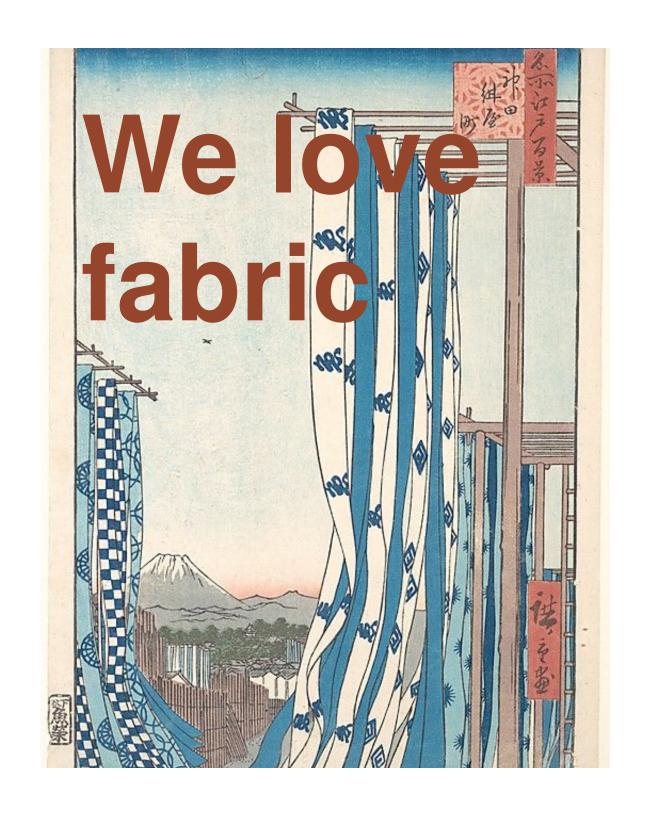
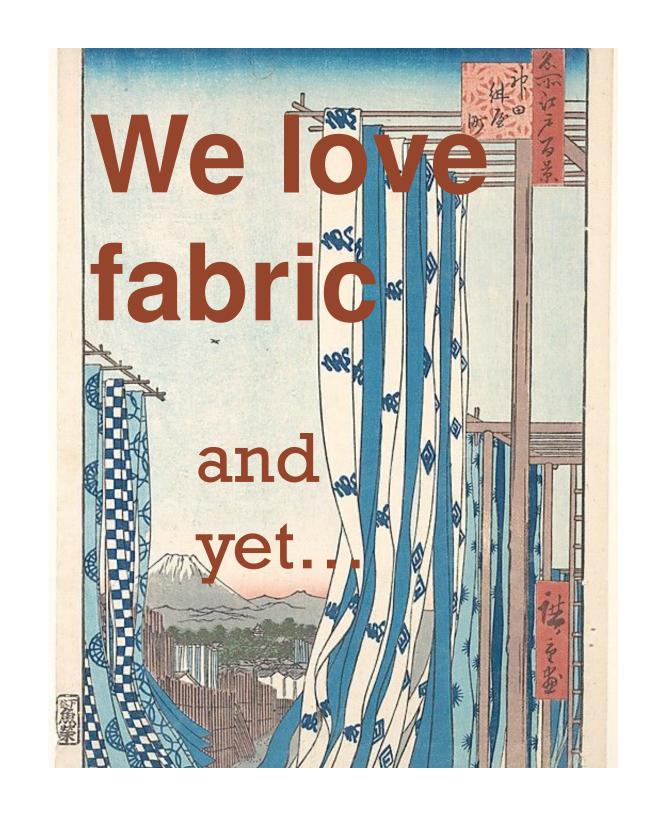
January 2018 Sustainable Modern Quilting





issues

- Growing cotton uses a LOT of water and pesticides
- Textile industry is the 2nd most polluting after oil and gas
- The textile industry is notorious for exploitative labor practices.

better choices?

There's no perfect choice – lots of tradeoffs BUT

it is possible to find new fabric that is easier on the planet and people.

Could some of these alternatives fit in with your needs and values?



linen

- Made from flax requires little water, few pesticides
- Soft, great texture
- Can wiggle around: great for curves, less so for precision piecing (try starch)

hemp

- Made from cannabis sativa
 - sips water, few pesticides
- Strong, great texture
- U.S. agricultural production just starting since latest Farm Bill



modal lyocell Tencel

- All are types of rayon
- Made from cellulose (beech, eucalyptus, or bamboo)
- Manufacturing uses closedloop systems (no dumping chemicals into rivers)





natural fiber blends

- Combines cotton with linen, hemp, silk, or bamboo
- Reduces footprint of cotton
- Look for chambrays, solids, and prints



better cotton

American Made solids
Japanese cotton
Cotton made in environmentally responsible factories (Hoffman Indah batiks, You+Me)
Organic cotton (Birch, Cloud9, Amy Butler Organic Soul, etc.)

Ethical treatment of workers Low impact dyes Closed-loop manufacturing

batting

bamboo natural blends wool recycled polyester