

Preparation for Longarm Quilting



GENERAL

- Please do NOT baste or pin your quilt layers together. This will be done as part of the initial loading onto the quilting machine.
- If you plan to add embellishments to your quilt such as buttons or charms, plan to add them after the quilting has been completed. I cannot guarantee that they will not be damaged during the quilting process and may interfere when advancing the quilt on the machine.

TOP

- Trim all loose threads from the front and back of your quilt top. A dark thread can show through lighter fabrics and detract from the overall look of the quilt.
- Press all seams flat so that your top has a nice, smooth appearance. This will facilitate "stitching in the ditch".

BACKING

- If the fabric in the quilt top has been prewashed, the backing should be also.
- Please press out excess wrinkles and fold neatly.
- **Backing fabric should be cut 6-8 inches longer AND wider than the quilt top.** I will return any excess fabric to you with the completed quilt.
- If the backing fabric requires a seam, remove the selvage edges, sew together using a 1/2" seam allowance, and press open. When possible, try to have the lengthwise grain of the fabric fall along the length of the quilt.

BATTING

- You may supply your own batting or purchase batting from me as listed on the order form.
- **Batting should be cut 6-8 inches longer AND wider than the quilt top** (3-4 inches on EACH side). For example, your quilt top measures 40" by 60". You should provide me with batting that is no smaller than 46" by 66", but not more than 48" by 68". Please trim to the appropriate size, so I won't run short, have to fight with the excess, or need to trim for an additional charge.

THREAD

- I prefer you purchase the thread designed for longarm quilting machines, from me as listed on the order form or from a vendor. If you do supply thread and it is not compatible with the quilting machine, I either will let you know or charge you for the extra time to handle it.

PATTERN and DESIGNS



- Provide me with any quilting patterns or suggestions you might have regarding your project. What is the intended use of the quilt (ex: utility quilt, art wall hanging, heirloom)? Be thinking about thread colors and overall style (i.e. holiday, traditional, echo, freeform feathers, etc.). We will work together to bring out the best in your piece.