



QUILT PREPARATION CHECKLIST

The better a quilt top is prepared before quilting, the better the finished result will be. In order to guarantee the best possible product, please consider the following as you prepare your quilt for quilting:

- Be sure all seams and stitches are secure. Trim all loose threads. They can get caught in the quilting and may show through light fabrics. The quilt top should be free of embellishments such as buttons, charms, pins, etc.
- Please correct any wavy or ruffled borders. If you're unsure how to do this, please ask for our handout on "Adding Borders Properly."
- Press your top well, with all seams pressed either to one side or open. Iron the backing well, too, with seams pressed open.
- Your quilt sandwich (top, batting, backing) should not be basted, pinned or tacked together. Remove any of this before bringing it in. It can be removed during the quilting process, but it takes time and may incur additional cost.
- During the quilting process, the backing and batting may "shrink" or draw up, depending on the density of the quilting. Because of this, your backing should be at least 4" larger than the quilt top on all sides. For example, if your quilt measures 60" x 80", your backing should be at least 68" x 88". If you are providing your own batting, it should also be at least 4" larger than the quilt top on all sides.
- Make sure that the quilt top, the backing and the batting are all square and have straight edges, otherwise they will not mount properly on the rollers of the machine and may develop puckers or tucks because of uneven tension.
- Fullness and puckers pieced into the quilt top cannot necessarily be quilted out. We will do our best, but quilt tops with these problems may still have the problems once quilting is completed.
- If you have a pieced border or bias edges on the outside of your quilt, You might wish to stay-stitch ¼" in from the edge of the quilt to provide more stability. This will keep the seams from "popping" and prevent stretching when the top is mounted on the machine.
- If the quilt top or backing is directional, or you plan to hang the quilt, please indicate the top of the piece with a marked piece of paper, attached with a safety pin.
- Your choice of backing for your quilt is very important. Patterned fabrics make more interesting quilt backs than solid fabrics. We prefer not to use bed sheets for backing; the higher thread counts can cause skipped stitches. We also prefer not to use knit fabrics, as they can stretch on the machine and cause puckers in the final product. If you wish to have an unseamed back, we suggest a "wideback." We have a selection available for purchase.
- If backing is seamed, please be sure to remove the selvage edges, after completing the seam(s).
- You may provide your own good quality batting. Off-brand or low quality batting cannot be used. We have several types of battings available at a reasonable price.



This document was created with the Win2PDF "print to PDF" printer available at <http://www.win2pdf.com>

This version of Win2PDF 10 is for evaluation and non-commercial use only.

This page will not be added after purchasing Win2PDF.

<http://www.win2pdf.com/purchase/>