you would
expect it to take.

82

00:03:58,476 --> 00:03:59,166

But it's been fun.

83

00:03:59,326 --> 00:04:00,366

It's been a fun experiment.

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00:04:00,996 --> 00:04:04,836

And it'll be neat to
have a quilt block

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00:04:05,916 --> 00:04:11,656
that I can say was actually
sewn during my time in Space.

86
00:04:17,096 --> 00:04:18,006
This is what I've made.

87
00:04:18,746 --> 00:04:20,296
It's far from being
a masterpiece.

88
00:04:20,426 --> 00:04:22,936
I've discovered several
challenges with cutting

89
00:04:23,176 --> 00:04:25,596
and piecing and stitching
in weightlessness.

90
00:04:26,096 --> 00:04:27,296
But it was made in Space.

91
00:04:28,326 --> 00:04:31,646
I'll be bringing this block back
with me when I return to Earth.

92
00:04:31,646 --> 00:04:32,906
And I'm inviting all of you

93
00:04:32,906 --> 00:04:35,176
to create your own
star-themed quilt blocks.

94
00:04:36,346 --> 00:04:38,826
We'll be combining them with
my block to create a quilt

95
00:04:38,826 --> 00:04:42,366
for next year's 40th anniversary
International Quilt Festival

96

00:04:42,366 --> 00:04:44,966

in Houston, where I hope to
make a special appearance.

97

00:04:46,706 --> 00:04:48,486

If you're interested
in participating

98

00:04:48,486 --> 00:04:52,146

in this fun project, all of the
important details are available

99

00:04:52,146 --> 00:04:53,266

at this year's festival.